



*Mar-Apr*

2012

# THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY'S CALOOSAHATCHEE MERISTEM



# 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

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**PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON**—Bruce McAlpin (863) 674-0811

**WORKSHOP CHAIRPERSON**—Catherine Petersen (941) 505-1554 ([cpeters3606@yahoo.com](mailto:cpeters3606@yahoo.com))

**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; Sue Gordon

**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

**March Meeting— Sunday, March. 18th  
Instead of an April Meeting on Sunday, Apr. 15th  
we are having our Birthday Party at the home of  
Buddy and Judy Singleton in North Fort Myers  
Our March Auction will still be held at the  
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,

## March Auction

**12:30-1:45PM**

We will be accepting donations such as bromeliads, other tropical plants, bromeliad and gardening related items, books and art. Bromeliads should be clean and healthy and appropriately labeled. If you are unsure about the name ask other members for an ID. Certain items will be selected from donations for the SILENT AUCTION. All items will be numbered and labeled and will be displayed until the Auction begins. Please register for your bidding number at this time.  
**You can not bid in either Auction without a number.**

**1:15 PM- 2:15 PM**

### **Refreshment Break**

This is the time for review of auction items and submission of

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society is an active Affiliate of:



Cryptanthus Society



BSI



FCBS



FM/LC GC

bids for Silent Auction items, which will be set up on side tables. Each item will have a bidding sheet for you to write your bidding number and an offer. Other bidders as well as you can continuously up the bid as they wish. Bidding can continue until the Silent Auction items are randomly selected and sold to the highest bidder. Please bear with us, we will still be receiving donations and labeling them until about 1:45PM, so things may look like a mad house!

### **2:15 PM**

We take our seats and the Auction will begin following a brief business meeting and/or announcements from our President. During the Auction, Silent Auction items will be randomly removed and the winner will be announced. Until an item is taken, you may continue to up your written offer. The auctioneer will with the assistance of those who brought the item or other commentators, describe the item and auction off the items to the highest bidder. After an item has been won it will be returned to a holding area. You will be given a claim stub with the price you paid and the item's number immediately after you have won an item.

### **Conclusion of Auctions**

At the completion of the auction you take your claim stubs to the cashiers and pay for your items with **cash or check**. Your claim stubs will need to be given to the workers in the holding area. Your items will be handed over to you. We ask that you help us avoid any confusion. We want everybody to get exactly what they have won as quickly as possible without mistakes. Please note that this year we will be using a two part ticket; one part stays with the plant and the winning bidder receives one part immediately after winning the item, which they will need to claim their winnings. This makes it possible for bidders to check out early; however, we encourage members to stay until the completion of the Auction when we will have several people available to check you out.

**Please come to the Auction and have some fun while supporting the CBS and the FCBS with donations and the purchase of items.**

## **32nd BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**

**CBS 1980-2012**

**April 15th 2012**

This year we are moving our celebration to the home of Judy and Buddy Singleton in North Fort Myers. Buddy and Judy have been members of the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society since 1998. What started as a hobby while Buddy was operating his Sign Shop, has turned into a full time obsession in his retirement. During your visit to his home and gardens you will be able to see the hundreds of varieties of bromeliads growing in his yard and you will be dumb-founded by the multiple shadehouses he has constructed to house and grow his thousands of plants. The included pictures will give you a glimpse of what is going to blow you mind. As an additional treat, Buddy has agreed to allow purchase of his plants during the party.

The party will follow a similar format as our Holiday and previous Birthday parties. Please plan on arriving about 12 noon; we'll eat about 1 PM. You might want to bring a folding table and chairs to be sure of sitting room, although there will be some provided. Bring food to share - such things as salads, casseroles, finger sandwiches, relish trays, and although we will provide a birthday cake, your special deserts will not go uneaten. Bring any special beverages for yourself or to share, although we will have basic beverages.

We will probably be eating outside and Buddy's yard is very well shaded. Expect some mosquitos, so come prepared. In April it will have warmed up, but watch the weather that day so you can be comfortable.

Our Birthday and Holiday raffles are always an important part of our celebration so try to bring nice clean plants (nice plants other than bromeliads are also appreciated) and bromeliad related items, for our raffle. Consider items that other members would relish. Tickets are still 3 for \$1. Friendship Plants are those extra plants from your garden that might be of value to other members. These freebies are always appreciated.

