



May-Jun
2012

THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY'S CALOOSAHATCHEE MERISTEM



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WORKSHOP CHAIRPERSON—Vacant...Any Volunteers?

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CBS FCBS Rep.—Vicky Chirside 941-493-5825 (vickychir@aol.com)

CBS FCBS Rep.—Position available

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HOSPITALITY—Mary McKenzie 939-5820;

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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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THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

May Meeting— Sunday, May 20th
June Meeting— Sunday, June 17th
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 setup, Workshop starts at 1:15PM.

Everything stays the same...Bring food, raffle items, Friendship table items, Show and Tell plants.

Membership Sales are allowed at the May meeting

Membership Sales are allowed at the June meeting

May Speaker and Program

“Bromeliad Taxonomy: The New Subfamilies”

By B. Dean Fairchild

Our speaker for the May Meeting is Dean Fairchild of Apopka Florida. Dean was first exposed to bromeliads in the late 1960s in Houston, Texas. He was intrigued by their ease of care and the lack of available information. They became a challenge for him and he developed a passion to have all the varieties he could find. Dean attended all the BSI World Conferences and became a BSI judge in 1979; he is now a Master Judge. He served as a BSI director from

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society is an active Affiliate of:



Cryptanthus Society



BSI



FCBS



FM/LC GC

1982 – 1988 and as President of the Bromeliad Society of South Florida from 1984 – 1988, which was during the 1988 Miami Magic World Bromeliad Conference.

Dean retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1984 after 26 years, with a B.S. E.E. degree in Computer Science from the University of Texas. In that year he became the Vice-President of Bullis Bromeliads in South Florida. During his multiple years of involvement with bromeliads he has hybridized thousands of bromeliads, many of them are listed as unique cultivars in the BSI Registry. He moved to Apopka Florida in January of 2004 from Homestead Florida and joined the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida.

For those of you who did not have the opportunity to hear Dean speak at the 2011 Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies' Extravaganza, he will again be speaking on "Bromeliad Taxonomy: The New Subfamilies". This will be a discussion about the reassignment of several of the genera of bromeliads into new subfamilies.

June Speaker and Program

Dr. Larry Giroux is scheduled to talk at the June meeting of the CBS. His topic is still not known.

Dr. Larry has been with the CBS since 1992 and the Co-Editor and now Editor of the Society's Newsletter for over 20 years. Since becoming seriously involved with the bromeliad hobby, he has held several offices with the CBS, Chairmanship of the FCBS, served 6 yrs as Regional BSI Director and is currently serving as the Nominations Chair for the BSI. For 15 years he has been the Editor of the Cryptanthus Society Journal. He has given programs to US and International Societies and was the Show Chair for the Cairns 2008 WBC in Australia and is the current Judged Show Co-Chair for the upcoming WBC in Orlando. Larry is a Master BSI Judge.

I'm sure you will not be disappointed by attending his June CBS program.

32nd BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

CBS 1980-2012 April 15th 2012

This year we celebrated our 32nd birthday at the home of Judy and Buddy Singleton in North Fort Myers. Buddy and Judy have been members of the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society since 1998. For those of you who have previously not been to the Singleton's, I'm sure you were highly impressed by the quantity, quality and variety of Buddy's collection and stock of plants. Many thanks to both Buddy and Judy as well as their family for hosting this event.

In addition we should thank Betsy Burdette as the organizer and all those who helped, brought food, raffle plants and all the other goodies. Also congratulations to the winners of the games.



May Workshop

The workshop for May will be an informal discussion of different ways to use extruded aluminum wire for suspending tillandsias and other bromeliads. If you have used this in the past, please bring some of your projects and share with the members ways in which this might be used. We'll try to have a supply of this wire available for purchase so you can put some of your ideas into practice.

June Workshop

The June workshop will be a “Back to the Basics” discussion and demonstration for new members. Some of the topics covered will be removing pups, planting, fertilizing, etc.

We all have our special tricks and secrets to producing great plants. This Workshop will be a time to share. Any topic is fair game so please bring any projects or questions and be part of the discussion.

Message from the CBS President

Cate Petersen, our dedicated Workshop Chairman for the last year, has had to resign from the position due to a scheduling conflict. I would like to personally thank Cate for her hard work in providing us with many interesting and informative workshops. We need a new person to fill this position. If you have any interest in being the next workshop chairman or ideas for upcoming workshops, please contact me at marshacrawford@embarqmail.com or bring them up at the May meeting. Thank you again Cate.

**PLEASE STEP UP AND
VOLUNTEER TO BE THE NEW
WORKSHOP CHAIRPERSON**

Botanical Art Exhibit

Front and Back Covers

Many of our members have been to Lyle Bowen's home in Eagle Ridge and have seen the exceptional job of landscaping with bromeliads and other tropical plants that he has done. You may also know that he has been an artist much of his life.

