



Newsletter of the

Hawai'i Bromeliad Society

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ROCK, AIR, SOIL

No, it's not a new version of rock, paper, scissors; it's part of what we learned at our last meeting. Bromeliads can be categorized, among other ways, according to whether they are dirt, air, or rock dwellers: terrestrial, atmospheric, or saxicolous.

Terrestrial Bromeliads root in the ground. They cannot live as epiphytes, attached to another plant or object, but need soil, although the soil can vary widely in terms of its organic and mineral content. The potting medium for most terrestrial Bromeliads can be kept moist, but should not remain wet. For Hawai'i residents, the most famous terrestrial Bromeliad is the *Ananas*, although home gardens may be more likely to feature *Cryptanthus* or *Dyckia*.

Air Bromeliads, which include most *Tillandsia*, are epiphytes. They attach themselves to another plant or object, but are not parasites. Rather than through their roots, these plants absorb water and nutrients through trichomes—scales—on their leaves, which also give *Tillandsia* their silver-gray or white appearance. Unlike terrestrials, the roots of these Bromeliads serve almost exclusively as anchors for attaching to whatever bush, tree, branch, rock, fence, etc. is handy. Many of these “atmospherics” are also xerophytic: they can survive under arid conditions. In addition, rather than simply growing up, they can grow randomly: vertically, horizontally, any which way.

Combining features of terrestrial and epiphytic species, another group is known as tank or funnel bromeliads. They can develop functioning roots and can be cultivated in pots and similar containers, but in the wild, they usually absorb most of their nutrients from water in their funnels or tanks. Many of the most popular cultivated Bromeliads, including most *Guzmania* and *Vriesea*, fall into this category.

And finally, the “rock” stars of the Bromeliad family are the saxicole or saxicolous Bromeliads that can grow on rocks—most famously, *Billbergia*.

Many thanks to Troy Oden for leading us through all the material in this program, and we look forward to our next meeting, which will focus on light, water, planting media, and fertilization.

TOP: One of Marie Grininger's “atmospheric” *Tillandsia*.

BOTTOM: *Billbergia* 'braddah iz'. Michael's Bromeliads. BSI Orlando Conference 2012. Photo by Troy Oden.



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HOSPITALITY	LIBRARY	NEWSLETTER
Val Wong	Lynette Wageman	Terese Leber
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MARCH MEETING

This Saturday, March 30,
we meet at **Troy's House**
at **Noon (directions are attached).**

Our hospitality hosts are
Troy & Jorji Oden.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 23, 2013

Lyon Arboretum

ATTENDING: Susan Andrade (presiding), Betty Chang, Marie Ferdun, Raleigh Ferdun, Helen Friend, Sam Kagesa, Annetta Kinnicutt, Tessie Labra, Terese Leber, Ed Nishiyama, Troy Oden, Karen Rohter, Stan Schab, Sid Sneider, Lynette Wageman, Hazel Wong, Randy Wong, and Val Wong. GUESTS: Randy and Gary Thompson.

CONVENED: 12:10; ADJOURNED: 2:45

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Tessie reported that our current balance is \$1,835.77, and that our annual Spring payments are due. The Society moved

to contribute \$100 to the Bromeliad Society International for our affiliate membership, \$250 to Lyon Arboretum for use of its facilities, and \$40 to the Cryptanthus Society for a two-year affiliate membership.

Terese and Val presented the treasurer with the proceeds of the December 2012 East-West Center crafts fair, which brought in over \$350 for the HBS.

MEMBERSHIP: Raleigh reminded everyone that people who have not paid their dues for 2013 need to pay their dues; if you can't remember if you've paid, and you don't have a receipt, then you probably haven't renewed your membership.

HOSPITALITY: Our Hospitality Hosts for March are Troy and Jorji.

LIBRARY: Librarian Lynette reminded members to return any books borrowed from the HBS library "before you forget that you borrowed them."

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Susan noted that there will be a special meeting on Saturday, March 2, at Lyon Arboretum at noon, where BSI conference coordinator Bonnie Boutwell will discuss committee duties and assignments, and try to answer any questions we might have as we set out on the road to hosting Bromeliads in Paradise.

Lynette confirmed that the conference is set for September 9–14, 2014, and will be held at the Ala Moana Hotel. Early registration forms have been sent to BSI members, along with a tentative schedule of events and optional tours and activities, and Sherlette Shiigi has developed a conference logo. Lynette reminded us that HBS is an affiliate organization of BSI, so we don't need to join as individuals. However, only individual BSI members are able to register for the conference and to attend all the seminars, lunches, and included tours and events. Volunteers can pay to attend the conference banquet or to go on the optional tours, space permitting, and we can attend the plant show and sale on Friday and Saturday, when they are free and open to the public. Of course, if you choose to volunteer for the Plant Sales or Seminars or Security committees, then you'll probably have access similar to what you would get if you registered for the conference—so take a good look at the different conference committees to decide both where you could help the most and what you would enjoy the most. As Marie emphasized, one of our goals is to make sure participating in the conference is a relaxed, fun experience.

