



# FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES

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August  
2024





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**FRONT COVER:** Quesnelia edmundoi var. rubrobracteata photos by Carol Wolfe

PUBLICATION: This newsletter is published four times a year, February, May, and August, and is a publication of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies. Please submit your bromeliad related activities, articles, photographs, society shows, news and events of your society.

**DEADLINES FOR ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS ARE:**

**January 15 for February issue**

**April 15th for May issue**

**July 15 for August issue**

**October 15th for November issue**

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**Vicky Chirnside**

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**Calandra Thurrott**

2024 Secretary  
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**Bromeliad Society of Central Florida**  
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Mike Saunders

**Bromeliad Society of Palm Beaches**  
Tom Ramiccio

**Bromeliad Society of South Florida**  
Michael Michalski & Patty Gonzalez

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**Gainesville Bromeliad Society**  
Sandy Burnett  
Steven Provost

**Sarasota Bromeliad Society**  
Marian & Mark Kennell

**Seminole Bromeliad &  
Tropical Plant Society**  
Sudi Hipsley  
Greg Kolojeski

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

*The following Committee Members and  
guests have a standing invitation to  
FCBS Meetings as Non-Voting Members  
unless serving in the dual role of Mem-  
ber Society Representative.*

**Al Muzzel Weevil Fund:**  
Tom Wolfe, Chairman

**FCBS Editorial Panel:**  
Carol Wolfe, Editor  
Tom Wolfe, Assistant Editor  
Calandra Thurrott, Copy Editor  
Greg Kolojeski, Copy Editor

**FCBS Roster Maintenance**  
Volunteer needed

**FCBS Webmaster:**  
Michael Andreas, Webmaster@FCBS.org

**BSI Officers from Florida:**  
Tom Ramiccio, Treasurer

**BSI Directors from Florida:**  
Rick Ryals  
Alan Herndon  
Mike Saunders  
Julie Stein



*I Love Bromeliads... by Carol Wolfe, Editor*

Greeting FCBS Members:

The 2024 BSI World Bromeliad Conference was hosted by the Bromeliad Society of Palm Beaches. Our congratulations to the BSI and to Tom Ramiccio, Chairman, and the members of the Bromeliad Society of Palm Beaches for a successful conference. There was an abundance of beautiful bromeliads for sale, botanical tours, great guest speakers, entertainment, and delicious food. I hope you enjoy the photos of the bromeliads in the BSI Judged Bromeliad Show in this issue.

Florida's population has officially crossed the 23 million mark, an all time high, thanks to a massive influx of new residents flocking to the Sunshine State according to the New York Post. This makes Florida the third most populous state in the nation, trailing California and Texas.

Florida has weathered the first hurricane of 2024; however, it was the tropical storm that did most of the damage in the Tampa Bay area. The accumulation of 10 to 20 inches of rain caused flooding in areas that have not been known to be in flood zones; therefore, most of these residents did not carry flood insurance. Presently flooded homes are estimated to be about 12,000 in the Sarasota and Manatee Counties.. Our hearts go out to the many residents in these counties whose homes were flooded. As we watched the progression of the storm on TV, I was amazed at the number of cars driving on the highways since the TV anchors, weather personnel, the Governor, and others had been advising for hours to stay off the highways and Interstates which had accumulated four or five inches of water. With inches of water on the road, it is easy for a car to hydroplane and wreck. It not only puts the occupants lives at risk but the deputies and firemen that come to their rescue. Since it was a tropical storm when it passed Tampa, evidently people did not take it seriously until it became a hurricane. Tropical storms can be just as dangerous as hurricanes spawning dangerous winds, tornadoes, rains, and flooding. If you have lived in Florida very long, you know the safest thing to do is hunker down at home until the storm passes by.

It is sad to announce the passing of Moyna Prince of Miami on May 10, 2024 (1938-2024). Moyna and her husband, Ed (1933-2007), were very hard working members of the Bromeliad Society of South Florida for over 25 years and Ed became an accredited international bromeliad judge. They also volunteered at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens. They both loved nature, tropical plants, bromeliads, and people. I have included pictures of some of their award winning bromeliads and a few of Moyna's photographs. She enjoyed photography and contributed many photos to the *FCBS.org* website.

