



THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY'S

MERISTEM *May-June 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)

**Vice-PRESIDENT— Dale Kammerlohr 863-558-0647
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TREASURER—Betty Ann Prevatt 239-229-7781 (bprevattpcc@aol.com)

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

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PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON—Acting Chair: Julie Stein

WORKSHOP CHAIRPERSON—Acting Chair: Julie Stein

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

Julie Stein 919-522-1182 (flagirl56@aol.com)

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Larry Giroux 239-850-4048 Drlarry7@gmail.com

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

MARCH AUCTION CHAIR—Larry Giroux 239-850-4048 DrLarry7@gmail.com

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THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

May Meeting: Sunday, May 19th 2024
June Meeting June 16th 2024

Our May Meeting will be 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

Our June Meeting will also be at the Garden Council Building

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

MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2024 ARE DUE Please contact Betty Ann and RENEW 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

May CBS Program
“Bromeliads of Rio de Janeiro”
By David Denholm

CBS member since 2022, David Denholm of Venice, Florida, who has toured the gardens and environs of Rio de Janeiro on several occasions, will be presenting a Powerpoint program of the many sights of this tropical city in southern Brazil. The picture on the front cover taken from www.thrillinside.com shows a lake on the grounds of the Rio de Janeiro Botanical Garden or Jardim Botânico. On the 130 acres and in the numerous greenhouses are over 6500 species of Brazilian and foreign flora, many of which can no longer be found in habitat.

David will also be bringing plants to sell. He has indicated that other vendors may sell as well if they so desire.

**DONATIONS FOR THE COMBINED
BROMELIAD SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL
AND THE CRYPTANTHUS SOCIETY
RARE PLANT AUCTION**

Please, Please, Please!!

Consider donating nice, clean, desirable bromeliads or bromeliad related items such as books, art works, etc. to the Rare Plant Auction.

If you can't go to West Palm Beach for the entire conference, consider going over on Friday morning dropping off your donations, attending the immense Sale, attending the biggest bromeliad show in Florida, cash bar at 6PM and Rare Plant Auction at 7PM. Then overnighting it at the hotel and more shopping before returning home. See inside back page for hotel info.

If you can't attend the Auction, PLEASE BRING YOUR DONATIONS TO THE MAY 19th CBS MEETING. Mark them for either the CS or the BSI with your name and any pertinent information about the items and give them to Larry Giroux, Julie Stein, Betty Ann Prevatt or others going to the WBC.

Thank you on behalf of the CS and BSI.

Congratulations to 5 New Bromeliad Society International Accredited Judges

After an arduous journey including 6—day long classes over nearly 4 years, numerous practice plant scoring, student judgments, entering BSI Shows and winning a number of blue ribbons, participating in Show committees and passing a point scoring practical exam and written exam, 5 women have completed the BSI Judges School. Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society members Alison Ackerman, Debbie Hughes, Marian Kennell (also a Sarasota Bromeliad Society member) and Julie Stein, along with West Coast Bromeliad Society member



Alison Ackerman



Julie Stein



Debbie Hughes



Marian Kennell

Suzanne Bogacki are now Bromeliad Society Accredited Panel Judges. Although there were several other students who started the classes and had to drop out for a variety of reasons, what they and the new Judges learned from their participation will benefit them with the enjoyment of their bromeliad hobby. There is no decision as to when a new school will start here in Florida, but when it is announced, consider enrolling, it is well worth the effort and a lot of fun.

A giant thank you and congratulations need to be given to the BSI Judges School Instructors, Betty Ann Prevatt, Vicky Chirnside, Dr. Terrie Bert, Calandra Thurrott and Dr. Larry Giroux for their years of commitment, travel and sacrifice to educate this next generation of Judges.



Julie Stein Appointed as the Newest Southern Regional BSI Director

By Dr Larry Giroux

Due to personal reasons, Richard Poole, who has served as one of the 5 Southern Regional BSI Directors for nearly 4 years, has resigned. We thank Richard for his service and wish him the best in this new chapter of his life.

After appropriate vetting, Julie Stein was nominated as a replacement to complete Richard Poole's term (2023-2026). Her nomination was submitted to the Bromeliad Society President, Andrew Flower and earlier this month Julie was appointed the newest Southern Regional BSI Director.

