



Nov-Dec

2012

THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY'S CALOOSAHATCHEE MERISTEM



HOLIDAY PARTY is DECEMBER 16th
Home of Dr. Jeff Joffe, Punta Gorda

CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT—Marsha Crawford (239) 472-2089 marshacrawford@embarqmail.com
VICE-PRESIDENT— Larry Giroux (239) 997-2237 DrLarry@comcast.net
SECRETARY—MaryLynn Murphy 239-593-8739 (MaryLynn100@me.com)
TREASURER—Betty Ann Prevatt 334-0242 (bprevattpec@aol.com)
PAST-PRESIDENT—Vicky Chirside 941-493-5825 (vickychir@aol.com)

STANDING COMMITTEES CHAIRPERSONS

NEWSLETTER EDITOR—Larry Giroux 997-2237 (DrLarry@comcast.net)
FALL SALES CHAIRS—Geri & Dave Prall 542-2245 (PalmTreeGardens@hotmail.com);
Brian Weber 941-256-4405 (brianweber1b@aol.com)
CBS Show Chair— No Show this year
PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON—Bruce McAlpin (863) 674-0811
WORKSHOP CHAIRPERSON—Co-Chair: Pete Diamond (704) 213-7601
SPECIAL PROJECTS—Gail Daneman 239-466-3531 (bob@fesq.net)
CBS FCBS Rep.—Vicky Chirside 941-493-5825 (vickychir@aol.com)
CBS FCBS Rep.—Position available

OTHER COMMITTEES

AUDIO/VISUAL SETUP—Bob Lura, Terri Lazar, Vicky Chirside
DOOR PRIZE—Terri Lazar (863) 675-2392 (terriLML@earthlink.net)
HOSPITALITY—Mary McKenzie 939-5820;
SPECIAL HOSPITALITY—Betsy Burdette 694-4738 (betsy@burdetteinc.com)
RAFFLE TICKETS—Greeter/Membership table volunteers—Dolly Dalton, Luli Westra
RAFFLE COMMENTARY—Larry Giroux
GREETERS/ATTENDANCE—Betty Ann Prevatt; Dolly Dalton (dollyd@comcast.net), Luli Westra
SHOW & TELL—Dale Kammerlohr 863-558-0647 (dzdase@embarqmail.com)
FM-LEE GARDEN COUNCIL—Mary McKenzie 939-5820
LIBRARIAN—Kay Janssen 334-3782

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THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

November Meeting– Sunday, Nov. 18th 2012 Covenant Presbyterian Church

The church facility is located near downtown Fort Myers, Florida, at 2439 McGregor Blvd., just one block south of the Edison Home parking lot and about 1 1/2 miles north of our previous meeting location— St. John the Apostle Church. The facility is approximately 2.5 miles north of the intersection of Colonial Blvd. and McGregor Blvd.

Doors open at 12:30PM for setup, Workshop starts at 1:15PM.

Everything stays the same...Bring food, raffle items, Friendship table items, Show and Tell plants.

Membership Sales are not allowed at the November meeting

Membership Sales are allowed at the Holiday Party

December Holiday Party– Sunday, Dec. 16th 2012

At the Home of Dr. Jeff Joffe

See inside for more information.

November Speaker and Program

“Bromeliads from O to P”

By Dr. Terrie Bert

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.

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society is an active Affiliate of:



Cryptanthus Society



BSI



FCBS



FM/LC GC

For the Bromeliad Society International, she has been a Florida Director and chaired several international committees. She currently is Librarian, Curator of the Wally Berg Award of Excellence, and an internationally accredited Master Judge.

She's given over 100 presentations on bromeliads to numerous U.S. and international bromeliad societies and other groups. She has authored articles for the BSI Journal and the FCBS newsletter. She cultivates approximately 2,000 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. Terrie has a Ph.D. in marine biology and is a research scientist for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. She also makes quilts and SCUBA dives.

Her Topic of her Program will be "Bromeliads from O to P". If you have seen any of Terrie's previous "alphabet series", you know she will be describing those Bromeliad Genera beginning with the letters O through P, including Pitcairnia and Orthophytum, among others.

