

The Bromeliad Blade

Newsletter of the
San Diego
Bromeliad Society

August 2017

VOLUME LII

NUMBER 8

President's Corner

By Scott Sandel

It's Summer for Sure!

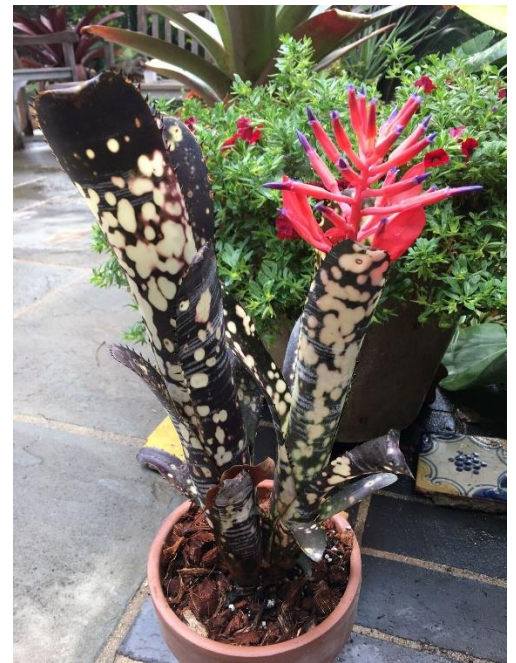
I trust everyone's bromeliads are in full glory. Plants that flowered in spring have offsets forming. Maybe a few are mature enough to be removed and potted up? We like to pot offsets in spring or summer, well ahead of cold weather. I for one am following the progress of a few growing pups with a sharp knife at the ready. What did Kung Fu's master always say? Was it "patience, young grasshopper"? How patronizing! Is it just me, or are the Neoregelias especially healthy this year? Maybe I am crediting our bountiful rains months ago too much. I have provided a few photos of some flowering plans from the collection this month, including a couple of close-ups of the central rosettes on a few choice Neoregelias. The variety in petal color is very interesting to me, and the intensity of the foliage colors is powerful. If at any time, you have a

mesmerizing photo or two, just email me a jpeg, and if I get a number of them, I might post them on the website. Be sure to check the botanical names and hybrid names, so that the caption can provide educational value to us all.

A few words on meeting programs, both last month's and this month's August picnic: Last month we were treated to a wonderfully entertaining and well-prepared program on bromeliads in the landscape. So often, we have our broms on our growing benches, under shade cloth or under trees, so it was inspiring to see so many examples of bromeliads used in the ground or in pots as fundamental elements of garden design. Thank you, Eloise, Andrew, and Dan! (I promise to shop for a reliable microphone.) Thank you to Andrew and Beatrice Wilson for inviting us over on August 12 from 11 am to 2 pm for our annual summer picnic. Check out Andrew's article for details. We will not be in Balboa Park in August.

Thank you everyone who brought plants for the July member raffle table. We had a good group of plants, and folks bought the raffle tickets. (I sure did!) I was supposed to get a list of the show and tell plants with photos for inclusion in

