



Newsletter of the

Hawai'i Bromeliad Society

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TILLANDSIA GONE WILD

First, it's not true that Glenn Frey of The Eagles wrote "Smuggler's Blues" after meeting Larry McGraw at an HBS meeting in the early '80s. But, some thirty-five years ago, Larry did attend a dental convention in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, and in his off-time couldn't help noticing the colonies of *Tillandsia rothii* high in the albizia trees common to the area. In the wild, in the high heat, sun, and humidity of Mexico's Pacific coast, the *Tillandsia* leaves were mostly shades of red. Acquiring—somehow—an 18 foot pole, Larry then proceeded to acquire some small samples of *T. rothii*—and then managed to get them out of Mexico and into Honolulu. Once home, he found that



the plants reacted very differently to the local growing conditions, but now, decades later, he still has offspring of those very first, very slow growing, plants, and he kindly shared one at our last meeting, along with the story of how the plant came to be his.



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SEPTEMBER MEETING

This Saturday, **October 26**, we meet at

Lyon Arboretum

at **Noon.**

Our hospitality hosts are

Terese Leber & Stan Schab.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2013

Lyon Arboretum

ATTENDING: Susan Andrade, Marcy Doseo, Marie Ferdun, Raleigh Ferdun, Helen Friend, Marie Grininger, Annetta Kinnicutt, Tessie Labra, Terese Leber, Larry McGraw, Ed Nishiyama, Karen Rohter, Stan Schab, Lynette Wageman, Randy Wong, and Val Wong.

CONVENED: 12:20; ADJOURNED: 2:00.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Our current balance is \$2,323.77.

HOSPITALITY: Our Hospitality Hosts for October are Terese and Stan.

YEAR-END PARTY: The year-end HBS party is set for Saturday, December 7, from 10 to 2 at Ho'omaluhia Botanical Gardens—in our usual pavilion at the end of the road.

LIBRARY: After some spirited bidding, Lynette successfully auctioned off a copy of *Growing Bromeliads*, the helpful and colorful guide produced by the Bromeliad Society of Australia (congratulations, Raleigh, on a good buy).

EAST-WEST CENTER CRAFTS FAIR: As in the previous two years, Terese is organizing an HBS sales table for the early December East-West Center Crafts Fair. Please let her know if you have any plants to donate—and flushed and cleaned plants would be particularly appreciated.

BROMELIADS IN PARADISE: Here's an update on conference activity.

Helen has agreed to join Lynette, Marie, Sharon Petersen, and Troy Oden on the Conference Organizing committee. The Ala Moana Hotel has assigned Mahe Kaleohano, its convention service manager, to serve as liaison for the conference. Lynette reported that Bromeliad Society International is negotiating with Hawaiian Airlines for discounted rates for travel between Australia and Honolulu and California and Honolulu.

POSTER SESSIONS: Lynette noted that she is looking for a knowledgeable and entertaining speaker on the history of pineapples in Hawai'i to round out the Poster Sessions.

BAGS: Marie reported that she visited Certified Hawaiian, a distributor recommended by Jorji Oden, and got more information on a potential conference bag: a green, nonwoven polypropylene bag, 13 inches wide at the top, 9 inches wide at the bottom, 3 1/2 inches deep, and 11" tall, with 20 inch handles. For an order of 250 bags, the price would be \$1.65 per bag, which includes a single color, silkscreened image on one side of the bag. Marie has asked for a sample, which she will bring to the next meeting.

SALES AND SHOWS: Sharon Petersen has assembled an information sheet on shipping Bromeliads from the continental US to Hawai'i, and she is still talking with US officials about the much stricter procedures for foreign imports. One possibility might be for foreign vendors to double ship their plants, sending them first to a state such as California, and then from there to Honolulu. Lynette reported that according to BSI policy, sellers of non-bromeliad items do not have to register for the conference or be members of BSI, but they will pay 30 percent of their proceeds to BSI. Bromeliad sellers, on the other hand, must be BSI members and conference registrants, but they will only pay 25 percent of their sales to BSI.

REGISTRATION AND HOSPITALITY: Bonnie sent a badge and lanyard from the Southwest Bromeliad Guild Show as a possible sample for registration. Terese noted that she will contact Jorji about getting the shell necklace lanyards.

AWARDS: Marie reported that, after consulting with Charlie Birdsong of BSI-Louisiana, it appears that to accompany the medallions from BSI, HBS will need to create between 25 and 30 awards: 5 gold, 10 to 12 silver, and 10 to 12 bronze.

ALOHA BASKETS: Lynette noted that she had written the chief of police of the Honolulu Police Department about the legality of raffling the Aloha Baskets. Karen and Helen circulated an updated list of items already donated for the Baskets.

PUBLICITY, PROGRAMS, AND PARTICIPATION: The members moved
to produce and print a tri-fold flyer that can be used to inform potential donors about the conference.

Stan will correct and recirculate a draft of the flyer.

AUCTION: Many thanks to the donors of the high-quality plants that led to an entertaining and profitable auction, especially the several *Neoregelia* varieties, including Ed's *Neoregelia* 'Endless Summer'—a Lisa Vinzant hybrid (RIGHT), a *Neoregelia* 'Spotted Frog', a *Neoregelia Burle-marxii*, and several *Tillandsia diaguinitensis*.

