



Sept-Oct  
2012

# THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY'S CALOOSAHATCHEE MERISTEM



ORLANDIANA  
2012



# CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD

## SOCIETY OFFICERS

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**PRESIDENT**—Marsha Crawford (239) 472-2089 [marshacrawford@embarqmail.com](mailto:marshacrawford@embarqmail.com)  
**VICE-PRESIDENT**— Larry Giroux (239) 997-2237 [DrLarry@comcast.net](mailto:DrLarry@comcast.net)  
**SECRETARY**—MaryLynn Murphy 239-593-8739 ([MaryLynn100@me.com](mailto:MaryLynn100@me.com))  
**TREASURER**—Betty Ann Prevatt 334-0242 ([bprevattppc@aol.com](mailto:bprevattppc@aol.com))  
**PAST-PRESIDENT**—Vicky Chirside 941-493-5825 ([vickychir@aol.com](mailto:vickychir@aol.com))

### STANDING COMMITTEES CHAIRPERSONS

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**—Larry Giroux 997-2237 ([DrLarry@comcast.net](mailto:DrLarry@comcast.net))  
**FALL SALES CHAIRS**—Geri & Dave Prall 543-2245 ([PalmTreeGardens@hotmail.com](mailto:PalmTreeGardens@hotmail.com));  
Brian Weber 941-256-4405 ([brianweber1b@aol.com](mailto:brianweber1b@aol.com))  
**CBS Show Chair**— No Show this year  
**PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON**—Bruce McAlpin (863) 674-0811  
**WORKSHOP CHAIRPERSON**—Co-Chair: Pete Diamond (704) 213-7601  
**SPECIAL PROJECTS**—Gail Daneman 239-466-3531 ([bob@fesq.net](mailto:bob@fesq.net))  
**CBS FCBS Rep.**—Vicky Chirside 941-493-5825 ([vickychir@aol.com](mailto:vickychir@aol.com))  
**CBS FCBS Rep.**—Position available

### OTHER COMMITTEES

**AUDIO/VISUAL SETUP**—Bob Lura, Terri Lazar, Vicky Chirside  
**DOOR PRIZE**—Terri Lazar (863) 675-2392 ([terriLML@earthlink.net](mailto:terriLML@earthlink.net))  
**HOSPITALITY**—Mary McKenzie 939-5820;  
**SPECIAL HOSPITALITY**—Betsy Burdette 694-4738 ([betsy@burdetteinc.com](mailto: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](mailto:dollyd@comcast.net)), Luli Westra  
**SHOW & TELL**—Dale Kammerlohr 863-558-0647 ([dzdase@embarqmail.com](mailto:dzdase@embarqmail.com))  
**FM-LEE GARDEN COUNCIL**—Mary McKenzie 939-5820  
**LIBRARIAN**—Kay Janssen 334-3782

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# THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

**September Meeting— Sunday, Sept 16th 2012**  
**October Meeting— Sunday, October 21st 2012**  
**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 September meeting

Membership Sales are not allowed at the October meeting

## September Speaker and Program

### “Gleanings in Bromeliad Culture”

By Robert Riefer

**Robert Riefer is an orchid grower and local horticulturist. He lives in Lehigh Acres where he grows many tropical plants including orchids and bromeliads. On weekends he moonlights at the Riverland Nursery. He will be speaking about his experiences and insights into growing Bromeliads.**

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society is an active Affiliate of:



Cryptanthus Society



BSI



FCBS



FM/LC GC

## **October Speaker and Program**

### **“Gardens by the Bay”**

**By Dennis Cathcart**

**Dennis Cathcart, owner with his wife Linda, of Tropiflora Nursery, just north of Sarasota, have been supplying thousands of plants to the developers of “Gardens by the Bay” in Singapore since its ground breaking. In 2007 construction started on this greatest and most ambitious horticultural project in the World. Singapore claims to be the premier tropical garden city on Earth with the perfect environment in which to live and work. 4 years later the facility is up and functioning. Dennis will be giving us insight into the process and the results of all their efforts.**

**Peter Diamond has volunteered to help with the Workshops as Co-Chair. He is going to need help with organization, selection of topics and volunteers to give demonstrations or short programs. Please call Pete and offer your assistance in any way possible.**

## September Workshop

Marsha Crawford will do a demonstration on how to build a tree suitable for mounting bromeliads and orchids. The photo on this page is a small tree I made to keep on my Lanai. The 2nd photo (on the back page) is a larger, multiple trunk tree that I made to keep in the yard. These have only been planted for about 2 months. I will bring the small one in and go thru the process of its construction and care in the workshop. Photos by Marsha Crawford.

## October Workshop

We still do not have a topic or moderator for the October Workshop. If anyone would like to do the Workshop or do it in concert with someone else, please contact Pete Diamond.



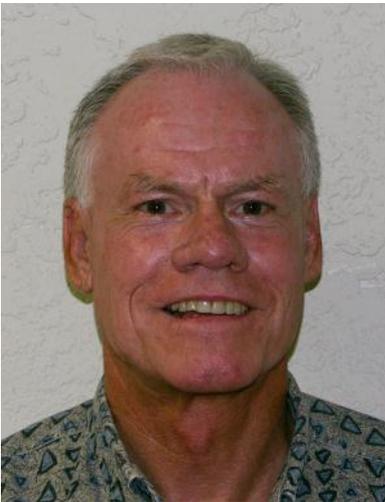
## Front and Back Covers

By Larry Giroux

While on a recent visit to Denver, I noted this tree (see front cover) created to display a group of tropical plants at the Denver Zoo. Among the ferns and other tropical plants are several vrieseas, aechmeas and tillandsias. A closer look shows how the builder used plastic straps and sphagnum moss to assemble and attach the plants to the tree. This technique works well for a temporary display as would be the case of outdoor exhibits in Denver Colorado. We, of course, have the environs to allow year round outdoor growing of many semi-tropical plants including bromeliads.

