



# BromeliAdvisory

Aug 2025

<http://www.bssf-miami.org>


## Directors:

Alex Bello, President  
Tina Severson, Immediate Past President  
Barbara Partagas, Vice President  
Patty Gonzalez, Director  
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Maureen Adelman, Director  
Lynn Gordon, Director

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Editor: Tina Severson  
Webmaster: Bob Benaim  
Door Prize: Alan Herndon  
Membership, Patty Gonzalez & Melody Ray  
Mem. Plant Sales: Alex Bello  
Special Events/ Refreshments: Sandy Roth  
Silent Auction: Rene Izquierdo  
FCBS Reps: Maureen & Richard Adelman


## Next Society Meeting – Tuesday, August 19th, 2025

 Fairchild Tropical Gardens – Corbin A

 Come early at 7:00 PM for refreshments – Meeting begins promptly at 7:30 PM

Please bring a covered dish to share—make it one of your favorites!

We all love to eat while enjoying our bromeliads and great company.

 *Note: No vendor sales are allowed. Silent auction items are welcomed and appreciated!(see more info below)*

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## Let's Welcome Back Terrie Bert!

**You won't want to miss this special presentation.**

The Talk:

“What is a Bromeliad Collector?”

Are you a bromeliad collector—or thinking about becoming one? Terrie will share what it means to be a collector and explore the many ways to build a recognized and rewarding collection.

She's bringing about 200 bromeliads from a wide range of genera to demonstrate various collection types. Even better—all of these plants will be available for purchase after the talk, so you can take home your favorites and maybe start (or grow) your own collection!

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## About Terrie Bert

Dr. Terrie Bert is a longtime member of the Sarasota and Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Societies and has served in multiple leadership roles. She's a Master Judge, curator of the Wally Berg Award of Excellence, and a highly respected speaker with over 175 presentations given across the U.S. and internationally.

Terrie cultivates more than 2,000 bromeliads across 35 genera, has earned numerous show awards, and holds a Ph.D. in marine biology. She recently retired as a research scientist with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and is also a certified Master Naturalist.

## President's Message

Summer is still in full swing, and while many of you may be off traveling and enjoying the season, we have a **fantastic speaker lined up**—so you won't want to miss this month's meeting!

We're also looking forward to another great raffle table. **Maureen Adelman** will be taking the lead this month, and she always brings some real beauties. If you're interested in helping with future raffle tables, please let me know—we'd love to have you involved.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

*- Alex Bello*



## **Board Nominations Are Underway**

Maureen Adelman is leading this year's Nominating Committee for the Bromeliad Society Board of Directors. We have openings for President, Vice President, and Treasurer. If you're not interested in a leadership position, please let us know if you would consider serving as a director.

To help identify the best candidates, Maureen has asked Ofelia Sorzano and Laura Coe to assist with the nomination process. If you receive a call from any of them, it's because they believe you'd be an excellent fit for one of these roles—and they sincerely hope you'll accept the nomination.

### **NOTICE – BSSF By-Law Update**

**As approved by the BSSF Board of Directors, the following change has been made to:**

**Article VII – Nominations and Elections, Section 4**

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#### **◆ Change from:**

***Article VII, Section 4:***

**Notwithstanding the provision of this Article VII, Section 3, the Treasurer's or Secretary's position may be renewed on a yearly basis upon approval by the Board.**

#### **◆ Change to:**

***Article VII, Section 4:***

**Notwithstanding the provision of this Article VII, Section 3, the Treasurer's, Secretary's, or President's position may be renewed on a yearly basis upon approval by the Board.**

## Silent Auction – All Are Welcome!

Have extra bromeliads to share? Bring them in for our Silent Auction! It's a great way to share your plants and support the club. You'll keep **80% of the sale**, and the club receives **20%**—unless you'd like to donate more, of course.

It's a win-win for everyone: members get to enjoy new plants, and we all benefit from the exchange. Just be sure your plants are **clean and bug-free**—let's leave the pests at home!

If you have any questions, please see our Silent Auction Chair, **Rene Izquierdo**.



## In Case You Missed It:

*-By Tina Severson*



A heartfelt thank you to our Vice President, Barbara, for leading a truly creative and engaging Bromeliad Workshop! She brought in beautifully inspiring pots, each one prepped with all the elements needed to create a decorative bromeliad arrangement—no mess required. Instead of soil, Barbara introduced us to a fresh new method using colorful gravel, making it a fun, hands-on experience for all.



