



# THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY'S

## MERISTEM

*Sept-Oct 2023*



# CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY OFFICERS

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**TREASURER—Betty Ann Prevatt 239-229-7781 (bprevattpcc@aol.com)**

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**WORKSHOP CHAIRPERSON—Acting Chair: Julie Stein**

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## OTHER COMMITTEES

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

**email- deb.mcphail@yahoo.com**

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**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**

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# THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

**September Meeting: Sunday, Sept 17th 2023**  
**October Meeting: Sunday, Oct 15th 2023**

**Our Meetings are 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

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

**Please bring food, Friendship, Raffle and Show and Tell Plants**

**There will be no membership sales allowed at the July and Aug meetings**

**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

**September Program:  
“Growing Beautiful Bromeliads in South Florida”  
By Dr. Terrie Bert**

Terrie will bring about 200 bromeliads from many different genera and talk about their ecology, natural habitats, and growing them in southern Florida, as well as tell humorous stories about growing bromeliads. These plants will also be for sale after her talk, so you'll have the opportunity to purchase your favorites.

Dr. Terrie Bert is a longstanding 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 and has authored multiple articles for the FCBS Newsletter. For the Bromeliad Society International, she has been the librarian, a Florida Director, World Conference Show Chair, and Australasian Conference Judges and Show Co-chair. She has also chaired several international committees, judged several shows, contributed articles to the BSI Journal, and served as invited speaker at world conferences. Currently she is Curator of the Wally Berg Award of Excellence, a Master Judge, and member of the Judges Certification Committee. Terrie has given over 175 presentations on bromeliads to numerous U.S. and international bromeliad societies and other groups, including regional and international bromeliad conferences. She cultivates more than 2,000 different bromeliads in about 35 genera. She's won multiple top awards in local bromeliad shows and BSI world conferences. She also obtained her Master Naturalist certification from the Manatee County Extension Service. Terrie has a Ph.D. in marine biology and recently retired from her position as a research scientist for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

**September Workshop:  
“Dyckias and Other Sticky Bromeliads”  
By Rick Batt**

CBS member, Rick Batt has volunteered to continue our alphabetical review of the bromeliad genera with the *Dyckias*. Rick will hopefully include some of the look-a-likes such as the *Hechtias* and *Encholiriums* given the time. Like most of us, Rick lost much of his tree canopy following Ian, which the majority of bromeliads enjoy. Fortunately dyckias are more adaptable to the increased sun and heat, so Rick plans on bringing many of these survivors for our enjoyment. If you have any special *Dyckias*, please bring them in for Show and Tell.

On the front cover are pictures of a typical dyckia rosette with its spike (which develops from between the leaves and not the center), flowers with a close-up of the orange flowers and of the late phase of the seed dis-

persal. On the back cover is a photo taken many years ago on a trip to Brazil, showing *Dyckia pernambucana* in its natural habitat. Grown in cultivation, most dyckias appear far more attractive than those grown in the arid regions of Brazil where most are endemic. Photos by Dr Larry Giroux.

## Volunteers Needed

**PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON**—We 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.

## Show and Sales Volunteers Needed

The CBS Board of Directors recently met to discuss the upcoming CBS Show and Sale scheduled for December 1st-3rd.. People are being contacted to fill Committee Chairs. Several committee members will be needed for various time slots during the event. If you are contacted or wish to volunteer to work the Sale or Show, please volunteer. Committee Chairs are being selected with some posted in this Newsletter.

## The Timeline for the CBS Show and Sale

At last month's CBS meeting, the members in attendance voted to proceed with the biennial Show in conjunction with our annual Sale. To be held at the Edison/Ford Winter Estates in Fort Myers. The following is the timeline we hope to follow starting Thursday, November 30th through Sunday, December 3rd, 2023. As mentioned above, we will need volunteers to work time slots during the weekend. Please contact Committee Chairs and volunteer.

For those who are either new members or unfamiliar with how we stage our Sale and Show the following is a breakdown of the proceedings.