Ed worked in the Miami-Dade school system for many years and was highly esteemed. Moyna was born in England and retained her beautiful and popular English accent. They were married for 45 years.

I attended my first BSSF show in Miami in 1977 and met the Princes on the grounds of Fairchild Gardens. The last time I was in Miami, I talked with Moyna. Since she was a widow, she and her son sold their houses and purchased one together. She was very happy with the arrangement and being able to live with her family. I will always remember her happy face as she talked about her family. Moyna is survived by two sons and four grandchildren. We extend our sympathy to her family in their loss.





## Billbergia pyramidalis

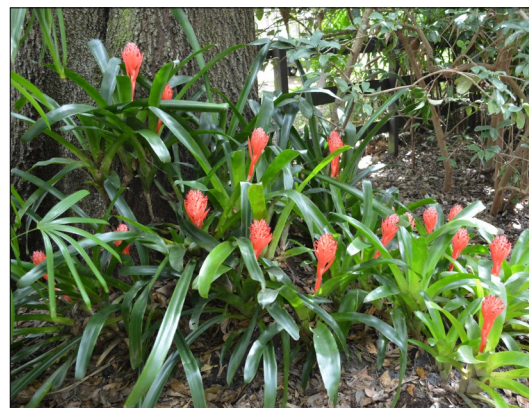
By Tom Wolfe



Billbergia pyramidalis commonly called the hurricane plant has been in cultivation longer than any member of this genus. I had been growing bromeliads for several years when a reporter from the local newspaper called and wanted to know about the hurricane bromeliads. At that time I had no clue what they were until I later discovered it was Billbergia pyramidalis because they always came in bloom during hurricane season. True to form, when the first hurricane of the 2024 season, Debby, was announced, they began to bloom in the yard and we begin to see beds of them blooming around Tampa,

Billbergia pyramidalis was introduced into cultivation in Europe from southern Brazil in 1815. It is still one of gardener's favorite plants due to its easy propagation and blooming cycle despite the fact that its bloom is short lived, seldom exceeding two weeks.

There are four varieties of this plant. In variety pyramidalis, the sepals are red and the flowers are red tipped with iridescent blue. Variety concolor differs from the type plant in that its petals are entirely red. Don Beadle was always on a search for B. concolor. This variety is rare so if you find one, preserve it for future propagation. Another form of pyramidalis is Kyoto. The leaves of this form are more narrow and are margined with a creamy white which makes it a very attractive looking plant. This variety was imported into California from Japan. The other form is controversial is striata which has been renamed as B. pyramidalis Foster's striata which has variegated foliage with longitudinal striped of blue, green and ivory. In today's garden this is a very commonly grown species. If you plant it at the base of the tree, it will climb the tree and create an impressive display of bright red blooms in August and September of every year.



Photos Wolfe's yard  
By Carol Wolfe



**Stephen Hoppin congratulating  
Bryan Windham**



**Admiring the Show**

## **2024 World Bromeliad Conference**







## 2024 World Bromeliad Conference



**Mulford Foster Best of Show Horticulture**  
*Pitcarnia burle-marxii*  
by Bryan Windham



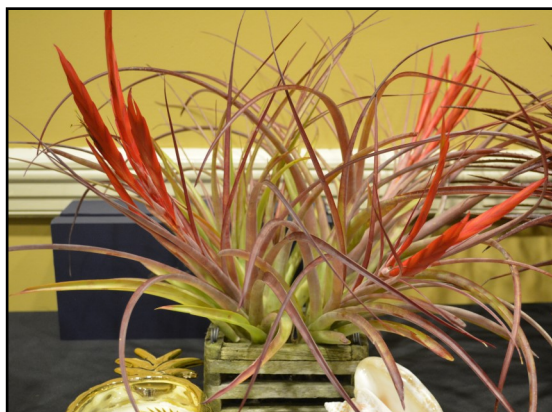
**Morris Henry Hobbs Best in Show Artistic**  
*Billbergia Darth Vader*  
by Kathy Risley

