



Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society

President: Greg Kolojeski
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Secretary: Paula White
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Librarian: Ginny Fortenese
Plant Sales: Alan Bennett
Publicity: Marty Folk
Hospitality: Brunilda Wicker
Landscape: Barbara Whittier
FCBS Reps: Sudi Hipsley & Greg Kolojeski
Website: <http://bromeliads.club>

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40th Year Anniversary: 1977-2017

February 2017 Newsletter

**Meeting Announcement:
Sunday, February 19, 2017 at 2 PM
McCrary's Sunny Hill Nursery**

Our February meeting will be a field trip to [McCrary's Sunny Hill Nursery](#).



We are taking a field trip to the nursery at the invitation of SBTPS member Evan McCrary. If you've ever gone to any of the many art or crafts festivals in Central Florida and have seen a booth with some of most spectacular Bromeliads in bloom, you've almost certainly seen McCrary's booth. Their plants are real showstoppers.

My favorite is their spineless *Aechmea fasciata* (as pictured above). The *Aechmea fasciata* may be the most popular Bromeliad in the world. After I put a bed of these in my garden last year, a new neighbor stopped by and told me a story about why she loved these plants. It turns out she had just acquired one in bloom about the time her daughter found out she was pregnant with her first child. Her plant stayed in bloom until the time her grandchild was born. She still has the dried bloom.

McCrary's Sunny Hill Nursery

For this field trip, we can use our own cars since there is lots of parking available at the nursery. It is located 32 miles northwest of the Sanford Garden Club just north of Sorrento and not too far from Mt. Dora. Use [Google Maps](#) to find it. The formal address is 35152 La Place Ct, Eustis, FL 32736 although map programs seem to use 35152 La Pl Ct, Eustis, FL 32736. Call (352) 357-9876 on Sunday if you encounter any difficulties in finding the nursery.



Membership Renewal

2017 Membership Dues are \$15 for an individual or \$20 for a dual membership. You can renew your membership at the meeting or mail your check to Sudi Hipsley, SBTPS Treasurer, 6166 Tuscawill Dr, Leesburg, FL 34748-9190. If you joined in October or later in 2016, your 2017 membership is already included. To stay on the membership roster and be able to participate in the April plant sale, payment should be made by the end of February.

President's Message

January Meeting

We had 36 attendees at our January meeting for Ray Lemieux's excellent presentation on *Terrestrial Bromeliads*. The plant raffle proceeded at a brisk pace (maybe a little too brisk—we will slow it down a little in March).

New SBTPS Logo

After an email vote by members, the Board adopted a new logo (which includes a Heliconia bloom and a Bromeliad bloom). We also acquired a second version of the same logo with 40th Anniversary wording below it. We will soon be posting all the logo files in the member section of the [SBTPS website](http://www.seminolebromeliadsociety.com). This will allow members to create any number of customized items with the logos.

40th Anniversary Meeting in March

We will have a special 40th Anniversary meeting on March 19th hosted by Bud Martin, who was there at the beginning. We expect this to be our biggest meeting of the year. Bud was in his teens when he first started with Bromeliads before the **Seminole Bromeliad Society** (which later became the SBTPS) was founded. The meeting will include a slide show on popular Bromeliads over the years as well as an exploration of our history. Bud tells me that the first several years' meetings involved no dues and no business matters with 100% of the time spent on plants! Wow, those really were the good old days!!!

Meeting Information on the Web

Our website at <http://bromeliads.club> now includes a link to a [web page with plant sale and meeting info](#) (dates and presentation topics).

40th Anniversary Logo T-Shirts

An email was sent to all members with a special offer for \$10 t-shirts (see the design in the right column). *Early responses show most members ordering two or more t-shirts*. This really is a great price, so be sure to get your orders in by Feb 26th! These are perfect to wear at our plant sales as well as around town.

Profiles of Long-Time Members

We plan to start a new feature in future newsletters with profiles of our long-time (over ten years) members. If you are in this group, expect to receive an email from me soon for help putting your profile together.

---Greg Kolojeski

Blast from the Past: Seminole Bromeliad Society

1997 Programs:

May: *What's My Name, Part I*, Carol Johnson & Bud Martin

June: *What's My Name, Part II*, Geoff Johnson

July: *What's My Name, Part III: A test on everything you learned in May and June!* Membership will be divided into teams for the plant identification test. No grades will be given, but there will be lots of prizes.

February 2017 Bromeliad Blooms



40th Anniversary version of the new logo



40th Anniversary — 2017 —

March 19th meeting: Bud Martin
40th Anniversary Meeting

[Spring Plant Sale](#) (not Easter Weekend):
April 22-23, 9-4 PM each day