

The Bromeliad Blade

VOLUME LIV

NUMBER 1

Newsletter of the
San Diego
Bromeliad Society

January 2019

President's Message

By Morlane O'Donnell

Happy New Year! Here's hoping that 2019 proves to be a year of great happiness and prosperity for every member of SDBS and loved ones. The new year also brings a change with a new slate of officers and board members. Some of us are serving in a new capacity, while others are continuing to serve in their present positions. Speaking of changes, being the new president of SDBS is quite a change for me. I've been a member



At the December holiday party

off and on since the late 1980's and this is my first presidency. Scott Sandel is going to be a hard act to follow. I am very grateful for all the help he has given me in making this transition. I am looking forward to working with all the officers, board members, and all of you to continue to make SDBS the outstanding club it has always been. The Speaker Committee has lined up a couple of esteemed SDBS members for our first two meetings of 2019. Our own Pam Koide-Hyatt will speak this month about her pre-WBC trip to southern Mexico. Our Newsletter editor, Juliana Raposo will be our speaker in February to make a presentation about her trip to Brazil

and the bromeliad collections and gardens she saw. Now that we are in the throes of winter, at least what we call winter in Southern California, it's time to start thinking of ways to protect our plants from cold weather. While we are



Say hello to the new SDBS President, Morlane O'Donnell!

fortunate enough to enjoy mild weather compared to the rest of the nation, sometimes we have a rare frost or two. Some of the less cold tolerant broms (especially any of the *Ae. chantinii* forms) need some protection, whether it's placing those plants under an overhang or simply covering them with a sheet. Your plants should be fine if you have fiberglass panels. Whatever you do, don't cover with black plastic, having learned that the hard way. What methods do you use to protect your plants? Do you leave water in the cups of the tank bromeliads? Or is it a matter of "survival of the fittest?" Inquiring minds want to know. Meanwhile, happy and safe growing.

December Highlights

Keeping up with tradition, here's the SDBS Christmas tree that a team of awesome club volunteers created for the annual December Nights festival in Balboa Park. Tree decorations included bromeliads donated by Kent Nursery, broms loaned by club members and dried bromeliad blooms sprayed silver. How creative!



After a few years as news editor I noticed that many bromeliad affiliates around the globe feature our Christmas trees in their newsletters, did you know? It's one of our stories that travel the most. So, thank you who showed up and made the magic happen once again! The good cheer will spread around the world.

Give it up for Nancy Groves, Al Evans, Deb Kennedy, Bob Walters and Bob Vitacco.

Holiday Party

The SDBS Holiday party was kindly hosted by Stephen Zolezzi in his El Cajon home, amongst his beautiful plants. This time we had a catered main course and the potluck style desserts and apps. The gift exchange was also different, in that we could see the plants being gifted – a big improvement!

We also had a quick vote and elected our new president, Morlane O'Donnell, and board director Lucia Velasquez, taking Morlane's spot on the board.

Upcoming Events

SDBS Meetings

January 12, 2019

SDBS Monthly Meeting

Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 104

www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

February 9, 2019

SDBS Monthly Meeting

Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 104

www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

SDBS Events 2019

SD Home & Garden Spring Show

Del Mar Fairgrounds

March 1, 2 & 3, 2019

SD Botanic Garden Spring Festival

San Diego Botanic Garden

March 16, 2019

SDBS Display at the Del Mar Fair

Del Mar Fairgrounds

June 1 – July 4, 2019

SDBS Annual Show & Sale

Balboa Park

June 2019

Monthly Meetings

1st Tuesday, 6:30 PM

San Diego Orchid Society

Balboa Park, Casa Del Prado, Room 101

www.sdorchids.com

2nd Saturday, 1 PM

San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society

Balboa Park, Casa Del Prado, Room 101

www.sdcss.net

2nd Wednesday, 7 PM

San Diego Epiphyllum Society

Balboa Park, Case Del Prado, Room 101

www.SanDiegoEpi.org

2nd Monday, 5:45 PM

San Diego Horticultural Society

Congregation Beth Israel (CBI)

9001 Towne Centre Drive

San Diego, CA 92122

sdhort.org

January Meeting

This month we will have an exciting presentation by our own Pam Koide-Hyatt.



Pam will tell us about the Mexico tour that she co-led with naturalist Jeff Chemnick last May, prior to the World Bromeliad Conference. Combined, Pam and Jeff have nearly 80 years experience of traveling in Mexico. They saw a whopping 120 different species of bromeliads, most of them in bloom, and visited many habitats from deserts to cloud forests. Those of us who weren't fortunate enough to join the tour will be treated to lots of visuals and Pam's expert commentary.

The plant table will be supplied by Bird Rock Tropicals. Don't miss it!

SDBS 2019

Officers

President

Morlane O'Donnell

Morlane.odonnell@att.net

619) 422-8168

Vice-President

Stephen Zolezzi

fbasd@foodnbeverage.org

Treasurer

Al Evans, Jr.

aevans001@earthlink.net

858-492-9866

Secretary

Ruth Contino

ruth.contino1@gmail.com

619-303-2144

News Editor

Juliana Raposo

julianadraposo@gmail.com

858-349-1405

Membership

Tammy Harmon

tmharmon70@yahoo.com

(858) 472-4268

Past President

Scott Sandel

scott.sandel@outlook.com

Board Members

Kerry Nelson (2019-20)

kanelsondesign@cox.net

619- 574-0987

Lucia Velasquez (2019-20)

luciamccanna@yahoo.com

Bob Walters (2019)

cactusbobby@gmail.com

The Zoo Needs You!

by Dave Kennedy

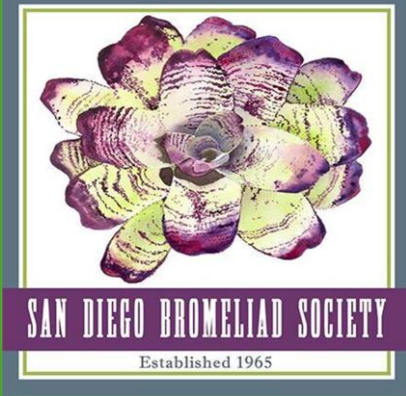
The primary volunteer caretakers of the San Diego Zoo's Kent Memorial Bromeliad Garden, Al Evans, Debbie & Dave Kennedy, will be stepping aside this year. We've enjoyed our years working together, and with the Zoo's horticulture department, but it's time to hand over the reins. The garden is planned to be moved this year, so new volunteers can get a fresh start, with a much smaller and manageable footprint to maintain, next to the flamingo exhibit - a prime location. In order to become a SD Zoo volunteer, you simply apply, then do orientation.

Work is done early on any given day, so as not to interfere with guests. Typically, only one or two mornings per month, so it's not a major time commitment. Lots of benefits are available. Free entry to the Zoo anytime during normal hours is one, plus additional passes that are accrued according to hours worked. There are a lot of behind-the-scenes peeks and perks, so if anyone is interested, do let Dave know and he can get the process started.



Dave Kennedy works at the Zoo's Kent Bromeliad Garden under the watchful eye of a resident cheetah.

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 julianadrapposo@gmail.com

Make sure to submit your contribution before the 20th 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