## Winners Head Table

**Best Aechmea**  
*Aechmea phanerophlebia*



**Best Tillandsia**  
*Tillandsia Classic Rouge*  
by Terrie Bert



**Best Neoregelia**  
*Neoregelia Legend* by John Boardman



## 2024 World Bromeliad Conference

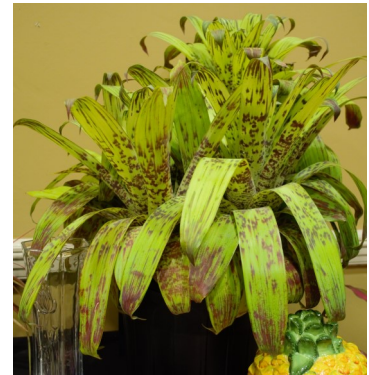
*Neo. Royal Orleans*  
by Tom Ramiccio



*xSincoregelia Magna Blaze*  
by John Boardman



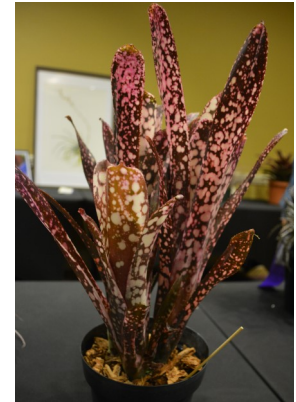
*Goudaea Ospinae gruberi*  
'Streaker' by Terrie Bert



