

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

Vol 54 No 6

June 2021

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Hello Everyone!

It is hard for me to believe that June is upon us! The past year has disappeared somehow amid Covid concerns, zoom meetings, and a never-ending list of tasks to do around the house. Now it is time for a cautious vacation or two and some people time!!



It was great to see all of you who visited our garden tour. It was touching to see the generosity of those who brought plants for less fortunate members. I believe over 50 plants were given away to replace some that had succumbed to the freeze. We had such fun.

I'm certain that you enjoyed the program about bees at last month's meeting as much as I did, and now I am looking forward to June's program when we will hear from Mercer Botanical Garden regarding their recovery after the terrible floods. As you know, we will be holding our ABC's program there on October 16. This should give us a preview of what to expect on the site. Thank you so much Scherie for your most interesting speakers!

Be sure to join in for our regular meeting on June 15!

Shirl Stowe

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

See Zoom information for June's meeting on page 3.

TUESDAY, June 15, 2021

TIME: 7:00 P.M. to .

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

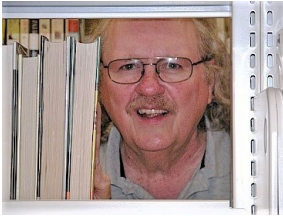
PROGRAM SPEAKER:

Christy Jones from Mercer Arboretum and Botanic Gardens -

"Mercer's Harvey Recovery and Master Plan "

MEETING AGENDA:

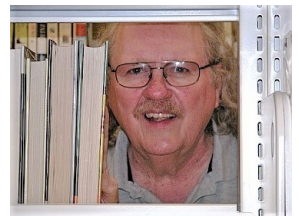
- **Social Time at 7:00 to 7:30**
- **Meeting Welcome and Announcement**
- **Program**
- **Show and Tell presented by John Schmidt**



Whipkey's Word

JUNE 2021

Deciduous



Things are looking up. After two and a half months of procrastination, I have finally returned to cleaning up the greenhouses. I gave the frozen, defoliated, dehydrated, and dying plants time to do their thing and possibly spring back to life. Much to my surprise, many of the plants I had written off for dead are showing signs of life. Buds are breaking out on bare *Neoregelia* stems. Leafless *Tillandsia* twigs are springing back to life. Pots of brown *Pitcairnia* leaves have small green shoots breaking through the soil. True, they are not going to be show quality this year, but we will have to see what the future holds.

Looking at the defoliated plants in my greenhouse got me to thinking of the **deciduous** plants in the landscape. Many of our trees and shrubs drop their leaves when the days get cold and short. Many tropical plants drop their leaves when the dry season starts. Let's make **deciduous** our word of the month.

The Merriam-Webster dictionary (<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/deciduous>) defines **deciduous** as: the falling off or shed seasonally or at a certain stage of development in the life cycle of a plant's leaves.

Bromeliads are plants. They have leaves. Are there any **deciduous** Bromeliads? Definitely! Not many, but there are a few. There is a small group of *Pitcairnia*s which annually shed their leaves to get through the dry season. Some of these plants have two different leaf forms, one a thin green blade which is **deciduous** and one which is a short, stiff, spiky leaf which looks more like a burr or cactus spine. The others just have a thin green blade that gets shed each year. Our special Broms include:

Pitcairnia anarosae

This **deciduous** Mexican species was described in 2020. The new species is similar to with *P. singularis*, from which differs by the plant height (19–40 vs. 15–25 cm) the number of leaves (5–8 vs. 3–4), and the morphology, color (red vs. white) and length of flowers. (<https://www.mapress.com/j/pt/article/viewFile/phytotaxa.429.2.1/38322>)

Pitcairnia bergii

This species was discovered by Dennis Cathcart and Wally Berg. It was described by Harry Luther in 1991. He named it after Wally. Unfortunately it is endangered due to habitat destruction. It is terrestrial, and fully or partially **deciduous** depending on the amount of available water. (<https://www.somemagneticislandplants.com.au/berg-s-pitcairnia>)

