

# The Bromeliad Blade

Newsletter of the  
San Diego  
Bromeliad Society

August 2018

VOLUME LIII

NUMBER 8

## President's Message

By Scott Sandel

I hope you all are enjoying the summer. We have experienced some hot and somewhat humid (for us) days and nights. Will we get some hot and dry Santa Ana conditions this year, or will we be spared? We shall see. Last month's presentation by Juan Pablo Pinzón was certainly enjoyable. If you missed it, he gave a good slideshow presentation on Tillandsia ionantha and related species. Let's thank Dan Kinnard and Eloise Lau for hosting him and coordinating his trip from the Yucatán. This month, we

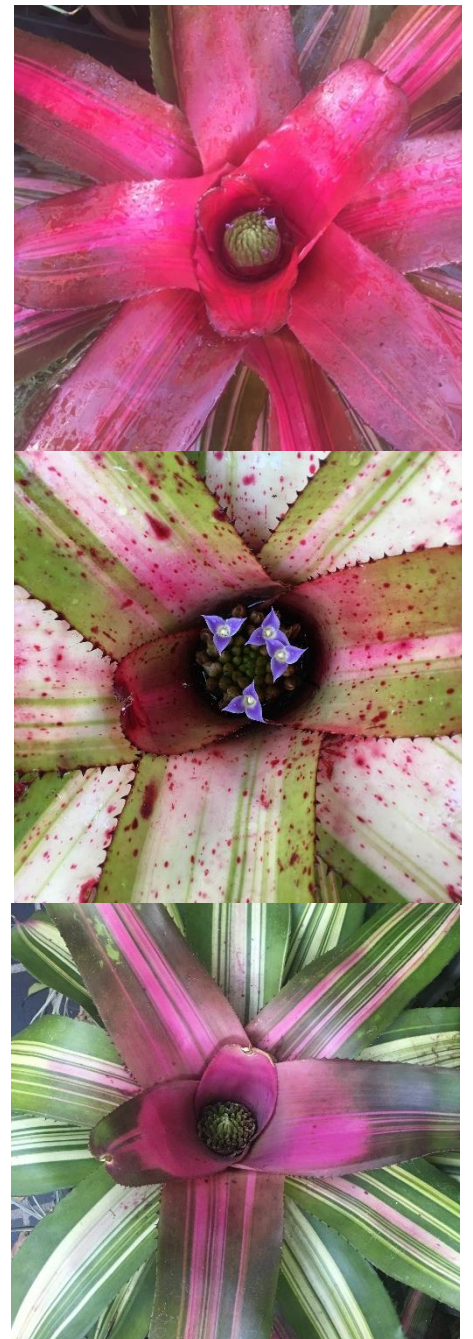
**Picnic is this Saturday, August 11.**

**The picnic starts at 11:00. Bring a hat, sunscreen and a folding chair. Oh – and please bring a side dish with serving utensil. The club (namely Robert Kopfstein) will supply the main course, drinks, plates and utensils.**

will be hosted by Krista Mills and her family for our annual summer picnic. (See attached flyer.) She has a nice canyon-rim garden with cacti and succulents – as well as bromeliads. Then for our September meeting on the 8th, we're back at Balboa Park for a Tillandsia demonstration. It will be a useful hands-on lesson to share some cool cultivation tips.

I trust that you all have some young plants growing now? ... Maybe some offsets from our July raffle table, or a recent exchange, or an offset you've removed from a favorite plant that has flowered and produced its next generation? This month is still a good time for getting new plants to grow, produce roots and get some growth before fall and cooler weather comes. Another August thing: Neoregelias continue to flower and look great. So with this brief summer President's Message column, I will leave you with a few photos from this first week in August.

