



October 2006

CALOOSAHATCHEE
BROMELIAD
SOCIETY's
CALOOSAHATCHEE
MERISTEM

3836 Hidden Acres Circle N
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One of the several items donated to the FCBS Rare Plant Auction from CBS members was this basket of cryptanthus. In the center is a hybrid by Jim Irvin, which after many years since its creation, is getting the name *Cryptanthus* 'Dianne Molnar' in recognition of the current CBS President. Photo by Larry Giroux.

CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT Dianne Molnar (capebrom@aol.com)
VICE-PRESIDENT Larry Giroux (DrLarry@comcast.net)
SECRETARY Tom Foley (tefoley24@earthlink.net);
TREASURER Betty Ann Prevatt (bprevattpcc@aol.com)
PAST-PRESIDENT Steve Hoppin (SLHAZ@juno.com)

STANDING COMMITTEES CHAIRPERSONS

NEWSLETTER EDITOR Larry Giroux (DrLarry@comcast.net)
FALL SHOW CHAIR No Show in 2006
FALL SALES CHAIR Brian Weber (brianweber1b@aol.com)
FALL SALES Co-CHAIR David Prall (PalmTreeGardens@hotmail.com)
PROGRAM CHAIRPERSONS Debbie Booker/Tom Foley
(tefoley24@earthlink.net)
WORKSHOP CHAIRPERSON Eleanor Kinzie
SPECIAL PROJECTS Deb Booker/Tom Foley
FLORIDA COUNCIL CHAIRMAN Vicky Chirnside (vickychirn@aol.com)
FCBS REPRESENTATIVES Debbie Booker & Tom Foley
ALTERNATE FCBS Rep. Dale Kammerlohr (tropdsk@strato.net)

OTHER COMMITTEES

AUDIO/VISUAL SETUP Tom Foley (tefoley24@earthlink.net);
BobLura
DOOR PRIZE Barbara Johnson (lion56@aol.com)
HOSPITALITY Mary McKenzie (manytoes@aol.com);
Martha Wolfe
SPECIAL HOSPITALITY Betsy Burdette (betsy@burdetteinc.com)
RAFFLE TICKETS Greeter/Membership table volunteers - Luli Westra,
Dolly Dalton, Eleanor Kinzie, etc.
RAFFLE COMMENTARY Larry Giroux
GREETERS/ATTENDENCE Betty Ann Prevatt, Dolly Dalton(dollyd@comcast.net),
Luli Westra
SHOW & TELL Dale Kammerlohr
FM-LEE GARDEN COUNCIL Mary McKenzie
LIBRARIAN Sue Gordon
ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN Kay Janssen

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THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

MEETING TIME AND PLACE:

October Meeting: SUNDAY October 15th, 2006

ST. JOHN the APOSTLE CHURCH 3049 McGREGOR Ave. FT. MYERS.
DOORS WILL BE OPEN AT 12:30 FOR SETUP.

MEMBERSHIP SALES WILL NOT BE PERMITTED
AT THE OCTOBER MEETING.

**Our Speaker will be bringing lots of interesting and CHEAP,
CHEAP Plants for Sale!!**

(INEXPENSIVE, INEXPENSIVE for you Saks Fifth Ave. Shoppers)
Friendship Plants, Raffle Plants and Extra Door Prizes
are always welcome and appreciated.

October Program

(Starting following the refreshment break)

“The ABCs of Growing Uncommon Bromeliad Genera.”

By Dr. Terrie Bert

Terrie who has entertained us with others of her programs, has already received rave reviews from societies where she has given this presentation. Read more about Terrie and her program elsewhere in this issue.

October Workshop

(Starting at 1:15PM)

**“Using Obvious Characteristics to Identify
Your Bromeliads”**

Hopefully we can get our more experienced members to show us how we can easily identify the genus of our plants. From there they will point you to the best sources for getting the correct species or cultivar name.

