



CALOOSAHATCHEE
BROMELIAD
SOCIETYs
CALOOSAHATCHEE
MERISTEM

3836 Hidden Acres Circle N
North Fort Myers FL 33903
(239) 997-2237

DrLarry@COMCAST.NET

July 2009



CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY OFFICERS

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SPECIAL PROJECTS Gail Daneman (bob@fesq.net)
CBS FCBS Rep. Vicky Chirnside (vickychirn@aol.com)
CBS FCBS Rep. Debbie Booker/Tom Foley (tefoley24@gmail.com)

OTHER COMMITTEES

AUDIO/VISUAL SETUP Bob Lura, Terri Lazar and Vicki Chirnside
DOOR PRIZE Terri Lazar (terriLML@earthlink.net)
HOSPITALITY Mary McKenzie; Sue Gordon
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RAFFLE COMMENTARY Larry Giroux
GREETERS/ATTENDENCE Betty Ann Prevatt, Dolly Dalton (dollyd@comcast.net), Luli Westra
SHOW & TELL Dale Kammerlohr (dzdase@mbrqmail.com)
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Although the plant featured on the front and back cover, *Aechmea Tayoensis* is too rare to chance growing in the yard as a landscape plant, as an eye-catching accent plant grown in a large pot can be ideal for the patio. This rather large specimen has discolored petiolate leaves and develops (see front cover) a softball sized inflorescence with pointed, rosey colored primary bacts and yellow petaled flowers. It grows best in filtered light. Front photo by Larry Giroux; rear cover by Jim Bixler.



THE CALOOSA HATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

MEETING TIME AND PLACE:

***July Meeting* Sunday July 19th 2009**

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

DOORS WILL BE OPEN AT 12:30 FOR SETUP.

MEMBERSHIP SALES WILL NOT BE PERMITTED
at the July Meeting.

Friendship plants, Raffle items are always welcome.
There will be a Door Prize and Show and Tell

July Program

**“Diving Even Further into
Unusual Bromeliad Genera”**

By Dr. Theresa Bert

In this presentation, I talk about uncommonly cultivated bromeliad genera starting with the letters D, E, F, or G. For each genus, I review the natural distribution, habitats, and growing conditions. I show examples of species in the genus, in cultivation and in nature; describe how (if) they can be cultivated; and include interesting facts and tidbits of fun information wherever possible.

July Workshop (starts at 1:15PM)

“Bromeliad Lingo”

By Betty Ann Prevatt

Our own Betty Ann Prevatt, our Treasurer and BSI's Judges' Certification Chair as well as owner, operator of Kinzie's Nursery, will be discussing bromeliad vocabulary. Each hobby seems to have its own terms. The bromeliad hobby shares their's with the rest of the botanical world. Betty Ann will demonstrate how these words relate to the growth, appearance and other characteristics of the plants we grow. This is a great opportunity to learn to speak “bromeliadish” and impress your friends and family.

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society is an active Affililate of:



FM-LCGC



Cryptanthus
Society



Bromeliad Society
International



FCBS

Society News

President's Message

I hope everyone had a great Fourth of July!

We are sure in the Dog Days of summer. Be careful working out side this time of year. Stay hydrated, watch out for the sun and lightning and don't over do it.

Your collection should be giving lots of pups for removal and potting. Think about what you might be able to have for our show and sale this December.

If you are called on to help with a task for our show and sale, please say yes so we can make it one of our best ever. We have a great society to be apart of. And I think that is because we make great team players.

Don't forget to use the calendar of events to enjoy some of the things going on in the State. Gail has gotten info for us on a bus trip for the Extravaganza. This info will be posted for the membership. Although at the last meeting there was a very poor show of interest to fill up a large bus. We have uncovered a less expensive option, which many of you might like.

Hope every one has been able to use some of the info that we have learned from our workshops and programs to enhance the knowledge of Bromeliads. I know I have learned a few things. I would like to Thank our Chairpersons Steve and Bruce for helping to educate all of us. We still have several more scheduled workshops and programs to look forward to, so don't miss any. Take advantage of every opportunity to learn about bromeliads at our club meetings.

