

The Bromeliad Blade

Newsletter of the
San Diego
Bromeliad Society

February 2020

VOLUME LV

NUMBER 2

President's Message

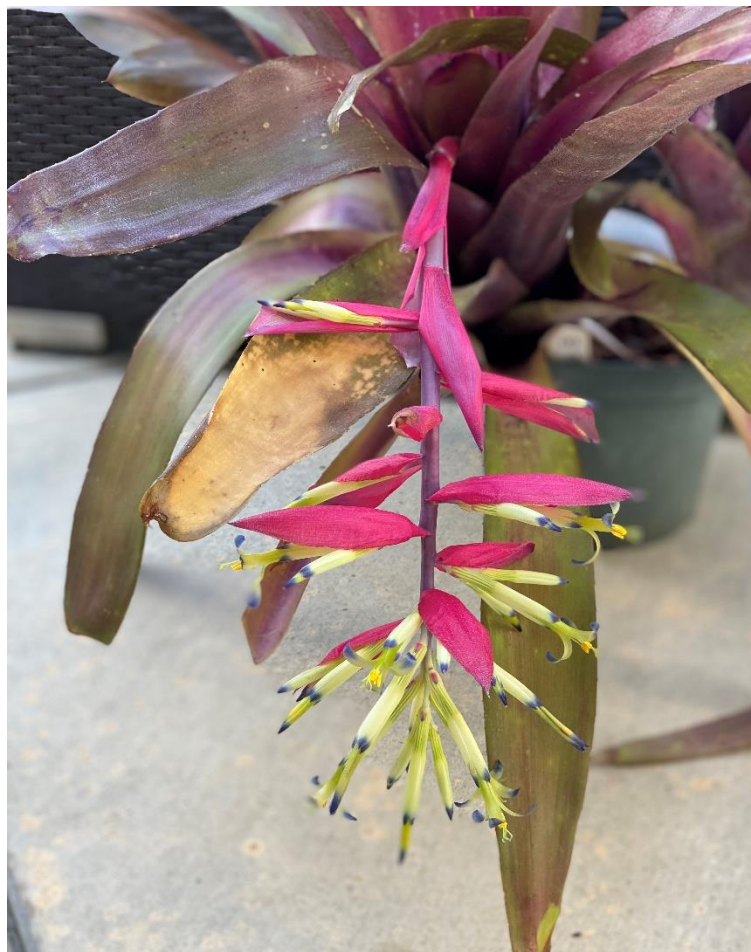
By Morlane O'Donnell

It's hard to believe we are in the middle of winter with all this beautiful weather we've been having lately. I'm finding quite a few broms (especially tillandsias) are coming into bloom. We should have a nice Show and Tell this month.

It's time to start thinking about the Del Mar Fair. This year's theme is "Super Heroes." Nancy Groves will conduct a meeting after our general meeting for those who would like to volunteer to help with our display. Last year the SDBS Fair display won major awards!

Once again, we are sponsoring a \$100 award for best use of a bromeliad in a Fair display. The winner also gets a one-year SDBS membership.

This year members are invited to sell their extra plants at the Del Mar Garden Show/Sale to be held the weekend of March 6 - 8. Each person would be responsible for his/her own transactions. If you don't have any



Billbergia C'est Bon is blooming now

plants to sell, you are welcome to come any of the dates to promote membership in our club and spread your enthusiasm for our wonderful hobby. See Nancy Groves and she will put you on the schedule.

Don't forget to renew your membership. See Charles Oelsen at the meeting or send him an email for more info.

This month's speaker will be Justin Allen who will share his knowledge on growing bromeliads in the Philippines. He is a Soil Scientist at the Salk Institute of Biological Studies. He will also speak on the chemistry of water and soil in regard to growing plants. Everyone will get a *T. recurvata*. Did you know that you can access this information about

our meetings and speakers on the SDBS website? Check it out as it's a great source to stay current about what's going on with our club.

I hope to see you all at the meeting. Meanwhile, safe and happy growing.

January Meeting

By Eloise Lau

Thank you to the 4 gracious ladies who gave us a delightful program at our January meeting. It was a great way to brighten up a gloomy January. Besides a passion for Bromeliads, we were treated to individual style and creativity in each garden.

Pam Peters, the watercolorist showed us beautiful displays of color in her garden (right). Perfect vignettes for painting are featured in her garden. Beautiful displays of Neoregelia and Billbergia create a garden full of color and form. She even has a pet spider hanging out there.



Mitra Pousti is in the process of changing her garden from a succulent garden to one filled with Bromeliads (below). Her garden is in

La Jolla. Mitra confessed that she couldn't find anyone to exchange eggs for bromeliads. She had as many as 100 chickens in her garden



at one time. She likes the plants she gets at the meetings to fill her garden.