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society is an active Affililate of:



FM-LCGC



Cryptanthus
Society



Bromeliad Society
International



FCBS

SOCIETY NOTES

Election Committee Nominations

The nominating committee consisting of Eleanor Kinzie, Luli Westra and chairman Steve Hoppin have completed the slate of nominees for CBS officers for 2007.

President-Steve Hoppin

Vice-President-Tom Foley

Secretary-Chuck Ray

Treasurer-Betty Ann Prevatt

Nominations from the floor will be accepted for any position. Any candidate recommended for an office must be a paid up member of CBS, be willing to serve for one year in the position nominated and if not a BSI member at present, must join the BSI if elected.

Due to our November Sale in that we will not have a November meeting, election will take place at the October meeting during the business portion of the meeting.

The newly elected Officers will be sworn in at the CBS Christmas Party in December.

2006 CBS Sale

The October meetings will be your last chance to meet the requirements to attend 2 meetings in 2006 in order to qualify to sell at the CBS Sale in November. If you haven't enough sale tags (red or turquoise) for the sale, Brian Weber will have more at the October meeting. Table allocation will be an ongoing process as we finalize the actual number of committed sellers. So see Brian about extra tables if necessary.

Helpers are necessary for Friday night's set up of the sales room. Contact Brian for assignments if you would like to volunteer.

Food will be available to workers Saturday and Sunday. We are relying on the generosity of the membership to provide this food for the workers at the sale.

Brian Weber will be at the October meeting to answer any of your questions concerning the November Sale.

Thank You from the FCBS

Ed Prince, the chairman of the 2006 Extravaganza and Vicky Chirside, Chair of the FCBS wish to thank all of the donors of items for the FCBS Rare Plant Auction held at the Banquet, Saturday night. Specifically they included, Larry Giroux, Sue Gordon, Steve Hoppin,

Michael and Donna Kiehl, Eleanor Kinzie, Mary McKenzie, Betty Ann Prevatt and Brian Weber.

Through their generosity nearly \$4000 was raised to continue the work and publications of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies.

Our October Speaker and Program

Dr. Terrie Bert is a research scientist for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, where for the last 20 years she has developed and led the Commission's Crustacean Research and Genetics Program. As a member of the Sarasota Bromeliad Society since 1988, she has held multiple offices. Besides being a member of the CBS since 1997, she has served on the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies for 8 years and has held all executive offices in the Council. She has served and currently serves on the Bromeliad Society International (BSI) Board of Directors, where she chairs the Nominations Committee for the Board and is the Board's Librarian. Terrie has won top awards at the shows of local clubs as well as at BSI WBCs. She is a BSI internationally accredited judge and a volunteer for the Bromeliad Identification Center at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens.

She has six articles in the *Journal of the Bromeliad Society International* to her credit and has co-authored (with Harry Luther) a website fact sheet for the genus *Aechmea* (see www.FCBS.org).

Her personal bromeliad collection consists of approximately 1,400 different types of bromeliads in 23 genera. Her main interests are the species of which the majority of her collection are composed. Whenever Terrie is selling plants, buyers are sure to have an opportunity to acquire unusual and hard to obtain plants at great prices. She will be bringing to the meeting lots of her plants for sale.

Terrie has given several different presentations to Bromeliad Societies since becoming involved with the bromeliad hobby. In her most recent program, which has been well received at other societies, entitled "The ABCs of Growing Uncommon Bromeliad Genera", she will go through all uncommon bromeliad genera starting with the letters A, B, or C. for each genus. She will first show the range and provide the audience with some tidbits of information (she refers to them as "Fun Facts"), then talk about the natural habitat of each genus, showing examples of species in the genus; finally talk about how she grows species in the genus or, if she don't grow them, talk about the growing conditions they require. You should not miss this program, which promises to be informative and entertaining.



