



Pup Talk

June 2024

THE SADDLEBACK VALLEY BROMELIAD SOCIETY

Volume 31, Number 6

We Will Meet: Thursday, June 6, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

**At the Norman Murray Community & Senior Center
24932 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo, CA**

FEATURED THIS MONTH: “Bromeliads A to Z (Part 2)”

This month’s program will feature a Bromeliad Society International (BSI) program that focuses on some of the more than 80 different Bromeliad genera. Jeff will narrate and present information provided with each slide. We will see many of the more common genera that we have in our collections, as well as some of the more unusual Bromeliads such as the *Sincoraea albopicta* shown at right. We will also have an opportunity to answer your questions about growing your Bromeliads.

Please join us for this informative presentation and enjoy all of our other Bromeliad activities such as show and tell, plant raffle, silent auction of unusual plants, and great refreshments.



DIRECTIONS: Meetings are the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Norman Murray Community and Senior Center, 24932 Veterans Way in Mission Viejo. **Visitors Welcome!** Where is that? Off the I-5 take the La Paz exit. Go east on La Paz past Marguerite Parkway to Veterans’ Way. Turn left. The parking lot is at the road’s end. We are in room Sycamore B.

This Meeting Includes:

Bromeliads and More Wonderful Bromeliads:

- * **Show & Tell** – A meeting highlight. Bring in your bloomers, show stoppers, interesting plants, questions, even disasters. Help all of us learn and enjoy while you get a free raffle ticket.
- * **Raffle Table** – A chance to add to your collection; buy lots of tickets!
- * **Silent Auction** – We usually have special plants for you to bid on.
- * **Library & Information** – Want to learn even more? Check out a book and read up!
Or ask our bromeliad experts that question that is bugging you! We love to talk Bromeliads!



Upcoming Events (mark your calendars):

June 2 — South Bay Bromeliad Associates (SBBA) meeting in Palos Verdes.

June 6 — Our monthly meeting: “Bromeliads A to Z (Part 2)”

June 15-16 — San Diego Bromeliad Show and Sale (See pages 5-6)

July 4 — No meeting—Happy Fourth of July!

July 20-21 — Sherman Gardens Plant-O-Rama Sale (See page 8)

August 10 — South Bay Bromeliad Show and Sale (see page 8)

June Refreshment Signups: Cristy Brenner, Kate Guerra-Hershey, Faye Jacobs, and Sue Goldberger. Thank you!



World Bromeliad Conference: By the time of our June meeting, several of us will have returned from the WBC in West Palm Beach, Florida. Below are photos of the 2022 conference in Sarasota, Florida, showing a bus tour and the sales area.



Our May Show and Tell Featured:

Cristy Brenner

Aechmea 'Ebony Glow' X *Ae. racinae*

Billbergia 'Baker's Titan' (Page 7)

Billbergia 'Gargoyle' #1

Quesnelia lateralis #2

x*Sincoregelia* (*Neo. carolinae* 'Red' X *Sincoraea navioides*)

x*Vrieslandsia* 'Arden's Comet' inflorescence
(*Vriesea simplex* X *Tillandsia australis*)

Johanna Browne

Tillandsia 'Ty' (*T. ehlersiana* X *T. bulbosa*) #5

Chris Bruce

Tillandsia aeranthos var. *nigra* #3

Tillandsia straminea 'Deep Purple' #4

Nada Chatwell

Tillandsias in Keith Nguyen pot



May Show and Tell, continued

Sean Donlin

Tillandsia fasciata hybrid (?)

Nancy Groves

Tillandsia recurvifolia v. *subsecundifolia* #7

Mary Kermani

Tillandsia aeranthos #9

Vriesea 'Christiane' (?) #10

Carolyn Parsons

Dyckia choristaminea #8

Tillandsia 'Antonio' #6



The annual summer Bromeliad Show and Sale in San Diego.

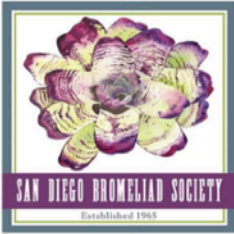
We'll have Tillandsias and other bromeliads for sale from a variety of vendors and from our members. Plus, we'll have tools, supplies, and experts on hand for all your questions.

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

Summer Bromeliad Spectacular



Balboa Park Casa del Prado Rm 101



Saturday & Sunday

June 15 & 16

10-4:00



SanDiegoBromeliadSociety.org

Travel to San Diego to see a large display of beautiful and unusual Bromeliads. Also, S.D. County is the center of Bromeliad nurseries in California. There are usually plants available from Bird Rock Tropicals, Andy Siekkinen, Hula Tropicals, David Kennedy, and many others. Get an early start (about 8:00 am from Mission Viejo) because weekend traffic to San Diego is heavy and Balboa Park is very popular (parking later may be difficult). Don't miss this great event. (More photos on page 6)





