



Newsletter of the

Hawai'i Bromeliad Society

VOL. 42 NO. 8

HONOLULU, HAWAI'I

AUGUST 2019

NATY — 3.0!

HBS members are in for a real treat this Saturday. For our August meeting, we get to travel to the Windward side, to our host, Naty Hopewell's, home. At our September meeting last year, we learned how Naty has transformed a coral, rock, and sand property into a vibrant landscape, despite challenges including ocean breezes, salt, not much rain, and even less good soil. As her vision for her property has evolved, Naty has fearlessly designed, and then redesigned, different landscape areas, experimenting with what works best in her yard's microclimates. We can look forward to seeing the changes she has made to the property since our last visit two years ago—and to finding out what happens to all those plants she buys at auction!



Visions of Naty's home—from Version 0.0, a bare, coral hillside, through Version 1.0, introducing trees and plants to her windswept hillside, to Version 2.0, incorporating a wide variety of bromeliads throughout her property.



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AUGUST MEETING

This Saturday, August 31,
we meet at **Naty's House**
at **12:30.**

Our hospitality hosts are
Lynette and Merrill.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF JULY 27, 2019

Lyon Arboretum

ATTENDING: Susan Andrade, Dina Chuensanguansat, Merrill Cutting, David Fell, Naty Hopewell, Elsie Horikawa, Karen Kim, Terese Leber (presiding), Wendie Liu, Sally Mist, Judy Nakamura, Ed Nishiyama, Dolores Roldan, Jaime Roldan, Stanley Schab, and Tom Stuart.

CONVENED: 12:35; ADJOURNED: 2:40.

Terese welcomed everyone, and thanked Naty and Wendie for the hospitality.

HOSPITALITY: Our hosts for August are Lynette (food) and Merrill (drinks).

TREASURER: Dolores reported that our current balance was \$14,016.34, with \$330 raised at the June auction.

PROGRAMS: Upcoming programs for this year include a fieldtrip to Naty's house in August to see her redesigned garden, and a September program by Mischa and Brian on plants in small spaces, as well as a preview and workshop in October for the Fall craft fair.

OLD BUSINESS—LYON ARBORETUM: Terese noted that, with the help of Tim Kroessig, the arboretum's new horticulture manager, excess bromeliads have been moved from the greenhouse and planted in the garden.

NEW BUSINESS—WINDWARD ORCHID SHOW: Terese reported that the Windward Orchid Society has sent her preliminary information about participating in next year's Spring show, and asked if members were still interested in preparing a floor display. Karen Kim suggested that we work out the dimensions for a display, and then she could talk to Susan Lim at the Orchid Society about reserving the space.

AUCTION: Thanks to auctioneer Tom, and to Ed, Karen, Tom and all who donated items for the auction, including samples of *Tillandsia capitata* (mauve), *flabellata*, *harrisii*, and unnamed crosses of *concolor* with *streptophylla* and *xerographica* with *brachycaulos*, as well as *Neoregelia* 'Bossa Nova' and 'Sheba.'

Did you say 50¢!



PIÑA CLOTH: A TRADITIONAL PINEAPPLE FABRIC

Dating back centuries, *piña* cloth has been a traditional Filipino fabric, used in fancy clothes like Maria Clara dresses or the long Barong Tagalog garments. As the name suggests, it's actually made from the leaves of a pineapple—specifically a



variety of red pineapple whose leaves can grow up to a yard long. After the leaves are harvested, the sharp edges are cut off, and then, traditionally, pieces of broken china and coconut shells are used to scrape the leaves, exposing the underlying fibers. The thin, hair-like fibers are washed and dried, and tied end over end into thread, which is then, using traditional looms and weaving methods, turned into a gauzy, cream-colored fabric. The cloth is then embroidered, with designs ranging from simple patterns to elaborate flowers. The fancier the embroidery, the more valuable is the final product. In fact, *piña* cloth can be found in textile museums around the world.

Thanks to Dina for providing the information for this article.

