



Nov-Dec 2006

**CALOOSAHATCHEE
BROMELIAD
SOCIETY'S
CALOOSAHATCHEE
MERISTEM**

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

DrLarry@COMCAST.NET



THE CALOOSAHATCHEE
BROMELIAD SOCIETY'S

BROMELIAD SALE

AUDITORIUM AT REAR OF

Terry Park

3410 Palm Beach Blvd (SR80) Fort Myers, FL

Saturday, Nov 18th, 2006 9AM-5PM

Sunday, Nov 19th, 2006 10AM-4PM

1000's of Bromeliads

For use as yard and patio plants, house and
gift plants, decorations and arrangements.

Call Betty Ann at
239-334-0242

for more information.



CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT Dianne Molnar (capebrom@aol.com)
VICE-PRESIDENT Larry Giroux (DrLarry@comcast.net)
SECRETARY Tom Foley (tefoley24@earthlink.net);
TREASURER Betty Ann Prevatt (bprevattpcc@aol.com)
PAST-PRESIDENT Steve Hoppin (SLHAZ@juno.com)

STANDING COMMITTEES CHAIRPERSONS

NEWSLETTER EDITOR Larry Giroux (DrLarry@comcast.net)
FALL SHOW CHAIR No Show in 2006
FALL SALES CHAIR Brian Weber (brianweber1b@aol.com)
FALL SALES Co-CHAIR David Prall (PalmTreeGardens@hotmail.com)
PROGRAM CHAIRPERSONS Debbie Booker/Tom Foley
(tefoley24@earthlink.net)
WORKSHOP CHAIRPERSON Eleanor Kinzie
SPECIAL PROJECTS Deb Booker/Tom Foley
FLORIDA COUNCIL CHAIRMAN Vicky Chirnside (vickychirn@aol.com)
FCBS REPRESENTATIVES Debbie Booker & Tom Foley
ALTERNATE FCBS Rep. Dale Kammerlohr (tropdsk@strato.net)

OTHER COMMITTEES

AUDIO/VISUAL SETUP Tom Foley (tefoley24@earthlink.net);
BobLura
DOOR PRIZE Barbara Johnson (lion56@aol.com)
HOSPITALITY Mary McKenzie (manytoes@aol.com);
Martha Wolfe
SPECIAL HOSPITALITY Betsy Burdette (betsy@burdetteinc.com)
RAFFLE TICKETS Greeter/Membership table volunteers - Luli Westra,
Dolly Dalton, Eleanor Kinzie, etc.
RAFFLE COMMENTARY Larry Giroux
GREETERS/ATTENDANCE Betty Ann Prevatt, Dolly Dalton(dollyd@comcast.net),
Luli Westra
SHOW & TELL Dale Kammerlohr
FM-LEE GARDEN COUNCIL Mary McKenzie
LIBRARIAN Sue Gordon
ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN Kay Janssen

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**THE
CALOOSAHATCHEE
BROMELIAD SOCIETY**

There are no CBS meetings in
November or December
instead for November

November 18th & 19th, 2006

**The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society's Sale
at Terry Park, Fort Myers.**

instead for December
December 17th 2006

The Annual 2006 CBS Holiday Party
(See details and map elsewhere in this issue)

Holiday Party Contest

This year we invite all our guests to be creative and make a tree ornament, a tree-topper, a hanging wreath and/or a table arrangement design. There will be a winner in each of the four categories. You may enter as many as you like to compete and decorate our Holiday Tree and table. If you would like to sell them at the party to other members, just remember to put a price on them. Donations back to the Society or to your choice of charity are appreciated.

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society is an active Affililate of:



FM-LCGC



**Cryptanthus
Society**



**Bromeliad Society
International**



FCBS

SOCIETY NOTES

When you next see or talk to our new Officers for 2007, elected at the October meeting, please offer them congratulations and your support for the up coming year.

2007 will be an exciting and challenging time for our Society and its members. In the Spring there promises to be several Bromeliad Shows hosted by Florida's as well as neighboring states' Bromeliad Societies. Besides our annual Birthday and Holiday Parties, there will be Open Houses and Garden Tours as well as scheduled Field Trips and Nursery Festivals.

This time next year we are scheduled to have our Big Show and Sale, which will be even bigger with our offer to host the International Cryptanthus Show.