Kerry Nelson has a very elegant and sophisticated garden very close to Balboa Park. She has created beautiful garden spaces to relax in and hide from the hustle and bustle of urban life (right).

Kerry also adds Bromeliads to her garden from those she acquires at our meetings.

Lucia Velasquez has a very unique garden full of tillandsia and art (below). Since recently chopping down some Juniper trees she has more space and light to expand her garden. She will have it full of wonderful things very soon.



Upcoming Events

SDBS Meetings

SDBS Monthly Meeting
Saturday, February 8, 2020 @ 10AM
Balboa Park Casa del Prado, Room 104
1650 El Prado, San Diego 92101
www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

SDBS Monthly Meeting
Saturday, March 14, 2020 @ 10AM
Balboa Park Casa del Prado, Room 104
1650 El Prado, San Diego 92101
www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

SDBS Events

35th Annual Spring Home/Garden Show
Fri, Mar 6, 10 AM – Sun, Mar 8, 6 PM
SDBS Members are invited to come sell their plants.
Del Mar Fairgrounds
2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd, Del Mar, CA

SDBS Annual Show & Sale
June 13 & 14
Balboa Park Casa del Prado, Room 101
1650 El Prado, San Diego 92101
www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

SDBS at San Diego County Fair
June 5 – July 5, 2020
SDBS will create a bromeliad display for the horticultural contest.
Del Mar Fairgrounds
2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd, Del Mar, CA

Other 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

By Eloise Lau

Justin Allen - Improving water chemistry for epiphytes and bromeliad expeditions

The speaker in February is our own Justin Allen. Justin is a Soil Scientist at Salk Institute for Biological Studies but has also managed greenhouses for ornamental growers including 3 years with Rainforest Flora. He returned to California a few months ago after spending close to 4 years in the Philippines at the International Rice Research Institute doing research on rice. He also worked with the world's largest Guzmania grower in the Philippines. He will share photos from Southeast Asia and other Bromeliad expeditions, along with some water and soil science tips for epiphytes. He will also bring some *T. recurvata* for everyone.

Time to Renew

A message from our new membership chair, Charles Oelsen:

It's time to renew your membership! Dues are \$18 for 1 year and \$27 for 2 years for a single membership. Dual memberships are \$22 for 1 year and \$35 for 2 years. Dues may be paid to Al Evans (cash, check, card) at the club meeting in February or March. Please respond by March 15 to have your dues paid on time, and to be included in the 2020 Membership Directory. Many kudos for your continued involvement, friendship and spirit. To mail in your check:

San Diego Bromeliad Society
c/o Al Evans
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CA 92138-3996

SDBS 2020

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Events Coming Soon

Springtime is always busy with plant society and garden events, and it can be hard to keep up!

February 8 from 11am to 4pm

The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society Winter Show

Casa del Prado Balboa Park, room 101.

After the SDBS meeting, swing by room 101 to visit the SDCSS show and sale. Lots of cactus and succulents – and bromeliads!

March 6-8 from 10am to 4pm

35th Annual Spring Home/Garden Show

SDBS Members are invited to come sell their plants. Talk to Nancy Groves for details.

Del Mar Fairgrounds

March 27-29

The San Diego County Orchid Society is having their traditional Spring Show & Sale. See page 6 for details.

WBC 2020 Sarasota



Here we are in 2020 and it feels like the San Diego conference was yesterday! This year the biannual event will be held in Sarasota Florida, a city with much to see for any bromeliad enthusiast.

The conference will take place at the Hyatt Regency Sarasota from June 10 to 13. The 8 speakers are Elton Leme from Brazil, Eric Gouda from the Netherlands, Ivon Ramirez from Mexico, Julian Aguirre-Santoro from Colombia, Graeme Barclay from New Zealand, Bruce Holst from Florida, Cristy Brenner from California and Jerry Raack from Ohio. The keynote speaker is Elton Leme.

Conference attendees will be treated to a behind the scenes tour of the world-renowned Mary Selby Botanical Gardens, Michaels Bromeliads and Tropiflora.

For more details and to secure your registration online at the Bromeliad Society International website at www.bsi.org

THE BROMELIAD BLADE



Newsletter of the San Diego Bromeliad Society

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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

Orchid Magic



POSTER by CAROLKERR.COM © 2019
PORCELAIN POT by VIVIANAICAIDESIGNS.COM

San Diego County Orchid Society Show and Sale

March 27-29, 2020

Scottish Rite Event Center
Mission Valley, San Diego

Friday 3-7 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

sdorchids.com/bb

Admission \$10
Weekend Pass \$12
Children under 12 Free
Free Parking