

*Bromeliad Society*  
**HOUSTON**  **Inc.**

Vol 53 No 11

NOVEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

November 2020



*Cryptanthus* 'Love Potion No. 9' - Earthstar Designs

**Tuesday, NOVEMBER 17, 2020**

**TIME: 7:00 P.M. to .**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS...**

**PROGRAM SPEAKERS:** Rick Richtmyer and Paul Wingert on "*Orthophytums*"

**MEETING AGENDA:**

- Social Time at 7:00 to 7:30
- November Meeting Welcome and Announcement
- Program
- Show and Tell presented by John Schmidt
- 

**DECEMBER PROGRAM:** Get together for some story sharing and a show and tell.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:** November 19, 2020

(Zoom information will be provided to Board Members prior to meeting)

**The Zoom Meeting on November 17  
7:00 to...**

If you are not familiar with Zoom, please use this link to see how to access a Zoom meeting:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-Joining-a-Meeting>

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82883623415?pwd=WVJ0VXRDWkwvWDFEV21EM2c3K0FEUT09>

**Meeting ID: 828 8362 3415**

**Passcode: 342108**

**One tap mobile**

+13462487799,,82883623415#,,,,,0#,,342108# US (Houston)

+16699006833,,82883623415#,,,,,0#,,342108# US (San Jose)

**Dial by your location**

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

**Meeting ID: 828 8362 3415**

**Passcode: 342108**

**Find your local number:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82883623415>

**Show and Tell**

If you have plants you'd like to show, please send .jpg photos to [mary@edmonsonphoto.com](mailto:mary@edmonsonphoto.com)

## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Hello everyone. I hope you all are well and enjoying this beautiful weather. I can't believe that we are actually having a fall this year.

We have been down in the upper 30's but thankfully not below freezing so haven't brought in our large outside bromeliads yet. I know it won't be very long now before we have a freeze, but I am thankful for the extra time to continue with my plant downsizing.



It was nice to see all of you who were able to attend our Bromeliad Giveaway on October 10<sup>th</sup> at West Gray Multi-service Center. I hope you all enjoyed yourself and were able to pick up some new plants and find new homes for some of your extras. Thank you to all of you who brought plants to share.

I want to thank all of you who attended our Zoom Annual Meeting on October 20<sup>th</sup> and our newly elected slate of officers for 2021. I hope all of you will be willing to step up and help them out by volunteering for some of the many committees that help to make our society successful. Your help is greatly appreciated.

The program at our meeting this month on November 17<sup>th</sup> will be presented by our own Rick Richtmyer along with Paul Wingert. They will be discussing *Orthophytums* and *Sincoraeas*. I am really looking forward to seeing it and I hope you will all try to join us. Many thanks to Rick and Paul for volunteering to prepare and present this program. Also, I want to thank our VP Linda Whipkey for all her hard work scheduling many interesting and informative programs for us over the past two years. This year has been extra challenging with having Zoom meetings due to COVID-19.

As with the past months, the link for joining the November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting is in the Bulletin. You will also receive an invitation from Mary Cinotto prior to the meeting that contains the link. Please try to be connected to Zoom between 7:00 PM and 7:30 PM for social time and to make sure we can start the meeting on time at 7:30 PM.

Like last month, John Schmidt with the help of Mary Cinotto will be presenting a Show and Tell discussion after the program. Please send pictures of any plants you would like to show / discuss / have identified to Mary Cinotto by November 10<sup>th</sup>. Thank you both for doing this for us.

We will also be having a Zoom Board Meeting this month on November 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM. All members are welcome to attend.

Since we are not able to have our regular Holiday Meeting (dinner and auction) in December due to social distancing, we will be having a Zoom meeting on December 15<sup>th</sup>, our regular third Tuesday of the month, at 7:30 PM. We will induct our new officers and hopefully have an interesting Show and Tell. I hope you will all join us and send your photos to Mary Cinotto for the Show and Tell.

