



Newsletter of the

Hawai'i Bromeliad Society

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THE STORY OF WBC 2014



So, what does it take to wind up as the Host Affiliate of a BSI World Bromeliad Conference?

Well, start off with a couple of enthusiastic members, particularly after they have just returned from an event like *Orlandiana '12*.

Then add a visit from an extremely persuasive BSI Vice President in charge of conferences.



Follow that up with extensive discussions with a skeptical membership. *You think we can do What . . . ?*

Continued on page 3.

2014 OFFICERS OF THE HAWAI'I BROMELIAD SOCIETY

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Susan Andrade

TREASURER

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www.hawaiibromeliadsociety.org

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Raleigh Ferdun

WEB MASTER

Tom Stuart

RECORDING SECRETARY

Stanley Schab

NEWSLETTER

Terese Leber

AUGUST MEETING

This Saturday, **August 30**, we meet at

Lyon Arboretum at Noon.

Our hospitality hosts are

Karen R. and **Gail** (food)

and **Ed** (drinks).

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF JULY 26, 2014

Lyon Arboretum

ATTENDING: Susan Andrade (presiding), Nancy Arakaki, Marcy Doseo, Marie Ferdun, Raleigh Ferdun, Helen Friend, John Ishihara, Tessie Labra, Terese Leber, Larry McGraw, Ed Nishiyama, Gail Rabideau, Karen Rohter, Dolores Roldan, Jamie Roldan, Stan Schab, and Lynette Wageman.

CONVENED: 12:45 ADJOURNED: 2:45.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Susan congratulated Lynette on her letter to Carl Evensen, the new Interim Director of Lyon Arboretum, thanking him for allowing HBS to use the facilities for meetings, and inviting him to visit the rejuvenated Bromeliad Garden.

Susan reported that Marie Grininger's house was going on the market, as she is moving into an assisted living facility, but that she still had more Bromeliads for HBS members to come and take away.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Tessie reported an opening balance of \$3,847.77, and closing balance of \$3,907.77, with deposits of \$20 in membership dues and \$80 from the auction.

HOSPITALITY: Our hosts for August are Karen R. and Gail (food), and Ed (drinks).

CONFERENCE: Lynette circulated the update that has been sent to all conference registrants—currently over 140—containing the corrected schedule and sign up lists for the extra, paid events, such as the Willows dinner (\$75 to all) and the conference banquet (free to registrants, \$55 to non-registrants).

VOLUNTEERS: Marie had asked each member to try to engage two volunteers for the conference. Thanks to those conscientious (and sociable) members who were able to pass on potential volunteers to Marie. The volunteer schedule will be set up over the next month, with Terese focusing on registration and hospitality and Marie on the plant sale and other areas.

PLANT SALE: Lynette and Marie confirmed that the sale, exhibition, and displays will all be held in the Hibiscus Ballroom. Sharon Petersen is working on the room layout, as well as on the list of awards categories for the exhibition. Marie is preparing a follow-up letter to vendors and display organizations, setting out the rules for sales and the set up schedule for the displays and vendors. The bottom line is that the Hibiscus Ballroom must be set up by 4 pm Thursday, when the sale opens to conference registrants. Lynette clarified that the main difference between the Exhibition and the Displays is that the Exhibition plants need to be labeled, categorized, and presented as if they were official BSI show entrants. We are still seeking additional plant vendors, and in particular, vendors of other types of plants, such as orchids and anthuriums. Nancy, Marcy, and Tessie indicated that they will be offering other plants for sale besides Bromeliads. Marie explained the two-tag system vendors will need on each item, and she and Lynette urged members to start collecting boxes and bags for customer use at the sale.

FINANCES: Raleigh noted a balance of about \$12,000 in the World Bromeliad Conference account. He reported on his research on a wide range of options relating to borrowing, renting, and buying cash registers and boxes. The best option is to buy three registers; two will be dedicated to the plant sales; the third will initially be used for registration and hospitality, and then turned over to the plant sale. Raleigh will work with Marie and Sharon Petersen to set up vendor numbers on the cash registers.

TOURS: Raleigh reported that over fifty people have signed up for the Sunday Hawai'i Island trip, and that the early Honolulu-Hilo flight is full.

BANQUET: Lynette has mirrors to use as part of the banquet table centerpieces; Larry will check on the availability of about twenty-five Tillandsia to go on the mirrors. We are still considering alternatives for edible favors to go inside the wooden "pineapples" ordered by Terese.

ALOHA BASKETS: Karen reported that most of the basket items have been chosen, though not yet wrapped, pending last minute items such as food.

FOOD for the Aloha Baskets

If you would like to contribute any local, perishable food to the Aloha Baskets, please bring the items to the meeting this Saturday.

SHOW AND TELL: Lynette discussed hybrid variations, featuring as yet unnamed varieties developed by Sharon Petersen, as well as classics such as the Vriesea 'Red Chestnut.'

AUCTION: Many thanks to Karen R, the "Mud Queen," for rescuing give-away plants from the Lyon Bromeliad Garden. Thank you to Marcy, Marie G. and Susan, Sharon, and Larry for supplying plants for the auction, and thanks to Larry for serving as auctioneer.

THE JOURNEY TO WBC 2014

(From page 1.)

Once you've committed to the challenge—*no worries, it's two years away, we've got lots of time*—then the learning curves start.