So, when our Officers ask you to be a Committee Chair or Vice Chair or a member or worker on a Committee, please offer your services. You will not only be helping your Society, but you will surely get more enjoyment and satisfaction from your participation.

New Officers for 2007 -

President-Steve Hoppin
Vice-President-Tom Foley

Secretary-Chuck Ray
Treasurer-Betty Ann Prevatt

2006 CBS Sale

**Your preparations should be nearly complete for our
November 18th-19th Sale.**

**Any questions about labels, space or the times for
receiving plants and items for sale, please contact
Brian Weber at 941-355-2847 ASAP!**

In Memoriam

Some of the attendees of the October meeting may have spoken to *Nancy Elnor* who was there with her partner, Jim Rousey. Nancy ended up leaving a little early since she was not feeling well. Betty Ann Prevatt was informed later during the week that Nancy had passed away early Monday morning following the meeting. The specific details of her death are not available at this time, but the cause was from natural causes.

Although, Jim regularly attended meetings with Nancy, bromeliads had become one of Nancy's passions. It was her wish that her plants after her passing be donated to the CBS. They largely consists of cryptanthus as well as other various genera. Most likely they will be included in upcoming holiday and



Nancy Elnor is seen here in this photo giving instruction to a student in her computer class at Longfellow Arts and Technology School in Berkley, California. Photo from www.content.scholastic.com

meeting raffles.

It is unfortunate that we often don't get to know someone until tragedy strikes.

A google search revealed that Nancy had held the important position of Technology Director at the World famous Longfellow Arts and Technology Magnet Middle School in Berkley, California for over 14 years. During her tenure there, not only was she responsible for teaching basic and advanced computer skills such as computer codes and web page construction, she was credited with raising

hundreds of thousands of dollars to finance advance programs.

Besides the above mentioned accomplishments she has enjoyed an adventurous life, traveling and taking advantage of activities wherever she happened to be living. Her wish was to have her remains scattered here in SW Florida, the Caribbean and in California, the places she most enjoyed. I refer you to the following web page for her obituary in the Naples Daily News and the remarkable account of her life <http://obits.naplesnews.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=viewobit&ID=47312>

From her students, who she helped through her instruction and fund-raising, to her friends and relatives in California, to her partner, Jim and to the new friends she had made here in Florida, and not to forget her plants, Nancy and her smiling face will be sincerely missed. Condolences can be sent directly to Jim Rousey at their address in the Roster.

October Program

By Larry Giroux

I hope you all enjoyed the impromptu program I gave at the October meeting. The majority of the pictures I showed were volunteered by Jim Irvin and are available for additional viewing on the fcbs.org website and at Jim's picture gallery at Clubphoto - <http://members8.clubphoto.com/james396110/840970/guest.phtml>

As a charter member of our Society Jim has been a major contributor to our Society as well as the Cryptanthus Society. The list of his hybrids is quite impressive; my presentation only begins to touch the surface.

I encourage you to check out his other photographs, including some of his insect pictures for which he has received international recognition.

October Workshop

By Larry Giroux

The Genus Identification Key by Dean Fairchild and the reprint of Mulford B. Foster's 1947 article, which were reviewed and distributed at the October meeting are ageless reference materials. I suggest you read them often, especially when you get a new bromeliad of a genus you are less familiar with.

Knowing the origin of your plants, i.e. their natural habitat, will be of primary importance in how to best care for your plants. Researching the parentage of your cultivars to trace them back to the original species will also help you provide better conditions with regard to temperature, light, media and moisture requirements for optimal growth.

Joining the Bromeliad Society International and the Cryptanthus Society and getting their Journals is a relatively inexpensive way of keeping current with growing techniques and available plants. Old Journals also provide fascinating reading. They are available from the BSI and CS at reasonable prices. Old issues are sold on E-bay all the time and of course you can borrow them from our extraordinary library.

The 2006 Holiday Party

Our Society's annual Holiday Party is here again. Betsy and Bill Burdette have again invited us to their beautiful home in Buckingham.

The date of the Party is the same as our December meeting date, the third Sunday of the month, this year it is December 17th

This is a party and a time to relax and enjoy life here in SW Florida. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes. You will want to tour every bit of the Burdette's beautiful home and gardens on the banks of the Orange River. You might even get a chance to canoe through the mangroves. It is a time to enjoy your new and old friends and a wonderful buffet. The only Society business will be to install our officers for the year 2007.

