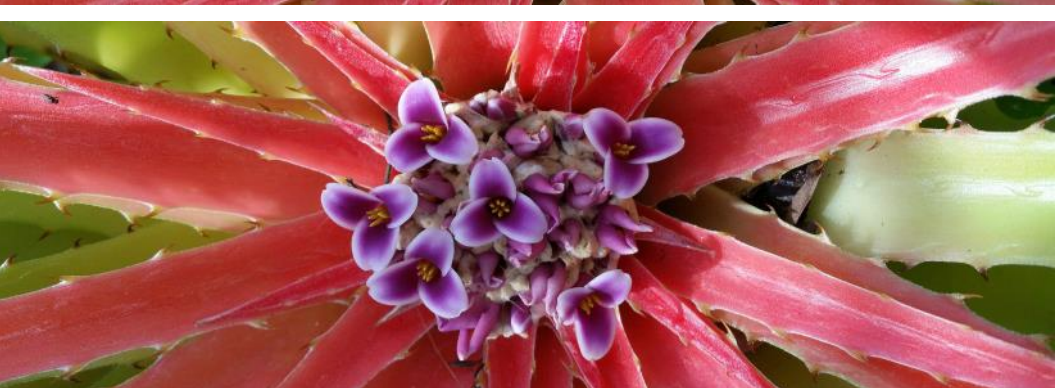
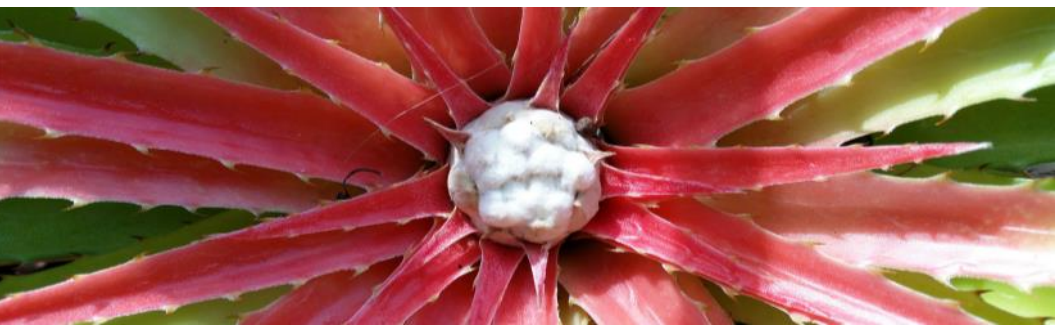




# THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY'S MERISTEM

*Nov-Dec 2016*



# CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD

## SOCIETY OFFICERS

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President— Pete Diamond 704-213-7601 (Lygodium63@hotmail.com)

Past- President & Vice-President— Dale Kammerlohr 863-558-0647  
(dzdase@embarqmail.com)

Co-SECRETARY—Carly Sushil (239) 454-5130 crpfalz@eagle.fgcu.edu

Co-SECRETARY— Sharalee Diaz mrsthimble@aol.com

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

### STANDING COMMITTEES CHAIRPERSONS

NEWSLETTER EDITOR—Larry Giroux 997-2237 (DrLarry@comcast.net)

NEWSLETTER CO-EDITOR— Carly Sushil 454-5130 (CRPFalz@eagle.fgcu.edu)

FALL SALES CHAIRS—Geri & Dave Prall 699-6400 (PalmTreeGardens@hotmail.com);

Brian Weber 941-256-4405 (brianweber1b@aol.com)

PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON—Bruce McAlpin (863) 674-0811

WORKSHOP CHAIRPERSON—Position Available

SPECIAL PROJECTS— Carly Sushil (239) 454-5130 crpfalz@eagle.fgcu.edu

CBS FCBS Rep.—Vicky Chirside 941-493-5825 (vickychir@aol.com)

CBS FCBS Rep.—Cate Peterson 941-505-1554 (cpeters3606@yahoo.com)

### OTHER COMMITTEES

AUDIO/VISUAL SETUP—Bob Lura, Terri Lazar, Vicky Chirside, Larry Giroux

DOOR PRIZE—Bruce McAlpin (863) 674-0811 & membership

HOSPITALITY—Mary McKenzie 239-246 4754

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

FM-LEE GARDEN COUNCIL—Mary McKenzie 239-246-4754

LIBRARIAN—Linda Soter 239-561-0154

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# THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