And of course, I have to put in a plug for the Bromeliad Society International (BSI) <https://www.bsi.org/new/> and the 2021 World Bromeliad Conference (WBC) in Sarasota, Florida now scheduled for June 8-12, 2021. It will be held at the Hyatt Regency Sarasota with a trip to Selby Gardens and optional tours for purchase to Tropiflora and Michael's Bromeliads. There will be speakers, plant sales, plant show, rare plant auction, and a banquet. If you registered for the 2020 WBC, your registration will be transferred to the 2021 WBC. Should you prefer a refund, you may receive a full refund through the end of 2020 by contacting the BSI Membership Secretary at [membership@bsi.org](mailto:membership@bsi.org). If you would like to register for the 2021 WBC, registration is \$315 per person through the end of 2020. You must be a BSI member to register. If you are a current BSI member, please register at <https://www.bsi.org/members/>. If you are not a member, you may join the BSI and register for the conference at <https://www.bsi.org/new/join-the-bsi-or-renew/>. You can also make hotel reservations for the 2021 WBC through the BSI website by logging on at <https://www.bsi.org/members/>.

It is getting to be that time again to renew your BS/H and Cryptanthus Society memberships for 2021. Allyn Pearlman ([deliboy@comcast.net](mailto:deliboy@comcast.net)) would be happy to help you with this. Also, please go to <https://www.bsi.org/members/> to renew your membership for the BSI online or <https://www.bsi.org/new/join-the-bsi-or-renew/> to join the BSI on line or to print a form to renew/join by mail. Don't forget there is a new electronic Journal membership option for only \$25 for individual memberships, \$35 for dual memberships. There is also a new low rate of \$15 for the first year for an electronic Journal membership for first time members, \$25 for first time dual memberships. Please let me know if you have any questions.

I hope to see you all November 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM on Zoom. Please be careful and stay safe. Take precautions, wear your masks, and stay away from crowds if you can.

Take care, Cherie

## NOVEMBER PROGRAM: The genus *Orthophytum* and an era of discovery!

The November program uses the Smith and Downs 1979 monograph of the Bromeliaceae as a beginning reference point. At that time, there was a total of 17 *Orthophytum* species described, including what is now classified as *Sincoraea navioides*. The updated species count for *Orthophytum* now stands at 67, with several recent discoveries yet undescribed! The genus *Sincoraea* has 11 described species. The genera *Orthophytum* and *Sincoraea* are found only in Brazil.

Paul Wingert and Rick Richtmyer will lead a discussion of these unusual plants and the habitats where they grow. We'll also feature some *Orthophytum* and *Sincoraea* hybrids, including several created by Paul Wingert, and discuss some of the cultural nuances of these terrestrial and saxicolous plants.

**NOVEMBER SPEAKERS**  
**Paul Wingert and Rick Richtmyer**  
***“Orthophytums”***



**Paul Wingert has lived just about his whole life in the metropolitan Detroit area. Born into a musical family, he took up the ‘cello at an early age. He won an audition with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in 1979 and enjoyed a 41-year career, retiring in 2020. Shadowing his musical career has been an intense interest in gardening which features a compulsive fascination with bromeliads.**

**His first encounter with bromeliads took place in 1975 while he was a student at the University of Michigan. He became a charter member of the SE Michigan Bromeliad Society in 1976, and served as president of the group from 1983-1994, and currently since 2017. He has also been a member of the Bromeliad Society International since 1976 and is currently on the Board of Directors representing the Eastern U.S. region. Paul built a greenhouse in 1990 which serves to limit the size of his collection. At the 2004 World Bromeliad Conference in Chicago, he was honored as the Sweepstakes Award winner. He has registered 77 of his hybrids with the BSI so far and has a few more in the works that are just waiting for a good name! Paul has been a guest speaker at garden clubs throughout Michigan, as well as giving presentations for bromeliad societies in Chicago, New Orleans, and Sarasota.**

**Paul is married to Karen, his wife for 40 years. They have two children, Jennifer and Andrew. The rest of the family does not seem to be similarly afflicted with the bromeliad bug.**

**Rick Richtmyer first became interested in bromeliads after moving to Houston many years ago. Rick and Carole first joined Bromeliad Society/Houston in 1981. Although they moved away to Dallas in 1982, their interest (and collection) continued to grow, and they became active members of the Greater Dallas-Ft. Worth Bromeliad Society. It was during their years in Dallas that Rick and Carole became BSI certified bromeliad judges.**