TRAVELS WITH KAREN AND DAVID

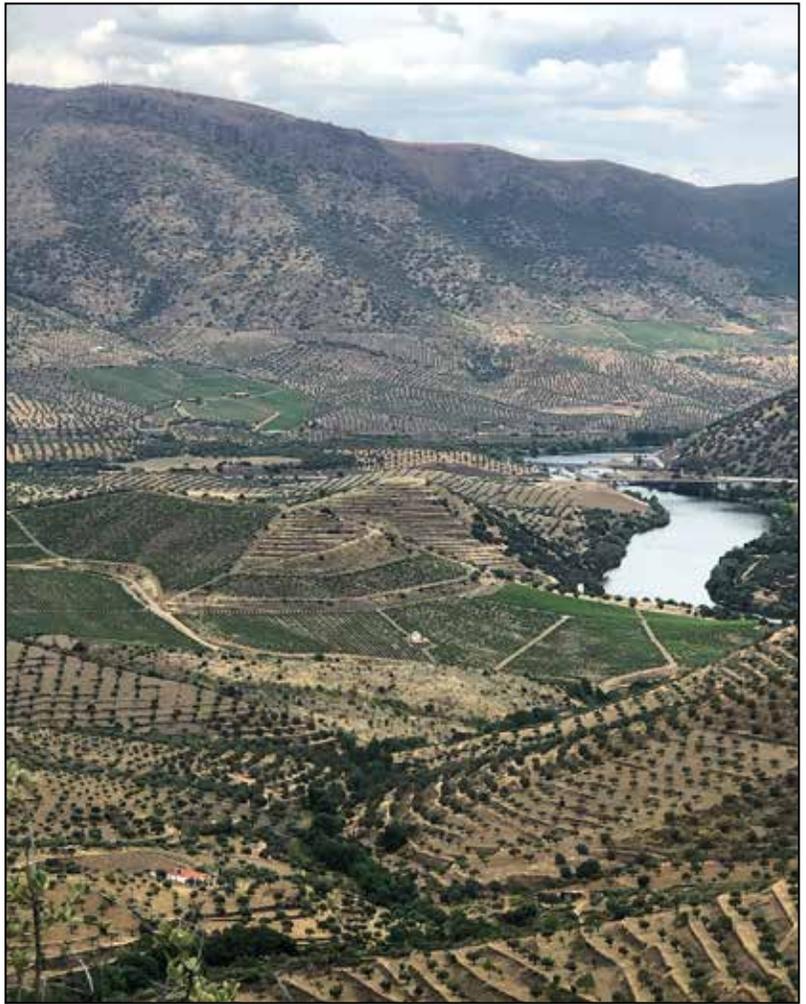
Thank you to Karen and David for sharing photos and stories of their trips to Alaska and Portugal.



LEFT: Karen and friend (she let him go).
BELOW: 4" nudibranch found in tidal pool.
MIDDLE LEFT: Columbia Glacier; cliffs are about 200' high.
MIDDLE RIGHT: eagles and other birds gorging on dead salmon.
BOTTOM LEFT: basking sea lions.
BOTTOM RIGHT: her tent—after she mended the hole a bear poked in it.



DAVID AND SANDI CRUISE PORTUGAL



ABOVE LEFT: estate featured on Mateus wine bottle labels.

MIDDLE LEFT: formal Portuguese garden

ABOVE RIGHT: the Douro Valley, a UNESCO heritage site

LEFT: gargoyle, typical of stone work and friezes

RIGHT: barrels for port.

BELOW: display at a sardine store.



CONNECTING WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN BROMELIAD OHANA

One of the highlights of Terese and Stan's recent trip to southern Africa was getting to meet members of the East London Bromeliad Society of South Africa. "When I realized we were going to Cape Town," Stan said, "I thought this would be a great opportunity to connect with members of the Cape bromeliad family," which includes current Bromeliad Society International president Lyn Wegner, who attended the 2014 "Bromeliads in Paradise" conference. But then "I discovered that the Cape is Huge, with members scattered over an area bigger than Hawai'i Island." Fortunately, ELBSA member Chris

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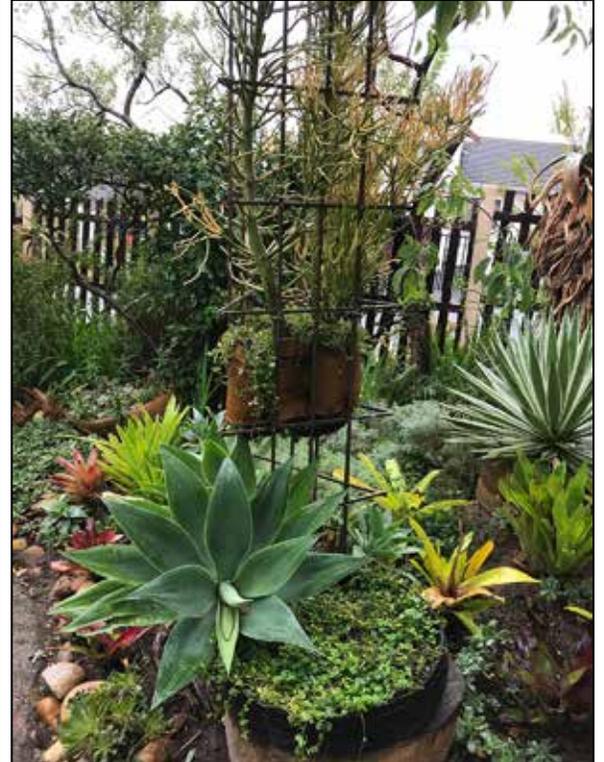


