



## Newsletter of the

# Hawai'i Bromeliad Society

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HONOLULU, HAWAII

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### OCTOBER PROGRAMS

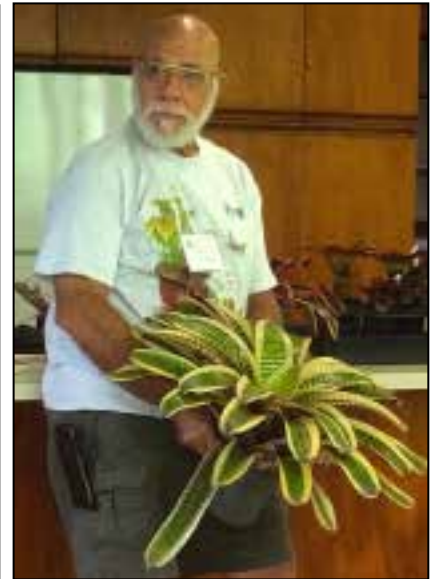
**“Show and Tell”**—David brought in a beautiful specimen of a *Vriesea hieroglyphica* hybrid, which goes back to a 2004 cross and is living proof of why hybridizing can be such a challenge. As he pointed out, cultivars can have widely different sports—mutations that occur on part of a plant—and maybe only one or two out of five hundred plants might have the variegation he’s seeking.

**“Groom Your Plants Before Rainy Season”**—Through the story of a *Tillandsia xerographica* that died from crown rot, Lynette emphasized that now is the time to check your plants, get rid of dead leaves—she uses a sickle—rinse out the plants, and open them to the air to dry out, as too much rain, with not enough sun and air to dry, makes plants more susceptible to algae, insects, fungal infections and other diseases.

**“Don’t Throw Me Away”**—Gail demonstrated why patience truly is a virtue when dealing with plants. A specimen that looks really terrible may still have the potential to produce keiki. In particular, a *Neoregelia* ‘Sheldance’ that she had set aside as beyond hope surprisingly produced a healthy offspring. So don’t give up on your plants; give them the chance, and they may surprise you!

### BACK TO BASICS

To kick off the new year, David Fell will take us back to our roots by presenting a refresher course on Bromeliad Basics, reminding us of things we’ve forgotten—or never knew in the first place!



#### 2019 OFFICERS OF THE HAWAII BROMELIAD SOCIETY

PRESIDENT  
Terese Leber

TREASURER  
Dolores Roldan

HOSPITALITY  
Susan Andrade

NEWSLETTER/RECORDING SECRETARY  
Stanley Schab

VICE PRESIDENT/PROGRAM CHAIR  
Gail Ishihara

MEMBERSHIP  
Open

LIBRARY  
Merrill Cutting

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY  
Karen Rohter

### JANUARY MEETING

This Saturday, January 26,  
we meet at  
**Lyon Arboretum**  
at 12:30.

## REPORT OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 27, 2018

Lyon Arboretum

**ATTENDING:** Susan Andrade, Dina Chuensanguansat, Merrill Cutting, David Fell, Naty Hopewell, Elsie Horikawa, Gail Ishihara, John Ishihara, Mischa Kobayashi, Terese Leber (presiding), Wendie Liu, Larry McGraw, Ed Nishiyama, Karen Rohter, Dolores Roldan, Jaime Roldan, Stanley Schab, Brian Taylor, Lynette Wageman. **GUESTS:** Char, Deborah, and Molly. **CONVENED:** 12:40; **ADJOURNED:** 2:30.

Terese welcomed everyone, and thanked Susan and David for the food and drinks.

**LIBRARY:** Merrill reported that she is checking our collection to see if we are missing any issues of the *BSI Journal*.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Terese explained that 2019 dues can be given to Dolores, who is filling in as membership chair, and reminded everyone that according to our bylaws, dues are payable in January, and that anyone joining in July or later only pays half price.

**PROGRAMS:** Gail has already lined up a great slate of programs for 2019, beginning with David in January, who will offer a refresher on Bromeliad Basics. Later programs include Larry on *Tillandsia* Basics, Lynette on lesser known bromeliads, Mischa and Brian on *Tillandsia* for small spaces, and Naty with an update on her landscaping project.

**OLD BUSINESS—ANNUAL PARTY:** Terese thanked Susan for reserving a pavilion at Ho'omaluhia Botanical Garden for Saturday, December 1, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., and reminded everyone to let Susan know what you might be bringing for pot luck. Terese noted that she will send out a party reminder, with a map, about a week before the event. Lynette described how the plant exchange will work, and her plans for acquiring plants for party gifts. Members moved to

**provide \$200 to Lynette buy plants for party gifts.**

(moved Susan, seconded Stan; approved).

**OLD BUSINESS—CRAFT FAIR:** Terese reminded everyone that the East-West Center's 17th Annual Holiday Craft Fair is scheduled for Thursday and Friday, November 29 and 30, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Set up will begin about 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, and breakdown must be completed by 1:30 p.m. on Friday. HBS will have two six-foot tables, as well as hanging frames, made by Jaime, on which to display plants. If you have plants or other appropriate items ready to sell, please bring them to the sale or call Gail or Terese to arrange for pick up or drop off. Sale coordinator Gail reminded members to spread the word, as there will be plenty of gift-ready plants for sale. She showed off some of the creatively mounted and hung *Tillandsia* and *Neoregelia*—thank you, Ed! Dolores previewed some of the wreaths and terrariums she has created for the sale.

