



Seminole Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society

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Vice Pres.: Sudi Hipsley
Treasurer: Sudi Hipsley
Secretary: Barbara Whittier
FCBS Reps: Sudi Hipsley & Greg Kolojeski

The Garden Club of Sanford, Inc.

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VP-Programs: Sudi Hipsley
VP-Property Mgmt.: Lani Berry
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Plant Sales: Bonnie Friedrich
Publicity, Plant Sales Accounting: Marty Folk
Librarian: Sandra Smith Fullerton
Newsletter, Websites: Greg Kolojeski

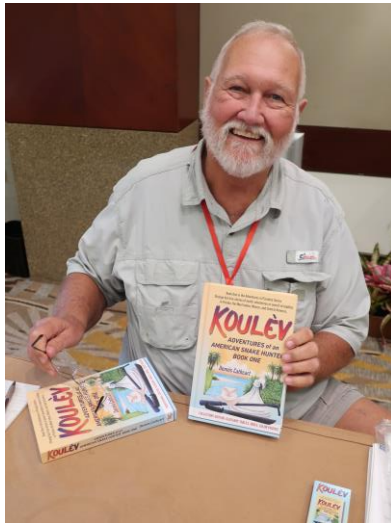
Rentals: Lani Berry
Membership: Sudi Hipsley
Landscape: Barbara Whittier

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February 2023 Newsletter

**Meeting Announcement:
Sunday, February 19th at 2 PM
200 Fairmont Dr., Sanford**

Our February meeting features Dennis Cathcart with his presentation, **A Naturalist Visits Cuba**



Dennis' presentation will cover bromeliads he found on three trips to Cuba last year and will also feature reptiles, birds and general habitat pictures as well as Cuban lifestyle and culture pictures. Dennis will also bring Bromeliads for sale including a good selection of Tillandsias.

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 A through C are requested to bring side dishes.

Current Member Count: 150

Dennis Cathcart

**Plant Explorer & Founder of Tropiflora Nursery
Sarasota, Florida**

Always the dreamer and adventurer, Dennis Cathcart started [Tropiflora](#) in the early '70s as an outgrowth of a bromeliad collecting hobby. A "hobby gone bad" he says. Following years of collecting reptiles and traveling the Caribbean and Latin America, he discovered bromeliads, or they discovered him, and the direction of his life changed for evermore.

Collecting and exploring were his first interests in the plant world and over the years, he and Linda have visited over 37 countries on hundreds of trips and expeditions. Together they have made travel, adventure, plant exploring, speaking, writing and the nursery business a way of life. He and Linda are now passing their passion for plants on to their children to take Tropiflora into the second generation.

Tropiflora supplied the "anchor collection" for the world-famous Gardens by the Bay in Singapore. Over the course of five years, they shipped three hundred fifty thousand plants by airfreight to Singapore and made many trips to help with their care and installation.

Dennis has been the speaker at numerous BSI World Bromeliad Conferences and several of the Australasian Bromeliad Conferences in Australia and New Zealand. Dennis delivered the keynote address for the 2018 World Bromeliad Conference in San Diego. He was also the Speaker Chair for the 2022 World Bromeliad Conference in Sarasota.

Dennis will bring his book, *Koulèv: Adventures of an American Snake Hunter, Book One*, to sell and sign. There are three printed versions, all will be available:

- Professional Edition: Paperback, 472 pages, color photos, tables, index, glossary. \$34.99
- Collector Edition: Hardcover 472 pages, color photos, tables, index, glossary. \$47.99
- Paperback Black and White Edition: 442 pages, glossary. \$17.99

President's Message

January Meeting

We had 51 attendees at our January meeting which featured an excellent presentation by Kenneth Stokes on *The Subtropical Landscape with Bromeliads*. Kenneth brought a number of unusual and rarely seen plants.

Members are reminded to submit their membership renewals as soon as possible. The pattern for a number of years now is that we lose some members early in year, but continue to sign up enough new members so that we end up with more members at the end of the year than the previous year. We appear to easily have the largest number of members of any Bromeliad Society in Florida. --Greg Kolojeski

SBTPS Membership Renewal

2023 Membership Dues are \$15 for an individual or \$20 for a dual membership. **You may renew your membership now online at <https://sbtps.square.site/> which is the recommended way of making your renewal.** We will be sending out email reminders. If you joined last year in October or later, your 2023 membership is already included.

2023 FCBS Extravaganza

The [2023 FCBS Extravaganza](#) will be held on July 28-29, 2023 at the West Palm Beach Marriott. Guest Speakers are Eloise Beach, David Shiigi, and Chester Skotak. The registration fee is \$150 until April 30th or \$175 thereafter and includes a Friday night BBQ, early access to the plant sale, afternoon lectures, a Saturday night banquet, a rare plant auction and a silent auction. There is an optional garden tour.

April Spring Plant Sale

The **Annual Spring Plant Sale** will be here before you know it. It will be held on April 15-16, 2023, 9 to 4 PM each day with the special member presale on April 14th. The online part on the sale will run from March 25th to April 10th.



March 19th Meeting: Shane Maloy
from Gabriella Plants



1/18/23 [Plant Picture of the Day:](#)
Aechmea 'Supernova'



1/5/23 [Plant Picture of the Day:](#)
Cattleya Orchid Hagan's Ace 'Mandarin Orange'
Picture taken by Sandi Wirth



1/26/23 [Plant Picture of the Day:](#)
Neoregelia 'Shebang Bang'
Picture taken by John Boardman