*Deuterocohnia brevifolia*  
by Chip Jones



*xSincoraea species*  
by Tropiflora



*Billbergia Cannalin Rouge*  
By Terrie Bert



*Quesnelia*  
'Tim Plowman'  
by John Boardman



*Dyckia Eyelash*  
By Bryan Windham



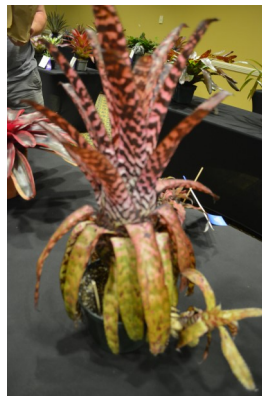
*Neo. silvomontana*  
by John Boardman



## 2024 World Bromeliad Conference



**Sincoraea ulei**  
by Bryan Windham



**Aec. Conner**  
by Lee Magnuson



**Navia lactea**  
by David Sand



**Aec. organensis**  
'Freckles'  
by Barb Gardner



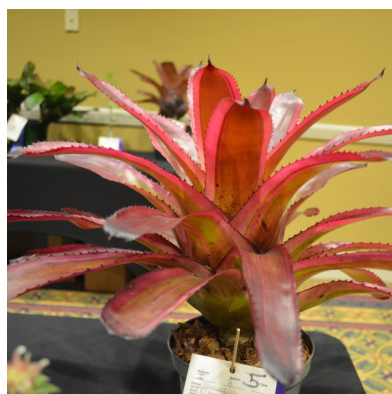
**Neo. Kryptonite**  
by Tom Ramiccio



**Vriesea Pink Delight**  
By John Boardman



**Dyckia goehriegii**  
by Lee Magnuson



**Neo. Flame On**  
by Terrie Bert



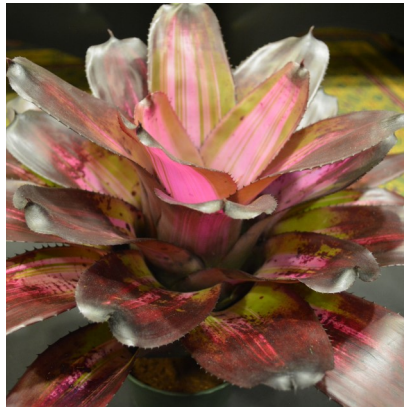
**Till. hondurensis**  
by Ray Lemieux



## 2024 World Bromeliad Conference



**Aec. Bert J. Anderson x (White Knight x Pickaninny)**  
by Katie Smith



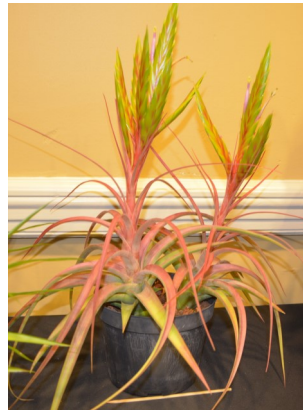
**Neo. Radiant Rachel**  
By David Sand



**xDycktia Satit 18**  
by Josh Smith



**Aechmea Fat Knight**  
by Nick Bethmann



**Tillandsia R-1 Ultimo**  
by Terrie Bert



**Neo. concentrica**  
by Josh Smith



**Orthophytum saxicola rubra**  
by Alan Herndon



**Orthophytum benzingii**  
by Betty Ann Prevatt



**Guzmania lingulata**  
by Jerry Raack



## 2024 World Bromeliad Conference



*Neo 'Petite Minou'*  
by Calandra Thurrott



*Neo. Lava Lamp*  
by Jason Mellica



*Billbergia Greenpeace*  
by Stephen Hoppin



*Neo. Linda Cathcart*  
by Terrie Bert



*Neo. Blood Moon*  
by David Sand



*Neo. Backstabber*  
by Tom Ramiccio



*Neo. Big Mac Special*  
by Chip Jones



*Neo. Cumbra*  
by Josh Smith



*Neo. Black Olive*  
by David Sand





**Julie Stein Appointed as the  
Newest Southern  
Regional BSI Director  
By Dr Larry Giroux**

Due to personal reasons, Richard Poole, who has served as one of the 5 Southern Regional BSI Directors for nearly 4 years, has resigned. We thank Richard for his service and wish him the best in this new chapter of his life.

After appropriate vetting, Julie Stein was nominated as a replacement to complete Richard Poole's term (2023-2026). Her nomination was submitted to the Bromeliad Society President, Andrew Flower and earlier this month Julie was appointed the newest Southern Regional BSI Director.

Julie has been the Secretary of the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society and is now serving her third year as President. In addition she has been the Secretary of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies and is currently the CBS's Alternate Representative, the CBS's Representative to the FM/ LC Garden Council and member of other local organizations. Her own collection of exotic plants especially bromeliads and orchids on Pine Island, keeps her hands-on involved with the plant hobby.

More recently she has completed her BSI Judges' training and is now a BSI Accredited Bromeliad Judge. She is excited about her new position with the BSI and encourages anyone, BSI member or not, to talk to her about the BSI and about bromeliads.



Pictures Julie Stein's yard  
Photos by Dr. Larry Giroux  
Reprinted from the CBS Meristem  
May-June 2024



## Bromeliad People - A Second Family

By Carol Wolfe

My husband, Tom Wolfe, and I came from totally different backgrounds, he was born in a hospital in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania and was an only child. I was born at home, the fourth child of ten children, in Monroe, North Carolina. While Tom lived in a historical three story house on Main Street. I lived in a sprawling farmhouse, which was never locked and in the summer the windows were always open except for a rain storm, and in the winter the wood stove and fireplace worked hard to warm the house.

My family owned over a hundred acres of land and our farm was fully functional, self-sustaining with milk cows, beef cows, chickens, cotton, corn, sugar cane, wheat, and hay. My dad sold milk to the dairy, eggs to local stores, schools, and restaurants, sold cotton in the summer and fall, and beef cows at the auction. Dad was a great gardener with large spring, summer, and fall gardens, successfully growing every kind of vegetable that would grow in North Carolina. My mother spent the summer canning thousands of jars of Dad's produce. Mother only went to the grocery store once a month to stock up on flour and dry goods. However, Tom's dad worked in town and the grocery stores and meat markets were conveniently a few miles away and his mother visited weekly.

My mother and father came from large families so I had many aunts, uncles, cousins, great aunts, great uncles, with second, third, and fourth cousins.. After we were married, someone asked Tom how it felt to be in such a large family. Tom's response was it was like joining the army! Upon retiring, Tom's parents moved to St. Petersburg, fulfilling their dream to retire in Florida. Tom's family was small with only a few relatives remaining in PA and I had too many to count! I couldn't image such a small family.

After leaving the farm, I earned my Secretarial degree and headed for the high rise office building downtown working on the 8th floor for a Senior Vice President of the Bank. I was very happy working in an air conditioned office and getting paid for easy labor (*as compared to the farm and hot cotton fields*).

When Tom and I got married I had no idea my future would be impacted by bromeliads or any kind of plants! Tom invited me to the bromeliad meetings but I declined. Although I admired Tom's bromeliads, I didn't plan on being involved with 'his plants'. He continued to invite me to the meetings and finally I relented and went. Of course, I was amazed with the beautiful bromeliads, the knowledge and the enthusiasm of the members. I was sure that I could never learn to pronounce the bromeliad names that everyone rattled off so easily. As I continued going to the meetings, I began helping with refreshments and cleaning up the kitchen, helping with the shows at the malls and the State Fair. Soon I was very involved with the club and bromeliads.

