

## Newsletter of the Hawai'i Bromeliad Society

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SEPTEMBER 2013

## **ALOHA TROY & JORJI**

If you think you felt a seismic shift a few weeks ago, it was probably a sign of the heart of Hawai'i bromeliad culture moving southeast, as Troy and Jorji Oden finished cleaning, bagging, and shipping over 350 bromeliads (and a few minor household items) to their new home in Pāhoa, on Hawai'i Island.





Although he may no longer be our Auctioneer (see the snappy shirt Tessie scored at our last meeting), and we will miss his expertise, energy, and enthusiasm, Troy assures us that he will continue to be involved in HBS activities, and especially with making *Bromeliads in Paradise* a successful conference and an enjoyable experience for all. A hui hou and best wishes to Troy, Jorji, and

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family.

## SEPTEMBER MEETING

This Saturday, **September 28,** we meet at Lyon Arboretum at Noon.

Our hospitality hosts are the Wongs (drinks) & Karen R (snacks).

## **REPORT OF THE MEETING OF AUGUST 31, 2013**

Lyon Arboretum

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

Convened: 12:10; Adjourned: 2:45.

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

HOSPITALITY: Our Hospitality Hosts for September are the Wongs (drinks) and Karen R. (snacks).

YEAR-END PARTY: Marie F. announced that the HBS year-end party will probably be on Saturday, December 7, at Ho'omaluhia Botanical Gardens.

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

Conference committee chairs are reminded to send their reports to Marie F., if they haven't already.

Lynette reported that the \$6,000 seed money BSI will provide HBS is based on how much was spent at the 2012 Orlandiana conference, and that there is no need for the local host to return that money.

BSI is on schedule to sign a contract in September with the Ala Moana Hotel. The contract will establish room rates and space allocation, and designate a liaison for conference interaction. Breakfast, lunch, and banquet arrangements will be part of the contract; an HBS representative will need to be present at all food events.

BANQUET: Larry suggested simple but striking *Tillandsia* and mirror displays as centerpieces for the estimated thirty tables that will be needed for the conference banquet.

BAGS: Because of concerns about purchasing conference bags that would need to be shipped here—and thus, we would not be able to see a sample bag before authorizing the full production run—we opted to revisit the selection. At our June meeting we had chosen a two-tone tote, about 13 by 13 by 3 inches, with 24 inch handles and a green body with a black bottom band. But it was hard to tell from pictures just how the bag would look and feel. Jorji suggested going to local distributors and buying sample bags. Once we find the right bag, a local vendor could be hired to silkscreen the conference information onto the bags. Marie F. agreed to consult with Jorji on local distributors to visit.

SALES AND SHOWS: Marie F. reported that she sent about seventy-five flyers to local plant sellers and organizations, and received seven positive responses, including one bonsai group that expressed an interest in setting up a display. In cooperation with BSI conference chair Bonnie Boutwell, invitations will be sent to US vendors by the end of January. Sharon Petersen is working with other BSI representatives on the sales and shows, and is meeting with federal and state agricultural officials to coordinate the shipping of plants to Honolulu. The state rules—requiring a one-day quarantine to allow for inspection—differ greatly from the one-year federal quarantine usually required on plants shipped from other countries.

EXHIBITS AND DISPLAYS: Troy reported that there will probably be six floor display areas, of about 8 by 10 feet, and a few smaller spaces. Organizations will not be charged (or paid!) for creating displays. In addition to letting local orchid, bonsai, succulent, and other plant societies know about the display opportunities, the HBS can opt to create its own display.

REGISTRATION AND HOSPITALITY: The Hospitality and Registration committees agreed to get together and clarify their duties and responsibilities. Registration is currently planning to prepare different ID badges that will make it easy to distinguish conference registrants, volunteers, and vendors, since each group will have different access to seminars, food events, tours, and plant sales and show. Terese will get the shell necklace badge lanyards from Jorji.

AWARDS: Marie reported that she is working with Charlie Birdsong of BSI-Louisiana to determine the number and priority of awards the HBS needs to provide; she hopes to have samples awards to show in January.

ALOHA BASKETS: Karen R. and Helen reported that they are continuing to collect basket items, and had priced a typical basket at about a \$30 value. We have received different opinions about the operation of raffle-like events in Honolulu, but recognize that the HBS volunteers conducting the Aloha Baskets program need to be comfortable with the procedures, and so, at present are planning to offer the baskets through silent auctions. Fifteen to twenty baskets might be auctioned each day, probably divided into half-day shifts.

PUBLICITY, PROGRAMS, AND PARTICIPATION: Terese displayed the conference flyers that HBS members passed out to potential vendors at the recent Made in Hawai'i show. Stan will draft a tri-fold handout that can be used to inform potential donors and participants about *Bromeliads in Paradise* and the HBS. The March-June 2013 issue of the *Journal* of the Bromeliad Society features a Conference Corner in which Bonnie Boutwell provides the latest information; similar updates will be included in subsequent issues and on the BSI website. Stan will consult with Bonnie on sending an initial information letter to potential advertisers in the conference program.