



THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY'S

MERISTEM

Jan-Feb 2019



CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY OFFICERS

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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

January Meeting— Sunday, Jan 20th
February Meeting-- Sunday, Feb 17th

**Our meeting place is the Ft. Myers— Lee
County Garden Council Building
2166 Virginia Ave. Fort Myers.**

It is north of the Edison Gardens parking lot and about 1/2 miles north of our previous meeting location— Covenant Presbyterian Church. Virginia Ave is approximately 3 miles north of the intersection of Colonial Blvd. and McGregor Blvd. and the 2nd Street north of the Edison Gardens

Doors open at 12:30PM for Meeting Setup
The Workshop begins at 1:15PM
Please bring food, Raffle and Show and Tell Plants

Membership Sales are not permitted
at the January Meeting

Membership Sales are permitted at
the February Meeting

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society is an active Affiliate of:



Cryptanthus Society



BSI



FCBS



FM/LC GC

**January Program
“Hechtias”
By Brian Weber**

Brian Weber returns to talk about Hechtias for our January meeting. This Genus of Bromeliads known for its sticky, unfriendly spines, is in that group of bromeliads, that Brian has been growing for a long time. This terrestrial is also unique in that unlike most bromeliads which are from tropical regions, this Genus is found in its natural habitat in Central America and mostly in Mexico. It is also one of the four genera of bromeliads native to the continental United States, specifically to Texas. Brian will be bringing plants for sale to the Sunday meeting, including many of the terrestrials.

**Books! Books! Books!
By Ross Griffith**

Although we may all have a common passion for plants and members of our Society enjoy bromeliads, we express these interests in different ways. Ross Griffith joined the CBS in 1997. His acreage in North Fort Myers demonstrated his interests in all kinds of plants especially native Florida species, bromeliads, orchids, cycads, trees and many other plant families. Rather than attending personally to his collection, he allows them to grow naturally. But, ask him about any of them and his knowledge is incredible. Most of this information came from books. Ross will be talking to us about his world of

books, more specifically books having to do with bromeliads. He will tell you about our library and the great treasures your Society has made available to you. Betty Ann, as Treasurer, has been authorizing the purchase of new publications for decades. Check out your library's collection.

The topics for the January and February Workshops will be announced at a later date.

We are looking for a Chairman for the Workshop Committee

Anyone interested contact Cate Peterson, CBS President

There is another Edison Garden Market scheduled Saturday and Sunday February 9th and 10th, 2019

Your 2019 CBS Society Dues are due at the January Meeting.

If you joined the CBS in Oct, Nov or Dec 2018, your dues are paid up until 2020.

Hopefully in March a new Pictorial Roster and Yearbook will be distributed. If you joined during 2018 and have not had your picture taken for the Roster please see Dr. Larry Giroux at the January meeting.

Checks for your proceeds if you sold at our December Sale have been distributed. If you haven't gotten yours please see Betty Ann Prevatt. Also Betty Ann has your blue tags from the Sale, which hopefully can be reused at our next sale or at membership sales. These will be available at the January and February meetings.

Time to Start Relabeling Your Plants

By Dr. Larry Giroux

This year the new Board is going to propose to you whether we have a Show or not in December 2019. Having a Standard BSI Show has been the tradition of the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society for nearly 40 years. Our Shows in the past were the most elaborate and organized bromeliad events in Florida, with themed exhibits, presentations for the public and a great costume party at the home of a member on Saturday night. I'm sad to say those days are long gone. However we still are a strong society who love and are proud of our plants and our collections. Hopefully we will agree to continue the tradition and will all participate when called upon.

I know it's a sore topic to discuss, but for several reasons including our Show and Sale we all need to start to adopt the name changes to the Bromeliad Genera that have been made these past years. Toward that goal I'm starting a series highlighting these major changes in the naming of our plants. With this issue I'm beginning with the easiest renaming and which affects a very small number of plants in our collections.

The reason that I say these changes should be the easiest to swallow and implement is that it deals with the former genus: *Orthophytum*. There were only about 68 former species of *Orthophytums* and of them only 11 have been moved to the Genus: *Sincoraea*. Of these 11 only serious



***Orthophytum gurkenii* ‘Warren Loose’ with its “pendunculate” inflorescence does not change its name.**

collectors would have more than a handful. These are *Sincoraea albopicta*, *amoena*, *burlemarii*, *hatschbachii*, *heleniceae*, *humilis*, *mucugensis*, *navioides*, *ophiuroides*, *rafaelii* and *ulei*.

Distinguishing these 11 species in your collection are also very easy. The two groups are so different, you wonder why they were ever classified into the same Genus. Geoff Lawn, the BSI Registrar, wrote...