**November Meeting— Sunday, Nov 20th  
At the FMLC Garden Council Building**

**December Meeting— Holiday Party**

**Dec. 18th at the home of Carly Sushil**

**6441 Buckingham Road, FM**

**SEE INSIDE FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Our new meeting place is the Ft. Myers— Lee County Garden Council Building 2166 Virginia Ave. Fort Myers. It 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 the 2nd Street north of the Edison Gardens

**Doors open at 12:30PM for Meeting Setup**

**The Workshop begins at 1:15PM**

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

**Membership Sales are permitted at the Nov. meeting.**  
**Membership Sales are not permitted at the Holiday Party.**

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society is an active Affiliate of:



Cryptanthus Society



BSI



FCBS



FM/LC GC

## November Program

### **“A Bromeliad Autumn along Australia's Gold Coast”**

**By Charlie Birdsong, Baton Rouge, LA**



There probably hasn't been a day in Charlie Birdsong's adult life when he hasn't had a bromeliad in his hands or thoughts of bromeliads in his mind. Charlie started working with his parents' collection of plants in the 1960's in the New Orleans area. At that time, Louisiana was one of the epicenters of Bromeliad interest. Charlie settled in Baton Rouge and developed his own unique collection of plants. He was a charter member of the Bromeliad Society of Baton Rouge, which was founded in 1975. During his over 40 years affiliation with the BSBR and the BSI he has honored the bromeliad world by holding many Officer positions including President (currently), VP, Secretary, Treasurer as well as numerous committee chairs

(BSBR) and Director and the very important position of Affiliates Shows Chair (BSI). As a BSI certified Judge and Master Judge for 20 years, he has judged numerous local and international shows, served as Chairman of many shows, has been involved with the revision of the Judges Handbook and serves on the Judges Certification Committee of his District. Besides his publications in local Societies' newsletters, he has many articles in the BSI Journal spanning many decades, he has as well an impressive list of presentations to plant societies throughout the US and Australia. His expertise with and knowledge of bromeliads is exceptional.

I am excited that Bruce McAlpin was able to have Charlie talk to us at our November 2016 CBS meeting. Charlie could talk about nearly any topic dealing with bromeliads, but he offered a summary of his trip to Australia, which he took a couple of years ago when he visited the “Gold Coast” of Australia during their autumn. This presentation will include photos of nurseries, private growers' homes and gardens, attendance at Society meetings and end with the 18<sup>th</sup> Australasian Bromeliad Conference, which is somewhat similar to the BSI WBC in its scope. I say this is a nice way...the Australians, New Zealanders and Asians are fanatics when it comes to their plants. Come to this meeting and enjoy some of the enthusiasm they exude as recorded by Charlie Birdsong.



# HOLIDAY PARTY

## December 18th 2016

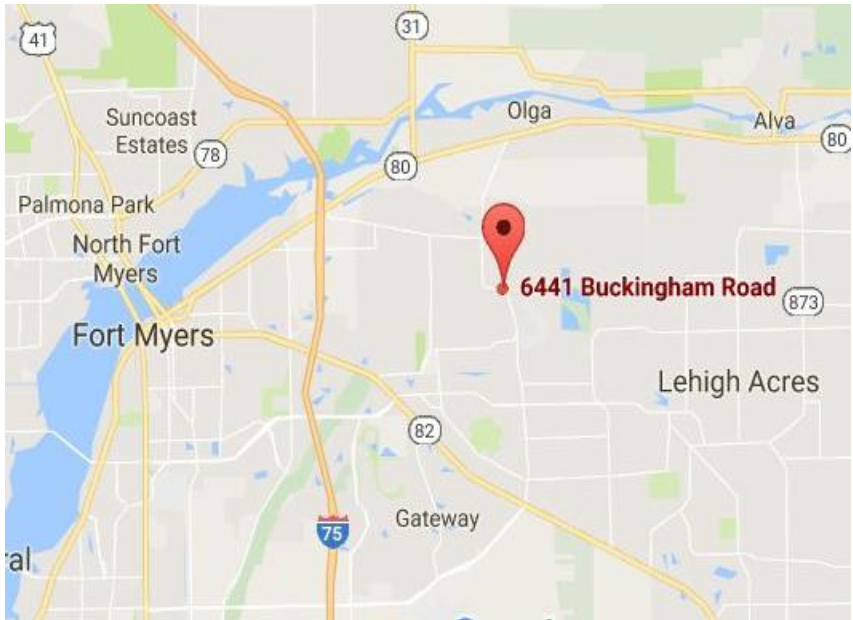
This year we are having our Holiday celebration at the residence of Carly Sushil in Buckingham. The only Society business will be to install our officers for the year 2017. Otherwise our time after 12 noon until we finish the raffle, usually about 4 PM, will be spent entertaining ourselves with games, 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 are tables but they limited.**

