

CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETYS CALOOSAHATCHEE MERISTEM

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Nov/Dec 2008



CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENTDonna Schneider (sgarydonna@aol.com)VICE-PRESIDENTRoss GriffithSECRETARYLuli Westra (lulidave@yahoo.com)TREASURERBetty Ann Prevatt (bprevattpcc@aol.com)PAST-PRESIDENTSteve Hoppin (steveandlarry@comcast.net)

STANDING COMMITTEES CHAIRPERSONS

NEWSLETTER EDITOR Larry Giroux (DrLarry@comcast.net) FALL SALES CHAIR Brian Weber (BrianWeber1b@aol.com) FALL SALES Co-CHAIR Dave & Geri Prall

(PalmTreeGardens@hotmail.com)

PROGRAM CHAIRPERSONS Deb Booker (malibudeb7280@embarqmail.com) WORKSHOP CHAIRPERSON Steve Hoppin (steveandlarry@comcast.net) SPECIAL PROJECTS Deb Booker until replacement found Senior CBS FCBS Rep. Vicky Chirnside (vickychirn@aol.com) Co-Junior CBS FCBS Reps. Debbie Booker & Tom Foley

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, Sue Gordon
SPECIAL HOSPITALITY	Betsy Burdette (betsy@burdetteinc.com)
RAFFLE TICKETS	Greeter/Membership table volunteers - Luli Westra,
	Dolly Dalton, Eleanor Kinzie, etc.
RAFFLE COMMENTARY	
GREETERS/ATTENDENCE	Betty Ann Prevatt, Dolly Dalton(dollyd@comcast.net)
	Luli Westra
	Dale Kammerlohr
FM-LEE GARDEN COUNCIL	
LIBRARIAN	
ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN	Kay Janssen

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XNeomea 'Popcorn' is featured on the front cover. This is a bigeneric hybrid made before 1970 by the late Ed Hummel of California. It is a cross of Neoregelia (spectabilis x carolinae) X Aechmea miniata v. discolor. The back cover shows the beautiful inflorescence of Tillandsia dyeriana bloomed by Betty Ann Prevatt. Photos by Larry Giroux.



THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

MEETING TIME AND PLACE:

<u>November Meeting</u> Sunday November 16th 2008 ST. JOHN the APOSTLE CHURCH 3049 McGREGOR Ave. FT. MYERS. DOORS WILL BE OPEN AT 12:30 FOR SETUP. <u>MEMBERSHIP SALES WILL NOT BE PERMITTED</u> at the <u>November</u> Meeting. Friendship plants, Raffle items are always welcome.

There will be a Door Prize and Show and Tell

November Program

By Dennis Cathcart

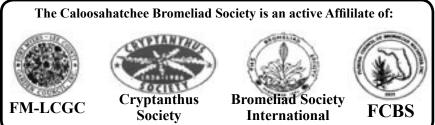
Just before I was to take this newsletter to the printer, I got word that Dennis Cathcart will be our speaker at the November meeting. Dennis, along with his wife Linda own and operate Tropiflora in Sarasota, Florida. He has a immense library of slide shows, which he has presented world wide at National and International Bromeliad Conferences and Society meetings. We are extremely fortunate to have him visit us. So please, all make an effort to come to the November meeting . You will not be disappointed.

November Workshop

"Preparing Your plants for Winter"

By Steve Hoppin and the Membership

Although we are publishing an article in this issue of the Meristem about the cold hardness of various bromeliads, we feel we should spend additional time on helpful hints about how best to protect your plants during our fickled winter, here in Southwest Florida. Come prepared to discuss your favorite tricks to protecting your plants from damage.



Society News

President's Message By Donna Schneider

I would like to give Bruce McAlpin a BIG THANK-YOU for volunteering to be our new Program Chairperson. He sure came through in a time of need. I'm sure he will have some new Programs in store for us in the coming year. If you have any suggestions for topics or specific speakers, please pass them on to him. He can be reached at 863-674-0811 or by mailing him a note.

The Nominating committee (Eleanor Kinzie -Chair) and members Dolly Dalton and Martha Bush have recommended its slate of officers for the 2009 (please check out their names in this issue of the Meristem). If you would like to have your name put on the slate of officers or would like to nominate someone, get their permission and contact Eleanor Kinzie. At the November meeting the nominees will be voted on.