November Workshop

Pete Diamond, Workshop Chair has interviewed Steve Hoppin, who is CBS's expert on growing, hybridizing and exhibiting Pitcairnia. At this Workshop Pete will review some of the material he has learned from his conversation with Steve. Anyone that has some pitcairnia please share your knowledge of them with us and please bring them to the meeting.

Slate of Officers up for election at November meeting.

PRESIDENT—Marsha Crawford (239) 472-2089
marshacrawford@embarqmail.com

VICE-PRESIDENT— Larry Giroux (239) 997-2237
DrLarry@comcast.net

SECRETARY—Open

TREASURER—Betty Ann Prevatt 334-0242 (bprevattpcc@aol.com)

We will be voting on this slate at the November meeting. If anyone would like to run for any office, please make sure you meet the requirements then have a CBS member nominate you at the November meeting before the voting.



Judges Receive Certification

During the WBC Banquet, the latest group of student judges were awarded their certificates by Betty Ann Prevatt (Judges Certification

Committee Chair) and Vicky Chirnside (Judges Regional Registrar), after completing 6 classes, their required student judgments and passing a final exam, this all over a nearly 3 year span. (L to R) Betty Ann Prevatt (Instructor), Rick Ryals, Eve Krauth, Steve Seals, David Higgs, Dale Pearce, Lisa Robinette, Calandra Thurrott and Vicky Chirnside (Instructor). Photo by Larry Giroux.

HOLIDAY PARTY



This year we are celebrating our Holiday Party on December 16th at the home of Dr. Jeff Joffe of Punta Gorda. Jeff is pictured to the left standing in front of one of his palm trees of his vast collection. He collects many semi-tropical plants including Palms, Sansevierias, Orchids and Bromeliads. His home and gardens are only about 25 minutes from Fort Myers. Attached are directions and a map. Hope to see you there.

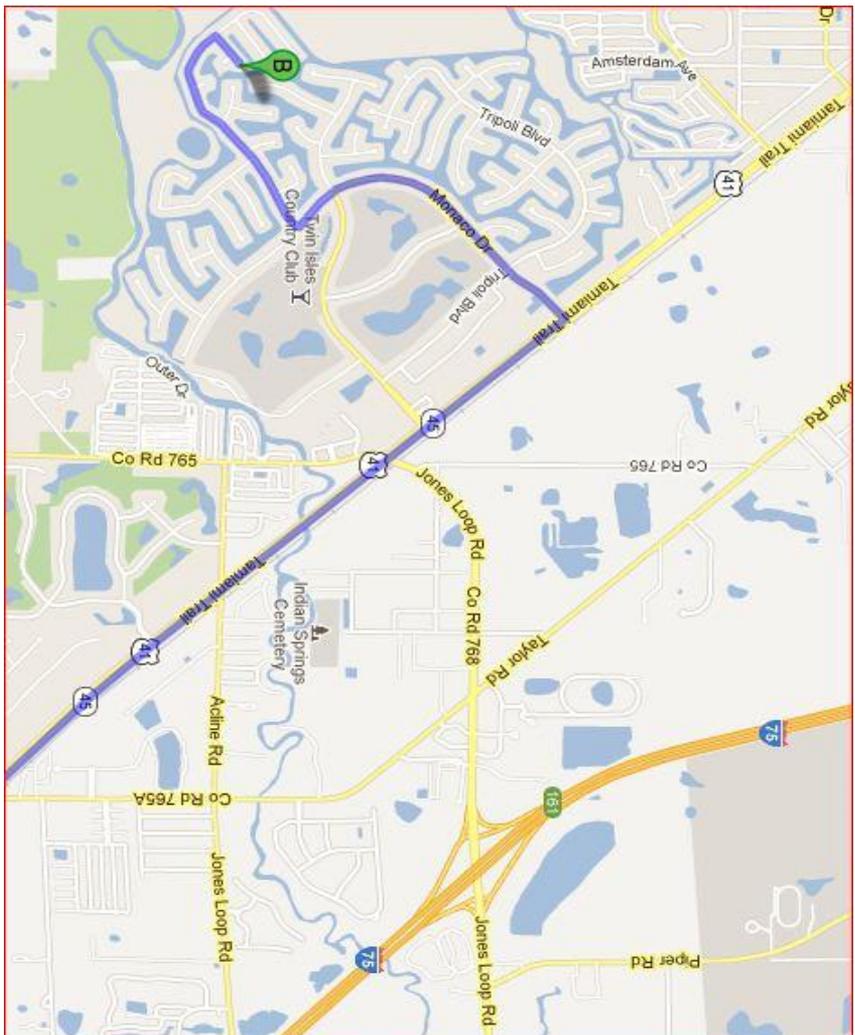
The only Society business will be to install our officers for the year 2012. Otherwise our time after 12 noon until we finish the raffle, usually about 4 PM, will be spent entertaining ourselves with games, our great holiday raffle, food and the company of our friends and fellow members.