My first World Bromeliad Conference was in New Orleans in 1977 and the theme of the event was "All That Jazz." There were over 600 bromeliad members there from 27 states and foreign countries. It was my first time to go on home tours and the yards were unique, beautiful, interesting and the people were so hospitable.

It was after that trip that I realized Tom had a 'second family' consisting of bromeliad people. By that time, Tom had been a member of the BSI and the local club about ten years and he knew a lot of the bromeliad people. We had a great time at the conference and I enjoyed meeting his bromeliad friends.

After Tom became an internationally certified Bromeliad Judge that started our traveling to different cities and states. He enjoys giving programs as well as judging shows and we became friends with many people in Florida, Louisiana, Texas, and California. We homeschooled our children so it was easy to pack up and go with him. Tom's bromeliad friends became our friends and we looked forward to visiting with them just as we did with our own families. We were loved and treated so wonderful by everyone.

Someone said we need old friends to help us grow old and young friends to help us stay young! And you will find plenty of them in the 'Bromeliad Family!' Although we still see many of these people, some members moved away. while others passed away, We cherish the memories made as we remember Lincoln, Calemari, Beadle, Hertz, Johnson, De Leon, Foster, Windham, Donayre, Frazel, Anderson, Steinmetz, Plever, Berg, Evans, Pascal, Baileys, Mealy, Fairchild, Lorenz, Foster, Schoenau, Kinzie, Prince, Beltz, Coulthard, Ross, Trahan, Gallick, Ankenbruck, Timm, Worley, Irizarry, Klugh, Luther, McKinsey, Fulkerson, Collins, Merrin, Hart, Garrison, Jackson, Grubb, Thurrott, Lineham, Harbert, Sorries, Read, O'Reilly, Dimmit, Isley, McCrory, Black, Miller, Blackburn, Perryn, and many others. We look forward to seeing them again in Heaven and meeting the God of Abraham, Issac and Jacob, the God who created bromeliads in the first place!

**So Tom's second family wasn't small and it has been a privilege and joy to make them 'my family' too!**



**GAINESVILLE BROMELIAD SOCIETY**

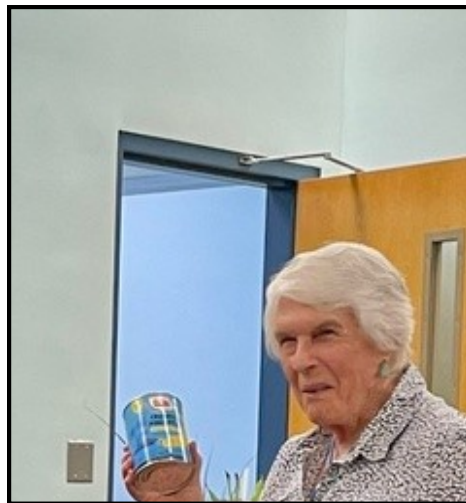
**HONORS NANCY MASON**

By Sandy Burnett

A few years back, the GBS Board decided to honor individuals who have shared so much of their bromeliad growing experience with fellow members. This person would regularly share growing tips, watering guide, cold temperature care, and more. Often an invitation would be offered to visit their garden/greenhouse to see up close the magic of their green thumb.

We chose an award of a can of Crushed Pineapple and lifelong membership to be given in appreciation of their generosity. Our initial recipients were Ron Schoenau and Dr. Howard Frank. Without question when Ron speaks everyone becomes quiet and listens. And when Howard discussed the menace of the evil weevil, we all prayed for a cure and hoped that it remain far from North Central Florida.

So on a rainy Sunday, July 28th, it was a great honor to award Nancy Mason with her can of “Crushed Pineapple”. Throughout the years of membership, Nancy has routinely hosted the silent auction table and shared the beauties grown in her garden/greenhouse. She too is one of our society’s mentors who we enjoy learning from. When she has a question of our guest speakers, you know that you will hear something new. So it is with deep appreciation that we salute Nancy for sharing her bromeliad expertise with all of us.