## **SCHEDULE OF THE CBS SHOW & SALE**

### **Friday Dec 1st starting about 7:30AM**

If all goes as scheduled, a selected group of workers will have set up all the tables and society tents for the Show and Sale on Thursday afternoon. A few of the members will be covering the tables and making final adjustments on Friday AM. We will be asking for volunteers at the Nov. meeting. Workers need to start arriving by 7:30AM on Friday at the latest to set up the Registration, Entries, Classification and Placement areas. These workers should bring in their plants for early entry. We start as soon as we can to enter plants. At the October or November meeting Brian Weber, Sales Chair will announce when SELLERS can start bringing in their plants and setting up their tents for the sale (this is usually about at about 10AM; sellers can drop off their entries if they have the proper paper work completed prior to dropping off their sale plants or after sales setup. Remember, entries close by 12 noon on Friday.

### **Friday Dec 1st 8:00AM**

Entries and Classification officially open and will go until 12 Noon. We will be providing Entry forms and Entry cards at earlier CBS meetings. Exhibitors need to bring their entries with their forms starting at 8AM.

### **Friday 10AM**

Sellers can have access to their booth sites (sooner if arranged with Brian Weber, Sales Chair). The Sales area is the same as last year, while the Show area may include an enclosed room adjacent to the patio where the 2021 Show was held.

### **Friday 12:00-12:45 PM**

The setup of the Show room should be completed and most workers will be asked to leave unless on committees needed during the Judging. Clerks should be meeting with Vicky Chirside, our Clerks Chairperson and becoming oriented with instructions and equipment. Judges are returning from their luncheon about 12:30PM and starting with their orientation. Clerks and Judges are assigned and Judging will start at 1PM. There will be occasional breaks and Hospitality will have tables set up with refreshments for the Judges and workers in the Show room. We do not have a kitchen or Hospitality area at Edison, so plan on bringing your own food or buying from food vendors for your own consumption..

### **Friday 1 PM to ~5:30PM**

The Judges are all volunteers. They travel here at their own expense. As a Thank You, we give them a gift certificate to be used at the Sale. Most will leave after the Sale so during breaks and at the completion of the Judging, the Judges will be buying from sellers who are set up. A cashier will be available also. As an incentive to the volunteer workers, they also will be allowed to buy from the sellers during these hours. Judges are often collectors and your best buyers. Clerks are needed to help with

**major award judging once the merit judging is completed as well as movement of plants and re-placement of plants after judging.**

**Friday Afternoon following Judging**

**Setup of the Headtable for displaying the winners and organization of Show Hall in preparation of public showing. Sale open to Judges and Volunteers. Major Award winners can pick up their cash vouchers.**

**Saturday 9AM-5PM, December 2nd....Show and Sale open to the public**

**Sunday 10AM-3PM, December 3rd....Show and Sale open to public**

**Sellers who were unable to come on Friday should arrive early with their sale items, claim their designated spots and organize their space on Saturday morning. Be sure to make arrangements with Brian Weber if you are setting up on Saturday. Please arrange to enter your 2 Show plants on Friday AM before 11:30AM. You can replenish your tables anytime Saturday and Sunday. Doors open at Sat. 9AM and Sun 10AM to the public. Be sure you have checked with Brian, gotten your tags, ID number and table assignment in the weeks before the Sale. Read the rules. Unless you have permission from the Chair, you cannot break down your area until close of Sale at 3PM Sunday. Show plants and awards can be picked up at that time. Vendors are expected to help with setup and break-down where and when possible.**

**We have a special award, “The Members’ Choice Award”, which we give to the plant(s) voted by the members as their “Best in Show” from among those which did not get to the head table. We ask that all members vote for this award on Saturday morning for display in the afternoon.**

**Saturday and Sunday is when we need volunteers to help at checkout...cashiers, tag pullers, carriers, box makers, holding area receivers and guards and hosts in the Show area. Again, we will NOT have a kitchen or hospitality area, although Food vendors will be on site.**

