



Newsletter of the

Hawai'i Bromeliad Society

VOL. 43 NO. 2

HONOLULU, HAWAI'I

FEBRUARY 2020

ALL ABOARD . . . FOR THE PINEAPPLE EXPRESS

Lyon Arboretum will be closed on February 29, so we're taking our meeting on the road . . . to the Dole Plantation.

We have reserved space on the pineapple express train tour—a two mile, twenty-minute narrated ride past pineapple fields while hearing the story of James Dole and pineapple in Hawai'i—and on the plantation garden tour—eight mini-gardens of native plants, lei plants, economic plants like coffee and cacao, and of course bromeliads. The Bromeliad Garden is not particularly big, but has LOTS of bromeliads, of different kinds, and bromeliads are incorporated throughout the landscape. (If you want to try the pineapple maze, you're on your own.)

So for those who haven't been since a small kid field trip or the visit from the mainland cousins twenty years ago, there really is a lot to see and do.

For specific information on how to get there, and when and where to meet, see page 4.



2020 OFFICERS OF THE HAWAI'I BROMELIAD SOCIETY

PRESIDENT

Terese Leber

TREASURER

Dolores Roldan

HOSPITALITY

Susan Andrade

NEWSLETTER/RECORDING SECRETARY

Stanley Schab

SOCIAL MEDIA

Mischa Kobayashi and Karen Kim

VICE PRESIDENT/PROGRAM CHAIR

MEMBERSHIP

Chris Taylor

LIBRARY

Leslie Morishige

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Karen Rohter

FEBRUARY MEETING

This Saturday, February 29,
we meet at the
Dole Plantation
at 12:00.

**NO HOSPITALITY /
NO AUCTION**

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 25, 2020

Lyon Arboretum

ATTENDING: Susan Andrade, Dina Chuensanguansat, Naty Hopewell, Elsie Horikawa, Gail Ishihara, John Ishihara, Karen Kim, Terese Leber (presiding), Leslie Morishige, Judy Nakamura, Ed Nishiyama, Karen Rohter, Dolores Roldan, Jaime Roldan, Stanley Schab, Chris Taylor, Lynette Wageman, Randy Wong, and Val Wong.

CONVENED: 12:45; ADJOURNED: 3:00.

Terese welcomed everyone to a new year—the Year of the Rat, recognizing fellow Rats Terese, Karen, Leslie, and Gail—and thanked Gail and John for the food and drinks.

HOSPITALITY: Susan circulated a sign-up sheet for hospitality for 2020. Our hosts for March are Judy and Ed.

TREASURER: Dolores presented the fiscal report for 2019. We incurred expenses of \$4,116.44: contributions to Lyon Arboretum of \$2,000 for student help for the Bromeliad Garden and \$300 for use of the facilities; \$784.95 to print our new brochures; \$600 to the Bromeliad Society International to cover dues and donations for 2019, 2020, and 2021; \$150 for the East-West Center craft fair table rentals for 2017, 2018, and 2019; \$125.11 for weed cloth and \$24.07 for trash bags for use in the garden; \$118 for post office box rental; and \$14.31 for library supplies. Our income for 2019 totalled \$4,090: \$2,371 from our monthly auctions; \$1,449 from the craft fair sales; \$230 from member dues; and \$40 from the Windward Orchid Society for our display at their Spring show. Thus, for 2019, HBS showed a net loss of \$26.44 (at that rate, we'll be out of business in 55 years!). Our January 2020 balance is \$14,548.08.

MEMBERSHIP: Terese circulated a membership list for name, address, and contact information additions and corrections. Dolores reminded us that 2020 membership dues are now due, at the same bargain price: \$15 for an individual, \$20 for a family. Members voted

to have one annual dues fee, no matter when a member joins, rather than an annual and a half-year fee.

(Naty moved, Susan seconded. Approved.)

Terese will talk with new membership chair Chris about contacting people who haven't attended a meeting or paid dues for extended periods to see if they wish to renew their membership. Suggestions on how to use our new brochure to attract new members included having it available at the Windward Orchid Society show and at Koolau Farmers.

LIBRARY: Terese noted that she would have a library cabinet key made for our new librarian Leslie.

PROGRAMS: Suggestions for programs for 2020 included trips to Hawai'i Island or Kaua'i, the Wahiawā Botanical Garden and Dole Plantation, a terrarium/dish garden workshop with Paiko, and a make-our-own pots session.

OLD BUSINESS—LYON ARBORETUM: Terese reported that the Arboretum's fiscal officer confirmed that our most recent donation of \$1,000 to fund student help has been expended; she will get a check from Dolores for our Spring 2020 contribution.

OLD BUSINESS—CRAFT FAIR: Gail reported on the December East-West Center craft fair. She noted that even though we had a shorter time frame for working on this year's sale, because of the quality and quantity of donated plants, and help from HBS members and friends, the fair again proved to be great success, raising over \$1,400. She pointed out the importance of having a wide range of plants for sale, because the limited pool of buyers kept coming back wanting new items. Almost all the donations worked out well: Ed's wood-mounted bromeliads are always a hot seller, and together with impressive "statement" plants from David, attracted a lot of attention to the HBS tables. Dolores and Jaime's hand-made wreaths were a big hit, along with the Alaskan spruce fir bark from Karen R. and Elsie's ceramics. Gail emphasized the importance of presentation—how simple touches like covering the pots with ribbon added value and increased salability, while including our new brochure with every sale fulfilled our educational mission while also attracting interest from potential members. Above all, Gail wished to thank her dedicated helpers Molly, Shar, Leslie, Chris, Dolores, Jaime, Terese, Val, and Stan, noting that it was good to have new people involved, working as teams on different aspects of the fair so that everything went smoothly.