We need to give Thanks to the 2008 officers and the Committee Chairpersons who are trying to make the CBS one of the Best. Our Society depends on its volunteers. In the next couple of months I will be asking around to fill the 2009 Chairs and Co-chairs of the Committees that make our Society function. We appreciate those that contribute, but we all should do what we can to advance our organization. Please volunteer!

Brian Weber gave a workshop on preparations for our December sale. Please sign up to help at the Sale in any way possible to make this Sale a <u>Great Success</u>. As you know it takes Team Players for us to be able to make this event even better than the past sales we have had. Everyone can help by <u>Putting out signs</u>, <u>Distribute and display advertising flyers</u>, <u>Email information</u> about the sale to friends and to the person that writes your garden club news letter, and <u>Bring</u> boxes and bags for our customers to carry home their purchases.

Thank You to everyone who has used the suggestion box. I will make sure that I address any concerns or suggestions with the Board and membership.

Now is the time to make sure that you are getting your plants ready for the sale in December. Make sure that you have inspected them for scale. If need be, spray them now so they will be free of insects. If you are not sure of the name of a plant that you would like to sell, bring it to the next meeting. I'm sure with all the knowledgeable growers we have in our club as well as our extensive library, you can find out what it is.

Looking forward to seeing all our members at the November meeting, the 2008 CBS Sale and our Holiday Party at the Burdette's. And don't forget to renew your membership by the January meeting.

Donna Schneider, CBS President

Nominations of Officers for 2009

The Nominations Committee composed of Chair Eleanor Kinzie and members Dolly Dalton and Martha Bush presented a slate of nominees for the officers' positions for CBS for the upcoming year at the October meeting. There is still time if you would like to run against one of the officers selected by the committee. Please contact Eleanor Kinzie ASAP. <u>Elections</u> will be at the November meeting.

Nominees for 2009 are-Donna Schneider - President Luli Westra - Secretary

Ross Griffith - Vice-President Betty Ann Prevatt - Treasurer.

The 2008 CBS Holiday Party, Sun Dec 14th



There will be <u>no December Meristem</u>, so we are publishing the information for the December Holiday Party in this combined issue. Please note that <u>the date has been</u> <u>changed to the second Sunday in December</u>, <u>December 14th</u>. We are fortunate enough to again be offered the venue of Betsy and Bill Burdette's home in Buckingham.

The only Society business will be to install our officers for the year 2009. Otherwise our time after 12 noon until we finish the raffle, usually about 4 PM, will be spent entertaining ourselves with games, our great holiday raffle, food and the company of

our friends and fellow members.

Members are asked to bring a favorite holiday dish to share, such as casseroles, vegetables with dip, little sandwiches, cakes or cookies. CBS supplies the paper and plastic goods, iced tea and a meat entree. If you prefer other cold drinks, bring your own, there will be plenty of ice. <u>You should also bring a card table or TV tray and folding chair just in case.</u>

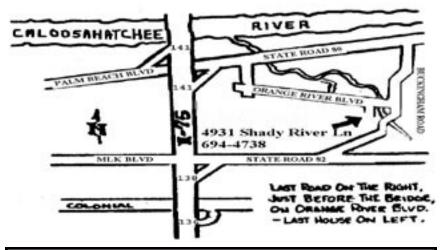
Try to arrive around noon with your goodies so that the kitchen can be arranged buffet style. For those of you that cannot get there early, remember that we do not start to eat at noon. That is the setup time. We will eat when the most folks have arrived and the crowd starts to grumble. That is usually close to 1:00 PM.

After lunch there will be a raffle of bromeliad plants and items brought by members as Christmas gifts (no, you don't have to wrap and ribbon them). But, they should be nice, clean bromeliads or bromeliad related items that anyone would want to win. Tickets are still 3/\$1, so buy a lot.

Yes we are planning games and our Holiday contest as usual. <u>The type of</u> <u>contest will be described at the November meeting</u>. If you don't attend the meeting discuss the contest with others at the Sale.

New members or anyone that needs more information, call your Editor (Larry Giroux) or Betsy. Check out the map on the next page for directions.