Nancy Mason receiving her award  
A can of Pineapple And a  
Lifetime Membership in GBS  
Below: Nancy brought in a prize-winning



**Gainesville Bromeliad Society**

Meets: Fourth Sunday of the month at 2:00 PM

AT: Millhopper Branch Library

3145 NW 43rd Street

Gainesville 32606

Email Contact: - [Sandy Burnett](mailto:sandyjojo@gmail.com) sandyojo@gmail.com



## Congratulations to 5 New Bromeliad Society International Accredited Judges

After an arduous journey including 6-day long classes over nearly 4 years, numerous practice plant scoring, student judgments, entering BSI Shows and winning a number of blue ribbons, participating in Show committees and passing a point scoring practical exam and written exam, 5 women have completed the BSI Judges School. Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society members Alison Ackerman, Debbie Hughes, Marian Kennell (also a Sarasota Bromeliad Society member) and Julie Stein, along with West Coast Bromeliad Society member Suzanne Bogacki (*Not pictured*) are now Bromeliad Society Accredited Panel Judges. Although there were several other students who started the classes and had to drop out for a variety of reasons, what they and the new Judges learned from their participation will benefit them with the enjoyment of their bromeliad hobby. There is no decision as to when a new school will start here in Florida, but when it is announced, consider enrolling, it is well worth the effort and a lot of fun. A giant thank you and congratulations need to be given to the BSI Judges School



**Alison Ackerman**



**Julie Stein**



**Debbie Hughes**



**Marian Kennell**

Instructors BettyAnn Prevatt, Vicky Chirnside, Dr. Terrie Bert, Calandra Thurrott and Dr. Larry Giroux for their years of commitment, travel and sacrifice to educate this next generation of Judges.

Reprinted from the CBS Meristem May-June 2024

**Moyna J. Prince**

**April 16, 1938—May 10, 2024**

It's with great sadness we just recently heard about the passing of one of our Life members of our Bromeliad Society of South FL.

Moyna wore just about every hat you can imagine in the Bromeliad Society of South Florida: Treasurer, Board Member, President, Auctioneer, Spring Show leader, Extravaganza Leader, Award-winning Horticulturalist, and Editor of our Advisory for many years.

She was a volunteer at Fairchild Tropical Garden as seen in her photo. She also collected bromeliad art. Those who were fortunate to know her were always amazed at her knowledge and willingness to help. She was an inspiration to all of us who knew her.



(Reprinted from the Bromeliad Society of South Florida BromeliAdvisory. May, 2024)

**Moyna's award winning bromeliads. Photos by Michael Andreas**



*Neoregelia chlorosticta* × *pauciflora*  
15th World Bromeliad Conference, St. Petersburg, Florida, May 13 - 19, 2002



*Neoregelia punctatissima* × *caroliniae*  
15th World Bromeliad Conference, St. Petersburg, Florida, May 13 - 19, 2002

Shown by  
Moyna Prince





## TRUE FULL-SUN BROMELIADS

By Moyna Prince

*This article and pictures appeared in the September 2002 edition of The BromeliAdvisory, the newsletter of the Bromeliad Society of South Florida*

The weather we've had this year has tried our plants in the extreme. While the winter was mild, drought conditions combined with sunny days stressed them. Then came the monsoon rains and the temperature climbed. These conditions tested the survival abilities of our toughest bromeliads, and it's been interesting to assess those that flourished versus those that needed more protection.

In our garden, there is one bromeliad that is a clear winner in the full-sun category: [\*Hohenbergia castellanosii\*](#). You cannot give this bromeliad too much sun. It's a big, tough plant with upright form, and wide green leaves that turn fiery red from the tips down as it gets more sun.

I went to several of our members for suggestions, and listed below are their recommendations. The experts pointed out that most plants that have gone through this year's weather extremes without sunburn had the advantage of being planted in cooler months, thus giving them time to become acclimated. You can't take a plant from a shady spot and place it in direct sun in July without getting some burn or bleaching. Sudden changes, length of sunny periods and humidity can also cause problems, even for well-established plants.