Try to arrive around noon with your goodies so that the tables 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. Friendship Plants are also welcome... these are those extra plants from your garden that might be of value to other members. These freebies are always appreciated. **But please, please...make sure you spray your plants or wash them very well...we don't want Carly or any members to bring diseases back to their collection.**

Yes we are planning games and our Holiday contest as usual. We will email you or give you more info at the November meeting. Remember...Bromeliads have to be prominent in the design! We will have other games and prizes. 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. Bring your significant other, friends and relatives and expose them to our hobby, while enjoying the hospitality of our society.



**Carly Sushil 239-454-5130**

### **6441 Buckingham Road Fort Myers (Buckingham)**

From the North: Palm Beach Blvd to Orange River Blvd., Right on Buckingham Road.

From the South: Daniels Pkwy East, which turns into Gunnery Road, which turns into Buckingham Road.

From Fort Myers: Colonial Ave. East, Left on to 82 then Right on to Buckingham Road.

## **November Workshop**

**Bruce McAlpin has stepped up and has agreed to give the November Workshop.**

**We all face the decision whether to separate an offset from its mother or not. Bruce will discuss the various factors, which should guide us into making this decision.**

**If you have a plant for which you are trying to determine how and when you should cut the ties to its mother, please bring it in to the meeting and let us ponder the questions together.**

## Election of Officers for 2017

The current CBS Officers have agreed to be nominated and if elected to remain in their positions for 2017.

The CBS Bylaws allow any member in good standing to be nominated and run against any incumbent.

If you feel you would like to oppose any Officer, please come to the November meeting prepared to show you eligibility and have a member in good standing nominate you.

Dr. Larry Giroux will officiate over the elections during the official portion of the November 2017 meeting.

The current nominees are:

**PRESIDENT** —Pete Diamond

**VICE-PRESIDENT**— Dale Kammerlohr

**Co-SECRETARY**—Carly Sushil

**Co-SECRETARY**— Sharalee Diaz

**TREASURER**—Betty Ann Prevatt

The Front Cover....Most growers know the *Genus of Bromelia* from the wickedly spined species of *balansea or pinquin*. However, there are about 50 other species in this *Genus*. On the front cover are 4 pictures spaced a day apart of the blooming of *Bromelia humilis*. This species has all the beauty, dangerous spines and tips of its larger cousins, but grows only 20in in diameter; making it much more manageable than most of the other members of the group. Photos by Dr. Larry Giroux

## CBS Minutes for September 18th 2016

**Location:** Fort Myers-Lee County Garden Council Bldg., 2166 Virginia Ave., Fort Myers, FL 33901

**Meeting called to order** at 1:15 PM. By President Peter Diamond

**Attendance total:** 50

New members: 0

Guest: 1, Addison Denty

**Workshop:** "CBS Events of 2006, a Very Good Year" Presented by: Dr. Larry Giroux

Larry presented a special power point presentation of events, people, programs, field trips, parties, auctions and more from as far back as 2006. Included were various workshops, extravaganzas, conferences, shows and sales, previous meeting venues, special plants and so much more. It was a wonderful walk down memory lane.

**Business Meeting called to order** at 1:49 PM. by Pete Diamond

**Announcements:**

Peter welcomed everyone to our new meeting location. Dr. Larry reminded everyone who is going on the field trip to print out the \$5.00 coupon that Tropiflora has online. Our library is in on the left hand