September Program

Essential to growing quality plants in the ground here in Southwest Florida is the need to give the plants and trees the proper soil conditions. For the majority of bromeliads, which are epiphytic, other than providing the necessary support they need in the earth, soil conditions are not as critical. But, for the terrestrial bromeliads and all the other plants, which we grow in conjunction with our bromeliads, their survival or at least their optimal growth depends on us knowing what we are starting with and what needs to be added to their media.

Stephen Brown reviewed the make-up of the soil in a variety of locations throughout the west coast of Florida. I think what he said was a surprise to many in the audience.

We are thankful to Stephen for providing this interesting information. Stephen Brown is available at the Lee County Extension Service at Terry Park, Palm Beach Blvd to answer any question concerning your specific area's growing conditions.

The Perfect Holiday Gifts!

The latest issues of the Bromeliad Society International and Cryptanthus Society Journals of are now in full color. Andrew Flower has made some major changes in the format of the latest BSI Journals. It is more reader friendly and lives up to its established goals of providing both education and entertainment as a scientific and hobbyist publication. The Cryptanthus Society Journal as well is sporting a new look with more color pages than ever before.

As I have mentioned before in this publication and at meetings, the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society, to encourage its members to take advantage of these informative magazines, for first-time subscribers, will pay half the cost of the subscriptions. Total cost for one year membership to the BSI and the C.S. will cost you only \$25. As a further enticement, the BSI will send to new subscribers the previous six issues of The Journal at no additional cost.

Truely for friends and relatives who have an interest in bromeliads, subscriptions to these two journals would be a wonderful thoughtful gift for holiday, birthday or anytime giving. Gifts- they can enjoy all year long.

Bromeliad Expose by Larry Giroux

The 2006 FCBS Extravaganza is over, but will not be soon forgotten. CBS members Eloise Beach, Vicky Chirnside, Larry Giroux, Magali and Grant Groves, Steve Hoppin, Barbara Johnson, Dale Kammerlohr, Michael and Donna Kiehl, Eleanor Kinzie, Rich Kosmachi, Eileen and Dale Laird, Terri and Jeff Lazar, Dianne



(L) to (R) During a lull in the Sale's room, Brian Weber and Rich Kosmachi who were selling for Tropiflora and Dale Kammerlohr with Steve Hoppin are discussing, what else, bromeliads! Photo by L. Giroux

Molnar, Polly Pascal, Jim Pearce, Betty Ann Prevatt, Donna and Gary Schneider, Mary Scofic, Carol Sweat, Florence Weiss and Brian Weber were seen at the Miccosukee Indian reservation.

Attendees took advantage of the gambling and recreational activities offered at the Resort. Air boat rides, several large nurseries located a short distance away in Homestead and arranged tours of Fairchild Gardens and private gardens prior to and following the event were also enjoyed by visitors from around the country and the Bahamas.

At promptly 9:00 a.m. the doors opened to a flood of buyers from all over the state. By noon the tables were relatively bare and the lines for checkout were thinning.

Seminars entitled "Bromeliads and Artistic Arrangements with Janet Brown", "Basic Bromeliad Culture with Bruce McAlpin" and "Basic Bromeliad Culture with Magali Groves En Espanol" were presented to attendees free of charge. There were several tables covered with raffle items such as plants, artistic containers, books and original art works by John Barbie Jr. donated by the estate of



Terri and Jeff Lazar



Partial view of Rare Plant Auction table.



**“The Black Pearl”
an Artistic Arrangement
by Janet Brown**



**Betty Ann Prevatt and
Eleanor Kinzie**

**Donna and Gary
Schneider**



Dale and Eileen Laird

“Dead Man’s Chest” by Janet Brown



Neoregelia ‘Castigado’ - donation item



**Magali
Groves, Dale
Kammerlohr
and Grant
Groves at
Banquet**

Photos by Larry Giroux

**Michael and
Donna Kiehl**



**“Return of
Commerce” one
of the five Artistic
Arrangements
created by Janet
Brown during her 60
minute program.**



**Display provided by Nat DeLeon
with closeups of blooms.**



Connie Johnson, staffed by the hard working BSSF members.

