



Newsletter of the

Hawai'i Bromeliad Society

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APRIL FIELD TRIP TO MARIE'S HOUSE

Our May meeting was hosted by Marie Gringer at her home in Kalama Valley. Marie has a variety of well-tended bromeliads, and especially some amazing, otherworldly-looking *Tillandsia*. Attendees not only got to see her garden, with its great views overlooking Koko crater and Hawai'i Kai, we had a chance to learn from Marie's full and creative use of space. We were also treated to a terrific lunch.

Thank you, Marie, for welcoming us, and for not making us feel too guilty about all the premeeting trimming and cleaning that you had to do.



2011 OFFICERS OF THE HAWAI'I BROMELIAD SOCIETY

CO-CHAIRS

Laura St. Denis & Susan Andrade

TREASURER

Tessie Labra

HOSPITALITY

Lum Keith

NEWSLETTER

Terese Leber

VICE CHAIR & PROGRAMS

Lynette Wageman

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Val Wong

MEMBERSHIP

Raleigh Ferdun

www.hawaiibromeliadsociety.org

MAY MEETING

Remember: This Saturday, MAY 28, we meet at Lyon Arboretum at noon. Our hospitality hosts are Terese and Stan (chips and dips), Susan (cookies), and Lynette (drinks).

- Please bring a plant or two for show and tell. We'll be talking about how to clean up and prepare our plants for display, so don't worry if the plants need work—the more challenging, the better. And as always, auction plants are welcome.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 30, 2011

Marie Grininger's home, 1218 Kaeleku Street, Kalama Valley

ATTENDING: Susan Andrade, Marie and Raleigh Ferdun, Marie Grininger, Lum Keith, Terese Leber, Sally Mist (with cast—ouch), Stan Schab, Laura St. Denis, Tom Stuart, Lynette Wageman, Val and Randy Wong.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Laura provided some more helpful hints about bromeliads and mosquitoes. In addition to turning over pots, trays, and other items that could hold standing water, she recommended spraying the plants with a solution of one teaspoon of detergent per quart of water. A sprayer attached to the end of a garden hose makes it easier to cover large areas. Laura also passed along Heide Bornhorst's recommendation of Dr. Bronner's Peppermint Liquid Soap. Since the goal of these treatments is to disrupt the surface tension of the water and break the mosquito breeding cycle, cooking oil and bath oil have also been used with some success. Marie G. pointed out the mosquito-eating fish in her garden; she uses goldfish such as red moors, guppies, and the aptly named mosquito fish (*gambusia*). Tom noted that it's actually rare for mosquitoes to breed in bromeliads, and that they can also be found in other plants that trap water, such as ginger, heliconia, and lilies, but he and Lynette emphasized the wisdom of having answers for complaining neighbors who may blame bromeliad growers for mosquito outbreaks.

Lynette described the 2012 World Bromeliad conference to be held in Florida; a discount flyer is attached.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer absconded to Las . . . NAH, just couldn't make the meeting. We received a thank you letter acknowledging our donation to the Ray Baker foundation.

MINUTES/NEWSLETTER: The April newsletter was approved, with a correction to the phone number to contact Mary Louise about her bromeliads. Laura reminded members to please call Mary Louise before visiting her, and not to go in big groups--which is why we are not planning a Society work session for her place.

HOSPITALITY: Refreshments for May will be hosted by Terese and Stan—Chips & Dips, Susan—Cookies, and Lynette—Drinks.

MEMBERSHIP & DUES: Raleigh reported that only a few members have not paid their dues—but we're sure they soon will, because now Marie F. is going to call them.

PROGRAMS: After field trips the last two meetings, the next couple of months we plan to be back at Lyon. Because of our interest in showing off, we will focus the next two sessions on how to prepare and display bromeliads. For the May meeting, bring in the rattiest, ugliest . . . well, at least bring in a plant or two that needs work. Tom will share his skill and experience on how to clean them up and make them look presentable, and will check to see if Bob Mof-fett, who is certified as a bromeliad judge, can attend. We should also start to prepare a few "show" plants, with the goal of presenting them at the June meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: Tom reported that he filed the Society's 2010 taxes, which basically involves sending the IRS a short form saying how poor we are, which will allow us to keep our tax ID and nonprofit status.

Laura is progressing with the website, updating information on officers and activities. She will also discuss with the Apple-based Mobile Me website host how to keep the hbs.org domain name that Raleigh has purchased for the society. Members were reminded that photos of their plants can not only be posted on our website or Facebook page, but can be made into cards and calendars.

NEW BUSINESS: Sally suggested, and members approved, making Mary Louise Boyd a lifetime Society member.

Attendees agreed that Society business cards would come in handy. Lynette pointed out that Lyon Arboretum is not a good address for HBS to receive phone calls, mail, or email, so members agreed that the card should point to our website, which will have current contact information. Please send Terese or Stan suggestions for what should be included on the card ("Do you ache for *Aechmea*, pine for *Anana*? Join the HBS").

Laura reminded members that bromeliads can be sent through the mail if the package contains only the bare root, or the plant is bagged in potting soil. For more information, contact the State Department of Agriculture plant quarantine offices at 832-0566 or 837-8413.

AUCTION: No auction was held—but a few members left with samples and cuttings (Thank You, Marie G.).