



[www.SarasotaBromeliadSociety.com](http://www.SarasotaBromeliadSociety.com)

# Sarasota Bromeliad Society *Newsletter*

November 2021



*Tillandsia oerstediana* is a large species native to Costa Rica  
Photo by Marian Kennell taken at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens.

## **November Meeting**

**Location:** The Great Room at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens

**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021

**Time:** Presentation begins at 7 P.M. (doors open at 6pm)

**Subject:** “Growing Bromeliads in West-central Florida”

**Speaker:** Dr. Terrie Bert



Dr. Terrie Bert will be the speaker at the SBS November meeting  
Photo provided by Dr. Terrie Bert

**Dr. Terrie Bert will present “Growing Bromeliads in West-Central Florida.”** She will bring about 200 Bromeliads from many different genera and talk about growing them in our area. These plants will also be for sale, so you’ll have the opportunity to purchase your favorites. Terrie will also include information on the ecology and history of the various genera, as well as humorous stories about growing bromeliads. This is a great opportunity to add a variety of beautifully grown bromeliads from a variety of genera to your collection.

Dr. Terrie Bert is a long-standing member of the Sarasota Bromeliad Society (SBS) and the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society (CBS) and has held multiple offices in the SBS. She also served the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies (FCBS) as a representative and had held multiple officer for eight years and has authored multiple articles for the FCBS newsletter. For the Bromeliad Society International, she has served on the library committee, and has been a Florida Director. She has chaired several international committees, judged several shows, contributed articles to the BSI Journal, and has been an invited speaker at world conferences. Currently she is Curator of the Wally Berg Award of Excellence, Chair for the Judged Show at the 2022 BSI World Conference, and a Master Judge. Terrie has given over 175 presentations on bromeliads to numerous U.S. and international bromeliad societies and to other groups, including regional and international bromeliad conferences. She cultivates more than 2000 different bromeliads in about 35 genera. She’s won multiple top awards in local bromeliad shows and BSI world conferences. She also recently obtained her Master Naturalist certification from the Manatee County Extension Service. Terrie has a Ph.D. in marine biology and recently retired from her position as a research scientist for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

If you are interested in bromeliads, you are invited to join the Sarasota Bromeliad Society. We meet on the second Monday of the month at 6 PM in the Great Room at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens. Prior experience with Bromeliads is not required. Everyone is welcome! Annual dues are \$20 for individuals and \$25 for a couples. Enjoy meeting with like-minded bromeliad enthusiasts, speakers, workshops, bromeliad raffles, sales, garden tours. Go to [sarasotabromeliadsociety.org](http://sarasotabromeliadsociety.org) to download the application form. Make your check out to the Sarasota Bromeliad Society. Mail your form and the check to the address provided on the form. You may join at any of our meetings. Guests are welcome.

