

Bromeliad Society
HOUSTON  **Inc.**

Vol 54 No 5

MAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAY 2021



Cryptanthus 'Peachy Keen' - Earthstar Designs

TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021

TIME: 7:00 P.M. to .

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

PROGRAM SPEAKER:

Ed Erwin with Bee Harmony — “Pollination of Bromeliads and Other Garden Plants”
- See Page 2 for more information

MEETING AGENDA:

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

ZOOM MEETING LINK ON PAGE 2

JUNE PROGRAM: Christy Jones from Mercer Arboretum and Botanic Gardens - “Mercer’s Harvey Recovery and Master Plan ”

NEXT BOARD MEETING: July 22, 2021

UPCOMING EVENTS

Garden Tour

Shirl and Gordon Stowe’s Home

May 22, 2021 10 AM to 2 PM

See Page 3 for more information

ABC’s

Mercer Botanic Gardens

October 16, 2021

Bromeliad Society / Houston

2022 Show and Sale

Judson Robinson Jr, Community Center

May 20-22, 2022

World Bromeliad Conference

June 7-11, 2022

Sarasota, Florida

For more information, visit:

<https://www.bsi.org/new/conference-corner/>

Show and Tell

If you have plants you’d like to show, please send .jpg photos to:

grstowe@comcast.net

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Hello Everyone!

What fun it was to see so many of you at the May 1 Sale. Despite the morning downpour, many members and customers attended throughout the day. My thanks go out to Allyn Pearlman and Jimmy and Joanne Woolsey (Jimbo's Nursery) for all that you did to make it a wonderful event! Another thanks to Mary Cinotto for donating three beautiful painting for a successful silent auction. Several members brought snacks and drinks to complement the delicious BBQ sandwiches. We all went home happy with the day and very well fed!!!



Don't forget our next event, the May 22nd garden tour at our house. Gordon and I plan to offer plants for those who lost so many during the February freeze. Other members have indicated they will be bringing plants to give away as well. You can expect light refreshments while you stroll through the greenhouses and yard.

CHECK OUT OTHER EVENTS IN THE CALENDAR

Most of you know that I am learning about the beautiful family of Bromeliads with each meeting and event. Time and again I uncover fascinating tidbits. I hope you don't mind if I share one now and then.

Puya Chilensis (locally known in Chile as cha-gual) is another edible bromeliad! It may, however, be quite a trip to the grocers to prepare this delight.



Take care and I hope to see you soon.

Shirl Stowe

MAY PROGRAM:

"Pollination of Bromeliads and Other Garden Plants" by Ed Erwin with Bee Harmony

Ed Erwin with Bee Harmony will speak to us about pollination of our Bromeliads and our other garden plants. Ed is a Master Beekeeper. He studied at the University of Montana and has a passion for speaking to groups to help them learn about honey bees and colony collapse disorder.

Mr. Erwin is a contributor of Honey Bee articles and provides photographs to newspapers and professional beekeeping magazines. He is the Director of the Mentor/Mentee program at the Montgomery County Beekeepers Association.

The Zoom Meeting on

MAY 18

7:00 to...

Bromeliad Society Houston is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Bromeliad Society Houston May Monthly Meeting
Time: May 18, 2021 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83096129799?pwd=UXR3SE8xb0k4Zm5zRFFzeUFQQTMrUT09>

Meeting ID: 830 9612 9799

Passcode: 211336

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,83096129799#,,,,*211336# US (Houston)

+16699006833,,83096129799#,,,,*211336# 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)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 830 9612 9799

Passcode: 211336

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kuUMR7sAV>

GARDEN TOUR AT THE HOME OF GORDON AND SHIRL STOWE

Saturday, May 22

Visiting Hours: 10AM-2PM

6514 Blue Hills Rd

Houston, TX 77069

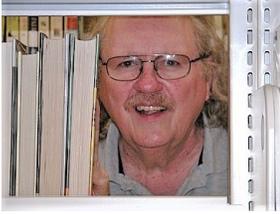
**Please bring any plants that you may wish to share with those who lost
so many during the frost.**

**Likewise, if you lost plants, we hope that you will take a few that you need,
leaving some for others who may be attending the tour later than you.**

Refreshments will be served.

Questions? Call 360 509 5144 or 713 201 7899

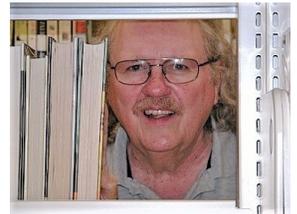




Whipkey's Word

May 2021

Bigeneric



I have always been interested in unique names. Names like Preselenski, Ignatowski, and Satitpunwaycha to name a few. Don't know why, but I just like them. Plants can also have unique designations such as *xBiltanthus*, *xPuckia*, and *xUrsulepis*. Don't you just love the way *xZizkagoudaea* rolls off the tongue? All of these plants are Bromeliad **bigeneric** hybrids. Let's make **bigeneric** our word of the month for May 2021. Just to make things interesting, the term Intergeneric is often used in place of the term **bigeneric**.

