



THE CALOOSAHATCHEE
BROMELIAD SOCIETY'S
MERISTEM

July-Aug 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

The opinions expressed in the Meristem are those of the authors. They do not necessarily represent the views of the Editor or the official policy of CBS. Permission to reprint is granted with acknowledgement. Original art work remains the property of the artist and special permission may be needed for reproduction.



THE CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

July Meeting— Sunday, July 17th 2016

August Meeting— Sunday, Aug 21st 2016

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 Meeting Setup

The Workshop begins at 1:15PM

Please bring food, Raffle and Show and Tell Plants

Membership Sales are permitted at the July meeting

Membership Sales are permitted at the August meeting...Andy Siekkinen will be bringing select plants from his collection in California, but has no objection to members' sales.

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society is an active Affiliate of:



Cryptanthus Society



BSI



FCBS



FM/LC GC

July Program
“Travelogue in Columbia”
By Guillermo Rivera

You might recall this program was originally scheduled for February, but had to be rescheduled. Guillermo Rivera is the owner and operator of South America Nature Tours. Initially he offered a series of Bromeliad/Cactus tours within South America; today he has expanded his areas of exploration to include Africa. His on hands nature adventures are carefully orchestrated to include the best of each region he and his guests are trekking. He will adapt the tours to the particular likes of his visitors and will include a flora specialist to help better involve the travelers. Travelogue of Columbia will be made more enjoyable by Guillermo’s mastery of the camera.

July WorkshopWorkshop
“Mosquitos, Zeka and Bromeliads”
By Kara Tyler-Julian

Great interest about the impending danger of the Zeka virus here in Florida was voiced at the May meeting. Linda Soter was attending another Society meeting and met Kara Tyler-Julian who is a Mosquito biologists with the Mosquito Control District. She has been researching the relationship of mosquitos and bromeliads here in Florida for the County and State. Kara will be giving us the facts at the next meeting. Bring your concerns and questions to the Workshop and be able to understand and respond to the conversations going on in the News.

August Program

“BromEvo and Pernambuco, Brazil”

By Andy Siekkinen

Andy will be presenting on his March 2015 visit to Brazil, where he went a little further south than his usual haunts in Mexico in order to present his preliminary results for his genetic research on the genus *Hechtia* and to present on behalf of the BSI at the First World Congress on *Bromeliaceae* Evolution (nicknamed 'BromEvo'). In this presentation, Andy will spend a little bit of time talking about this first academic conference completely devoted to research of the *Bromeliaceae* before showing some of the diversity of the bromeliads in the caatinga of Pernambuco, Brazil. The plants were seen on a 2-day post-conference excursion led by one of the organizing professors of the conference. In particular, we will get to see the variations of natural populations of *Orthophytum disjunctum*, *Aechmea leptantha*, and *Hohenbergias* growing on granite formations. The rest of Andy's trip when he explored the Chapada Diamantina National Park and surrounding region will unfortunately have to wait until his next visit!

Andy Siekkinen has been traveling and studying the *Hechtias* (and all bromeliads) of Mexico for over 6 years—including just finishing a trip to study the *Hechtias* of the Baja California Peninsula. He has been doing his research at San Diego State University and will be starting his botany/evolutionary biology graduate degree at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden/Claremont Graduate University immediately after his return to California. He is currently working on the descriptions of over a dozen new species (including some *Tillandsia* and *Pitcairnia*) and has been studying the evolutionary relationships using some of the newest genetic techniques. While jumping headlong into the research, he still strongly holds on to the love of cultivating the plants. Actively working on introducing many new species into cultivation, he is also working on *Hechtia* hybrids--a relatively new and open frontier. His plant collection and garden is dominated by bromeliads, but only those

that can handle the hot, dry San Diego summers. Andy unfortunately will probably be too busy with graduate school to lead many tours, but may have the opportunity to do a few private tours through his company, Eagle Eye Adventures.



Photo by Andy Siekkinen

August Workshop

By Jeff Joffee

You will recall that earlier this year Carly Sushil, our Special projects Chair organized a trip to the Fakahatchee Preserve for about a dozen of our members.

The reports from the group indicated that they had a great time and were exposed to an unforgettable adventure.

Jeff Joffee, one of the attendees and a great photographer, has agreed to present a slide presentation about the day outing to the Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park in Collier County. Experience the enjoyment without the mud!