**Upon moving back to Houston in 1996, they again became active members of BS/Hi. Both Carole and Rick are BSI Accredited Master Judges and Instructors. Also, they are members of the Cryptanthus Society International. Rick is a BSI Director and Carole is Secretary of the Cryptanthus Society.**

**Bromeliad Society/Houston, Inc.**  
**Minutes - Regular Meeting**  
**October 20, 2020**

**Location:** Zoom Meeting

Members were able to join the meeting at 7:00 pm. Many did. They practiced using the Zoom features and worked on eliminating technical problems. There was also a fair amount of visiting.

**Call to order for Annual meeting:** President Cherie Lee at 7:32 pm.

**Attendance:** (21 members needed for a quorum)

23 logons, 25 members, and 3 visitors

Don Green, chair of the nominating committee, presented the slate of candidates:

- President – Shirl Stowe
- Vice-President – Scherie Townes
- Secretary – David Whipkey
- Treasurer – Allyn Pearlman
- Directors for the term of 2021-2024
- John Schmidt , Alicia Baker

There were no nominations from the floor. Mary Cinotto made a motion that the slate of candidates be accepted as presented. Gene Powers seconded the motion. Cherie Lee asked all in favor to turn on their audio and video feed and raise their hand. Those opposed were to say no. The motion passed.

**Adjournment for annual business meeting:** A motion to adjourn was made by David Whipkey and seconded by Mary Cinotto. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 pm.

**Call to order regular meeting:** President Cherie Lee at 7:43 pm.

**Plant Sale:** None

**Visitors:** Paul Wingert, Michael Chinn, and Alex Bello

**New Members:** None

**Attendance:** 22 logons, 24 members, and 3 visitors

## Announcements & Committee Reports:

- Cherie Lee announced that the November and December meetings will be Zoom meetings.

Linda Whipkey announced that the speakers for the November meeting will be Paul Wingert and Rick Richtmyer. They will speak on the genus *Orthophytum*. The December meeting will not be like our usual meetings. Unfortunately there will be no food, but officers and board members will be installed, along with other activities.

**Treasurer's report:** none

**Program:** Alex Bello from Bello Tropicals in Miami gave a program on the plants of Chester Skotak titled "Aroids and Chester Skotak New Releases".

**Show & Tell:** Mary Cinotto presented the pictures of the plants and John Schmidt talked about them. The plant photos were provided by:

- Mary Cinotto
- John Edmonson
- Carole and Rick Richtmyer
- Theresa Sandberg
- John Schmidt
- David Whipkey

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by Mary Cinotto and seconded by Shirl Stowe. The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 pm.

**Plant Raffle:** there was none

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Shirl Stowe	11/1
Renee Lieber	11/3
Carole Richtmyer	11/5
James Billimek	11/10
Faye Martin	11/11
Sidney Newton	11/14
Ray Johnson	11/16
Cindy Gray Strickland	11/25
Peg Raymond	11/28
Cristy Brenner	11/30



## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Gail Schmidt	12/4
Audrey VanWright	12/7
Carole Speer	12/20
Merrill O'Neal	12/22
Chris Nguyen	12/26
Barbara Szymczak	12/27



### NAVIGATING THE WORLD OF ZOOM ( by M. Cinotto)

It appears that we will be treading the Covid pandemic for at least another year. Not fun. Terrible that we can't be together. However, we can be.... if we're OK with spending a fraction of the time we watch a television and watch a Zoom screen with our friends dotted about it. Without further ado, let's talk positives about Zoom.

No ghastly drive. Some folks live close to the meeting area but even at that, traffic is a headache. Now, add freeways and distance. I personally save 1.5 hours with a Zoom meeting along with lower blood pressure.

More time for a meeting. We now have to cut meeting time to two hours. That window doesn't give folks much time to chat, mingle, raffle, sell plants or snack. We rush in and rush out so we don't get billed for additional time. Our Zoom is almost endless so if folks want a three hour meeting, they have it now.

We can have a meal. Many of us find there is no time to eat a balanced meal before a meeting. We get to a meeting and snack on some yummy, yet probably not very healthy goodies. A number of folks now have a leisurely dinner during the meeting.