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. **Bring a card table or TV tray and folding chairs. There is limited existing sitting.**

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 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. **We are opening donations to other plant families such as orchids, ferns, fruit trees, native plants, etc.** We are a diverse group of growers, who enjoy many different plants, so if you have extras of other types of plants donate them to our special holiday raffle. Tickets are still 3/ \$1, so buy a lot.

Yes we are planning games and our Holiday contest as usual. The type of contest will be described at the November meeting. If you don't attend the meeting discuss the contest with others at the Sale.

New members or anyone that needs more information, call your Editor (Larry Giroux) at (239) 997-2237 /239-850-4048 or Betsy (Special Hospitality Chair) at (239) 694-4738. Check out the directions and map printed in this issue.

These directions to Jeff's house are from Fort Myers. Get on US 41 heading north and then follow the written directions. Otherwise, if taking I 75, get off at Jones Loop Road and head west to US 41 North, then follow directions to Jeff's house. There is parking in the empty lots or on the road.

5. Slight right onto FL-45 N/U.S. 41 N/N
Tamiami Trail
15.2 mi

6. Turn left onto Monaco Dr
1.0 mi

7. Turn right onto Macedonia Dr
0.8 mi

8. Turn right onto Elisa Dr
0.1 mi

9. Slight left to stay on Elisa Dr
Destination will be on the left
89 ft

B 700 Elisa Dr
Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Notes from Geri Prall concerning the CBS SALE

Setup for VENDORS at Terry Park will be Friday from 12 Noon to 4 PM and Saturday before 9AM.

All those who plan on selling at the CBS sale Dec 1st & 2nd, if you haven't already done so, you need to contact Geri (Email PalmtreeGardens@hotmail.com) to confirm that they will be selling and how many tables they would like. CBS provides 1-3 tables at no charge to the vendor, additional tables will be \$10 each (depending on availability). It will essentially be the same set up as last year (U shaped booths of 3 tables each, double booths 6 tables.) If you want a double booth, the cost will be an additional \$30.

If you only have a few plants, you can set them up on the members' sale table.

New vendors need to contact Geri to establish a vendor id code.

PLEASE...PLEASE...PLEASE!

We need 2-3 VOLUNTEERS to help Betty Ann Prevatt with the heavy materials she needs to bring for the SALE...prior to the Sale and especially AFTER the Sale! She can not do it alone. The storage area for this equipment is only about 1 mile away from Terry Park. Please HELP! Contact Betty Ann at 239-334-0242 or see her at the next meeting



THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY'S
BROMELIAD SALE
REAR OF
Terry Park

3410 Palm Beach Blvd (SR80) Fort Myers, FL

Saturday, Dec 1st, 2012 9AM-5PM

Sunday, Dec 2nd, 2012 10AM-3PM

1000's of Bromeliads

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

E-mail Larry Giroux at DrLarry@comcast.net for more information.

PLANT SALE RULES and DECORUM

Plant sales identification, necessary sales labels and allocation of table space will be assigned by Chairpersons, Brian Weber- brianweber1b@aol.com, 941-256-4405(Cell) or Geri & Dave Prall- 239-542-2245; PalmTreeGardens@hotmail.com.

