SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY
Established 1965

The Bromeliad Blade

Newsletter of the San Diego Bromeliad Society
May 2024

VOLUME LIX NUMBER 5

President's Message

By Kerry Nelson

May marks the anniversary of the San Diego Bromeliad Society which was founded by Clovis and Jackie Hardin, Mabel Herman and Mary Birchell on May 10, 1965. The first meeting was held at the Hardin's home in Spring Valley. Dues were $1.00 per year and the first plant table brought in $2.00 so the Club's total assets were $6.00. Two guests attended the second meeting and so it began to grow. By 1973 Membership included 33 people on the roster and the Treasury Balance was $457.49. Today our Membership is 149, our Treasury Balance is over $30,000, and the Plant Table earns us slightly more than $2.00 per meeting. I think the founders would be pleased with our progress.

Thank you to Eloise Lau for providing me with a number of old documents from Thelma O'Reilly's vast trove of bromeliad-related information, when I briefly mentioned my interest in SDBS's history. Our Club is most fortunate to have a retired professional librarian as our Librarian. Ask Eloise anything about bromeliads, and she'll amaze you with her resources. SDBS has an extensive collection of books, journals and periodicals that are available to check out. Again, thank you Eloise for all that you do for us.

The inflorescence of Aechmea 'Vaquero"

May's meeting promises to be memorable at Tyrone Hall's home in Encinitas. Don't forget your plant for the experts' demonstration, and the Club will provide beverages and lunch. Many thanks to Tyrone for hosting us! In Mid-May work begins on the San Diego County Fair and we need lots of volunteers to help Nancy Groves and Robert Kopfstein install an award-winning exhibit. SDBS will be sponsoring an award again this year.

June's regular meeting on June 8 unfortunately will be cancelled due to some scheduling conflicts, but our Show/Sale will be the following weekend with set up on Friday, June 14 and take-down on June 16. Please volunteer as much time as you can spare to help make this our biggest and best Sale yet. The camaraderie among our members is terrific, and if you are a newer member this event is a great way to get involved and to add a few amazing plants to your collection.

We'll have Tillandsias and other bromeliads for sale from a variety of vendors and from our members. Plus, we'll have tools, supplies, and experts on hand for all your questions.

Come to Balboa Park for the San Diego Bromeliad Society's

Summer Bromeliad Spectacular

Balboa Park Casa del Prado Rm 101

SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY
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Saturday & Sunday

June 15 & 16

10-4:00

SanDiegoBromeliadSociety.org

May Program

Monthly meeting on Saturday, May 11 @ 10am in member Tyrone hall's house.

RSVP required.

Springtime Celebration and Repotting & Mounting Clinic with Eloise, Dan and Robert

Our trio of experts will guide you in this hands-on program. Bring a bromeliad to divide, repot or mount. The club will supply potting mix, oak branches for mounts, and expert advice. Shout out to Bill Tweet for providing the mounting material.Not in the mood to get your hands dirty? No problem! It's perfectly fine to just enjoy a tour of this bucolic garden, get some inspiration and spend the day with your SDBS friends. The club will provide lunch and beverages.

Fun at Tyrone's. See you Saturday!

SDBS June Meeting is Cancelled

Please mark your calendars. We will see you at volunteering for the SD County Fair and our Show and Sale.

SDBS Events 2024

SDBS Monthly Meetings

Every 2nd Saturday of the month
Casa del Prado room 104
Balboa Park, San Diego
www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

World Bromeliad Conference 2024

May 22-25
West Palm Beach Florida
www.bsi.org

SDBS Show & Sale

June 15 & 16
Casa del Prado room 104
Balboa Park, San Diego

SDBS at SD County Fair

June 12 to July 4
Del Mar Fairgrounds

World of Orchids at the SDBG

May 4 - 27, 2024

San Diego Botanic Garden hosts its annual spring orchids showcase, World of Orchids, in our state-of-the-art, 8,000 square foot, glass-enclosed facility – the Dickinson Family Education Conservatory. The show also features vendors on select weekends selling plants, potting materials, and other merchandise.

World of Orchids requires a special exhibition ticket ($7) in addition to general admission for non-members ages 18 and over. Members receive free admission. Online reservations are strongly encouraged for all guests (including Members) as walk-up admissions are not guaranteed on high-volume days.