side in this new facility and be sure to sign out anything you are taking home. Silence your cell phones and conversations should be taken outside. We need to clean up the meeting room after we use it so please keep the friendship plants outside. Happy Birthday today for Dolly Dalton. Carly ask that at the short break those who are going on the field trip on October 1<sup>st</sup> please gather outside for a brief meeting. See Betsy Burdette for information on the people who live off McGregor and are giving away free bromeliads. No signs for our sale in December anywhere in Cape Coral please.. You were also sent an email with information about our sale so please forward it to anyone or group you think may be interested-advertising is everyone's job. At the sale there will be big signs and information about the Zika virus. Stephen Brown has a nice article in the new press. Gary also wrote a compilation of many articles and sent it to Larry. He will send it on to us. There is also a good article from 1988 he will include. Next time you give blood you may be able to find out if you have the virus. The Holiday party will be held at Carly Sushil's house on December 18<sup>th</sup> with raffles, contests, and is pot luck as usual. Let Betsy Burdette know if you would be willing to have an upcoming party held at your place. Geri Prall needs to know at the next meeting if you will be bringing plants to sell in December and if so please pick up the blue plant tags. Let Larry or Peter know if you are willing to be an officer of the club as a slate will be presented in October and voted on in November. Make sure at the end of the meeting you clean up and take the plates and food that you brought with you. Dr. Terrie Bert has plants for sale in the back.

**Program: "Beating the Odds: Growing Uncommon Bromeliad Genera"** Presented by: Dr. Terrie Bert

Or as she calls it 48 genera in 45 minutes via a PowerPoint presentation. Twelve of them we can't grow here in Florida as they grown in high altitudes at around 9000 feet on tepuis in cloud forest and we cannot mimic that environment. \* *Brocchinia reduct* is grown in California and harbors a bacteria that is pseudo-carnivorous. \* *Deinacanthos* only 1 sp. \* *Disteganthus* 2 sp. likes wet torrid jungles. \* *Fascicularia* 1 sp. doesn't tolerate frost. \* *Fernseea* 2 sp. *F. bocainensis* can be grown here.

\* *Hoenbergiopsis* 1 sp. that Eloise Beech has grown. \* *Lapanthis* 2 sp. \* *Ochagavia* 4 sp. *O. littorius* grows in California. \* *Puya* 219 sp. usually grown in high altitude- we can grow a few in well drained medium and full sun like *Puya laxa* and *P. tuberosa*. \* *Racinaea* 74 sp. no spines and beautiful leaves. \* *Ronnbergia* 14 sp. usually in cloud forest but *R. explodens* is sometimes available here- needs filtered sun or shade in porous medium. \* *Acanthostachys* 2 sp. terrestrial. \* *Neoglaziovia* 3 sp. terrestrial. \* *Araeococcus* 9 sp. grow in pots with bare roots. \* *Edmundoa* 35 sp. \* *Lylmania* 9 sp. \* *Androlepis* 2 sp. don't over water and peel outer dead leaves off. \* *Ursulaea* 2 sp. looks like a cross between *Bilbergias* and *Aechmea* and sometimes available here. \* *Navia* 96 taxa and still counting are ground and rock dwellers on tepuis. \* *Werauhia* - large epiphytes with white flowers pollinated by bats. Sometimes *W. kupperiana* is found here. \* *Wittrockia* 6 sp. protect from cold, keep water in tanks and soil moist.

\* *Bromelia* 60 sp. usually has long stolons and huge spines but *B. Flemingii* is small and is grown here and has small spines. \* *Pseudananas* 1 sp. \* *P. sagenarius* is like our palmettos. \* *Pepinia/Pitcairnia* (390+) sp. -shade loving grass like and usually pollinated by humming birds- a lot in cultivation. \* *Canistropsis* 11 sp. epiphytes usually with yellow or orange inflorescences. \* *Canistrum* 13 sp., water, shade loose soil and protection from freezes. \* *Catopsis* 18 sp. one grows in the everglades and Betty Ann grows them. \* *Fosterella* 31 sp. shade loving and grass like. *F. spectabilis* is very beautiful but cold sensitive and need to be in deep shade. and Dennis Cathcart has them. \* *Dueterochohnia* 18 sp.

Looks like pin cushions and the only genus to bloom repeatedly from the same bloom stalk. Likes hot and dry. \* *Encholirium* 28 sp. the bloom stalk comes right out of the middle and Tropiflora has this. \* *Alcantarea* 28 sp. all can grow in full sun and in pots, no spines. *A. imperialis* is most known is a huge plant that can take up to 30 years to bloom *A. geniculate* is smaller and can bloom in 3-5 years. \* *Ananas* 3 sp. full sun. \* *Hechtia* 62 sp. \* *Hohenbergia* 65 sp. sun loving, unusual leaf shapes use coarse soil and water only when dry. \* *Nidularium* 47 sp. most cold tolerant and needs shade. \* *Orthophytum* 68 sp. soft spines, Tropiflora specializes in these. \* *Portea* 9 sp. sun or shade. \* *Quesnelia* 23 sp. long lasting inflorescence. Dr. Terrie Bert is retiring and she will be writing an article summarizing this talk for the Florida Council of Bromeliads.