Bring your "better half" and/or others and expose them to our hobby, while enjoying the hospitality of our terrific hosts and their home.



October Workshop

Hopefully, Brian answered any and all questions about our upcoming Sale. Not there for the Workshop? You can still call or e-mail Brian about any details; otherwise, you can ask him at the November meeting. Thanks, Brian for all you do for our Society.

October Program

Since few of our members were able to experience the 2008 WBC in Cairns and fewer than those were able to see the Whyanbeel Gardens in Northern Queensland, hopefully the short video and Larry's photos gave you an opportunity to experience this unique Rainforest gardens. When things calm down, I will try to make copies of the Video and my photos on DVD available in the library so you can check them out and take them home to watch at your leisure.

Local Events of Interest

The Green Thumb Garden Club is hosting their AUCTION and BRUNCH

Tuesday, November 18th at the First Christian Church 2061 McGregor Blvd, Fort Myers. All interested gardeners are welcome to attend and donate plants or related items. For more information please call Phyllis Wells- 239-283-0750

Welcome New Member and Add to Your Roster

Anne Miller 1781 Whitecap Circle North Fort Myers, Fl 33903 XXX-XXX-XXXX E-mail- anne-w-miller@comcast.net

The CBS Fall Bromeliad

Road Sales Signs and instructions for displaying them will be available at the November meeting. For additional information see inside back cover of this issue.

Bromeliad Expose By Larry Giroux

The following information was provided by CBS & BSCF member, Grant Groves to the BSCF in 1997 as a handout. Although the cold tolerance of the various bromeliads will hold true in any growing zone, Grant grows his plants in Apopka, Florida and wrote this article for growers in the Central Florida region. I have added additional clarification and examples in my photographic essay. My information is from personal experience and from an article by Tom Wolfe and Eileen Kahl. I strongly recommend that you read this article. See its reference at the end of this composition for its location..

Hand Out from the March 1997 meeting of the BSCF

By Grant Groves

MOST COLD HARDY BROMELIAD CULTIVATED Will tolerate temperatures into the upper teens for a short duration.

Ae distichantha (all varieties) (F) (P) Ae recurvata (all varieties) (F) (P) Ac ornata (F) (P) Ae cylindrata (P) Ae caudata (P) Ae kertesziae (P) Bil nutans & hybrids (P) Dyckia species & hybrids (F) Nid regelioides (now rutilans) (F) (S) Nid fulgens (F) (S) Nid procerum (F) Neo 'Marcon' (F) (F) Neo'Fosperior' (F) (F) Neo spectabilis (F) (F) Neo macwilliamsii (F) Puya species (F) Quesnelia testudo (F) Tillandsia baileyi (F) (F) Vr'Mariae' (S) Vr 'Rex' (S) Vr philippo-coburgii (S)

Neo cruenta (F) (F)

MODERATELY COLD HARDY

Will tolerate temperatures into the upper 20's for a short duration

Ae x 'Royal Burgundy' (F) Ae pineliana minuta (F) Ae pectinata (F) (F) Ae gamosepala (F) (S) * Ae calyculata (F) Bil pyramidalis (F) Guz wittmackii (S) Neo carolinae & cultivars (F) Neo many hybrids (F) Vr many hybrids (green leaf types)(S)

TENDER

Will not tolerate a freeze without damage

Ae chantinii & cultivars (F) Ae lueddemanniana (F) Ae nallyi (F) Ae fulgens (F) (S) *

Ae miniata (F) (S) * Billbergias (many) (F) Cryptanthus (in general) (F) Guzmanias (in general) (S)

LEGEND — EXPOSURE TO SUN (F) - Full Sun (P) - Partial Shade (S) - Shade *will freeze but grows back fast







