



THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY'S

MERISTEM *May-June 2023*



CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY OFFICERS

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WORKSHOP CHAIRPERSON—Vacant

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OTHER COMMITTEES

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

email-deb.mcphail@yahoo.com & Membership

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

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THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

May Meeting: Sunday, May 21st 2023
June Meeting: Sunday, June 18th 2023

**Our Meetings have returned to 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

May 2023 Meeting: Alex Bello was scheduled to present a program, but due to prior commitments he will be rescheduling for July 16th 2023.

At this time we are still contacting potential speakers for May and will let you know as soon as we have more information. Membership Sales allowed at May mtg. Our June Speaker is Jason Mellica. More about the topic later. No Membership sales at the June meeting.

In May Betty Ann Prevatt will discuss Bromeliad Culture and Potting Tips as well as our December Show.

MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2023 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

March and April 2023 Meetings

As the Chair for the March Auction, I want to thank all our members for their help with setup, record keeping, moving plants, bringing so many great items and especially for bidding and winning. Because of your generosity we were able to donate nearly \$700 to the FCBS for their programs including the eradication of the "Mexican Weevil". Dr Larry Giroux

Again we had a fun Birthday Party in April at Debbie McPhail's home and gardens. I think we all were appreciative of the venue, food and of course the company. Thank you to all who donated to the raffle and brought the great fixings. A special thank you to Debbie for allowing us to enjoy her beautiful home. Each time we visit her gardens, they are more beautiful than ever.

With the New Year we are in need of VOLUNTEERS to keep our Society running efficiently. Please consider filling the current vacant positions.

PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON—Currently Julie Stein has been filling in and has arranged for most of 2023. And although she is the acting Program Chairman, she is requesting an assistant to work with her and eventually assume the duties. So we still need a permanent Chair who's duties will entail arranging lacking programs for 9 meetings a year (excluding March, Auction month; April, Birthday Party and December, Holiday Party); to confirm date with speaker and arrange for any equipment needed; to contact Editor with program information by the Monday preceding the first Sunday of the month and to greet and assist speaker; making their introduction at the meeting.

WORKSHOP CHAIRPERSON— **Duties:** Request members with "expertise" about the pre-selected topics to attend workshops and participate in discussions each month except, March, Auction month; April, Birthday Party month and December, Holiday Party month. Call Editor with program information by the Monday preceding the first Sunday of the month. Call Editor with program information by the Monday preceding the Sunday of the month. Encourage members to attend and bring plants, organize meeting room, announce the meeting and introduce topic at meeting.

WORKSHOP PRESENTERS— We need volunteers to give 20-30 min. presentations on a variety of topics of interest to the members. It can be a slide show, Q & A or a hands-on session from topics previous compiled or of your own choice.

PLEASE CONTACT President JULIE STEIN and discuss volunteering.

On the front and back covers are pictures of more beautiful bromeliads. (See page 5 for the article of PRETTY PICTURES) (Front cover xBillmea Pancho, Billbergia eloisea, xCanmea and Portea influorescence. (Back cover) Aechmea nidularioides Photos by Larry Giroux

EVENTS

FCBS Extravaganza 2023
July 28-29 2023
West Palm Beach Marriott Hotel
1001 Okeechobee Blvd.
West Palm Beach, FL
fcbsextravaganza.org
Register by April 30 (\$150)
See attached ad

World Bromeliad Conference 2024
West Palm Beach Marriott Hotel
1001 Okeechobee Blvd.
West Palm Beach, FL
For info www.BSI.org

Southwest Bromeliad Guild & the
International Cryptanthus Society
Shows and Sales
October 14-15, 2023
Holiday Inn & Suites Conference
Center NW Willowbrook, Houston,
Texas.
Info: bromeliadsocietyhouston.org

Bromeliad Show and Sale
Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society
Edison/ Ford Winter Estates
Fort Myers, Florida
December 1-3, 2023
Information to follow

Featuring


Chester Skolak
Costa Rica


Eloise Beach
Apopka, FL


David Shilgi
Hawaii

**FCBS
& Bromeliad Society
of the Palm Beaches**
presents
**Bromeliad Extravaganza
July 28-29, 2023**

Don't Delay, Register Today!

