

AUCTION



TIME

Sun
Mar
15th



March-April
2015

THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY'S CALOOSAHATCHEE MERISTEM



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THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

**March Auction— Sunday, Mar 15th 2015
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 12Noon for Auction Setup

**There will be no Workshop, Show and
Tell, Raffle or Program.**

Please still bring extra food.

35th CBS Birthday Party

Apr 19th 2015 Michael's Bromeliads

Venice, Florida

See inside for details and map

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society is an active Affiliate of:



Cryptanthus Society



BSI



FCBS



FM/LC GC

March Auction

12Noon

We are allowed into the building to begin setup of tables and chairs about 12noon. Starting at 12PM we need bodies to help in a variety of areas- Setup, record keepers, runners, people to fill out donation tags, holding area keepers and people to show the items and pass out the winners' successful winning stubs.

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 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. Bidders can continuously up the bid as they wish. Bidding will continue until the Silent Auction items are randomly selected and sold to the bidder who has bid the highest. 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 raise 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 during the regular Auction. 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 bid 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**. After you have paid for your items, the claim stubs will need to be shown to the workers in the holding area...so hold on to them. 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 since you will know exactly what you owe by adding up you stubs; 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. As in past years, 1/2 of the proceeds after expenses, will be donated to the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies. We have been generous donors for as long as I can remember. We are acknowledged by the FCBS as their number one Affiliate contributor to the Council's projects including the "Evil Weevil Eradication Program". We all can take much pride in this accomplishment.

35th CBS Birthday Party

Apr 19th 2015 Michael's Bromeliads

Venice, Florida

This year we are having our Birthday celebration for the first time at the residence and business location of Michael's Bromeliads. Michael and Donna Kiehl have been active members of our Society since 2004, soon after they purchased Los Milagros Nursery from Don Beadle, "Mr. Billbergia", and moved their St.Pete/Clearwater area bromeliad nursery, South to Venice. Michael and Donna are inaugurating their new "Retail Pavilion". Besides all the usual events at our parties, we can shop to our hearts desire.

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

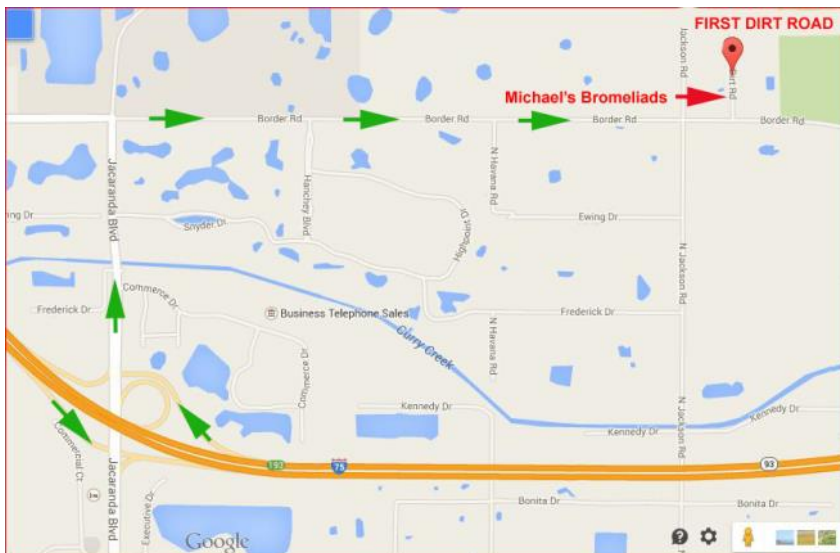
any special beverages for yourself or to share, although we will have basic beverages.

We will probably be eating outside depending on the weather and Michael's & Donna's property has some shady areas. 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 also welcome... these are those extra plants from your garden that might be of value to other members. These freebies are always appreciated. **But please, please...make sure you spray your plants or wash them very well...this is a commercial nursery and we do not want to bring in any pests!**

Our contest will be "Best Spring Hats!". Prizes for the best "Most colorful", "Most Whimsical" and the "Best suited for gardener". Of course, bromeliads must be prominent.

Everybody is welcome to our parties, so bring friends, relatives and significant others and introduce them to our group. Who knows, they may just want to get involved on a regular basis.



From Fort Myers...Follow I-75 N to Jacaranda Blvd in Venice in Sarasota County. Take exit 193 from I-75 N.

