



THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY'S
January/February
2015
CALOOSAHATCHEE MERISTEM



CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD

SOCIETY OFFICERS

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WORKSHOP CHAIRPERSON—Position Available
SPECIAL PROJECTS— Position available
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SPECIAL HOSPITALITY—Betsy Burdette 694-4738 (betsy@burdetteinc.com)
RAFFLE TICKETS—Greeter/Membership table volunteers—Dolly Dalton, Luli Westra
RAFFLE COMMENTARY—Larry Giroux
GREETERS/ATTENDANCE—Betty Ann Prevatt; Dolly Dalton (dollyd@comcast.net), Luli Westra
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FM-LEE GARDEN COUNCIL—Mary McKenzie 939-5820
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THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

January Meeting— Sunday, Jan 18th 2015

February Meeting-- Feb 15th 2015

Covenant Presbyterian Church

The church facility is located near downtown Fort Myers, Florida, at 2439 McGregor Blvd., just one block south of the Edison Home parking lot and about 1 1/2 miles north of our previous meeting location— St. John the Apostle Church.

The facility is approximately 2.5 miles north of the intersection of Colonial Blvd. and McGregor Blvd.

Doors open at 12:30PM for Meeting Setup

The Workshop begins at 1:15 PM and the Program begins at 2PM Please bring food, Raffle and Show and Tell Plants

Membership Sales are not permitted at the January meeting

Membership Sales are not permitted at the February meeting

January Program

“Names, Problems and Tips”

By Brian Weber

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society is an active Affiliate of:



Cryptanthus Society



BSI



FCBS



FM/LC GC

Brian Weber, Chief Grower at Tropiflora, is quite familiar with the care, identification and growing of all kinds of bromeliads. In a repeat of a former Program, Brian will discuss the care of your plants and will answer your questions. If you have un-identified plants he will try his best with the help of other members to help you with these. Brian will be bringing plants for sale, so if you did not get something at the sale, contact him prior to the meeting and he might be able to get it for you and have it at the next meeting.

February Program

Bromeliads in Paradise (Hawaii)

By David & Geri Prall

Last September, the Pralls attended the BSI World Conference in Hawaii.

For the February program, they will show photos of bromeliads at the World Conference, plus some of the botanical gardens they visited including the Hawaii Tropical Botanical, Foster Botanical & Lyon Botanical Gardens as well as one private garden on the Big Island.

Jan & Feb Workshops

We are in need of a Workshop Chairman and volunteers to coordinate 20-40 minute presentations. If interested in volunteering, please call Dale Kammerlohr and we'll arrange a time. Thanks.

CBS Bromeliad Sale

We again had a very successful Sale. Many thanks to the members who sold plants and plant related items and to all

our volunteers who provided the labor and food. Also thanks to all who bought plants and other items. There will be more information at the January meeting about the Sale.

2014 Holiday Party

Hope those of you who were able to attend the Holiday Party at Bruce McAlpin's Place, enjoyed yourselves.

Many thanks to Bruce for providing his beautiful home and gardens for our use. Also thanks to all the members and visitors who brought plants for the raffle and food and beverages for our enjoyment.

Included in this issue are a few pictures of the shadehouse and gardens at Bruce's.









Election of CBS Officers for 2015

The new Officers for 2015 are as follows.

President---Dale Kammerlohr

Vice-President---Ken Repple

Co-Secretaries--- Sharalee Dias, and Carly Sushil

Treasurer---Betty Ann Prevatt

CBS Minutes for November 16th 2014

Location: Covenant Presbyterian Church at 2439 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, FL 33901

Call to order: 1:30 by President Larry Giroux

Attendance: 42 members and guest in attendance. Our guests were Sandra and Jean Baker, and Kris Morton. New members are Octavio Velarde and Edward Minugh.

Workshop: Planning for Bromeliad Sale. Larry led a discussion on the plans for the sale on Dec 6 & 7. We will have the same layout and same location as last sale, in the pavilion behind Terry Park. There is no driving access from Terry Park to the pavilion. You must use either Terry Street or Veronica Shoemaker. When making out blue labels put the plant price at the top in ink. Please have additional label in the plant with plant ID information. The blue tags are removed from the plant at the checkout and returned to the seller after the sale. The white plant ID tag stays with the plant. On big or spiny plants you can put a price sticker on an upper leaf. Vendors can begin setting up at 10am on Friday. We need volunteers for set up on Friday between 10 and 3. Set up includes unfolding tables, covering them with plastic, and setting out plants.

The hours of the sale are Saturday 9 to 5 and Sunday 10 to 3. CBS takes 25% of sales. Sellers should arrive at 8:30 on Saturday. We will need volunteers to answer questions and sell to customers, cashiers, and checkout help, and break down on Sunday. Please bring food to share on both days of the sale. We need a volunteer to manage the hospitality table. Bring a cooler for things that need to be kept cold. Also, bring boxes. If you took home signs for the sale put them out on Friday after 5 and pick them up on Sunday afternoon. Do not put them up in Cape Coral. We might get the front page of Tropicala in the News Press next Sunday. We may also have some info in Naples Daily News.