Since The genus Aechmea has so manv different looking plants from vastly different growing climates, it is difficult to make generalization а about this genus. The aechmeas that are in cultivation are usually tolerate of lower temperatures. Aechmea pectinata (picture by Fred Ross) tolerates 28-32; while Aechmea recurvata and its varieties can take 16-21 for short periods

with minimal adverse effects. Billbergias as a group can tolerate below freezing temps (32), the pendulous species like this *Billbergia rosea*, have more sensitivity to temps in the 20's. Protection of cryptanthus, such as this *Cryptanthus* 'Gypsy Rose' is essential, even in the high 30's, especially species from the near coastal areas of Brazil, from where the majority of them come. Hybrids tend to be slightly more tolerant than species. Like most

terrestrials, they do better in the ground during cold spells rather than in exposed pots. Well hydrated terrestrials also do better than those let to dry out prior to exposure to low temps. Guzmania *lingulata*, is a good representative of guzmanias, which tolerate in general temps of 28-32 without major damage or death. Hydrated dyckias tolerate 16-21 temps surprisingly well. One of the few exceptions among dyckias



is Dyckia marnier-lapostollei, whose very scurfy leaves get burned easily and dry up quickly following a freeze. Neoregelias species including, this Neoregelia kautskyi and most hybrids do well around the freezing point with several tolerating the teens. Also surprising is that nidulariums, which generally have softer leaves behave as do neoregelias, tolerating freezing temps of 28-32 with some of this genus such as Nidularium procerum, seen here, survive 16-21 temps. Their similar tolerance to neoregelia may be due to their similar places of origin. Quesnelia *marmorata* 'Raphael Oliveira' falls into the group of quesnelias that can stand 28-32 degrees, while another group composed of quesnelias like testudo and arvensis are tolerate of 16-21 temps. Nearly all pitcairnia species will experience damage below 28 degrees, but around freezing do OK if properly prepared. Growing

Pitcairnia burle-marxii is difficult enough to grow without chancing it to the cold; so bringing it in on cold nights would be a better option. In general the vrieseas can be divided into the green leaf types such as *Vr. phillipo-coburgii*, which can stand 16-21 and the patterned vriesea species such as *fosteriana*, *glutinosa* and their cultivars like the one seen here made by David Shigii, which tolerate 28-32. There are





some exceptions among the green leaf hybrids, which also are damaged below 28.

Photos by Larry Giroux unless o t h e r w i s e credited.



WAYS TO PREPARE YOUR PLANTS

- 1 Fertilize in late Summer and Fall with higher potassium and lower nitrogen.
- If plants are outside plant in the ground or sink pots in the 2. ground. The ground will be warmer than the air.
- If you are not using Ice to protect your plants water them 3. well a day before expected cold.
- Plants should be set out in Spring or Summer so they will be 4. established and adjusted to conditions.

WAYS TO PROTECT YOUR PLANTS

- Bring plants in from cold. Obviously this is your best 1. protection.
- Cover to prevent frost from settling. Never leave the cover 2.
- on after sun comes out. Run sprinklers to Ice plants. Sprinklers must remain on until temperature is back up to 32 degrees. As long as the Ice is forming it will remain at 32 degrees even though the air is 3. colder.
- Light bulbs under covers give off heat. Be sure they are not 4. touching anything.

OBSERVATIONS

- Successive freezes without proper care will cause decline. 1
- Stage of growth effects cold hardiness in moderately cold 2 hardy plants.
- Exposure to sun is exposure to frost also. 3.
- Plants in containers are more susceptible than plants planted 4. in the ground.
- 5 Less nitrogen more potassium will increase cold hardiness.
- Dry plants exposed to cold are more susceptible due to 6. desiccation.
- In general the most cold hardy bromeliads come from 7. Southern Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay to Argentina.
- 8. Frost can be as damaging as a freeze and forms at temperatures above 32 degrees.
- 9. Duration of cold is as much a factor as actual temperature.

Notes from the Editor

1. When you buy either slow release pellets or capsules such as Dynamite, Osmocote or Nutricote or a water soluble short acting product like Peters, the letters N-P-K refer to Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Potassium and the numbers on the container tells you the percentage concentration of these three elements in their respective order. (For example 20-20-20, is a balanced formula.)

2. Rain often precedes a cold front. If you bury the potted plants up to the rims, be careful that the area isn't low and will hold water around the plants. Burying them in mulch can be as effective.

3. For plants in the ground or in pots, you want to water the ground and soil around the plants well. Also don't forget the epiphytes growing on driftwood, cork or in the trees, they should be watered the day prior to a cold snap.

4. Take extra precautions with newly planted or recently acquired plants. A clump of established plants will fair better than an isolated pup recently planted by its lonesome.

