



CALOOSAHATCHEE
BROMELIAD
SOCIETYs
CALOOSAHATCHEE
MERISTEM

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January 2011



CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT Vicky Chirnside (vickychirn@aol.com)
VICE-PRESIDENT Marsha Crawford marshacrawford@embarqmail.com
SECRETARY MaryAnn Murphy (bmurphy100@hotmail.com)
TREASURER Betty Ann Prevatt (bprevattpcc@aol.com)
PAST-PRESIDENT Eleanor Kinzie (bprevattpcc@aol.com)

STANDING COMMITTEES CHAIRPERSONS

NEWSLETTER EDITOR Larry Giroux 997-2237 (DrLarry@comcast.net)
FALL SALES CHAIR Geri & Dave Prall (PalmTreeGardens@hotmail.com)
FALL SALES Co-CHAIR
PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON Bruce McAlpin
WORKSHOP CHAIRPERSON
SPECIAL PROJECTS Gail Daneman (bob@fesq.net)
CBS FCBS Rep. Vicky Chirnside (vickychirn@aol.com)
CBS FCBS Rep.

OTHER COMMITTEES

AUDIO/VISUAL SETUP Bob Lura, Terri Lazar and Vicki Chirnside
DOOR PRIZE Terri Lazar (terriLML@earthlink.net)
HOSPITALITY Mary McKenzie; Sue Gordon
SPECIAL HOSPITALITY Betsy Burdette (betsy@burdetteinc.com)
RAFFLE TICKETS Greeter/Membership table volunteers - Dolly Dalton,
Luli Westra
RAFFLE COMMENTARY Larry Giroux
GREETERS/ATTENDENCE Betty Ann Prevatt, Dolly Dalton (dollyd@comcast.net),
Luli Westra
SHOW & TELL Dale Kammerlohr
(dzdase@mbrqmail.com)
FM-LEE GARDEN COUNCIL Mary McKenzie
LIBRARIAN Kay Janssen

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When you think of patterned leaved bromeliads, the genera of *Aechmea* with the *orlandiana* and *correia-araujoi*, and *Vriesea* with *heiroglyphica* and its numerous colorful cultivars, come to mind. However, there are a few guzmanias with striking, contrasting leaves such as *Guzmania musaica*. I still have memories of seeing clumps of *musaica* inflorescences for sale at a market in northern Panama over 15 years ago and then finding the blooming plants growing in the neighboring forest. The front and back cover pictures are from a garden in Australia during a home tour at the 2008 WBC. Photos by Larry Giroux



THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

TIME AND PLACE OF OUR JANUARY MEETING
ST. JOHN the APOSTLE CHURCH 3049 MCGREGOR Ave. FT. MYERS.
DOORS WILL BE OPEN AT 12:30 FOR SETUP.

Please come early and help with setup
Friendship plants, Raffle items are always welcome.
There will be a Door Prize and Show and Tell

January Meeting Sunday January 16th 2011

MEMBERSHIP SALES WILL BE PERMITTED at the January Meeting.

Our January Program

(Will start after our refreshment break)

...will feature Bruce McAlpin, who will lead a General Membership discussion to access the needs of the CBS for the coming year. We have a lot of issues to hash over from the need for a new Newsletter Editor, the 2011 CBS Show and Sale, a new Workshop Chairman, etc, etc... These and many more items need to be discussed with the Membership before the Board Meeting, scheduled after the General Meeting this month.

January Workshop

(starts at 1:15PM)

People, we need someone to step forward and take over the Workshop Chairmanship and Volunteers to lead brief discussions or give brief demonstrations at our monthly Workshops.

The Pralls have been very gracious in giving of their time and work to afford us several very informative and interesting workshops this past year. As chance has it, they can give our January Workshop, but this will be the last for a while due to their own personal schedule in 2011.

