



Pup Talk

August 2025

THE SADDLEBACK VALLEY BROMELIAD SOCIETY

Volume 32, Number 8

We Will Meet: Thursday, August 7, 2025, 7:00 pm.

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

Featured for August: “Bromeliads of Northern Central America”

Dylan Zoller will share his most recent bromeliad adventures to Chiapas, Mexico, and Guatemala. He trekked through the mountains of this tropical region with several other plant enthusiasts in search of unusual bromeliads. At right he is photographing a group of *Pitcairnia aff. ringens* in Guatemala. Dylan is one of our youngest members, and at age 22 he has already done extensive bromeliad expeditions in Brazil, Colombia, and Ecuador. He is only available to speak to us during his summer vacation from college, so don't miss this chance to see one of his unusual exciting presentations.

Please join us for this informative meeting and enjoy all of our other bromeliad activities such as show and tell, 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.
- * 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 7 — Our meeting: “Bromeliads of Northern Central America.”

August 9 — South Bay Bromeliad Associates Show and Sale (see page 8).

November 4-7 — Aussie Broms Conference, Brisbane, Australia.

April 14-18, 2026 — World Bromeliad Conference, Costa Mesa.



August Refreshment Signups: Chris Bruce, Sharon Saldana, Sue Goldberger, Ann Woodson, and Faye Jacobs.
Thank you



Bromeliad Society International: Are you a member of the BSI? If you are serious about bromeliads you should definitely be a member. It only costs \$15.00 to join (go to **BSI.org**), and unfortunately, very few of our members belong to the BSI. This is embarrassing because our society is hosting the World Bromeliad Conference in Costa Mesa next year! Please go to the BSI website to see the benefits of membership such as access to all of the BSI Journals (one shown below). Also, please plan to attend the World Bromeliad Conference next April. There will be many different activities such a judged show, plant sales from numerous vendors, bus trips to nurseries, seminars by world bromeliad experts, and you don't want to miss the excitement of the rare plant auction.



Our July Show and Tell Featured:

Cristy Brenner

Aechmea 'Azur Nigra' #2

Billbergia 'Domingos
Martins'

Billbergia 'Fireworks' #5

Canistropsis burhellii

Neoregelia 'Bloodspot'

Charles Buckner

Tillandsia ionantha #4

Patti Dunn

Nidularium innocentii? #1

Kate Guerra-Hershey

Tillandsia capitata? #3

Tillandsia juncea

Mary Kermani

Gusmania sanguinea #6



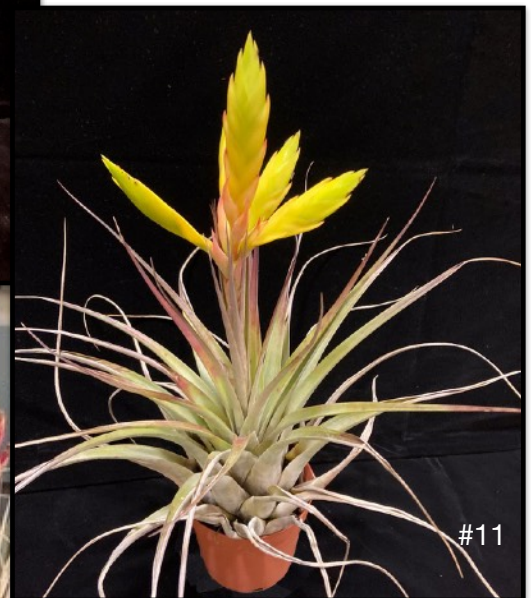
July Show and Tell, continued

Michael McGuire
Neoregelia hybrid

Norm Nakanishi
Aechmea 'America'
Aechmea tesmannii
Aechmea zebrina
Tillandsia fasciculata (three) #7, #10
Tillandsia fasciculata 'Mitla' #11
Tillandsia fasciculata hybrid
Tillandsia flabellata (green form) #9
Tillandsia flabellata (purple form)
Tillandsia hitchcockiana #8
Tillandsia rodrigueziana
Vriesea rauhii

Brian Rothstein
Tillandsia tectorum

Jeff Sorensen
Aechmea amicum
Tillandsia species



Sherman Gardens Plant-O-Rama Sale

On Saturday, July 19, our society members gathered at Sherman Gardens for our annual summer plant sale. Several other clubs were selling orchids, begonias, ferns, succulents, and carnivorous plants.



Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help with our sale, especially our newer members. It was a great opportunity to see a large variety of bromeliads and learn more about these very special plants.