2. Sale hours will be Saturday, December 1, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday December 2, 2012 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
3. Plants will be received Friday, November 30th 2012 following the setup of the sales area in the Pavilion behind Terry Park. (Setup time to be 12noon to 4PM and Saturday, before 9AM). Remember access to the Pavilion is from the rear of Terry Park. Unsold plants must be removed Sunday, December 2nd 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 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. This tag will have the **seller's ID**, previously obtained from the Sales Chairman and the **price of the item**. These should be clearly written on the upper portion of only **ONE SIDE** of the colored tag. All plants and other sale items must be labeled in this manner before arrival at the sale.
5. To be eligible to sell plants, a CBS member must:
 - a. Be a member in good standing at least six months prior to 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.
6. All plants must be priced in increments of one dollar (\$1.00).
7. Plants must be clean and free from disease, insects, etc.
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.

**As of the printing of this issue the CBS is in
need of a new SECRETARY for 2013.**

The DUTIES of the Secretary are -

- Shall record the minutes of the regular meeting; be available at each meeting ; read upon request.
- Shall record the minutes of Board meetings and furnish copies to the members of the Board.
- Furnish the President and Editor with copies of regular and Board meeting minutes by the first of each month.
- Shall be a member of the BSI

**Please volunteer for this crucial position on
the CBS Board. Contact Marsha Crawford**

OPEN HOUSE at the

**FMLC Garden Council Gardens
2166 Virginia Ave. Fort Myers
November 17th 9AM—2 PM**

**All members of the CBS are invited to be vendors at the
Open House. Contact Betty Ann Prevatt at 239-334-0242.**

Edison and Ford Estates Garden Market

November 17 & 18, 2012 9:00AM - 5PM

Throughout the [Edison & Ford Winter Estates public gardens](#) and under the Banyan Tree, the Garden Shoppe will be selling unique tropical heritage plants and trees and will be joined by several dozen Florida vendors.

Gardeners will be delighted at this one stop shopping for unique garden items including flowering trees, unusual tropical plants and fruits, bougainvillea, orchids, roses, bromeliads, palms, cactus, herbs, bonsai, bamboo, fruit, ginger and butterfly plants as well as garden art, honey, and gardening supplies.

The event is FREE to the public.

Front and Back Covers

By Larry Giroux

A short time before the passing of Harry Luther in Singapore, Geri and Dave Prall visited the Gardens by the Bay and took many photos. Hopefully we will get a chance to see some of those photos in the future. They were fortunate to meet with Harry and on our front cover is the photo of Harry and Dave with some of the plants and attractions of the Gardens. Photo by Geri Prall.

The photo on the back page shows the enormous Flower Dome, Cloud Forest and Supertrees at the Gardens. Photo from the Website of Gardens by the Bay.

In Memoriam

Harry E. Luther 1952-2012



Harry E. Luther, at the age of 60, passed away last month from a cerebral hemorrhage at a hospital in the Republic of Singapore.

Florida has been gifted to have several individuals through the years such as Mulford B. Foster and Wally Berg, to name just a couple, who have contributed in large amounts their time, expertise and generosity. Harry Luther, the former Director of the Mulford B. Foster Bromeliad Identification Center at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens and Assistant Director of Horticulture at the Gardens by the Bay, Singapore, is among that outstanding group of people.

After graduating from schools here in Florida, in 1978 Harry was hired by the first MSBG Director, Dr. Calaway H. Dodson to develop the Mulford B. Foster Bromeliad Identification Center (BIC). In 1980, he was named Curator of Living Collections. After 32 years at the Gardens, his contributions and leadership to the Gardens' growth and prestige can be seen everywhere from the greenhouses, public viewing areas, the vast outdoor gardens and even the pathways, overflowing with botanical treasures.

Since those early years, my home Society, the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society, has claimed him as one of their own.

