



Sept 2010

CALOOSAHATCHEE
BROMELIAD
SOCIETYs
CALOOSAHATCHEE
MERISTEM

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CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY OFFICERS

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FALL SALES Co-CHAIR
PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON Bruce McAlpin
WORKSHOP CHAIRPERSON Eleanor Kinzie & Betty Ann Prevatt
SPECIAL PROJECTS Gail Daneman (bob@fesq.net)
CBS FCBS Rep. Vicky Chirside (vickychirn@aol.com)
CBS FCBS Rep.

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HOSPITALITY Mary McKenzie; Sue Gordon
SPECIAL HOSPITALITY Betsy Burdette (betsy@burdetteinc.com)
RAFFLE TICKETS Greeter/Membership table volunteers - Dolly Dalton,
Luli Westra
RAFFLE COMMENTARY Larry Giroux
GREETERS/ATTENDENCE Betty Ann Prevatt, Dolly Dalton (dollyd@comcast.net),
Luli Westra
SHOW & TELL Dale Kammerlohr
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FM-LEE GARDEN COUNCIL Mary McKenzie
LIBRARIAN Kay Janssen

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On the front and back covers are photos by Geri Prall of *Aechmea* 'Raspberry Ice'. You may recall that they had this same plant in our December 2009 Bromeliad Show at Terry Park. It has now come into bloom and the Prall have been gracious enough to share it with us. Geri and Dave Prall have again volunteered to give this month's Workshop. Check out their topic and the enclosed picture of some of their patterned vrieseas. If you recall, the last issue of the electronic version of the Meristem featured photographs of the patterned leaves of some vrieseas. Please go back and review these photos in preparation for the Prall's presentation.



THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

TIME AND PLACE OF OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING
ST. JOHN the APOSTLE CHURCH 3049 MCGREGOR Ave. FT. MYERS.
DOORS WILL BE OPEN AT 12:30 FOR SETUP.

Please come early and help with setup
Friendship plants, Raffle items are always welcome.
There will be a Door Prize and Show and Tell
September Meeting Sunday September 19th 2010

MEMBERSHIP SALES WILL BE PERMITTED

at the September Meeting.

September Program

(Will start after our refreshment break)

“My Favorite Genus: *Billbergia*”

By Jose Donayre

Dr. “Pepe” Donayre, like most of us has developed a preference for one of the bromeliad genera. When we do this, we tend to become a semi-expert on this group of plants. From determining the best clone to how to get them to grow well to showing them to their best advantage, we seem to delve deeper into the information about them. Billbergias are beautiful, colorful bromeliads and are relatively easy to maintain; I encourage all our membership to come and hear Pepe talk about these plants, which he has chosen as his favorites.

Pepe is a long time resident of Florida and has been involved with the Broward County Bromeliad Society, the South Florida Bromeliad Society, the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies and the Bromeliad Society International, of which he has served in many capacities as a Director, Chairman and as several other office holder. He is a BSI accredited Judge and avid grower. Come to our next meeting and welcome him to the CBS.

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society is an active Affililate of:



FM-LCGC



**Cryptanthus
Society**



**Bromeliad Society
International**



FCBS

September Workshop

(starts at 1:15PM)

Vrieseas & Alcantareas: Close Cousins

By Dave and Geri Prall

At the last meeting when no one answered President Eleanor's plea for someone to do the workshop, Dave Prall volunteered himself and his wife, Geri. This is far from the first time they have done so. They will show how easy a brief Workshop can be; hopefully this will encourage others to step up to the plate and discuss and share their talents with bromeliads.

The Pralls are going to bring some Vrieseas & Alcantareas from their vast collection and will be examining the differences & similarities in the hybrids. They will also discuss how to grow them under their conditions. Below is a photo by Geri Prall of some of their Vrieseas. Hopefully other audience members will buzz in and give their helpful observations and tips.



Society News

Our August Program

Although I was unable to attend the meeting and see Tom Wolfe's new program "An Expedition through Longwood Garden", I did have the opportunity to discuss the presentation with Tom, while he was developing it. Attendees at the meeting informed me that excellent photos by Tom's wife, Carol beautifully portrayed Longwood Gardens and the horticultural designs, paintings and murals of the late Roberto Burle Marx. The many bromeliads, which have been named in honor of this world renowned landscape architect were also showcased during the program. Tom, thank you for the entertaining program.