5. Bromeliads in pots can easily be moved to a lanai, garage or covered patio closer to the walls of the house. They can tolerate the lack of light for a few days more so than freezing weather.

6. The sprinklers must run continuously while the temperature is below freezing. Most home watering systems run on a zoned system, spraying for only 15-30 minutes per zone. These short periods will not keep your plants "iced" all night long.

7. Be cautious not to get the bulbs or sockets wet. This method works well for wire benches in a closed area like a covered patio. Remember to water the plants well before you put the lamps under the tables. Covers over the plants should extend to the ground and will trap additional heat.

8. Damage from frost and freezes are cumulative

9. New growth is more susceptible to damage.

10. Damage can appear the same; usually development of soft mushy leaves that progresses down the leaf and destroys the plant.

11. Both the plant leaves and roots are exposed to the cold in a pot.

12. In general, Nitrogen helps plant foliage to grow stronger. Phosphorous helps roots' and flowers' development. Potassium (Potash) is important for overall plant health. Knowing this, it would be best to avoid use of high nitrogen and the growth of new foliage, which is at risk of damage during the winter months.

13. Water your plants the day prior to a freeze; however, watch for the burning effects of the Florida sun on leaves when they are wet and the rotting effect during the cool nights.

14. Knowing the origin of your plants and their natural habitat helps in many ways to grow your plants appropriately.

15. Since colder air falls, the temp near the ground may be colder than the air temp 5 feet off the ground. If the dew point is 32 degrees and the air temperature is around 32, then (given certain other conditions) dew will form on your plants closer to the ground and at the lower temp close to the ground will form ice crystals or frost. Frost can damage leaf tissue in those more cold sensitive plants. Special Frost and Freeze cloths are available, which help trap heat and delays it from rising

16. Most of the episodes of cold weather we experience here in Southwest Florida usually lasts only a few hours and inland areas are colder and the cold last longer than coastal areas. We are less likely to have the damage of northern Florida growers.

Reference-

<u>Cold Sensitivity of Some Bromeliads</u> by Tom Wolfe & Eileen Kahl. Jan 2007, http://fcbs.org/









There are many factors which determine the cold tolerance of bromeliads other than just temperature. This clump of *Aechmea fasciata* has been growing for years exposed

to the elements in CBS member Buddy Singleton's vard. His property is east of I-75 and is more prone to lower temperatures during the Winter. However, they have flourished and bloom routinely for their grower. The Aechmea caudata in my next photo is quite cold tolerate, but struggled for years in Gene McKenzie's vard, in North Fort Myers right next to a estuary and never formed a large clump as would be expected. Guzmania monostachia, which has an extensive distribution from Florida to South America, has adapted to a wide temperature differential. As mentioned earlier, the cold tolerance of the genus Vriesea is best determined by place of origin. Vriesea ospinae grows as a mesic, epiphyte at 3600-6500 feet in the Colombian mountains, in spite of its soft leaves, I would expect it to be moderately tolerate of low temperatures. There are a few Vrieseas that behave like the silvery gray tillandsias. Vr. espinosa and theralei are two xeric bromeliads, which grow naturally under very dry, bright light conditions at 1000-3000 feet. These species tend to grow and send stolons out horizontally, to avoid trapping water in their base. These would probably do very poorly in wet, cold conditions.





The Other Sales Rule

_____A complaint, which is inevitably voiced to the Sales Chairman at every sale is that many of the "nice plants" vanish soon after they are placed on the tables; often prior to the opening of the sale.

It seems almost an inhertant nature of bromeliad collectors to have the newest and flashiest plants available. And commercial sellers are of course on the prowl for desirable stock plants. We want to get these as cheaply as possible, but we must remember we undertake the effort each year to have a bromeliad sale to make money for our Club so we can have a Show ever other year and afford other events during the year. When plants are traded or sold without putting it through proper channels, CBS is losing 25% of the plant's value.

Members have all year long to contact each other and make deals; we have members' monthly sales available at nearly every meeting where the Seller is charged only 10% and speakers are charged nothing. So we ask you and encourage you to buy from each other during the Sale hours and not make "deals" in the parking lots. In this way you contribute to the success of not only this Sale, but all the other activities, including this Newsletter and donations that we use our profits generated from the Sale to afford.



