



BromeliAdvisory

Jan 2025

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

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Mem. Plant Sales: Alex Bello
Special Events/ Refreshments: Sandy Roth
Silent Auction: Rene Izquierdo
Field Trip: Tina Severson
FCBS Reps: Maureen & Richard Adelman

The Bromeliad Meeting will be in Corbin A at Fairchild Tropical Garden on January 21st, 2025, at 7:15 PM. Bring a side dish to share as we celebrate the New Year with food, fun, and plants!

Happy New Year! Join us in welcoming our new board members and secure your membership for an exciting 2025!

We've got an exciting year ahead in 2025, with a fantastic lineup of speakers that promise to keep things both fun and educational! Membership for 2025 is \$30 for one person and \$40 for two at the same address. If you haven't paid yet, please use the links provided to submit your payment. Alternatively, if you prefer the traditional method and need to pay by check, be sure to catch up with Patty Gonzalez at our upcoming meeting.

Single Membership:

<https://checkout.square.site/buy/DRRBMLMKT5C6HKFHIK3VXOKZ>

Double Membership

<https://checkout.square.site/buy/T7SSVJJC5HMU7HJNYYZBNN6R>

We are thrilled to welcome our January speaker, Matt Bagley!



After leaving the fast pace of Boston behind, Matt found peace in the natural beauty of South Florida, where his passion for plants led him to establish *Bonita Bromeliads*. Driven by a desire for warmth and greenery, the region's ideal climate enabled him to turn his love for plants into a flourishing business. Matt's favorite aspect of his work is the hands-on process of propagation and nurturing, as he watches new growth each day. To him, each plant is like a child—reflecting his deep dedication to and love for nature.

In his upcoming lecture this week,

Matt will delve into the fascinating world of *Terrestrial Bromeliads*. Additionally, he will be offering a selection of these beautiful plants for sale—an exciting opportunity to not only learn from Matt but also take home something rare and unique that you won't easily find elsewhere!

Bromeliad Show & Tell: Focus on Terrestrial Bromeliads This January!



We are excited to bring back our *Bromeliad Show & Tell* this January, and this month's focus will be on *Terrestrial Bromeliads*. These fascinating plants grow in soil, much like other terrestrial species. If you have any specimens you'd like to share, or questions you'd like to ask our experts, please feel free to bring them in. We look forward to seeing your plants and learning from each other!

Silent Auction Welcome!

Got extra plants you'd like to share? Bring your beautiful, clean, and bug-free specimens to our Silent Auction! You'll keep 80% of the winning bid, and the club will receive 20%. Want to donate more? Feel free! It's a win-win for all!

Our Bromeliad Society of South Florida celebrated its 65th Anniversary! We marked the occasion last month with a delicious cake. Here's to many more successful years ahead!



Calling All Charter Members: Share Your Early Photos of the Club!

We'd love to invite our Charter Members to share any early photos of our club that you may have! If you have photos, especially those taken before 2010, please consider bringing them in for us to scan. Alternatively, you can scan and email them to Alex Bello. Our goal is to create a comprehensive photo archive documenting the club's history, and your contributions would be greatly appreciated. We look forward to seeing these priceless memories!

President's Message:

Let's make this year even better than the last! Please take a moment to renew your membership, and get involved in the exciting events ahead. Our Show is coming up soon, and we'll need everyone's help to make it a success—more details to come! The success of our Bromeliad Society is thanks to our incredible members, and your team spirit and support mean the world to us.

This month, I will be handling the raffle table, but if you're interested in helping out, please let me know. Everyone wins! The club takes 20% of the earnings, and you keep 80%, unless you'd like to donate more to the club. Plus, the winners get to take home some beautiful plants! Let's make this year one to remember!

- Alex Bello

**Alex Bello,
holding the
stunning
Alcantarea
imperialis,
presented as
our Bromeliad
Society's gift to
Volunteer of the Year, Sylvia Betz.**



In Case You Missed It: Holiday End-of-Year Party Recap

-Tina Severson

We had an amazing time at our Holiday End-of-Year Party! With so many beautiful bromeliads, everyone left with a wonderful gift. A big thank you to all who brought food and plants, making the celebration even more special. This is always a highlight of the year, and we can't wait to do it again in 2025 with even more participation from all of you!

