



### Seminole Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society

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### The Garden Club of Sanford, Inc.

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## June 2024 Newsletter

**Meeting Announcement:  
Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM  
200 Fairmont Dr., Sanford**

Our June meeting features Keith and Dina Emig with their presentation:

**Orchids 101**



Keith and Dina will cover basic care for common orchids and will be ready to answer any questions you have on orchids. They will also be bringing a number of great orchids to sell.

*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. **There will also be a Members Market.***

Our main course for the refreshment break will be provided by the SBTPS. Members whose last names begin with the letters O through Z are requested to bring side dishes.

**Current Member Count: 136**

## Keith Emig's Orchid bio

This orchid journey all started with a trip to the dentist where, on the receptionist's desk, there was a small plant with three leaves and an inflorescence with twenty blooms suspended above in a beautifully presented fashion. When asked, the receptionist replied that the dentist grew this orchid and he was an orchid hobbyist. This multi-floral Phalaenopsis captured Keith's attention and it was on. Orchid fever is infectious and all possible information and practice plants acquirable were obtained; and the endless experimentation to better grow and flower these plants was a driving uncontrollable force.

As the passion grew, joining our local orchid society and the American Orchid Society opened the orchid world's secrets. There is no substitute for the company of other infected souls, with whom to share this fever. Soon the passion of combining the attributes of two beautiful plants, by cross pollinating, stimulated the imagination. The flasking case was built, and has been a fixture in the kitchen for almost 20 years now. Over 1,000 seed pods have been flasked to this point and it seems each season there is some new cross that has more exciting possibilities than anything before. We have now registered plants in the Oncidium, Cattleya, Phalaenopsis, Vanda, and Dendrobium alliances, and have created our own genera (Emigara). In recent years, we've enjoyed going to judging and seeing everyone's beautiful plants and bringing some of our plants too. We've been excited to receive over 50 flower quality awards so far including 9 awards on our original crosses.

It has been a great pleasure to have served on the board of directors of the Ridge Orchid Society for over a decade including at least 7 terms as President. The highlight is the fellowship of the membership and sharing the passion of orchids with the orchid community. Keith's article in the March 2017 Orchids magazine (pg. 208) is titled *Luck of the Draw*. We can be found on social media at <https://www.facebook.com/whorchids>.

**July 21, 2024 Meeting: John Boardman & Pam Marion  
Red, White & Bloom: Ideas for Growing Great Bromeliads**

## President's Message

### May Meeting

We had 48 attendees at the May meeting which featured Dave Johnston's fascinating presentation on foliage Vrieseas. Dave brought a lot of great plants to sell including a number of rarely seen ones from the '60s and '70s. Our meetings are often a source of hard-to-find Bromeliads at very good prices.

June's meeting will have a good selection of orchids brought by the speakers and many bromeliads available brought by members at what we call a Members Market. --Greg Kolojeski

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### World Bromeliad Conference 2024

WBC 2024 had about 15 registrants from the SBTPS with a number of other SBTPS members showing up to check out the Bromeliad Sale and Plant Show. The SBTPS donated five plants to the Rare Plant Auction with the SBTPS plants raising \$470 for the benefit of the Harry E. Luther & Victoria Padilla Research, Conservation, and Education Fund. Individual SBTPS members also donated plants.



WBC 2024 Bromeliad Sale (above) & Plant Show (below)



5/19/24 [Plant Picture of the Day:](#)  
Guzmania 'Ice Cream'



5/15/24 [Plant Picture of the Day:](#)  
xAnanea Ananas 'Comosus' x Aechmea  
tessmannii rubra (Skotak) by Cathy Schubert



5/13/24 [Plant Picture of the Day:](#)  
Neoregelia 'Linda Cathcart' (Skotak)