Since bromeliads can thrive without traditional soil, this was an experimental approach even Barbara hadn't tried before.



Each participant was able to choose their own mini bromeliad and arrange it with decorative accents to make something uniquely theirs.

Special thanks also go to our generous members who contributed driftwood, decorative containers, and other supplies—many of which were offered at very affordable prices to help support our society.



The creativity on display was nothing short of inspiring. You can see some of the amazing arrangements in the photos, we definitely have some artistic geniuses among us!

This event left us all wanting more. We look forward to future workshops like this that bring us together to learn, socialize, and enjoy the beauty of bromeliads in new and creative ways.



## Show & Tell Is Always a Hit!



Our latest Show & Tell was full of inspiration and admiration! Mike Michalski brought in a stunning selection of bromeliads and tillandsias that had everyone talking. While many of us tried to buy them, Mike wasn't ready to part with these beauties—though we can't blame him!

However, Mike did generously share **pups from his Orthophytum**. If your number was drawn, you were one of the lucky ones to take home some baby plants to grow. We hope to see them again at a future meeting—full grown and thriving!



Barbara Partagas also wowed us with her impressive **tillandsia ball**, which is soon to burst into bloom. She originally purchased a small clump in Tavernier and has lovingly cared for it on her patio. Now it's grown into a gorgeous, decorative sphere—be sure to check out the photo!



Thank you to everyone who brought in their plants and stories. Show & Tell continues to be one of the most fun and inspiring parts of our meetings!





## Great Turnout, Food, and Fun!



the evening extra special.

The food, the fun, and the time spent together truly made for a memorable meeting. It's always such a joy to connect with fellow members over good conversation and great bites!

What a fantastic gathering! We had a great turnout and shared a delicious potluck filled with everything we could have asked for. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who brought in food items—your contributions helped make



**As always, everyone's happy when there's food!**

Here's Mike spreading the love—and giving Justin a little good-natured teasing!



**It was great to see Richard Coe—we've missed you!**

We really appreciate you driving Rhonda and Laura to the meeting. It was wonderful having you all with us!



**Lynn Gordon brought her friend Julie—welcome!**

We love meeting new guests and hope to see you again at future meetings!



**Let's grow our society along with our plants—after all, both thrive with a little sunshine, water, and good company!**

  **Bring a friend and let's keep the good vibes (and the leaves) growing!**

# Upcoming Community Events

2025 Bromeliad Extravaganza Sept 26<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> 2025 Kissimmee, FL (Near Disney)

<https://www.sanfordgardenclub.com/extravaganza>

  
**Sanford Garden Club**  
200 Fairmont Drive, Sanford, FL 32773

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## 2025 BROMELIAD EXTRAVAGANZA

This page may be accessed directly by entering [BromeliadX.com](https://www.bromeliadx.com) in any browser.

The leadoff speaker on Saturday will be **Leonardo M. Versieux** whose topic will be **Brazil: Bromeliads of the Tropics**.

### 2025 Bromeliad Extravaganza

September 26th to 27th, 2025  
Kissimmee, Florida (near Disney)  
Conference Registration Fee: \$125  
([Online Registration](#) or [Mail-In](#))

Sponsored by the [Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies](#) and hosted by the [Seminole Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society](#), this will be Florida's biggest Bromeliad event of the year!

The **Bromeliad Extravaganza** will include a Friday night dinner (BBQ buffet), three Saturday afternoon seminars (including [Leonardo Versieux](#) from Brazil), a Saturday night banquet (Italian buffet) with a rare plant auction, and last (but not least), the biggest Bromeliad sale of the year in Florida. The Bromeliad sale (an area of almost 6,000 square feet) is open to the public on Saturday from 9 to 4.

Bromeliad growers and enthusiasts from all over Florida will bring a large selection of top quality Bromeliads for your purchasing pleasure. Those who register for the Conference will get first stab at acquiring some of these fantastic plants on Friday evening.



