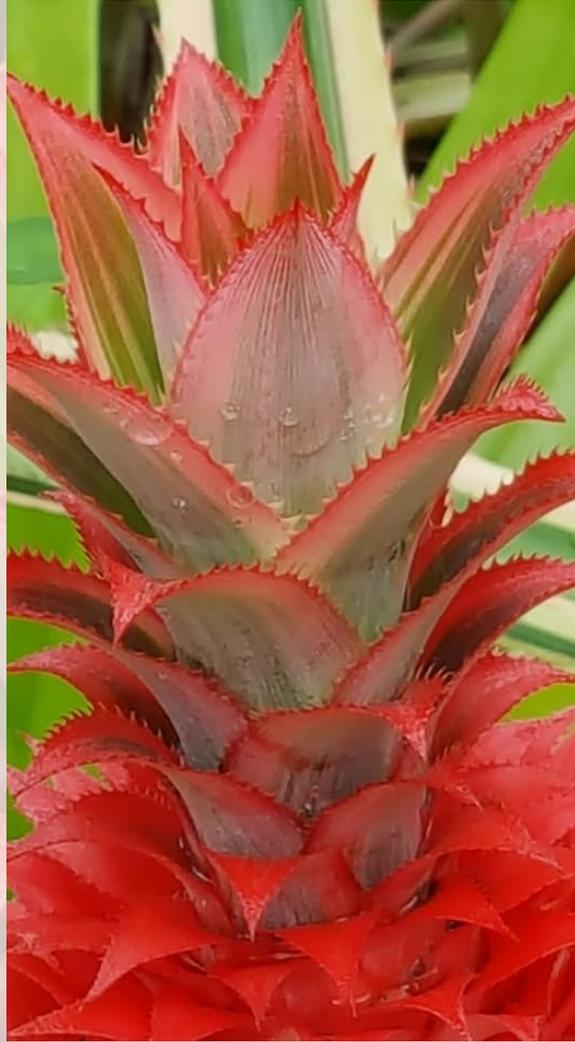


# Bromeli Advisory



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# BromeliAdvisory

Stop and Smell the Bromeliads

**July 2018**

WEBPAGE: <http://www.bssf-miami.org/>

 [http://www.facebook.com/groups/BromeliadSF/?bookmark\\_t=group](http://www.facebook.com/groups/BromeliadSF/?bookmark_t=group)  
 <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Bromeliad-Society-of-South-Florida/84661684279>

Alex Bello, President  
 Sandy Roth, VP  
 Sandy Roth, Treasurer  
 Lenny Goldstein, Secretary  
 Robert Meyer, Editor

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**Raffle Table :** Melissa Brail  
**Refreshments:** Sandy Roth

What	Who
Sales Table	Michalski/Bello

**JULY 17, 2018 AT 7:30 PM AT FAIRCHILD CORBIN A**

**SPEAKER:** Robert Meyer – Photos of the BSI World Conference and Tours

**RAFFLE TABLE:** Robert Meyer

**FOOD:** Sandy promises Big Plant as prize for those who receive tickets when they bring in food. Only one winner, but number of ticket holders is usually single digit – odds are in your favor Betty Crockers.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The dog days of summer continue as hot dog days. Some relief comes with almost-daily afternoon thunderstorms which drench our landscapes and bromeliad collections. As many of you continue to enjoy time off with your family and take nice vacation trips to wherever you desire, don't forget we still have our monthly meetings with great speakers and awesome company. In our upcoming August General meeting we will be honoring a special member of our club who has dedicated decades to our club and has been an inspiration to many of us including (me) so I humbly ask that you join us. If you have any questions as always come and see me or any member of the board and we are always available to assist.

# In Case You Missed It BSI World Conference in San Diego Part II

by Robert Meyer

The presentation to be provided will be of the show and road trips. Last month, we reviewed the speeches, this month will focus on the tours.

## **DAY 1: Two Neighboring Gardens and the San Diego Botanic Gardens (Dinner included)**

If you have never visited California or lived there, you quickly learn that distances are different there. When I stay with a friend in Los Angeles, he suggests a place for Sunday brunch which is nearby. Forty minutes later of driving without delay on the freeway, I ask where the place is. He answers only ten more minutes to go. We drove 55 miles for a brunch which is close by. That is California.