**Sunday afternoon ...3PM**

**As 3PM Sunday afternoon approaches, we all want to pack up and go home after a busy weekend. However, we are obligated , unless you have sold out or have permission from the Sales Chair to leave early, to stay until 3PM. If you wish to consolidate your items and displays while continuing to display them, that is fine. The same holds true for your Show entries; unless you have permission from the Show Chair, please do not remove entries until 3PM. We need help with overall break-down of the Sales and Show areas...with fencing, tents, tables, etc. So where possible contribute some of your time helping in these duties.**

**This year we are doing something different with the awards. Instead of plaques to Division and Section winners along with a store bought gift,**

we are giving BSI medallions and prize money as either cash or gift certificates good for purchases from the vendors. These will be distributed on Friday night or Saturday morning.

With in a week or so following the Sale, Betty Ann Prevatt and Brian Weber will have tabulated all the plant tags and will distribute checks for the vendors’ sales minus the 25% kept by the CBS to pay sales taxes and the costs of the Show and Sale.

If you haven’t decided to sell at our Sale, give it more thought and get in touch with Brian Weber to give him your tag ID, pick up the blue sale tags and get your space assignment; read the Rules of the Sale and start looking around your collection for Show and Sale plants.

The printed Show Schedule will be distributed and reviewed in the coming months. Help with preparing your plants and exhibits for the Show and Sale will also be given in the CBS Newsletter and at the meetings.

Show and Sales Chair Assignments to Date

Show Chair.....	Betty Ann Prevatt 239-229-7781
Show Co-Chair.....	Julie Stein (919) 522-1182
Clerks Chair.....	Vicky Chirnside 941-928-3111
Sales Chair.....	Brian Weber 941-256-4405
Awards Chair/ Headtable.....	Larry Giroux 239-850-4048
Show Schedule.....	Larry Giroux 239-850-4048

***PLANT SALE RULES and DECORUM***  
*Please review the SALES RULES carefully.*

1. Plant sales identification, necessary sales labels and allocation of table space will be assigned by the Chairperson, Brian Weber: [brianweber1b@hotmail.com](mailto:brianweber1b@hotmail.com), 941-256-4405 (cell). You must be pre-registered with Sales Chair.
2. Sale hours for the general public will be Saturday, December 2nd 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday December 3rd 2023 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
3. Plants will be received Friday, - December 1st, 2023, following the setup of the sales area, we will be asking for volunteers for setup of the fence, cashier tables and membership tables on Thursday. (Since the majority of vendors are responsible for setup of their own tables and tents, a more definitive Setup time will be announced for Friday in the CBS Newsletter or at the CBS meetings). Unsold plants must be removed Sunday, by 4:00 p.m. or become the property of CBS.
4. All plants must have TWO TAGS - A white or near white tag which indicates the plant’s name (it may have your ID on it). The second tag should be a colored tag either obtained from the Sales Chairman or a colored one previously used at a CBS Sale. *The sale price must be legibly written in INK with a permanent marker on the Blue (or colored) Sale Tag. To be consistent and make it easier for our customers & cashiers, please put the price with a \$ on top of the tag, vendor code towards the middle of the tag.* All plants and other sale items

should be labeled in this manner before arrival at the sale. While we encourage the reuse of previous years sale tags, please do not use any that have been cut shorter than 2/3 the original length. On large plants, especially those in the landscape area, please have a sticker or sign with the price to make it easier for customers to see without them having to lift the plant to see the tags that are attached to the bottom.