Have a Great Summer

Donna Schneider, CBS President

Bus Trip to the FCBS Extravaganza

At the June meeting Special Projects Chairperson Gail Daneman asked the membership who would be interested in participating in a bus trip to the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies' November Extravaganza on Saturday, November 14th, 2009 in Orlando Florida. At that time our options were somewhat limited and we would have need a commitment of 40-50 people to be able to hire a typical commercial bus. There was a very poor response from the members at the June meeting. There are several activities, which you will be still able to attend, including Seminars and the Sales during the morning and afternoon hours. The following is a letter to Donna Schneider from Gail outlining some new information that Gail has uncovered.

“Donna:

I have continued to pursue the bus. Have now found a “mom and pop” business in Cape Coral.

He has a 15 seater and will take us up there for \$ 500. If we get 15 people that would be \$33.00 each plus tip.

Perhaps you could check with members or put this in the new letter. The company is AllStar Charters. 239-282-8841.

Keep in touch this summer and let me know if I should tell this person that we are interested.

Gail”

The reduction of the number of minimum riders necessary can make this trip financially feasible for many who could not have otherwise gone. \$33 is less expensive than the gas needed to drive a car and without the parking or other headaches. If you are interested, please contact Gail at 239-466-3531 or (bob@fesq.net). You can also contact Donna at sgarydonna@aol.com.

Our July Speaker

Dr. Terrie Bert is a long-standing member of the Sarasota Bromeliad Society (SBS) and the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society and has held multiple offices in the SBS. She also served the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies (FCBS) as a representative and officer for eight years. For the Bromeliad Society International, she has been a Florida Director and Nominations Committee Chair and she currently is Affiliate Programs Committee Chair, Librarian, and internationally accredited Master Judge. She's given over 80 presentations on bromeliads to numerous Florida bromeliad societies and other groups and has authored 12 articles for the BSI Journal and the FCBS website

and newsletter. She cultivates approximately 1,200 different bromeliads in 24 genera. She's won multiple top awards in local bromeliad shows and BSI world conferences and is a volunteer for and contributor to the BSI Bromeliad Identification Center. In Terrie's "other life", she is a marine biology research scientist for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

June Workshop

Many thanks for Dale Kammerlohr for guiding us through his methods for harvesting, planting and growing bromeliads from seeds. Several members took seeds donated by Bruce McAlpin of *Aechmea tessmanii*. Hopefully using the techniques learned at this workshop, we will see a return of these beautiful flowering plants to our gardens, sales and Show and Tell" in the future.

Welcome to New Member

Signe Diem

1396 Sand Castle Road Sanibel Florida 33957

xxx-xxx-xxxx spdiem@comcast.net

Maintaince of the LCFMGC Complex

Many thanks to Geri and David Prall as well as Terri and Jeff Lazar for volunteering their time last month to maintain the Bromeliad Garden at the Lee County/ Fort Myers Garden Council Complex on Virginia Avenue in Fort Myers. If anyone else wants to occasionally stop off and lend a hand, please contact Mitzi Marckesano at couponqwn@hotmail.com or call her at 239-561-5513 for access to the lock-box to open the gate. You chose the time you want to help.

Reminders

1. To be able to sell at our December Sale you must be a member of CBS in good standing and have attended two meetings during 2009. Attendance at parties no not count.
2. You must own an entries you plan on exhibiting in the Show for 6 months prior to the Show. June 4th was the cutoff.
3. To sell at the Sale you must enter at least 2 plants in the Show.

Bromeliad Expose By Larry Giroux



At the June meeting, Peter Kouchalakos, a 15 year veteran collector, grower and landscaper of bromeliads, presented a program about the basics of landscaping with bromeliads and maintenance of our outdoor collection. During the presentation I took notes. Here is a summary of those notes of the presentation as a review for members who attended and pointers for those who could not. We offer many thanks to Peter for giving up his Fathers Day to bring us his excellent overview of this topic of great interest.

Landscaping with Bromeliads

By Peter Kouchalakos

Sun or Shade – of critical importance in determining where to place your plants in your yard is to determine the points of the compass of your garden and then determine for how long areas get sun or shade during the day. Consideration must be made for seasonal changes. Bromeliads are adaptive, but this largely is dependant on what time of the year you first locate your plants.