A several course meal fed the extraordinary number of attendees at the Saturday evening banquet. Following the dinner, the FCBS Rare Plant Auction was held. Mary Whittemore came from San Diego to serve as auctioneer for the evening. Mary is a professional auctioneer who has provided her services at Rare Plant Auctions of the BSI and



Vicky Chirnside, the Chairperson for the FCBS with Mary Whittemore, a professional auctioneer brought from California for the Rare Plant Auction. Photo by L. Giroux

Cryptanthus Society at previous World Bromeliad Conferences. Ed Prince provided commentary for the 65 items donated to the Auction. Among the items up for bid were several rare species not common in cultivation, an un-named billbergia by Don Beadle and an un-named neoregelia by Chester Skotak, which came with naming rights to the highest bidder. A basket of uncommon cryptanthus including a new cultivar by Jim Irvin, which will be registered in the next issue of the Cryptanthus Society Journal honoring Dianne Molnar, was purchased by an attendee from California. The most expensive item of the evening was a pristine copy of Baensch's Blooming Bromeliads, willed to the BSSF by Connie Johnson and donated by the BSSF for the Auction; it went for \$250. By the end of the evening nearly \$4000 was raised for FCBS's activities in the coming year.

Much credit for the overwhelming success of the 2006 Extravaganza needs to be given to Ed Prince and his staff of workers

who put so much effort and time from its conception to the close of this one day event.



Nat DeLeon showing off the crystal plaque he received from the FCBS at the Banquet, for the more than 30 years of service and commitment he has given the FCBS. Photo by L. Giroux

September Workshop

Donna Schneider without any formal training has done what has eluded even some bromeliad judges; she has mastered the fundamentals of Artistic Arrangement design.

At the September workshop, utilizing plant parts and tropical inflorescences including those from bromeliads, Donna created several artistic arrangements which would be useful during the holidays or for that matter during any occasion where you want to enjoy your plants indoors .



A unique and simple manner to show off a single inflorescence.

Photo by L. Giroux

Some of the items ideal for use in arrangements and commonly found in many of our gardens include whole plants of many bromeliads such as cryptanthus , tillandsias and neoregelias as well as leaves and inflorescences of ananas, billbergias, vrieseas, guzmanias, aechmeas, quesnelias and hohenbergias, among others. Plant parts used by Donna included - crotons, ferns, palm leaves, gingers, philodendrons, dieffenbachias, heliconias, cordylines, bamboo, papyrus and even banana plants.

Her presentation was a cornucopia of helpful hints for assembling the designs. Here are just a few:

- Use molded hardware wire over the top of your large containers to keep stems separated.
- Submerging your plant material 15-20 minutes keeps them fresher and makes them easier to work with.
- Staple leaves to create shapes.
- Use odd numbers of same types of items.
- Use wire taped to underside of item to shape.
- Chose a color or pattern scheme using similar variegation, solid or patterns in harmony or contrast.
- Weigh down the vase or container to avoid top heavy arrangements from toppling.
- Clean leaves and use leaf shine on non-show designs.
- “Water designs” can be enhanced by using food coloring in the water.
- Be creative with containers, i.e. painted tin cans, fish bowls, ceramic designs, etc.
- In lieu of “frogs” or pin holders, marbles or balls of chicken wire can be used in containers.
- Use accessories such as candles or items denoting the season.

Many thanks go to Donna for this very visually pleasing and useful program on using our plants to brighten up our homes.



THE CALOOSAHATCHEE
BROMELIAD SOCIETY'S

BROMELIAD SALE

AUDITORIUM AT REAR OF

Terry Park

3410 Palm Beach Blvd (SR80) Fort Myers, FL

Saturday, Nov 18th, 2006 9AM-5PM

Sunday, Nov 19th, 2006 10AM-4PM

1000's of Bromeliads

For use as yard and patio plants, house and gift plants, decorations and arrangements.