Members are asked to bring a favorite holiday dish to share, such as casseroles, vegetables with dip, little sandwiches, cakes or cookies. CBS supplies the paper and plastic goods, iced tea and a meat entree. If you prefer other cold drinks, bring your own, there will be plenty of ice. You should also bring a card table or TV tray and folding chair just in case.

Try to arrive around noon with your goodies so that the kitchen can be arranged buffet style. For those of you that cannot get there early, remember that we do not start to eat at noon. That is the setup time. We will eat when the most folks have arrived and the crowd starts to grumble. That is usually close to 1:00 PM.

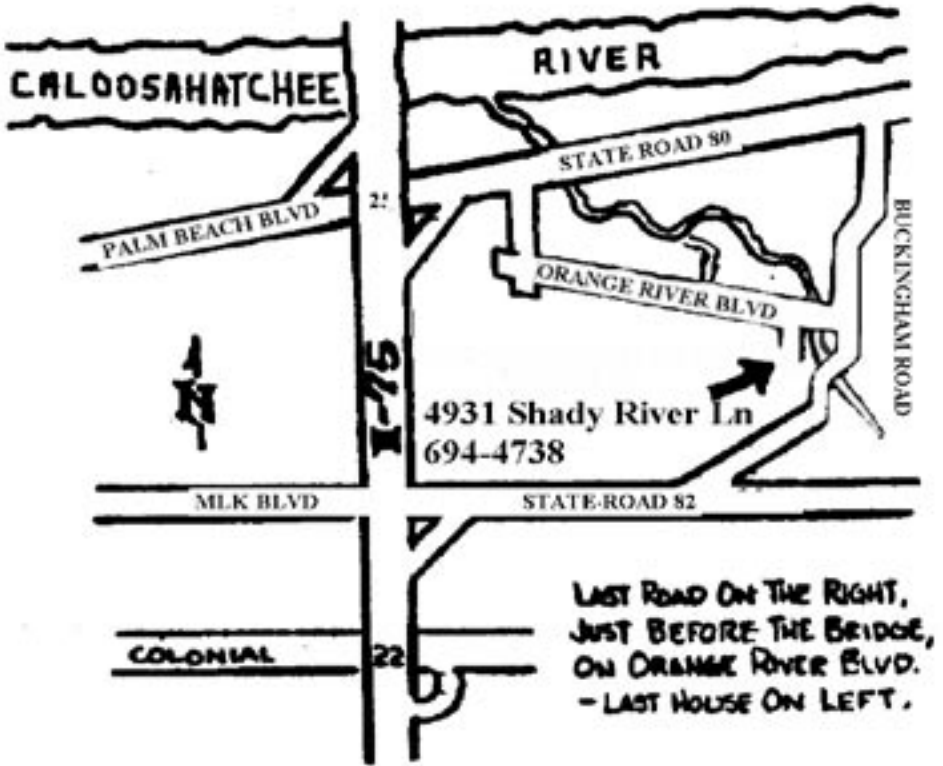
After lunch there will be a raffle of bromeliad plants and items brought by members as Christmas gifts (no, you don't have to wrap and ribbon them). But, they should be nice, clean bromeliads or bromeliad

related items that anyone would want to win. Tickets are still 3/\$1, so buy a lot.

See page three for our CONTEST description; it's different this year.

New members or anyone that needs more information, call your Editor (Larry Giroux) at (239) 997-2237 /239-850-4048 or Betsy at (239) 694-4738. Check out the map below for directions.

Bring your "better half" and/or others and expose them to our hobby, while enjoying the hospitality of our terrific hosts and their home.



Map to Betsy and Bill Burdette's home in Buckingham (East Fort Myers).
Contact Betsy for additional directions and information.

**Remember you can see
this issue in full color at
www.fcbs.org!**

Know the Answers before hand!

We are hoping that all of our members, old and new will try selling at our sale. We also hope that our members who do not have plants to sell, will still show up on Saturday and/or Sunday to help with the other tasks that come with our sale. Regardless of what you do at the sale, friends and neighbors who you have encouraged to come to this event, will expect that you will be able to tell them something about their purchases.

The following are some common questions asked by buyers. I recommend that you review the answers and put them to memory. Not only will you be able to impress your friends, but you'll probably do better by your own plants.