Showcase plants- these are the stand alone specimen plants or clumps. For the best view set them back from walkways; these should be observed from a distance. Think about what they will look like out of bloom. Do they have visual interest all year long. Consider patterned plants or variegated cultivars as your showcase items.

Seasonal growing- there is an extensive variety of bromeliads with different blooming times and tolerance of sunlight. May is a critical month for bromeliads. It is the time of the most dramatic light changes. Bleaching of color is usually the indicator of too much light

Use of bromeliads as hedges- just as in South America where they use certain bromeliads as fences to contain animals, you can use certain bromeliads such as *Aechmea blanchetiana* or *Aechmea bracteata* as a hedge, barrier or screen between neighbors' yards or to hid areas from view while still displaying your plants.

Attaching bromeliads- the epiphytic and lithophytic (rock loving) nature of many bromeliads affords us the opportunity to attach bromeliads to many surfaces to properly exhibit your plants. The coral



This specimen plant of *Hohenbergia corriea araujoii* should be considered a showcase plant. It takes several years before it blooms; however, the form and coloration of the rosette of leaves still makes it an eye catching plant. This plant is placed back from the walkway, but is still close enough to be appreciated without stepping to close to it.

There are now hundreds of varieties of pineapple plants. This *Ananas comosus* var. *variegatus* has a nice symmetrical rosette. Its fruit takes at least two years to develop; however, the wait is well worth it, especially when the multiple offsets develop around the base of the fruit and on its top. Pineapples are a full sun plant, but even this plant's leaves will fade in Florida's summer sun.



Previous CBS member Don Beadle produced hundreds of billbergia hybrids including this very popular *Billbergia* 'Hallelujah'. He gave many programs about this genus. I first learned the term "growing hard" from Don. In his opinion the best form of these plants were obtained by growing them in bright light and little or no fertilizer. This resulted in a tight vase shaped rosette with bright and distinct coloration. Although the typical inflorescence last only about a week, the foliage colors make up for it all year long. Photos by Larry Giroux

Although nearly any tree can be used to attach epiphytic bromeliads, those with ribbed bark such as oak and cedar trees permit roots to get a better hold. In the picture of a Sabal Palmetto Palm in the yard of CBS member Lyle Bowen the trunk is nearly completely covered with clumping bromeliads. This type of palm often retains the base portion of its fronds. The space between the trunk and sheaths allow for placement of plants without tying them on.



The enormous selection of cryptanthus , which tolerate a wide range of light, permits their use in the landscape as a ground plant, usually beneath other plants.

The fountain in the picture below receives almost full daytime sun; however, the Cryptanthus warren loosei used here have adapted well to the intense light.

Dyckias like this *D. 'Blackie'* (an unregistered hybrid) and hechtias make attractive landscape plants. They fit in nicely in a cactus garden. Depending on where they were initially grown, they may require adaptation to a high light area. Photos by Larry Giroux.





Any epiphytic bromeliad can be attached to a wide variety of surfaces. If initially they are adequately secured, even large plants can continue attached through strong weather. Here are seen a large clump of *Aechmea* 'Bert' growing up a palm and a rather heavy grouping of *Quesnelia edmundoi* attached to an oak branch.

My first bromeliad, *Billbergia pyramidalis*, use to fill an area in front of my house. Many times I would have people stop and comment on the beautiful display of the torch like inflorescences. Neoregelias planted in flowing patterns can create a dramatic effect as seen here in Lyle Bowen's yard, around his pond.



The use of one kind of plant in a group planting is an old landscape technique to keep it simple and attractive. Here Lyle Bowen used *Neoregelia* 'de Rolf' to create such an effect.

