

# The Bromeliad Blade

Newsletter of the  
San Diego  
Bromeliad Society

May 2022

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NUMBER 5

## President's Message

By Stephen Zolezzi

Even though April showers fizzled May flowers are ABONANZA! This is a great time to just enjoy all the hard work we armature botanists have managed to collect in our gardens.

May is our society's anniversary month, started May of 1965 (57 years). We will have the opportunity to welcome Nona Church, one of the original members, at our May meeting. Nona will be bringing part of her personal bromeliad-related collection of art and pineapple pieces to purchase and sell at the June show and sale.

Kerry Nelson is making one of her award-winning pineapple cakes and you are invited to fill the table with your culinary delights to share.

Show and tell is always a highlight of our meetings so plan on bringing a treasure to share.

Scott Sandel has selected plants for the plant table, auction and (NEW) silent auction so prepare to be



*Billbergias are blooming now.*

dazzled, mystified, and enticed to buy raffle tickets and bid for the right to take them all home.

Nancy Groves, just returned from Morocco, is preparing for our display at the SDC Fair. She will have signup sheets to display your plants and volunteer for setup and brake down. Please plan to get involved.

Morlane O'Donnell is chair of the June Show and Sale. If you would like to sell or volunteer, please contact her. Juliana will be building the show component and needs show plants and display material. You will hear from her in this month's presentation.

In order to have room #104 meeting ready, some setup - tables, chairs and the computer/PA system are required. We need member commitments to come a little early for setup and stay after for clean-up as well as an IT setup, zoom monitor and put away. Please contact me to volunteer.

Our Sterling Treasurer needs to be reminted. Al will train his replacement so here is a great opportunity to step-up and become involved in your society.

Well, it's back to pulling weeds for me! See you on the 14th.

# May Meeting

Saturday, May 14 @ 10am

The May meeting will take place in Casa del Prado, room 104 in Balboa Park and will also be live on Zoom. Please check your email for the Zoom invitation.

## Exhibitions and Shows of the Past

The program this month will be about preparing for the exhibition and sale that is coming up in June. There will be a presentation of some of the plants in past exhibits and shows, for a general idea of what to bring and how to present it.

We'll show photos of both the exhibited plants and the plants for sale for 2019, which was the last year we had an exhibition. A section on selecting and preparing exhibition plants will be included to help new members and, perhaps, remind experienced members what needs to be done. Dan and Andrew will guide us through the presentation thus far. Juliana, the exhibit chair, will take over and give us all the nitty-gritty about the upcoming exhibition. These ideas and pointers should help us make even a better exhibition to introduce the visitors to our world of bromeliads.

## Plant Table and Auction

Hold your breath! Here's what Scott has prepared for us!

We'll have some phenomenal plants on auction. You don't want to miss this one if you like your margins "entire"! There will be a *Vriesea* "Galaxy" up for auction, as well as some fine *Wallisia* hybrids from David Fell. *Wallisia* is a new genus split from *Tillandsia*, such as *Wallisia cyanea*, former *Tillandsia cyanea*. For



*Al Evans, Bob Walters, and Eloise Lau, who is enrobed in T. usneoides. The trio was having fun during the bromeliad show setup in 2019. Below, a detail of the 2019 display.*



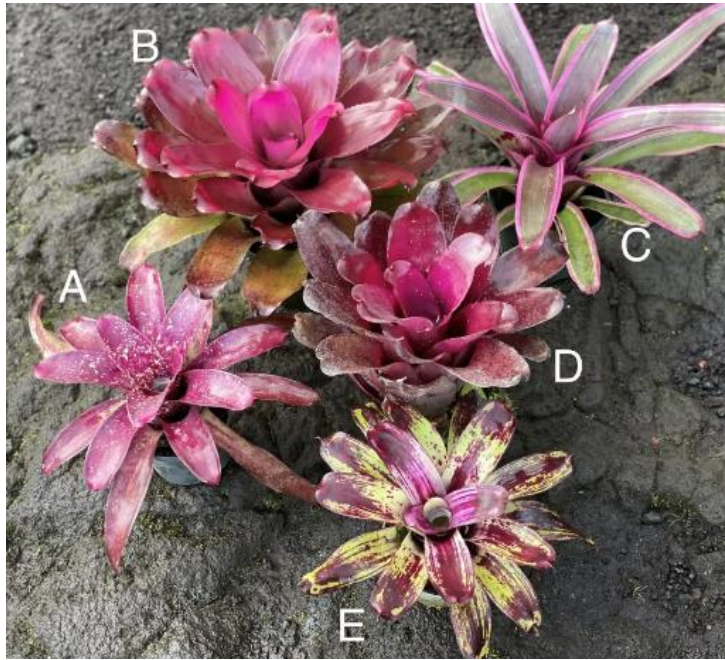
the auction, we'll be doing something a bit different in May. We have some large, desirable *Neoregelia* hybrids from Hawaii that will be on silent auction. Next to each of the five beauties will be a clipboard with spaces for names and bid amounts.

