



The Bromeliad Blade

Newsletter of the
San Diego
Bromeliad Society

March 2018

VOLUME LIII

NUMBER 3

President's Message

By Scott Sandel



Hello San Diego Bromeliad Society members. As I write this, we're having a much-needed trickle of precipitation. Yes, we greatly appreciate even a quarter-inch rain event! And the plants look much better with most of the dust washed from their leaves. I hope you enjoyed it as much as I have.

And speaking of spring, be sure to bring an interesting plant or two for the March meeting Show & Tell, which is my favorite part of the meeting. I will be giving the presentation this month – titled "Bromeliads in New Zealand: Notes on Bromeliads & Gardens."

Expect lots of eye-candy in the slides, as the folks in New Zealand are keen gardeners, and they grow fantastic plants. A focus of the

presentation (and of mine and theirs) is on foliage Vrieseas. I will give some background information on the hybrids that I admired there, and I will bring in some of more of the plants that I imported – to end the presentation with a focused Vriesea Show-and-Tell. As a teaser, check out some Kiwi photos here.

World Bromeliad Conference Update

We have a great line-up of vendors for the giant SALE at the World Bromeliad Conference! Not only do we have growers from Florida and Hawaii, but there are fantastic growers from all over Southern California. As usual, the first two days of the sale will be for



conference attendees only, followed by Friday-Sunday sales that will be open to the public. Thanks to Juliana and others, the sale (and conference in general) are being advertised to a wide audience at several horticulture/gardening events and in many different newsletters, magazines and the newspaper. Like in Houston, we'll be raffling tickets for VIP-only admittance to the sale during the first few minutes during first day of sales. It's going to be fun! So far, in alphabetical order, the list of vendors is as follows:

- Andy Siekkinen, San Diego, California
- Bello Tropicals, Miami, Florida
- Bird Rock Tropicals, Encinitas, California
- Carolyn Parsons, artist, Mission Viejo, California
- Dave Kennedy, San Diego, California
- Fantastic Gardens Hawaii, David Fell
- Granite Hills Orchids & Pottery, Tom Biggart
- Jerry Raack, Pataskala, Ohio
- Live Art Plants, Larry Tabling, Gardena, California
- Marty Folk, Orlando, Florida
- Michael's Bromeliads, Michael Kiehl, Venice, Florida
- Mike's Bromeliads, Miami, Florida
- Rainforest Flora, Paul Isley, Torrance, California
- Tropiflora, Sarasota, Florida

Notice the names of a few locals? If you would like to sell a few plants or other bromeliad/horticulture related items, please contact Morlane O'Donnell or me, the Sales Co-chairs. You don't have to be at your sales table the entire time; just volunteer for a couple of shifts. And speaking of volunteer positions, please browse over to the website

and sign-up on-line for a volunteer spot or two. <http://www.sandiegobromeliad.society.org/volunteers-needed>

BSNZ Journal Donation

Scott brought more than plants from New Zealand: The Bromeliad Society of New Zealand, a BSI affiliate, donated a 2-year supply of their beautiful monthly journal to our club! This is a color magazine full of great articles. A great addition to our library.

Thanks BSNZ!

Editor's Notes

By Juliana Raposo

I'm glad to say we are initiating a collaboration with other local plant societies. Bromeliads, orchids, cacti, succulents, etc.: if you love plants you have room for more!

This month we are highlighting the San Diego County Orchid Society show & sale that happens this month. It's a great event that we all should attend. SDCOS, the SD Epiphyllum Society, SD Horticultural Society are also helping spread the word about the WBC sale to their membership.



• Flora 2018 ... first photos
• Looking at a rare 'Special Species' ... *Aechmea filicaulis*

February Meeting Recap

Horticulturist Brian Kemble gave us a fascinating talk about the puyas in Ruth Bancroft's garden in Walnut Creek, CA. We learned about the majestic xeric garden created by Ms. Bancroft, and how it developed and matured over the decades. Starting most of her plants from seed or seedlings, she saw a plant that takes many years to mature as a welcome challenge, not a problem. Puyas fall perfectly in this description, as they are best grown from seed and take many years to show their charms. Over there, they grow 25 different puyas, forming large beds that flower profusely in the mild dry climate. Brian brought an excellent slideshow to illustrate the presentation, and now we all want to go to the garden and see the mighty puyas in person! Thanks Andrew Wilson for arranging this wonderful talk.

Show and Tell

There are several entries not listed here, blame it on the newsletter editor who forgot to collect the plant id cards after the meeting!