Harry graduated from school with Victor Yingst, who became the chief horticulturist for the Agricultural Extension Office in Lee County. In 1980, Gene McKenzie and Victor along with a hand full of bromeliad enthusiasts started the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society. It was Harry, who contributed his expertise and knowledge during those early years to give credibility to the budding Fort Myers society by providing programs and consultations with Gene and Victor. I knew of Harry years before I became involved with bromeliads through Victor, who was my patient in my Family Practice Clinic. It was with Gene McKenzie that I first met Harry on a frequent trip Gene would make to his office; just a few years later, when I became the Cryptanthus Society Journal's Editor, my relationship with Harry who was the Chair of the CS Research Committee, became more involved. He taught me so much about bromeliads and about cryptanthus...from nomenclature to plant anatomy and even writing tips.

Since 1978, Harry E. Luther was an integral part of the BSI organization, when he was appointed director of the Mulford B. Foster Bromeliad Identification Center (BIC) at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens in Sarasota Florida. In recognition of his work as an author, conservator and taxonomist in the bromeliad World, he was elected an honorary trustee of the BSI by the Board of Directors in 1994. Later, these same qualities earned him the prestigious Wally Berg Award of Excellence from the BSI.

In his capacity at the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, he was responsible for managing the growth and propagation of an enormous diversity of species, including both epiphytic and terrestrial bromeliads. And fortunately for Cryptanthus enthusiasts, Harry was particularly diligent with the outstanding Cryptanthus collection. Even a casual observer is impressed by the quality, proliferation and quantity of these immense collections, which were under his direction.

Besides being the premier identification "expert" at the BIC, he was recognized as one of the most knowledgeable experts on the systematics of the bromeliad family. Using both live and dried specimens, either sent to him or from Selby's library, he described more than 100 bromeliad species new to science. He traveled on field trips to Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico and Panama in search of new species, for the recollection of described species and clarification and conformation of information of species in cultivation.

Besides the more than 200 published articles to be found in established hobbyist and scientific journals, Harry has also been recognized as a major contributor to many books and as a scientific and editorial adviser to several Journals; in particular the Journals of the BSI and The Cryptanthus Society. Included among this impressive list is his newest book co-authored by David H. Benzing, Native Bromeliads of Florida, Pineapple Press, Sarasota, 2009.

Whether it has been in consultation with an individual hobbyist or by a presentation to a bromeliad society, Harry graciously gave of his time and effort to educate and entertain any individual or group,

who approached him.

Besides his Trusteeships in the Bromeliad Society International and the Cryptanthus Society, he was an active member of the Sarasota Bromeliad Society and the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies. Internationally, he was made an honorary member of the Brazilian Bromeliad Society and the Japanese Bromeliad Society.

Two and a half years ago, with the help of his longtime friends, Dennis and Linda Cathcart, to assure health and retirement benefits, which he was no longer guaranteed at MSBG, he was offered and accepted the position of Assistant Director of Horticulture at the Gardens by the Bay, National Parks Board in Singapore. It was here that he spent his last years doing what he loved and was so good at...helping plant hobbyists and professionals discover the tropical world and all of its treasures.

In spite of the loss of his proximity to us here in Florida, Harry continued to share his knowledge and expertise by letters and e-mail. So many of us are deeply indebted to Harry Luther for his contributions these past 34 years. I'm positive that we in the Bromeliad World will be seeking out Harry's expertise as it is recorded in his publications, garden records and the notes taken of his presentations for a long time to come; I only wish it could be in person. Thank you for everything you have done for us, dearest teacher and friend.
Dr. Larry Giroux, CBS Editor

CBS Meeting Minutes September 16th, 2012

1:15- President Marsha Crawford called meeting to order.

Workshop- Marsha Crawford did a presentation of making trees with driftwood for the purpose of displaying bromeliads and orchids. Use 1 or more pieces of wood and set in Sacrete or Quikcrete in a plastic pot. Cedar, cypress, or buttonwood work best as they do not rot. Drill holes around sides for drainage. Leave room at top for plants or decorative stones. Tilly Tack works well for attaching plants. Use wide mouth clamps, aluminum wire, or wire ties to hold plants while glue sets.