At the January Workshop, Dave Prall will be bringing a collection of "special" bromeliads for our pleasure and discussion. If any of you have some special plants to share with us, please bring them to the meeting. If we don't discuss them at the Workshop, and even if we do, they can be added to the Show and Tell Table.

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society is an active Affililate of:



FM-LCGC



**Cryptanthus
Society**



**Bromeliad Society
International**



FCBS

Society News

November Program



Many thanks to Andrew Hahn, Chief grower and Manager of Roy Batty Nursery in Naples. Self claimed “The Pineapple People”, the nursery specializes in pineapples of all sizes, including the miniature decorative types. In addition they sell a select group of exotic bromeliads such as *Alcanterea imperialis* among others.

He brought several varieties of Ananas for display and discussion as well as some great plants at fantastic prices for sale. The donations for the raffle from the nursery were also greatly appreciated.

Leftover Sale Plants

Since we do not have an outside speaker for January, Membership Sales are permitted. This will be a great opportunity for the sellers at our December Sale to lighten themselves of some of their leftover plants and members who were not at our Sale to buy new plants. Please remember sellers, a 25% sellers’ fee needs to be paid on the honor system to Betty Ann Prevatt before you leave on Sunday. Also don’t forget the Raffle Table. It has been quite sparse lately, please donate more plants and buy more tickets this year

Welcome New Members of CBS and add to your Roster

Kathy and Jim Lockwood

611 SE 16th St.

Cape Coral, FL 33990

xxx-xxx-xxxx

KVJENKINS2002@gmail.com

Erik and Lindsey Sandmark

3587 Valle Santa Circle

Cape Coral, FL 33909

xxx-xxx-xxxx

etsandsm@eagle.FGCU.edu

The 2010 CBS Holiday Party

Bruce McAlpin graciously hosted the 2010 Holiday Party at his home and gardens in LaBelle. My sources, since I was on a pre-Holiday cruise, informed me that about 45 people make the trek. As usual the food was great, the raffle and games went over well. Visitors were blessed by a dry day to wander the acres of property packed with bromeliads, orchids and other exotic plants. Bruce, thank you for being a great host.

Kudos for those who volunteered in 2010

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society, like any organization, requires many dedicated volunteers. On the inside front cover each month is printed the lists of Officers, Committee Chairs and some of their members. Our Society owes them a big thank you for making our meetings and events happen. As Editor, I try to

give thanks to those members who are not always recognized on the inside cover. Such as substitutes for positions when a Chair or Officer can not perform their duties or donors of raffle and auction items or speakers and Workshop presenters. We never mention those who bring in Show and Tell plants or the food we all devour. Please except our appreciation for what you all do for your Society. And please keep giving of your time and work.

Bromeliad Expose By Larry Giroux

Editor's note: Eleanor Kinzie is turning 90 this month. For nearly 30 years of her life, she has been an active member of the CBS. This month she is also retiring as our latest President; but not from other responsibilities within the Society. In 2002, Gene McKenzie and I were writing the Meristem together. She preferred to write the Editor's column. At my request she started a series of articles about some of our devoted members. Even at that time, Eleanor Kinzie had for over a decade been contributing in many ways to the workings of the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society. Presented here is the article written by the late Gene McKenzie about her dear and long time friend.

Some of the situations, which Gene wrote about have changed, but Eleanor's devotion and contributions have only multiplied in the years since.

Profile: Eleanor Kinzie

By Gene McKenzie

When your Editors decided that Profiles would be appreciated by our members, I was most enthusiastic. Little did I realize how difficult it would be to put in writing all that I held in my heart with each issue. After many frustrating attempts to combine a Mother-Daughter Profile, Eleanor Kinzie and Betty Ann Prevatt, it just would not come together. Both of these ladies have played an important role in the progress of this Society. So, we will give each their own in separate Profiles.