5. To be eligible to sell plants, a CBS member must:
  - a. Be a member in good standing at least five months prior to sale.  
(Must be a member by July 1<sup>st</sup> to sell at the December sale.)
  - b. Be required to attend a minimum of 2 meetings a year.
  - c. Follow all Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society plant sale rules.
  - d. Help in the sales area and assist in clean up.
  - e. Have not been prohibited to sell by the Sales Chair
6. All plants must be priced in increments of one dollar (\$1.00), no .25, .50, etc.
7. Plants must be clean and free from disease, insects, etc. Sales Chair may ask you to clean or remove infected plants.
8. Twenty five percent (25%) of members' sale proceeds will be retained by CBS. Sales tax will be the responsibility of CBS.
9. CBS will not be responsible for loss of plants or craft items, however, all reasonable precautions will be taken to insure their safety.
10. Bromeliad oriented items (art, note paper, carvings, needlework, food, crafts, etc.) may also be offered for sale, subject to the preceding rules. These items should be labeled the same as plants, following rule #4.
11. Vendors and Volunteers are the face of the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society during this event. Please be cordial and helpful to buyers and other vendors. Should a disagreement or problem arise, bring it to the attention of the Sales Chairpersons or their representatives for help in resolving it.
12. Take Down - Screens in the case where they are used as a barrier may be removed 15-30 minutes before the close of the sale on Sunday. You may organize & clean up your area in preparation for closing but please do not remove sale plants prior to the closing time.
13. All transactions that occur, even between vendors, on the grounds of the Edison/ Ford Estates that involve exchange of money, must go through the CBS cashiers and are subject to the 25% of the charges retained by the CBS.
14. During a Show year, the Sales area will be open to Judges and Show volunteers during special times on Friday afternoon. Arrangements will be made to allow for check-out, since the regular cashiers will not be available.

## How Judges select Ribbon Color!

By Dr. Larry Giroux

During the judging of bromeliads in a Standard BSI Bromeliad Show, a team of judges who have undergone years of study or who are currently enrolled in a judging school apply a series of questions to determine which plants conform to the ideal species, cultivar or hybrid it is suppose to represent and which is exhibited in a way to demonstrate its best qualities. There are basically three Categories– Horticulture (judged as single blooming and foliage and multiple blooming and foliage Sections), the second is Horticultural Display (composed of single and multiple Sections). Lastly, we have the Artistic Category with Sections for Decorative containers where live bromeliads are shown in harmonizing containers and Artistic Arrangements where plant and floral parts are arranged according to conventional rules. These questions asked by the judges concerning the exhibits are mostly general and apply to all the Categories, while some are more specific and deal with the way the plants are shown again using certain conventions. When you get your Show Schedule or if you have an older schedule, you will find a tables for point scoring which the judges use. They use the following questions to determine points earn and thereby the ribbon color won.

### Cultural Perfection of the whole entry:

What is the condition of the container/ mount? Clean? Good condition? Appropriate size? Mix? Clean without debris? Right depth? Top dressed? If so, distracting? Leaves' condition? Damaged? Scurf damage? Holes? Scratches? Appropriately trimmed? Are leaves removed prudishly? Is the caudex exposed due to leaf removal? Wide and narrow leaves? Elongated leaves? Folded or channeled leaves? Gaps between leaves? Are there water and mineral spots, algae, dust, debris or insects on or between the leaves?



Conformation: Is the plant symmetrical? Looking from the top (radial symmetry)? Looking from the side (lateral symmetry)? Is the stem straight? Is the cup pulled off center? For blooming plants...Is the inflorescence correctly positioned for this variety? Do gaps between the leaves cause lose of plant contour? Is there too much leaf trimming? Is there incomplete or excessive grooming?

The judges at a WBC gave this exhibit a RED ribbon. They justified their decision based on the exhibitor's use of a commercial pot, low level of media, the poor cultural condition and variable leaf growth of the leaves among other faults. Photo by Larry Giroux.



The exhibitor of this entry apparently made no effort to prepare the plant for the show. This blooming *Tillandsia* was entered as a Horticultural Display... implying that it should be showing some permanence on its mount. Besides not having that characteristic, there are innumerable leaves that have been poorly trimmed or should have been trimmed or removed. The inflorescence is browning and appears spent. I'm not sure how common this particular plant is in cultivation, but exhibitors can't count on rarity to impress the judges, when the relatively objective criteria of the Show schedule are used for judging. Photo by Larry Giroux.



