

# The Bromeliad Blade

Newsletter of the  
San Diego  
Bromeliad Society

August 2021

VOLUME LVI

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## President's Message

By Morlane O'Donnell

Greetings to you all. There are many activities coming up in the next few months beginning with the spectacular bromeliad exhibit, "World of Bromeliads, Puya to Pineapple."

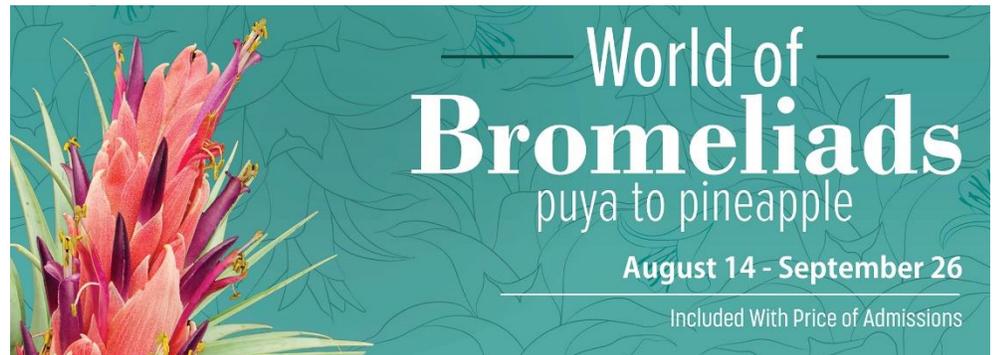
Incidentally, its opening coincides with the day of our meeting this month. Just a reminder, if you wish to attend, you must go to the San Diego Botanic Garden website to obtain tickets. You can also view the show during the gala on August 13. In addition to the bromeliad extravaganza designed by award-winning Rene Van Rems, there will be vendors every weekend throughout the time of the exhibit. You have received many documents loaded with information regarding the exhibit, gala, and sale.

Thank you to all those who helped organize this event, especially Brandi Eide, Rene Van Rems, the steering committee from SDBS, those whose plants are on loan, the vendors, and

all those who volunteered to help in any capacity that was needed.

Eloise Lau has been working hard organizing our first face to face get together which will be a picnic held in lieu of our usual September meeting. More information is given

directorship positions will be open. Remember that because of the pandemic, all officers and directors did have their terms extended by one year. We'll be calling for nominations during the September and October meetings.



in the flyer included in this newsletter. It is a perfect way to reconnect with each other in an informal setting. Normally our picnic would be held in August, but with the special bromeliad exhibition and scarcity of venues at that time, the picnic will be in September this year. Hopefully you all can attend. By the way, alcoholic beverages are allowed at the site so if you would like to bring your own libation, you are welcome to do so.

I'd like to remind you that this is an election year. The offices of president and vice president and two

We are planning on resuming our meetings at Balboa Park in October. Keep your fingers crossed. We are all looking to the day. Meanwhile, I'll see you at the San Diego Botanic Garden and/or at the picnic in Solana Beach. Safe and happy growing.

# August Meeting

Our Zoom meeting on August 14, 2021, at 10 AM.

Our speakers in August are the Aizlewoods from the Gold Coast region of eastern Australia. They are great enthusiasts for the growing of bromeliads and have a great deal of experience to share with us. During their presentation you will see hybrids that have not been seen before.

Greg and Narelle Aizlewood reside in a small fishing village located on the coast midway between the Gold Coast and Brisbane in Queensland. The climate is described as sub-tropical with temperatures ranging from a minimum of 5C degrees during Winter to a 35C degrees maximum in summer.

In their own words:

We have been growing bromeliads since 1985 and are in the process of trying to downsize our collection. We enjoy travelling to the U.S.A. to attend the World Bromeliad Conferences and have only missed one conference since our first to San Diego in 2006.

We have travelled extensively in South America to Mexico, Peru, Bolivia, Brazil, and Ecuador. Greg has been known to collect tillandsia seeds on most of our trips and has a very interesting tillandsia collection, a lot of which has been grown from seed. Greg's love of bromeliads originally started with billbergias and he has registered quite a few billbergias hybrids. Narelle enjoys working with the softer leaved bromeliads and together we have a good collection of John Arden's



hybrids. John sent seeds to Greg some years ago and we are just now getting to see the results of those seed growing ventures, crosses that John never lived to see.

## July Meeting Recap

In this travelogue, we watched a fun account by speaker Carl Carter. The presentation included lots of interesting visuals of Bolivian flora and fauna and an enthusiastic delivery by Carl.

