

BromeliAdvisory



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BromeliAdvisory

Stop and Smell the Bromeliads

August 2018

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

 http://www.facebook.com/groups/BromeliadSF/?bookmark_t=group
 <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Bromeliad-Society-of-South-Florida/84661684279>

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 Sandy Roth, VP
 Sandy Roth, Treasurer
 Lenny Goldstein, Secretary
 Robert Meyer, Editor

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Door Prize: Alan Herndon
Education: Alan Herndon
Hospitality: Elaine Mills
Library: Barbara Partagas
Membership: Maureen Adelman/Melody Ray
Mem. Plant Sales: Alex Bello
Raffle Table : Melissa Brail
Refreshments: Sandy Roth

What	Who
Sales Table	NONE

AUGUST 21, 2018 AT 7:15 PM AT FAIRCHILD CORBIN A

SPEAKER: Party in honor of Steve Correale

RAFFLE TABLE: Robert Meyer

FOOD: This festivity will be handled by BSSF which will deliver the food. BYOB for drink.

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

This Tuesday we will host celebration to honor 91-years young Stephen Correale. When I first arrived to BSSF, Steve would show plants from his yard and discuss the simple hybridizing of the same which took approximately 7-9 years to make that \$20 plant. I did not know whether I should smile or cry. The travails of tillandsia require the patience of Job. Since then, Steve has had to attend to duties with his spouse and now his own nagging ailments concomitant with age. This is an opportunity for this person to know that this society think specially about him. His lessons are not forgotten. His contributions are known by those of the organization. He was a pillar of the society for years. Decades. For my first decade. And, he will never be forgotten for that fact – by this author. I invite anyone and everyone of the BSSF to come and honor this leader of the society. This will be a special occasion. Photos of his gloriously cluttered yard are on page 4 and page 6. Some plants like those will be auctioned at the meeting!

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

by Leonard Goldstein

There's an easy, space-saving and slightly cheeky, suggestion that could be made here: "In case you missed the July program, go directly to the photos on Facebook. Thank you."

And that's true as far as it goes, because you'll be able to see a very nice photo essay by Robert Meyer on the World Bromeliad Conference 2018 in San Diego. But then you would end up missing some of Bob's interesting observations about the conference, along with reminiscences about his return to the place where he spent a bit of his childhood.

The BSI conference, officially entitled "Fiesta de las Bromelias," ran from May 29 through June 3. The host city, San Diego, boasts \$30-40,000 more in income per household than Miami-Dade County, so there's a lot more disposable income for residents to spend on such worthy projects as collecting bromeliads and creating stunning landscapes on sunbaked hillsides.



Home on San Diego Beach

Because San Diego County experiences virtually rainless summers, xeriscaping is very important. Succulents are everywhere in public and private landscaping, and Bird of Paradise is also a commonly-seen species. In the realm of bromeliads, *Vrieseas* can be grown well in the arid climate of southern California.

Bird Rock Tropicals, operated by Pamela Koide Hyatt, produced a beautiful display for the show at the headquarters hotel, as did the host San Diego Bromeliad Society. Regrettably, a number of the beautiful *Tillandsias* entered into the show are too demanding of very dry conditions to grow in drippy southern Florida. There were seven or eight varieties of *T. tectorum* alone. Among the interesting administrative

aspects of the show was the practice of bringing competition plants to the judges, instead of the other way around, as we are accustomed to seeing. It meant that judging took extra time.

Inspired by first-hand experience, Bob suggested that a possible subtheme of the conference might have been "People on Blood Thinners Beware!!!" That's because lots of man-eaters in the form of spiny bromeliads were entered into the show. They were grown in well-drained soil mixes topped with small pebbles. Significant scurf was also observed on the leaves of many plants.

The field trips taken by conference attendees were a true revelation. The first stop was the hillside home of Bob and Karen Kopfstein, halfway between San Diego and Los Angeles. Visitors observed lots of rare plant material, particularly succulent species arrayed in large groups, along with a shadehouse and lots of outdoor art. The BSSF delegation [what cartoon character Snuffy Smith has always referred to as Flatland Touristers] found the view from the Kopfstein property stunning. A little wetter environment exists at the bottom of the hill, and the homeowners are growing citrus there. Their water bill is staggering—\$1,200 per month—but *Neoregelias* are hard to sustain without moisture. The second stop was just one door away, at the home of Dan Kinnard and Eloise Lau, proud self-proclaimed Stiff Plant Specialists. Like the Kopfsteins, they also had a great view.

