



S.F.V.B.S.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BROMELIAD SOCIETY

JANUARY 2020

P.O. BOX 16561, ENCINO, CA 91416-6561

sfvbromeliad.homestead.com

sanfernandovalleybs@groups.facebook.com

Twitter is: *sfvbromsociety*

Instagram is: *sfvbromeliadsociety*

Elected OFFICERS & Volunteers

Pres: **Bryan Chan** V.P.: **Joyce Schumann** Sec: **Leni Koska** Treas: **Mary Chan** Membership: **Steffanie Delgado**
Advisors/Directors: **Steve Ball, Richard Kaz -fp, & Carole Scott-fp,** Sunshine Chair: **Georgia Roiz** Refreshments: **vacant**
Web & Editor: **Mike Wisnev** Snail Mail: **Nancy P-Hapke** Instagram & Twitter & Face Book: **Felipe Delgado**

next meeting: Saturday January 4, 2020 @ 10:00 am

Sepulveda Garden Center 16633 Magnolia Blvd. Encino, California 91436

AGENDA

9:30 – SET UP & SOCIALIZE

10:00 - Door Prize drawing – one member who arrives before 10:00 gets a Bromeliad

10:05 -Welcome Visitors and New Members. Make announcements and Introduce Speaker

10:15 – Speaker – Marcia Tatroe

“Rockin’ with Cacti and Succulents”

11:15 - Refreshment Break and Show and Tell:

Will the following members please provide refreshments this month: **D E F G H and I** and anyone else who has a snack they would like to share. If you can't contribute this month don't stay away.... just bring a snack next time you come.

Feed The Kitty

If you don't contribute to the refreshment table, please make a small donation to (**feed the kitty jar**) on the table; this helps fund the coffee breaks.

11:30 - Show and Tell is our educational part of the meeting – Members are encouraged to please bring one or more plants. You may not have a pristine plant but you certainly have one that needs a name or is sick and you have a question.

11:45 – Mini Auction: members can donate plants for auction, or can get 75% of proceeds, with the remainder to the Club

12:00 – Raffle: Please bring plants to donate and/or buy tickets. Almost everyone comes home with new treasures!

12:15 - Pick Up around your area

12:30 –/ Meeting is over—Drive safely <>

Marcia Tatroe



-- Happy New Year--

Marcia Tatroe “Rockin’ with Cacti and Succulents”

If you want to succeed with a collection of cold hardy cacti and succulents, a rock garden is the ideal environment. Raised beds allow you to provide soil that is compatible to the plant’s needs. Rocks help protect against weather extremes, while moderating temperature fluctuations enough to increase hardiness by a zone or two. This presentation considers stone selection, the basics of construction and tricks that rock gardeners use that will make your garden work for you.

Marcia Tatroe has been gardening in Centennial Colorado for over 31 years. Her photography and gardens have been featured in numerous books, magazines and nationally televised gardening shows. She lectures throughout the West focusing on garden design, rock gardening, xeriscape, and native plants, advocating using drought-tolerant and native plants and indigenous materials to create a gardening aesthetic unique to this region. Her garden was awarded Gold Habitat Hero status by the Audubon Rockies in 2017 as an outstanding urban wildscape. ***Page 3 & 4 you will see some photos of Marcia’s personal garden***

Announcements

- **Holiday Gift Plants** - It is good to see one unique tradition of SFVBS continue. For more than 25 years each December the club pays for gift plants to hand out to current members in attendance. Our thanks to Bryan for the extra work of ordering and caring for the plants prior to the December meeting. This year he purchased a nice variety of plants so that each member present could take a *Tillandsia*, *Dyckia*, *Neoregelia* or another plant in the bromeliad family. Many thanks to the Club and Bryan.
- **Participation Rewards System** – This is a reminder that you will be rewarded for participation. Bring a Show-N- Tell plant, raffle plants, and Refreshments and you will be rewarded with a Raffle ticket for each category. Each member, please bring one plant
- **2020 Membership Dues** – You can pay this month at the meeting or at future meetings.
Annual dues are now \$15 (\$20 if you receive the Newsletter by snail mail instead of email). <

Please pay your 2020 Membership Dues

NEED TO RENEW ?.....

Pay at the picnic or future meetings to: Membership Chair –Steffanie Delgado or Treasurer - Mary Chan or Mail to: SFVBS membership, P.O. Box 16561 - Encino, CA 91416-6561
Yearly Membership Dues - \$15 for monthly e-mail newsletters or \$20 for snail mail

Please Put These Dates on Your Calendar

Here is our 2019 Calendar. Rarely does our schedule change..... however, please review our website and email notices before making your plans for these dates. Your attendance is important to us

Saturday January 4	Marcia Tatroe
Saturday February 1	Kathleen Misko
Saturday March 7	Nels Christianson
Saturday April 4	STBA

STBA = Speaker To Be Announced

Speakers Let us know if you have any ideas for Speakers about Bromeliads or any similar topics? We are always looking for an interesting speaker. If you hear of someone, please notify **Joyce Schumann** at 818-416-5585 or ropojo@pacbell.net

*Below are photos of
Marcia Tatroe's gardens*



Photos by Randy and Marcia Tatroe.