## San Diego Bromeliad Society Picnic

San Diego Bromeliad Society Picnic is in San Dieguito County Park September 11, 2021, Saturday, 11 AM.

We will celebrate our first in person meeting post pandemic with a picnic at the San Dieguito County Park in Solana Beach.

Upper Park entrance: 1756 Highland Dr. Solana Beach 92075 San Dieguito County Park Picnic Area #2 Entrance on Highland. There is a \$3.00 parking fee per vehicle. You may consider carpooling.

Your cost for the picnic includes a box lunch and drinks. SDBS members: \$10 Guests: \$15.00

We'll have fun and games with a musical Bromeliad game (like musical chairs). If you want to participate, bring a Bromeliad in a sealed brown paper bag. The bag can be any size but no larger than a large grocery bag. Bring a plant of the quality that you would want in your collection to share with someone else.

You will find the flyer as a separate attachment to the newsletter e-blast. Fill out and send with fee to Eloise. Full instructions are in the flyer.

Questions: Contact Eloise Lau by email: [eloiselau@mac.com](mailto:eloiselau@mac.com) or phone: 760-716-632



*Steve Zolezzi serving punch at the 2019 picnic, at Pam Hyatt's house.*

## World of Bromeliads Exhibit at SD Botanic Garden

**Today:** Review your plant submissions in the club [spreadsheet](#). Add the date and time you intend to drop off. Tag your plants with the name of the plant and your name.

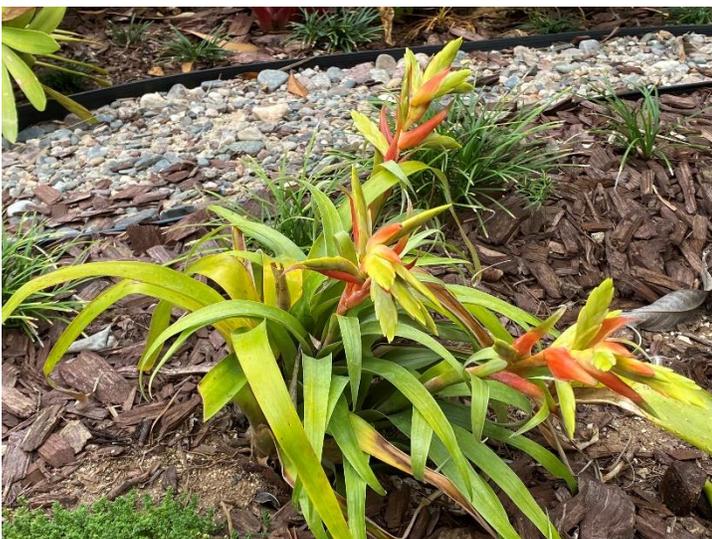
**August 11 and 12, from 8am to 4pm:** Plant check-in at SDBG, 300 Quail Gardens Drive. RSVP to opening reception by emailing Brandi Eide, [beide@sdbgarden.org](mailto:beide@sdbgarden.org)

**August 13, from 5 to 7pm:** Join us at SDBG for an evening with friends where you'll be able to see the show before it opens on Saturday.

**August 14 – September 26:** Bromeliad Exhibit

**September 27-28:** Plant pickup

## Eye-catching colors and patterns



Clockwise from top: *Aechmea fendleri* variegated and inflorescence detail (Juliana Raposo), *Hechtia coerulea* (Andrew Wilson), *Vriesea 'Red Flame'* and *Nidularium innocentii* variegated (Juliana Raposo), *Tillandsia straminea* blooming profusely (Andrew Wilson), and from last year's J Kent's sale at Andy Cuffel's: *Tillandsia confertiflora* and *Tillandsia hamaleana* (Ronee Kozlowski).

## SDBS 2020

### Officers

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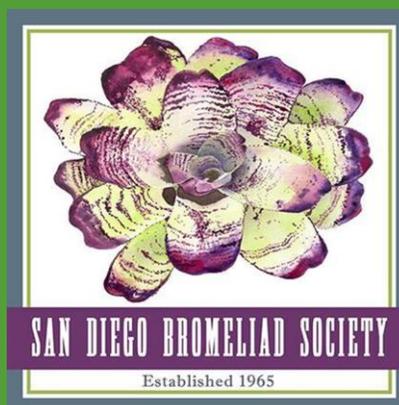
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## THE BROMELIAD BLADE



Newsletter of the San Diego  
Bromeliad Society

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To send material for publication,  
please contact Juliana at  
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Make sure to submit your  
contribution before the 20<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org)

## DK ORNAMENTALS

### BROMELIADS OF ALL SHAPES AND SIZES

**Tillandsia  
Neoregelia  
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Bigenerics  
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