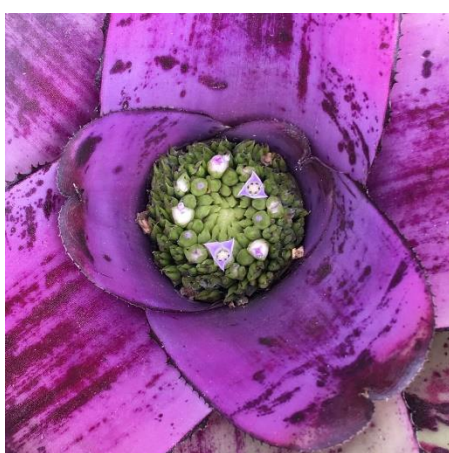
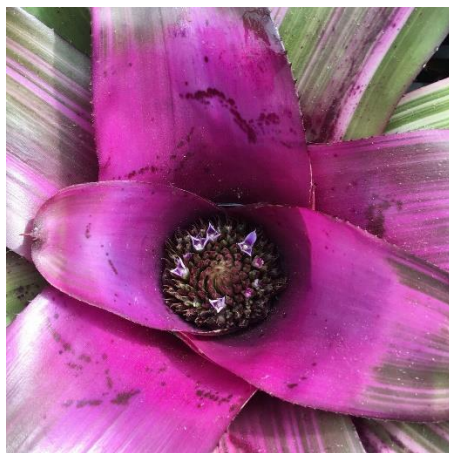
this newsletter. Sorry, but I completely forgot to delegate this one! I do have a couple of photos, however. Bill Tweet brought a few nice Tillandsias, including the silvery-leaved *Tillandsia fasciculata*. I brought the *Billbergia* 'Domingos Martins' that was auctioned. I forgot who snagged it, but I wonder if it is just now blooming, like the one that I photographed yesterday (below).



Bill. 'Domingos Martins' in bloom

Neoregelia Summer Color

Highlights from Scott's Collection



SDBS 2017

Officers

- President
Scott Sandel
sandel-marich@cox.net
619-325-1990 x 110
- Vice-President
Al Evans, Jr.
alevans001@earthlink.net
858-492-9866
- Secretary
Ruth Contino
ruth.contino@baesystems.com
619-303-2144
- Treasurer
Kerry Nelson
kanelsondesign@cox.net
619- 574-0987
- Newsletter Editor
Juliana Raposo
julianadraposo@gmail.com
858-349-1405
- Past President
Robert Kopfstein
rwkopfstein@gmail.com
760-726-8300

Board Members

- Mary Whittemore (2016-17)
mahiwh@aol.com
619- 561-0687
- Nancy Groves (2016-17)
ngnancy.groves@gmail.com
858-453-6486
- Don Nelson (2017-18)
dannelson12@msn.com
760- 207-1569
- Morlane O'Donnell (2017-18)
Morlane.odonnell@att.net
619) 422-8168

From the top: Neo. 'Charade' and closeup; Neo. 'Lou Wilson' and closeup; Neo. 'Painted Delight' and closeup

August Picnic 2017

by Andrew Wilson

For the past few years we've held our picnic at a member's garden and this year we'll do the same. You're welcome here on August 12 from 11 am to 2 pm. The address and directions are given below.

Beatrice and I have not done an event like this in years and while ideas about picnics have changed a little I think you'll find it quite good place to enjoy the company of members in the surroundings. It is fairly spacious, with places to sit and rest and with good shade at this time of year. A few miles from the coast, it usually gets an ocean breeze and cooler conditions than most parts of the county. It is not a show garden. So, don't come expecting to find a perfectly manicured masterpiece. The style is casual and the layout that evolved gradually was put there by a gardener whose primary goal was to take care of his plants rather than to cater to his guests! But, don't worry, before or after nibbling and chatting with friends there are some plants, bromeliads included, to look at. Before we close for the day members will get a chance to draw from the fine selection of bromeliads that the Plant Table committee has compiled.

A few points to remember:

Let us know if you are coming. A signup sheet was passed around at our last meeting. If your name was not on the list of attendees do e-mail us andrew@avonia.com. From the list, we'll make up ID badges with your first name on it. We need a full list to help planning.

This is a pot-luck picnic. All should bring something interesting to share, an appetizer, a salad, a bread, a main dish, a cheese or a dessert. There will

also be a main dish from the Kopfstein Kooking caterers.

Bring a sunhat in case there is sun. There will be soft drinks and water in the cooler.

Bring a portable chair. We'll have some here and there are places you can use for sitting but we don't want to see you standing around.

Due to the Fire Marshal's regulations, we cannot park on the driveway to the house. After the limited number of slots next to the driveway are taken up parking will have to be on the street. However, with help from Debra, we will provide a shuttle from the street for those who feel unable to take the long (but shaded) walk.

