



The Bromeliad Blade

Newsletter of the
San Diego
Bromeliad Society

February 2019

VOLUME LIV

NUMBER 2

President's Message

By Morlane O'Donnell



With all this rain, Croaky the Frog is a happy camper in his Quesnelia marmorata home. Saludos from Juliana's garden!

Recently daytime in our area has been blessed with abundant sunshine, warmer than most places in the U.S. The nights have been chilly, maybe colder than those of the past few years. At least we have a chance to saunter outside and enjoy our beautiful plants and do a little gardening while we're at it. It's satisfying to see the start of a spike or a favorite bromeliad showing just a hint of color that will intensify in the upcoming months. The rain we've enjoyed has worked wonders for our collections.

Start thinking about what bromeliads you would like to exhibit in our show in June. While it won't be a judged show, we want the public to see

our bromeliads at their best.

In addition to our show and sale, we can look forward to the bus tour to two Orange County gardens in May. Andrew Wilson and Eloise Lau have been working diligently on it. Nancy Groves is looking for volunteers and ideas for our exhibit at the Del Mar Fair in June.

Our speaker this month is our newsletter editor, Juliana Raposo. She will be presenting a slide show on the collections and gardens she saw while visiting Brazil.

I'd like to close by thanking all of you who have volunteered your time and expertise in some capacity - whether it's being an officer or serving on the board, serving on a committee, setting up before meetings or cleaning up after, bringing food to share, or making others feel welcome. We cannot function as a club without you. You are very much appreciated. Happy and safe growing.

January Highlights

Pam Hyatt's presentation on the Oaxaca-Chiapas eco-tour was a dream. I look forward to joining her on the next one.

Show n Tell

Andrew Wilson

xDyckcochia 'Conrad Morton'
(Dyckia macedoi x Deuterochonia meiziana)
Grown outdoors in full sun. *photo*



Al Evans

Thick leaf Tillandsia montana x ionantha 'Peanuts'
Tillandsia butzii giant
Tillandsia Zza unregistered
50% shade

Lucia Velazquez

Tillandsia 'Eric Knobloch'
(brachycaulos x streptophylla)
Grows under a juniper, morning sun.

Scott Sandel

Tillandsia gymnobotrya
Grown in 50% shade. Unnamed plant from Andy's orchids. Id provided by Pam Hyatt.

Aechmea orlandiana 'Gold Tone'
Grown in 50% shade. Variegated mother-plant with a near-albino pup.

Tillandsia exserta
Grown in 50% shade, lots of air circulation. Easy!

Billbergia distachia var. concolor
50% shade or less

Juliana Raposo

Book: Brazil, Orchid of the Tropics. Mulford and Racine Foster
Fantastic Amazon find, autographed by the authors. Must-read for bromeliad lovers.

Pam Peters

Vriesea fosteriana *photo*
Vriesea gigantea
Grown in 50% shade.



Steve Salley

Tillandsia tectorum
Tillandsia chiapensis
Assorted T. chiapensis hybrids *photo*
Grown in shadehouse in Bonsall, CA.



Show n Tell (continued)

Robert Kopfstein

Billbergia Dolly unregistered
Hundreds of little seedlings that resembled wheat grass.

Nancy Groves

Ball of Tillandsia aeranthos *photo*
Over 10 years-old. Grown under 50% shade cloth outdoors.



Krista Mills

Tillandsia stricta
Tillandsia ionantha x concolor? *photo*
Sun to bright light, gets city water.

David Kennedy

Tillandsia 'Silver Spike'
(beutelspacheri x chiapensis)
Guzmania andreettae *photo*
It bloomed! From Ecuagenera.