The photo on the back cover by Marsha Crawford also shows a larger version of the type of trees she constructs to display her orchids and bromeliads. At the September Workshop, Marsha will show us her methods to make these outdoor or patio display trees.

## New BSI Accredited Bromeliad Judge



Please join Betty Ann Prevatt, Vicky Chirnside and myself in welcoming CBS member, Steve Seal, to the exclusive group of accredited BSI judges.

Every few years the BSI initiates regional schools for new BSI Judges. Accreditation requires attendance at 6 schools, held about every 6

months, practical exams, student judgments, extensive readings of the bromeliad literature, growing experience of a large number of bromeliads of many of the genera as well as a final exam.

Steve has completed all of his requirements and has passed his final exam. At the upcoming World Bromeliad Conference to be held in Orlando, Florida, Steve and his classmates will be honored for their hard work with certificates and their BSI Judging Pins. Again congratulations, Steve, for this well earned achievement.

## **Bromeliad Expose'**

**By Larry Giroux**

During my trip to Colorado, I also visited the Denver Botanical Gardens. Below are some photos from that trip. It always intrigues me that within the few months when the weather and temperatures are appropriate, the Garden's workers are able to create several acres of blooming exhibits and do it all over again each year. Of course the Gardens do have several heated conservatories for tropical plants such as their orchid and bromeliad collections.



*Aechmea  
tayoensis*



**As you walk into the conservatory you are greeted by a group of blooming bromeliads including *Aechmea fulgens* and variegated neoregelias.**



**On display in the private growing area is a collection of guzmanias, neophytums, aechmeas, vrieseas and even an encholirium.**



**The collection includes large bromeliads such as this *Alcantarea* with a spent bloom and a *Aechmea blanchetiana* in full bloom.**

## CBS Meeting Minutes July 15th, 2012

LOCATION: Covenant Presbyterian Church, Ft. Myers, FL.  
ATTENDANCE: 45 members and guests: Marsha Sparks and Marilyn Wyrick.  
WORKSHOP: “Bromeliad Propagation” led by Pete Diamond and Dr. Larry Giroux. A hands-on workshop demonstrating best methods for removing pups and potting. It is recommended, though not always feasible, to remove pups during the warmer spring months. Pups that are 1/3 to 1/2 the volume of the mother are ready to separate and pot. Removing pups often triggers the mother to reproduce.  
PROGRAM: “Everybody Loves Neos” by Bruce McAlpin, Program Chair. Bruce delighted us with a bevy of colorful Neos from his personal collection. Ranging from the smallest *Neo. lilliputiana*, an assortment of Fireballs, ‘Passion’ and more were discussed. When rooting new pups, Bruce uses a small amount of sphagnum moss packed in the bottom of the pot. Bruce recommends liquid fertilizer at 1/2 strength plus 2-3 Osmocote pellets in the cup to promote best coloring.  
BREAK: A twenty minute break was enjoyed. Thank you to

Mary McKenzie and volunteers for the refreshments. CALL TO ORDER: President, Marsha Crawford called the meeting to order at 3:30p.m. The June 2012 minutes were accepted by Kay Janssen and seconded by Elizabeth Migliore as printed in the Meristem. NEW BUSINESS: The day bus trip to Orlandiana is still available. Treasurer, Betty Ann Prevatt announced the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Treasurer's Report for April, May and June, 2012. Balance as of June 30, 2012 is \$10,325.21. Betty Ann also invited the membership to the Kinzie Nursery on Sun. 7/22 from 2-4. Plants will be for sale. DOOR PRIZE: *Neo*. 'Blue Navy Blue' donated by Bruce McAlpin was won by Jim Lockwood. SHOW & TELL: Led by Dr. Larry Giroux. RAFFLE: Conducted by Dr. Larry Giroux and assisted by Dolly Dalton and Terri Lazar. ADJOURNMENT: President Marsha Crawford adjourned the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

## CBS Meeting Minutes August 19th, 2012

1:15- President Marsha Crawford called meeting to order.

Workshop: Carol Sweat presented a power point presentation on "Bromeliad Problems" such as heat damage, cold damage, lack of enough sun, too much sun, quilling, salt damage, algae damage, and weevil damage. Also discussed were Black Scale, Armor Scale, Sooty Mold, and Mosquitoes.

2 PM- M Crawford introduced Michael Kiehl whose lecture was titled "A Bromeliad Journey". Through power point Michael discussed his early fascination with bromeliads and the many years of hard work that led to the creation of his present Nursery.

2:50- Break for Refreshments

3:20- Meeting called to order. 49 members and Guests present. Guests: Pauley Alston, Wayne Keller, Richard Polk, Gary Jensen, Irene Thommen, Ricky Youschak, and Wilma Miller.

Door Prize: Donated by Michael Kiehl- *Neoregelia* 'Donna' - won by Sharalee Dias.

Bus trip to Orlandiana World Conference has been cancelled.

World Conference Donations will be accepted by Larry Giroux or Betty Ann Prevatt. If you want to sell plants, contact Larry for details. Hotel special Rates expire Aug 25. Buena Vista Suites are available. Show and Tell was presented by Michael Kiehl as Dale had to leave early.

Raffle was presented by Larry Giroux

3:55- Meeting was Adjourned.



It is not too late 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 Bruce Holst, 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](http://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](http://www.fcbs.org) and read the expanded Meristem directly online. Go to [www.fcbs.org](http://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



**This is your September/ October  
Newsletter; it  
contains information about the next  
two months' CBS meetings.**

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