The Kinzie family, Eleanor and her late husband, Girard, children Marie (deceased), Betty Ann and Walter are Fort Myers natives. The family business, Kinzie's Wholesale Nursery at the end of Second Street has been home since Eleanor and Girard married. Eleanor still lives in the family home, Betty Ann and her husband Darrell Prevatt live in a house on the property. Walter and his wife Trish (a member of CBS) and son live in East Fort Myers also with a nursery. Cecil

Bessellieu, Marie's husband, is also a member of CBS and lives on property near Alva. I mention to you, the adults in the family because they pitch in to help Eleanor and Betty Ann when CBS has a show, sale, World Conference or any activity of CBS. Though some are not members, they work for CBS also.



Eleanor Kinzie in one of her designer hats she made for the hat contests we play at CBS's Birthday and Holiday parties.

To the right are three exhibits entered by Eleanor Kinzie several shows ago. These decorative and whimsical entries demonstrate that she has fun with her plants, which I hope will encourage us all to do the same. I have been attending CBS Shows since 1992. At each of these shows and many before them, Eleanor has not only served on many committees, sold at the sales, but has entered horticultural and artistic entries. Many years ago, Eleanor ran a florist shop in conjunction to her nursery in Fort Myers. She has been a member of several other garden and flower societies in Lee County. She is still very active with the Fort Myers Orchid Society. In her modern expanded shadehouse, build for her by her family a few years ago, she grows her extense collection of bromeliads along with her impressive collection of orchids and other tropical plants. Cryptanthus is a favorite genus of Eleanor's of which she grows nearly a hundred different species and hybrids. She is also a Charter member of the Cryptanthus Society and a constant donor to Cryptanthus Society fund raisers. A few years ago, Jim Irvin, a Charter member of the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society, after producing over 75 named hybrids of cryptanthus as well as many other different and usual bromeliad hybrids, retired



from hybridizing bromeliads. One of his last hybrids, a cross of two other cultivars of Jim Irvin, 'Miss Priss' and 'Angel Dust'. Dale Kammerlohr, also a long time member of the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society, also honored Eleanor with one of his neoregelia cultivars, *Neoregelia* 'Eleanor'. Pictures of these plants can be found on the opposite page. The second picture of *Neoregelia* 'Eleanor' shows the variation possible with cultural differences.

Cryptanthus
'Eleanor
Kinzie'



Neoregelia
'Eleanor'
This beautiful
clump was
grown in bright
light.

Neoregelia
'Eleanor'
These plants
were grown
in less light,
note the
restriction of
red toward
the center
and the
strap-like
leaves.
All photos by
Larry Giroux



Eleanor joined CBS in May of 1982. She is a long time member of the Fort Myers Orchid Society and that was where your Editor met her. Through the years, I can't remember a meeting, a show or any event of our Society that Eleanor did not have a part in. Many of us shared wonderful CBS parties at her home.

She was President in 1987, Society Historian for many years, offered her knowledge at Workshops and Programs, designed, and with the help of her family, set up most of our Show displays and the layout of our Show and Sale rooms. She had many hands and used them everywhere. Eleanor never said "no" when asked to accept a project. She simply smiled, with that smile we all love, and got to work.



She is a BSI Master Judge and has judged many Florida and BSI World Conference shows across the country. Most of the CBS displays at World Conferences have been designed and constructed by Eleanor and her family (with a little help from her friends, other CBS members).

At the present time, she is Raffle Ticket Chairman and calls your lucky numbers. Enjoy and admire this lovely woman who has given so much of herself to our Society.



To the left are Eleanor and her daughter, Betty Ann Prevatt photographed at the 2010 WBC this past Summer held in New Orleans. Eleanor, a BSI accredited Judge has attended every WBC, judging most of them, since becoming involved with CBS in the early '80s, except for the 2006 WBC in Australia. Also left is one of the many flowering orchids she grows in her shadehouse.