We also want to recognize Sylvia Betz as our Volunteer of the Year. Sylvia was away on an exciting cruise adventure, so her daughter, Denise Karman, graciously accepted the Bromeliad Award on her



behalf. Sylvia's dedication behind the scenes, her energy, and her hospitable spirit make her a true asset to our community.

For those who stayed a bit later, we enjoyed a fun stroll through the garden to admire the stunning holiday lights displayed at Fairchild. We are truly fortunate to hold our meetings in such a beautiful location.

Thank you again to everyone who made this event memorable!



We had some beautiful mini bromeliads and tillandsias to share as gifts, and we were also lucky to have Ofelia Sorzano join us with her stunning Orthophytum to share with everyone! Let's see who can grow these beauties the best in the coming year!

A big thank you to Tony and Maria Almodovar (right) for all your hard work and dedication in supporting our club! We truly appreciate everything you do.



Tina Severson & Skye Palmer Enjoying the Festivities!





Alex Bello expressed his gratitude to the 2024 Board of Directors by gifting us some beautiful bromeliads. It was a thoughtful gesture that made all the work and effort feel truly worthwhile! We absolutely loved the plants.

Also pictured is Nicholas Ladas (right) from Fairchild, who always goes above and beyond to ensure our visits are a success. From setting up

to making sure the room is ready; we deeply appreciate all his support.

Smiles all around as we celebrate the love and friendships we've built over the years! A heartfelt thank you to the entire team who helped with the decorations, and special recognition to Sandy Roth and Denise Karman for their incredible effort in crafting the beautiful driftwood pieces.



Denise Karman & son, Erick Karman







BSSF, INC Fundraiser – The Time Has Come! We Need All Hands-on Deck!

Join us for our Garage Sale this month at the Adelman House, 9421 SW 134th Street, Miami, FL 33176, on Saturday from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM!

If you'd like to bring snacks or drinks to share, we would greatly appreciate it!

If you're donating items for the sale, please call or text Maureen Adelman. She'll also need help on Friday night to set up and price items, as well as assistance with two shifts on Saturday. Your support is invaluable and greatly appreciated!





Discover More About Cryptanthus: Visit Their Newly Renovated Website

For those interested in learning more about *Cryptanthus*, we're excited to announce the launch of their newly renovated website, now live and fully operational after a long hiatus. Check it out using the link below and explore all the fascinating information about this unique genus. Let's show them our support!

www.cryptanthussociety.net

In case you're wondering, *Cryptanthus* is a genus of flowering plants in the *Bromeliaceae* family, specifically within the *Bromelioideae* subfamily. The name *Cryptanthus* comes from the Greek words "kryptos," meaning "hidden," and "anthos," meaning "flower," reflecting the plant's distinctive, often concealed blossoms. Don't miss out on exploring the world of *Cryptanthus*—visit their site today!

Upcoming Community Events



A Festival of Chocolate

January 18 & 19



10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Chocolate Festival is included with general admission.



<https://tamiamiorchidfestival.com/>

Nov 4-7th, 2025

The 22nd 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.



The poster features a green background with a faint pattern of bromeliad leaves. At the top, the text "EXPLORING DIVERSITY & BEAUTY" is written in a green, curved font, with "2025" in large orange letters below it. The main title "AUSSIE BROMS" is in large green letters, with a stylized bromeliad flower icon between the words. Below this, the dates "4TH - 7TH November 2025" and the location "Eatons Hill Hotel, Brisbane, QLD" are listed. A yellow starburst graphic on the right lists activities: "Plant Sales - New Releases!", "Taxonomy Botany Cultivation", "Rare plant auction", and "Garden tours". The central text reads "INTERNATIONAL & LOCAL EXPERT SPEAKERS DISCUSS ALL THINGS BROMELIADS". At the bottom, it provides the website "www.aussiebroms2025.bromsqueensland.com.au/wp", the registration link "https://www.trybooking.com/CXJKS", and the email "AussieBroms2025@bromsqueensland.com.au". The logo of The Bromeliad Society of Queensland is in the bottom left, and a QR code is in the bottom right.

EXPLORING DIVERSITY & BEAUTY
2025
AUSSIE BROMS

4TH - 7TH November 2025
Eatons Hill Hotel, Brisbane, QLD

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

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

Full details at www.aussiebroms2025.bromsqueensland.com.au/wp
Register at Trybooking <https://www.trybooking.com/CXJKS>
✉ AussieBroms2025@bromsqueensland.com.au

THE BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND

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.

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