For the raffle table, our focus is on *Neoregelia* hybrids. Scott has picked a bunch of shiny, colorful plants that will easily root by summer. On the next page, take a look at the silent auction lineup.

# Silent Auction

The silent auction offerings, photo on the right.

- A-Wisteria
- B-Big Pink
- C-Avalon hybrid
- D-Marina
- E-Painted Delight



Top right: Rarely offered for sale, this *Vriesea* 'Galaxy' is the variegated cultivar of *Vriesea glutinosa*. To complement the amazing foliage, this plant shoots up a multi-branched red upright inflorescence, like a *Vriesea splendens* on steroids! This brom will be in the live auction.

# In the News

Subscribers to California Garden, the journal of the San Diego Floral Association... Check out the new issue of California Garden for the article "Foliage Vriesea Bromeliads, Dazzling Plants for Patios and Sheltered Gardens". Written by our



Top: A *Vriesea fosteriana* hybrid. Left, the *Vriesea*-adjacent *Goudaea ospinae* var. *gruberi*.

own Scott Sandel, the article has photos from Morlane's garden and Scott's own collection. You'll see lots of eye candy photos in addition to text on San Diego cultural tips, propagation notes, and plant sources.

## April Recap

We had a fascinating talk by Dr. Leonardo Versieux about the bromeliad flora of the Espinhaço Range in Brazil. He spoke to us via Zoom in the Balboa Park live meeting with a diverse crowd of zoomers attending online. It was a success!

The action featured a *T. recurvifolia* blooming clump with more than 20 flowers, *T. chiapensis* and *Ae. Orlandiana* hybrid. For Show and Tell:

Robert Kopfstein  
*Vriesea* 'Chocolate Raspberry'



*Don Nelson's billbergia, Sonja Wicker's Ae. organensis and Robert Kopfstein with Vr. Chocolate Raspberry.*

Scott Sandel  
*Wallfussia* (*Wallisia* x *Barfussia*)  
'Antonio'  
*Vriesea* 'Cosmic Dance'

Lucia Velasquez  
*Tillandsia* combo  
*Tillandsia* *butzii*

Andrew Wilson  
*Neoregelia* 'Strike Force'

Don Nelson  
*Billbergia* in bloom

Al Evans  
*Neoregelia* Maria, in a Joanne  
Dossett ceramic pot  
*Tillandsias* in ocean reef

Sonja Wicker  
*Aechmea organensis*

Jay Crowley  
*Tillandsia* *bergeri*

Nancy Groves  
*Tillandsia* *leonamiana*

Morlane O'Donnell  
*Tillandsia* Hidden Treasure  
*Tillandsia* *ionantha*, variegated



# Bromeliad Species Database

by Graeme Barclay, New Zealand BSI Director

**BROMELIAD SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL**

Members Only Content  
Bromeliad Species Database

Login Info. Membership Directory Journals New Articles Files Judges & Handbook BCR Media Lib. BSD

**Sincoraea**

- [albopecta](#)
- [amoena](#)
- [burlemarxii](#)
- [hatschbachii](#)
- [heleniceae](#)
- [humilis](#)
- [mucugensis](#)
- [nivioides](#)
- [ophiuroides](#)
- [rafaelli](#)
- [ulei](#)

**Genus: Sincoraea**

Sincoraea is a genus of the subfamily Bromelioideae. It is a resurrected genus, first described in 1908 by Ule for *Sincoraea amoena*, which was found in the Serra do Sincora mountains in Bahia, hence the name. Sincoraea was reelevated to genus status in 2017 after studies and taxonomic revision of all species with sessile inflorescences from within the genus *Orthohytum*. (Louzada & Wanderley, 2017). All species are saxicolous and native to Bahia State in Brazil, except *Sincoraea humilis* which is from Minas Gerais State.

Number of accepted species in this genus is 11 (source: species counts in the Encyclopaedia of Bromeliads).

**Sincoraea heleniceae** Photo by Kosit Kaewkangwal

Gallery | Show Synonyms

**Links**

- [Encyclopaedia of Bromeliads](#)
- [The New Taxon List](#)
- [Wikipedia](#)
- [Google images](#)

After 3 year's work in collaboration with Eric Gouda and Derek Butcher, I am delighted to announce the all new BSI 'BSD' is now LIVE!