Turn right onto on to Jacaranda Blvd then go 0.7 miles

Turn right on Border Rd then go 1.6 miles

Turn left onto 1st Dirt Rd.

Destination will be on the left...

Michael's Bromeliads 973 1st Dirt Rd Venice, Fl 34292

Front and Back Covers
Photos from The Newsletter of the
East London Bromeliad Society South Africa
Editor- & Publisher– Barbara Black

The climates of our two areas, East London, South Africa and Fort Myers, SW Florida are not too distant. Of course SA's seasons are reverse of ours and even in the Winter they very seldom get below 40F. It is only natural that we grow the same plants. Bromeliads are native to the Americas, so all SA's bromeliads are imports as are most of ours. I recently received the Newsletter of the East London Bromeliad Society and noted that most of the pictures of plants growing in their yards are the same as I grow or have grown. Since they do not have freezes or near freezes and do not have as dramatic a dry Winter growing season, it is understandable that "the grass is greener on the other side of the fence" or in this case, the bromeliads on the other side of the Ocean. In this issue I reprint some of the colorful pictures of their bromeliads from our sister society's newsletter. Most of the plants are growing in the garden of Lyn Wegner, the International BSI Regional Director and founder of the East London Bromeliad Society in SA.

Front page

1. Assortment of cryptanthus, particularly, *Cryptanthus bivittatus v. bivittatus*. Depending on the specific species or hybrid, the lighting required for optimal development and color can vary.

2. *Nidularium fulgens*. This is an iconic *Nidularium*. Although Elton Leme reassigned a group of previously classified *Nidulariums* into a new *Genus*, these forms with the star shaped inflorescence and tubular flowers stayed in its original named *Genus*.

3. *Tillandsia tectorum*. This unique tillandsia due to its long hair like trichomes can tolerate high cooler altitudes, dry conditions (as a true epiphyte, it gets its moisture from the air) and intense sun.

4. *Portea petropolitana* var. *extensa*. Just as in our yards this hardy landscape plant spreads quickly and gives a show of bright color for weeks. It also provides great cut flowers for arrangements.

Below

A collection of green leaved guzmanias. CBS members, Grant Groves and Kelli Ahnen own a commercial nursery in central Florida where they specialize in the vrieseas and these types of guzmanias. Our membership is never short of these beautiful, shade loving bromeliads due to Grant's and Kelli's generosity

Dyckia 'Arizona' and 'Silverback'. Dyckias, hechtias and deuterocohnias are genera with plants that tolerate our mutually dry and higher light conditions. We, however, have to be careful during our wet Summers to avoid rot.



Back cover

Aechmea pectinata. In my opinion, this is still one of the most beautiful aechmeas; not for its small cream colored inflorescence, but for its large symmetrical rosette of green spotted, bleached central leaves and distal brightly, red blotched mature leaves.



We are still in need of a Workshop Chairperson

CBS Minutes for January 18th 2015

Location: Covenant Presbyterian Church at 2439 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, FL 33901

Meeting called to order at 1:23 PM. By President Dale Kammerlohr

Attendance total: 59

New members: 3, Don Beadle, Joann Buell and Ralph Huar

Guest: 3, Margie Castro, Caen and Geoffrey Stroud

Workshop: "Cold Damage, ask the experts" Presented by: Geri and David Prall, Vicky Chirnside, and Larry Giroux

Cold damage is usually seen on mature leaves and leaf tips. Soft leaves like cryptanthus can get damaged when temperatures get in the 40's. Tips get brown then leaves get mushy then turn crispy and brown. Usually cold damage can occur through March 15th. More than 4 hours below freezing is called a black freeze. Here are many ways to prevent cold damage: Place your plants under something even trees and eves, avoid a clear night sky, cover plants with freeze cloth or anything except plastic and make sure to remove it the next morning early. If you know a freeze is coming water before, not during the freeze and then water the next day, temporarily cover plants with mulch, place old fashion Christmas tree lights under frost cover but make sure cover is secure at edges to prevent wind from dislodging cover. A lot of damage comes from the cold wind. Bring your favorite plants indoors (Bruce McAlpin says it takes him about a week to move his favorites). If you have plants in trees try to move them closer to the ground. Brian puts heaters in the greenhouse and or uses overhead sprinklers until the sun comes up. Bruce turns on heat in greenhouse at 45degrees and also puts up his side walls and closes the roof at night, reopening it in the morning starting around Thanksgiving. If you do get cold damage all is not lost as it causes plants to produce off-sets earlier than normal. Rotting leaves may create ethylene gas to promote off-sets. You can remove cold damaged leaves anytime by cutting off (don't pull).

