



THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY'S

MERISTEM

Jan-Feb 2024



CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT— Julie Stein 919-522-1182 FLAGIRL56@aol.com

Past— PRESIDENT— Vicky Chirnside 941 928-3111 (dampearth@me.com)

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR—Larry Giroux 239-850-4048 (DrLarry7@gmail.com)

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WORKSHOP CHAIRPERSON—Acting Chair: Julie Stein

CBS FCBS Reps.—Vicky Chirnside 941-928-3111 (dampearth@me.com)

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OTHER COMMITTEES

DOOR PRIZE—Debbie McPhail 239-332-4607 or 239-910-3836 ;

email- deb.mcphail@yahoo.com

HOSPITALITY (Monthly Refreshments)—Diane Cornelison 239-233-7037

Party Chair—Vacant

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

SHOW & TELL—Dale Kammerlohr 863-558-0647

FM-LEE GARDEN COUNCIL—Alison Ackerman 239-851-3176 Alison@spikowski.com

LIBRARIAN—Norma Jean Ridzyowski

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THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

**January Meeting: Sunday, Jan. 21st 2024
February Meeting Feb. 18th 2024**

**Our Meetings are at the
Ft. Myers– Lee County Garden Council Building
2166 Virginia Ave. Fort Myers.**

The facility 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 is the 2nd Street north of the Edison Gardens

The CBS Board has established a more structured schedule for our meetings, which we will adapt as necessary—

***12:30-1:15:** Doors open, check-in, membership, distribution of door prize tickets and sale of raffle tickets, membership or speaker plant sales.

***1:15-1:45:** Workshop **1:45-2:00:** Break, plant sales continue

2:00-2:15: Business Meeting **2:15-3:00:** Program followed by door prize

3:00-3:30: Break for refreshments **3:30-4:00:** Show and Tell and Raffle
4:00: Clean up

**Please bring food, Friendship, Raffle and Show and Tell Plants
There will be membership sales allowed at the January meeting.**

MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2024 ARE DUE BY THE END OF JANUARY

Membership renewal fees are \$15/20 single/dual; New member dues: \$20/25, single/dual payable by check or cash at the meeting or by mail to

Betty Ann Prevatt, CBS Treasurer 2902 Second Ave. Fort Myers, FL 33916

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society is an active Affiliate of:



Cryptanthus Society



BSI



FCBS



FM/LC GC

January Workshop CBS' Plans for 2024

Your Officers and Committee Chairs will be available to discuss the past Show and Sale as well as the upcoming year at the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society. Our President, Julie Stein is completing her appointment of Committee Chairs and this would be a great time to volunteer for any positions. Come with ideas for Workshops and Programs. There will be the induction of Officers, Julie Stein, President; Dale Kammerlohr, Vice President; Alison Ackerman, Secretary and Betty Ann Prevatt, Treasurer. In addition membership votes will be taken as required on any financial decisions decided at the January Board of Directors' meeting. Please bring your CBS dues for 2024 and a completed updated Membership Renewal form to this meeting.

January Program The CBS's 2023 Bromeliad Show By Dr. Larry Giroux

Although all the head-table winners of the 2023 CBS Standard Bromeliad Show are included in this issue of the Newsletter, Larry will review the other ribbon winners with a slide presentation. So if you missed the Show, here is your opportunity to catch up; if you did attend, come see the exhibits in more detail.