Terese and Val announced that plans are moving ahead for the HBS display at the Windward Orchid Society's 2013 Spring Show and Plant Sale, "Stairway of Orchids," set for March 22–24 at the King Intermediate School Armory. Members with plants to lend for the display should contact Tom Stuart for pickup in Windward or East Honolulu, and Terese or Val for pickup or drop off in town. Members could also bring plants—potted or unpotted is fine, but cleaned, trimmed, and ready to show—directly to the display set-up on Thursday morning, March 21. The centerpiece of this year's display will be Troy's new Bromeliad "tree"—more accurately a handmade lattice-work frame for hanging and highlighting our plants. And of course, everyone is encouraged to attend the show, which is open from 9 to 7 on Friday and Saturday, and 9 to 3 on Sunday. Plant pick-up (and clean-up) is 4–5 pm on Sunday.

VOLUNTEERING AT "BROMELIADS IN PARADISE—WBC 2014"

At our special meeting on March 2, Bonnie Boutwell, Vice President and Conference Coordinator for the BSI, distributed packets of information describing the various committees that will be responsible for all the different parts of "Bromeliads in Paradise." Please take a look at the next two pages, where these committees are briefly described, and decide if you are interested in volunteering for one—or more—of these areas (and you can always change your mind about which ones). If you would like more information, please contact Lynette.

The management team for "BiP 2014" will be BSI Representative and Honorary Conference Chair Bonnie Boutwell, Conference Coordinator Lynette Wageman, Conference Treasurer Raleigh Ferdun, Administrative Coordinator Marie Ferdun, and organizing committee members Troy Oden, Sharon Petersen, and Tom Stuart.

A Word about Money

Raleigh is opening a BSI-funded account with \$6,000 in working capital to cover conference expenses. Income from plant sales and auctions, donations, tours and events, and advertising will be deposited in the account. Following the conference, the \$6,000 seed money will be returned to the BSI, and the first \$10,000 in profit will be split 50/50 between the BSI and HBS (we also get 7 percent of any profit over \$10,000).

THE PLANTS: SHOW, SALE & AUCTION

Several committees will work directly with the growers and vendors to organize and oversee the Conference Plant Show, the Plant Sale, and the Rare Plant and Silent Auctions.

The **Plant Show** will be chaired by a member of the BSI board, as the show categories, rules, and showing policies and procedures follow well-established BSI guidelines. HBS members will be called on to work with the growers as needed to make sure the preparation and display venues are appropriate, safe, and secure. Working closely with the Plant Show committee will be the **Awards Committee**. Marie and Annetta have agreed to oversee this important component of the Show. While the 26 or 27 categories of awards, in gold, silver, and bronze categories, are established by the BSI, the awards themselves are entirely the responsibility of the HBS. Working with an anticipated budget of about \$800, we get to design and create the awards, as we see fit to represent Hawai'i; the BSI will supply the official medallions that accompany the awards. For a start, Raleigh has agreed to refinish wooden bowls so they can be presented as awards.

The **Plant Sale** will be administered by Sharon and BSI's Ann Jenkins. This committee will be responsible for all the plant sales activities, including importing, exporting, packing, shipping, and working with the growers, as we hope to attract about thirty vendors to the conference. The BSI is responsible for registering vendors, and the sales proceeds will be split, with 75 percent going to BSI-member vendors (70 percent to non-members) and 25 percent (or 30 percent) to the BSI. Volunteers will be kept busy monitoring the plant sale preparation and selling areas.

Rare Plant Auction and Silent Auction

In addition to the Show and Sale areas, there will be a designated room to hold the rare plants and other special items that members and vendors donate for auction. The BSI has established procedures for administering the Auctions, but HBS volunteers are needed to monitor the auction area to collect, register, and secure the donations. Besides plants, in particular for the Silent Auction, donations might include books or artwork. Lynette and Randy have agreed to volunteer in this area, but many more hands will be needed.

SEMINARS AND POSTER SESSIONS

Seminars will be planned, organized, and administered by BSI board members. HBS volunteers will help in preparing and securing the venues, and monitoring the talks.