Business Meeting called to order at 1:54 PM. by President Dale Kammerlohr

Announcements:

Dale thanked Mary McKenzie for her hospitality service and asked for someone to pick up drinks and ice for our meeting and Betty Ann would reimburse them, just bring receipt-Kay Janssen volunteered. Thank you to Larry Giroux for his past presidency and 22 years of wonderful newsletters, thanks to Betsy and Bruce for a very special Christmas party and Linda Soter for her role as Librarian. Dues are now due \$15 single and \$20 for a couple. Show and tell will now be led by David Prall. Please bring plants for the raffle, this is how we make some money and grow our collections. There was a Board of Directors Meeting which approved our annual donations \$100 to Six Mile Cypress, and Friends of Facahatchee. \$300 for BSI and the Cryptanthus Society. Vickie Chirnside made the motion to accept donations, Kay Janssen seconded and it passed unanimously. Larry Giroux spoke about BSI and Cryptanthus Societies, stating that if you are new to CBS the club will pay half of your first year dues to these other societies, you'll get all the wonderful journals and BSI needs to remain functional so please consider joining or rejoining. Dale needs a Workshop Chair, and if you can give a short 15- 30 talk/slide show/demonstration, please volunteer to do so and let Dale know. Vicky gave a report as our rep to the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies. BSI website was hacked and is down. They are looking for donations for an archive.

Scholarship is going well and Eric Gouda is the 1st recipient of the program (internship at Selby Gardens). The next Extravaganza will be Nov. 25-26 in Miami (More info to come). BSI is hoping we will sponsor it in 2017 and they will donate up to \$1000 for speakers; our Board will be discussing this later. Dale asked for ideas on locations for our December Holiday party; announced that the Birthday Party in April will be at Michael's Bromeliads in Venice, and asked for thoughts on our Show and Sale this year (if we want to have a show). Bruce says he hopes we will have a show and he will continue to bring in nice door prizes so everyone will have something nice to enter in the show. Upcoming events: Strolling Flower Show at Bell Tower Feb 5-6. March 5th and 6th flower show at the Sydney and Bern Davis Art Center which Betty Ann will enter a display of the native Tillandsias on the peddlers cart. Forms are available to enter horticulture or floral design. Periwinkle Garden Club has a trip to Fairchild Gardens on Tuesday March 3rd see Ann Miller if you would like to go. Saturday Feb. 21st Pine Island Garden Club sale, see Donna. Bob Branch in Sarasota will have his annual sale, see Betsy for details.

Program: "Plant ID and Tips" Presented by: Brian Weber.

Many people brought in multiple plants for Brian to identify and he also commented on their growth habit. He also said to keep the variegation in some plants that they may need more fertilizer. And once a particular plant loses its variegation it doesn't always come back.

Show and Tell: led by Brian Weber.

Refreshment Break: 2:55 - 3:15 PM. Thank you Mary McKenzie and volunteers for all the wonderful treats

Door Prize: 8 *Aechmea racine* var. *tubifolia* and 1 *Aechmea pineliana* var. *minima* were donated by Bruce McAlpin and won by Pete Diamond, Dave Bogart, Jeff Lazar, Eleanor Kinzie, Mary McKenzie, Sylvia Walker, Robert Meyer, Sue Kaufman and Homer Sosa.

Raffle: Led by Dr. Larry Giroux, assisted by Terri Lazar and Dolly Dalton

Adjournment: 3:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Sharalee Dias, and Carly Sushil Co-Secretaries

CBS Meeting Minutes for February 15th 2015

Location: Covenant Presbyterian Church at 2439 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, FL 33901