The topics of his works have been quite varied and often bizarre, such as his series of "Chairs", which was featured at Chico's corporate headquarters.

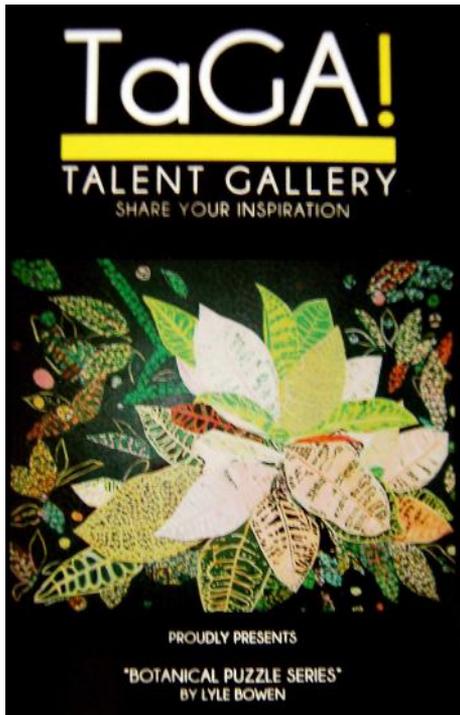
Lyle has created a new group of paintings entitled "Botanical Puzzle Series". These drawings feature horticultural items found in his own garden including crotons, orchids, palms and of course, bromeliads.

For a short time the complete collection will be spotlighted at the gallery at the Chico's office complex in Fort Myers (see poster).

Although this showing at Chico's is not open to the public, starting on July 6th, at 6 PM during "Art Walk" in downtown Fort Myers at the Sidney Berne Davis Art Center, 2301 First Street, an art show of Lyle's newest collection will be on exhibit until July 27th. And by the way, they will be for sale!

On the front and back covers and below is a sampling of his horticultural works. Thank you Lyle for letting me reproduce your work and good luck with the Show.







March Auction



Pictured here are a few of the 75 items that went up for auction, which raised over \$2000 for the CBS and the FCBS. *Cryptanthus* 'Eternal Love', *Neoregelia* 'Hot Embers' and *Neoregelia* 'Blood Plum'.

Thanks to all who helped organize the event, the donors and generous bidders.

Photos by Larry Giroux



There are no minutes for the March or April Meetings, which were our Auction and Birthday Party.

Calendar of Bromeliad Events

May 12-13 Bromeliad Society of Central Florida Mother's Day Sale
Fashion Square Mall, Orlando, FL (mybscf.org)

September 24-30 20th World Bromeliad Conference, Orlandiana '12
Orlando, FL, USA (bsi.org/events/2012/Orlando2012)

December 2012 The Annual Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society Sale. This is an off year for our Show. We will be having only the Sale of thousands of bromeliads at Terry Park in Fort Myers, Florida. Exact times will be announced soon.



It is not too early to start scheduling your vacation and planning to attend the 2012 World Bromeliad Conference in Orlando Florida. This world-class event includes huge sales (with 1000's of hybrids and hard to find species.), a combined BSI and CS Rare Plant Auction featuring unusual and rare plants from the biggest and diverse collections of bromeliads in the World; there will be seminars by such world renown speakers such as Harry Luther, Francisco Oliva-Esteve, Paul Isley, Dennis Cathcart and your own Editor Dr. Larry Giroux. Already several tours are scheduled to some of the largest nurseries and private gardens in Central Florida. We haven't even mentioned the spectacular other activities and theme parks all within minutes of the elaborate host hotel, the Caribe Royale. Your hotel room rates are as low as \$119 + tax (these rooms can accommodate up to 6 people). Don't miss out on this dream vacation for the whole family. Go to fcbs.org for more info.

Hotel Information

Bromeliad Society

Caribe Royale
8101 World Center Drive
Orlando, FL 32821
US

Phone: 888-258-7501

The Caribe Royale is pleased to offer Bromeliad Society attendees the following:

Complimentary Self-parking
Complimentary InSuite Internet access
Complimentary Fitness Center access
No Resort Fees!

The Caribe Royale is an all-suite hotel. The standard suite is one-bedroom with two queen-sized beds and a connecting living room that has a full-sized sleeper sofa. The rate for the standard suite is \$119.00 per night plus tax (currently 12.5%).

Read the Expanded Newsletter

I have been asking members who have e-mail, if they can start receiving the Meristem exclusively by e-mail and I have gotten a good response from the membership. I want to remind the members that even if they can not receive the e-mail version, because they have dial-up internet service, they can still go to www.fcbs.org and read the expanded Meristem directly online. Go to www.fcbs.org to view this expanded electronic issue, if you are not already opting to receive it or let me know if you want me to send it to you. Editor



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This is your May/ June Newsletter; it contains information about the next two months' CBS meetings.