If you ever desire to become an urban transportation engineer – I knew one very well – then you discover a term coined in the 1960's from Los Angeles – induced demand: which is economist-speak for when increasing the supply of something (like roads) will correspondingly increase the demand for that something by people – as they want even more of that perceived good thing. Eventually, the demand outgrows the supply (wider highways) and the honeymoon is over. This is now solidly proven. In recent years, social scientists have collected enough data to show how this happens pretty much every time we build new roads.



California, here we come?

So what did we do the first day? Drove for more than one hour to *members'* yards. We drove from San Diego to Vista, California. That is about 43 miles. Driving to Anaheim from Vista is around 67 miles. And,

the homes we visited were owned by members of the San Diego Society. Think about it – they drive over 50 miles for a monthly meeting.

A better concept is the botanic garden. Called the San Diego Botanic Garden, the garden is located in Encinitas. Encinitas is 26 miles from San Diego. Fort Lauderdale is 28 miles from Miami. What would the locals do if we called the garden in Fort Lauderdale the Miami Garden?

We will show you the yards of the two couples who adjacent yards stood on a rural hill overlooking the aptly named Vista. What a site. Their respective bedrooms look out onto glorious brown hills rolling off in the distance. As a bicyclist, I marveled at the hills as they were the proper size and grade for accomplishing health without too much labor.

When we finished walking the home gardens, we came to the botanic garden of Encinitas named San Diego. Numerous photos of the same will be shown. It has great array of plants and a great collection of art.

## **DAY 2: Balboa Park and Mission Hills**

As if a helicopter dropped a park dead center in the city of San Diego, Balboa Park is the epicenter of most everything San Diego-an. Originally 1400 acres set aside in 1868 by civic leaders, the park was named “City Park.” Soon thereafter, Kate Sessions approached the leaders and struck a deal: give me 32 acres in the park for a nursery and I will plant 100 trees a year in the park. She was later named the “Mother of Balboa Park.”

A 1915 introduction of San Diego was to occur with the Panama-California Exposition. The Panama Canal was newly opened months before on August 15, 1914. The term “City Park” just would not suffice. A contest to name the city’s centrally located park culminated with an honor to Vasco Nunez de Balboa, the first European to sight the Pacific. And, such has been the name since.

That Exposition brought buildings. The former Food & Beverage Building (today's Casa de Balboa, which houses the Balboa Art Conservation Center, Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego History Center & Archives and San Diego Model Railroad Museum), the Casa del Prado (San Diego Botanical Foundation, San Diego Civic Youth Ballet, San Diego Floral Association, San Diego Junior Theater and the San Diego Youth Symphony) and the House of Charm (Mingei International Museum and San Diego Art Institute) were also built for the 1915 Exposition as temporary wood-and-plaster structures. They have all since been reconstructed.

The neighboring zoo was created in 1916 as a second part to the Exposition. The ponds were also a part. Ultimately, the Exposition received the moniker: "Garden Fair."

Now that you have heard all of that – we had about one hour to visit this place.

Mission Hills is equally historic. Subdivided in 1908, the area is better known as 92103. The area is primarily residential, with some boutique shops and restaurants. Built primarily in the 20th century, Mission Hills became one of the many San Diego neighborhoods connected by the Class 1 streetcars and an extensive San Diego public transit system to assuage the Panama-California Exposition of 1915.



Balboa Park pavillion

Bungalow-styled homes are everywhere. So are Craftsman, Prairie School, Mission Revival (think Coral Gables), Spanish Revival (think Coral Gables) and Colonial Revival. The charm of the neighborhood, now shaded by century old trees, cannot be overstated. The first home we visited was Craftsman inspired, with a twist of Bungalow. The second home, redone by the owners, had a newer feeling. Each was magnificently handled in the interior and the exteriors were about as different as the home styles. One was on a postage-stamp sized lot, while the other was a sprawling one acre lot which dangled down a hill on a homemade narrow path lined with water and beer bottles and flecked by mosaics. Shots of each will be provided.

To add to this article, I can only say that pictures are worth a 1000 words.

## In Case You Missed It Guillermo Rivera

by Leonard Goldstein

Our June program, titled "Bromeliads in Their Habitat: Land of the Incas," was presented by Guillermo Rivera. The owner for 18 years of Plant Expeditions, Guillermo holds a Ph.D. in botany from Argentina's Córdoba University. He is a resident of Sarasota.