A Letter from the Sale's Chairs

We'd like to thank everyone who participated and supported CBS's annual plant sale: vendors, cashiers, volunteers as well as the members who came out and bought bromeliads. In past years the sale area was filled with buyers, and sale plants were thinned out by noon on the first day. Many hustled to provide more sale items for Sunday with those also going rapidly. Accordingly, vendors brought even more bromeliads for this year's sale; some of them were new releases and World Conference quality plants. The new larger sale pavilion at Terry Park was filled with color and vast numbers of beautiful, desirable plants; unfortunately, there appeared hardly a change in the quantity by late Sunday when we closed down.

So you must understand how we who were helping out and selling were disappointed in this year's turn out. We would have liked to see more of our members come out to the sale. Maybe members are not aware that this is our Society's only major fund raising event; proceeds are needed to pay for the meeting room, speakers, fund community activities, Newsletter and other expenses.

The Society and the individual sellers go to considerable expense of time and money to put on sales and shows; volunteers donate many hours and several days of their time before and during the events. Vendors travel considerable distances to bring an assortment of plants, which have been cleaned and labeled to our area. When we have a low turnout, it is inevitable that some vendors will decide not to return next year.

So this year is a Show and Sale year. Our treasury depends on income from “Sale years only” to help fund the much greater expenses incurred with a Show. Unfortunately, we do not have as great a cushion this year to rely upon. We hope that more of you will support the CBS and attend and participate in all ways you can. CBS is known to have the best Sales & Shows in Florida. Let’s keep up our reputation we have worked so hard to earn.

Brian, Dave & Geri, 2010 Sale-chairs

Parting Note From the President

Thank you all for the help and support you gave me last year. The Workshops and Programs were great and everyone pitched in and made it a fun year.

It was great seeing so many at Bruce’s for the Christmas Party. The weather could have been better, but Bruce’s beautiful home accommodated us very well and we thank him for his hospitality.

I also hope that you will all give Vicky your support in the coming year by volunteering for the various committees and participating.

I wish you all a very Happy and Healthy New Year!

Eleanor

Election of New Officers



Vicky Chirside

President

Vicky Chirside
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vickychir@aol.com
Member since 1981



Marsha Crawford

Vice-President

Marsha Crawford
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Member since 2009



MaryLynn Murphy

Secretary

MaryLynn Murphy
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Naples Fl 34108
239-593-8739
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Member since 2008



Betty Ann Prevatt

Treasurer

Betty Ann Prevatt
2902 Second Street
Fort Myers, Fl 33916
239-332-0210 (W)
bprevattpcc@aol.com
Member since 1983

CBS November 21st, 2010 Meeting Minutes

DATE: November 21st, 2010.

LOCATION: St. John the Apostle Church, Ft. Myers, Fl

ATTENDANCE: 43 members. The following new members were introduced: Kathy and Jim Lockwood and Erik and Lindsey Sandsmark.

WORKSHOP: Dave and Geri Prall shared additional information on the CBS Sale and brought an assortment of variegated bromeliads from their collection.

CALL TO ORDER: President Eleanor Kinzie called the meeting to order at 2:15 pm. Eleanor encouraged participation of the Show & Tell, Friendship and Raffle table. Members are encouraged to come early to help set up and socialize and assist in the breakdown.

MINUTES: Minutes from the October 17th 2010 meeting have one correction. Gail Daneman, not Dale Kammerlohr, was on the nominating committee. The corrected minutes were accepted by Dr. Larry Giroux and seconded by Kay Janssen.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Eleanor Kinzie, Deborah Jalbert, Dr. Larry Giroux and Betty Ann Prevatt attended the Garden Council Open House on November 20th, 2010 and distributed many flyers for our upcoming sale and information on the Society. Deborah and Larry offered bromeliads for sale. Kay Janssen invited everyone to take a book out from the Library and return it at the next meeting. Betsy Burdette reminded everyone that the Holiday Party at Bruce McAlpin's is on December 19th. Please bring a covered dish; chairs and tables are also requested. There will be a contest for the best bromeliad: wreath as well as male and female hat. Directions to Bruce's home were in last month's Meristem. Additional instructions are the landmark Maple Corners and that County Road 731 is also known as Widden Road. Please call Eleanor Kinzie if you would like to carpool or caravan from Eleanor's home.