*On the right: Neo 'Yang', Neo 'Unseasonably Hot', Neo 'Tomasito' at Scott's garden*



Check out the Tillandsia wall garden I planted recently. At one of the local nurseries, I picked up the frame on “sale” because it was planted with succulents without any soil. Of course they pretty much failed, but the assembly is well-made and just needed to be planted with epiphytic plants, such as an assortment of Tillandsias. It is framed with redwood 4x4’s, backed by marine plywood in a “sandwich” design of chicken wire covered with sphagnum moss.

## July Meeting

### Show and Tell

#### Scott Sandel

Tillandsia ‘Buck Compton’ (T. fasciculata X T. ionantha)

#### Lucia Velazquez

Tillandsia capitata Peach

#### Don Nelson

Neoregelia marmorata

#### David Kennedy

Tillandsia ionantha variegated  
Tillandsia ionantha crested form



#### Bob Wright

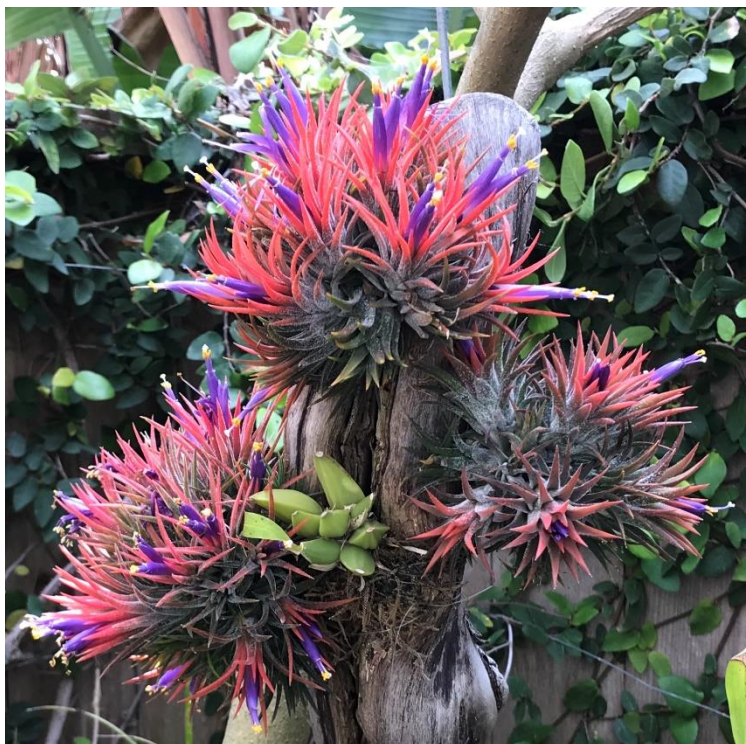
Pitcairnia undulata x chiapensis  
Pitcairnia ‘Pinot Noir’

I bet that Bob put on a red shirt just to look good next to the Pitcairnia!

# Tillandsia ionantha - One or many

By Andrew Wilson

At our July meeting, Juan Pablo Pinzon Esquivel from the University of the Yucatan, gave us an interesting discussion on what is probably the favorite Tillandsia species, ionantha.



Using several maps he showed where it is found in Mexico as well as further south in Guatemala and Costa Rica.

It is unusual for any Tillandsia species to have such a wide range of occurrence, with climate conditions ranging from seasonally cool and dry to hot and mesic. It is excluded from the central high plateau of Mexico as well as from the densely forested region between Oaxaca and Chiapas.

In spite of those areas of exclusion, it occurs on both eastern and western sides of the plateau and on each side of the forested region that transects

the country from the Gulf of Tehuantepec to the Gulf of Mexico. Is it the same species throughout?

Juan Pablo described the many forms in which it appears (Fuego, Druid, Vanhyningii etc.) and the many species that do seem to be similar (kolbii, scaposa etc.) He described the scientific methods being used to see if those forms and similar species are indeed all ionantha or share most of its important DNA components.

The jury is still out but it may not be surprising to see one day some renaming within one of the most popular Tillandsia species. It was reassuring to hear several people after the talk say that they had enjoyed the scientific discussion.