A large variety of *Neoregelias* with showy centers, discolored, striated and variegated leaves are available for understory planting in the yard. Take care to provide them with diminished light. The oak trees covered with spanish moss (*Tillandsia usneoides*) has become an icon for the deep south. Here in south Florida, many other *Tillandsias* and bromeliads can join spanish moss in the trees year round. Those that travel

Alligator Alley between Naples and Broward County will recognize the fiery inflorescence of *Tillandsia fasciculata*. Color can be added to your yards by including groupings in the landscape. Photos Larry Giroux





This waterscape at a Tampa home uses a variety of tropical plants as well as bromeliad genera such as tillandsias on the trees and flashy colored guzmanias. This produces a more realistic “jungle setting” Photo by Larry Giroux

stone ubiquitous here in Florida is great for attaching epiphytic plants, especially aechmeas. Attachment to most types of trees or driftwood and then hung in trees is a great way to show off your plants. Consider using the larger bromeliads

in trees for a more dramatic effect. There are many methods to attach plants to trees, but daisy-chaining 12” black cable ties are ideal. These are cheap and nearly invisible when used. They are obtained from auto supply store among other places.

Use complimentary plants- in jungles, trees that support bromeliads will also be covered with ferns, orchids, aroids and many many other epiphytes. Consider using these other tropical plants in your landscape.

Tiering of plants- neoregelias, cryptanthus and nidulariums are ideal understory plants. Place according to their light requirements in a tiered or layered manner.

Specific genera- Billbergias, especially the helicoids can be enjoyed in trees for their foliage color and then their pendulous inflorescences. Pitcairnia are under utilized as landscape plants. They are fast growing, generous with offsets, have pleasing leaves, love wet areas and can conceal fences or other obtrusive yard items. Guzmanias and vrieseas are very attractive and offset are plentiful with more blooms. Get them out of pots and into the ground. Consider the older species such as *Vriesea poelmannii*. If the pups don’t readily bloom for you,

try Florel on mature plants. Clumping tillandsias in trees or on walls can be pleasing to the eye.

Fertilizers- preference is Nutricote (Dynamite) for around the base of in ground plants. Spray with dilute soluble fertilizer. Make a “meatball” by tying Nuticote in a sack of nylon cloth and hang above your epiphytes and they will get fed with each watering. Determine what plants should not be fertilized such as neoregelias.

Insect control- Merit, Orthene and Dithane-45 were mentioned for specific problems. Warning- **READ THE LABEL AND USE PROPER PROTECTIVE GEAR WHILE USING ANY CHEMICALS.** Avoid emulsified preparations with bromeliads since they will cook your plants.

Raccoons and possums tear the centers out of many bromeliads to access the flavorful water in the tanks. Providing black containers of water around the garden during the dry season may deter this damage.

Snails- snail bait (e.g. Deadline)will work, but use precaution since many of these products can be very dangerous to children and animals. You can always manually pick them off.



Layering or tiering of bromeliads by size and light requirement is an excellent landscaping technique. In the above situation each tier is receiving the same light; however, using layers of trees and shrubs permits the use of lower light requiring bromeliads such as vrieseas, guzmanias, nidulariums and cryptanthus. Photo by Larry Giroux.

The Clone Preservation Project

By Alan Herndon

Greetings,

We have a preliminary list of volunteer growers for the clone preservation project and the initial two clones being propagated for distribution. It will still be some months before we have enough plants for general distribution. Over the next several months, we expect to add many more clones to the distribution list as we get a better feel for what clones are rare in cultivation.

It will soon become clear, if it hasn't already, that my main interest is in species. I will cover hybrids as well as I can, but a person deeply interested in hybrids would do a far superior job. I am hoping those of you with a special interest in hybrids (perhaps a particular group of hybrids) can provide updates on your areas of interest.

I would also be happy to get suggestions for groups of plants (species or hybrids) worthy of early inclusion in the project. What have you noticed becoming rare in your area? It is possible that plants rare in one region are still common in another. We hope to determine this during the course of the project.

In the meantime, anyone with an interest in the project can sign up as a volunteer grower by emailing me. Be sure to indicate what groups of plants you would be most interested in growing.

Have a great growing season.

