SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY
Established 1965

The Bromeliad Blade

Newsletter of the San Diego Bromeliad Society

November 2018

VOLUME LIII NUMBER 11

President's Message

By Scott Sandel

Happy November everybody. It feels like Autumn finally, doesn't it? Knock on wood, but another fire season has come and gone, thankfully. Our rains are right around the corner, too. (I hope the fair weather holds for at least a couple more weeks, because we are having our house painted!) All these signs of cooler weather mark a time when bromeliad cultivation changes subtly from growth mode to slower growth. Many of our more tropical species, like Aechmea chantinii, benefit from some special considerations. Heat-loving tropicals such as these often can take a sunnier location in winter and will benefit by being a little drier. So consider planning for these special plants and begin the hardening-off period by the beginning of December. That said, I often keep lightly spraying with a diluted "Tillandsia fertilizer" right through December, especially on my Tillandsias. Maybe during this month's Show & Tell, some of our many keen growers can weigh-in on what they're doing this time of year.

In November, we hold out elections. So far, we have nominees for all the positions, except a key one – the position of president. It may sound intimidating but being the president of the chapter is not difficult, and most "duties" are done by the other officers. And the board of directors is always there for the president. So give me a call if you're interested, 619-937-5262.

SDBS Elections

President	Accepting Nominations
Vice-President	Stephen Zolezzi
Treasurer	Al Evans
Secretary	Ruth Contino
Board Director	Morlane O'Donnell
Board Director	Kerry Nelson
Board Director	Lucia Velazquez

Note: These are the nominations received thus far. Any members in good standing are welcome to put their name forward until the November meeting.

We will also vote on updated bylaws and our Rules of Operation. Both those documents are attached in PDF format for your review. Thanks to Ruth Contino, our society's Secretary, for keeping track of the changes we're looking to formalize.

A look ahead . . . In December, we'll have our gift exchange, which as described in the October newsletter. (I'll repeat the new gift "exchange" procedure in next month's Blade. Be sure to mark your calendars for January 12th when we'll have Pamela Koide-Hyatt give us a presentation on the pre-World Bromeliad Conference trip to southern Mexico! Then in May, Andrew Wilson has scouted two private gardens in Orange County to visit in our late-spring bus trip. (Details on the May bus trip will be forthcoming.)

My favorite part of our monthly meetings is the Show & Tell component. Even though I have grown bromeliads since the 1970's, I

learn a lot from participants who've grown for half that long! I started out growing Billbergias, oddly enough. Not much longer, I got to growing Neoregelias. Comparatively, Tillandsia cultivation is a more recent joy. Tillandsias, in general, are particularly well-suited to our growing conditions, and the examples that we see at Show & Tell attest to this. For November's Show & Tell, I'd like to try something that other brom societies do . . .

In November, we'll incorporate some fun and educational competition into Show & Tell. We will vote in three categories:

Best Tillandsia/Wallisia
ex: Tillandsia xerographica x capitata, on the right.

Best Aechmea/Billbergia
ex: Aechmea orlandiana 'Ensign', below.

Best Dyckia/Hechtia/Pitcairnia
ex: Dyckia hybrid

Each category is representative of a traditional sub-family of the Bromeliacea – Tillandsioideae, Bromelioideae and Pitcairnioideae – as described in a well-written and well edited article on the Bromeliad Society International website: http://www.bsi.org/brom_info/taxonomy.html. We'll see how it goes. Check your collection and bring in something interesting and representative of the above three categories. The goal isn't to showcase your best-groomed plants, but to have fun.

October Meeting Recap

In October, we had entomologist Dr. Aviva Goldmann from UC Riverside introducing us to her research on exotic mosquitos and their breeding habits in bromeliads. We ran out of time for the second topic, interesting stories behind well-known hybrids, that will be rescheduled for a later date.