## Upcoming Events

### SDBS Meetings

August 11, 2018 @ 11 AM

SDBS Annual Picnic

[www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org](http://www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org)

September 8, 2018

SDBS Monthly Meeting

Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 104

[www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org](http://www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org)

### Monthly Meetings

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 6:30 PM

San Diego Orchid Society

Balboa Park, Casa Del Prado, Room 101

[www.sdorchids.com](http://www.sdorchids.com)

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, 1 PM

San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society

Balboa Park, Casa Del Prado, Room 101

[www.sdcss.net](http://www.sdcss.net)

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 7 PM

San Diego Epiphyllum Society

Balboa Park, Casa Del Prado, Room 101

[www.SanDiegoEpi.org](http://www.SanDiegoEpi.org)

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, 5:45 PM

San Diego Horticultural Society

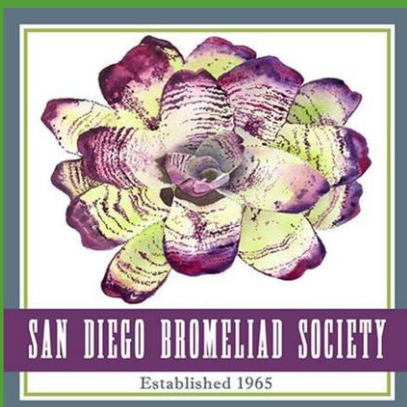
Congregation Beth Israel (CBI)

9001 Towne Centre Drive

San Diego, CA 92122

[sdhort.org](http://sdhort.org)

## THE BROMELIAD BLADE



Newsletter of the San Diego  
Bromeliad Society

Juliana Raposo, Editor

Ph: 858-349-1405

To send material for publication,  
please contact Juliana at  
[julianadraposo@gmail.com](mailto:julianadraposo@gmail.com)

Make sure to submit your  
contribution before the 20<sup>th</sup> of  
the month for inclusion in the  
next newsletter.

## SDBS MEETING

The club meets on the second  
Saturday of the month at 10am in  
Balboa Park, Casa del Prado,  
room 104.

## SDBS WEBPAGE

[www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org](http://www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org)

## Now Blooming!

Thanks Don Paterson for showing off  
his *Hohenbergia cattingae* Palmares.



## SDBS 2018

## Officers

President

Scott Sandel

[scott.sandel@outlook.com](mailto:scott.sandel@outlook.com)

619-325-1990 x 110

Vice-President

Al Evans, Jr.

[alevans001@earthlink.net](mailto:alevans001@earthlink.net)

858-492-9866

Secretary

Ruth Contino

[ruth.contino1@gmail.com](mailto:ruth.contino1@gmail.com)

619-303-2144

Treasurer

Kerry Nelson

[kanelsondesign@cox.net](mailto:kanelsondesign@cox.net)

619-574-0987

Newsletter Editor

Juliana Raposo

[julianadraposo@gmail.com](mailto:julianadraposo@gmail.com)

858-349-1405

Membership

Tammy Harmon

[tmharmon70@yahoo.com](mailto:tmharmon70@yahoo.com)

(858) 472-4268

Past President

Robert Kopfstein

[rwkopfstein@gmail.com](mailto:rwkopfstein@gmail.com)

760-726-8300

## Board Members

Charles Oelsen (2018-19)

[cdoelsen@yahoo.com](mailto:cdoelsen@yahoo.com)

310-925-6227

Stephen Zolezzi (2018-19)

[fbasd@foodnbeverage.org](mailto:fbasd@foodnbeverage.org)

Don Nelson (2017-18)

[donnelson12@msn.com](mailto:donnelson12@msn.com)

760-207-1569

Morlane O'Donnell (2017-18)

[Morlane.odonnell@att.net](mailto:Morlane.odonnell@att.net)

619) 422-8168