Scott Sandel

2 *Vriesea* hybrids, New Zealand Imports Scott brought back from his NZ trip. Unbelievable color! (photo)

Portea silverae (photo, top right)
Tillandsia 'Lady Luck', Isley

Rainer Ziermann

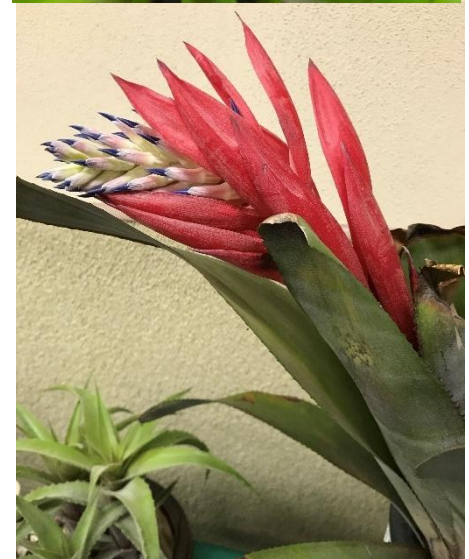
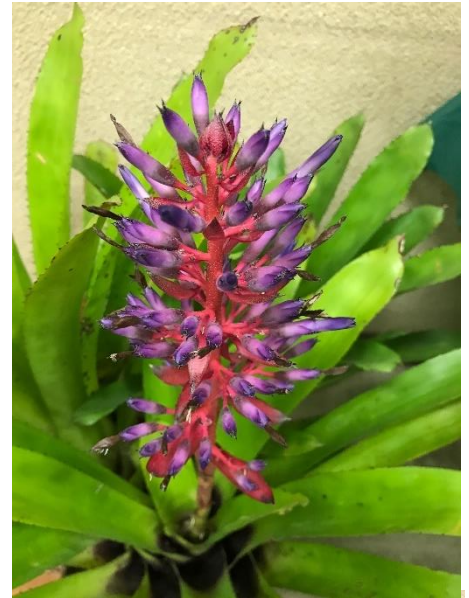
Tillandsia stricta clump

Cristy Brenner

2 *Puya* sp.
Deuterocohnia sp.
From seed collected in Peru.

Bob Wright

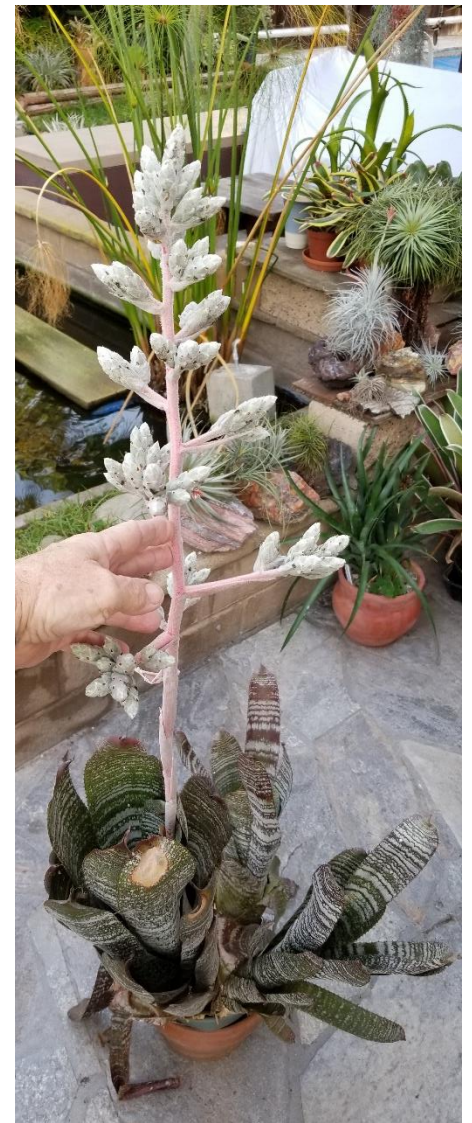
Billbergia nutans
Collected in Paraguay. The best cultivar ever, you have to see it to believe it.
Billbergia hybrid (photo, right)



March Meeting

The presentation will be by our very own SDBS president Scott Sandel on his recent New Zealand trip.

speciosum donated by member Krista Mills, who is scheduled to host this year's picnic in August. Don't miss this one!