Alan Herndon (Alanherndon@aol.com)

Clone preservation project update - Jul 2009

As the first patented bromeliad, *Aechmea* 'Foster's Favorite' has been well documented in the pages of The Bromeliad Society Bulletin (a formal description and summary of the development of this hybrid first showed up in volume 5 starting on page 29) and its successor Journal of the Bromeliad Society. We know the basic facts: this was a hybrid of *Aechmea victoriana* var. *discolor* and *Aechmea racinae*, the distinguishing characteristics included shiny burgundy-colored leaves and a pendant inflorescence. Still, there are questions

remaining about this early hybrid. In particular, the variegated form *Aechmea* 'Foster's Favorite Favorite' was considerably larger than typical *Aechmea* 'Foster's Favorite'. This could arise from a cross between the same parental stocks, or could indicate that Foster used more than one clone of *Aechmea racinae* and/or *Aechmea victoriana* in his crosses. The latter possibility is increased because Foster noted in the formal description (reference above) that he had made several crosses between the same parents with no notable variation (presumably including size) in the resulting seedlings.

Over time, several variations on the original Foster's Favorite have been introduced into the market. *Ae.* 'Red Ribbon' arose as a well-documented sport in the Miami area during the 1950's. *Ae.* 'Black Jack', with a darker foliage, attributed to Foster's breeding program in the Cultivar Registry, was commonly grown in Florida during the later 1970's, but seems to have disappeared from the market. *Aechmea* 'Perez' is the dark-leaved variety currently in the marketplace. This plant was offered by Hummel before 1970, possibly from his own breeding program, but the information in the Cultivar Registry suggests it may be a direct descendent of Foster's original hybrid. Recently, there is an even darker-leaved plant out of Europe. I do not even have a name for this plant. Finally, *Aechmea* 'Candy Stripe' is listed in the Cultivar Registry as arising from the same cross. This plant was registered by Cole. I know nothing about it beyond the entry.

Please look in your own collections. Does anyone have *Ae.* 'Black Jack' that can be traced back to Foster? Does anyone have an alternative explanation for the origin of Black Jack? My own impression in the 1970's was that Black Jack was a recent development, but much of what I thought I knew in the 1970's has turned out to be wrong. How many people still grow Foster's Favorite? Does anyone know anything about *Ae.* 'Candy Stripe'? (Please remember that the name Candy Stripe has been used on several plants characterized by a pattern of narrow red and green lines along the leaves, here we are interested in a plant that looks like Foster's Favorite in overall shape and inflorescence but, presumably, has a pattern of stripes different from that seen on Red Ribbon.) There is also a question whether 'improved' clones of *Aechmea* 'Foster's Favorite' and *Aechmea* 'Foster's Favorite Favorite' have been developed by other growers. Since we define a clone as the vegetative descendants

of a single plant (or group of indistinguishable plants), an ‘improved’ form would constitute a distinct clone.

In my own collection, I have Foster’s Favorite, Foster’s Favorite Favorite (possibly an ‘improved’ clone), Perez, Red Ribbon and the very dark European plant of unknown name. The Foster’s Favorite Favorite does not like my conditions, and is barely holding on. All other clones seem to be very hardy.

A few more comments on the “*Aechmea chantinii* complex” covered last month. First, I was mistaken when I said the ground color ranged to deep violet. Upon comparing the actual plant colors with the Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, I found that the correct description for the darkest ground color would be a dark brown. I also have *Aechmea chantinii* ‘Ebony’ in bloom now. The inflorescence is small relative to the plant (although this may be partly due to culture), the leaves are narrow compared to other clones and the banding is usually even with bold white bands. The ground color of the leaves is as dark as in any other *Ae. chantinii* clone I have seen. There is some red in the floral bracts, and the petals have distinct white tips. Nat DeLeon has a plant he believes is descended from the clone grown in Europe before the rediscovery of the species in 1960. This may, in fact, be a descendant of the type clone since it was apparently the only clone grown in Europe. Once the identity of this plant is verified, it will be added to the pool of distribution plants. In the meantime, if anyone else has a plant that they think represents this original European clone, we would appreciate the chance to make direct comparisons.

A question that has come to the fore recently involves the three miniature *Neoregelia* species described by A. Ruschi: *Neo. punctatissima*, *Neo. rubrifolia* and *Neo. tigrina*.