San Diego Show

June, 2023

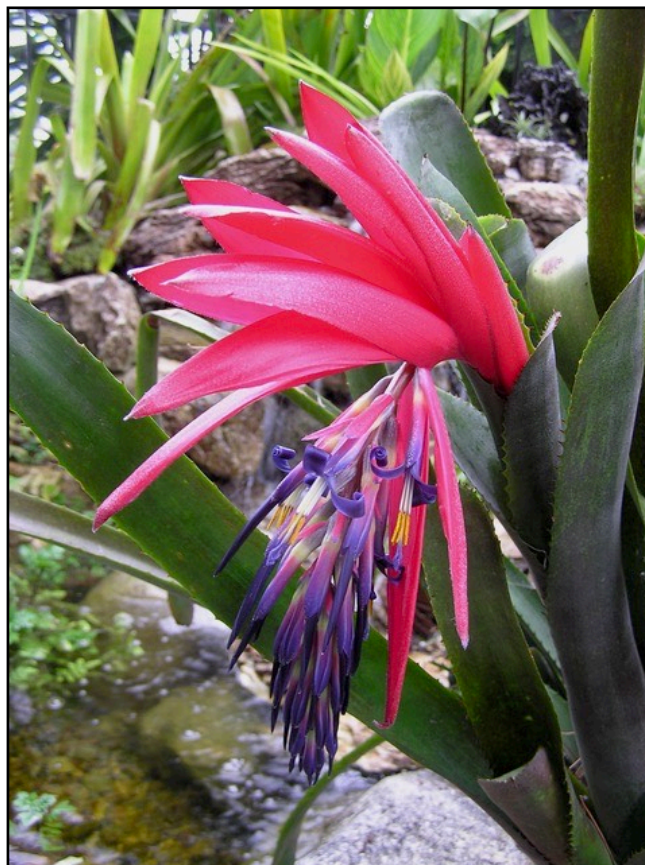


Bird Rock Display

Spotlight on *Billbergia* 'Baker's Titan': In an attempt to share some of the more unusual Bromeliads in my collection, I donated a blooming *Billbergia* 'Baker's Titan' for the May silent auction. I originally purchased *Billbergia* 'Titan' (the name was changed later) over twenty years ago directly from Bill Baker while on a field trip to his garden in the San Fernando Valley with the South Bay Bromeliad Associates (SBBA). When I purchased the plant it was in bloom and I had never seen such a large *Billbergia* inflorescence. I was so impressed with the size of the inflorescence that I later took a photo of one with a half-gallon juice bottle for scale. (I now know that the B. 'Titan' inflorescences are only about half as large as those of either *Billbergia porteana* or *B. stenopetala*!).

I asked Bill Baker if he named the plant 'Titan' because the inflorescence was so large. He responded "no, it was because it shoots out of the tube like a Titan rocket!" A year later, when an offset bloomed, I clearly understood the the name. It went from a tiny flash of pink down in the center to full bloom in just a few days. It shot out like a rocket! It is a beautiful shade of dark pink with contrasting helicoidal deep blue flowers (helicoidal means recoiled petals similar to a watch spring).

Billbergia 'Titan' was hybridized by Bill Baker in 1998. The seed parent is *Billbergia* 'Windii' (*B. nutans* X *B. decora*) and the pollen parent is *B. brasiliensis*. In August, 2008, when Bill was unloading plants at the SBBA show, he gave me three tiny *Billbergia* seedlings that he had recently hybridized. Sadly, Bill never got to see that group of seedlings mature and bloom because a heart attack took his life the following spring. It was a great loss to the Bromeliad world and his legacy includes 33 cultivars in the BSI Cultivar Registry. I don't think the seedlings he gave me were ever named. They are somewhere in my huge *Billbergia* collection. Hopefully, the tags are still with them and when they bloom I'll bring them to show at our meeting.



By Cristy Brenner, Editor



TWO MORE SUMMER EVENTS

SHERMAN GARDENS PLANT-O-RAMA BROMELIAD SALE

Saturday & Sunday July 20-21, 2024, 10:30 am-4:00 pm

Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society

Sherman Library & Gardens
2627 Pacific Coast Highway
Corona Del Mar, CA 92625

Admission \$5.00



Meetings 7:00 p.m on the first Thursday of the month @ Norman Murray Center in Mission Viejo



Come and see our lovingly home-grown BROMELIADS, including Tillandsias (air plants), and also receive growing information.