If you are no longer fleet of foot, please stay on the level areas around the house. There are some steps with rail bars, but this is a garden, not a park. The area is semi-rural; coyotes, snakes, quail and bobcats are present but are not often seen by day. There should be no need to wander off into the wilder areas far away from the house.

Looking forward to seeing you on Saturday, August 12!

You can get here (13631 Old El Camino Real, San Diego - next to Del Mar) by many routes. If coming by freeway I5 (from north or south) or CA 56 (east or west) use one the two below.

Editor's Note: Download directions from the Member's Only section in the SDBS website, at

www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

Upcoming Events

Highlighted Meetings

August 12, 2017 @ 10 AM
SDBS Annual Potluck & Picnic
Andrew & Beatrice' Home
13631 Old El Camino Real, San Diego
www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

September 9, 2017 @ 10 AM
SDBS Monthly Meeting
Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 104
www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

World Bromeliad Conference 2018 - San Diego

May 29 - June 3, 2018

Register at:

<http://www.bsi.org/new/conference-corner/>

Monthly Meetings

1st Tuesday, 6:30 PM
San Diego Orchid Society
Balboa Park, Casa Del Prado, Room 101
www.sdorchids.com

2nd Saturday, 10 AM
San Diego Bromeliad Society
Balboa Park, Casa Del Prado, Room 104
www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

2nd Saturday, 1 PM
San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society
Balboa Park, Casa Del Prado, Room 101
www.sdcss.net

2nd Monday, 5:45 PM
San Diego Horticultural Society
Congregation Beth Israel (CBI)
9001 Towne Centre Drive
San Diego, CA 92122

August Plant Table

by Al Evans

Each attendee to the picnic will receive 1 raffle. The table will feature fine plants from Tillandsia International. There may be a couple of auction plants as well. See you there!

Stay Cool!

Wear a sun hat, and bring a folding chair and sunscreen for the picnic. See ya!

September Meeting

by Juliana Raposo

The September program will be an insider look into 2 outstanding, and yet very different, bromeliad collections that I visited in Brazil. Both are located in the mountains of Petropolis-Teresopolis in my home state of Rio de Janeiro.

Elton Leme's renowned collection is the Noah's ark of bromeliads. The Brazilian taxonomist has described more bromeliad species than any other person – in his spare time! Thousands of bromeliad species featuring the wealth of the Brazilian flora, including many undescribed species.

Orlando Graeff's phytogeographic garden. The agronomist and geographer was the president of the late Brazilian Bromeliad Society. The garden focuses on reproducing the habitats of the bromeliads as a whole. At play are the interactions between broms and the other plant species that live with them.



Perusing the garden with Elton Leme in 2016

Broms in August

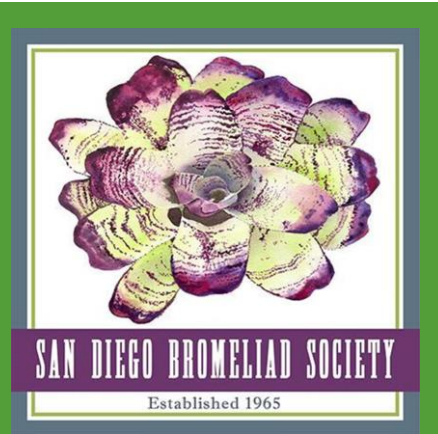
San Diego Bromeliads are offering a great summer display.



In Nancy Groves' collection: unidentified tillandsia, Tillandsia albertiana and Tillandsia compressa



THE BROMELIAD BLADE



Newsletter of the San Diego Bromeliad Society

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

In the Landscape

photos by Juliana Raposo

Following the July presentation, I'm sharing a fine local example of the landscape use of bromeliads – Legoland! The area around the pond, in front of the entry gates, is beaming with beds of broms and other colorful tropicals.

Kuddos to the park for creating a refreshing tropical landscape, the perfect backdrop for giant lego dinosaurs!