*Above is *Chiastophyllum oppositifolium* (yellow flowers) and other flowers, and below is *Cowania* (the white flowered tree/shrub) and other plants on Dryland Mesa.*



*This section is open for any
Member-contributions of photos or articles....*

Many thanks to Felipe Delgado, he submitted the following article and photos

2019 SFVBS Holiday Brunch

Hello Bromeliad enthusiasts! On Saturday, December 7th we had our holiday brunch and I for one had plenty of fun. We had a great group of Society members participate and it was wonderful to see everybody.



Of course, it is always great to make it to our meetings on the first Saturday of each month, but once a year, on the first Saturday of December the Society gets together for an extra special meal. Surprisingly, an even better spread than what we normally see at the monthly meetings, which are already quite good.



*More delicious dishes
from great cooks*



I can't remember what I had for breakfast as I write this, so do not expect me to note every dish but there was some good eating to be had by all. Awesome bread, as often is the case, by Ana Wisnev, Al Mindel's cucumber salad, a bevy of salads and fixings along with turkey, stuffing and gravy. There was so much to choose from and I believe that we all ate our fill on that morning. Steffanie, my wife I would like to personally thank each and every one of you that brought in a dish or a dessert so that we could all partake and have this wonderful meal.



Thank you to all Society members also for being so free with conversation, advice and so willing to share in the knowledge that they have. It has definitely made a person new to the hobby, like myself feel very welcome and it is always a great pleasure to arrive at the Society meetings knowing that it will be an exciting experience.

Finally, thank you to all society members that allowed me to take their photographs. I share them below with sincere gratitude.

Thank you, Bryan for your energy and all that you do for SFVBS.

Felipe



Taxonomic Tidbits: *Some Different Tillandsia*

By Mike Wisnev SFVBS Editor (mwisnev@gmail.com)

San Fernando Valley Bromeliad Society Newsletter –January 2020

I have done a lot of *Tillandsia* articles. Why so many? Well, there are almost 750 species, by far the most species of any bromeliad genus. And that is after a number of different genera were broken out of *Tillandsia* a few years ago. They are easy to grow, once you get the hang of it – just run the hose over them once a week. I've met more than one person downsizing their collection who kept their *Tillandsias* for this reason. Many are relatively small, and many are very inexpensive, so you can get a nice collection pretty easily.

With about 745 species, it is no surprise that that many look a lot alike, and many are very different. Despite these differences, except for the fact that some look like *Vrieseas*, it is usually pretty easy to tell you have a *Tillandsia*. While we have seen a decent sampling in the earlier articles, here are a few more pictures to show how truly diverse they are.

Let's start with flowers since we all like them. We have seen a lot of them with blue to violet petals, and also some with white or yellow petals. A few had two colors – white and violet. The sepals are often a different color. Are there other colors for the petals?

There is a group of them with green flowers, though the flowers are typically quite small. On the next page are two photos of *T. mauryana*. I am chagrined to report the one pictured below died shortly after blooming – we made the mistake of keeping inside and I think it got too dry. Fortunately, we got another a few years later.



T
mauryana



Here is another – *T plumosa*. Green petals, pink bracts and hairy leaves!



There is actually a book about them, aptly named “The green-blooming, small, grey Tillandsias from Mexico” by Renate Ehlers. She is a recognized *Tillandsia* expert – *T ehlersiana* was named in her honour. I don’t have it, but heard it was excellent. It is in German and English.

Ehlers has another book - *The Red-Flowered Tillandsias from Brazil*. Apparently, there are 17 red flowered ones. I don’t know what they all are, and only found out I had one when it bloomed. Maybe I will be lucky and find I have more.

Tillandsia edithiae



Here is another red – *Tillandsia andreana*.



Orange may be even less common – they don't rate a book, at least yet.

Orange may be even less common – they don't rate a book, at least yet.

Here is *T loliacea*, one of the smaller *Tillandsia*. Apparently, some of them have yellow flowers as well. Different colored flowers for a species is pretty common in the cactus world, but I hadn't been aware of it for Bromeliads.



T. crocata is another one that can have orange or yellow flowers. The first photo is from the FCBS and was taken by Derek Butcher. Mine is next to it.



T. crocata

has some of the hairiest leaves of any Tillandsia.



Most flowers have an entire margin – that means there are no teeth or frills on the edges of the petals. But there is often an exception. Here is *T xiphiodes*. It also smells lovely.



Tillandsia xiphiodes

Tillandsia can vary quite a bit in size. Most that I have seen are probably 3 – 6 inches long. It is perhaps hard to say, since a lot of them for sale are not fully grown. By far, the bulk of them are 2 – 15 inches. But there are some very tiny ones. One of the smallest is

T bryoides.



T loliacea, shown earlier, above with the orange flower, is another very small one. Here is a different one, with a single head that is less than 1 inch. The long structure at the end is a seed capsule – about 1-1/2 inches long.

On the other hand, there are some that are very large.

Here is one of the largest I've seen - *T platystachys*
in bloom looking much like a *Vriesea*. No, sadly, it isn't mine.

