

# The Bromeliad Blade

Newsletter of the  
San Diego  
Bromeliad Society  
July-August 2023

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## Editor's Notes

By Juliana Raposo

It's July and we are back to meeting in Balboa Park for our monthly club meeting on 7/8. What a great month of activity we just had.

June is the busiest month of the year for our society. At home, plants are actively growing and blooming. There's so much to do and see in the garden.

And for the club activities, June is all about the San Diego County Fair garden competition and our own Show and Sale in Balboa Park. It's a lot of work compressed in a few days but once again, the club pulled through with beautiful results.

The SDBS exhibit at the fair, run by Nancy Groves, once again impressed the judges, and won prizes.

Our Bromeliad Show and Sale in Balboa Park was a huge success for



*Club photo at the Show and Sale*

the public and sales. The organizers Morlane O'Donnell and Juliana Raposo put on the event.

These events are fun, a bit crazy to pull off, but always rewarding. If you are one of several club members who donated your hours and talent to help make them happen, thank you. And for everyone else, consider volunteering next time. It's a great way to spend time with great people and wonderful bromeliads. Our SDBS has earned a reputation as a fun,

easy going bunch who make beautiful things and spread bromeliad joy to the world.

Your editor here is going on vacation so this issue will cover July and August. Look for additional details on the August picnic coming up from our president Steve Zolezzi.

See you soon!

# July Meeting

Saturday, July 8 at 10am in Casa del Prado room 104, Balboa Park

## Gardening with Bromeliads in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Dimension

Our speaker for July is Tony Gurnoe, former Director of Horticulture at the San Diego Botanic Garden. Tony's presentation will cover his experience in working with bromeliads in the landscape and possibilities of use when utilizing their epiphyte capabilities in the garden. We are also going to have a raffle table, as usual.



*Tony and Nan Sterman in A Growing Passion episode Botanic Garden in Your Backyard*

# 2023 June Bromeliad Sale Results

by Al Evans

The money is counted and we had a pretty good sale! On Saturday we had total sales of \$16,881.17 (\$13416.17 credit cards, \$3465 cash). On Sunday we had total sales of \$5461.76 (\$3948.78 in credit card sales and \$1512.98 in cash). Overall total for the sale was \$22,342.93 (Within those numbers are two memberships for \$54).

Thanks to all who participated but especially Morlane O'Donnell for her tireless efforts in producing such a successful event, Juliana for the very well received awesome display, all the vendors who provided plants for the sale, the many tag pullers who made the cashier's job so much easier, the cashiers including Kerry Nelson, Sonya Wicker and myself and especially our new treasurer, Ronee who went above and beyond to be there for our busiest time on Saturday.



*Ronee and Kerry working at the register*

# SDBS Wins Awards for Display at San Diego County Fair

By Nancy Groves

The results you have all been waiting breathlessly for:

Total awards - \$2,625

\$400 - Excellence in Horticulture for best Educational Display —presented by the SD Horticulture Society.

\$100 - Best Bromeliad of all displays donated by the SD Bromeliad Society (we donated \$100 & won \$100).

\$2,125 - for 425 pts out of 500. Each point earns \$5.

First a big thanks to the committee folks.

Special thanks to Dan & Eloise for the use of the huge (and heavy) recycled grapevine structures.

Thanks to Todd & partner, Guillermo, Robert and those of us who cheered them on as they figured out how to get the 3 structures to stand with 2 by 4s and drilled holes for the huge bolts - Hey it worked!

Thanks to Dan who drew up the plan so we could actually put it together at the fairgrounds (with the free help of 8 marines & 2 paid workers) and of course also thanks for feeding the committee so we had the mental strength to figure this out.

Thanks to Robert K for renting the truck and directing Segundo & Gonzales Santiago for lifting these things into the truck & driving them to fairgrounds.

Really big applause for Dan who beautifully put together all the education signs, taking my notes and expanding them, adding photos

(some hilarious) and making them look really, really good!

Second gigantic thanks to those who got down in the dirt with me and did the digging, placing plants, umbering:

Al Evans, who swings a mean shovel, and does everything,

Todd Johnson who volunteered his first day of vacation from teaching to help,

Ronee who doesn't mind getting in the dirt and really helping all day,

Stewart Walton who helped and even went home to bring more plants,

RaShelle (not a member but my paid garden helper) who stayed with me until 3 AM last night!

BIG, BIG thanks to those who lent beautiful plants without which we would have had no display:

Chris Paulsen - Lent 8 plants.

Anybody else have Deuterocohnia this big? A huge Neo 'Chester' and giant Hohenbergia Correa-araujoi.

Pam Hyatt - Whose plant #5 'Queen's Fiesta' got best bromeliad in all landscapes, and foam bowl full of T. magnispica x fasciculata and other Tillandsia.

David Kennedy - For 2 beauties, Neo 'Magnum Force', and X Vrieslandsia 'Twin Brother'.

Robert Kopfstein - Who else hauls around Hechtia, prickly Deuterocohnia & a huge Bromelia? 6 plants.