Young Guillermo in Machu Pichu

Guillermo prefaced his program with some background information about Peru. The country's population is 23 million, of which 7 million reside in Greater Lima. Mining and fisheries are Peru's primary industries. The country's terrain can be placed into three categories: (1) Costa, a narrow strip whose dry-arid climate is influenced by the Humboldt Current; (2) Andes, a broad area characterized by a temperate climate and the region where the greatest habitat destruction has occurred; and (3) Amazon Basin lowland jungle, very tropical and still pretty much virgin territory.

The two-week tour which led to this presentation crossed the Andes five times and encountered the ruins of civilizations that preceded the Incas. One of the more recently-discovered ruins, now known for about 15 years, has been turned into a great museum since the looting was stopped.

The tour ran generally north to south through Peru. The northernmost part of the expedition encountered dry deciduous forest, characterized by such flora as *Melocactus*, *Erythrina*, and *Tillandsia hildae*, *Racinaea multiflora*, and *R. fraseri*. *Deuterocohnia longipetala* occurs over a very wide range and is quite variable in form. As humidity increased, Pitcairnia and large Tillandsias began to appear.

On the other side of the Andes, moisture and plant life burgeoned. There was lots of Tillandsia diversity, and all were species—no hybrids. *T. mima* is a broad-leaved species often encountered in the area, along with lots of orchids. *T. ferreyrae* is a large, purple-flowered species commonly found along rivers. Lots of Passifloras also inhabit the region. Moving into higher elevations, the tour group encountered Puyas, and along the access road there were dark-leaved Vrieseas. *T. balsasensis* occurs nears its namesake, the town of Balsas.

The Marañón River complements the Amazon. Inca terracing practices persist in the area to this day. Toward Cajamarca, still at the northern end of the tour, the group encountered Echeverias and cacti, along with *V. harmsiana*, which matures to about 3 ft. wide, and *T. disticha*. *T. macbrideana* var. *longifolia* is one of Guillermo's favorites. The yellow-flowered *T. humilis*, also a rock grower, is widespread in the region, though not common. Another native, *T. extensa*, 1½ ft. across, with a long inflorescence, likes a dry, rocky habitat. *T. confinis* (f/k/a *dudleyi*), another terrestrial, is uncommon. *Puya isabellina*, one of the smaller species in its genus, is a cliff-dweller near Cajamarca which produces dark blue-dark green flowers. It is not widely cultivated. *Pitcairnia pungens* was encountered in central Peru. The succulent *Echeveria oreophila*, seen on a dirt road, also grows on some walls.

From Cajamarca, the trek veered toward the drier coast. *T. latifolia*, a quite variable species, was observed along the way. Sand dunes support a number of Tillandsia species, including *T. latifolia* and *T. purpurea*. Moisture reaches those species in the form of fog which rolls in every morning. *Puya cerrateana* is found in the highlands. *P. raimondii* is the largest of the genus on the Cordillera Negra, so-called because snow does not persist there year-round. *Deuterocohnia longipetala* occurs in the dry valley along with cacti.

Lake Llanganuco, situated between the Cordillera Negra and the Cordillera Blanca, is loaded with bromeliads. *T. walteri* is very showy and variable. *T. purpurescens* is a cliff-dweller with bold red leaves. *T. ionochroma* likes high elevations. Among other plants encountered in the region were Passifloras, Oreocallis (a member of the Proteaceae), and several Vriesea species with tall inflorescences. Only one tree species, belonging to the genus *Polylepis*, is capable of growing above 9,000 ft., and 80% of its population is gone. The trees are a prime source of timber for the human inhabitants of the area, but for birds seeking food and shelter in the region, the harvest represents a huge threat. Among the Puya species found in the area is *P. angusta*. At 12,000 ft. of elevation, the tour encountered the cactus genus *Austrocylindropuntia*, as well as lupine species.



Guillermo speaking to the crowd

In the valley between the two aforementioned cordilleras lie 20 towns. *T. tectorum* is found in this drier area, and it is different in form from that found in Ecuador. The land near the river has been converted to agriculture. Up into the Cordillera Central, at 10-11,000 ft. elevation, *P. raimondii* shows up again. Locals burn the bottom of the species' huge stems to keep their sheep from getting cut. Flowering is increased by rainfall from the periodic influence of El Niño. The blossoms, pollinated by hummingbirds, are not fragrant. Each plant flowers once and then dies, and a heavy bloom will produce millions of seeds.