**NEW BUSINESS—2019 OFFICERS:** The following officers agreed to serve in 2019: Terese, president; Gail, vice president and program chair; Dolores, treasurer; Merrill, librarian; Susan, hospitality; Stan, newsletter and recording secretary; and Karen, corresponding secretary. The position of membership chair is open.

**NEW BUSINESS—2019 SHOWS:** For the past several years, the HBS display at the

Windward Orchid Society spring has been our main promotional activity. Members suggested the possibility of hosting a display at an additional venue, such as Windward or Kahala Mall. David agreed to explore that possibility.

**NEW BUSINESS—BROCHURE:** Naty brought up the value of having a brochure that provided information both about bromeliads and HBS. Members agreed to take up the issue next year, with the formation of a brochure committee.

**AUCTION:** The October auction featured Gail's donations of *Neoregelia* cultivars 'Painted Desert,' 'Shelldance,' 'One and Only,' and 'Powerpoint' (a Lisa Vinzant cultivar), specimens of *Billbergia* 'Smokestack' (also a Vinzant cultivar), and 'Hallelujah,' and an unregistered variegated *Guzmania* from David.



## 2018: HBS YEAR IN REVIEW

With thanks to our creative and dynamic program chair Gail, HBS members enjoyed an active, educational, and profitable year, as several new members joined old friends in a variety of activities related to our goals of promoting knowledge about and enjoyment of bromeliads.



**GUEST SPEAKERS:** Our February meeting featured renowned *Tillandsia* grower Peter De Mello (above right), who shared some of what he has learned from forty-five plus years of propagating, growing, and showing that popular and wide-ranging variety. At the World Bromeliad Conference in June, Gail and John met Martin Siaw (above left), and enticed him into coming to Honolulu in June for an energetic talk about his evangelizing efforts to promote bromeliads in the People’s Republic of China. Martin was followed in July by Rakan Zahawi—Zak (above center)—the new director of Lyon Arboretum, who discussed his work in Costa Rica and ambitious plans for the Arboretum, which celebrated its centennial in 2018.

**FIELD TRIP:** Our April outing to David Fell and Sandy Kasman’s house and gardens proved to be a highlight of the year for HBS members, thanks to David’s tour of his shadehouses, and explanation of how he propagates collectible bromeliads, especially



his own variegated cultivars, and Sandy’s lively sharing of stories about all the hard work and creativity that resulted in their memorable garden areas—as well as for her gourmet appetizers featuring home-grown white pineapple, hearts of palm, avocado and edible flowers.



## 2018: HBS YEAR IN REVIEW



### MEMBER PROGRAMS & SHOW AND TELL:

Several of our meetings featured talks by our own member-experts. Lynette reminded us about bromeliad basics and plant identification, and informed us about diseased plants (above); David explained the dos and don'ts of fertilization—a little can be great, too much can be deadly; and Naty, after being preempted by Hurricane Lane, shared her hard-earned expertise about landscaping with bromeliads.



**Show & Tell** highlights included Gail's growing collection of mini-*Neoregelia*; David using a *Guzmania* 'Georgia' cultivar to explain variegation, and bringing in a gorgeous sample of his own *Vriesea* 'Strawberry Ice Cream' cultivar (above); Dina's rediscovered *Vriesea* 'Corralina'; and Larry's multi-generational *Tillandsia jalisco-monticola*.



**AUCTIONS:** A much looked forward to highlight of all our meetings is its conclusion—namely, the auction, a source of considerable revenue for HBS and great bargains for members and guests. Many thanks to our auctioneers during the year—Larry, Tom, John, and David—and to all who donated plants.

# 2018: HBS YEAR IN REVIEW



**OUTREACH:** As in previous years, in 2018 HBS members participated in a range of community events.

A March highlight was our inclusion in the Windward Orchid Society's 2018 Spring show, "Pot o' Orchids." Members David, Dolores, Ed, Gail, Jaime, John, Karen, Marcy, Merrill, Randy, Stan, Susan, Tom, Terese, and Val came together to create a very informative, and beautiful, educational display, using plants, pots, and fixtures provided by more than a dozen members.

During the year, HBS members continued to help maintain the bromeliad garden in Lyon Arboretum. Core participants Karen, Terese (with *Alcantarea odorata*, far left), Lynette, Randy, and Stan were greatly aided by University of Hawai'i student worker Aziz Agis (left), whose position was partially funded by the Society's contributions to the Arboretum—and thanks to David for donating an assortment of plants to help renew the garden. Also, as part of the Arboretum's August Ho'olaule'a in honor of its centennial, in keeping with HBS's educational mission, members staffed a display table to inform the public about bromeliads and our activities.

Several members attended the Bromeliad Society International's World Bromeliad Conference in San Diego, where one of David's *Vriesea* cultivars proved to be an award-winning highlight.



## 2018: HBS YEAR IN REVIEW

The final event of 2018 was our year-end celebration at Ho'omaluhia Botanical Garden. Besides enjoying great pot-luck food and scenery, members exchanged plants, and everyone received a free donated plant—or two! Thanks to Susan for reserving the venue and organizing the event, Lynette for acquiring the plant donations, and everyone for bringing food, exchange plants, and good cheer.