Besty Burdette, our special hospitality Chair will be planning some events as we have had at our other parties. The specifics will be announced at the March meeting.

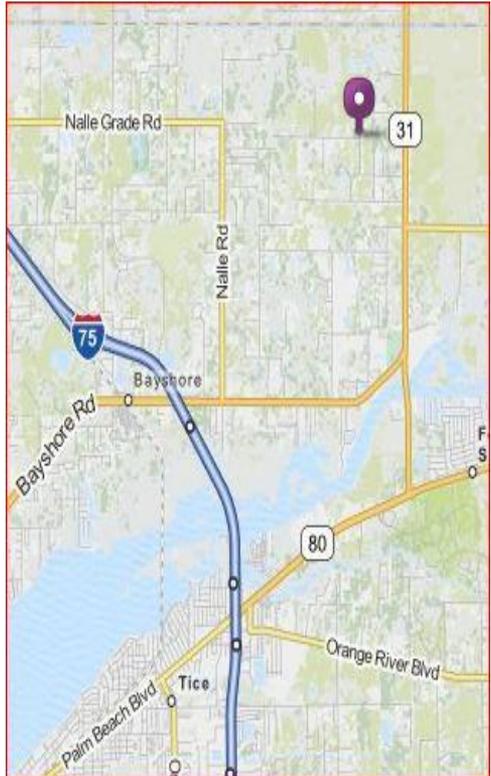
Friends, neighbors and relatives are always welcome to our parties; so bring them along for a great time.

**Buddy and Judy Singleton**  
11060 Shirley Lane  
North Fort Myers, FL 33917  
(239) 543-3614

**Directions:**

**From the South— Take I 75 to Exit 141—Palm Beach Blvd. (US80), turn RIGHT and go 2.9 miles and turn LEFT onto SR 31. Go 3.2 miles and turn LEFT onto Shirley Lane. Go 1 mile to Buddy’s house on the LEFT.**

**From the North—Take I 75 to Exit 143—Bayshore Road (US 78), turn LEFT and go 3.4 miles, turn LEFT on to SR 31. Go 1.8 miles and turn LEFT onto Shirley Lane. Go 1 mile to Buddy’s home on the LEFT.**



**This year Bruce McAlpin has teamed up with Buddy to provide an opportunity for the attendees of the party to purchase at wholesale price, bromeliad potting mix. This product is Fafard 3S mix. It is made up of 55% Canadian sphagnum peat, processed pine bark and perlite. This is the same mix that Buddy grows his plants in; and it can be easily adapted to grow terrestrials like cryptanthus, dyckias, etc. The 50 lb, 3 cubic foot bags will sell for \$10. We do ask that you let Bruce know (863) 674-0811 by our March meeting if you would like to buy some of this mix at the party, so we can plan on having enough. Please plan on paying in cash.**

Buddy and Judy's yard and sample neos.



## February's Workshop

### Front and Back Covers

At the February meeting several Judges, Betty Ann Prevatt, Vicky Chirside, Steve Hoppin and Larry Giroux and a student Judge, Rick Ryals answered questions about faults of our entries in a bromeliad show, which result in points being deducted from score that determines which ribbon is awarded. The front cover picture of this issue of the Meristem shows an extraordinary triplet of *Guzmania sanguinea* in nearly perfect blooming stage. At first glance, the condition and presentation of the plants would justify full points, including the inflorescences. However, the back cover photos reveals a common fault commented on by judges when point scoring—water scale. This chalky covering surrounding the cup is produced by the deposits of salts found in city water and well water, which has dried. Using rain water or R/O water will avoid these rings; however, they can also be easily removed by gently washing the areas with a dilute weak acid solution such as white vinegar. Follow this by flushing out the cup repeatedly with clean water. Many faults with your plants as mentioned by the judges at the Workshop, can be easily remedied, earning your show plants a higher ribbon.

## February Program & Speaker



Steve Hoppin

Steve Hoppin talked on “Growing Quality Cryptanthus” at the CBS February meeting. He supplemented his presentation with a Powerpoint program, which included photos of various cryptanthus species and hybrids. A highlight of the afternoon was photos of Steve’s exciting new hybrids and the opportunity for many members to add these hybrids to their collections since Steve brought dozens of offsets for purchase.