These questions and answers were first published back in 1983 in the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies' Newsletter. They became the basis for the first "Florida Cultural Handbook" about bromeliads.

How much light shall I give this plant?

This depends on the particular plant. Some will take direct sun, but even these should not be taken from a shady spot and put into the bright sunlight. Just as the first trip to the beach in the spring burns most people, so does sudden exposure blister most bromeliads. Our blisters are even similar. Then there are some plants which must have lower light—they include most guzmanias, soft green-leaved vrieseas, nidulariums and in general plants with discolor leaves (green on top, red or purple on the reverse). 50 percent shade should be a safe beginning for any plant.

What fertilizer should I use?

The answer depends on who you are asking. Many growers do not fertilize at all and have beautiful plants. Others foliar feed and top-dress heavily and they, too, have beautiful plants. As a general rule, plants of the Bromelioideae (*Aechmea*, *Neoregelia*, *Billbergia*, *Nidularium*, etc.) are so diverse that, for a beginner, it is best to pot in a fairly rich mix and if the plants stalls, top dress lightly with osmocote or an other long acting fertilizer. Soft leaf plants (vrieseas, guzmanias, tillandsias) should be foliar fed (i.e. Peters 20-20-20 at 1/4 to 1/2 the recommended strength misted on the leaves until run-off at least once a month). All plants in the Pitcairnioideae subfamily (*Dyckia*, *Hechtia*, *Pitcairnia*) require heavier feeding and plenty of water, even though most gardening books recommend treating them like desert plants. Pay no attention to them. The Pitcairnioideae are terrestrial plants, mainly, and in the wild are most often found in wet spots.

How often will it bloom?

With very few exceptions, the bromeliad plant blooms only one time, then gradually declines and dies, producing seed and /or offsets in the process. This fact usually is very distressing news to a prospective new owner, but is the normal process. Orchids do the same. Some bromeliads bloom as early as their second year, some in 10 years and some seemingly never bloom. Example: *Aechmea pectinata*.

RENEWAL
CBS MEMBERSHIP DUES
JANUARY 2007

NAME
STREET
CITY
ZIP
E-mail address

STATE
PHONE

MEMBERSHIP DUES
SINGLE (\$10.00) **DUAL (\$15.00)**
(Two at same address)

Make checks
out to CBS
and mail to:

Betty Ann Prevatt
2902 Second Street
Fort Myers, FL 33916

Please cut out this form and mail with check to Betty Ann Prevatt at the address given.

Please include with your renewal any recommendations for workshops, field trips, programs and the Newsletter as well as other suggestions to help your Society entertain and educate its members.

Use this space to jot down your ideas. Articles, photos, drawings, announcements and other information are always welcome and appreciated and will be included in the Newsletter as space allows. Please cut out this page and mail it with your renewal fee to Betty Ann before January.

New Members

Please add these New Members' information to your Roster. New Members, please see me (Larry Giroux) at the next CBS event so I can get your pictures for the 2007 Roster. Thanks.

Linda & Ed Bosley
Lindabosle@aol.com

Mr. Jim Dagelen
Mr. Ron Turinske

Mr. Ray Coleman
ONLYME6@verizon.net

Looking for Websites about Bromeliads?

I have found an interesting "Bromeliad Forum" on the Internet. Participants are from areas throughout the United States as well as several from other countries. They discuss a variety of topics related to bromeliads and display many interesting pictures. Give it a try, even just to read what they have to say and show.

<http://forums.gardenweb.com/forums/bromeliad/>

Remember to:

Clean and label plants for the Sale

Show up Friday night to help with setup

Put out your signs & posters where they will be seen.

Bring boxes and bags for the cashiers

Bring food for Saturday and Sunday

Invite friends, neighbors and relatives to the Sale

Stay around Sunday afternoon for Cleanup

And most of all come to the Sale and have a

FUN TIME!

Will I need to put this plant in a bigger pot? How soon? What kind of soil shall I use?

It is a universal joke that every bromeliad grower has a pet potting mix, into which every new plant is immediately potted. Joke? Maybe, but it is true that everyone finally settles on a mix that feels just right and stays with it. For the beginner, let us just say that the mix should be fairly coarse, well drained and of acid composition (pH 5 ½ - 6 ½). It should have enough substance to hold a plant in the pot and enough weight to prevent toppling. Potted bromeliads should not be left standing in a saucer of water. Remember, bromeliads are epiphytes in the wild, and while they have adapted very well to our nonsensical habit of confining them to pots, there is a limit. If roots are wet for too long, the plant will rot off at the base or pull out of the center and of course, die. (Editor's note:: Certain terrestrial bromeliads are more tolerant to sitting in saucers of water or on wet stones during certain seasons). It is better to under pot than over pot. Putting that little offsets in a big pot of soil is like leaving the baby unattended in a full bathtub. Maybe he'll make it, but maybe not.