We can have a glass of wine or beer or other alcoholic beverages in a Zoom meeting. May not be huge for some folks but a leisurely glass of wine is nice during a talk and show and tell.

Can see gobs of plants via presentations. Granted, nothing like the real deal but it is nice that you can show a lot of plants without schlepping them back and forth. Plants are generally happier when they're not moved about as well.

No set up or clean up needed. And for Verna, that must be huge. By the way, who will take on this role when we get together again? Maybe we should rethink things a bit...

You are in the comfort of your own home/chair. Not to put too fine a point on that, but has anyone else in the club experienced back pain from the seating at the center? And, your own "water closet" as well.

Zoom isn't perfect but honestly, it's pretty good. We have friends who bought a large home in the mountains via Zoom. The photos online were good, however, Zoom walked them through the entire residence. I would be insane before I'd do that but it seems to have worked well for them. So, in essence, it is what you make of things that often predicate success. If we look at Zoom as a burden, it will be. If you get into the advantages and see it as an opportunity, it is. And, for anyone who wants help using this technology, there are a number of us who will gladly help you get set up (no cost to members) and run through a "meeting" with you. Please ask.

**What's Blooming November  
2020**



***Wallisia cyanea*  
variegated inflorescence - Whipkey**



***Wallisia cyanea*—Edmonson**



***Aechmea recurvata*—Edmonson**



***Aechmea purpureorosea* - Edmonson**



***Cryptanthus lacerdae* 'Menescal' - Edmonson**



***Cryptanthus* 'Pink Butterfly'**

## What's Blooming November 2020



*Ae. fulgens discolor x ramosa* (Malcolm)