BROMELIAD SHOW & SALE

PRESENTED BY



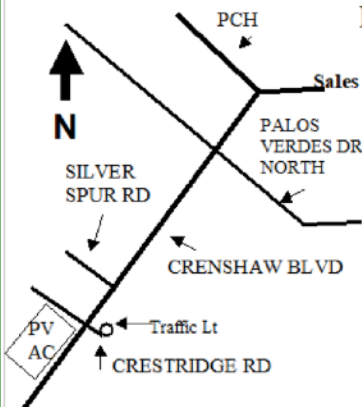
FREE ADMISSION
FREE PARKING

Sales from members private collections and commercial vendors

**SATURDAY
AUG 10, 2024**
AT

**Palos Verdes
Art Center**

5504 Crestridge Road
Rancho Palos Verdes,
CA 90275



SHOW and SALES 10:00 AM-4:00pm

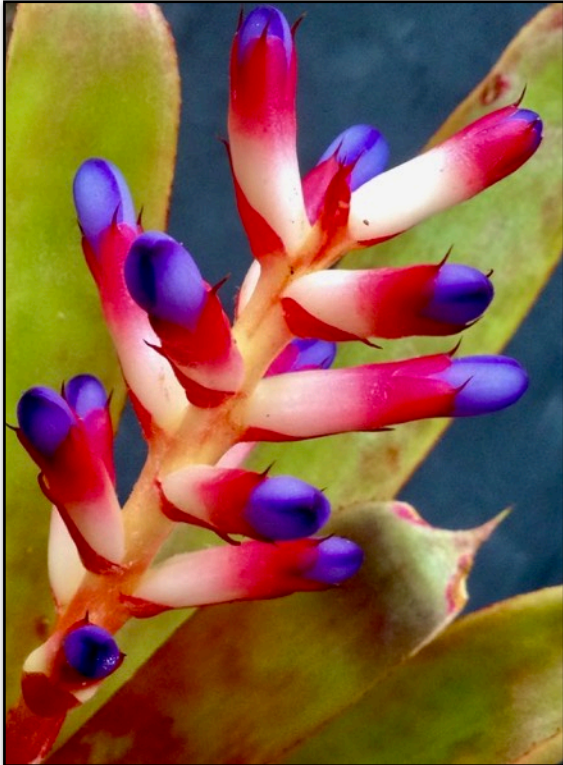
In July, we will return to Sherman Gardens to participate in their annual Plant-O-Rama sale. In addition to bromeliads, this event usually features several other plant societies such as orchids, begonias, and hibiscus. Join us for this opportunity to add unusual plants to your collection or to sell or donate your extra offsets. Also, consider volunteering at the sale, and for new members, it's a great opportunity to learn more about your plants.

In August, please join many of our members in supporting the South Bay Bromeliad Associates (SBBA) at their annual show and sale. In addition to member sales, nurseries such as Rainforest Flora and Live Art Plants usually participate. It's well-worth the drive to Palos Verdes to see and buy more beautiful Bromeliads.



2024 Society Officers/Committee Heads

President:	Chris Bruce	Pup Talk Editor:	Cristy Brenner
Vice President/Programs:	Jeff Sorensen	Pup Talk Team:	Pete and Patti Dunn
Secretary:	Carolyn Parsons	Refreshments:	John Marzolino
Treasurer:	Mary Kermani	Supplies:	Launi & Tony Cory
Fundraising:	Yvonne Wilson	Webmaster and Zoom	Kate Guerra-Hershey
Librarian:	Paul Selzer		Amy Uyemura
Membership	Nada Chatwell		John Marzolino
Plant Table:	John Marzolino		
	Michael McGuire		



Where did the phone numbers and email addresses go?

Now that *Pup Talk* is on a website that is accessible to everyone, some board members are concerned about the security of their personal information. If you are a member, be sure to keep your membership roster that has all of the contact information.

Our Web Address: bromeliadsociety.org

Aechmea apocalyptica X Ae.(caudata?),
seedling # 5. Photo by Ed Voelker



SVBS 2024 DUES/MEMBERSHIP

Dues are \$15 per membership (for one person or for two or more at the same address). Please send a check & info to: Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society 24891 Camberwell Street, Laguna Hills, CA, 92653

Membership Name(s): _____

Newsletter via: [] email (dues \$15/year) or [] USPS (Dues \$20/year) or [] **Both (Dues \$20/year)**

Street: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Phone Number(s): (____) _____ - _____ (____) _____ - _____

Email: _____

Pup Talk, June, 2024
Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society
1068 Santa Cruz Circle
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

FIRST CLASS PLEASE!

Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society

Pup Talk

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The Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society next meets Thursday, June 6, 2024, at 7:00 PM.

Festivities include a:

- * **Program:** Presentation on "Bromeliads A to Z (Part 2)"
- * **Plant raffle and silent auction** (Bring a show & tell plant to receive a free raffle ticket!);
- * **Show & Tell** with lots of our plants to see and enjoy;
- * **Lending library** for books you need to learn;
- * **Friendship; and Information.**

A big thank you goes to all who contributed information, writing, photos, and production of this newsletter including Cristy Brenner (Ed.), John Marzolino, Patti & Pete Dunn, Chris & Hank Bruce, Jeff Sorensen, and Ed Voelker.

Pup Talk is a publication of the Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society. Any opinion expressed herein is not necessarily that of the Society. Send comments, inquiries, and articles to: cbrenner4@cox.net. Deadline is mid-month before month of publication. When credit is given, nonprofit publications may reprint from us.

The Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society is an educational organization promoting the study and cultivation of bromeliads and fellowship among those who do. We are an affiliate of the Bromeliad Society International.