Hotel: West Palm Beach Marriott
Registration: 1001 Okeechobee Blvd. • West Palm Beach, FL 33401
www.marriott.com

Conference: www.fcbsextravaganza.org
Registration:

For more information: 561-386-7812 • tramiccio@aol.com

**Bromeliad Expose by Larry Giroux
Pretty Pictures (Photos by Larry Giroux)**

In this issue I'm going to treat you to some PRETTY PICTURES of some of my past plants I've lost and others from CBS's Shows and Show and Tells. The majority of my collection was kept at my old house when I moved to my new place about 6 years ago. It has been 7 months since the Hurricane and with each trip over to the old house I get more disheartened by the massive damage from the storm and its aftermath due to damaged enclosures, draught, screen damage and months of weevil infestation. Thank God I still have pictures to remind me of the beauty of these bromeliads.



Neoregelia

‘Kawika’

Introduced by
David Shiigi

Aechmea orlandiana

‘White Knight’

Introduced by
Jim Irvin



Aechmea
tayoensis

Aechmea tayoensis

Influorescence





*Sincoraea
albopictum ?*

*Guzmania
hybrid*



Billbergia pyramidalis

*Guzmania
sanguinea*





***Billbergia* Inflouescence**



Aechmea fasciata

***Cryptanthus sinuosus*
'Cascade'**

***Aechmea*
Skotak's Spirit**



Neoregelia
Casoba



Hybridizer
Rafael Oliviera
De Faria



Nidularium rutilans
(variegated)



Vriesea fosteriana
'Red Chestnut'

Neoregelia Walking Tall
Grace Goode Hybrid



Neoregelia Christmas Lights
Introduced by Dennis Cathcart



Bromelia humilis

Pitcairnia smithiorum



Pitcairnia maidenflora



Tillandsia funckiana



Hohenbergia stellata



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

Call to order: 1:15 by Vice-President Dale Kammerlohr

Guests: Mary Lytle, Lacinda Richie, David & Diane Powers, Phil Li, Nancy Copp, and Sherry Matthias

In Attendance: 37

General Meeting:

Announcements:

Larry Giroux encouraged attendees to participate in our annual “Evil Weevil” Auction on March 19. The CBS donates profits from this sale to the FCBS each year to research how to eradicate this pest as it has been doing for over 20 years. He noted that the insecticide, Imidocloprid is no longer recommended to destroy the weevil beetle and larvae as it is dangerous to beneficial insects, especially bees. The weevil is especially harmful to *Tillandsia utriculata*, as this plant only reproduces with seeds, so if the weevil kills the plant before it flowers, it cannot reproduce at all. Other bromeliads might still produce a pup or two if stressed by the weevil’s infestation. He will be writing up details about the auction in the next newsletter, but volunteers to help set up would be much appreciated.

The April Birthday Party will be held at Julie Stein’s house on Pine Island. Details to follow.

Program: Mike Michalski and his wife Patty Gonzalez from Mike’s Bromeliads in Miami presented an entertaining slide show of their road trip through Big Cypress National Preserves and Everglades Park back in 2018 with Pam Koide, featuring huge *Tillandsias* and many other bromeliads and plants growing in the Everglades. He also shared a few growing tips, like never throw away an old pot bound plant – instead use its matted roots at the bottom of a pot for a perfect filler that will drain readily. Plus, when planting bromeliad seeds, be sure to put them in a closed container (creating a mini-greenhouse) filled with only sphagnum moss and perlite; avoid using organic soil, which can harbor fungus and diseases.

Door Prizes: Debbie McPhail provided two *Neoregelia* ‘Blueberry Tarts’ and two *Aechmea fulgens x ramosa* plants for our door prizes.

Show & Tell: Dale presented about 8 plants to show.

Raffle: Larry Giroux and Dolly Dalton awarded about 10 donated plants to the lucky winners.

Meeting adjourned: 2:45

Respectfully submitted by Alison Ackerman



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This is your May-June 2023 CBS Newsletter