A bigeneric hybrid is a cross between plants in two different genera in the same plant family. However, not all plants in the same family will cross. If the plants are to be successfully crossed, they must be closely related enough for the pollen of one plant to fertilize the ovule of the other. I doubt that you can cross a *Tillandsia* with a *Fosterella*. Both are in the *Bromeliaceae* family, but plants in the sub-family *Pitcairnioideae*, such as the *Fosterella*, are just not related closely enough to a *Tillandsia*, which is in the sub-family *Tillandsioideae*, to produce viable seed.

Unfortunately, the seeds of most **bigeneric** plants are sterile. As a consequence, **bigeneric** plants, like all other hybrid plants, have to be propagated asexually such as by offsets or by Meristem culture. I have heard of tri-generic Bromeliads, but I am not sure that I have ever seen one. However, bear in mind that I have also never seen Big Foot. **Bigeneric** crosses between the same two genera are lumped into the same nothogenera (artificial genera).

The International Code of Botanical Nomenclature states that: "The nothogeneric name of a bigeneric hybrid is a condensed formula in which the names adopted for the parental genera are combined into a single word, using the first part or the whole of one, the last part or the whole of the other (but not the whole of both) and, optionally, a connecting vowel."

Let's look at the nothogenera *xBiltanthus*. The first part 'Bil ' comes from the genus *Billbergia* and the second 'anthus' comes from the genus *Cryptanthus*. Why you may ask is the nothogenera not named something like *xCryptbergia*? Timing! The first published name of a nothogenera is the one that should always be used. We did use *xCryptbergia* until about 10 years ago when Derek Butcher discovered that the name *xBiltanthus* had been published first. *xBiltanthus* was first documented as being used in 1947, while *xCryptbergia* was not used until 1952 (**DD0515 x Biltanthus** by Derek Butcher. J.Brom.Soc. 62(4): 173-176. 2012.)

Speaking of odd **bigenerics**, I would like to find *xZizkagoudaea* 'Babylon'. This is an Australian hybrid of *Zizkaea tuerckheimii* and *Goudaea* 'Tiger Tim'. Both of these plants were formerly classified as *Vrieseas*. I don't know that the plant looks so unique, but that name is fantastic.

If you are interested in **bigeneric** hybrids check out the Bromeliad Cultivar Register on the Bromeliad Society International's website (BSI.org). There is a list of about 75 different Bromeliad nothogenera. It might be interesting to try and grow one of each of those nothogenera. Anyone up to the task?

Bromeliad Society/Houston, Inc.
Minutes - Regular Meeting
April 20, 2021

Location: Zoom Meeting

Members were able to join the meeting at 7:00 pm. Many did. There was also a fair amount of visiting.

Call to order: President Shirl Stowe at 7:30 pm.

Plant Sale: None

Visitors: Dianne Duggan and John Marzoline

Attendance: 25 logons, 28 members and 2 visitors

Announcements & Committee Reports:

Shirl Stowe Zoom meetings will continue through August 2021. We will be moving our meetings back to the West Gray facility as soon as it reopens. This could possibly happen as soon as September.

Shirl Stowe reported that the WBC is scheduled for June 7-11, 2022. Check the BSI website for more information.

Shirl Stowe announced that the 21st Australasian Bromeliad Conference, "Kiwi Broms" has been re-scheduled. It will be held April 7 - Sunday April 10, 2022 in Auckland, New Zealand. Please visit their website, <https://kiwibroms.bsnz.org/>, for more information.

Shirl Stowe announced that our annual ABC meeting will be held on Saturday October 16, 2021 at the Mercer Arboretum. Linda Whipkey gave a quick overview of the program. More details will follow.

Gordon Stowe reported that he and Shirl will host a garden tour on May 22, 2021.

David Whipkey mentioned that he had been contacted by a person who had some Tillandsias that were looking for a new home. If any member is interested they should contact David for more information.

Allyn also reported that the annual holiday party will be held the first Saturday of December (12/04/2021) at Los Tios restaurant on Westheimer.

Cherie Lee reported that the BS/H 2022 spring show and sale will be held May 20-22.

Treasurer's report: None

Program: Scherie Townes introduced our speaker Christy Brenner who presented a program titled "Bromeliad Adventures in the Venezuelan Tepuis".

