



Seminole Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society

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The Garden Club of Sanford, Inc.

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Plant Sales: Alan Bennett
 Publicity, Plant Sales Accounting: Marty Folk
 Librarian: Ginny Fortenese
 Newsletter, Websites: Greg Kolojeski
 Holiday Party: Paula White

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

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June 2019 Newsletter

Meeting Announcement:
Sunday, June 16th at 2 PM
200 Fairmont Dr., Sanford

Our June meeting features Mark Peters with his presentation: **The Fabulous Crotons of Florida.**



Mark Peters

Mark Peters' presentation will cover the history of the Croton and how it came to Florida. He will bring lots of great plants for sale.

If you've ever been to the Leu Gardens Plant Sale in March, you have probably seen the great display of Crotons from [Peters Croton Nursery](#). Crotons require a little more care than Bromeliads do and Mark Peters will have a detailed discussion of their care and culture.

Please bring your plants to donate to the Door Prize Drawing and Plant Raffle for the benefit of the Society.

Alan Bennett will provide half of the refreshments for the meeting and Joyce Mirabile and Dennis Brooks will provide the rest.

Current Member Count:
SBTPS: 78; SGC: 83

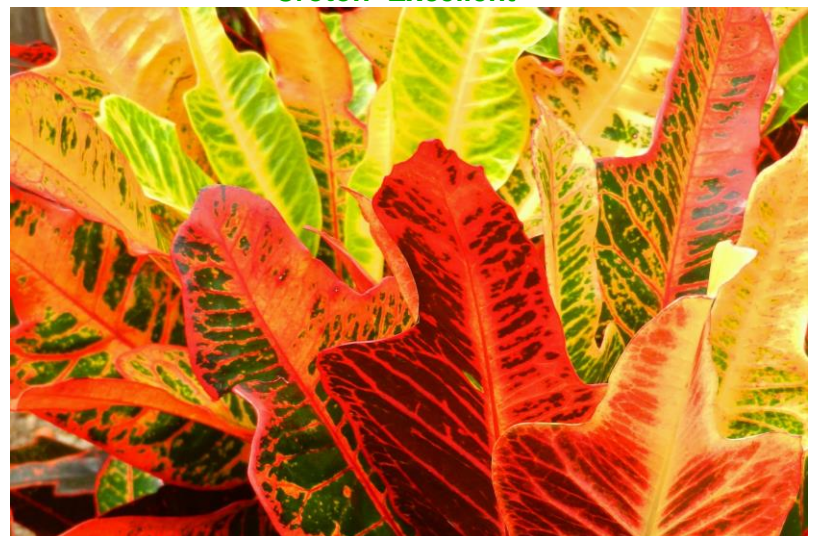
Mark Peters bio

Mark Peters has been a gardening enthusiast since his youth and his entire professional life has been devoted exclusively to the garden world. After attending U. Conn.'s respected **Hort. Program**, Mark began his career at **White Flower Farm** and went on to direct horticulture at Boston's historic **Forest Hills Cemetery** (at which time he was an honorary member of the **Mass. Hort. Society**). Next came **The New York Botanical Garden** and then Director of Horticulture at **McKee Botanical Garden**. After arriving in Florida, Mark was introduced to Crotons and having been totally seduced by their eye-catching ornamental foliage, he established [Peters Croton Nursery](#) in Vero Beach.

As mass merchandisers and box stores become our gardens' main sources of supply, the variation and quantity of plants may be increasing; but the assortment being offered within each *species* seems increasingly limited. With some 500 plus varieties of Crotons currently in existence, the cultivar choices by comparison seem restrained. Peters is an ardent hands-on preservationist dedicated to the conservation and restoration of the myriad distinctive old cultivars of these cheerful plants which so steadfastly graced Florida gardens for decades.

Mark is devoted to teaching gardeners how first to select and grow the right plant for the right place in their gardens as well as how to best care for these tropical treasures in all their diversity.

Croton 'Excellent'



President's Message

May Meeting

The May meeting was held in DeLand at George's house with 35 attendees. It was a big success with a gorgeous garden to view and great refreshments available as well. Special thanks go out to George who made this such a successful event. The Gloriosa Lilies picture to the right was taken in George's yard--it also turned out to be our most popular **Plant Picture of the Day** in May. And the trip to [E.F.G. Orchids](#) was also very successful and well attended with a number of members acquiring some of their great plants.

My only concern with having the May off-site meeting was that it might make it difficult to recruit new members like we often do at the meeting after a plant sale. However, we ended up signing up eight new members! We just may have to have all our future May meetings at George's house!

--Greg Kolojeski



5/22/19 [Plant Picture of the Day](#): Gloriosa Lilies

Sanford Garden Club Matters

The SGC Board (Greg, Sudi, Lani, & Barbara) voted 4-0 in May to acquire QuickBooks Desktop Premier 2019 software. It will be used to prepare financial statements required for tax returns as well as for internal use. It will make it easier to track income and expenses historically and will improve the budgeting process. Greg will be setting up the software and working with Sudi to generate reports.

Florals Fantastica™

The **Garden Tables Event Committee** had a meeting May 18th where they reviewed the member survey. The four members attending (Butch, Tony, Joyce, & Greg) passed a number of recommendations for the event that will be reviewed by the SGC Board. All votes were 4-0 and it is likely that all the recommendations will be adopted by the Board. Much of the meeting was devoted to how to make it easier and more attractive to members and others to enter garden tables and displays.

Landscape Committee Work Party

There was a work party (Barbara, Marion, Tony & Greg) at the SGC on June 4th. Edgers were installed near the front of the building and weeding and thinning tasks were performed. Unlike the March work party, no one seemed to suffer from any cold weather issues!

2019 Bromeliad Extravaganza in Orlando

The [Bromeliad Extravaganza](#) on Sept. 20-21 will be here before you know it. It might be a good idea to get your registration in soon. Two optional bus tours for the 22nd are also available.

World Bromeliad Conference 2020 in Sarasota

Planning for WBC 2020 is forging ahead. Weekly updates are now being posted at the [BSI Facebook page](#) where the speaker lineup was just announced. Online hotel reservations will become available later this month.



6/1/19 [Plant Picture of the Day](#): Bromelia balansae

July 21st Meeting:
Marty Baxley's
Bromeliad Presentation:
It's a Small World