Our August Workshop

In conjunction with the August Program given my Tom Wolfe, Bruce McAlpin, volunteered and presented “a very informative and entertaining program on bromeliads named in honor of landscape architect Roberto Burle Marx”. Thanks to Bruce for his apropos program.

Welcome to New Members of CBS

Please add New Members to your Roster.

Gordon & Ardath Ryerson
P.O.Box 2311
Pineland, Fl 33945
XXX-XXX-XXXX
ahunter2311@gmail.com

Francine Long-Post
15576 Royal Coach Circle
North Fort Myers, Fl 33917
XXX-XXX-XXXX
FLong62121@aol.com

Bromeliad Expose By Larry Giroux

Carol has contributed an article with several accompanying photos to the Meristem this month. These pictures and many more in the electronic issue were taken at the Naples Botanical Gardens. The gardens are expanding all the time with more and more bromeliads being introduced. Take advantage of the Garden's proximity and visit it soon. This information from Carol is greatly appreciated and I encourage more of our readers to tap their creative sides and send in pictures, articles and even observations about their trips and gardens.

A Visit to the Naples Botanical Garden By Carol Sweat

Driving up to the Naples Botanical Garden in the town of Naples, Florida, one can't help but notice the bromeliads. They are everywhere in shocking oranges, yellows, reds and greens, scattered among the snow-white stone mulch.

The Naples Botanical Garden reopened in November of 2009 and what a season it has been! We've had the coldest winter on record, with wet, then dry seasons, along with violent storms that knocked over newly planted trees and damaged so many of the newly planted bromeliads. Tough conditions for a young garden, but the bromeliads are slowly coming back and acclimating to their new environment. Until the trees are more mature there will not be a lot of shade protection, so the 'Garden' is planting bromeliads that can take the sun.

Over 20 Genera and over 150 species and cultivars of bromeliads may be seen in the Garden. Many were donated by volunteer Win Turner and a large Neoregelia collection came from Anne Collings. The majority purchased came from Tropiflora, while others came from Roy Batty Nursery, Boynton Botanicals, Bullis Bromeliads and the Botanical Gardens.

Last month at our CBS meeting we discussed the Burle Marx bromeliads,

along with his famous mosaic creations. The 8-foot by 17-foot mural by Roberto Burle Marx of Brazil may indeed become a signature for the expanded “Garden”. The work is visible from most of the garden’s 92 acres. Miami landscape architect Raymond Jungles, who studied under Marx, donated the mural and designed the contemporary Brazilian Garden. Four bromeliads named after Marx, *Aechmea nudicaulis* ‘Burle Marx’, *Hohenbergia burle-marxii*, *Neoglaziovia burle-marxii* and *Neoregelia burle-marxii* may be seen at the Garden.

Of about the 170 acres to the garden 70 are currently cultivated. That will change when the new Florida Garden and the Asian Garden open to the public on November 13th. The Garden employs 7 horticulturists and has over 25 trained docents that serve as valuable information resources for visitors. More than 500 enthusiastic volunteers can be seen in the Garden doing everything from acting as docents, cultivating the gardens, helping with the children’s programs and guiding tours.

Currently it is hot & humid in the gardens, and there is always a chance of an afternoon rain, but soon they will be expecting more visitors. Do plan to take a trip to Naples to see the beautiful bromeliads at the Botanical Garden and stop by the Master Gardener Plant Clinic on Thursdays.



The nearly 140 sq. foot ceramic mosaic mural, donated by Raymond Jungles, demonstrates the multi-faceted artistic talents of Burle Marx.

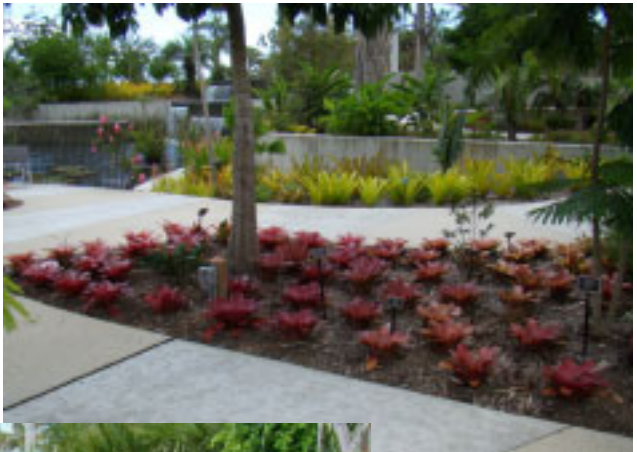
Due to the lack of a mature canopy of trees, the initial plantings of bromeliads at the Garden is restricted to more sun tolerant plants. In the bright Florida sunshine, this bromeliad labeled *Aechmea* ‘Melba’ shows its best colors as do several other large aechmeas on the opposite page.