Here are some of the experts' suggestions for full-sun bromeliads:

Large:

[\*Aechmea blanchetiana\*](#)

[\*Aechmea eurycorymbus\*](#)

[\*Aechmea mexicana\*](#) (also the albomarginated form)

[\*Aechmea bracteata\*](#) (all forms)

[\*Aechmea mulfordii\*](#)

[\*Aechmea rubens\*](#)

[\*Aechmea\* 'Little Harv'](#)

[\*Aechmea chantinii\*](#) (black form)

[\*Aechmea\* 'Samurai'](#)

[\*Alcantarea vinicolor\*](#) (tougher than *imperialis*)

[\*Alcantarea imperialis\*](#)

[\*Alcantarea regina\*](#)

[\*Androlepis skinneri\*](#)

[\*Hohenbergia castellanosii\*](#)

[\*Portea petropolitana\*](#) (both var. *petropolitana* and var. *extensa*, the more common one)



Moyna and Ed Prince yard—Photos by Michael Andreas



Medium:

[\*Aechmea pectinata\*](#)  
[\*Aechmea ornata\*](#)  
[\*Ananias bracteatus\*](#)  
[\*Ananias comosus\*](#)  
[\*Neoregelia cruenta\*](#)  
[\*Neoregelia johannis\*](#)  
[\*Neoregelia compacta\*](#)  
[\*Neoregelia macwilliamsii\*](#)  
[\*Neoregelia marmorata\*](#)  
[\*Quesnelia testudo\*](#)  
[\*Quesnelia arvensis\*](#)  
[\*Wittrockia superbay\*](#)

Small:

[\*Aechmea recurvata\* var. \*ortgiesii\*](#)  
[\*Neoregelia olens\*](#)  
[\*Neoregelia\* 'Fireball'](#)  
[\*Orthophytum gurkenii\*](#)  
[\*Orthophytum navioides\*](#)  
[\*Orthophytum burle-marxii\*](#)



Monya Price awarded  
Mike Keys Memorial For Best Neoregelia Hybrid

Most *Dyckias* and *Hechtias* (they'll require more frequent watering).  
The genus *Pitcairnia* is usually very sun-tolerant.

The plants in the above list are the most readily available.

More uncommon species, also recommended, are:

[\*Aechmea callichroma\*](#)  
[\*Aechmea mariae-reginae\*](#)  
[\*Aechmea beeriana\*](#)  
[\*Aechmea bromeliifolia\*](#)  
[\*Aechmea aquilega\*](#)  
[\*Aechmea castelnavii\*](#)  
[\*Aechmea distichantha\* var. \*schlumbergeri\*](#)  
[\*Aechmea lingulata\*](#)  
[\*Aechmea phanerophlebia\*](#)  
[\*Aechmea tocantina\*](#)  
[\*Hohenbergia stellata\*](#)  
[\*Neoregelia sarmentosa\*](#)  
[\*Neoregelia tigrina\*](#)  
[\*Neoregelia bahiana\*](#)  
[\*xNeotanthus\* 'Cardboard'](#)  
[\*Portea leptantha\*](#)  
[\*Orthophytum magalhaesii\*](#)  
[\*Orthophytum maracasense\*](#)  
[\*Orthophytum rubrum\*](#)



Photos by Michael Schmale and Dr. Lynn Fiebor

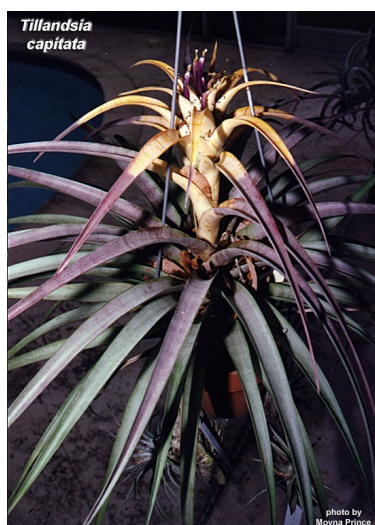




Steve Correale, who grows and sells *tillandsias*, suggests the following for the full-sun treatment: *Tillandsia fasciculata*, *streptophylla*, *xerographica*, *concolor*, *tricholepis*, *bulbosa*, *caput-medusae*, *ionantha* (all forms), *stricta*, *vernica*, *disticha*, *didisticha*. And don't forget *Tillandsia usneoides*! As with other genera, if your tillandsias have been growing in the shade, move them to direct sun in the fall or winter. To sum up: If you can provide your plants with a little shade, even from a nearby palm or your patio screen, they'll thank you. If they're going to be in full sun from sunrise to sunset, get them established in the winter. Otherwise, be prepared for at least a little bleaching.