### **Officers for 2021**

**President** Ray Lemieux

**Vice President** Marian Kennell

**Acting Secretary** Lisa Confino

**Treasurer** Dianne Cantalamessa

**Membership** Bob Stickney and Nancy Abramson

**Historian** position available

**Newsletter Editor** Marian Kennell

**Workshop** position available

**Refreshments** Nancy Abramson and Barbara Wetzel

**FCBS Representatives** Jason Mellica, Terrie Bert (alternate)

**Facebook** Betty Gundlach and Marian Kennell

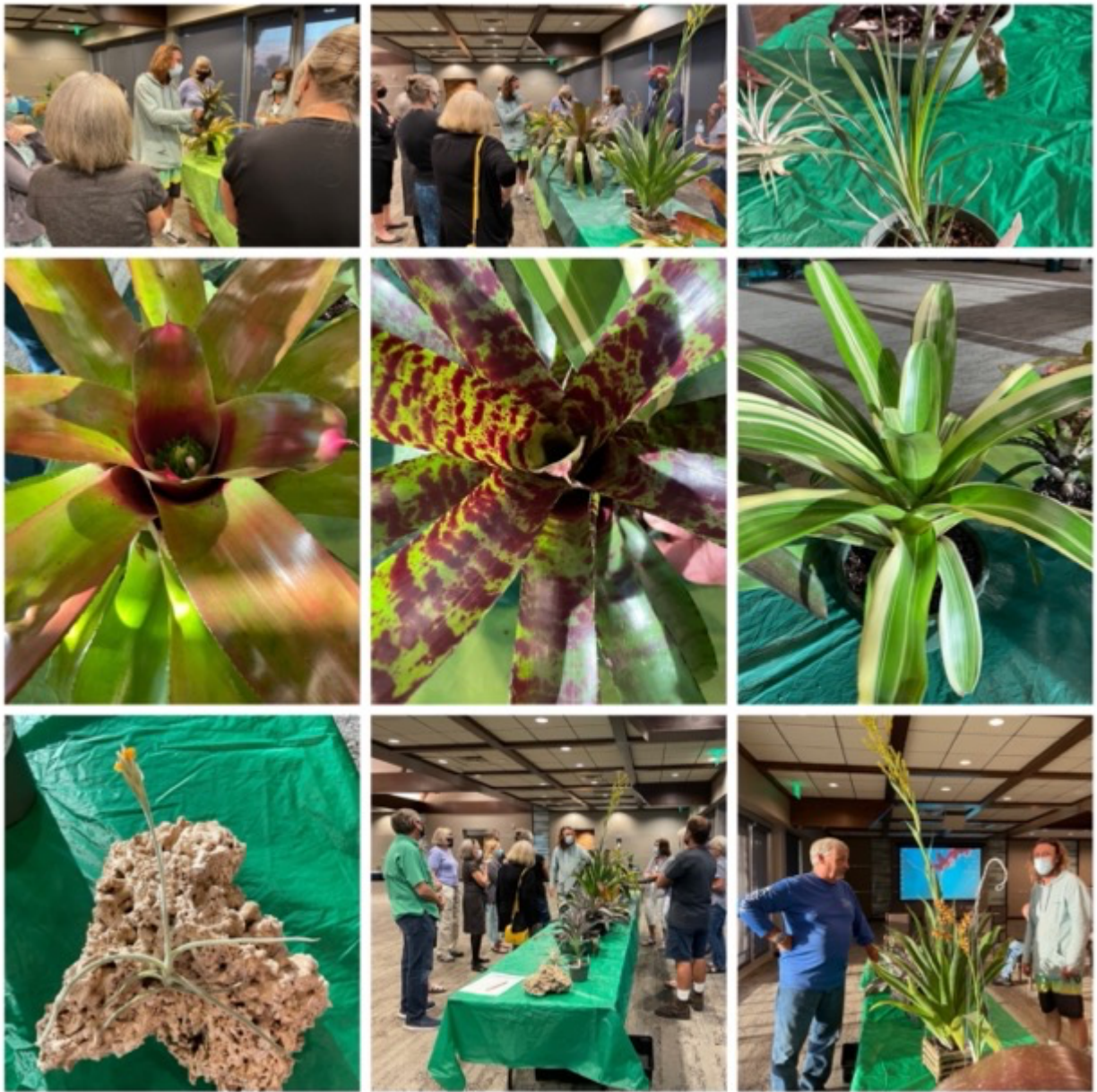
**Raffle** Bob Cantalamessa

**Door Prize** Ray Lemieux

**Librarian** Marian Kennell

**Shop** Mark Kennell





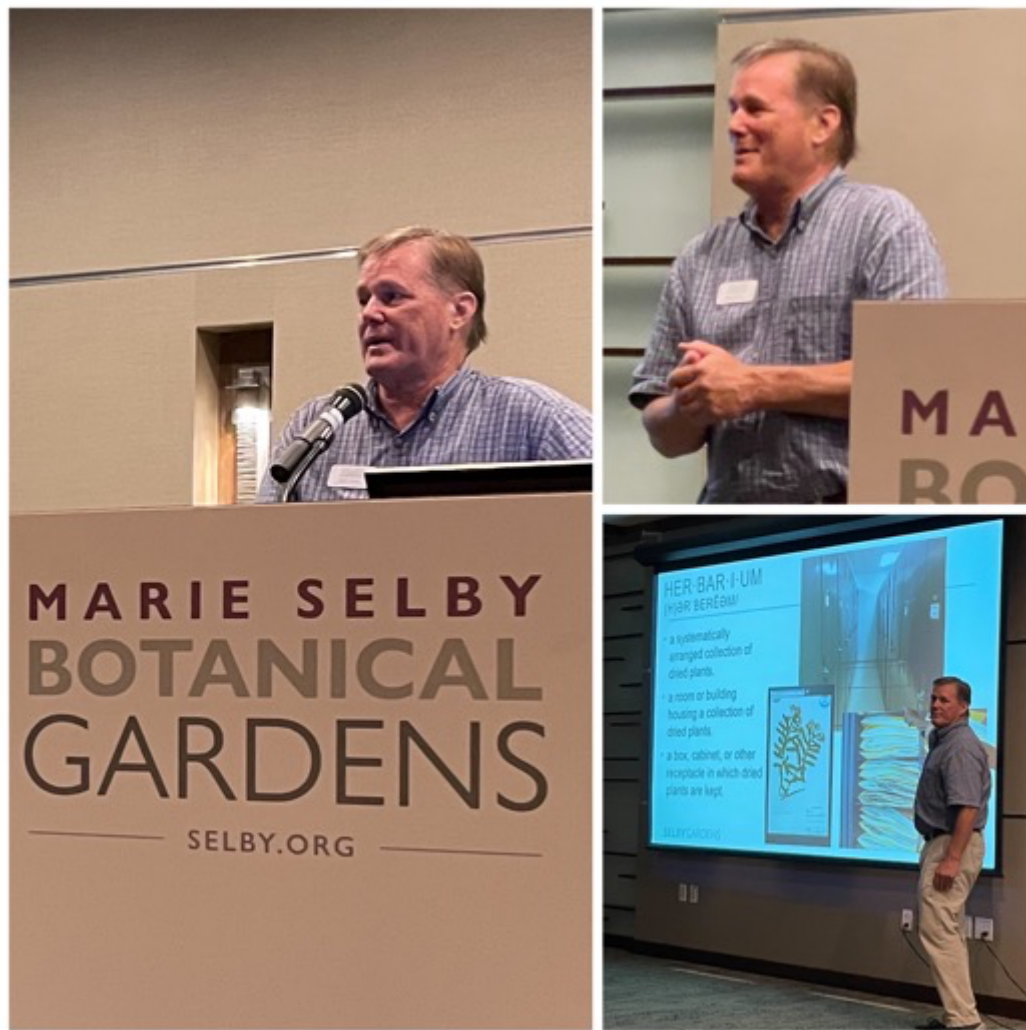
Photographs taken at Show and Tell at the October meeting.

**A special thanks to new SBS member Lisa Confino** for stepping up to act as SBS Secretary in the absence of David Bates and accepting the nomination for secretary in 2022. A copy of the September and October meeting minutes can be found at the end of the newsletter



Jason Mellica shared one of his new hybrids at Show and Tell. It is a cross between Neoregelia 'Virgin Pink' and Neoregelia 'Centaur'. It is 36" across with white flowers.





Bruce Holst shared with SBS at the October meeting the importance of herbaria and the large national and international role Marie Selby Botanical Garden's rich herbarium collection plays in our understanding of plants and how that information is shared worldwide. Bruce's excitement and love for his role in collecting, preparing, and sharing information was apparent and infectious. Thank you, Bruce, we are lucky and grateful for your work and involvement in bromeliad research.



Billbergia 'La Vie en Rose' is blooming this week. An amazing hybrid by Don Beadle. Photo by SBS member Jerry Cowley.



**The 2022 World Conference** will take place in Sarasota on June 7-11, 2022, at the Hyatt Regency. There are many ways to participate in and enjoy the conference. We will need many volunteers to make the event run smoothly. Many members have communicated their desire to help. We need to get the list of names of the Volunteers Coordinator Susan Sousa. You can sign up at the meeting, email or call Ray Lemieux, Marian Kennell, or Richard Poole to add your name to the list. Thank you so much for your help. Go to [BSI.org](http://BSI.org) for updated information on the conference.

If you are not a member of the Bromeliad Society International (BSI) yet now is your opportunity to join for the special rate of \$15 per year. The journal alone is worth the \$15. You will also have online access to all the previous journals, articles, and photographs. Go to [BSI.org](http://BSI.org) to learn more about signing up as a member BSI. We will have some copies of previous journals to peruse at the November meeting. We will also be raffling a membership to the BSI at our raffle table this month. You could get a membership for \$1! Much more about the World Conference to come in the next newsletter.