The descriptions and illustrations in the Smith and Downs monograph are not sufficient to pin down the identity of the species, and Derek Butcher has lately insisted that the plants we have been calling *Neo. punctatissima* are misidentified. Examination of the type specimens would undoubtedly solve this problem, but examining the holotypes in Brazil involves a lot of travel. In the meantime, a very unusual entry under each of the three species notes isotypes in Bromelario Foster. Foster may have received living plants of each species. If so, the notation that they are isotypes suggests they are the same clone as the holotype (currently, they would be called

clonotypes). As such, they would be as useful in fixing our understanding of the names as the holotype. If any of these lines survived, they may still be in cultivation. Please let me know if you think you have any plants from Foster that have these names.



Marcel Lecoufle

Aechmea x Foster's Favorite (*A. racinae* x *A. victoriana*), the first patented bromeliad in the United States is described by Milford Foster who made the hybrid (See JBS, Vol.38, March-April 1988, No.2, pp 55-57).

Minutes of the June 21st, 2009 CBS Meeting

DATE: Sunday, June 21, 2009. **LOCATION:** St. John the Apostle Metropolitan Church, Fort Myers, Florida. **ATTENDANCE:** 48 members and guests

WORKSHOP: 1:15 PM - "A Grower's Perspective on Sowing Bromeliad Seeds" presented by Dale Kammerlohr. Dale, a professional hybridizer of new clones of vegetables, gave up some of his secrets to starting bromeliads from seed.

CALL TO ORDER: Donna Schneider introduced guests, Robert and Diane Nicastro, our guest and speaker, Peter Kouchalakos and new member, Signe Diem.

She encouraged members to bring plants to Show and Tell, "Friendship" plants and Raffle plants.. Raffle plants need to have a name label and **NO BUGS!**

MINUTES: As the minutes were not available in time for publication in the newsletter, copies were made available on the head table. Bob Fesq made the motion to accept the minutes as presented. Passed.

OLD BUSINESS: Terri Lazar made a trip to the Garden Council Bldg. and while there she cleaned up our bromeliad landscaped area. It is an ongoing business and some invasive "potato vines" were threatening to take over. Thank you so much, Terri!

Terri said ECHO had been holding demonstrations on various plant subjects. Betsy Burdette had participated and did a very good job.

Tom Foley said FCBS will have its next meeting July 11th. Gail Daneman is in charge of arranging for the bus trip to Orlando for the Extravaganza to be held November 14th. She asked for input as to what time members would like to depart and how many would be going. No one showed interest at this time. It is a great opportunity to attend some interesting seminars and view some extraordinary plants.

COMMITTEE REPORT: The SHOW chairman, Steve Hoppin, announced that Diane Molnar will be chairman of Clerks and encouraged newer members to clerk during the judging or to assist clerks as it is a great learning experience.

Co-chair, Betty Ann Prevatt. reminded members that plants have to be owned 6 months to be entered for judging. The cut off date was June 1st. There will be more information in upcoming newsletters.

NEW BUSINESS: Larry received a call from a Cape Coral resident

wanting to give away two large clumps of *Aechmea blanchetiana* if they would come to her home and remove them. Contact Larry for her name and number. Already, before the end of the meeting, about three people had showed interest.

DOOR PRIZE: Dale Kammerlohr donated a beautiful *Vriesea warmingii* for the Door Prize. It was won by Betty Ann Prevatt.

SHOW AND TELL: Dale conducted the Show & Tell.

REFRESHMENTS: Mary McKenzie and Kay Janssen set up the “goodie” table. This month it was a chocolate-lovers and mango-lovers delight! That is among several other more than delightful treats!

PROGRAM: Bruce McAlpin introduced our guest speaker, Peter Kouchalakos, from Coral Gables, Florida. As an Accredited Horticultural Professional and long time member of the Bromeliad Society of South Florida, Peter has been into bromeliads for at least 15 years, as a collector and grower. Very few members of our society left without one his plants from the sales area! The program on landscaping

with Bromeliads” was thoroughly fun and informative. I hope he comes next year - he had a lot if interesting points.

RAFFLE: Conducted by Larry and assisted by Dolly Dalton and Gary Nicholas.

ADJOURNMENT: Donna Adjourned the meeting at 4:30.