What pests and diseases must I watch out for?

Bromeliads are tough and fairly diseases free. Main pests are scale (Soft Scale and Fly Speck Scale). Scale doesn't really alter the performance of the plant, but controlling it is a matter of prideful housekeeping, sort of like keeping roaches out of the kitchen. Bromeliads infested with scale cannot be exhibited and certainly should not be sold. Scale can be controlled by foliar and/or soil applications of insecticides either as a preventative or a cure. Grasshoppers and caterpillars can play havoc with the foliage. Cats knock over pots, dogs for some reason feel called upon periodically to tear the centers out of plants (usually a real ripe-smelly neoregelia) and squirrels are a real problem when plants are mounted outdoors in the trees. Bromeliads are inhabited by frogs, lizards, spiders and an occasional snake, all of which eat mosquito larvae and other bugs. If too much insecticide is used, then these little workers will disappear and the mosquitos can become a real problem. Plants in a healthy, progressively growing condition resist scale infestation. Plants in decline after blooming are breeding grounds for scale. If possible, keep pupping plants isolated and drench the soil in pots of newly potted pups with a systemic insecticide designed especially for scale. Bromeliads are also susceptible to fungal diseases, but there are many good fungicides available for use as a soil drench. Fungus is harder to diagnose and it is recommended that the new grower seek advice before proceeding with any treatment. Never, never use oil or copper containing sprays. Even the condensation from pressure treated lumber (a copper-based treatment) can be lethal or damaging to bromeliads.

(Ed. note: There will be some questions such as - **Which plants must be protected from the cold? or Will this particular plant tolerate low light?**, which will require more advanced knowledge and familiarity with the different genera of bromeliads. Don't be afraid to ask another experienced club member; they are generally willing and often anxious to answer any questions about bromeliads.

So come down to Terry Park on Saturday and Sunday and help your Society with its sale. There'll be good company, food and conversation for all willing to help.)

Minutes of the October CBS Meeting

DATE: 10/15/2006

LOCATION: St. John the Apostle Metropolitan Community Church, Ft. Myers, FL; ATTENDANCE: 43. There were 2 new members - Ron Turinske & Jim Dagean, and 2 guests - Mana Hallerbeck & Randy Garcia

WORKSHOP: Start time: 1:18 pm By Larry Giroux, Title: Recognizing Bromeliads - A fantastic program combining an article published in 1947 by Mulford B. Foster combined with a key from Dean Fairchild and Derek Butcher, bromeliad registrar entitled "Bromeliads for Dummies". Thank you Larry Giroux for the program and providing the easy to read booklet.

CALL TO ORDER: 2:00 pm by President, Dianne Molnar.

MINUTES: An error in the Sept minutes was noted by Marlene Long, (Marlene's name was erroneously recorded as Marilyn). Motion to approve September Minutes with correction made by Larry Giroux and seconded by Carol Sweat; unanimously approved by the members.

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: **1.** Mary McKenzie announced The LCFMGC Plant Show at Bell Towers Mall on Feb 1 and 2. Anyone wishing to Display an entry in a window is requested to personally contact Mary. **2.** "Putting on the Ritz" will be held at Edison College Mar 15-16. **3.** Election of Officers for 2007. President Dianne Molnar conducted the election of officers for 2007. With no additional nominees from the floor, Mary Scofic made the motion to accept the nominations as presented, seconded by Bob Fasq and the new Officers for 2007 were unanimously approved by the membership. President-Stephen Hoppin, Vice-President-Tom Foley, Secretary-Chuck Ray and Treasurer-Betty Ann Prevatt. **4.** Brian Weber- At Tropiflora on Nov 11th there will be a benefit for Bromeliad Identification Center at Selby Gardens. Additional information is in last months Newsletter on the events page. This is only for the West Coast Societies. You are asked to donate a nice plant for the Auction if you plan to attend.

THE SIGNS ARE HERE!