*Dyckia burle-marxii X Encholirium Horridum*  
inflorescence - Whipkey

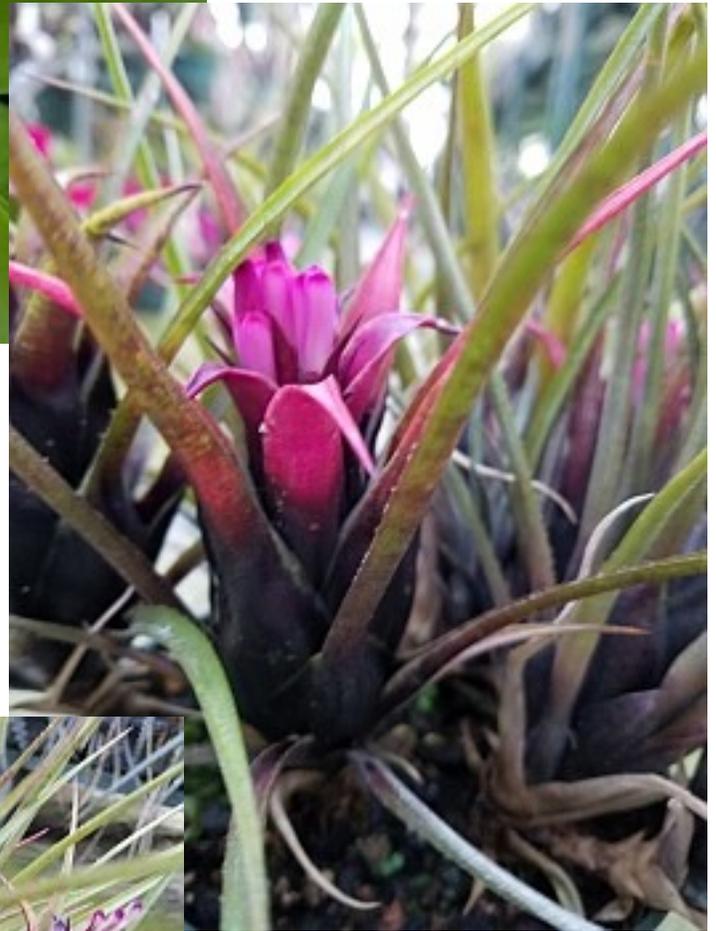


*Sincoraea ophiuroides* - Lee

## What's Blooming November 2020

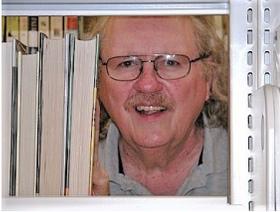


*Canistopsis billbergioides* citron—Lee

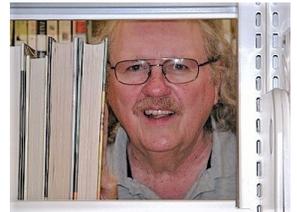


*Aechmea recurvata*  
'dark form' - Lee





Whipkey's Word  
November 2020  
Aberrant



October 31, 2020. All-Hallows Eve. Seems like a good time to reflect on all things bizarre and macabre, or I could pick a word to discuss in November's bulletin. Instead of reading something written by Poe or Lovecraft, I decided to read my copy of A Bromeliad Glossary to see what was considered important in the Bromeliad world in 1977. There it was, on page 5, 4<sup>th</sup> word from the top, aberrant, a perfect word for the month of November.

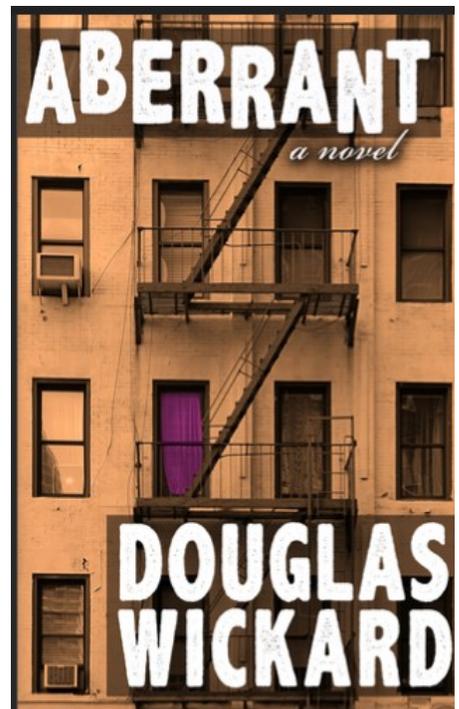
A Bromeliad Glossary defines aberrant (a-'ber-ənt) as: Unusual or exceptional; a plant or structure that varies from the type; mostly used with regard to variation.

To me aberrant means different. An example of this is *Wallisia 'Anita'*. It is a form of *Wallisia cyanea* where the paddle color is a striking shade of lavender instead of the usual light pink. Or, consider *Wallisia 'Triflor'*, a trigonous form of *cyanea* which has a three sided inflorescence. The forms are different, but still beautiful.

Oxford Languages (<https://languages.oup.com/google-dictionary-en>) defines aberrant as: departing from an accepted standard. It is very similar to the definition found in A Bromeliad Glossary, but not specific to plants. I think this definition fits 2020. This has been an aberrant year.

Between Covid-19, Zoom meetings, no annual Bromeliad show, no spring plant sale, canceled holiday parties, masks, stay at home orders, closed businesses, social distancing, political ads (don't get me started on that one), them vs. us... it goes on and on.

This is the last Whipkey's Word for 2020. See you in 2021. Hopefully it will be a normal year. Whatever normal is.



