

# The Bromeliad Blade

Newsletter of the  
San Diego  
Bromeliad Society

July 2019

VOLUME LIV

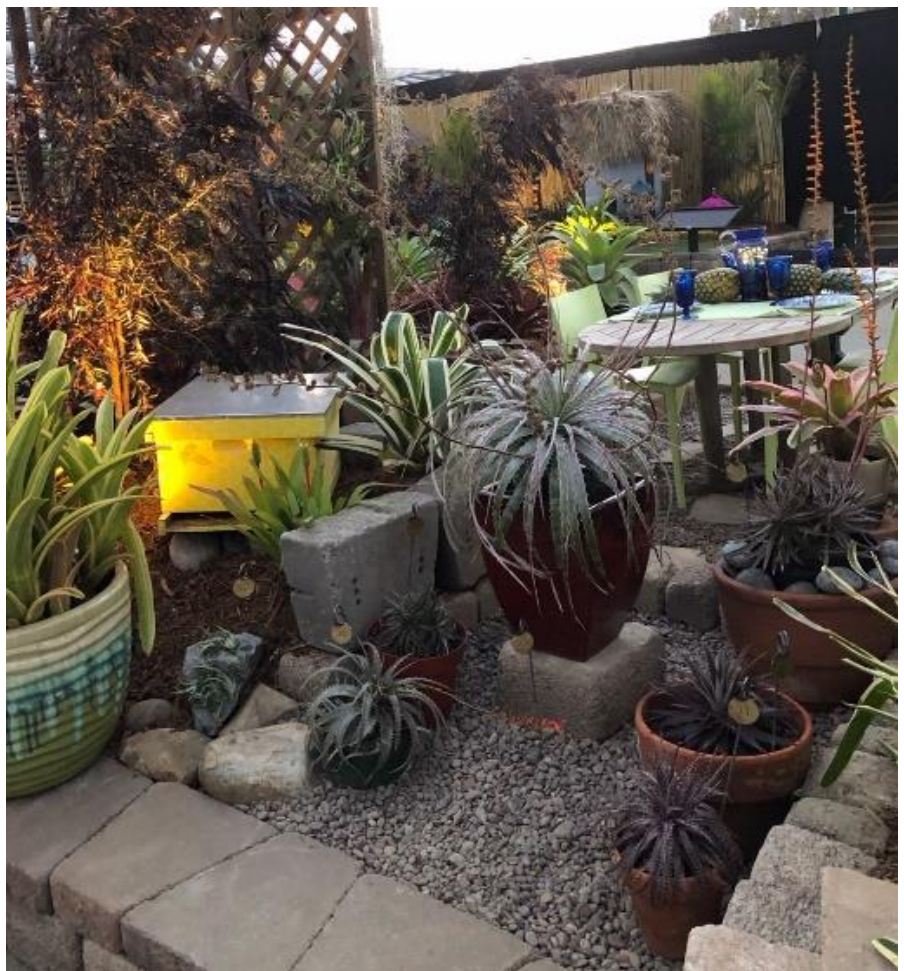
NUMBER 7

## President's Message

By Morlane O'Donnell

Members of the SDBS have shown in the last couple of months how their cooperation in working together can produce such incredible end results. Two fabulous displays, one in the San Diego County Fair and the other in our annual show and sale, were some of the most spectacular ones ever presented by our club. Hats off to Nancy Groves, Juliana Raposo and all the volunteers who made these possible.

We had a record-breaking sale and many thanks to all the vendors, especially David Kennedy, who brought plants on Saturday and some who brought more on Sunday. To our cashiers, Al Evans and Kerry Nelson, tag pullers, and security, some working all three days, what would we do without you? Charles Oelsen and many others made sure we were all fed with the delicious array of food they supplied. I wish I could individually name all who participated, but I am limited by the confines of space. So many contributed their time and effort.



*Go see the award-winning bromeliad display at the SD County Fair.*

I can only say thank you and be ever grateful that this club is composed of so many wonderful people.

That said, this month Scott Sandel will present highlights of his recent trip to Bolivia as documented by one of his remarkable slide shows. It is

also time when we are asking members to donate a couple of plants for the opportunity table. Please donate. Don't forget, August our annual picnic will be held. You won't want to miss this one! Details will be forthcoming. Until then, safe and happy growing.

# 2019 Bromeliad Show & Sale

By Juliana Raposo

Just wanted to say how grateful I am to all of you for your time and generosity to this club. It was my first time organizing the show and I didn't know what to expect, especially because we were testing a different concept. I confess I had a nightmare on the week before of near empty tables...

Morlane O'Donnell, for all your support in making it happen, and for bringing the most astounding assemblage of neos to the show.

Dave Kennedy for saying yes to my crazy ideas. For growing the coolest plants.

Robert Walters, Eloise Lau, Dan

variegation. Thanks for doing so much despite your tight schedule.

Chris Poulsen for bringing a truckload of Spanish moss, and for helping out during setup and sale even though you weren't selling anything.

Steve Zolezzi for saving the day with your manzanita, for being there for the club all the time during the weekend.