NEW BUSINESS: Nominating Chair, Betty Ann Prevatt reported the following nominations: Vicky Chirnside as President; no volunteer for Vice-President; MaryLynn Murphy as Secretary. Dr. Larry Giroux motioned to accept the nominations as proposed by the Nominations Committee and Robert Fesq seconded the motion. Dr. Larry motioned to accept the nominees as the Officers for 2011 and Terri Lazar seconded the motion. The membership vote was unanimous. Officers will be installed at the Holiday Party.

SHOW & TELL: Dave Prall and Grant Groves presented Show and Tell.

DOOR PRIZE: Bruce Mc Alpin won a *Neoregelia cruenta* donated by Terri Lazar.

BREAK: A thirty minute break was enjoyed by all. Thank you to Mary McKenzie and assistants.

PROGRAM: Bruce McAlpin introduced Andrew Hahn, Chief Grower and General Manager of Roy Batty Nursery in Naples specializing in pineapples. Andy gave a lively program entitled: "Growing Pineapples". We were treated to a variety of edible and decorative pineapples as well as two new varieties: *Ananas* 'Danny Boy' and *Ananas* 'Baby Gold'. Several highlights from Andy's talk : the main reason pineapples die is due to overwatering; a mixture of one-half peat moss with one-half pinebark (or perlite) is the recommended potting medium; slow-release fertilizer (osmocote) at planting is

recommended; a 4.4-5.5pH is best for pineapples; never mulch pineapples as it interferes with ground heat being released during a cold snap; when propagating: twist the crown and remove the small bottom leaves, let dry several days if during the summer and one day during the dry season prior to potting.

RAFFLE: Dr. Larry Giroux was the raffle commentator assisted by Terri Lazar and Dolly Dalton.

ADJOURNMENT: Eleanor Kinzie adjourned the meeting at 4: 25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

MaryLynn Murphy (filling in for CBS Secretary)

**ATTENTION BOARD MEMBERS----THERE
WILL BE A BRIEF BOARD MEETING
FOLLOWING THE JANUARY MEETING.**

Calendar of Bromeliad Events

March 20th, 2011- Annual CBS Rare Plant Auction

ST. JOHN the APOSTLE CHURCH 3049 MCGREGOR Ave. FT. MYERS.

April 1st-3rd, 2011- Tropiflora Spring Festival

Tropiflora Nursery, 3530 Tallavast Road, Sarasota, 941-351-2267 (<http://www.tropiflora.com>)

April 9th and 10th, 2011- Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Show and Sale in conjunction with Tampa Federation of Garden Clubs Show 2629 Bayshore Boulevard, Tampa, Florida.

Show hours April 9th 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

April 10th 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 PM.

Bromeliad Show Chairman: Tom Wolfe (813) 961-1475

Flower Show Chairman: Kathy Echevarria (813) 877-3357.

April 17th, 2011- CBS Birthday Party

April 16th and 17th, 2011

Bromeliad Society of South Florida Show and Sale

Fairchild Gardens, Miami

April 30th - May 1st, 2011

Sarasota Bromeliad Society Show and Sale

Selby Gardens, Sarasota

**Unless you are new members who joined in Oct, Nov
or December your
Dues for Membership in the CBS are due by the
January Meeting.**

Please send \$15 for SINGLE and \$20 for DUAL MEMBERSHIP as well as any changes in your personal information to---

Betty Ann Prevatt, CBS Treasurer

2902 Second Street

Fort Myers, Florida 33916



Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society
3836 Hidden Acres Circle N
North Fort Myers, FL 33903
E-mail - DrLarry@comcast.net

Our January Program will be a discussion lead by Bruce McAlpin about future programs and issues dealing with our Society. Please attend and provide input! Please send in your 2011 CBS Membership renewal dues and any changes in your information to Betty Ann Prevatt or pay at the January meeting.