"Only these 11 *Orthophytum* species are reclassified as *Sincoraea* species--all are "sunburst" types with sessile inflorescences (no stem or peduncle), in contrast to the "pendunculate" (visible flower stem.) of other species in the genus *Orthophytum*. A key to *Sincoraea* species is presented in the BSI Journal, (BSI Journal Vol.66(1) pp.6-19 (Jan-March, 2016). *Re-establishment of Sincoraea* (Bromeliaceae). R

Louzada & M Wanderley) as well as botanical descriptions of all 11 species and their synonyms. Because a number of sunburst types have been discovered and described in the last 20 years or more, botanists have gotten a better idea of how best to classify the various clades of 57 species of *Orthophytum* + 11 *Sincoraea* species.”



I have included a few pictures to show how easy it is to distinguish the two groups, especially at blooming time.

While we are at it there are the intergeneric hybrids to deal with now. Again not a big deal. If you have some of these bigenerics, the rules are simple. If the previous *Orthophytum* parent’s name has been changed to *Sincoraea*, the new bigeneric name is changed to...

- For those whose other parent is a *Neoregelia* it becomes *x Sincoregelia*
- For those whose other parent is a *Sincoraea* it becomes simply *Sincoraea*
- For those whose other parent is an *Orthophytum* it becomes *x Sincorphytum*
- For those whose other parent is a *Cryptanthus* it becomes *x Sincortanthus*
- For those whose other parent is a *Neoglaziovia* it becomes *x Sincorglaziovia*
- For those whose other parent is a *Nidularium* it becomes *x Nidusincoraea*
- For those whose other parent is an *Aechmea* it becomes *x Sincoraechmea*

Those species, which have a “sunburst” pattern to their leaves and no stems to their blooms are now renamed with the new *Genus Sincoraea*. This form and the ‘Albo’ color form of *burlemarxii* are now *Sincoraea burlemarxii*. Please note on the back cover the species *Sincoraea albopicta*, a species not associated with *Sincoraea burlemarxii* ‘Albo’. This photo and on the front cover and back cover by Larry Giroux.



Many thanks to Derek Butcher and Geoff Lawn for compiling this information. To see Derek Butcher’s entire article go to: <http://www.bromeliad.org.au/news/DD0217.htm>

For example *Neophytum* ‘Galactic Warrior’, who’s parents are a *Neoregelia* and a *Sincoraea*, it is now *xSincoregelia* ‘Galactic Warrior’
Photo by Larry Giroux



Sincoraea navioides

Orthophytum navioides changes to *Sincoraea navioides*. This should be the poster plant for this new *Genus* since it has all the differing characteristics that prompted the *Genus* change.



Orthophytum vagans

The variegated form of *Orthophytum vagans*, when seen from the its top at blooming questions which group it should be placed; however, the lateral view demonstrates the upright growth pattern that keeps this in the *Genus*: *Orthophytum*.



Orthophytum lemei

Both the species *Orthophytum lemei* with its stemmed inflorescence and beautiful red floral bracts and the cultivar *Orthophytum* 'Iron Ore', which is made from two *Orthophytums* also keep the genus name *Orthophytum*. All photos by Larry Giroux.



Orthophytum 'Iron Ore'



Several years ago, Steve Hoppin, former President of the Cryptanthus Society, Carole and Rick Richtmyer and I traveled to Central eastern Brazil and were fortunate to find a colony of *Sincoraea* growing on a rocky hillside. At the time these were *Orthophytum*!

The late Nate deLeon gave Steve Hoppin permission to name his bigeneric cultivar made from *Cryptanthus microglazioui* and *Orthophytum navioides*: *xOrthotanthus* 'Blazing Bonsai', Its new name is *xSincortanthus* 'Blazing Bonsai'.

The shiny, sunloving *Orthophytum glabrum* is slow about maturing, but when you see its stemmed inflorescence this confirms it remaining an *Orthophytum*.

Orthophytum vagans and *Sincoraea navioides* are the parents of the newly named *Sincorphytum* 'Blaze'.

All photos by Larry Giroux



Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society

Minutes for August 19, 2018

Call to Order: 1:15 by President Carol Sweat

Workshop: Betty Ann Prevatt gave a presentation on mounting bromeliads. Betty Ann uses wreath forms, swivels, and soft wire. Be sure that your plants are attached well enough that they don't fall off, but not so tight that the plant is constricted.

General Meeting: The Sale will be on December 1 & 2. Brian Weber is the Sales Chair. If you want to sell, contact Brian and get enough blue tags for each plant you are going to sell. You must be a member in good standing before June 1st and attend 2 meetings to be eligible to sell. The Sale will be at the Araba Shriners Lodge on Hanson street in Fort Myers. The hours are 9 to 4 on Saturday and 10 to 3 on Sunday. 25% of the sales go to the club. Betsy Burdette is in charge of advertising, but she asks that everyone helps out. Signs will be available at the October meeting. Do not put out signs in Cape Coral.