**Show and Tell:** led by Dale Kammerlohr

**Refreshment Break:** 2:15 - 3:50 PM. Thank you Mary McKenzie and volunteers for all the wonderful treats

**Door Prize:** 10 *Bilbergia amoena minoo* were donated by Bruce McAlpin and won by Dolly Dalton, Addison Denty, Elizabeth Migliore, Thomas Taylor, Rick Batt, Bill Burdette, Ed Wenzlaff, Duke Graessle, Rick Batt, Pam Geiger and Robert Meier.

**Raffle:** Led by Dr. Larry Giroux, assisted by Betsy Burdette, Larry Geiger and Dolly Dalton

**Adjournment:** 4:15 PM.



# CBS Minutes for October 16th 2016

**Location:** Fort Myers-Lee County Garden Council Bldg., 2166 Virginia Ave., Fort Myers, FL 33901

**Meeting called to order** at 1:35 PM. By Dale Kammerlohr for President Peter Diamond

**Attendance total:** 53

New members: 0

Guest: 2, Norris Wildhagen and Anthony Warfield

**Workshop: No workshop today**

**Business Meeting called to order** at 2:35 PM. By Dale Kammerlohr for Peter Diamond

**Announcements:**

Existing officers are willing to continue, if you would like to run for a seat, please contact Dale. Contact Brian Weber if you want to sell plants at the December bromeliad sale. Betsy ask everyone to take the fliers Larry made and put them up wherever you can and take them to any meetings or events that you go to. Larry can make up special signs if you need them. There is also information to take for the sale and signage. Advertising is everyone's responsibility. Betty Ann mentioned the article in today's paper talking about our sale and new venue. A good time was had by all who attended the field trip – and a big thank you to Carly for arranging that.

**Program: "Growing Quality Cryptanthus"** Presented by Steve Hoppin

Steve, a longtime member was happy to be back over on the west coast to present his power point presentation on how he grows exceptionally nice and large cryptanthus. He calls doesn't call himself a professional hybridizer but does like to experiment with Cryptanthus and Pitcarnia. He has registered many wonderful hybrids and he has some to see in the back of the room. Cryptanthus comes from the Latin crypt-meaning hidden and Anthos-meaning flowers. They are terrestrial, from the family Bromeliaceae and have the nickname of Earth Stars. They are indigenous to Brazil and grow in the shade predominantly. In general their shape is round or oval providing culture requirements are met. The leaves usually have very short serrations and the ones with the most scurf are more light tolerant. Cryptanthus love food so he feeds them with time release fertilizer like "Dynamite" 13-13-13 at the beginning of growing season and then 6 months later, and supplements with a weak solution of liquid fertilizer every month. For a 5 inch pot he uses ½ tsp. of the time release pellets. If they are food deprived they become smaller and lose color. And it takes a long time to recover. Being terrestrial growers you can plant them in the ground or pots (he prefers the plastic pots) and uses potting soil with a little added perlite, sand or fern fiber. They like to be on the moist side but too much water will cause their tips to become brown and mushy, while with too little water the tips become brown and crisp. The best time to plant pups is April-Oct. Bright indirect light is optimal for most, some tolerate stronger light from around 8:30-10:30 in the mornings. They prefer warmer days and may have to be brought inside in the winter if the temperature falls below 45-50. You can also put a freeze cloth over them or place them next to an exterior house wall. He has not had pest problems but once a year he treats his entire collection with "Bayer" brand rose and flower care or tree and shrub care( that you can find in the big box stores). The flowers in the center little button are imperfect/only male but the flowers in the leaf axels are perfect being male and female. Pups grow much faster but if you start seeds do it in the warmest months. Taxonomy can change over time and then back again. Carole Richtmyer is a hybridizers who named a plant after him *Cryptanthus 'Stephen Hoppin'*. He showed wonderful pictures of some of his best creations and encouraged people to look at [www.cryptanthussociety.org](http://www.cryptanthussociety.org) for more information on the Cryptanthus Society. Dr. Larry Giroux is the editor of their journal.

**Show and Tell:** led by Dale Kammerlohr and Grant Groves

**Refreshment Break:** 2:46 - 3:10 PM. Thank you Mary McKenzie and volunteers for all the wonderful treats

**Door Prize:** 9 Billbergia buchholtzii were donated by Bruce McAlpin and won by Betsy Burdette, Anne Miller, Doris Mock, Duke Graessle, Eleanor Kinzie, Sandra Drake, Diane Cornelison, Benjamin Schad and Martha Reiter.