**Most Judges are generally understanding of an exhibitor's frustrations showing plants. They are growers themselves and are required to enter shows and earn so many blue ribbons during their judging cycles. But, sometimes that understanding goes only so far. This bigeneric *xQuesmea* can be a very attractive plant with its smokey scurf, upper leaf coloration and flashy yellow branching inflorescence. Unfortunately, with this specimen most of its few leaves have damaged scurf and scarring; the leaves have been poorly trimmed and are floppy and the large inflorescence appears spent. There isn't much a judge can commend about this plant. The judge has to give it a low score. Photo by Larry Giroux.**

Two stages of growth? Are leaves the appropriate number, shape, width and length for this specific plant type?

**Color and Markings:** The color is optimal for this variety? Markings are typical and evenly distributed for this variety? Markings and color are clear, intense, vibrant and evenly distributed? Are there color breaks not appropriate for this plant? Excessive scurf marring?

**Overall balance and symmetry and permanence:** Most of these questions can apply to all entries, but **Permanence** is of more critical importance for Horticultural Displays: Is the individual or group of plants well balanced with equal growth all around? Is the plant(s) mounted or potted so that the natural growth habit of the plant(s) are enhanced? Is the shape and size of the container appropriate for the size of the plant(s)? Does the plants appear stable? Does the entry look well established and permanent?

**Maturity of Plant:** How mature is your plant? Most Categories allow 10 points for maturity. A whole ribbon color is lost because of this determination by the judges.

**Inflorescence: (for blooming plants)** Is the size appropriate? What is the stage of bloom? Quantity?...Well branched? Mature flowers? Quality?...Scape and floral bracts are undamaged? Spent blooms and bracts removed? Dispersed pollen has been removed from foliage? Color?...flower color is bright, not faded? Floral and scape bracts are clear, not muddy? Symmetry of color throughout the inflorescence?

If you look hard enough and long enough, all plants will have deficits. Fortunately judges are growers and exhibitors themselves and are understanding. At the upcoming CBS meetings prior to the Show, experienced judges will review some of what has been presented here.



Judges are trained to be as objective as possible and in their head are comparing the plant they are judging with what is considered to be the perfect specimen of that variety. The exhibitor should be doing the same when he decides to enter a plant. *Neoregelia* Speed Demon's variegation is generally irregular so it doesn't figure into the judging as prominently, but the vivid iridescent green dots and the pink coloration throughout the plant separates this plant from many others. Exhibitors who are emotionally invested in an expensive, favorite or rare plant may not understand why judges don't feel the same way, even when it has seen its better days. Photo above by Larry Giroux; photo below by Rosie Kelly.



## Minutes of the CBS General Meeting LC/FM Garden Council Building July 16th 2023

Call to order: 1:13 by President Julie Stein

Guest: 0; New Members: Nancy Kopp; Karen Flanders. In Attendance: 28  
General Meeting:

**Announcements:** President Julie Stein thanked the members for bringing dishes to share. She also thanked Cate Peterson, Alison Ackerman, and Chris Buntin for helping her host the June 24 meeting of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies at her home. Lastly, she reminded everyone to sign up for the FCBS Extravaganza coming up on July 28 and 29 in West Palm Beach, Florida.

**Workshop:** Various members brought *Billbergias* to show and discuss. One in particular had very light green pups and it was noted that the leaves will eventually develop the color and markings of the mother in time. Dr. Larry Giroux mentioned that when you grow *Billbergias* “hard” with more light, the plant will produce much deeper colors and markings. Growing them ‘soft’ with less light and some fertilizer – will result in plants with fewer markings, with a tendency to produce lanky leaves. The Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies website has a long article on the late Don Beadle and the *Billbergias* he has developed with the many fantastic photos he took during his decades of growing and hybridizing this *Genus*.