Register online today at:  
<https://sbtps.square.site/>

[Mail-in Registration Form](#)

[Schedule of Events](#)

*Click below for hotel pictures:*



### Hotel Reservations

The special hotel room rate for Conference registrants is only \$85.80 per night (\$67.80 plus \$18 resort fee) plus 13.5% taxes. This rate includes free parking and breakfast discounts. Deluxe tower rooms are also available for only \$105 (\$87 plus \$18 resort fee). Rooms are King or 2 Queen bed rooms.

The hotel is the **Ramada Gateway**, 7470 W Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy 192, Kissimmee, FL 34747. To obtain the conference rate, call the hotel (407-396-4400 or 407-997-6662 from 9am to 5pm) and ask for the special **Bromeliad Extravaganza** rates.

A deposit for one night's room rate plus taxes (\$67.80 plus \$9.16 or \$76.96 for the courtyard or poolview rooms) will be required at the time of booking (refundable up until 72 hours before the scheduled arrival date). The special rates will also be available from Sept. 23rd to 30th for those who would like to make a vacation out of their stay, but you need to book before August 26th to get this special rate. Hotel check-in time is 4pm and check out time is 11am.

You should book the hotel as soon as possible.



## **Volunteers Needed for Motes Event & Redland Orchid Festival!**

Our President, **Alex Bello**, is looking for volunteers to help with the **Motes Orchid Event** on **October 17–19, 2025**. If we gather enough support, we'll be eligible to host **two tables** at the **Redland Orchid Festival**—a fantastic opportunity to promote our Society!

Alex plans to have our members sell bromeliad books and hand out non-plant materials **for free** to attract new members. But to make it happen, we'll need **several volunteers** for both **Saturday and Sunday**.

If you're able to help, please **email or call Alex Bello right away** so he can confirm our participation and begin planning accordingly.

We'll also need to provide a **tabletop display** at the Orchid Festival, so let Alex know if you can assist with that as well.

Let's come together to make this event a success and grow our Bromeliad Society!



**The 22<sup>nd</sup> Australasian Bromeliad Conference - Aussie Broms 2025** – has been launched! The theme is ‘Exploring Beauty and Diversity’. The Bromeliad Society of Queensland invites the global Bromeliad community to participate.



**4<sup>TH</sup> - 7<sup>TH</sup> November 2025**  
Eatons Hill Hotel, Brisbane, QLD

**INTERNATIONAL & LOCAL  
EXPERT SPEAKERS DISCUSS  
ALL THINGS BROMELIADS**

Full details at [www.aussiebroms2025.bromsqueensland.com.au/wp](http://www.aussiebroms2025.bromsqueensland.com.au/wp)  
Register at Trybooking <https://www.trybooking.com/CXJKS>  
✉ [AussieBroms2025@bromsqueensland.com.au](mailto:AussieBroms2025@bromsqueensland.com.au)

 **THE BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND** 

**Plant Sales - New Releases!**  
**Taxonomy Botany Cultivation**  
**Rare plant auction**  
**Garden tours**

The website can be accessed at [Aussie Broms 2025 Conference](http://www.aussiebroms2025.bromsqueensland.com.au/wp), a Facebook page will also be live soon.

## Save the Date: April 2026 BSI World Conference

The 2026 BSI World Conference (WBC) will take place from April 14–18 at the Hilton Hotel in Costa Mesa, California.

Plan your visit to Costa Mesa, located in Orange County, which was recently named the Fourth Safest City in California. Notably, eight of the top ten safest cities in the state are in Orange County.

Travel is convenient with John Wayne Airport (SNA) just three miles from the venue, and Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) approximately 42 miles away.

For the latest updates and information, please visit the official conference website:

<https://www.bsi.org/new/conference-corner/>

World Bromeliad Conference 2026 — “California Dreaming”



## **From the Editor: Share Your Exciting Community Events!**

Do you know about an upcoming community event that our members would enjoy? If so, we'd love to hear from you! Please send me the details, along with any photos or links, for inclusion in our upcoming Advisories.

While we are particularly interested in events related to botanical gardens, plants, and horticulture, we welcome submissions on any topic that might be of interest to our members. Whether it's a local workshop, garden tour, or any exciting community event, your input is always appreciated.

To ensure your event makes it into our next issue, please send the information to me at least a week before our meetings. I always strive to highlight events that I think our members will find exciting, but your contributions will make it even better!

Looking forward to hearing from you!

*Tina Severson*