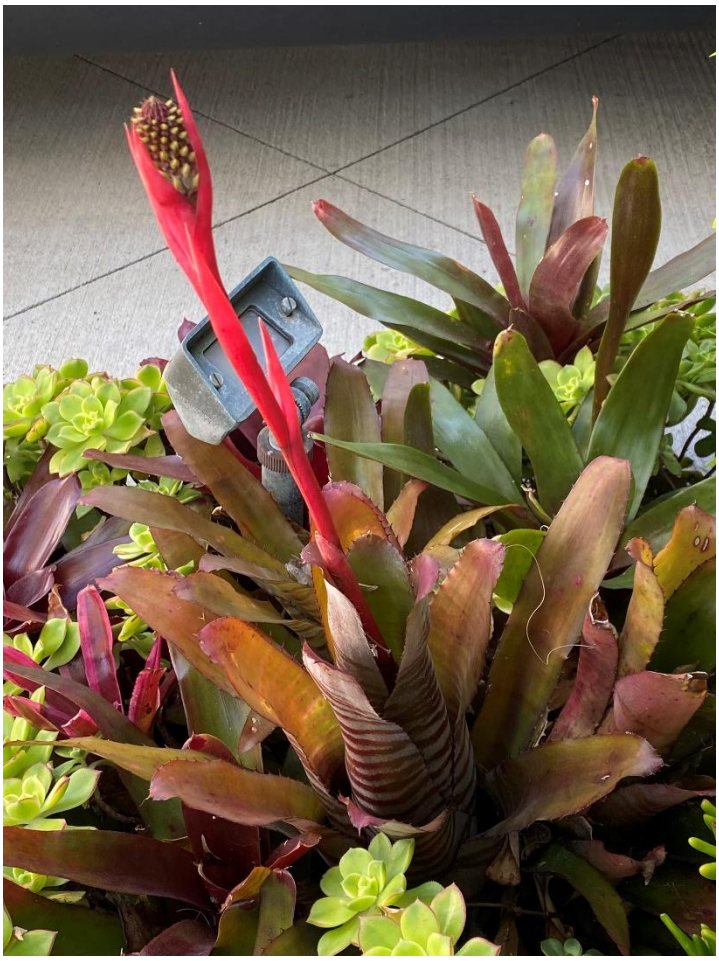
SDBS Board Meetings Schedule

The SDBS board meets in-person 4 times a year to discuss all issues relevant to running the society. Any member can attend but must RSVP to the president and submit any agenda items in advance. Meetings are always on a Sunday from 10am to 12pm.

Next meetings are on August 4 and October 6 at Kerry Nelson's.

Plant Spotlight: Aechmea Vaquero

This compact, sun-loving Aechmea is a cross between A. maculata red form x pineliana var. minuta, by Grant Groves. I had been growing it wrong. In the semi-shade it looked boring. Then I placed it by the sidewalk, and it bleached so much it lost the banding. Now it sits in a bright spot where it basks in the sun until noon.



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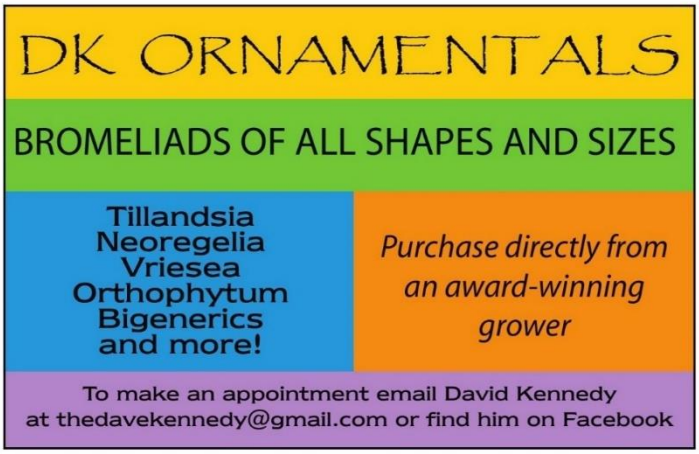
Essential Bromeliad Resources

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.*



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

Make sure to submit your contribution before the 20th 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

SDBS Facebook Group

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