Call Betty Ann at
239-334-0242

for more information.



**Sell some of your bromeliads at our
November Sale.**

Volunteer for some of the jobs at the Sale.

**Contact Brian Weber on how you can
support your Society and have a fun time.**

Minutes of the September CBS Meeting

DATE: September 17, 2006

LOCATION: St. John the Apostle Church, Ft. Myers, FL

ATTENDANCE: approx 40 members & guests

WORKSHOP:

Title: "Using Bromeliads in Arrangements"

By Whom: Donna Schneider

Start time: 1:15p.m.

Finish time: 2:15p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Vice President Larry Giroux brought the meeting to order at 2:25p.m. The following individuals were recognized as guest or visitor – Donna Johnson, Bob Toney, Homer Sosa, and Stephen Brown.

MINUTES: Steve Hoppin made two corrections to the minutes of the August 20, 2006 CBS Meeting. 1. Tillandsia pups given to club members by Terrie Bert were *T. propaguilifera*. 2. Door prize *Bil*. 'Thelma Darling Madge' was donated by Terrie Bert. Motion made to accept minutes as corrected by Marilyn Long, second by Jim Rousey. Passed.

OLD BUSINESS: Larry Giroux recognized Steve Hoppin as appointed Election Committee Chairman for 2007 CBS Officers. Nominations were accepted from the floor for two CBS members to participate on the committee with Steve. Betty Ann Prevatt nominated Luli Westra and Larry Giroux nominated Eleanor Kinzie. Motion to accept nominations, second and vote followed. Passed.

Steve Hoppin briefly reviewed the Election process including the publishing of Slate of Officers in October CBS newsletter, accepting additional nominations from the floor at the on-set of the October meeting and the election to follow.

NEW BUSINESS: none

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

2006 CBS Sale – Chairman Brian Weber reminded all interested individuals wishing to sell plants to contact him (info on inside front cover) and that sale tags were available at today's meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Steve Hoppin - thanked members for their generous plant and item donations to represent CBS at the up-coming FCBS "Extravaganza Auction".
2. Vicky Chirnside, FCBS President - reviewed and requested membership support of the Extravaganza.
3. Larry Giroux - discussed recent mailing of FCBS roster and requested members that did not receive publication to contact him.
4. Larry - announced the 2007 International Cryptanthus Show will be held in Ft. Myers and in conjunction with the 2007 Fall CBS Show. Detailed information to be presented at a later date
5. Larry - encouraged members to join BSI and Cryptanthus Society. He also reminded individuals that CBS would pay ½ of membership fee for first time subscribers.

6. Larry - recognized the new BSI Editor Andrew Flowers, the BSI Journal's new look and praised his efforts.
7. Brian Weber - reminded members of Tropiflora's Fall Festival on October 6,7 and 8th.
8. Donna Schneider - shared info that CBS members have been invited to attend and participate in Tropiflora's BIC Benefit on Saturday, November 11th. Florida's four west coast bromeliad societies, CBS, SBS, FWC and BGTB will have the opportunity to attend this free B-B-Q lunch and Rare Plant Auction.
9. Carol Sweat - Master Gardener's of Collier County "Yard and Garden Show", Nov. 4 & 5 held at SW FL Horticultural Learning Center in Naples, FL.
10. Donna Schneider - commented a landscape architect is currently working with Lakes Park on their new Botanical Gardens.
11. Donna – SW Florida Orchid Society "Annual Auction" to be held October 9th at Lee Memorial Hospital Auditorium.
12. Donna – Pine Island Garden Club bus trip to Naples Botanical Gardens, Caribbean Gardens & Pelican Nursery on October 27. Cost - \$45.00 to incl. lunch and admission to parks & nursery.
13. Larry – Useppa Island Garden Tour – complete info posted under events calendar.
14. Mary McKenzie – disappointing FM/LC Garden Council bldg update.
15. Betsy Burdette – thanked Larry for creating the beautiful 2006 CBS Sale Flyer. She encouraged all members to distribute for publicity.