Julie has been the Secretary of the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society and is now serving her third year as President. In addition she has been the Secretary of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies and is currently the CBS's Alternate Representative, the CBS's Representative to the FM/ LC Garden Council and member of other local organizations. Her own collection of exotic plants especially bromeliads and orchids on Pine Island, keeps her hands-on involved with the plant hobby.

More recently she has completed her BSI Judges' training and is now a BSI Accredited Bromeliad Judge. She is excited about her new position with the BSI and encourages anyone, BSI member or not, to talk to her about the BSI and about bromeliads.

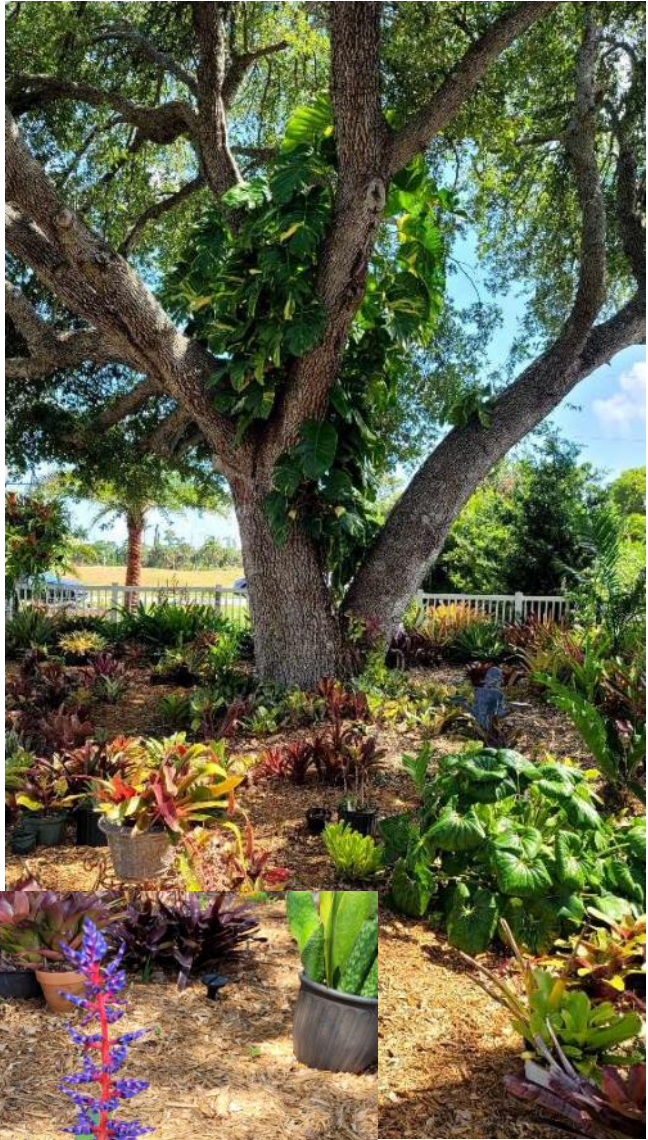
Congratulations and many thanks for taking on this responsibility.

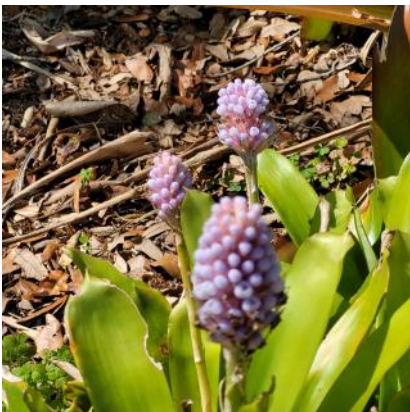
The 44th CBS Birthday Party

Our Birthday Party at the home of Julie and Craig Stein was from all indications, a great success. The attendance was excellent, the food as good as ever, the bromeliad bingo games were fun, albeit won too quickly for some and the venue was just perfect. Many of us were concerned about the damage from Hurricane Ian that Julie's collection and yard had suffered, but we were not disappointed, Julie had performed her magic and it looked fabulous! Enclosed are some pictures of the Stein's yard (see back cover also) by Larry Giroux and Alison Ackerman for those who were unable to attend. Maybe next time you'll get some birthday cake.











**The WORLD BROMELIAD CONFERENCE
begins on Wednesday, May 22nd.**

**Don't miss out! Register now or plan a day or over-
night trip to take in some of the activities, which
don't require registration, like the Sale, attending
the Show and the Rare Plant Auction.**



**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, one of Florida's largest bromeliad plant sales, 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 May-June 2024 CBS Newsletter