(Thanks to the following who provided suggestions: Harvey Bullis, Nat DeLeon, Lynne Fieber, Peter Kouchalakos, Sandy Roth and Virginia Schrenker.)

*This article and pictures appeared in the September 2002 edition of The BromeliAdvisory, the newsletter of the Bromeliad Society of South Florida*



Above: award winning bromeliads by Moyna Price

Below: Photography by Moyna Prince







AWARD WINNING PLANTS ENTERED INTO BSSF SHOWS BY ED PRINCE

*Neoregelia pauciflora* in Sea Shell



Bromeliad Society of South Florida Show - photo by Lynne Fieber and Michael Schmale

Photos from <https://www.fcbs.org>



*Neoregelia punctatissima* X 'Hannibal Lector'

2004 Bromeliad Society of South Florida Show  
photo by Michael Schmale & Lynn Fieber

*Vriesea hieroglyphica* x *gigantea*



2004 Bromeliad Society of South Florida Show  
photo by Michael Schmale & Lynn Fieber

*Tillandsia harrisii*



2004 Bromeliad Society of South Florida Show  
photo by Michael Schmale & Lynn Fieber

*Tillandsia harrisii*



2004 Bromeliad Society of South Florida Show  
photo by Michael Schmale & Lynn Fieber

*Tillandsia funckiana*



2004 Bromeliad Society of South Florida Show  
photo by Michael Schmale & Lynn Fieber

*Tillandsia cacticola*



Bromeliad Society of South Florida Show - photo by Lynne Fieber and Michael Schmale



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## My Last Issue of the FCBS Newsletter

To my friends at the FCBS,

Becoming editor of the FCBS Newsletter started as a temporary assignment in 2014 when Kay Klugh called on behalf of the FCBS and asked if I would be the editor of the Newsletter. Karen Andreas, who published an excellent Newsletter, had resigned to spend more time with Michael due to some health issues he was going through at that time.

I had served eight years as the Editor for the BGTB newsletter. The paper issue required a lot of work having the issue printed, stapled, labeled, stamped and mailed. The FCBS Newsletter was in its first year of being a digital issue and would not require as much work. However, it was a greater responsibility to serve over 700 members and I had no idea where I would get the information necessary for the Newsletter. Kay promised the FCBS would help me with articles so I agreed to give it a try. That was over ten years ago and I think now is time to give someone else the opportunity to be editor.

It has been my pleasure to share many bromeliad pictures from my collection, through the Newsletter with you, and I have enjoyed being your editor. Thank you for all of your support during this time and I know that you will be supportive of the next editor as well.

Since I basically married into the "Bromeliad World" as husband, Tom, was already addicted to bromeliads, I thought it only fair that he should produce an article for each issue! He has been faithful to produce interesting articles in almost every issues for the last ten years. Thanks, Tom!

Jay and Calandra Thurrott were also faithful contributors to the Newsletter. Jay was always creative with his articles and when it came time to publish the Newsletter, his articles were on time or ahead of schedule. Jay was a faithful contributor of articles even while battling cancer.

Calandra Thurrott has been great at checking the Newsletter and catching all the things that needed to be corrected. She is a faithful and talented assistant and I so appreciated her help.

My thanks to Michael Andreas, our webmaster, for all of his assistance in helping with the Newsletter and faithfully posting it and sending us links to distribute. Michael does a great job and I appreciate his help so much. He and Karen have done a fabulous job with the FCBS.org website and it is a valuable information and tool for all of us.

Michael and Karen have unselfishly served the FCBS, the BSI, and the bromeliad world for many years! The website, <https://www.fcbs.org> was one of the first, if not the first website dedicated to bromeliads. They have posted over **25,000 photos on the site!** When you realize how many pictures are on the website then you understand why the <http://www.fcbs.org> is such a popular site. Many of our speakers use the information and pictures from the websites to present programs to our clubs. The *FCBS.org* is a real support to these speakers. Our thanks to the Andreas for their enduring efforts and professional expertise.

Tom and I will still serve on the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc. and we look forward to supporting a new editor.

God bless!  
Carol Wolfe