Barbara Henderson

In Memory of Barbara Henderson

Although it was announce at past CBS meetings, due to my absence at certain meetings I failed to announce earlier in the Meristem the passing in April of Barbara Henderson.

Barbara, had been a member of the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society since February of 2002. And even though she lived in Naples, Florida, she was a regular attendee at

our meetings, parties and Show and Sales events. She contributed her time and volunteered at our Shows and Sales. Her smiling face in the CBS audience will be greatly missed as will be her interest in bromeliads and her friends at the CBS.

DENNIS CATHCART IS OUR NOVEMBER SPEAKER

CBS October Meeting Minutes

DATE: Sunday, October 19th, 2008. LOCATION: St. John the Apostle Metropolitan Church, Fort Myers, Florida. ATTENDANCE: 40 members and guests. WORKSHOP was given by Brian Weber, who discussed the plans for the Dec CBS Sale. Details about rules, room setup, plant prep and committees were discussed. Labels were available. Road signs will be available in November. Meeting was opened at 2:10PM by President- Donna Schneider. Guest Kelly Ahmen and new member Ann Miller was introduced. Minutes as published without any additions or correction were approved. Eleanor Kinzie, chairperson of the **nominating committee** announced that the current officers have offered to serve for 2009. The slate of nominees for 2009 are President- Donna Schneider, Vice-President- Ross Griffith, Secretary- Luli Westra and Treasurer Betty Ann Prevatt, Past-President Steve Hoppin. Additional nominations were requested from the membership. They can be submitted to Eleanor Kinzie prior to the next meeting. Elections will be held at the November CBS meeting. A vote was taken to donate \$100.00 to the Kay Cude Fund to help sponsor a new classroom at ECHO. Brian Weber reported on the annual sale of the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society to be held on Sat. Dec. 6th from 9:00am-5:00pm. and Sun. Dec. 7th from 10:00am-4:00pm Set up will be Fri. after 5:00pm for 1-2 hours. Please bring plants after 7:00 PM until 8:00 PM. Brian can use lots of volunteers, food and boxes. If you can work an hour or two, half a day, any time is welcome. Brian can work with your time. The hungry workers on Sat. and Sun. will enjoy any food brought to them. In addition, lots of boxes. Please contact Brian or brian@tropiflora.com The outdoor road signs will be available at the Nov.16th meeting. Cape Coral members- a reminder, no road signs please. Additional instructions for sign placement will be announced at this meeting. There were no other committee reports. The suggestion box letters were reviewed. "Meetings are to long." After much discussion, the time will remain the same. "Program length". We do suggest a guideline for the length of time to the presenter. The club received many flyer and invitations. This information will be printed in the Meristem. Dr. Larry needs help NOW. He is having surgery and may not be able to continue the Meristem. Jeff Lazar won the door prize plant, a large, mature Neoregelia 'Purple Star'. Show and Tell by Dale Kammerlohr featuring many foliage and blooming bromeliads. The "Break" was hosted by Mary McKenzie with food provided by the membership. Program was presented by Larry Giroux on The Whyanbeel Arboretum in Northern Queensland, Australia. A brief video followed by numerous pictures taken by Larry were shown. These included a large variety of tropical plants, trees as well as numerous bromeliads. The Raffle was held with commentary by Larry Giroux, assisted by Ross Griffith and Dolly Dalton.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted. Mary Scofic, acting CBS Secretary

Terry Park 3410 Palm Beach Blvd (SR80) Fort Myers, Fl Saturday, Dec 6th, 2008 9AM-5PM Sunday, Dec 7th, 2008 10AM-4PM 1000's of Bromeliads

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BROMELIAD SOCIETY'S

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

E-mail Larry Giroux at DrLarry@comcast.net for more information.

<u>December 6th & 7th</u> - The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society's 2008 Sale - Saturday, December 6th and Sunday, December 7th. Terry Park, 3410 Palm Beach Blvd (SR80) Fort Myers, Fl. You can contact Larry Giroux at drlarry@comcast.net or 239-997-2237 or Betty Ann Prevatt at 332-0210 for information.



This is your November/December Meristem Please use the enclosed form to renew your 2009 CBS Membership. DON'T MISS <u>DENNIS CATHCART</u> AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING And don't miss the CBS Christmas Party on Dec 14th