Workday Scheduled at the Garden Council Bromeliad Garden July 16th

A workday has been scheduled for the FMLC Garden Council Bromeliad Garden on 16 July beginning at 7:30 a.m. until noon-ish. Dale got word that the Council folks wanted it cleaned up, with or without the club's help. So CBS members felt that the 16th -- the day before the July meeting - would be good so that extra plants that are thinned out could be taken to the meeting as friendship plants. Dress appropriately (e.g., protection against sharp, spiny plants and mosquitos) and to bring work tools and drinking water. Dale said he would arrange to get the gate combination ahead of time. President Pete Diamond will be there between 7AM & 7:30AM to provide some guidance.

November Outing Planned

Carly, our Special Project Chair is planning a November club outing to either Marie Selby Botanical Gardens in Sarasota or Naples Botanical Garden. She's trying to gauge interest among members as to which garden to visit. So let her know your preference as to location and time. Carly Sushil (239) 454-5130 crpfalz@eagle.fgcu.edu

WBC Show Winners

The 2016 World Bromeliad Conference was hosted by the Bromeliad Society /Houston last month in Houston Texas. Although there were relatively few members from Florida and only a very few from the Caloosahatchee Society, we did very well in the Bromeliad Show.

The back cover shows the overall Artistic winning entry (the Morris Henry Hobbs Award), which was won by Jackie Johnson of California. The front cover is the M.B.Foster Best of Show Horticulture Winner. *Orthophytum benzingii* shown by John Schmidt. Included here are some of the other winning entries, which were shown by members of our society.



Division V Winner

Dyckia burle-marxii

X

Encholarium horridum

Exhibitor:

Brian Weber

Division VII Sec B Winner

Tillandsia duratii

Exhibitor:

Terrie Bert





Best of Show Commercial The Mulford B. Foster Award
***Dyckia goehringii* Exhibitor: Michael Kiehl**



Division VI Sec B Winner

***Aechmea* 'Lulu'**

Exhibitor:
Terrie Bert



Division X Sec B Winner

“Copper Patina” with Cryptanthus ‘Grazilla’ & acaulis

Exhibitor: Dr Larry Giroux



**Commercial Division
VIII Sec D**

***Billbergia*
‘Beadleman’ x
‘Fireworks’**

**Exhibitor:
Grant Groves**

Additional WBC Show Winners



Division VII Winner

John Arden Best Tillandsia Award

Tillandsia pedicellata

Exhibitor: Aaron Sedivy



Div IX Sec A
Cryptanthus 'Copper Patina'
Ruby Adams



Div IV Sec B &

The John Anderson Best Aechmea

Aechmea pectinata

Aaron Sedivy

Div II Sec B

Tillandsia fasciculata 'Tropiflora'

Malcolm McCorquodale



Div X

"Longhorn Campfire"

Jackie Johnson



Div VI
Tillandsia tectorum
Charlie Birdsong



Div VI Sec A
Tillandsia caput – medusae
John Edmonson



Div I
***Dyckia* 'Keswick'**
Steve Reynolds



Div III Sec A
Hohenbergia catingae
Steve Reynolds



Div IV
***Cryptanthus* 'Ken Vinzant'**
Carole Richtmyer



Div I Sec B
Dyckia fosteriana
Sam Chism



Div VIII Sec B
Vriesea
'Strawberries & Ice Cream'
David Fell



Div VIII
***Vriesea* 'ElDorado'**
David Fell



Div II
Tillandsia flabellate
 Elizabeth
 Patterson

Div VII Sec A
*Tillandsia strepto-
 phylla*
 Elizabeth Patterson



Div III Sec B
Aechmea egleriana
 Margo Racca

Div III
Orthophytum 'Red Frost'
 Gene Powers



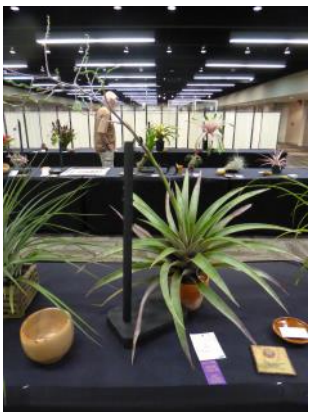
Div X Sec A
 "Texas Stars"
Cryptanthus 'Ruby'
 Allyn Pearl-