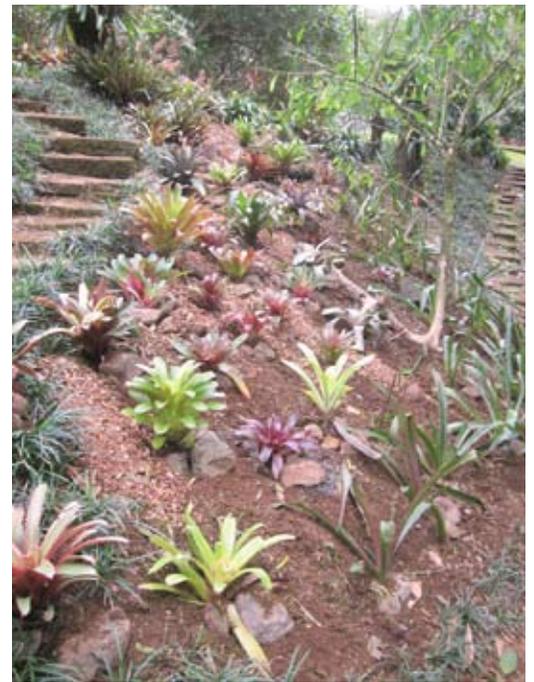
HBS found itself revving up its outreach activities, practicing our display skills by participating in local orchid shows, and networking with plant fanciers of various stripes.

Then of course there's fund-raising, as holiday craft fairs proved to be a good way to spread the word about the upcoming event while educating people about Bromeliads and helping our pre-conference bank balance.



Preparing for the conference tour to Lyon Arboretum meant cleaning up and replanting the Bromeliad Garden.

We also found ourselves learning more than we ever thought there was to know about conference facilities and the ins and outs of hotel contracts.



Two years ago, one of our members remarked that by 2014, we would either have put together a great event, or dissolved as an organization. All in all, we have weathered the challenges of hosting a major international conference, from the welcoming oli to the closing banquet speeches, while developing our organizational skills, learning much more about Bromeliads and the people who grow and care about them, and remaining friends and colleagues.

Congratulations to us all
& now it's time to enjoy WBC 2014!

WBC 2014: A SNEAK PREVIEW

Want to learn about the latest research in hybridization, newly discovered species, developments in international standards for cultivars, or tips and tricks from a life-long Bromeliad grower?

Then you will want to hear all the engaging and informative speakers BSI has invited to “Bromeliads in Paradise.” And there are at least two good ways to do that: Register for the conference (\$), or Volunteer to serve as door security for the events (contact Marie).

BSI’s Bromeliad Cultivar Register

Geoff Lawn, the BSI cultivar registrar, will talk about the history of naming cultivated plants and the evolution of international naming codes and authoritative bodies. He will explain definitions and categories of cultivars, including hybrids, and will outline BSI’s involvement as the appointed International Cultivar Registration Authority for Bromeliaceae. Through a live online connection, various facets of the BCR website will be explored, including a demonstration on how to register a cultivar.

Shades of Chantini

Alan K. Herndon is proprietor of Tradewinds Tropicals, editor of the *Journal of the Bromeliad Society*, and a mainstay of the Bromeliad Society of South Florida. He is also the visionary behind the Bromeliad Clone Preservation Project. He will explore *Aechmea chantinii*, which ranks among the most variable species in the Bromeliaceae. He will illustrate some of this variation, pointing out some unexploited variations that could well form the basis for a whole new generation of clones.

To Feed or Not to Feed: The Good, the Bad, or the Ugly

Nigel Thomson, owner of Dandaloo Valley Nursery, has cultivated Bromeliads on two continents: in his native South Africa, and now for years on Australia’s Sunshine Coast. His talk is about the controversial subject of fertilizing Bromeliads.

The talk will cover types of fertilizers—natural and chemical—and compare bottom feeding and foliar feeding methods. Based on his experience with feeding across the growth cycle, from seedlings to mature plants, the talk will cover why to feed, whether to feed, how to feed, when to feed, and how much to feed Bromeliads, and suggest some fertilizing rules to follow to have good results.

The Bromeliads of Oaxaca

Andy Siekkinen, BSI Director for the Western US Region, and founder of Eagle Eye Adventures, has been drawn into studying the Bromeliads of Mexico, especially the genus *Hechtia*. His presentation will cover much of the botanical wealth of Southern Mexico, as well as show some of the cultural interests of Oaxaca, suggesting how the land, the plants, and the culture are tied together and must be considered when thinking about conservation. *Tillandsia* and *Hechtia* will of course be well represented, but there will also be some unusual plants, including *Werauhia* and *Guzmania* that are not typically thought of as being found in Mexico!

Tillandsia Hybridization: Natural, Artificial, and Accidental

Pamela Koide-Hyatt, proprietor of Bird Rock Tropicals, will focus on the cultivation of *Tillandsia* species and hybrids. She will look at her “how to” methods for pollinating, labeling, record keeping, germination, growing, and finally blooming hybrids. She will discuss several of the natural hybrids that have been introduced into cultivation. Finally she will take a look at the many different *Tillandsia* hybrids created by breeders, showing what characteristics to expect when breeding with certain species, including which species to avoid using as well as some of the best species, and varieties for breeding tillandsia.

And Don’t Forget the “Hawai’i Seminars” on Friday

“Bromeliads—Hawaiian Style: A Roundtable Discussion,” will feature **Peter De Mello**, **David Fell**, **Sharon Petersen**, **David Shiigi**, and **Liza Vinzant** in a “Talk-Story” session, sharing the successes and challenges, trials and tribulations, and tricks and tips they have learned through over 150 years of cumulative Bromeliad growing experience.

Heidi Leianuenue Bornhorst, the well-known horticulturist, certified landscaper and arborist, landscape manager for the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa, and long-time author of the “Hawai’i Gardens” column in the *Honolulu Star-Advertiser*, and the classic guide, *Growing Native Hawaiian Plants: A How-To Guide for the Gardener*, will discuss “The Pineapple and its Effect on the Culture of Hawai’i.”