**Program:** CBS member Alex Bello, owner of Bello Tropicals Nursery in Redlands (Miami), Florida, gave an informative and very interesting presentation on *Tillandsias*. He mainly showed hybrids produced from crossing the species *streptophyllas*, *fasciculatas*, *capitatas*, *chiapensis*, and *xerographicas* with other *Tillandsias*. He told us that most *Tillandsias* (especially the “gray ones”) can take full sun all day long, because the fuzzy trichomes on the surface of the leaves protect them from the harsh rays of the sun (trichomes are very small circular “organs” on the surface of the bromeliad leaves that absorb nutrients and water). He grows his in baskets, mounted onto trees, and sometimes just sitting on a surface. He recommends growing them ‘hard’, meaning in full sun without much fertilizer, if any. He may just throw a few time-released pellets into his plants between the leaves, but he prefers not to use fertilizer sprays. The pellets can also encourage a mother plant to produce more pups. They can be susceptible to rot because of all the decayed plant material that accumulates around the base. He likes to remove anything that might encourage rot. He grows nearly all his *tillandsias* epiphytically (mounted) or in plastic or clay pots, either empty or with a very, very porous media. After popping off an offset very close to the base, he recommends washing it thoroughly, then letting it dry for at least two days. If you have a basket overgrown with multiples, he recommended slicing off offshoots with a serrated knife, and remounting it after it dries. To treat for ants, mites, and other pests, Alex sprays Ortho Yard Guard onto all his plants either early in the morning or late in the day to avoid burning.

**Door Prizes:** Debbie McPhail brought 2 beautiful plants for our door prizes: *Neoregelia* Blushing Zebra and *Neoregelia* Hot Embers, both Skotak hybrids.

**Show & Tell:** Larry Giroux and Julie Stein presented about seven plants brought by members. Including a huge *T. xerographica* which needs to be grown very dry. There was also a *T. limbata* with tiny offsets all along its scape, one of very few *Tillandsias* to do this.

**Raffle:** Larry and Julie awarded about 15 donated plants to the lucky winners.

Meeting adjourned: 3:30 Respectfully submitted by Alison Ackerman

**Minutes of the CBS General Meeting**  
**LC/FM Garden Council Building      August 20th 2023**

**Call to Order:** 1:15 by President Julie Stein

**Guest:** Lucinda Ritchie

**New Members:** Kim Pruett, Sherry Matthias

**In Attendance:** 42

**General Meeting:**

**Announcements:** Larry Giroux raised the topic of our annual Show and Sale for discussion amongst the general membership. We needed to gauge interest and willingness of members to help with set up, take down, volunteering for Committees and also the commitment of members to enter plants for judging. A Judged show is educational and fun for those who enter but is also important to provide an opportunity for Student Judges to learn and experience the actual process of judging bromeliads as part of their Judges' School.

After discussion and time to think we voted to continue the tradition of having a biennial bromeliad Show and yearly Sale the first weekend of December 2023. Enough people (23 of the 42 members in attendance) committed to bringing plants for judging and helping with the logistics that will make it successful.

**Workshop:** The workshop was presented by Betty Ann Prevatt with a focus on *Canistrum* and *Catopsis*. She brought several plants from those genera, Dale Kammerlohr brought in a *Catopsis* as well. Larry Giroux brought many *Cryptanthus* Group plants to cover that genus as part of our ongoing series "Working Through the Alphabet". It was a very informative presentation about the three genera.

**Program:** Dave Johnston, CBS member and owner of Bromeliads Galore in Pinellas Park, Florida presented his new program called "My Favorite Neos". He reviewed many beautiful *Neoregelia* species and hybrids and talked about the hybridizers who created them. There were some great stories along the way. His presentation included beautiful photos of the neos.

**Door Prizes:** Debbie McPhail brought 2 beautiful plants for our door prizes. She is extremely generous in bringing plants to every meeting.

**Show and Tell:** Besides several plants brought by members, which were discussed, Dale brought in groups of *Neoregelias* from a Grex he produced to demonstrate color variation of hybrids from the same two parents.

**Raffle:** Larry and Julie Stein awarded the donated plants to the lucky winners.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 3:45

Respectfully submitted by Julie Stein



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**This is your Sept-Oct 2023 CBS Newsletter**