Div IIV Sec A
Aechmea burli-marxii
 Elizabeth Patterson



Div V Sec A
*Orthophytum burle-
 marxii x natural
 hybrid*
 Gene Powers

Div II Sec A
Tillandsia mimia
 Elizabeth Patterson





Commercial Div
VIII Sec G
*Tillandsia
funckiana*
David Shigii

Best Judges
Dyckia species
Robert Kopfstien



Commercial Div VIII Sec C
Neoregelia '
Magali' variegated
Grant Groves

Best Novice
Neoregelia
'Mo' Pepper Please'
Roy Smith



**The Pictorial Roster and Yearbook is
available at the CBS Meeting.**

CBS Minutes for May 15th 2016

Call to Order: 1:30 by President Pete Diamond

Workshop: Bruce McAlpin brought in a few *Deuterocohnias* and showed how to divide and replant them. The under parts of the plant are all stems that branch out from an original stem. Use an open, crumbly potting mix that drains well when repotting. *Deuterocohnias* need a little more water than you think since they have a small root system. Adding a top dressing of gravel helps to slow soil loss. Bruce was also kind enough to give away many starts to the membership. There was also a discussion of mosquito incubation in bromeliads and the Zika virus. Systemic insecticides do not work on mosquito larvae because the larvae do not eat the plant. A good mosquito larvae deterrent is bT.

Attendance: There were 44 members and guests in attendance. The new members are Duane Bagley, Ashley Singleton, Robin Harris, Rick Batt, and Debbie McPhail. The guests were Mike and Candace McCaffery, Nathan Singleton, Harriet Nolan, Gerry Storch, and Pete and Amy Blakeley.

Program: Marc Frank gave a presentation on “Understanding Plant Names.” Botanical names are better than common names because they give descriptions of plants and are universal. The system of giving each plant or animal two names (genus and species) dates back to 1753 with Linnaeus. Linnaeus was a Swedish doctor, zoologist, botanist, taxonomist, and teacher. Before Linnaeus plants were described with many Latin terms. Common names can be impossible to standardize and vary from region to region. Some drawback to botanical names are they are hard to spell and pronounce, and they can change. The first name, the genus, gets capitalized, and is usually singular noun that typically ends in –a or –us. The second name, the species, is lower case, and is usually an adjective. The most common source of plant names are Latin, Greek, or Medieval. Modern names come from language morphs or people, geographic places, or anagrams. So, the botanical name for Red Powderpuff is *Calliandra hematocephala*. *Calliandra* means beautiful and *hematocephala* means blood red head. Marc said that Stern’s Dictionary of Plant Names is a good reference book because it includes tropical plants. There is a glossary of botanical plant name meanings in our library that is available for check out.

General Meeting: Thank you to Betsy Burdette and Diane Cornelison for the birthday party.

We still need ideas for workshops as well as a coordinator for the workshops. We also need to relieve Bruce of the responsibility of bringing in the door prize. If you would like to bring in a plant for the door prize or become the coordinator of the door prize please contact Peter. The world conference is being held in June in Houston. We have about 3 members attending. In April a group of members went on a swamp walk in the Fakahatchee Strand. There will be a workshop in the next few months about it. The rent we pay to the church is doubling to \$150 per month. When the renovations to the Garden Council building are completed, hopefully in September, we will move our meetings there.

Donna and Gary Schneider's Fruit market was featured in Martha Stewart Living in the June issue. If you want to sell plants at our sale in December, you have to pay your dues by June 1st.

Larry Giroux moved to donate \$250 to \$300 to the world conference. Carol Sweat seconded.

Refreshments: 2:45. Thank you for bringing in treats.

Door Prize: Bruce McAlpin donated 9 dwarf neos for the door prize. The winners were: Donald Robertson, Steve Seal, Carol Sweat, Donna Schneider, Robin Harris, Elizabeth Migliore, Nathan Singleton, Harriet Nolan, and Carly Sushil.

Show and Tell: Led by Dale Kammerlohr

Raffle: Led by Larry Giroux and assisted by Terry Lazar and Betsy Burdette.

Adjournment: 3:50.

Respectfully submitted by Carly Sushil, Co-Secretary.

Construction and renovations of the FMLC Garden Council building was suppose to start the beginning of July. Contractors estimate that it will take about 45 days for completion! We are all excited about our new meeting home.

You will get a chance to see the progress when you come out to help with the clean up of our Bromeliad Garden at the site.



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



This is your July/ August CBS Newsletter.