What is the 'BSD' you say? ...It's the brand new "go to" place for bromeliad species information online! ...It sits alongside the Bromeliad Cultivar Register (BCR), but is exclusively for all species and their varieties.

If you haven't already seen it, you can find the BSD on the BSI home page at [www.bsi.org](http://www.bsi.org).

With a continuously updated taxon list of all current species (and their synonyms), there's a public photo gallery page included for every species. Anyone is welcome to upload nice photos of your favorite species at any time to help continuously build the database in a collaborative way. You have the choice to upload photos for public

viewing, or reserve them for BSI members only—you can even add comments and ask for identifications if unsure.

For current BSI members, there are also over 36,000 photos and files included across all species, which have been archived over the last 40 years by BSI Honorary Trustee Derek Butcher. These resource files are BSI member login protected and include many rare and habitat photos, drawings, historical paintings, herbarium scans, protologue scans, distribution maps, comparison tables, identification keys, botanical and discussion articles and much more. There is also an MS Word document file of the official botanical description for EVERY species—all files are linked to each taxon page for easy access. There are lots of other great features and links to explore too, I hope you enjoy using it!

## BSI needs YOUR help!

As you may know, unfortunately BSI's membership numbers have slowly diminished over the past decade or so. Now that we have released the BSD and the BSI Journal is almost back on schedule, NOW is the time to promote these benefits to friends and the folks in our local societies who are not currently part of the BSI family.

Our new "Electronic" Online Membership special rate is only US\$15 for the first year—joining BSI is now more affordable and offers even more value with the new BSD at everyone's fingertips. Instant online payment via credit card or PayPal is available and couldn't be easier.

So please start spreading the word about the BSD and our affordable new membership options. Feel free to use some or all of the text above and any screen shots or images from the BSD in your upcoming Newsletters and Journals.

The Bromeliad Society of New Zealand will be presenting the BSD 'live' at our upcoming May society meeting and will be running a draw to give away 25 BSI Electronic first-time memberships to help promote BSI and increase our numbers.

Please put your thinking caps on to see if you can do something similar in your regions...and let's get BSI on the rise again!

Kind Regards,

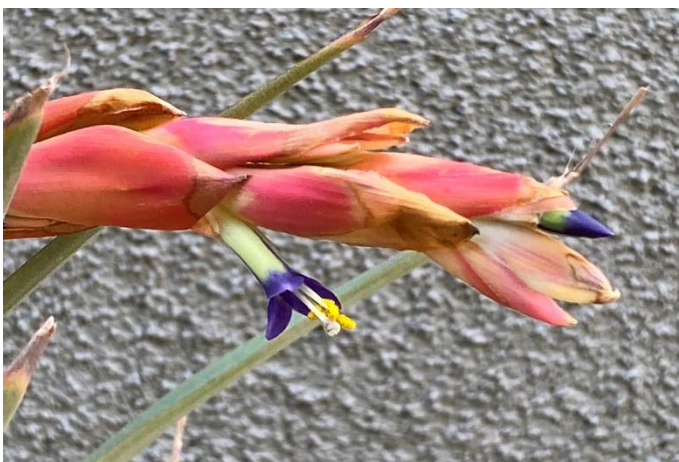
Graeme Barclay

BSD Manager

New Zealand BSI Director

# Pendant Flowers

Who can resist them?



*Tillandsia tequendamae* (formerly *Vriesea tequendamae*). The plant flew in from Ecuador with a fully developed flower spike, but after many days in a dark box, it looked tired. Would it bloom? I am happy to report that the flowers are out! The one with pink inflorescences and yellow flowers is *Vriesea guttata*.



## SDBS Events 2022

### SDBS at SD County Fair

June 8 - July 4, 2022

### WBC Sarasota

June 7-11, 2022

[www.bsi.org](http://www.bsi.org)

### SDBS Summer Show and Sale

June 11-12, 2022

### SDBS Winter Sale

December 17-18, 2022



**Hey, you!**

### New Treasurer Needed

If you would be interested in filling this important SDBS position, please contact Al Evans. He will teach you.

[alevans31365@gmail.com](mailto:alevans31365@gmail.com)

Thank you,

*Coming up! Prepare your show plants and your bromeliads for sale. The SDBS summer show & sale is fast approaching. Invite your friends!*

*The San Diego Botanic Garden is now hosting World of Orchids. The conservatory is hosting this magnificent show for a second time, in partnership with the orchid society. Don't miss the orchid marketplace on weekends.*



## SDBS 2022

### Officers

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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  
Vriesea  
Orthophytum  
Bigenerics  
and more!**

*Purchase directly from  
an award-winning  
grower*

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