Eloise Lau - For lending 8 tillies, 2

neos, 1 vriesea, with a printed list of the names of each plant!

Ronee Kozlowski - 5 nice vrieseas, 1 neo., succulents and 2 mangave (not broms; but beautiful and grow well with broms).

Stewart Walton - 2 large Ae. blanchettiana, 1 large Ae. 'Bert' in bloom, 1 vriesea, 1 billbergia, 1 neo.

Todd Johnson - large pot of Quesnelia testudo.

Tyrone Hall - Nice Neo 'Estrella' and lots of neos for filler.

Bob Vitacco - Big clumps of Quesnelia testudo to cover the poles.

Nancy Groves - 25 plants total; 11 large heavy pots with: 2 different large Alcantarea, H. rosea, B. 'hallelujah', A. 'Pinot Noir', V. 'Nova', Ae. fendleri, Ae. comata, Ae. 'Del Mar', some smaller Aechmeas, 1 small but vibrant Quesnelia, 10 Tillies.

And last but not least, big thanks to Scott Sandel for putting together a nice colorful landscape plan!

Thank you all so much and I hope I didn't leave anyone out; if I did, I apologize.

# June Show



*We used the cool map banners left over from the fair to create a display in the back stage, highlighting the places where bromeliads grow. The main display was set up in front of the room to maximize visual impact.*





## SDBS Events 2023

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

### SDBS Display at SD County Fair

June 7 – July 4

Del Mar Fairgrounds

The theme this year is "Get Out There" Adventure Awaits

### SDBS Monthly Meeting

July 8 at 10am

Casa del Prado room 104

Balboa Park, San Diego

### SDBS Annual Picnic

August 12 at 10am

Birdrock Tropicals and Pam's garden



## SDBS Picnic is Coming Up in August

Shop at BRT and bring a dish to share



*2019 picnic at Pam's*

Our annual SDBS member picnic will be held at Bird Rock Tropicals in Pam's beautiful private garden behind the green houses on August 12th at 10am-3pm.

Parking is available in the lot right below the nursery, to your left as you enter. Arrangement can be made to have you shuttled up to the picnic area if you have difficulty walking. Please let Nathalie know in advance if you will need this service.

Pam is opening the nursery for sales from 10am to noon.

When you RSVP for the picnic your name will be placed on a list. Members whose names are on the RSVP list and have been a member in good standing for at least 3 months will receive \$15 credit (Courtesy of SDBS) toward your purchases.

This is a potluck event. Members, please bring a dish to share- salads, side dishes or desserts. The club will provide the main dish, all paper goods and drinks. There will be tables and chairs for seating. Food service starts at noon.

We would love to see you there. Please Nathalie at [Nathalien71@gmail.com](mailto:Nathalien71@gmail.com) if you are attending and if you would like to volunteer at our event. Guests \$10 each.

## SDBS Officers 2023

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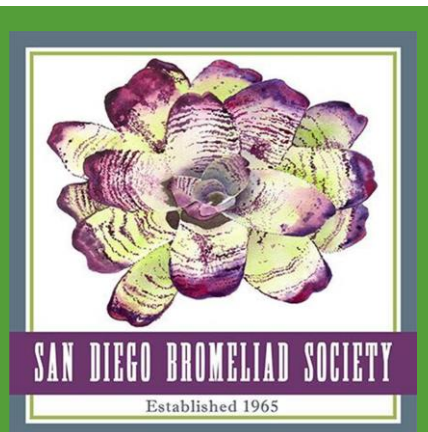
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## THE BROMELIAD BLADE



Newsletter of the San Diego  
 Bromeliad Society

Juliana Raposo, Editor

### Invitation

We are in constant need of material for publication. Please contact Juliana at [julianadraposo@gmail.com](mailto:julianadraposo@gmail.com)

Make sure to submit your contribution before the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month for inclusion in the next newsletter.

### SDBS Meetings

The club meets on the second Saturday of the month at 10am in Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 104.

### SDBS Website

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

### SDBS Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/sandiegobro>

## Essential Bromeliad Resources

**Bromeliad Species Database** – <https://bsi.org/members/?bsd> Species names keep changing due to new research. Consult the BSD for identification, photos, distribution, and spelling names of bromeliad species. For more granular information, log in as a BSI member.

**Bromeliad Cultivar Registry** – <https://bsi.org/registry/> The BCR lists information on bromeliad hybrids and cultivars. Here you can check the parentage of a bromeliad hybrid or the species of a sport that goes by a registered name. This is a free resource.

**SDBS Library** – Our bromeliad-specific library contains titles you won't find anywhere else. Contact our librarian, Eloise Lau, and check out a book.

DK ORNAMENTALS

BROMELIADS OF ALL SHAPES AND SIZES

<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Tillandsia Neoregelia Vriesea Orthophytum Bigenerics and more!</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold;">Purchase directly from an award-winning grower</p>
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To make an appointment email David Kennedy at [thedavekennedy@gmail.com](mailto:thedavekennedy@gmail.com) or find him on Facebook