Don't expect to grow *P. raimondii* in southern Florida. On a warm day in its windy habitat, the temperature may reach into the lower 60s. Overall there are 23-24 Puya populations, and most of them are in Peru.

The terrain from Huaraz to Lima becomes increasingly dry, and the tour encountered lots of cactus species and avocado orchards. *Armatocereus matucanensis* is one of the interesting cactus species native to the area which is also home to *T. latifolia* 'Canto.' *T. humilis* is also around, but is hard to find. From Lima inland there are lots of Tillandsias, as well as Echeverias. Orchids begin to show up as the more humid highlands are approached.

South of Lima, there are large Tillandsias, probably *T. latifolia*. There are also Tillandsias at 10,000 ft. in guanaco country, along with another Puya species. In the humid valley in the highlands, the tour encountered *T. caulescens*, a species with red bracts and white flowers. *T. caerulea* was found on the roadside which has since been obliterated by a landslide.

Approaching Machu Picchu, *T. cauligera* began to appear, along with *T. paleacea*, a clumper; *T. nana*, a riverside dweller; and *T. micans*, a species featuring yellow bracts and white flowers. Aguas Calientes is the town at the base of Machu Picchu, and there is nice vegetation along the ascent to the ruins, where the number of visitors has been *reduced* to 5,000 a day. The orchid *Sobralia dichotoma* is seen among the ruins, as is *T. fendleri*, the bromeliad most commonly observed growing on trees. Guzmanias and Heliconias are also encountered around Machu Picchu, and Guillermo considers the hunt for plants more fun than going to the ruins.

Our two-week armchair tour of Peru ended in Cuzco, the ancient political capital of the Incas. Guillermo enabled us to enjoy the botanical delights of a beautiful country in the comfort of an air-conditioned room—not at all a bad way to travel.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### International Mango Festival

July 14 - 15, 2018

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden  
10901 Old Cutler Road  
Coral Gables, FL 33156

### Caladium Festival

July 27-29, 2018

Stuart Park  
Lake Placid, FL

<http://www.lpfla.com/caladium.htm>



### Members' Day Plant Sale at Fairchild

October 6, 2018

10901 Old Cutler Road  
Coral Gables, FL 33156

<https://www.fairchildgarden.org/Events-Community-Outreach/Events-Details/members-day-plant-sale-at-fairchild>



### 77<sup>th</sup> Ramble

November 10-12, 2018

10901 Old Cutler Road  
Coral Gables, FL 33156

## MESSAGES

### NEW MEMBERS PLEASE COLLECT BADGES

We have 16 new members. Your membership entitles you to Membership Badges. We have them. Come to our meeting and pick them up. Ask for Maureen. She holds the badges.

### Badges Wear Them

We make some pretty neat badges. They help our fogged aged memories for names. Starting next month, anyone who wants a door prize *must* be wearing a name badge. This way we will better address one another by name. FYI – do not put the badge onto anything which may be affected by an external magnet.

### BECOME A BSI JUDGE

Contact Betty Ann Prevatt.

\$25.00 first lesson

Application at end of the Advisory



### BECOME A BOARD MEMBER

New blood for the BSSF board is very welcomed. Once a month obligation. No hassle. Free meals. Great people. You will wonder why you waited so long. Contact *any* of the Board members about an interest.



**REGISTRATION FORM  
BSI JUDGES SCHOOL  
EASTERN JUDGING DISTRICT**

I am interested in taking the BSI Judges Schools I through VI and I agree to pay for Schools I and II in advance.

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Name

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Address

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City

State

Phone

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

I am a member of the Bromeliad Society International: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a member of the BSI affiliate society: \_\_\_\_\_

I own (or can borrow) a BSI Judges, Exhibitors & Affiliates Handbook: \_\_\_\_\_

I grow at least 50 bromeliads in at least 10 different genera: \_\_\_\_\_  
**(If you don't now, you will soon!)**

Per Class fee: \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

*Cash or check payable to Betty Ann Prevatt*  
2962 Second Street, Fort Myers, Florida 33916