2 PM- Speaker Gleanings in Bromeliad Culture by Robert Riefer, an orchid grower and local horticulturist. He lives in Lehigh Acres where he grows many tropical plants including orchids and bromeliads. On weekends he moonlights at the Riverland Nursery. He will be speaking about his experiences and insights into growing Bromeliads. Some of his musings included:

- 1- water quality- check analysis and purity
- 2-when you water- morning best to avoid molds and bacteria
- 13- how do you water- use fertilizer at 1/10 recommended rate
- 4- plant rest cycles- look to what nature does
- 5- sunlight- use white plastic lattice for better light and temp control
- 6-air circulation- 5 mph is excellent - reduces pathogens, mold, mildew, bugs
- 7-are bromeliads naturally carnivorous
- 8- potting- "less can be more"
- 9- feeding- dead bugs provide nutrients
- 10- diseases- no copper, have good air circulation, use grub killer, check plants for insects and pathogens
- 11-potting soil- uses peat and perlite
- 12- pesticides- use gloves and proper eyewear, read the label- the label is the law. Rotate pesticides to target same pest
- 13- sterilize tools- hydrogen peroxide diluted 10 times
- 14- weeds- use pre emergent - 2 4 D

3- 3:20- Break

3:20- Business meeting called to order. 36 in Attendance; 2 guests: Marilyn Wyrick and former member Craig Curtis. Annual Sale will be Dec 1 & 2. Brian Weber and Dave and Geri Palls are co- chairs. Rules for sellers will be available by email. We will use the open air pavilion - need to provide clear directions to pavilion area,
Door Prize- won by Bert Diaz
Show and Tell and Raffle
Nominating Committee members chosen- Mary McKenzie and Carol Sweat
3:55- Meeting Adjourned
Respectively submitted by
Ann Miller and typed by Marsha Crawford.

CBS Meeting Minutes October 21st, 2012

LOCATION: Covenant Presbyterian Church, Ft. Myers, FL.
ATTENDANCE: 45; including re-joining members: Gary Nicholas and Rich Kosmacki and guests: Martha and James Carpen-

ter. WORKSHOP: Steve Diamond and Dr. Larry Giroux presented a visual summary of "Orlandiana 2012". Members shared their experiences of the event. Many CBS members were the recipients of awards and Michael Kiehl was the overall Show winner. Congratulations to all. PROGRAM: Dennis Cathcart presented a slide show of Singapore's "Gardens by the Bay". We were treated to a tour of the magnificent project of creating a city in a garden. Beginning with the concept of the airport as a destination, complete with free movies, a butterfly garden, fern garden, orchid garden and more, the concept is to create a city in a garden. The Gardens by the Bay showcases bromeliads galore on berms, walls, supertrees etc. Many innovations have resulted from the building of this grand scale Garden. BREAK: A twenty- minute break was enjoyed. CALL TO ORDER: President Marsha Crawford called the meeting to order at 3:20pm. DOOR PRIZE: Neo. "Sunday Picnic" donated by Dennis Cathcart was won by Kay Janssen. ANNOUNCEMENTS: We were told of the recent passing of Harry Luther, a good friend of the CBS and past Director of the Bromeliad Identification Center. Betty Ann Prevatt has requested help for a clean-up of the Bromeliad Garden at the Garden Council Building and Garden. Currently it is scheduled for November 4th. There will be an Open House on Saturday Nov 24th in conjunction with the Edison Home and Garden Sale, from 9AM to 5PM. SHOW & TELL: Led by Dale Kammerlohr. RAFFLE: Led by Dr. Larry Giroux and assisted by Terri Lazar and Kay Janssen. ADJOURNMENT: 4:15pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
MaryLynn Murphy, 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, because they have dial-up internet service, they can still go to www.fcbs.org and read the expanded Meristem directly online. 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



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**This is your November/ December
Newsletter.**

Nov. 17th is the FMLCGC Open House

November 18th is the CBS Meeting

December 1st & 2nd is the CBS Sale

**December 16th is the CBS Holiday
Party**

