



Pup Talk

August 2024

THE SADDLEBACK VALLEY BROMELIAD SOCIETY

Volume 31, Number 8

We Will Meet: Thursday, August 1, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

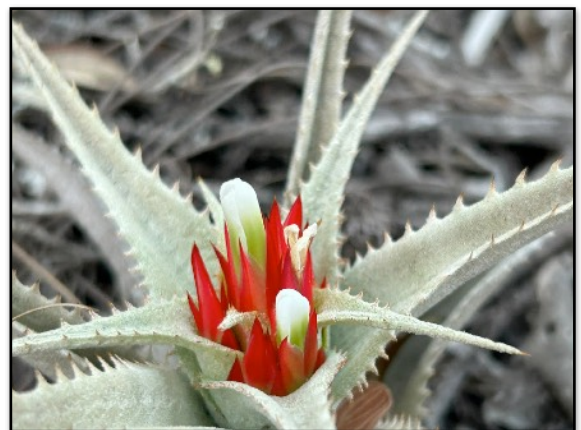
At the Norman Murray Community & Senior Center

24932 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo, CA

FEATURED THIS MONTH: “Bromeliad Adventures in Brazil”

Dylan Zoller first visited Brazil at age nineteen with several of our members on a “Plant Expeditions” tour in 2022. In 2023, after internet research that established connections with Brazilian Bromeliad experts, he returned for six weeks of exploration to remote areas in search of more new and exciting plants. He is currently on his third Brazilian Bromeliad expedition, but he will return just in time to share his 2023 adventures at our August meeting. Join Dylan as he climbs to the top of large granite inselbergs to see *Encholirium horridum* (below left) or see many unusual Bromeliads such as *Orthophytum cristaliense* (below right)—bet you don’t have that one in

your collection. 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):

August 1 —Our meeting with slides of Bromeliads in Brazil.

August 10 — South Bay Bromeliad Show and Sale (see page 3).

August Refreshment Signups: Faye Jacobs, Amy Uyemura, and Jerry Messer. Thank you!



From the Editor: We have a shorter newsletter this month since we did not have a July meeting because of the holiday. As a result, there are no show and tell plants to report on and therefore we have two fewer pages. Our annual Plant-O-Rama sale is coming up on July 20 and 21, so I will spend time in my yard roaming around looking for plants to donate, rather than searching for ways to fill two extra pages.



I am presenting the plant at left for a newsletter-only show and tell because it is too large to bring to the August meeting when it will be in full bloom with pale blue flowers. It is *Aechmea* ‘Mona’, and according to the *BSI Bromeliad Cultivar Register* the seed parent is *Aechmea fasciata* and the pollen parent is *Aechmea serrata*. However, it is also reported that that the pollen parent might be *Aechmea dichlamydea*. It was hybridized in Belgium.

This plant is three feet tall and definitely resembles an over-sized *Aechmea fasciata*, and it seems to look more like *Aechmea serrata* than *Aechmea dichlamydea*. It is a beautiful addition to my garden.



South Bay Bromeliad Associates Show and Sale: Don't miss the last show and sale of the summer season. Many of our members regularly attend the SBBA meetings and we want to also support this society.

BROMELIAD SHOW & SALE

PRESENTED BY



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

In addition to the non-judged show, SBBA members and nurseries will be selling plants. Rainforest Flora and Live Art Plants usually sell Tillandsias and other Bromeliads. This event is well-worth the drive to Palos Verdes on a Saturday morning and you can carpool with some Bromeliad friends.





The June San Diego Sale: This year, the San Diego Bromeliad Society did not have a show with their annual sale because their usual show organizer was in Brazil. It was still well worth the long drive that several of our members from Orange County made to Balboa Park to enjoy and purchase from the great selection of Bromeliads. I was so excited about shopping for unusual Bromeliads, and also chatting with friends, that I forgot to take photos until we were ready to leave in the afternoon.



A special treat before going home was a short visit to Cary Serklew's beautiful palm and Bromeliad garden in San Juan Capistrano.






Spotlight on *Billbergia* 'Diane':


Several months ago Chris Bruce, our President, brought a *Billbergia* 'Diane' for Show and Tell. At the time I mentioned that it was the dark form, but we didn't have the typical light-orange form at the meeting for comparison. Many years ago I took the photo at lower right when both plants were blooming simultaneously to show the difference in color.

The Bromeliad Society International (BSI) maintains the *Bromeliad Cultivar Register*, which is a great resource for you to learn about your hybrid plants. *Billbergia* 'Diane' has a very surprising parentage which includes a *Neoregelia*! (See below for full information on parentage).

Billbergia 'Diane' is a great addition to your collection because it produces numerous offsets (pups) and blooms annually. In full-sun it will be compact with reddish leaves, but in more shade the leaves will be green and much longer (lanky).



**BROMELIAD SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL**



Bromeliad Cultivar Register

BCR
Advanced Search
New registration
What's New
Information
Name List
Catalogues

BILLBERGIA (1319)

A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K.
L. M. N. O. P. R. S. T. U. V. W.
X. Y. Z.