SDBS 2019

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Upcoming Events

SDBS Meetings

February 9, 2019

SDBS Monthly Meeting
Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 104
www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

March 9, 2019

SDBS Monthly Meeting
Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 104
www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

SDBS Events 2019

SD Botanic Garden Spring Festival
San Diego Botanic Garden
March 16, 2019

SDBS Display at the Del Mar Fair
Del Mar Fairgrounds
June 1 – July 4, 2019

SDBS Annual Show & Sale
Balboa Park, Casa del Prado room 101
June 8 & 9, 2019

Monthly Meetings

1st Tuesday, 6:30 PM

San Diego Orchid Society
Balboa Park, Casa Del Prado, Room 101
www.sdorchids.com

2nd Saturday, 1 PM

San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society
Balboa Park, Casa Del Prado, Room 101
www.sdcss.net

2nd Wednesday, 7 PM

San Diego Epiphyllum Society
Balboa Park, Casa Del Prado, Room 101
www.SanDiegoEpi.org

2nd Monday, 5:45 PM

San Diego Horticultural Society
Congregation Beth Israel (CBI)
9001 Towne Centre Drive
San Diego, CA 92122
sdhort.org

February Meeting



The program will be presented by Juliana Raposo, yours truly. As a relatively new person in the bromeliad world and a native Brazilian, I've been curious to know what happened to bromeliad growing in Brazil after the Brazilian Bromeliad Society disbanded in the late 90s. In its heyday, the SBBR had thousands of members, a quarterly journal and led conservation, scientific and education programs.

In July 2018, I tracked down 4 prominent members of the club in Rio de Janeiro. The effort led to meeting Marcia and Vera Leuzinger, Rafael Oliveira de Faria, Roberto Menescal and Paulo Tosta, fantastic bromeliad lovers who opened their doors to show their plant treasures to us. And they are not just growing – they are also developing new cultivars and hybrids.

Most importantly, we can verify that the love of bromeliads is alive and well in Brazilian lands, the native habitat of so many of its species.



Left: *Canistrum alagoanum* blooming in Rio de Janeiro. Right: Juliana and *alcantareas* in Paulo Tosta's shadehouse.

Plant Table

By Stephen Zolezzi

The opportunity table this month features a generous donation by SDBS member Ed Dougherty. Ed moved and didn't have enough room for the broms – so the club gets lucky!

If you would like to donate plants for the monthly meeting, contact Stephen Zolezzi. We are planning on having the member-donated July plant table again, so mark your calendar and prepare a really good brom if you can. SDBS says thanks.

Bromeliads in the News

by Juliana Raposo

Are we experiencing a new bromeliad awakening? Seems like. Public interest in broms is ticking up. If you saw horticulture queen Nan Sterman from [KPBS A Growing Passion](#) shooting video at the WBC last summer, you know that bromeliads will be on TV pretty soon. Yes, broms will get a full episode of the show! Also featured will be Olive Hill Nursery and a SDBS member's garden – my own. The show airs in May. Stay tuned!

If you or someone you know have been featured in the media for your bromeliad interests, please let us know!

Thanks to our wonderful member Lisa Rini, who shared with the Blade this well-written article with Andy Siekkinen, also from the club. Read it at [Succulents and More, a horticulture blog](#).

Events Coming Soon

[More info in the March Blade](#)

South Bay Bromeliad Society Spring Sale

March 9, 2019

Live Arts Plantscapes Nursery
From 10 AM to 3 PM. Featuring plants from member's collections and commercial sellers. The nursery location is 1323 & 1329 W 130th Street in Gardena, CA.

If you are interested in selling your plants at the sale, contact Ted Johnson 310-850-2824(C), or tedjohnsonyh@yahoo.com for details.

SD County Orchid Society Spring Show and Sale

March 22-24, 2019

Scottish Rite Events Center
Mission Valley, San Diego
www.sdorchids.com

THE BROMELIAD BLADE



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To send material for publication, please contact Juliana at julianadraposo@gmail.com

Make sure to submit your contribution before the 20th of the month for inclusion in the next newsletter.

SDBS MEETING

The club meets on the second Saturday of the month at 10am in Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 104.

SDBS WEBPAGE

www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

Now Blooming, or just looking great.



Plants are looking fantastic with all the rain: *Billbergia 'C'est Bon'*, Juliana Raposo. *Neoregelia 'Lucifer'* Scott Sandel. *Tillandsia neglecta*, Juliana Raposo. *Vriesea 'Tasman'*, Scott Sandel. *Aechmea phanerophlebia*, first bloom since 2003, Don Patterson.