Pam Hyatt for always helping the club with your expertise and your fantastic plants. Thanks for the



Thank you everyone who hauled your beautiful plants to Balboa Park. We more than achieved our goal of showing the San Diego folks the bromeliads we grow in this town. We encouraged everyone who walked in to fall in love with bromeliads and start growing them too.

I believe that the great sales numbers are a response to the show. Real world gardening connects us to nature, and it is for everybody! Here's my long list of thanks...

Kinnard, Kerry Nelson, Pam Peters, Don Nelson, Deb Kennedy, Sonja Wicker for hands-on help in mounting the exhibit.

Charles Oelsen for trucking in 3 impossibly massive broms for the exhibit while dealing with a plumbing problem at home. Incredibly generous.

Andrew Wilson for hours spent on figuring out the video presentation.

Scott Sandel, I loved the exhibit on

beautiful display with the Tillandsias growing in habitat in Mexico. Thanks for surprising us with the wonderful spire of your T. deppeana.

Kerry Nelson and Al Evans the unbeatable sales duo. Melanie Howe, Steve Zolezzi for checkout assist. They worked virtually non-stop all weekend.

Al Evans for not only running the checkout with Kerry, but for doing everything, including bringing an array of whimsical, inspiring

tillandsias mounted on rocks for the show.

Andy Cuffel and Andy Siekkinen for cool display plants and sale plants.

Bob Wright for showing up on Sunday! We were so glad to see you! Thanks for sticking around for breakdown.

Xiang Li for your wonderful photos. Tammy Harmon, Nancy Groves, Lucia Velasquez, Bob Vitacco, hope I remembered everyone!



A couple views of the exhibit plus, above, xVrieslandsia Arden's Comet (Vr. simplex x T. australis). Left: Tillandsia 'Silver Queen'

Visit the San Diego Bromeliad Society Facebook page for more pictures and a video of the show.

# July Meeting

By Andrew Wilson



Back from the Andes of Bolivia just in time for the Show, Scott Sandel will be our speaker this month. The details of what he saw in the vastness of that land will remain for us to learn during the meeting, but judging from his adventures elsewhere in South America, he will have found plenty of interesting plants to talk about, Tillandsias, no doubt, Deuterocohnias maybe, Aechmeas and perhaps even a Puya. We can't say which at this point and Scott has yet to construct his talk. Despite being in the tropics quite a few of Bolivia's bromeliads can be grown here also. Do come and hear about those he saw in that seldom visited land with its giant mountains,

tropical jungles, snowcapped volcanoes and dazzling dry salt lakes.

Scott and Jim spent 3-1/2 weeks in Bolivia in May of this year. A goal when planning their adventure was to see the people, places, archaeology and of course plants of Bolivia, and they succeeded in observing many natural wonders. Scott will share a few stories and show slides of canyons, abandoned railroad cars, wildlife, seasonally flooded jungle, orchids and of course bromeliads. A highlight of the trip that Scott will present were observing some big-blooming Tillandsias that were cliff-clinging lithophytes.



*The sandstone cliffs at Amboro National Park, Bolivia*

## Upcoming Events

### SDBS Meetings

July 13, 2019  
SDBS Monthly Meeting  
Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 104  
[www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org](http://www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org)

August Picnic:

Save the date  
August 10

### SDBS Events 2019

SDBS Display at the San Diego Fair  
Del Mar Fairgrounds  
June 1 – July 4, 2019

### 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)

## July Plant Table

In July, we are having a member-donated plant table, which was a success last year. If you haven't already, please make arrangements with Stephen Zolezzi to contribute a bromeliad for the plant table.

## SDBS Annual Picnic

By Eloise Lau

This year our annual picnic will be held at Bird Rock Tropicals.

Pam has graciously invited us to picnic on the grassy area in her private garden behind the nursery.

She will open the nursery for us for sales from 10 am to noon.

Save the date August 10, 2019.

Details to follow.

## Pot Clips

If you loved the way Chris Lutz displays his bromeliads, here's some handy information. Stephen Zolezzi found the clips he uses to mount the clay pots to the conic structure around the tress. Here's the link on [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com).

Chris Lutz is the owner of the first garden in the Orange County Garden Tour.

On next page, 2 more shots from the SDBS Display at the SD County Fair.

## SDBS 2019

### Officers

President  
Morlane O'Donnell  
[Morlane.odonnell@att.net](mailto:Morlane.odonnell@att.net)  
619) 422-8168

Vice-President  
Stephen Zolezzi  
[fbasd@foodnbeverage.org](mailto:fbasd@foodnbeverage.org)

Treasurer  
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

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

### Board Members

Kerry Nelson (2019-20)  
[kanelsondesign@cox.net](mailto:kanelsondesign@cox.net)  
619- 574-0987

Lucia Velasquez (2019-20)  
[luciamccanna@yahoo.com](mailto:luciamccanna@yahoo.com)

Bob Walters (2019)  
[cactusbobby@gmail.com](mailto:cactusbobby@gmail.com)

Charles Oelsen (2018-2019)  
[cdoelsen@yahoo.com](mailto:cdoelsen@yahoo.com)



## 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)