Key to Steve's pictures: (Left page) *Cryptanthus* 'Pesto Pizza', 'Calandra', 'Thriller', 'McDreamy', 'Martini Olive' and 'Tropical Heat Wave'. (This page) 'Chocolate Cherry', 'Broadway Star', 'Dynasty' - two plants grown under different cultural conditions, 'Eternal Love', 'Really Sweet' and 'Ziggy Stardust'.



## January Program & Speaker

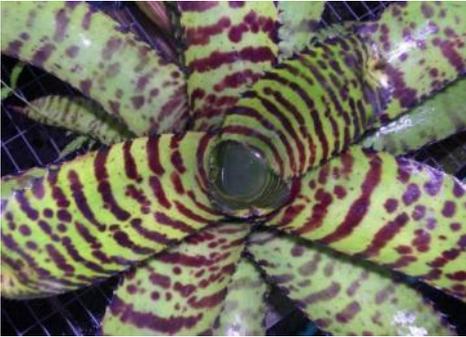


Grant Groves

Grant Groves brought a wide selection of his hybrids to give us a lesson on growing and hybridizing neoregelias. Although, Grant has created several stunning cultivars using ‘Hannibal Lector’ and colorful guzmanias hybrids, his series of pastel colored neoregelias has his signature all over them and can easily be distinguished from others’ hybrids.

At the World Conference in Orlando this year, Grant will have a commercial Exhibit and a sales booth. He is also hosting a tour of his nursery, ‘Color Zone Tropicals’, which he has operated since 1996. Don’t miss this opportunity to purchase some of his older and newer unique hybrids by attending this event.





**Pictures on left page by Larry Giroux; pictures on this page by Grant Groves. All hybrids by Grant Groves; go to [colorzonetropicals.com](http://colorzonetropicals.com) for picture identifications.**

## CBS MEETING MINUTES January 15th, 2012

LOCATION: Covenant Presbyterian Church, Ft. Myers, FL.  
ATTENDANCE: 52 members and guests were present. New members include: Richard Arnold, Peggy Gayle, Pam Jeffers and Carly Sushil; the following were guests: Robin and Bill Bain, Pam Brandt and Marilyn Hayes. WORKSHOP: "Artistic and Creative Arrangements for Bromeliads" was the subject for Larry Giroux's power point presentation. Larry explored the use of the principles and rules of artistic design when arranging bromeliads for display. Tips included: use of odd numbers of plant material; weight of chosen container; soil need not be used in the container; color of container. Bromeliad Show arrangements that have won various awards were shown and discussed. When planning a bromeliad arrangement simplicity is the key. The focus of the arrangement should be on the plant(s) not the container. PROGRAM: "Neoregelias" presented by Grant Groves, hybridizer extraordinaire and owner of Color Zone Tropical Nursery in Winter Park. Grant shared a historical perspective of bromeliads entry into the commercial market. Beginning with Christopher Columbus bringing back pineapples to Spain; the commercial market for bromeliads in Europe; Mulford Foster, a major bromeliad collector in Florida during the later half of the 1900's; and the commercial interest of guzmanias for interiorscapes during the 1970's. Grant showed many of his hybrid Neoregelias that maintain colorful leaves even when not in bloom: 'Voodoo Doll', 'Tangerine', 'Grace', 'Passion', 'Cotton Candy' and 'Puppy Love'. Colorful bromeliads need more shade and fertilizer to achieve the best color. New hybrids, not yet on the market, were shown: 'Creamsicle'; 'Kelly Girl'; Variegated 'Magali' and Variegated 'Tangerine'. BREAK: A thirty minute break was enjoyed. Thank you to Mary McKenzie and volunteers for the refreshments. CALL TO ORDER: Vice-President, Larry Giroux called the meeting to order at 3:30pm. MINUTES: November's minutes were accepted by Kay Janssen and seconded by Bruce McAlpin. COMMITTEE REPORTS: Vicky Chirnside encouraged the membership to attend the World Conference in September 2012 in Orlando. Please refer to the FCBS website. Treasurer, Betty Ann Prevatt provided the CBS Treasurer's Report for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter. The balance as of December 31, 2011, was \$10,771.86. A thank you note from the Friends of Fakahatchee was read. DOOR PRIZE: *Tillandsia fasciculata* donated by Terri Lazar was won by Vicky Chirnside. SHOW & TELL: Led by Dale Kammerlohr.