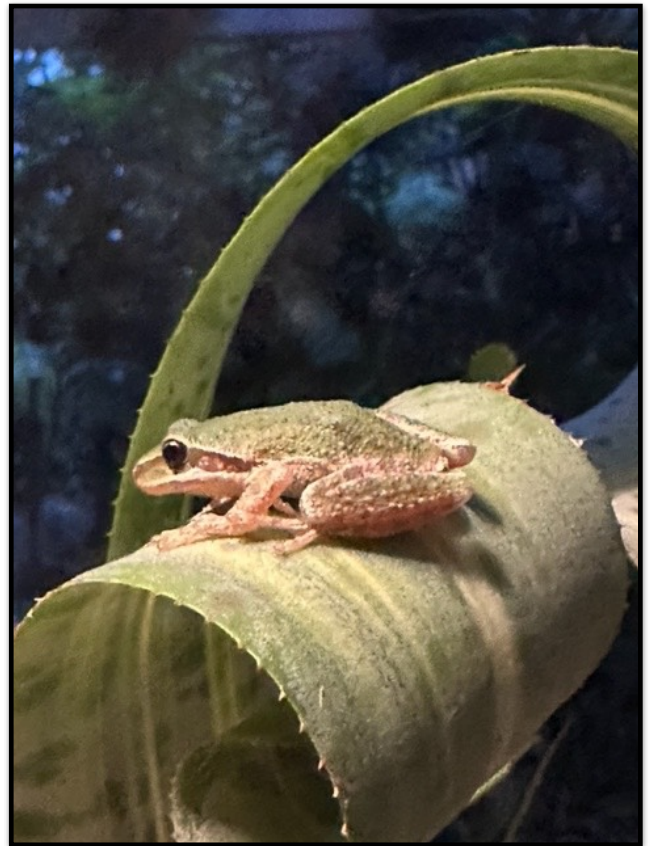
This is our last sale before the big event: The World Bromeliad Conference at the Hilton Hotel in Costa Mesa from April 14-18, 2026. Since we will be sponsoring this conference, we will not be having our annual show and sale next April at Sherman Gardens. However, the conference will offer a great opportunity to see and purchase an amazing variety of bromeliads. Start planning now to attend this international conference where you can meet bromeliad experts from around the world.

Plant-O-Rama, continued: Our booth was small, but it was packed with great, colorful bromeliads grown by our members.



Nature's Helpers: Last fall we had a slide presentation on animals that live in bromeliads. If you live near a water source, you may be fortunate to have California native tree frogs living in your bromeliads. The one at right is perched on my *Quesnelia* 'Rafael Oliveira' on a shelf in front of my kitchen window where it can take advantage of the insects attracted by the light. I have a number of large bromeliads in my collection such as *Aechmea blanchetiana* or *Tillandsia australis*. Virtually every one of them has a resident tree frog, that is just waiting for a mosquito to fly in.

I thought that I had heard a frog orgy one night down the hill in my shade house. On June 8, the proof of the frog romance was visible in the large tank of my *Neoregelia johannis*. There was a cluster of well-developed eggs that were almost ready to hatch, and the usually clear water was clouded with algae. Perhaps the frogs defecate in the water to aide in algae growth as a food supply. Two days later (photo below right), the pollywogs had hatched and as of today, July 23, they are beginning to grow their legs. I have been adding extra water and fish food because they had consumed all of the algae. The frogs usually reproduce in the creek behind my house and this is only the second time that I have seen pollywogs in my bromeliads. It is a real treat to hear their little voices all over my yard at sunset in the spring and I am thankful that they love to eat mosquitoes.



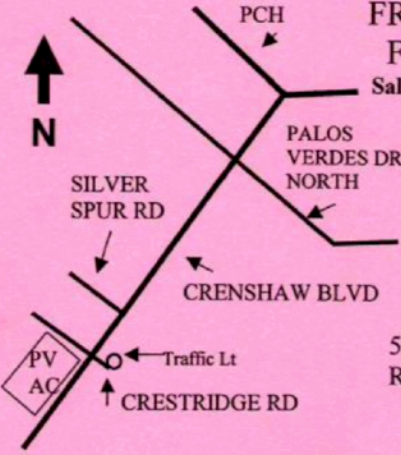
South Bay Bromeliad Associates Show and Sale

BROMELIAD SHOW & SALE

PRESENTED BY



**FREE ADMISSION
FREE PARKING**
Sales from members private collections and commercial vendors
**SATURDAY
AUG 9, 2025**
AT
Palos Verdes Art Center
5504 Crestridge Road
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275



SHOW and SALES 10:00 AM-4:00 PM
Questions: call Ted Johnson 310-850-2824



Join many of your SVBS friends on August 9th at the South Bay Bromeliad Associates show and sale in Palos Verdes. The sale (shown above) offers numerous bromeliads grown by members and also several commercial growers such as Rainforest Flora and Live Art plants. Please arrange carpools at our August meeting for this great event.



Enjoy bromeliads from many different genera in this display-only (non-judged) show.



2025 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:	Open		John Marzolino
Treasurer:	Mary Kermani	Refreshments:	Launi Cory
Fundraising:	Yvonne Wilson		Mary Kermani
Librarian:	Sue Goldberger	Supplies:	Amy Uyemura
Membership	Nada Chatwell	Webmaster and Zoom	John Marzolino
Plant Table:	Michael McGuire	New Member Liaison:	Patti Dunn



Tillandsia 'Bayonet'
(*T. tricolor* X *T. chiapensis*). Photo
by Ed Voelker.



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. Rosters are available from Nada at the meetings.

Our Web Address:

bromeliadsociety.org

SVBS 2025 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, 2025
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 7, 2025, at 7:00 PM.

Festivities include a:

- * **Program:** “Bromeliads of Northern Central America”
- * **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, Pete & Patti 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.