**January  
2020**

**October  
2020**



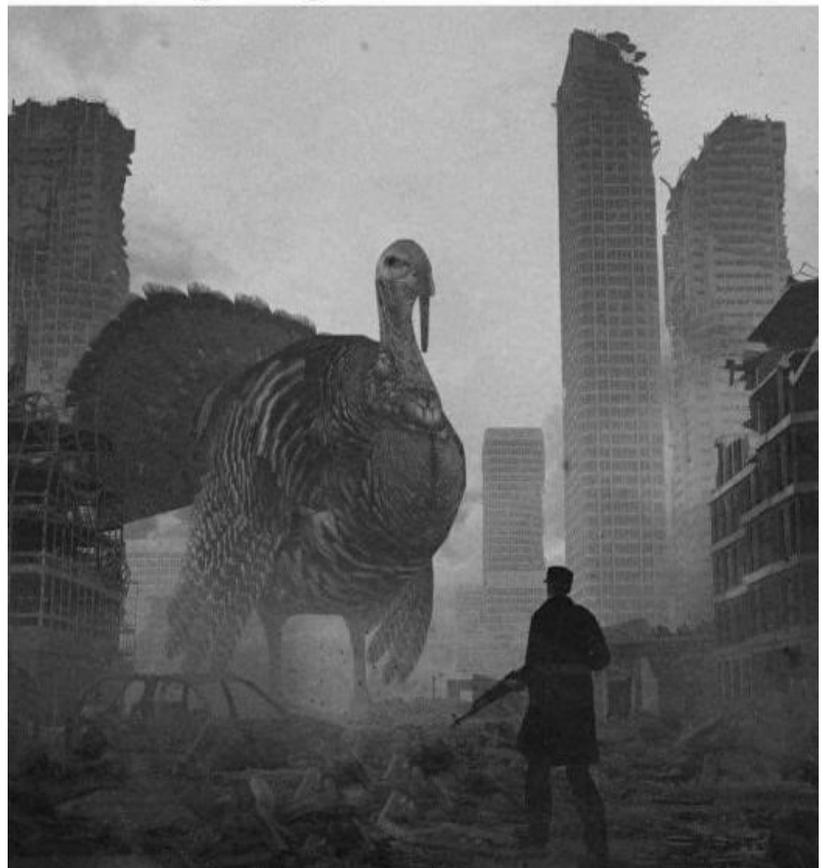
I went to an archaeology party recently where they were only looking for remains of a lower leg

"At least we have Thanksgiving to look forward to"



Thanksgiving:

it was quite the shindig.



2020...in one picture

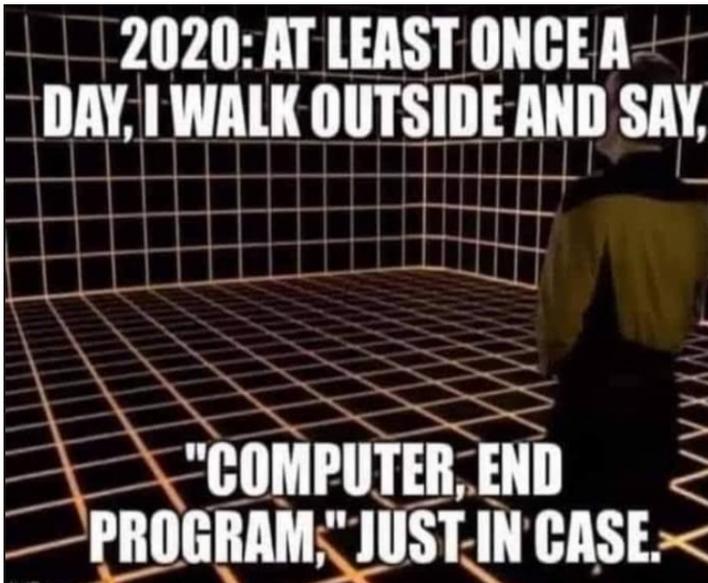
COVID RELIEF CENTER

For a Few Laughs More

With the rise of self driving vehicles, it's only a matter of time until there's a country song where the guy's truck leaves him



Amen to that



NEW: For the duration of Covid isolation only.

## FOR SALE OR TRADE OR FREE TO GOOD HOME

This area is now being allocated for Buy, Sell, Trade or Free as we cannot do raffles or plant sales during this pandemic. We ask that you only include bromeliads or plant related items to sell or trade or give. No prices please. Transactions are to be negotiated between principals. Note: this is not a Bromeliad Society Houston process. This section is for members to allocate plants and plant related items in lieu of raffles or club plant sales.

Have your information as in the format below and send to [mary@edmonsonphoto.com](mailto:mary@edmonsonphoto.com) before the 10th of the month so we can include in the newsletter.

**WHAT IS AVAILABLE: *Tillandsia, Aechmea, Quesnelia* offsets for sale or trade.**

**CONTACT INFORMATION: Please call for list of available plants. John Schmidt @ 346-413-3227**

**WHAT IS AVAILABLE:**

We have a very large selection of *Cryptanthus, Aechmea, Orthophytum, Neoregelia, Tillandsia, Dyckia, Hechtia* and many other genera which I can't spell or pronounce which must go to a new home. They will be free of charge.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Please call Carole or Rick Richtmyer to arrange a time to visit 281-350-6809 or by email [planobrom@aol.com](mailto:planobrom@aol.com). The wearing of a mask is required.



