



## Seminole Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society

President: Greg Kolojeski  
Vice Pres.: Liesl Haas/Tim Dreggors  
Treasurer: Sudi Hipsley  
Secretary: Barbara Whittier  
FCBS Reps: Sudi Hipsley & Greg Kolojeski

## The Garden Club of Sanford, Inc.

President: Greg Kolojeski  
VP-Programs: Liesl & Tim  
VP-Property Mgmt.: Lani Berry  
Treasurer: Sudi Hipsley  
Secretary: Barbara Whittier

### Committee Chairpersons:

Plant Sales: Sandi Wirth  
Plant Sales Accounting: Cathy Schubert  
Librarian: Sandra Smith Fullerton  
Newsletter, Publicity, Websites: Greg Kolojeski

Rentals: Lani Berry  
Membership: Sudi Hipsley  
Landscape: Barbara Whittier

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## September 2024 Newsletter

**Meeting Announcement:  
Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM  
200 Fairmont Dr., Sanford**

Our September meeting will feature  
Jason Mellica with his presentation:  
**Mellica's 2024 New Bromeliad Hybrids**



Jason will bring a number of Bromeliad hybrids to sell at the meeting. He last spoke at one of our meetings in January 2022.

*Please bring your plants to donate to the Door Prize Drawing and Plant Raffle for the benefit of the Society. We will also feature the Members Silent Auction.*

Our main course for this meeting's refreshment break will be furnished by the SBTPS. Members whose last names begin with the letters D through G are asked to bring side dishes.

### Jason's Plants at the World Bromeliad Conference



## Jason Mellica bio

Jason received his Bachelor of Science in Botany from the University of Florida. He did an internship at [Marie Selby Botanical Gardens](#) where he developed an interest in Bromeliads. He has studied Bromeliads in the wild in Northeastern South America with over 20 trips to Venezuela and Guyana. His [Advanced Bromeliads](#) business is based in Sarasota.

Jason has been growing, hybridizing, and selling Bromeliads since 1998. He has made numerous crosses of Neoregelias and Vrieseas.

## Scenes from the 2024 Annual Fall Plant Sale





## President's Message

### August Plant Sale

The 2024 Annual Fall Plant Sale was another successful sale. Although sales were down from the Spring sale, lots of plants were sold and substantial funds were raised for the benefit of the society. The volunteers did a great job resulting in a very well-run event that received high praise from customers.

—Greg Kolojeski

**Current Member Count: 139**

### Extravaganza Show

The SBTPS has not sponsored an Extravaganza in quite a while and could possibly sponsor it in 2025. Possible hotels are being checked out for a likely show date in September or October of 2025. This topic will be on the agenda for discussion at the SBTPS meeting on September 15<sup>th</sup>. The next Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies (FCBS) meeting at which an Extravaganza could be approved will be October 26<sup>th</sup>.

The FCBS is looking to fill two open volunteer positions: editor of the FCBS Journal (published three times per year) and editor of the FCBS Roster (published once per year). If interested, contact Greg Kolojeski who is the 2024 FCBS Chairman.

### Sanford Garden Club News

The garden club's water bill showed a large increase recently and the possibility of a slow water leak is being investigated. However, for some good news--rentals for the Summer and Fall have been brisk.

### December Event at Nehrling Gardens

The Seminole Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society will again have a booth at the [Annual Holiday Amaryllis Festival](#) at Nehrling Gardens in Gotha. This event will be held on Saturday, December 14, 2024 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. We will be able to promote the SBTPS and sell Bromeliads.

### Bromeliad Society Presentations by SBTPS President

The president of the SBTPS and SGC, Greg Kolojeski, was a speaker at the Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society (FECBS) in June and then at the Gainesville Bromeliad Society (GBS) in August (and just hours later they invited him back for 2025). He is also scheduled at the Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society (FWCBS) in October. Greg's presentation is based on Plant Pictures of the Day and is titled **The A List: Aechmea, Alcantarea and Ananas Bromeliads**.

### 2025 Annual Spring Plant Sale

Next year's SBTPS Annual Spring Plant Sale has been scheduled for April 12-13, 2025 so not as to conflict with Easter the following weekend.

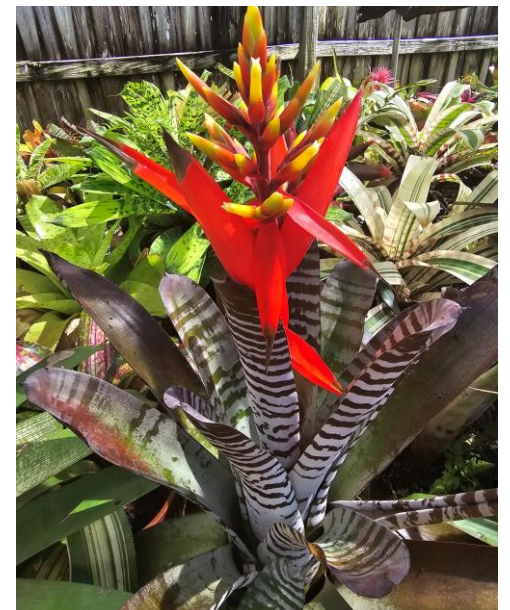
**October 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting: Terrie Bert  
with a Bromeliad Topic**



8/16/24 [Plant Picture of the Day:](#)  
xNeomea 'Flashdance' by Greg K.



7/31/24 [Plant Picture of the Day:](#)  
Heliconia 'Lady Di' variegated by John B.



7/28/24 [Plant Picture of the Day:](#)  
Aechmea chantinii (facultative spineless) by John Boardman