Poster Sessions

Designed as two hours of mini-seminars scheduled for Friday morning, the Poster Sessions present an opportunity for us to host local experts who can speak entertainingly and informatively for twenty to thirty minutes on topics of interest to conference participants—and that preferably relate to Hawai'i. These sessions could present an opportunity for local growers such as David Shiigi, Sharon Petersen, Lisa Vinzant, and David Fell to discuss the unique aspects of growing Bromeliads in Hawai'i, or for talks by the directors of local gardens such as Lyon Arboretum's Christopher Dunn, or by specialists in the history of bromeliads in Hawai'i. HBS is completely responsible for organizing and administering these sessions. Val has agreed to work in this area, and suggestions for speakers and topics are welcome.

TOURS

Troy is already well on the way to organizing the tours that will be offered to conference participants. The tours will be of two types. City tours and home and garden tours—to places like Sharon Petersen's nursery and Lyon Arboretum—are included in the conference registration. Optional tours and events will include a Paradise Cove luau, visits to the Dole Plantation and Polynesian Cultural Center, and a special all-day trip to see the nurseries (and volcanos) of the island of Hawai'i. Troy will be working with Raleigh and BSI representatives to make sure the tours are approved and the costs are appropriate, and with the Conference registrars to make sure all the participants have paid. Volunteers are needed to oversee participation and to accompany the tours.

SECURITY

As Bonnie has repeatedly emphasized, security is probably the most overlooked and most essential facet of the conference. People do walk off with plants, and other items, and volunteers are really needed to be on hand to monitor room access, traffic flow, and safety.

REGISTRATION & HOSPITALITY

The BSI will handle on-line registration for the conference, until August 15, 2014, when it will turn over all records to the HBS. We will then be responsible for all on-site registration, and also for collecting fees for tours and the conference banquet. Registration volunteers are in charge of greeting conference participants; preparing and passing out registration materials, including name tags, programs, and tour and banquet tickets; and answering logistical questions about the conference. Terese has agreed to work on registration, and volunteers are needed to prepare materials, and to staff the registration table from 8 to 5 on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Hospitality

The Hospitality table will be next to registration, and it is where conference participants will go to get information on every aspect of the conference. Hospitality volunteers are needed to gather materials for the “goody-bags” to be given to every conference registrant, and to assemble and disseminate information on such things such as bus schedules, restaurants, and places to go and things to do. Susan, Hazel, and Betty are already pulling together Hospitality materials, and more volunteers and contributions are welcome.

PROGRAM & PUBLICITY

Using models and procedures from previous BSI conferences, and in consultation with the BSI representative, the Program committee is responsible for preparing the conference program, from soliciting the advertising that will pay for printing costs, to working with BSI and HBS members on preparing the content and design, to overseeing the program’s production and delivery. Stan and Terese will work on this committee, and input from other HBS members is more than welcome.

Publicity

Volunteers are needed to work with the BSI representative in preparing press releases, obtaining media coverage, and advertising and publicizing the conference in a variety of media.

RAFFLE

The Raffle committee is responsible for preparing about fifty baskets of Hawai‘i- and Bromeliad-related material that will be given away to conference participants. Some baskets may actually be made on site, as the BSI invites conference participants to donate raffle items, either shipped ahead of time or brought to the conference. Set up next to Registration & Hospitality, the Raffle table is where we will accept donations, give away tickets, and post the winning numbers. Helen and Karen are assembling raffle material, but volunteer hands and material are need to prepare the prizes and to staff the table throughout the conference.

HOW TO RAFFLE A BROMELIAD

Most everyone knows that making book in Hawai‘i can lead to “Book ‘im, Danno.” But most everyone has also bought raffle tickets to support school or community fund-raisers.

A recent news release from the Better Business Bureau of Hawaii confirms that, under Hawaii Revised Statutes § 712-1220, section 6, raffles are illegal here because they are considered a type of lottery, in which people are required to pay a set price to participate in a drawing (or other method that includes an element of chance), with the expectation that they might win “something of value.”

No worries, however, because the BBB also explains that “a charity or school can move their raffle out of the statutory definition of lottery” in three ways. A raffle is legal if there is no set price to participate: “Participants can be asked for a donation to participate, but the donation amount cannot be set, and participants must be allowed to play for free.” Raffles are also legal if they are “part of another fund-raising event for which there is a charge to participate”—if, for instance, the raffle tickets were given away as part of conference registration. The third way raffles can be made legal, according to the BBB, is “by removing the prize”—in another words, don’t give out any awards (now there’s an incentive to buy tickets—I mean, offer donations!).

This March a Resolution was offered in the House of Representatives (H.R. no. 29) that asked the Attorney General “to examine the possibility of permitting the conduct of fund-raising raffles by charitable organizations,” and the AG’s office came out strongly against the idea. So, assuming no legislative breakthroughs in the next few months, we can—legally and happily—still suggest that attendees of Bromeliads in Paradise make donations to the HBS in return for tickets that will give them the chance to win one of fifty lovely “baskets of value” that Helen, Karen, and the raffles team are putting together.