- After Sunrise
- Afterglow
- Alaka'i
- Alan Buttery
- Alan Coyte
- Albertii
- Alegria
- Alex Pilarski
- Alexander
- Alfresco
- Alii
- All Seasons
- Allan Ladd
- Allie's Special
- Alligator
- Allison Sill
- Alpine Snow
- Alpine Way
- Amaroo


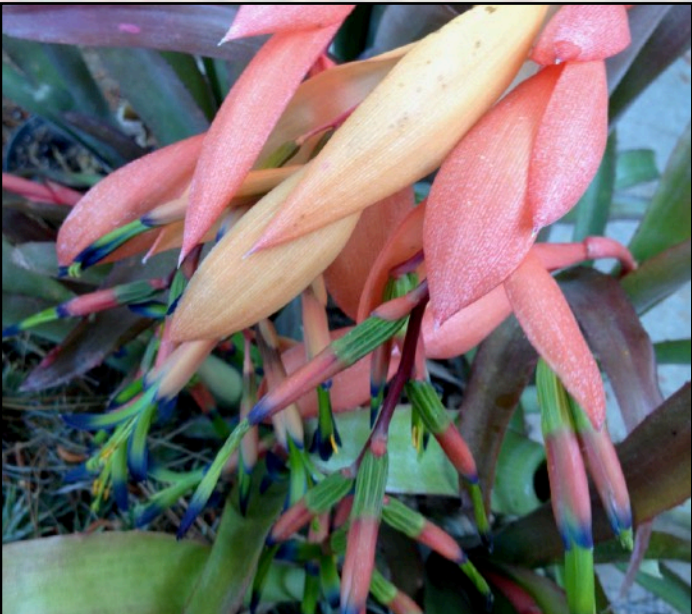
Bromeliad Cultivar Register (792) --

BILLBERGIA 'Diane' Kendall, Harvey <1995

cv. of ('T.L. Mead' x *Neoregelia tricolor*) X *amoena* v. *carnea* - The *Neoregelia* portion of this cross apparently did not take resulting in a plant that appears to be primarily *elegans* (*amoena* v. *carnea*) w/some variability from the cross w/'T.L. Mead' - 10"-12" grey-green scurfy tube blushing reddish in strong light - pendent inflorescence of *elegans* appearance w/yellow to peach-orange bracts.

Seed Parent: 'T.L. Mead' x *Neo. tricolor* Pollen Parent: *amoena* v. *carnea*

HK1998

An added plus for *Billbergia* 'Diane' is that it has a much longer-lasting inflorescence as a cut flower. Most other *Billbergias* have bracts that turn brown very quickly as the flowers bloom. The bracts on 'Diane' remain colorful until all of the flowers are finished blooming.

Programs for Meetings: It is often difficult for our local societies to arrange for in-person speakers for their meetings. The Bromeliad Society International (BSI) provides numerous slide programs that may be used by Affiliates at meetings. We viewed one of these programs called “Bromeliads A to Z, Part 2” at our June meeting (shown below). Recently, the Bromeliad Society of New Zealand has made their Kiwi Broms Seminar videos available to BSI Affiliates. For information, contact Martha Goode, BSI Affiliate Chair (stevegoode1@ameritech.net).



Learning about Bromeliads:

Hopefully, you will borrow some of the wonderful books from our library (some shown at left). However, most of us now use the internet to identify our plants.

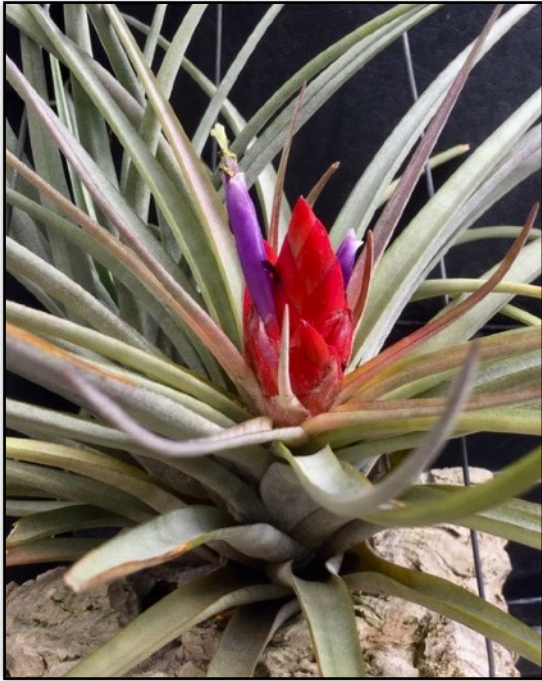
Here are some suggested websites:

- Encyclopaedia of Bromeliads (bromeliad.nl)
- Bromeliad Species Database (bsi.org)
- Bromeliad Photo Index (www.fbcs.org)
- Bromeliads in Australia (bromeliad.org.au)

Caution: Just because you may think that you have found an exact match for your Bromeliad online or in a book, you might not be correct. So, it's not a good idea to make a tag with that name because it might get passed on to someone else. There is certainly no shortage of mis-named Bromeliads. Bring your plant to a meeting and maybe someone can identify it for you.

2024 Society Officers/Committee Heads

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

Tillandsia 'Coquette' (T. rotundata X T. capitata)
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, August, 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, August 1, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Festivities include a:

- * **Program:** Presentation on Bromeliads in Brazil
- * **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.

