

The Bromeliad Blade

Newsletter of the
San Diego
Bromeliad Society

January 2023

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NUMBER 1

President's Message

By Steve Zolezzi

2022 is in the books registering up two very successful show and sales---many thanks to Morlane and all those who volunteered to help as well as all the vendors. Our summer outing to Bird Rock Tropicals was a fun day in the tropical garden Pam has developed in Encinitas---lots of love there much enjoyed by all. The holiday party food, plant exchange and all-around merriment was enjoyed by all---thanks Ronee. Our monthly meetings have seen a gradual return to the joy of seeing members and friends in person from Covid Zooms along with great programs, show and tell, plant auctions, raffle tables and AL's eclectic selections of items for sale.

Carrying on from a great year we are looking forward to 2023 with all your help and participation. Starting with the January meeting each meeting will be preceded (at 9:45) with a first year-new member pre-meeting---am looking for a volunteer to chair the

new-new member committee charged with insuring new members are made aware of all membership has to offer. Several of the 2022 programs highlighted how habitat destruction is threatening some genera I would like to start a conservation committee to focus on what we can do to educate ourselves and the public on its importance--- anyone interested please contact me.

The show and tell portion of our regular meetings are a great learning experience for both the presenter and those in attendance. I encourage you all to bring in a plant---it's an enriching experience!

A recurring question is potting material---what works best? A recent UCD Horticulture Dept. formula for succulents includes 11 parts pumice, 2 parts 3/16 red lava, 1 parts DG, 2 parts coconut peat and 3 lbs. dolomite. Bromeliads home locations vary from a crack in a rock to a leaf littered forest to the trunk of a tree and from sea level to 7 thousand feet elevation so as Bromeliad devotes what are we to do? I

present this question to all members---please respond to me in writing---your preferred planting mixes. Please show preferences for different genera along with sources. I will report back monthly via the newsletter so we all have a documented resource to use for the future. Good gardening!



Basking in the rain: Portea candy's fruit glow as bright as the orchids behind it. (Photo Juliana Raposo).

January Meeting

Saturday, January 14, 2023 at 10am in Casa del Prado, room 104, Balboa Park

The Tectorum Complex, subgenus Viridantha, with Pam Hyatt

This is a new presentation that I presented at the Australia Tillandsia Day Event in Brisbane this past November (via zoom). I will discuss the different forms and varieties of *Tillandsia tectorum* and how to determine one from the other. I will also discuss the other eleven species in this complex which are found in Ecuador and Peru and show how they grow in habitat.

Some notes about me. Pam is a lifetime member of the San Diego Bromeliad Society as well as a lifetime member of the Bromeliad Society International.

Pam is a past president and past newsletter editor for the SDBS and the North County Bromeliad Society. She has served the BSI as a board member of the Bromeliad Society, Publications Chairman and International Accredited Bromeliad Judge. And she is also the owner of Bird Rock Tropicals and an award-winning breeder and grower since 1981.



A Big Thank You

A big thank you goes to all the vendors and volunteers who took part in our second winter sale last month. It was a big success and couldn't have been without all the people who pitched in to help. Whether you were a vendor, a cashier, a food provider, a tag puller, someone who was available to answer questions, or someone who came to help with the set-up and/or tear down, you were an integral part of our sale. As I was walking around, I saw new friendships being formed, members connecting with each other, and enthusiasm from the public at their first exposure to these magnificent plants. I especially thank those volunteers who came on multiple days to lend a hand. I think a new record was set for the time it took Sunday to take all the tables down and clean up. I humbly thank all of you once again.

Morlane O'Donnell, sale chair

SDBS Events 2023

SDBS Monthly Meeting

January 14, 2023 @ 10am

Casa del Prado room 104, Balboa
Park, San Diego.

www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

Coming Soon



Vriesea botafogensis



Vriesea botafogensis is preparing to bloom in January. This species' habitat is restricted to a few rocky mountain sides in the city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in a densely developed urban area. It grows in the Sugar Loaf and Corcovado. Photo by Juliana Raposo.

SDBS 2023

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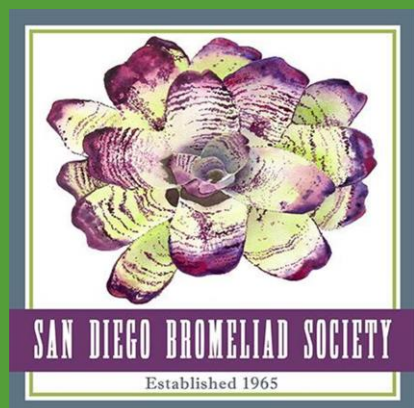
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 Bromeliad Society

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To send material for publication,
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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

DK ORNAMENTALS

BROMELIADS OF ALL SHAPES AND SIZES

<p>Tillandsia Neoregelia Vriesea Orthophytum Bigenerics and more!</p>	<p><i>Purchase directly from an award-winning grower</i></p>
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To make an appointment email David Kennedy
 at thedavekennedy@gmail.com or find him on Facebook