Aechmea blanchetiana and *Androlepsis skinneri* obtain their maximum size in the open landscape.

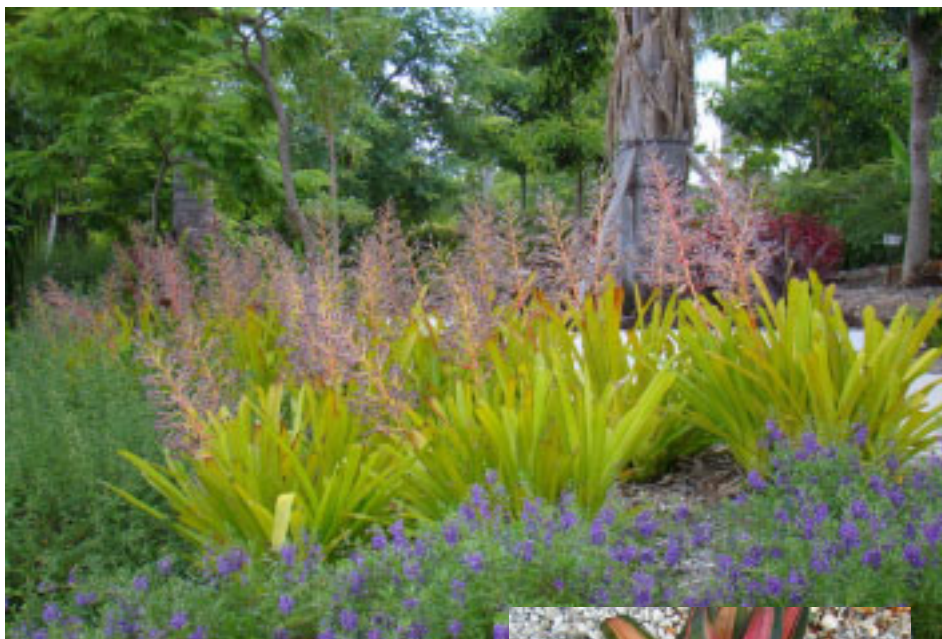
Neoregelias provide an attractive ground cover, while tolerating the direct sun.



Partial sun bromeliads find a niche under the available canopy and of course, epiphytic bromeliads do well mounted to trees and palms.

All photos by Carol Sweat.





The landscape is infused with both individual specimen plants like large colorful vrieseas, neoregelias, alcantareas and aechmeas. Wide walkways are lined with plantings of pineapple plants and large collections of palms and cycads. On the following pages clumps of *Neoregelia* 'Bossa Nova', *cruenta* 'Rubra' and *macwilliamsii* and *Portea* 'Jungles' are coming back after our freezes of this past winter.









The entrance to the newly replanted Naples Botanical Garden East of Naples Florida. In November an Asian and Florida Garden is expected to be opened, adding to the Garden's expanding collection of tropical and native plants.

CBS August 15th, 2010 Meeting Minutes

DATE: August 15th, 2010. **LOCATION:** St. John the Apostle Church, Ft. Myers, Fl. **ATTENDANCE:** 31 members and guests. **WORKSHOP:** Bruce McAlpin presented a very informative and entertaining program on bromeliads named after Roberto Burle Marx.

CALL TO ORDER: President Eleanor Kinzie welcomed everyone to the meeting. A visitor, Evelyn Pilla, and three new members were introduced: Francine Long-Post, Ardath and Gordon Ryerson.

MINUTES: Minutes from the last meeting weren't available.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: FCBS: Vicky Chirnside is looking for another FCBS representative from CBS. FBCS will be sponsoring the next World Conference in two years with the location to be announced. Eight CBS members attended the World Conference in New Orleans. Betty Ann Prevatt and Dr. Larry Giroux participated