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society Show and Sale

December 1, 2, 3, 2023 Edison/ Ford Winter Estates Ft Myers, Fl
Photos by Dr. Larry Giroux Information by Dr. Larry Giroux



The Milford B Foster Best of Show– Horticulture

Exhibit:

*Tillandsia concolor x
roland-gosselini*

Exhibitor:

Geri and David Prall

(See photo on front cover)

**The Morris H. Hobbs
Best of Show– Artistic**

Exhibit:

Cryptanthus

Black Raspberry

(In a Decorative Container)

Exhibitor:

Dr. Larry Giroux

(See photo on back cover)



**The Sweepstakes
Award**
(The most Blue Ribbons Awarded)

Representative Exhibit:

***Cryptanthus
bahianus***

Exhibitor:

Dr. Larry Giroux



**Division I
Winner**

Exhibit:

***xSincoregia
Galactic
Warrior***

Exhibitor:

Michael Kiehl





**Division I
Sec A
Winner**

**Exhibit:
Neoregelia
Black Olive**

**Exhibitor:
Michael Kiehl**

**Division I
Sec B
Winner**

**Exhibit:
Billbergia
Ralph Graham
French**

**Exhibitor:
Michael Michalski**



**Division II
Winner**

**Exhibit:
*xDycktia Satit***

**Exhibitor:
Brian Weber**



**Division II Sec A
Winner**

**Exhibit:
Billbergia
Prickly Heat**

**Exhibitor:
Brian Weber**



**Division II Sec B
Winner**

**Exhibit:
Aechmea recurvata
‘Blackie’**

**Exhibitor:
Julie Stein**

**Division III
Sec B
Winner**

**Exhibit:
Cryptanthus
warren-loosei
‘Margie Lee’**

**Exhibitor:
Dr. Larry Giroux**



**Div IV Sec A
Winner**

Exhibit:

***Cryptanthus
Corinne***

(In a Decorative Container)

Exhibitor:

Dr. Larry Giroux



**Div IV
Winner**

Exhibit:

***AA- "Flames
in the Wind"***

***Cryptanthus
acaulis &
Pitcairnia
smithiorum***

Exhibitor:

Dr. Larry Giroux



**Div IV Sec B
Winner**

Exhibit: Mini-AA

***"Embers Under the Sea"
Cryptanthus brevifolius***

Exhibitor:

Dr. Larry Giroux



**Bob Whitman
Best Cryptanthus
Group Species**

Exhibit:

***Cryptanthus
warren-loosei*
'Margie Lee'**

**Exhibitor:
Dr. Larry Giroux**



**Warren Loose Best Cryptanthus
Group Hybrid**

Exhibit:

Cryptanthus Strawberries Flambe

**Exhibitor:
Suzanne Bogacki**

**NO
PICTURE
AVAILABLE**



**The
Gene McKenzie
Best Tillandsia
Award**

Exhibit:

Tillandsia Betty

**Exhibitor:
Steve Seal**



**Members' Choice
Award
1st Place**

**Exhibit:
Neoregelia
Magnum Force**

**Exhibitor:
Alex Bello**



Members' Choice Award 2nd Place

Exhibit: *Neoregelia* King Cobra Exhibitor: Rick Batt

**Members' Choice Award
3rd Place**

**Exhibit:
Neoregelia Melanie**

**Exhibitor:
Debbie McPhail**



**Best
Judges' Entry**

Exhibit:
"Neon Neo Pillow"

Exhibitor:
Calandra Thurrott



Many of the races for Major Awards were very close during final judging. Of the 130 entries there were 53 Award of Merit ribbons awarded. Anyone of these could probably been the winner in their Section or Division. Presented below are a few of the exceptional "runner-ups". Sorry I couldn't print all of the other great entries. Don't miss the slide show, to be presented at the January meeting of the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society, nearly all entries will be shown.



**Div IV
Decorative Containers**

Exhibit:
***Cryptanthus
Gypsy Rose***

Exhibitor:
Alison Ackerman

Division I Section B

Exhibit:

***Dyckia* T-Rex x Heaven & Hell**

Exhibitor: **Brian Weber**



Div IV Deco. Containers

Exhibit:

***Cryptanthus* Tumbleweed**

Exhibitor: **Dr. Larry Giroux**



Division I Sec A

Exhibit:

Orthophytum benzingii

Exhibitor: **Betty Ann Prevatt**



Div I Sec B

Exhibit:

***Aechmea
fasciata***

Exhibitor:

Evan McCrory



Division II Section A

Exhibit: ***Neoregelia* Excitation**

Exhibitor: **Alex Bello**



This year our Show was held in a large tent on the grounds of the Edison/ Ford Winter Estates in conjunction with our Annual Bromeliad Sale. Photo by Geri Prall.