Pitcairnia glaziovii

It is native to eastern Brazil. It has two types of leaves. One bladeless and spiny, the other spineless and **deciduous** blade. (LONE ORIENTAL OF THE BROMELIADS by Lyman B. Smith <http://journal.bsi.org/V08/2/>)

Pitcairnia heterophylla

Tropiflora's description of this plant states: "This is a very widespread species that can be found from Mexico to Peru and across to Venezuela. A variable species which commonly grows on cliffs as a terrestrial, but can grow on rocks as a lithophyte, and in trees as an epiphyte. The plant has two dimorphic leaf forms, one a thin green blade which is **deciduous** and one which is a short, stiff, spiky leaf which looks more like a large spine." From personal experience I attest to the large spine is very sharp and inflicts much pain when accidentally grabbed.

Pitcairnia ringens

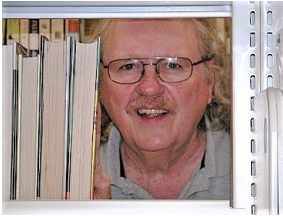
A cold-hardy Mexican species distributed from southern Tamaulipas through to Chiapas, mostly in the highlands. It is not fully **deciduous** if kept well-watered. (<https://www.agaveville.org/viewtopic.php?f=56&t=5886>)

Pitcairnia singularis

Description published in 2017. It is known to grow only in the municipality of Puerto Vallarta. This new species is characterized by very narrow, **deciduous** normal leaves, a simple inflorescence with 14–20 white flowers. (<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/312498551>)

Pitcairnia X daiseyana

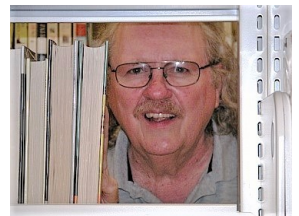
Is a natural hybrid of *P. pungens* and *P. heterophylla*. This plant is probably the product of a busy hummingbird. It probably inherited its **deciduous** nature from its *heterophylla* parent. (<http://journal.bsi.org/V34/6/> A Hybrid *Pitcairnia* From Western Ecuador by Harry E. Luther)



Whipkey's Word (continued)

JUNE 2021

Deciduous



And now let us look at *Pitcairnia tabuliformis*. Exotica Esoterica (<https://www.exoticaesoterica.com/>) states that it require a fairly lengthy dry rest when dormant. It is a lithophyte with **deciduous**, succulent leaves and a nested inflorescence. It is usually found growing on banks or cliffs above rivers and streams. Rauh notes in his book, Bromeliads For Home, Garden, and Greenhouse, that this plant requires a winter rest, but does not say that it is **deciduous**. Is it **deciduous**? I don't know. Perhaps this is a question better left to someone else to answer.

While doing research for this article I kept running into articles that were not written in English. Imagine that, writing an article in a foreign language. I know that makes me sound like an ugly American, but I am lucky to be able to read articles written in English. Thank goodness for Google translate. When you search using the Google search engine, it gives you option to translate those, at least to me, unreadable pages into good old English. Lithuanian to English – a piece of cake. Chinese to English took a bit longer, but it got done. However, when asked to translate Persian to English it, gave up. I guess there are some articles I was never meant to read.

ZOOM Meeting Information

You are invited to the Zoom meeting of the Bromeliad Society Houston.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83188987079?pwd=ZDcxNEZWSUxJUDI0V3p4aldGdVMydz09>

Meeting ID: 831 8898 7079

Passcode: 345676

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,83188987079#,,,,*345676# US (Houston)

+16699006833,,83188987079#,,,,*345676# 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 (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 831 8898 7079

Passcode: 345676

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kc6Xrw6Ak4>

Bromeliad Society/Houston, Inc.