Editor's Note: We are working to comply with BSI best practices.
When a hybrid is not listed in the BSI registry, it will be marked as unregistered.
If a species name listed in your Show and Tell card has changed, we will call it by the new name, and keep the old name in parenthesis for reference.
In a perfect world, everyone who is bringing plants for Show and Tell should check the Bromeliad Cultivar Registry before the meeting to learn if their plant is actually registered. For species names, check the BSI New Taxon List. You will be surprised to learn that many common plants changed names!

Show & Tell

Morlane O'Donnell
Tillandsia Correale hybrid
Araeococcus goeldianus
Tillandsia ionantha 'Sumo Size White'– it has white flowers!
Tillandsia 'Coconut Grove'

Lucia Velazquez
Tillandsia tectorum (detail of inflorescence, below)
Tillandsia capitata hybrid

Don Patterson
Araeococcus flagelliformis

Dave Kennedy
Tillandsia calothyrsus – epic plant, shown at bottom of page.

Susan Nikkel
Tillandsia capitata

Who brought this?
Quesnelia lateralis - with 2 inflorescences!

Juliana Raposo
Orthophytum 'Starlights' (gurkenii x sucrei)

Dan Kinnard
Quesnelia marmorata 'Tim Plowman'- always gnarly, on the right.

November Program

by Dan Kinnard

Our speaker for November will be Greg Dauss, a local, long-time bromeliad enthusiast, experienced grower, hybridizer, and master of fitting a large collection into a very small space. He will share experiences of maintaining a large, varied collection in a small space plus give us some "easy hybridizing without scientific terms" tips. Greg worked for the City of Carlsbad, Parks & Recreation Dept., and was responsible for the many bromeliads that appeared in the planter boxes in downtown Carlsbad. Now that he is retired, he works part-time at Birdrock Tropicals.

Greg will furnish an interesting and varied plant table from his collection. Shown here is one of his Billbergias he calls 'Groovy'.

Be sure to attend and enjoy our totally non-technical program.

The plant table this month will be provided by the speaker, Greg Dauss. You will be surprised to find some unusual broms!

Upcoming Events

SDBS Meetings

November 10, 2018 @ 10 AM
SDBS Monthly Meeting
Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 104
www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

December 8, 2018
SDBS Holiday Party
Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 104
www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

SDBS Events 2019

SD Home & Garden Spring Show
Del Mar Fairgrounds
March 1, 2 & 3, 2019

SD Botanic Garden Spring Festival
San Diego Botanic Garden
March 16, 2019

SDBS Display at the Del Mar Fair
Del Mar Fairgrounds
June 1 – July 4, 2019

SDBS Annual Show & Sale
Balboa Park
June 2019

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, Case 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

Now Blooming!

Portea 'Candy' is an outstanding plant for its looks and bloom longevity. It does super well in the landscape, as Al Evans' demonstrated in his garden. It looks stunning surronded by neos, pots and rocks.

Eye 'Candy'!

THE BROMELIAD BLADE

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Juliana Raposo, Editor

Ph: 858-349-1405

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

Now Blooming!

Looking good on a dewy morning: Wallisia cyanea on the tree, Neo 'Hula Dancer' and 'Milagro' next to Aechmea fendleri variegata in the rock garden.

SDBS 2018

Officers

President
Scott Sandel
scott.sandel@outlook.com
619-325-1990 x 110

Vice-President
Al Evans, Jr.
alevans001@earthlink.net
858-492-9866

Secretary
Ruth Contino
ruth.contino1@gmail.com
619-303-2144

Treasurer
Kerry Nelson
kanelsondesign@cox.net
619- 574-0987

Newsletter Editor
Juliana Raposo
julianadraposo@gmail.com

858-349-1405

Membership
Tammy Harmon
tmharmon70@yahoo.com
(858) 472-4268

Past President
Robert Kopfstein
rwkopfstein@gmail.com
760-726-8300

Board Members

Charles Oelsen (2018-19)
cdoelsen@yahoo.com
310-925-6227

Stephen Zolezzi (2018-19)
fbasd@foodnbeverage.org

Don Nelson (2017-18)
donnelson12@msn.com
760- 207-1569

Morlane O'Donnell (2017-18)
Morlane.odonnell@att.net
619) 422-8168