Program: Craig Morrell from Pinecrest Gardens gave a lecture called "Shopping for Bromeliad Supplies at Big Box Stores." Bruce told Craig to go to a big box store and get all the supplies he could for \$100. To show

what brands and products are best that are available to the general public. Craig shopped at Home Depot.

Most bromeliads grow well in orchid baskets. They give great drainage. Teak baskets are best because it's a hard wood that doesn't rot quickly. Home Depot doesn't have teak, but they have wooden baskets. A good potting mix is a 50/50 mix of orchid bark and sphagnum moss. Wear water proof gloves when handling sphagnum moss because it can contain fungus spores that can sicken you after an injury. The moss from Wisconsin is not as nice as the moss from New Zealand, but it will work. If you use coconut liners and wire baskets, fill them halfway with Styrofoam packing peanuts before planting. This keeps the basket lighter, and it slows the rot of the liner. A good potting soil will last 2 years, and then will need to be repotted. Sodium Phosphate, or TSP, is great for sterilizing tools. It works in 30 seconds. When reusing pots, pool algacide can be used to sterilize them. Dilute about 1 cup per 30 gallons. Leave the pots in the solution for 12 hours then allow them to dry.

The hardest pests to control are mites. Sevin is effective in killing them, but it is slow and only kills the ones that it touches. It does not work on whitefly. When using Sevin apply 3 applications, 2 weeks apart. Bayer has a product with Merit in it as well as 2 contact insecticides. It works on most insects and whitefly. When using Orthene, work with the wind to your back. You don't want to breathe it in. You can mask the smell of Orthene with liquid dish soap. Powdered insecticides are safer for your plants. The liquids that are used to dilute insecticides are harmful to plants. Sevin is very effective against snails, but snail bait is better. If you get rid of snails in your garden the raccoons and opossums should go away too because they are looking for the snails. Deadline mini-pellets work well. You only need to put down 1 or 2 pellets per square foot. The downside to this product is that it is highly lethal to dogs. If you put it under the mulch, it is safer for dogs. Other snail baits are iron based. They don't work as well, but they are safe for dogs. Diatomaceous earth is ground up glass. It kills snails and many other insects, but is not very good for people or animals. Use a dust mask when applying any pesticide.

Bonide makes a fungicide called Fruit Tree Spray. It works well on most topical fungicides. Daconil is a contact fungicide. If you apply it 3 times and the problem is still there, use something else. Most fungicides work for fungi that attack the leaves or fruit and are not lethal to the plant. Fungi that actually kill the plant cannot be treated with any product that is sold at Home Depot. Cinnamon and hydrogen peroxide can also be used as fungicides. To get the best color on bromeliads you have to suppress the amount of nitrogen that the plant receives. Osmocote is only acceptable to use when you mix it into the soil or cover it with mulch. Dynamite or Nutracote are better products. You can get Dynamite in the leaf axils and not damage the plant.

Craig uses a combination of Dynamite, bone meal, and Milorganite twice a year. Fertilizer that does not contain urea is better than fertilizer that does contain it. Keep water soluble fertilizer dry until you mix it. If you have an area where you can't keep the soil moist enough, use Soil Moist. A small amount is better than a large amount.

General Meeting: Elections for executive board were held. Dale Kammerlohr will be president. Ken Repple will be vice president. Carly Sushil and Sharalee Dias will be secretaries. And Betty Ann will be treasurer. In January the board will begin asking for volunteers for sub committees.

Membership dues are due in January.

On March 6th there will be a flower show at the Berne Davis Center. Anyone can enter a plant.

Next Thursday at 1:00 we will be cleaning up our garden council garden in preparation for the open house on Saturday the 22nd. It will be our turn to host the garden council garden on December 16th. The Edison Home will have a plant sale on Saturday November 22nd as well.

The Bonsai society will have a show and sale on November 22 and 23 at the elections building.

On February 5th and 6th the Strolling Flower Show will be at the Bell tower shopping center. If you would like to enter contact Mary McKenzie.

Our annual Christmas party will be on the 14th of December at Bruce McAlpin's house in Labelle. There will be Faffard soil and Nutracote for sale. Please bring chairs, sensible shoes, and possibly bug spray. The party starts at noon and we will eat at 1. Bring cash for soil, fertilizer, and the raffle. Bring plants for the raffle.

Door Prize: 9 Variegated Fireball donated by Bruce McAlpin. The winners were, Ken Repple, Dale Kammerlohr, Sandra Baker, Donna Schneider, Betty Ann Prevatt, Larry Giroux, Jeff Lazar, Sandy Toney, and Bonnie Hunkins.

Show and tell was led by Dale Kammerlohr.

Raffle was led by Larry Giroux, assisted by Dolly Dalton, and Betsy Burdette. **Adjournment:** 4:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Sharalee Dias, and Carly Sushil Co-Secretaries



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Dues are due this month (January)

**If you are a new member and you joined
during October through**

December, you do not owe 2015 Dues.

**OTHERWISE... YOUR DUES ARE
OWED AT THE JANUARY MEETING.**

SINGLE RENEWAL \$15/yr

HOUSEHOLD MEMBERSHIP \$20/yr

**IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A PICTURE IN THE 2014
ROSTER AND YOU WISH TO HAVE ONE IN THE
2015 ROSTER... PLEASE SEE LARRY GIROUX**