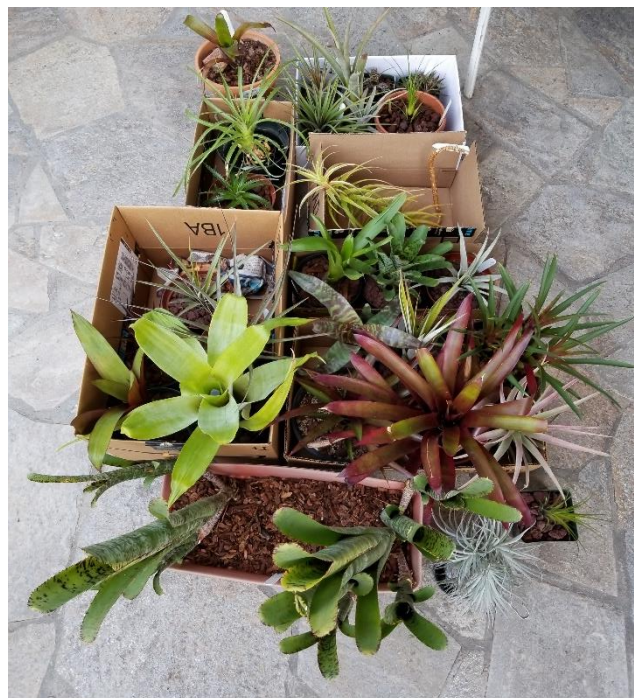
*Top left: vrieseas in New Zealand nursery by Scott Sandel
3 other pictures: plants in auction and opportunity table this Month*

If you ever watched one of Scott's talks, you know to expect superb eye candy. And New Zealand vrieseas are the best!

Plant Table

This month's opportunity table will feature broms from David Kennedy's prodigious collection, and will be a diverse selection of Tillandsias, Vrieseas, Orthophytums, Alcantareas, Canistrum, and several other genera including bigenerics.

The auction will boast two clumps donated by Dave: Hohenbergia correia-araujoi and Quesnelia marmorata, plus a Neoregelia clump from the Dallas Bradford estate, and a big blooming orchid (you heard me!) clump of Dendrobium



Upcoming Events

SDBS Meetings

February 9, 2018 @ 10 AM

SDBS Monthly Meeting

Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 104

www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

March 10, 2018 @ 10 AM

SDBS Monthly Meeting

Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 104

www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

Orchid Society Show & Sale

by Debby Halliday, SDCOS

The San Diego County Orchid Society invites you to enjoy its grand international spring show, "Orchid Mardi Gras," March 23-25 at the Scottish Rite Event Center in Mission Valley. It will feature the best orchid producers in California and fascinating imported plants all for sale in a dedicated sales area.

There will also be a large orchid exhibition with dramatic displays and hundreds of beautifully grown individual orchids where you can personally experience the stunning diversity of these plants. There are also free classes, a kids' corner with orchid fun and games, and even orchid corsages for that special Easter gift. You can enjoy it all for only \$10 (\$12 weekend ticket) or visit sdorchids.com for a \$2 discount coupon. Children are free. Orchids and bromeliads are natural companion plants. You should try both! Visit www.sdorchids.com for more information.

World Bromeliad Conference 2018
San Diego



May 29 - June 3, 2018
fiesta de las bromelias

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, 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