Terrie Bert and Bruce Holst are trying to get the 2020 BSI World Conference to be in Sarasota.

The club library is available to all members. Please check out books.

Door Prize: Bill Sheffield donated 5 *Sincortanthus* 'Blazing Bonsai'. The winners were: Patty Gonzalez, Terrie Bert, Betsy Burdette, Anne Miller, and Diane Cornelison.

Attendance: 51 members in attendance

Program: Patrick Higgins of Friends of Fakahatchee gave a lecture on "Life in a High Rise: Life in the Canopy" He listed 5 groups of epiphytes: Bryophytes, Ferns, Bromeliads, Orchids, and hemi epiphytes (strangler figs). Patrick spoke about the diversity and micro climates of the swamp.

Show and Tell: Led by Dale Kammerlohr

Raffle: Led by Larry Giroux, assisted by Betsy Burdette and Dolly Dalton

Respectfully Submitted by Carly Pfalz, Secretary

Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society

Minutes for September 16, 2018

Call to Order: 1:15 by Vice President Dale Kammerlohr

Workshop: Dale Kammerlohr led a discussion on pests and disease control in bromeliads. Do not try to control rust with copper fungicide. It is poisonous to bromeliads. To keep the amount of pests down, it is good to avoid thick clumps of bromeliads. You can use pyrethrins for control of crawling insects and imidacloprid as a systemic insecticide for control of the weevil.

Program: Dave Johnston gave a discussion on the various name changes in the bromeliad genera. There used to be 3 subfamilies and now there are 8. There are no longer any hyphenated names. There are 3913 species, 165 natural hybrids, and 76 genera.

General Meeting: The signs for the sale are ready to be taken home. The rules for putting out the signs are in the newsletter. Post flyers on

Facebook, and share via Email.

Attendance: There were 34 members and guests in attendance. The guests were Taylor Schlueter, Daniel Hale, Zach Shankle, and Jim Conyers. On October 8th at 7pm there will be a party to honor Dennis and Linda Cathcart in the great room at Selby Gardens. There will be food, drinks, prizes and a slide show. Anne Miller announced that the Bonsai Show will be November 2&3 at the FMLC Garden Council building. There will be vendors and a judged show, the hours are 9 to 3. We need a nominating committee for the positions of CBS President and Secretary. Dale Kammerlohr and Tom Cowell volunteered. **Door Prize:** Bill Sheffield donated 6 *Portea alatasepala*. The winners were: Larry Giroux, Jim Conyers, Elizabeth Migliore, Taylor Schlueter, John Hampton, and Dave Robertson. **Show and Tell:** led by Dale Kammerlohr **Raffle:** Led by Larry Giroux, assisted by Betsy Burdette and Dolly Dalton.

Respectfully submitted by Carly Pfalz, Secretary.

**Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society
Minutes for October 21, 2018**

Call to Order: 1:15 by President Carol Sweat

Workshop: Cate Peterson led a discussion on an overview of *Aechmea chantinii*.

General: Thank you to everyone who brings food to the meetings, and if you don't please bring it in the future.

Betty Ann Prevatt offered to take the minutes for the November meeting because Carly Pfalz will be unavailable.

Betsy Burdette has signs to be put out for the sale. Also, take some flyers to distribute and post. Signs go out on Friday afternoon and get picked up on Sunday afternoon. If you aren't selling at the sale, please come and shop and volunteer to set up and help with checkout. Bring food to share.

Program: Debbie Hughes gave a lecture on the botanical history and diversity at the Edison Ford Estates. Debbie spoke about Edison's botanical research, his planting of fruiting trees and ficus, the banyan story, and the various plant collections at the estates.

Attendance: There were 42 members and guests in attendance. The guests were Emil Low, and Addison Denty. The New members were Carolyn Bodirot and Adrian Pfeffer.

The next work day for the garden council garden will be in January.

Nominations: Cate Peterson will be President, Betty Ann Prevatt will be Treasurer. We need a secretary and a vice president.

Door Prize: Bill Sheffield donated 6 *Cryptanthus osiris* 'Rainbow Star'. The winners were: Betsy Burdette, Helen Robertson, Addison Denty, Daniel Hale, Carly Pfalz, and Mary McKenzie.

Show and Tell: led by Dale Kammerlohr

Raffle: Led by Larry Giroux, and assisted by Betsy Burdette and Dolly Dalton.

Respectfully submitted by Carly Pfalz, Secretary.



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This is your Jan-Feb 2019 CBS Newsletter
Remember...Dues are due in January