The third stop on the initial day of field trips was San Diego Botanic Garden, formerly Quail Botanical Gardens, located in Encinitas. Its nearly 40 acres were filled with art. There were even plants growing on some of the art, especially in the Mexican-themed garden.

On the following day, attendees descended upon Mission Hills, San Diego's first suburb, where bungalow-style homes are a big part of the scenery. It was also summer home to Robert Meyer's family for many years, until the call of New England's near-tropical winters lured them away. After a 52-year absence, Bob discovered that the average home price in his old neighborhood had climbed to north of a million dollars.

In Mission Hills the fieldtrippers visited the home of Scott Sandel, where a postage-stamp sized yard was accentuated with majestic beauties. And, the indoors of their cute home was adorned by wall-to-wall Turkish carpets. Thereafter, a short jaunt to an attenuated front yard provided no clue to the existence of that second home's deep, sloping back yard. It was clear that a lot of work had been put into the landscape there. Stonework paths guided visitors through the property, and bottles originally inhabited by beer and sparkling water were cleverly engineered into the hardscape to keep the steep hillside from eroding.

Bob's photo essay also captured some views of Mission Beach's Belmont Park, where the Giant Dipper roller coaster has thrilled little kids—and terrified their parents—since 1925. Perhaps that's really why the Meyer family scurried away to New England.

A major attraction of the World Conference was the visit to Balboa Park on the third day of field trips. Bob surprised many in the audience with the fact that this San Diego landmark is larger than Manhattan's Central Park [1,200 acres vs. 843 acres]. Unfortunately, World Conference attendees had just an hour to explore this western gem, so some made a second visit during free time.

Okay, *now* enjoy the great photos on Facebook. Thank you.

THINKING ABOUT THE SHOW Calling All Volunteers

by Alan Herndon

The work of this society is carried out by a group of dedicated volunteers. As the new year approaches, we once again appeal to those members of the society who are not yet fully involved in our activities to volunteer some of their time during the monthly meetings. Three areas where we especially need volunteers are briefly described below. This is not an exhaustive list of our needs, so feel free to ask if you would like to participate in some other area.

The Raffle Table has traditionally been an entry point for new members to increase their involvement with the society. No knowledge of bromeliads is necessary. As Raffle Table chair, you are responsible for scheduling members to bring plants for the table. There are two monthly meetings (Auction and Holiday Dinner) that preempt the Raffle Table, so it is only necessary to find 10 donors. Your other duties consist of making sure supplies, including raffle tickets, are available each meeting, selling the raffle tickets and determining the winners. It is desirable to have two people carry out the final stage of the raffle: one person to manage drawings for the winners and another to deliver the plants to the winners.

BSSF has not had a 'staff' photographer for many years. It would good to have a photographer who could take pictures at the general meetings (particularly beautiful plants brought in, people, etc.) for use in the Advisory in addition to a photographer who could make a permanent record of the winning plants at our annual show. Of course, both jobs could be taken on by a single person.

If you have any interest in these, or any other positions, please let any board member know. We encourage all members to take an active role in the

society and especially welcome new members who would like to be more involved.

Anyone in the advertising business? The Show and other matters could achieve greater insight if someone with knowledge of handling such affairs came to the light and took on this task.

Welcome. Welcome all. Hope to see you in aiding this great function of the society.

The Six-Month Rule

You must own the plant no less than six months before the show. Doing the math, the show is in March or April. Leaving September as the last date to buy beautiful new plants from really talented growers.

Buy those plants now.

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.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Southwest Bromeliad Guild

September 14-16
Holiday Inn South
9940 Airline Highway
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70816

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>



Tropiflora's Fall Festival

October 26-28, 2018
3530 TALLEVAST RD.
SARASOTA, FL 34243
<https://www.tropiflora.com/events/>

77th 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.

BECOME A BSI JUDGE

Contact Betty Ann Prevatt.
\$25.00 first lesson
Application at end of the Advisory



Photos of Plants in Steve's Yard in 2013





WHO BSSF
WHEN..... **AUGUST 21, 2018**
WHAT TIME 7:15 PM
WHERE Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden
PLANTS Special Auction
FOOD All provided by BSSF
RSVP..... Sandy Roth

sandyr53@aol.com

(So we know how much food to get)