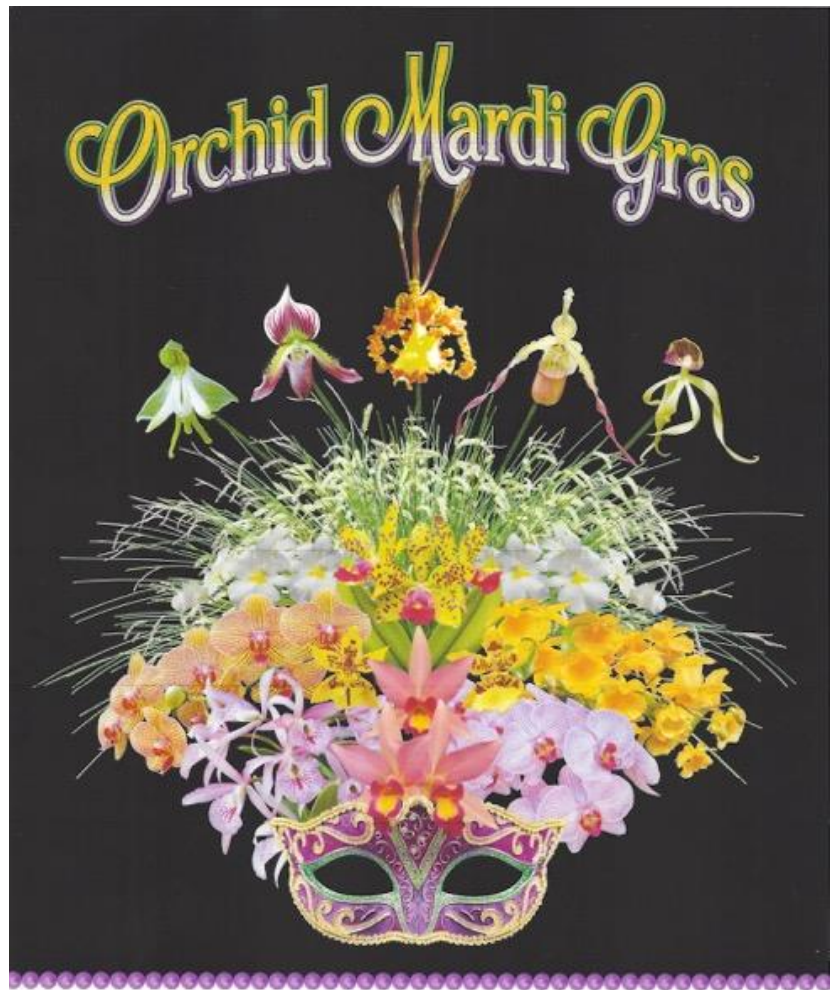
San Diego Horticultural Society

Congregation Beth Israel (CBI)

9001 Towne Centre Drive

San Diego, CA 92122

sdhort.org



San Diego County Orchid Society Show and Sale • March 23-25, 2018

Friday 3:00-7:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Scottish Rite Event Center
1895 Camino Del Rio South
San Diego, CA 92108
Free Parking

Admission \$10
Weekend Pass \$12
Children under 12 Free

Information sdorchids.com

Contact 619-543-9078

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

SDBS Print Memberships Phased Out

As of this month, SDBS no longer offers print subscriptions. All former print subscribers will receive the email version of the Blade from now on. If you still haven't included your email address in the membership directory, please do it now so we can send you the newsletter. Contact our membership chair Tammy Harmon at tmharmon70@yahoo.com to update your contact info.

Haven't renewed your membership yet? You may send in your renewal fees to The San Diego Bromeliad Society, PO Box 83996, San Diego, CA 92138-3996 or to the treasurer, Kerry Nelson, 1725 Myrtle Avenue, San Diego, CA 92103.

SDBS Membership Renewal Fees		
	1 year	2 years
Single email	\$13	\$22
Dual email	\$17	\$30

SDBS 2018

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619) 422-8168

WBC 2018 Conference Schedule Summary

*Subject to changes

<p><u>Tuesday,</u> <u>May 29</u></p>	<p>8:00 a.m. Judges School and 9:00 a.m. BSI board meeting; show/displays set-up</p> <p>12:00–2:00 Conference registration; Board and WBC organizers dinner</p>
<p><u>Wednesday,</u> <u>May 30</u></p>	<p>9:00–3:00 Conference registration</p> <p>8:00–11:00 & 2:00–4:00 Intake for show plants & 8:00–11:00 & 2:00–7:00 judging</p> <p>11:30 a.m. – Opening Session, Lunch and Welcome Address.</p> <p>Plant Sale opens to registrants only 2:00–5:00 with early-bird raffle 2:00–2:30.</p>
<p><u>Thursday,</u> <u>May 31</u></p>	<p>9:00–11:30 Plant Sale & 10:00–11:30 Plant Show to registrants only</p> <p>10:00–11:30 Judges Certification Committee</p> <p>1:00 departure: Optional Bus Excursion afternoon, ending at SD Botanic Garden (Optional Bus Excursion is \$60 per participant.)</p>
<p><u>Friday,</u> <u>June 1</u></p>	<p>8:30 Continental breakfast for all registrants</p> <p>9:00–5:00 Plant Sale & Show (Plant Sale opens to the public this day & thereafter)</p> <p>9:00–3:30 Seminars/speakers</p> <p>5:00–10:00 p.m. No-host bar reception and Rare Plant Auction</p>
<p><u>Saturday,</u> <u>June 2</u></p>	<p>9:00–5:00 Show and Sales</p> <p>9:00–11:30 Seminars/speakers</p> <p>1:00–5:00 Urban Local Tours via trolley bus to member homes & Botanical Building in Balboa Park (included for all registrants).</p> <p>6:00–7:00 p.m. No-host bar reception, Sunset Deck with views of Mission Bay</p> <p>7:00–10:00 p.m. Evening banquet and keynote speech.</p>
<p><u>Sunday,</u> <u>June 3</u></p>	<p>9:00–4:00 Show and Sales</p> <p>8:30–10:00 BSI Board meeting</p> <p>10:00–12:00 Cryptanthus Society Annual Membership Meeting</p>