Show & Tell: Gordon Stowe presented the pictures of the plants. Rick Richtmyer and the plants owners talked about the plants. The plant photos were provided by:

Alicia Baker
Cherie Lee
Margo Racca
Gordon Stowe

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Scherie Townes and seconded by Malcolm McCorquodale III. The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 pm.

Plant Raffle: there was none

What's Blooming May 2021



Aechmea bromeliifolia var. *angustispica* - Baker



Billbergia amoena
var. *viridis* - Baker
(left)

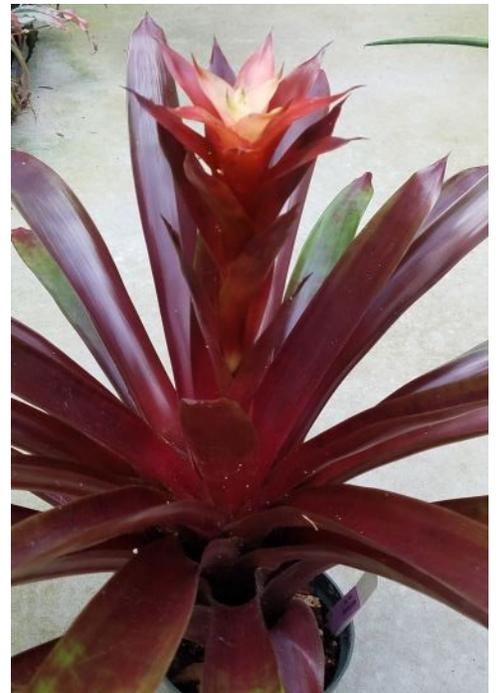


Billbergia 'La Vie en Rose' - Lee
(right)

What's Blooming May 2021



Canistrum cf. seidelianum - Lee



xGuzvriesea 'Ivory Tower' - Lee

What's Blooming May 2021



Neoregelia 'Pleaver' - Baker

Neoregelia 'Castigado' - Lee
Medium sized plant about 1.5 feet
in diameter



Neoregelia 'Grace' - Lee

Neoregelia johannis variegata - Lee
Large plant about 2-2.5 feet in diameter



What's Blooming May 2021



Pitcairnia heterophylla - Lee

xSincortanthus 'Blazing Bonsai'
Lee



Tillandsia argentea - Lee

We may be little *Tillandsias* but we are awfully cute.

Tillandsia kegeliana - Lee



MAY BIRTHDAYS

Midge Gorman	5/8
Jane Littell	5/13
Ruby Adams	5/15
Cynthia Johnson	5/18
Jarrett Stowe	5/23



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Cherie Lee	6/1
Billie Emanuel	6/9
John Sarkisian	6/12
Michael O'Neal	6/13
Gordon Stowe	6/17



BSHI Membership

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

Please send your check to **Allyn Pearlman**
6422 Bankside Drive
Houston, TX 77096

Cryptanthus Society Membership

Individual	\$20.00 per year
Family	\$25.00 per year

Please send your check to **Carole Richtmyer**
18814 Cypress Mountain Dr.
Spring, TX 77388



Jimbo's Nursery

15019 8th St., Santa Fe, TX 77517, 409-925-6933

www.Jimbosnurserytx.com; email: 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.



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 interchange 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 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 Linda Whipkey lindawhipkey@ymail.com before the end of the preceding month.

An electronic 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. Periodic electronic updates may also be distributed during the year.

Please address any correspondence regarding this publication to:

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Tomball, TX 77377
lindawhipkey@ymail.com

AFFILIATED WITH THE
BROMELIAD SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL



MEMBER OF
SOUTHWEST BROMELIAD
GUILD



AFFILIATED WITH THE
CRYPTANTHUS SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL



Officers and Chairmen

President **Shirl Stowe**
6514 Blue Hills Road
Houston, TX 77069
birddogL19@outlook.com

Vice President **Scherie Townes**
Secretary **David Whipkey**
Treasurer **Allyn Pearlman**
Past President **Cherie Lee**

Board of Directors

	Term Expires	
12/31/21	12/31/22	12/31/23
Vickey Gurka	Madge Donaldson	Alicia Baker
Frank Lee	Michael O'Neal	John Schmidt

I. **Standing Committees**

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. Publicity | Allyn Pearlman |
| 2. Bulletin Editor | Linda Whipkey |
| 3. Plant Sales Chairman | Allyn Pearlman |
| 4. Programs Chairman | Scherie Townes |
| 5. Standing Committees Ex-Officio Members: | Shirl Stowe/Cherie Lee |

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

**David Whipkey,
Ray Johnson
Annette Dominguez,
Cherie Lee,
Margo Racca**

Bromeliad Society International

HOUSTON Inc.

*Bromeliad
Society*

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FIRST CLASS