A BROMELIAD LOVER'S INTRODUCTION TO THE CAPE

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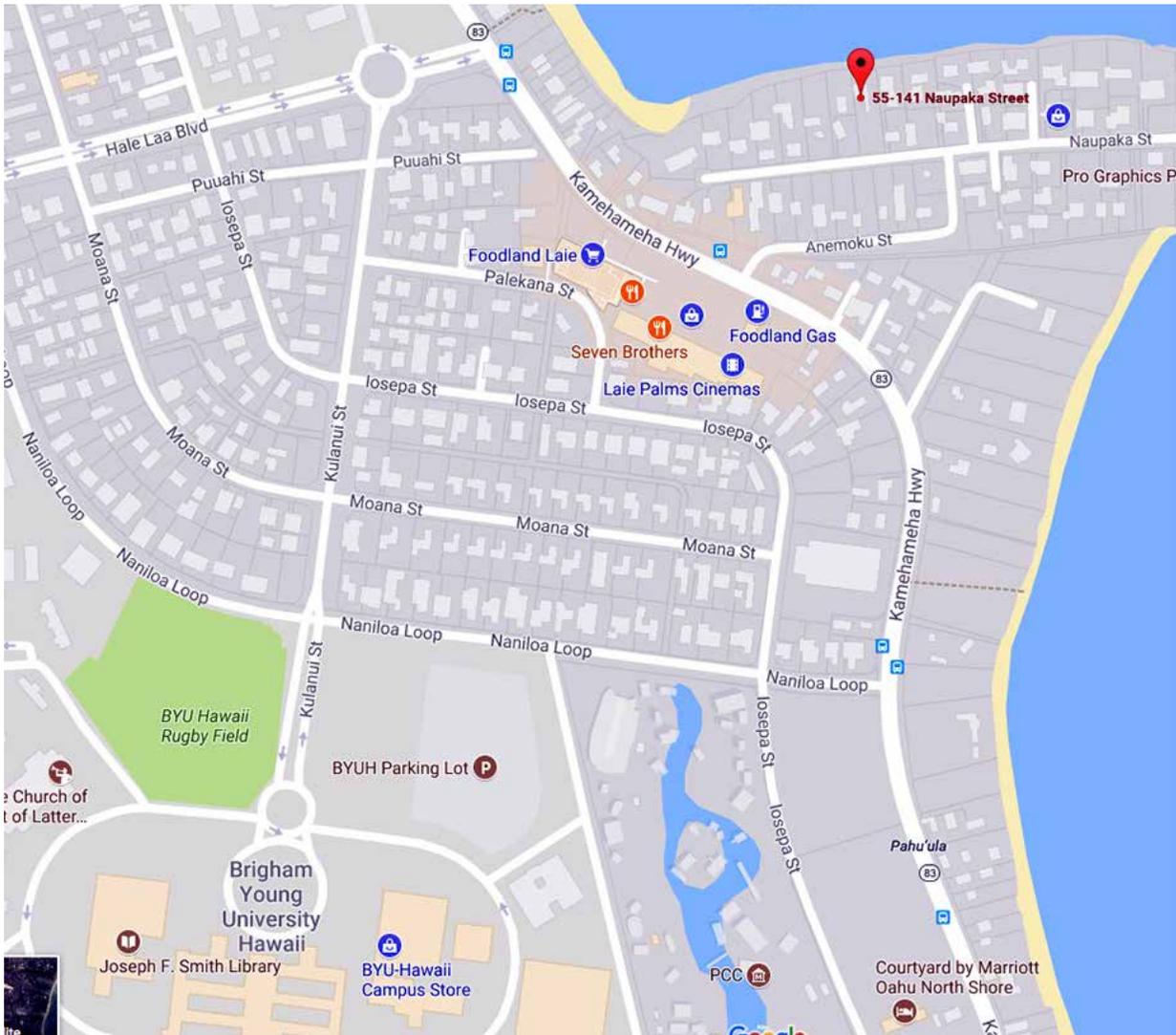
van Zyl and his wife, Zel, went above and beyond the call to welcome us to their home, an hour or so outside Cape Town, where Chris has created a delightful landscape with a focus on creatively mounted bromeliads. For instance: bed springs mounted on the house wall; bottles and coconut shells hung in trees; and a huge, gnarly tree root standing upright. They grow mostly *Tillandsia*, *Neoregelia*, and *Vriesea*, with a nice planting of *Dyckia*. One of our great discoveries about South Africa was how similar the growing conditions are to Hawai'i: protea, indigenous to South Africa, grows wild in the Cape, as do *Strelitzia* (a.k.a bird of paradise)—and of course, bromeliads flourish there as well.

Thank you Chris and Zel for welcoming us to your home, giving us a tour of the University of Stellenbosch botanical garden, and sharing South African tea, rooibos, to which Terese is a dedicated convert.



NATY'S HOUSE

55-141 Naupaka Street



Naty's Directions

Shortly after the Polynesian Cultural Center is the Laie Shopping Center, at the only light in Laie. Make a right at the light (if you came via the Windward side) on Anemoku, which is a short road that winds up the hill and Ts with Naupaka. Make a left and we are the 4th property on the right—a robin blue and white house (our son's house) marks our property. Our house sits toward the ocean. There will be 2 parking slots available at our house (drive up the driveway past the mailbox held up by concrete blocks, then down), and there should be 2 more parking slots in front of our son's blue house. The rest can park on the street. I'll ask the neighbors across us to allow members to park along the stone wall.

As Naty's directions indicate, parking is limited. Please consider car pooling, or perhaps meeting up at the shopping center and car pooling from there.

If you get lost, call Naty at 293-0273 or Terese at 542-5766.