### Jimbo's Nursery

15019 8<sup>th</sup> St., Santa Fe, TX 77517, 409-925-6933

[www.Jimbosnurserytx.com](http://www.Jimbosnurserytx.com); email: [Jimbos3@earthlink.net](mailto:Jimbos3@earthlink.net)

We have a large selection of *Aechmea, Billbergia, Cryptanthus, Dyckia, Neoregelia, and Tillandsia*. Please compare our prices and our quality.

**BROMELIAD SOCIETY/HOUSTON INC.**



AFFILIATED WITH THE  
BROMELIAD SOCIETY  
INTERNATIONAL



MEMBER OF  
SOUTHWEST BROMELIAD  
GUILD



AFFILIATED WITH THE  
CRYPTANTHUS SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL



**About the Bromeliad Society/Houston**

This corporation is organized exclusively for purely public charity and strictly educational purposes. Specific goals of the Society shall be to:

*Increase knowledge of bromeliads through inter-change and dissemination of information.*

*Use such funds as are available for the purpose of research and/or equipment in institutions of higher learning within the State of Texas.*

There are two classes of membership:

Individual	\$20.00 per year
Family	\$30.00 per year

**All memberships begin with January of the current year.**

Visit our website at [www.bromeliadsocietyhouston.org](http://www.bromeliadsocietyhouston.org) for more information.

The Bulletin is published monthly and is available online prior to monthly meetings. Articles and any other information pertinent to bromeliads are solicited. Articles may be reprinted with proper acknowledgment given to author and publication.

Please have articles to the editor [mary@edmonsonphoto.com](mailto:mary@edmonsonphoto.com) before end of the month.

A Yearbook is published annually based on the membership roll at the end of the regular February meeting of each year and distributed to members of the BS/H, Inc.

Please address any correspondence regarding this publication to:

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**Officers and Chairmen**

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Vice President **Linda Whipkey**  
Secretary **David Whipkey**  
Treasurer **Allyn Pearlman**  
Past President **Don Green**

**Board of Directors**

	Term Expires	
12/31/20	12/31/21	12/31/22
<b>Gordon Stowe</b>	<b>Vickey Gurka</b>	<b>Madge Donaldson</b>
<b>Shirl Stow</b>	<b>Frank Lee</b>	<b>Scherie Townes</b>

**I. Standing Committees**

1. Publicity	<b>Allyn Pearlman</b>
2. Bulletin Editor	<b>Mary Cinotto</b>
3. Plant Sales Chairman	<b>Allyn Pearlman</b>
4. Programs Chairman	<b>Linda Whipkey</b>
5. Standing Committees	Ex-Officio Members: <b>Don Green / Cherie Lee</b>

**II. Committees of the Board Representatives**

1	Annual Show	David Whipkey
2	Bromeliad Culture	David Whipkey
3	Courtesy	Midge Gorman
4	Directory	Mary Cinotto
5	Email Communications	Mary Cinotto
6	Garden Tours	Gordon Stowe, Shirl Stowe
7	Historian	David Whipkey
8	Holiday Party Chairman	Allyn Pearlman
9	Hospitality Coordinator	Verna Powers
10	Members & Visitor Register:	Ken Gardner, Noreen Tolman
11	Membership	Allyn Pearlman
12	Raffle Plants	Cherie Lee, Frank Lee
13	Seedlings	Allyn Pearlman
14	Show & Tell	John Schmidt
15	Virtual Communications	Mike O'Neal
16	Webmaster	Joy Reynolds

Southwest Bromeliad Guild	<b>David Whipkey,</b> <b>Ray Johnson</b>
Bromeliad Society International	<b>Annette Dominguez,</b> <b>Cherie Lee,</b> <b>Margo Racca</b>

# HOUSTON INC.



## *Bromeliad Society*

Vol 53 No 11  
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Mary Cinotto  
16023 Pebble Bend Drive  
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**FIRST CLASS**