**Raffle:** Led by Dr. Larry Giroux, assisted by Dolly Dalton and Sharalee Dias

**Adjournment:** 4:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Sharalee Dias Co-Secretary

**We are changing the location of the**

**CBS Sale from Terry Park to**

**The TROPICAL LODGE #56 / Also called the  
MASONIC LODGE**

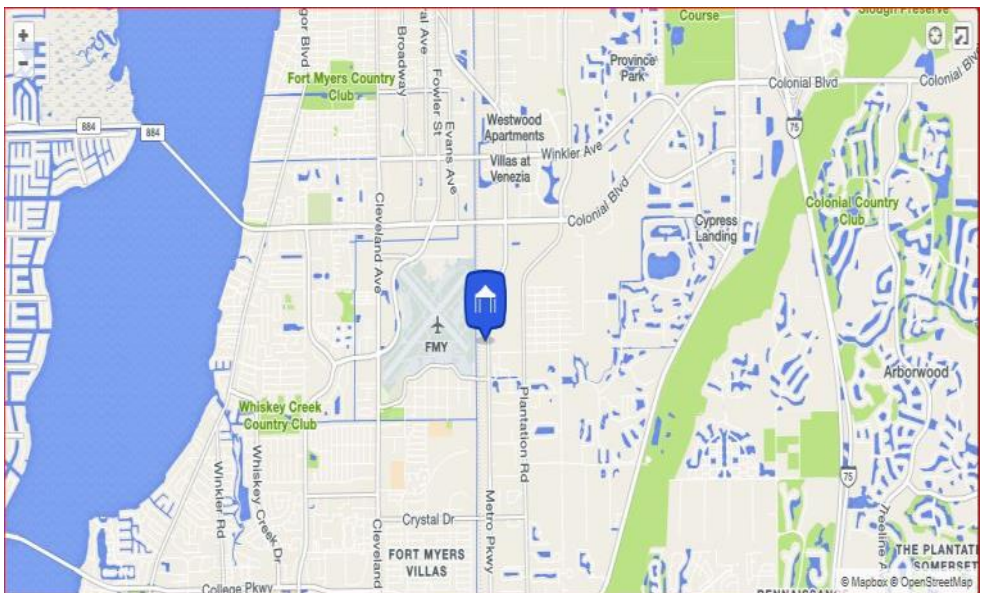
**10868 METRO PKWY FT MYERS FL 33906**

**Dates: Sat. Dec 3rd & Sun. Dec 4th 2016**

**The new facility is indoors, A/C'ed and easily  
accessible for both sellers and buyers.**

**If you are planning on selling at the Dec 3rd and 4th CBS Bromeliad Sale, you need to finalize you plans with Geri Prall. Please email Geri Prall ([PalmTreeGardens@hotmail.com](mailto:PalmTreeGardens@hotmail.com)) or confer with her at the November meeting, if you intend to sell at this sale and if you can bring tables. We need to get a preliminary count; but, if something comes up and you change your mind, you can let her know before the sale.**

**Any member in good standing who has been a member since June 1st 2016 is eligible to sell bromeliads, driftwood, plant related items (including hangers, bromeliad art, etc.) You get to keep 75% of the money you earn and have a fun time doing it.**





THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY'S

# BROMELIAD SALE



Ft. Myers MASONIC LODGE

10868 Metro Parkway

(3/4 mile SOUTH of Colonial)

Saturday, Dec 3rd, 2016 9AM-4PM

Sunday, Dec 4th, 2016 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](mailto:DrLarry@comcast.net)  
for more information.



Dr. Larry Giroux, Editor  
3836 Hidden Acres Circle N  
North Fort Myers FL 33903  
(239) 997-2237 [Drlarry@comcast.net](mailto:Drlarry@comcast.net)



The CAPOSAHATCHEE Bromeliad Society's  
**BROMELIAD SALE**



**FL MYERS MASONIC LODGE**  
**10868 Metro Parkway**

**DEC 3rd and DEC 4th**

**The CBS HOLIDAY PARTY WILL BE HOSTED BY**

**Carly Sushil 6441 Buckingham Road Fort Myers (Buckingham)**

**On Sunday, December 18th 2016**