DOOR PRIZE: conducted by Luli Westra. Sue Gordon donated the following two items: *Neo*. 'Franca' – won by Marilyn Long; Wrapped Mystery Gift – won by Eleanor Kinzie

SHOW & TELL: conducted by Dale Kammerlohr

BREAK: approx 25 minutes

REFRESHMENT SET-UP: provided by Mary McKenzie and Sue Gordon assist.

PROGRAM: "Florida's Native Soils" by Stephen Brown, LC Extension Agent.

RAFFLE: Raffle Commentator Larry Giroux. Dolly Dalton, Bob Lura and Lyle Bowen assist.

ADJOURNMENT: approx time 4:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Hoppin (Temp – Secretary)

**To All Our Members: Enjoy your hobby more
Join the Bromeliad Society International
for less than \$0.60 per week
Join the Cryptanthus Society
*for less than \$0.40 per week***

**and as a first time subscriber the CBS will pay for
1/2 of the first year. So for \$0.50 per week you can get 2 great colorful
Journals and be part of the bigger picture.
See Betty Ann Prevatt for more information.**

EVENTS CALENDER

October 9th, 2006

The SW Florida Orchid Society "Annual Auction" will be held at The Lee Memorial Hospital Auditorium, Cleveland Ave, Fort Myers. For more information contact Donna Schneider, 239-283-4874.

October 27, 2006

Pine Island Garden Club is sponsoring a bus trip to Naples Botanical Gardens, Caribbean Gardens & Pelican Nursery. Cost - \$45.00 to incl. lunch and admission to parks & nursery. For more information contact Donna Schneider, 239-283-4874.

November 4th & 5th, 2006

Master Gardener's of Collier County are holding their "Yard and Garden Show", at the SW FL Horticultural Learning Center in Naples, FL. For more info contact Carole Sweat, 239-732-7017.

November 11th

**A BIC Benefit Barbecue at the Tropiflora Nursery
Nursery opens at 8 am, free lunch starts about 12 noon,
Auction starts about 1 pm**

**The CBS has been invited to participate
along with FWCBS, BGTB and the SBS in a day of fellowship
and food. An Auction of Rare Plants
will follow to benefit the BIC**

(the M. B. Foster Bromeliad Identification Center at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens)

**Please R.S.V.P. about a week ahead by e-mail or phone to let the
Cathcarts know how many to prepare food for. Phone Tropiflora toll free
at 1-800-613-7520 or email at Linda@tropiflora.com**

November 17, 2006

Useppa Island Tropical Garden Tour -Explore the beauty of this private, old-Florida tropical island. This is a guided walking tour around the island where you will see many fascinating plants and trees. Dress appropriately & wear close-toed shoes. Limited tour size and at least 10 days advance registration is required. Friday, Nov. 17th from 10AM to 2:30PM. Boat leaves Bocilla Island Club at 10AM sharp! Cost \$60, Cape Coral Resident; \$65 for non-CCR. Includes tour boat, walking tour and lunch. Payment is due at registration.

Mail checks and your information to:

*Rotary Park 5505 Rose Garden Road Cape Coral, FL 33914
Phone - 549-4606, FAX - 549-4903 E-mail - kalockli@capecoral.net*

November 18th & 19th, 2006

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society's Sale at Terry Park, Fort Myers. See flyer in this issue for additional information.



CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY
3336 HIDDEN ACRES CIRCLE N
NORTH FORT MYERS, FL 33903
E-MAIL - DLARRY@COMCAST.NET



***Billbergia* 'Afterglow' X 'Hallelujah'** is a hybrid made by Don Beadle. It was won by Larry Giroux at the Rare Plant Auction with the stipulation that the winner can give it a new cultivar name. Larry will be naming it for his mother, Carolina, who passed away in 1998. Photo by L. Giroux