Minutes of the CBS General Meeting LC/FM Garden Council Building Nov 19th 2023

Call to order: 1:13 P.M by President Julie Stein

Guests: Matt Bagley, from Bonita Bromeliads (donated 10 plants to our Raffle table)

New Members: Debbie Spearman, Chandler and Sawyer Mitchell

In Attendance: 34

Business Meeting and Announcements:

President Julie Stein announced that if anyone plans on attending our Christmas Party on December 17 at Debbie McPhail's, to please get to her house -after 12:30 and not before (this is different than in the Newsletter).

The following officers were elected to serve for the 2024 year: Julie Stein, President; Dale Kammerlohr; Vice-President; Alison Ackerman, Secretary; and Betty Ann Prevatt, Treasurer. Vickie Chirnside talked about the World Conference to be held in W. Palm Beach at the end of May next year, letting the membership know who will be speaking, and encouraging everyone to attend. Larry will be sending out more details to all the members. If you register before April, you can save about \$100.

Program: Tom and Carol Wolfe, active members of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies and The **Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society of Tampa (formerly The Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay)**, presented a slide show entitled "Bromeliads in Paradise" where they showed many beautiful photos of landscaped bromeliads, plus many close-ups of their favorites like *Aechmea Del Mar*, *Aechmea chantinii*, *Aechmea fasciata* and *Neoregelia* Mr. Odean. Tom shared that when he mounts bromeliads, he always uses cedar, as it lasts almost forever.

Workshop: Dr. Larry Giroux and Julie Stein discussed everything we need to know to enter a plant in our upcoming show. They showed what to do and what not to do. Larry explained and handed out all the necessary forms, and directed us to read the "Schedule", and our recent newsletter for more details. Larry also demonstrated how to break apart a multiple *Cryptanthus*, leaving a nice sized plant, perfect for repotting and entering. He trimmed a few leaves, dabbing some aloe on the cut edge so that oxidation will be minimized. You can also use a tiny amount of Elmer's glue, being cautious not to get any on the upper or lower leaf surfaces. This year, CBS will be giving out cash awards as prizes for the major awards, which can be used to purchase plants in the sale.

Betty Ann Prevatt gave an overview of the show and sale

schedule. She also asked for volunteers to help at the sale on the Saturday and Sunday, plus at 1:00 on Thursday to help set up the tents. On Friday, sellers should arrive starting at 10:00 to set up. Saturday's sale will be from 9 to 5, and Sunday we will be open from 10 to 3:00.

Door Prizes: Betty Ann Prevatt brought a huge *Aechmea* hybrid, perfect for a booted Sabal Palm. Julie Stein donated a decorative basket with pumpkins and a variegated *Neoregelia* inside.

Show & Tell: Dale presented and 20 plants brought by members, including several variegated *Billbergias* which are also stoloniferous. Jason Mellica talked about several of his hybrids.

Raffle: Larry Giroux and Julie awarded about 36 donated plants to the lucky winners.

Meeting adjourned: 4:20PM

Respectfully submitted by Alison Ackerman



The
**World
Bromeliad
Conference
(WBC 2024)**
will be held on
May 22-25, 2024
in
West Palm Beach,
Florida, USA.
The hotel venue
will be the
**West
Palm Beach
Marriott.**

WBC 2024 will include speaker presentations, a judged plant show, a special plant sale, a rare plant auction, bus tours, a banquet with keynote speaker, and more! For additional information and to register go to: www.BSI.org/new/conference-corner/



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This is your Jan-Feb 2024 CBS Newsletter