Respectfully submitted by:

Luli Westra, CBS Secretary

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 mainly because they have dial-up internet service, they can still go to www.fcbs.org and read the expanded Meristem directly online. The June issue has additional pictures of bromeliads and how to divide their offsets, submitted photos and the monthly update of the Clone Preservation program from Alan Herndon. Go to www.fcbs.org to view this expanded electronic issue, if you are not already opting to receive it.

Inner City Community Gardens Letter to Tom Foley for distribution.

Hello!

I am VERY excited to announce that I have received approval from the City of Cape Coral today for a pilot project for community gardens throughout the City. We're starting with just the one for the pilot so I am sending out feelers now for anyone who may interested in participating.

The idea is to establish gardens in vacant lots with approval from the land owners and neighboring houses in neighborhoods so that families and neighbors can get to know one another, learn about sustainable living, and encourage a sense of community in this city.

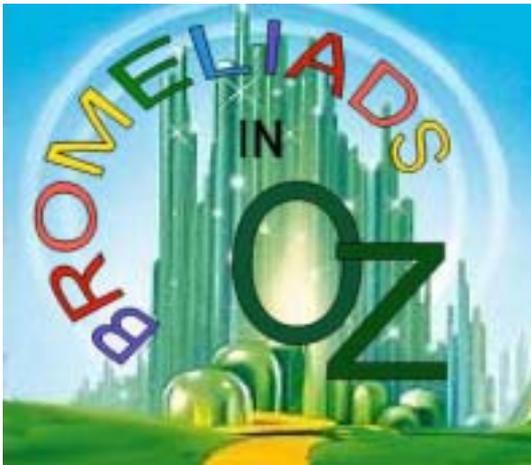
I plan to have a community meeting in July with guest speakers from Florida Yards & Neighbors, ECHO, Extension Services, and more so that we can acquire education about organic, all natural gardening, watering, pest control, etc. We have a plethora of resources in Lee County and we are going to tap into them for this project.

There will be guidelines that everyone will have to follow so that there is no wantonness. This first garden will be the standard for all others to follow. If it is successful, the City will allow me to establish more gardens throughout the City to help other neighborhoods come together.

If you are interested in participating, please email me at BUSCHNFL@hotmail.com. I have to submit a compilation of all those who are interested in participating. Please forward this email to your friends and family in Cape Coral and encourage them to keep forwarding it to others they know in the cape who might be interested.

Thank you for your support!

Melonie Busch



Terry Park,
Fort Myers.
Judged Standard BSI
Show on Friday,
December 4th 2009
Show and Sale open
to the public
Saturday, Dec 5th
& Sunday, Dec.6th

Calendar of Bromeliad Events

September 25-26, 2009

The International Cryptanthus Show and the Southwest Bromeliad Guild Show is being hosted in Baton Rouge, Louisiana by the Baton Rouge Bromeliad Society. For additional information contact Steve at steveandlarry@comcast.net.

November 13-15, 2009

The FCBS Bromeliad Extravaganza, hosted by the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida, will be held at the Renaissance Orlando Hotel Airport in Orlando Florida, Sales, Seminars, Tours, Banquet and Rare Plant Auction. Information to follow.

December 4-6, 2009

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society's Show and Sale, Terry Park, Fort Myers, Florida. Judged Show on Friday with Show and Sale open to the public Saturday Dec 5th-9AM-5PM and Sunday 10AM-4PM.

December 20, 2009

The CBS Holiday Party

July 26-August 1, 2010

The BSI World Bromeliad Conference - Bromeliads in the Big Easy (Astor Crowne Plaza - New Orleans). "Catch the Fun".

To all of our of our readers

Join the Bromeliad Society International

for less than \$0.80 per week

Join the Cryptanthus Society

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and as a first time subscriber the CBS will pay for 1/2 of the first year. So for \$0.60 per week you can get 2 great colorful Journals and be part of the bigger picture.

See Betty Ann Prevatt for more information.



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



The July Meeting Speaker is Terrie Bert of Sarasota, Florida. Besides presenting her program, she will be bringing plants for sale. Terrie has an enormous collection of plants for all uses at great prices, so don't miss this opportunity to hear her talk and get some great plants.

See inside for details of her program
Members, please invite your family and friends to attend.