Nidularium 'Mayhem' by Chester Skotak. Photo by Marian Kennell





Neoregelia 'Wolfgang' by Chester Skotak photo by Marian Kennell

**SHOW AND TELL** - Don't forget to bring a plant for Show and Tell to our meeting this this Monday!

Try to bring at least one plant for **Show and Tell** and if you have some extra plants or pups you can share them on the **Raffle table!**

**Newsletter** – Please let Ray or Marian know if you have photographs or articles you would like to publish in our newsletter. Thank you!

Sarasota Bromeliad Society  
September 13, 2021  
Masks required for Covid.

President Marian Kennell called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Nominations were opened for next year's officers:

President: Nomination is open

Vice President: Jason Mellica

Treasury: Nomination is open.

Secretary: Lisa Confino and Maggie Richardson. These two will co-chair this position until formal nominations are finalized at the next meeting.

The Treasury report was given.

A list of volunteering opportunities will be presented at the next meeting.

Ray Lemieux presented Bromeliads 101 to all members and focused on separating/repotting bromeliads. He used Marian's plants as examples.

Jason Mellica and Jerry presented some plants in show and tell.

There was a reminder that we will be hosting the World Bromeliad Conference in June 2022. We are encouraged to have flowering or non-flowering plants entered in the conference.

There was discussion about having a plant auction at the next October meeting. A vote was taken and the majority voted yes.

The evening concluded with the monthly plant raffles.

Number of Members Present: 16  
New members: 2

Lisa Confino  
Recording Secretary



Sarasota Bromeliad Society  
October 11, 2021  
Masks required for Covid.

Ray Lemieux called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

A sign-up volunteer sheet for next year's conference was made available. There may be some perks for volunteering. The dates for the conference are June 8-12, 2022. It will be held at the Hyatt Regency. On June 10, 2022 SBS is hosting a reception at the conference which includes a tour behind the scenes. A great slate of speakers will be presenting. The cost to attend the conference is \$295.00 if you register before January and may go up to \$350.00 after that time. Tours at Michaels Bromeliads and Tropiflora are also expected.

If interested in the Bromeliad Society International, membership is \$15/year at a promo cost. Contact BSI.org or call Marian.

Jason Mellica and Marian discussed their show and tell specimens.

At the September meeting there was a vote to have a plant auction at the October meeting. This was postponed due to a short planning timetable.

Bruce Holst was the evening speaker. He spoke about Herbaria which is a systematically arranged collection of plants with the intention of perpetual preservation.

The evening concluded with the monthly plant raffle.

The meeting ended at 8:25 p.m.

Number of Members Present: 20

Guests: 3—Renee Stevens, Marie Keeney and Mary Mattootti.

Lisa Confino  
Recording Secretary

## **Local Events:**

**Plant Parents** is having a Fall Plant Sale on Friday November 5<sup>th</sup> and Saturday November 6<sup>th</sup> 9AM. David Glosser likens it to a “garage sale on steroids” with great buys on orchids, bromeliads, palms, containers and more. 6742 Richardson Road, Sarasota, FL 34240.

**Aerialists from the Treetop in the Big Top** is now on view at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens. While billed as the 2021 Orchid Show, there are plenty of bromeliads on display throughout the exhibit. October 9 through November 28, 2021.

**Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society (CBS)** is having Bromeliad Show on December 4<sup>th</sup> as well as a Sale December 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> at the Edison-Ford Winter Estates in Fort Myers at 2350 McGregor Blvd, Fort Myers, FL.

**World Bromeliad Conference:** June 7-11, 2022. Hyatt Regency Hotel. Sarasota, FL. Events include a Show, Sale, Rare Plant Auction, tours of Tropiflora and Michael’s Bromeliads nurseries, a behind the scenes tour of Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, speakers, banquet. Go to BSI.com for more details.

If you know of any events that your fellow bromeliad enthusiasts would be interested in, please send the information to Marian Kennell at [sarasotabromeliad@gmail.com](mailto:sarasotabromeliad@gmail.com)