in the new “Poster Session” mini seminars. Betty Ann explained BSI judging and Dr. Larry spoke about Cryptanthus and the Cryptanthus Society. Dr. Larry received many awards for his cryptanthus entries as well as other bromeliads in the BSI Show. Terrie Bert and Grant Groves placed as well. Betty Ann moderated the Class and gave the instruction module “Artistic Arrangements”, while Dr. Larry gave the “Decorative Container” segment to BSI Student Judges from around the World. Dr. Larry designed and assembled the “Head Table”, showcasing the top awards in the Show. Members Brian Weber and Michael Kiehl sold in the Sales Room, Dale Kammerlohr was seen enjoying the numerous activities as well as the City of New Orleans. Vicky Chirnside attended as a Florida BSI Board Director. **LIBRARY:** Kay Janssen invited everyone to sign out a book from the library and return it next month. **ANNUAL SALE:** Anyone interested in selling at the CBS December sale needs to contact Brian Weber. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** A thank-you note from the Six-Mile Cypress Slough Preserve was read. It was with sadness that Carol Sweat announced the passing of long-time member, Chuck Ray. Tropicflora’s Fall Festival will be held on October 1-3. **DOOR PRIZE:** Mary McKenzie donated the door prize, *Aechmea carcharodon* “Tiger”, won by Rick Lyon. **REFRESHMENT SET-UP:** Mary McKenzie and Kay Janssen. **SHOW AND TELL:** Conducted by Dale Kammerlohr. **PROGRAM:** “An Expedition through Longwood Gardens” presented by nursery owner, landscape architect and Master Judge, Tom Wolfe. Through the exquisite photography of his wife, Tom took us on a bromeliad expedition through Longwood Gardens and beyond. Roberto Burle Marx’s horticultural and artistic designs as well as plants named in his honor were showcased. **RAFFLE:** Conducted by Craig Curtis. **ADJOURNMENT:** Eleanor Kinzie adjourned the meeting at 4:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

MaryLynn Murphy (filling in for CBS Secretary)

CBS July 18th, 2010 Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: President Eleanor Kinzie opened the meeting at 2:00 p.m. Prior to the meeting a very informative workshop was conducted by Bruce McAlpin on basic horticultural techniques. Visitors Sadie & George Rago and Francine Long-Post were welcomed. **MINUTES:** Larry Giroux made a motion to accept the June meeting minutes and was seconded by Vicky Chirnside. Treasurer's report was presented and copies were available for review.

Committee Reports: Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies Report— Vicky Chirnside reported that the state roster will be out in August. The weevil project was set back by power failure. 2011 Extravaganza possibly in Daytona with the 2012 FCBS event on the West Coast. Coordination of shows continue to be problematic. The Florida Council has proposed to host the WBC in Florida in 2012 and will make the offer to the BSI Board at the 2010 WBC. **Library** — Kay Janssen reported that we have Paul Isley's new book **Tillandsia II** now in the library. Our student judges are making good use of the library to get their reading requirements. **Announcements:** Seminole Tropical Plant Sale is August 14 & 15. Tropiflora Fall Festival is October 1-3 The Cryptanthus Society acknowledged our recent donation. It was noted that CBS will pay 1 /2 of new members first year dues when you join the Cryptanthus Society or the Bromeliad Society International.

Door Prize: *Neoregelia*. 'King's Ransom' donated by Buddy Singleton and won by Eleanor Hagenwald. **Show & Tell** was conducted by Larry Giroux.

Refreshment break: Good work again ladies. **The program** was presented by Dennis Giardina, Biologist, who is working with Dr. Howard Frank on the weevil project. His program focused on their latest trip to the bromeliad-laden shores of Guatemalan lakes and rivers in search for additional bromeliad weevil parasites. Dennis is also a member of CBS.

The meeting adjourned after the raffle.

Respectfully submitted,
MaryLynn Murphy, Secretary Pro-tern

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, because they have dial-up internet service, they can still go to www.fcbs.org and read the expanded Meristem directly online. The September issue has some great photos from some of our members. Go to www.fcbs.org to view this expanded electronic issue, if you are not already opting to receive it or let me know if you want me to send it to you. Editor

Calendar of Bromeliad Events

If you have any events you want advertised, please send them to me by the Monday before the first Sunday of the month. If they come in too late for publication, I will try to make an effort to send the information electronically to our on-line edition readers.

***Tropiflora* in Sarasota is having its 2010 Fall Festival on October 1st through the 3rd. For more information contact Brian Weber or go to the Tropiflora Web Site on the internet.**

**NEW EDITOR IS NEEDED FOR THE
CBS MERISTEM. Please contact Dr.
Larry Giroux at DrLarry@comcast.net**

To all of our of our readers

Join the Bromeliad Society International

for less than \$0.80 per week

Join the Cryptanthus Society

for less than \$0.40 per week

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.



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Our September Speaker is Dr. Jose Donayre