



Newsletter of the

Hawai'i Bromeliad Society

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HONOLULU, HAWAII

JUNE 2015

JUNE FIELD TRIP TO THE HALAWA XERISCAPE GARDEN

The Honolulu Board of Water Supply's Halawa Xeriscape Garden opened to the public in 1989 to introduce O'ahu residents to outdoor conservation practices that could help save water in lawns, gardens, and landscaped areas—xeriscape combines the Greek word xeros, meaning dry, and landscape. The xeriscape gardens feature innovative uses of drought-tolerant plants, including bromeliads, to create water-efficient and attractive landscaping, as well as demonstrations of irrigation techniques, mulching, and composting. The Garden is maintained by the Friends of Halawa Xeriscape Garden, who will host their annual plant sale on August 1, which will include tables from the Cactus and Succulent Society of Hawaii.

The Garden is located at 99-1268 Iwaena Street in Aiea, at the very end of the road. This Saturday we will have a short business meeting in the Garden's upper Green Lanai area, accessible by a moderately uphill path, followed by an introduction to the Garden by Board of Water Supply community relations specialist Diane Moses. Members will then have the opportunity to tour the different areas of the Garden. Unfortunately, the Halawa Shaft water tours are not currently being offered.

After parking in the Xeriscape Garden lot, which is on the left just after the facility's main building, shown in the photo below. Check in at the Halawa Office Welcome Window to sign the required release of liability. You will then be guided to the meeting area.



RIGHT: Close-up of drip irrigation system.

FAR RIGHT: Use of bromeliads to landscape a shady hillside.



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JUNE MEETING

This Saturday, **June 30**, we meet at the **Halawa Xeriscape Garden** at **Noon**.

Our hospitality hosts are **Gail and Lynette**.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF MAY 30, 2015

Lyon Arboretum

ATTENDING: Susan Andrade, Frances, Arakaki, Nancy Arakaki, Marie Ferdun, Raleigh Ferdun, Karen Gollero, Naty Hopewell, Annetta Kinnicutt, Tessie Labra, Terese Leber (presiding), Ed Nishiyama, Gail Rabideau, Karen Rohter, Stan Schab, Sid Sneider (and daughter).

CONVENED: 12:45 ADJOURNED: 2:00.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Terese reported a balance of \$9,365.96. Following up on a suggestion at our April meeting that we consider investing some of our hard-earned conference money, Naty reported that, upon investigation and discussion with financial specialists, she determined that an investment really doesn't make sense for us, since it would require committing \$4,000 or \$5,000 for at least five years to reap any appreciable benefit.

PROGRAMS: Terese reported that Lynette and Marie have agreed to work on the possibility of an HBS trip to visit Hawai'i Island nurseries and gardens in August or September. Lynette has contacted David Shiigi, who has indicated that September 26 would probably be a better day to visit his nursery. She and Marie will continue to explore arrangements for scheduling and transportation.

Terese suggested the possibility of having an HBS meeting and work day at Waimea Falls. After discussion, she agreed to find out more about where the bromeliad garden is at the Falls, and if trams would be available to take members to the garden. Naty pointed out that she lives about twenty minutes from Waimea Falls, so we could combine a trip to the Falls with a visit to her house. Terese also urged members to offer program ideas; one suggestion was for a seed propagation program and workshop.

HOSPITALITY: Thank you Marie and Raleigh for the pupus (great bread pudding!) and drinks. June hosts are Gail and Lynette.

LIBRARY: Karen and Tessie are in the process of reminding everyone about outstanding books from the Library. They have added to the library the copies we had ordered of the BSI publication *Bromeliads: A Cultural Manual*. A new copy of Ronald Parkhurst's *The Book of Bromeliads and Hawaiian Tropical Flowers* was auctioned for \$23, and a copy of *Bromeliads for Home, Garden and Greenhouse*, by Werner Rauh, was added to the library.

OLD BUSINESS: Terese reported that she talked to Jill Laughlin, Lyon Arboretum's education and volunteer coordinator, about the idea, suggested by Helen Friend at our April meeting, of creating an HBS scholarship or award for a University of Hawai'i student, possibly in connection with the Arboretum's work-study program. Jill will get back to us for further discussion. Karen noted that she sent a get well card on behalf of HBS to John Ishihara.

LYON ARBORETUM BROMELIAD GARDEN: Members moved to

help maintain the Bromeliad garden on a regular basis.

We will consult with Lyon's staff on setting up schedules and activities for maintaining the garden.

SHOW AND TELL & AUCTION: Thanks to Tessie for bringing in her *Tillandsia capitata* with salmon inflorescences for show and tell, and to Karen for donating to auction her *Tillandsia secunda*, Gail for her *Neoregelia* cultivars "Old Love Letters," "Hot Flash," and "Grande," and Ed for his *Billbergia* "Audrey" and "Kyoto" and mini *Neoregelia* "Pink Mosaic."