RAFFLE: Conducted by Larry Giroux.  
ADJOURNMENT: 4:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by,  
MaryLynn Murphy, CBS Secretary

## CBS MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012

LOCATION: Covenant Presbyterian Church, Ft. Myers, Fl.  
ATTENDANCE: 44; including new members: Duke and Donna Graessley and the following guests: Francisco Cardoso, Richard Mangone, Rick Ryals, Pat Echlin and Michael Nordlund.  
WORKSHOP: “What does all that verbiage on the back of the entry cards mean?” Led by Betty Ann Prevatt, Master Judge; and assisted by the following Judges: Steve Hoppin, Vicky Chirnside, Dr. Larry Giroux (Master Judge), and Rick Ryals (Student Judge). Key points from the discussion: know what the plant should look like; changing the shape of the plant by removing leaves or light exposure results in fewer points; judges look at how well conditioned the plant is; blooming plants should have a fresh bloom and size, color, quality and maturity of the inflorescence is critical. PROGRAM: “Growing Quality Cryptanthus” by hybridizer and President of the Cryptanthus Society, Steve Hoppin. Steve presented a power point presentation of select cryptanthus. Cryptanthus, also known as “Earth Stars”, are indigenous to Brazil and can only be grown as terrestrials, needing to get their nutrients from the soil. They are oval or round in nature. Steve shared the following tips for growing show quality plants: use a loose blend of potting soil such as Fafard 4P; to create a looser mix add perlite or builders sand; 4-5 inch pots are recommended except for a prolific pupper such as *C. bivittatus* when a 6 inch azalea (shallow) pot is preferred; use a time release fertilizer at ¼ teaspoon per 4 inch pot i.e. Nutricote or Dynamite; in general Cryptanthus like bright diffuse light although *C. warasi* can take more sun; indoors Cryptanthus can be kept uniformly moist by setting the pot on pebbles in a tray. Steve donated the following 1<sup>st</sup> release *C. 'Eternal Love'* for our March Auction and also a *Orthophytum vagans variegata*, a Steve Hoppin clone, which he won the 2009 CBS Show with. Thank you, Steve. 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 3:20pm. NEW BUSINESS: Dr. Larry Giroux asked the membership

to donate plants for the March Auction and to arrive at 12:30 to help set up. Additional details will be in the next Meristem. The membership voted to accept the Board's recommendations to make CBS's yearly donations to the Fakahatchee Strand, the CS and BSI. Dr. Larry motioned to accept and Kay Janssen seconded the motion. Buddy and Judy Singleton has graciously volunteered their home for the April CBS Birthday Party. DOOR PRIZE: *T. balbisiana* donated by Betty Ann Prevatt was won by Geri Prall. SHOW & TELL: Conducted by Dale Kammerlohr. RAFFLE: Led by Dr. Larry Giroux and assisted by Dolly Dalton.  
ADJOURNMENT: 4:10PM.

Respectfully submitted by,  
MaryLynn Murphy, CBS Secretary

## **Calendar of Bromeliad Events**

**March 10th** Garden Club of Cape Coral presents its 4<sup>th</sup> Annual March In The Park Saturday, March 10, 2012. 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Jaycee Park Many Local Vendors, Plants, Garden Materials & Décor, Raffles, Food, and FREE workshops! Jaycee Park: Beach Pkwy, East off Del Prado Blvd. For more info: *Kathy Woodlock* (239)242-6303 or *Ginny Huffer* (239)540-7988

**March 17-18** Leu Gardens Annual Plant Sale, Leu Gardens, Orlando, FL (leugardens.org)

**March 30-April 1** Tropiflora Spring Festival, Tropiflora Nursery, 3530 Tallavast Road, Sarasota, 941-351-2267 (tropiflora.com)

**April 20-22** Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Show and Sale Tampa Garden Club, Tampa, FL (bromeliadsociety@juno.com)

**April 20-22** Sarasota Bromeliad Society Show and Sale Manatee Convention Center, Palmetto, FL (sarasotabromeliadsociety.org)

**April 21st-April 22nd 2012**

Bromeliad Society of South Florida Annual Show Fairchild Gardens, Coral Gables <http://bssf-miami.org/>

**May 12-13** Bromeliad Society of Central Florida Mother's Day Sale Fashion Square Mall, Orlando, FL (mybscf.org)

**September 24-30** 20th World Bromeliad Conference, Orlandiana '12 Orlando, FL, USA (bsi.org/events/2012/Orlando2012)



It is not too early 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 Oliva-Esteve, 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



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**This is your March-April Newsletter; it  
contains information about the  
March Auction and April Birthday Party**