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REPORT OF THE MEETING

Continued from page 2.

OLD BUSINESS—WINDWARD ORCHID SHOW: Dolores reported on plans for our display at the 2020 Windward Orchid Society show, which will be held at King Intermediate School, 46-155 Kamehameha Highway in Kāneʻohe, the third week of March, with the set up on Thursday, March 19, and the show running Friday through Sunday, March 20, 21, and 22. She circulated a diagram showing the design for what will be our first floor display. It includes a tree—actually a branch she and Jaime got from a Ficus—and two eight-foot tables. Dolores encouraged everyone to bring plants to the set up. She and the design team of Naty and Karen K., and their helpers, will need big, medium, and small plants, along with lots of Tillandsia to display on the tree. Dolores is currently working on the yellow brick road and ruby slippers features of the display, in keeping with the show's Wizard of Oz theme, "There's no place like the Windward Side."

OLD BUSINESS—HOLIDAY PARTY: Susan reported that the year-end holiday party at Hoʻomaluhia Botanical Garden went well, with a big variety of great food and plants to exchange and give away. She thanked everyone who contributed food, and Lynette for organizing the plant donations and exchange, and reminded Terese to confirm our dates for next year—when she'll bring luau plates to better handle all that food!

NEW BUSINESS—T-SHIRTS: Val discussed the possibility of ordering HBS T-shirts; it's been over a decade since the Society has had shirts made, and a fun design would help raise interest, attract new members, and possibly serve as a fundraiser. She circulated a preliminary design for the shirts, featuring the tag line "Occasionally I wet my plants," along with the HBS name and logo and a bromeliad. She asked to convene a small committee to make initial decisions on the shirts, and Naty and David volunteered. Variables to consider include the type of shirt, the material, the front and back design, the number of colors, and the minimal order and cost. Karen K. noted that she had successfully ordered shirts from Kenjo, and suggested Val contact them for a price range.

NEW BUSINESS—FARM FAIR: Dina suggested that a good way to raise our visibility and attract new members would be to host a table at the Hawai'i State Farm Fair, which will be held July 11 and 12 at Koʻolau Ranch. She will find out more information about how to participate.

NEW BUSINESS—BSI CONFERENCE AND MEMBERSHIP: Stan reported that the Bromeliad Society International has new low membership rates for 2020 of \$15 for first-time members. Membership includes access to all the material on the BSI website, including an electronic version of the journal. For a printed journal, membership costs \$40. The new membership fees go along with the World Bromeliad Conference 2020, which will be held in Sarasota, Florida from Tuesday, June 9, through Saturday, June 13, at the Hyatt Regency Sarasota. It's BSI's seventieth anniversary, and events will include tours of two leading Bromeliad nurseries (Michael's Bromeliads and Tropiflora), and a visit to the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens along with the usual assortment of speakers, opening conference reception, closing banquet, judged show, and plant sale and auction. The conference registration fee is \$335, with a \$149 room rate at the Hyatt Regency Sarasota.

AUCTION: Thanks to Susan—the fastest gavel in the west—for serving as auctioneer, and to all who contributed plants to the auction, including specimens of *Neoregelia pendula* var. *brevifolia*, *Aechmea brachystachya* and *Aechmea nudicaulis*, and *Tillandsia flexuosa*.



BRUSHING UP ON BROMELIADS

Like a good teacher getting her students' minds going again after Christmas vacation, for our January program Lynette Wageman kicked off 2020 by giving us a pop quiz on identifying common bromeliad genera, bringing in a variety of plants from her garden, and reminding us of key features differentiating *Achmea*, *Ananas*, *Billbergia*, *Cryptanthus*, *Guzmania*, *Hohenbergia*, *Neoregelia*, *Orthophytum*, *Quesnalia*, *Tillandsia*, and *Vriesia*—and then complicating matters by including less recognizable varieties, including the *Neoregelia pendula* var. *brevifolia* below.



ABOVE: *Aechmea nudicaulis*.



DOLE PLANTATION FIELD TRIP

WHEN: Saturday, February 29: Noon.

We have seats on the 1 p.m. train ride, so we'll have a short meeting before that.

WHERE: 64-1550 Kamehameha Highway.

From town, take H-1 West, then exit 8A onto H-2. Take Exit 8 to Wahiawa. Continue to Kamehameha Highway (99).

There is a big parking lot, and no entrance fee. **Look for Terese or Stan in front of the big shop** (where there are restrooms, refreshments, and lots of valuable heirlooms for sale (not). They will direct you to where we are meeting.

We'll have a regular meeting but **No Auction** and **No Hospitality** (lots of food and drink for sale, so Dolores, Jaime, and David, you're off the hook—although the pineapple they sell is nowhere near as good as David's).

HOW MUCH: Free to members.

Guests: \$10.50 for the train, \$6.75 for the Garden. If anyone is interested, the pineapple maze costs \$7.25.