Meeting called to order at 1:16 PM. By President Dale Kammerlohr

Attendance total: 36

New members: 0

Guest: 3, Barry Krugor, Charlie Vigness and Tom Thomas

Workshop: "Bigenerics" Presented by: Geri and David Prall

Geri and David Prall brought in many beautiful examples of bromeliad crosses. Frequently written with an x in front of the names such as x *Neophytum* means a cross between a *Neoregelia* and an *Orthophytum*. These need to be treated as terrestrials and rooted in a soil based medium rather than be mounted and usually take full sun. Their color is usually from the *Neoregelia* and the *Orthophytum* expression is usually dominant in the leaf shape. For example x *Neophytum* 'Burgundy Hill' is the cross of *Orthophytum navioides* and *Neoregelia* 'Fireball' = x *Neophytum* 'Firecracker'. There are Neo and *Aechmea* crosses such as *Neomea* 'Shooting Star' which takes lots of light. *Cryptanthus* crossed with *Ananas* and many other combinations producing "bi"-generics. The Prall's use the commercial Jungle brand of potting soil and reclaimed water; they do fertilize these plants alt-

though they do not fertilize most of the plants in their vast garden.

Business Meeting called to order at 2:05 PM. by President Dale Kammerlohr

Announcements:

Dale reminded everyone the next meeting will be the auction and April will be the Birthday Party. Larry will send out the schedule for the auction but in general he ask that volunteers come to set up around 12 noon. From 12:30 to 1:45 they will be accepting donations of nice bromeliads and other plants you yourself would like to have. Related items are also welcomed. Make sure you get your bidding plate. There will be a refreshment break and the Regular auction begins at 2:15 PM. The Silent Auction will run simultaneously and the winning bidders interspersed during the regular auction. If everyone donates one or two nice items it will be a great auction. Michael Kiehl is the Chairman of the Auction. Winning bidders must have their winning tickets to check out and receive their items (checks and cash are accepted). Larry will email info to other societies and groups. Half of the proceeds go for research on eradication of the Mexican Bromeliad weevil or "evil weevil". Jeff Lazar made a motion that was seconded and passed unanimously for CBS to buy the sound system that Carol Sweat found and Dale purchased for \$130.00. Dale suggested that Art work in the past did not auction well. Michael Keihl is hosting the April 19th Birthday meeting at his Nursery, food will be served around 1:30 PM and we will get to see his new retail store. (Info will be in an email and in the newsletter). Contact Vicky Chirnside if you would like to order the long Kevlar gloves that protect your arms while working with your plants. Don Beadle says he has also used the full length rubber Veterinarian gloves. March in the Park in Cape Coral will be on the second weekend, many vendors will be there.

Program: "The BSI World Conference in Hawaii" Presented by: Geri and David Prall

Geri and David spent three weeks In Hawaii attending the meeting and then touring the islands by ship and car. A power point presentation of the wonderful pictures they took during their time there was shown and narrated by them. The weather was in the upper 80's to low 90's, they were comfortable but the locals were suffering. The conference in Honolulu had no bromeliad show but there were breeder/grower exhibits, a Tillandsia and Vriesea display areas and displays from other local societies like the Sansevieria display. There were numerous bromeliad hybrids for as much as \$500.00 such as *Vriesea* 'Abigal Jean'. They went on bus tours to some nurseries (Sharon Petersen's and David Fell's) and stopped at the Pali Lookout. They went on their own to many places like Fosters Botanical Garden in the middle of Oahu. They saw the native palm *Pricharida remota*, which only grows there, some over 40 years old. Traveling around the other islands they saw wonderful lava formations, many waterfalls, walked through lava tubes with roots growing through the roof. Visited many wonderful botanic gardens, a private estate, Leilani Estates, with anthuriums almost as tall as David. They saw the black sand beaches, walked through the Thurston Lava Tube, visited Waimea Canyon on Kauai, the Na Pali Coast, Kalalau Lookout, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, drove the road to Hana and went up to Haleakala on Maui, saw the volcanos on the Big Island and did so much more.

Show and Tell: led by David Prall **Refreshment Break:** 3:15 - 3:40 PM. Thank you Mary McKenzie and volunteers for all the wonderful treats

Door Prize: 9 *xOrthotanthus* 'Blazing Bonsai' a cross of *O. navioides* x *C. microglazioui* made by the late Nat deLeon, were donated by Bruce McAlpin and won by Catherine Peterson, Martha Reiter, Sylvia Walker, David Prall, Bert Dias, Dolly Dalton, Vicky Chirnside, Linda Soter and Diane Cornelison.

Raffle: Led by Dr. Larry Giroux, assisted by Terri Lazar and Dolly Dalton

Adjournment: 4:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Sharalee Dias Co-Secretary



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**Information about the March FCBS/CBS Auction and
the April CBS Birthday are in this issue.**