Betsy Burdette, Advertising Chair distributed the sale signs and gave instructions on the when, wheres and hows to put the signs out. For specifics and questions regarding the roadside signs contact Besty Burdette.

CBS's greatest sale on earth Nov 18-19 Terry Park

CBS SALE- Brian Weber, Sales Chairman advised sellers that they could begin bringing plants to Terry Park, Friday, Nov 17th between 7 pm - 9 pm. All members are invited to help with setup, Friday - doors will open at 5:30 PM. Helpers are needed all day Saturday and Sunday. Start collecting boxes and bags; if you ask your friendly Publix manager they are always willing to help with extra containers. Remember we will have lots of hungry helpers and plant sellers so bring lots of food. One more thing, Sunday the sale ends and the clean-up begins. All are invited for this festive occasion.

DUES ARE DUE- before January. Make your check payable to and mail to - CBS c/o Betty Ann Prevatt, 2902 Second St, Fort Myers, Fl 33916

COMMITTEE REPORTS: none

FCBS REP: Vicky Chirnside- Evil Weevil Report. Mary McKenzie - Lee County Ft. Myers Garden Council Delegate Report: LCFMGC is requesting a \$50 donation for "embossed garden bricks". Mary Scofic made a motion to buy a brick for the Ft Myers Garden Club's new garden, Chuck Ray seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the members

DOOR PRIZE: conducted by Luli Westra. Donated by- #1 Barbara Johnson and #2 Buddy Singleton. *Neoregelia* 'Russell Lively' - won by- Betty Ann Prevatt and *Neoregelia* 'Yang' won by Grant Groves.

SHOW & TELL: Consisted of a very nice selection of plants was conducted by- Brian Weber

BREAK: 25 minutes to eat & visit.

REFRESHMENTS SET-UP: Thank you to Mary McKenzie and Kay Janssen

PROGRAM: Our scheduled speaker, Terrie Bert was not able to attend. CBS owes a BIG THANK YOU to Larry Giroux for a fine slide presentation on Jim Irvin's hybrids.

RAFFLE: Commentary by Larry Giroux; Runners were Ross Griffith and Mary Scofic

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 4:15PM

Respectfully submitted,

**To All Our Members: Enjoy your hobby more
Join the Bromeliad Society International
for less than \$0.60 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 \$0.50 per week you can get 2 great colorful
Journals and be part of the bigger picture.
See Betty Ann Prevatt for more information.**

EVENTS CALENDER

November 11th

A BIC Benefit Barbecue at the Tropiflora Nursery
Nursery opens at 8 am, free lunch starts about 12 noon,
Auction starts about 1 pm

The CBS has been invited to participate
along with FWCBS, BGTB and the SBS in a day of fellowship
and food. An Auction of Rare Plants
will follow to benefit the BIC
(the M. B. Foster Bromeliad Identification Center at Marie
Selby Botanical Gardens)

Please R.S.V.P. about a week ahead by e-mail or phone
to let the Cathcarts know how many to prepare food for.
Phone Tropiflora toll free at 1-800-613-7520 or email at
Linda@tropiflora.com

November 17, 2006

Useppa Island Tropical Garden Tour -Explore the beauty of this private, old-Florida tropical island. This is a guided walking tour around the island where you will see many fascinating plants and trees. Dress appropriately & wear close-toed shoes. Limited tour size and at least 10 days advance registration is required. Friday, Nov.17th from 10AM to 2:30PM. Boat leaves Bocilla Island Club at 10AM sharp! Cost \$60, Cape Coral Resident; \$65 for non-CCR. Includes tour boat, walking tour and lunch. Payment is due at registration.

Mail checks and your information to:

Rotary Park 5505 Rose Garden Road Cape Coral, Fl 33914

Phone - 549-4606, FAX - 549-4903

E-mail - kalockli@capecoral.net

November 18th & 19th, 2006

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society's Sale
at Terry Park, Fort Myers. See flyer in this issue for
additional information.



CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY
3836 HIDDEN ACRES CIRCLE N
NORTH FORT MYERS, FL 33903
E-MAIL - DR.LARRY@COMCAST.NET



Arrangement of various cryptanthus entered in the 2003 CBS Show - Exhibited by Larry Giroux; photo by Larry Giroux.

**Your Editor and the Board of Directors of
the CBS wish each and everyone of you a
Happy Holiday Season.**