Minutes - Regular Meeting

May 18, 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: Ed Erwin

New Members: None

Attendance: 24 logons 29 members and 1 visitor

Announcements & Committee Reports:

Shirl Stowe announced that:

- Mary Cinotto had donated some of her paintings to the Society to use to raise funds. A silent auction was held at the last sale and 3 plants were auctioned off.
- 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.
- WBC is scheduled for June 7-11, 2022. Check the BSI website for more information.
- 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.
- the BS/H 2022 spring show and sale will be held May 20-22.

Gordon Stowe reminded the members that he and Shirl will be hosting a garden tour May 22, 2021. Refer to your May bulletin for more details.

David Whipkey announced that:

- judges need to make sure that their local and BSI dues are up to date.
- the Southwest Guild is considering having a show in the fall of 2021. If you have not already done so, please respond to the email that was sent several weeks ago and let me know what you think.
- the Lake Charles/Baton Rouge area was hit hard by yesterday's storms. Charlie Birdsong had some flooding at his greenhouse, but none at his house.
- the Baton Rouge Bromeliad Society will be holding a plant exhibit and sale June 5-6 at the garden center.
- he and Linda were working on the October ABC program. More details at a later date.
- River Ridge will be holding a show June 11-13, 2021. Contact Bryan Windham for more information.

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

Madge Donaldson noted that Home Depot has a large supply of Bromeliads available at reasonable prices.

Treasurer's report: We made \$543.75 at the spring sale.

Program: Scherie Townes introduced our speaker, Ed Erwin with Bee Harmony, who presented a program titled "Pollination and Pollinators".

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

Alicia Baker
Vickey Gurka
Cherie Lee
Theresa Sandberg
John Schmidt
Gordon and Shirl Stowe

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Mary Cinotto and seconded by Cherie Lee. The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 pm.

Plant Raffle: there was none

What's Blooming - JUNE 2021



Aechmea chantinii 'Black'
Lee



xVriecantarea 'Seeger' — Lee



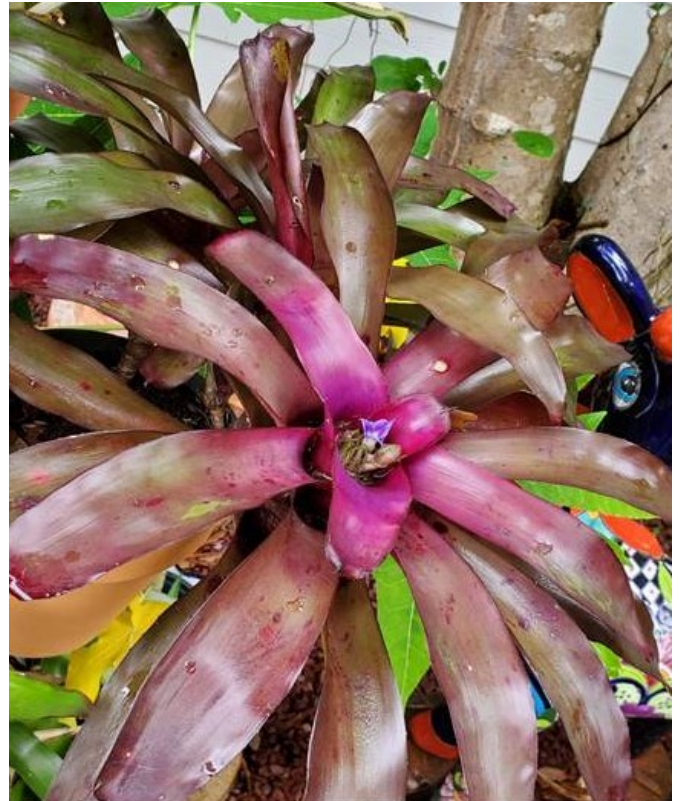
Tillandsia brachycaulos - Baker



Canistropsis burchellii
Lee



Neoregelia 'Crouching Tiger' — Baker



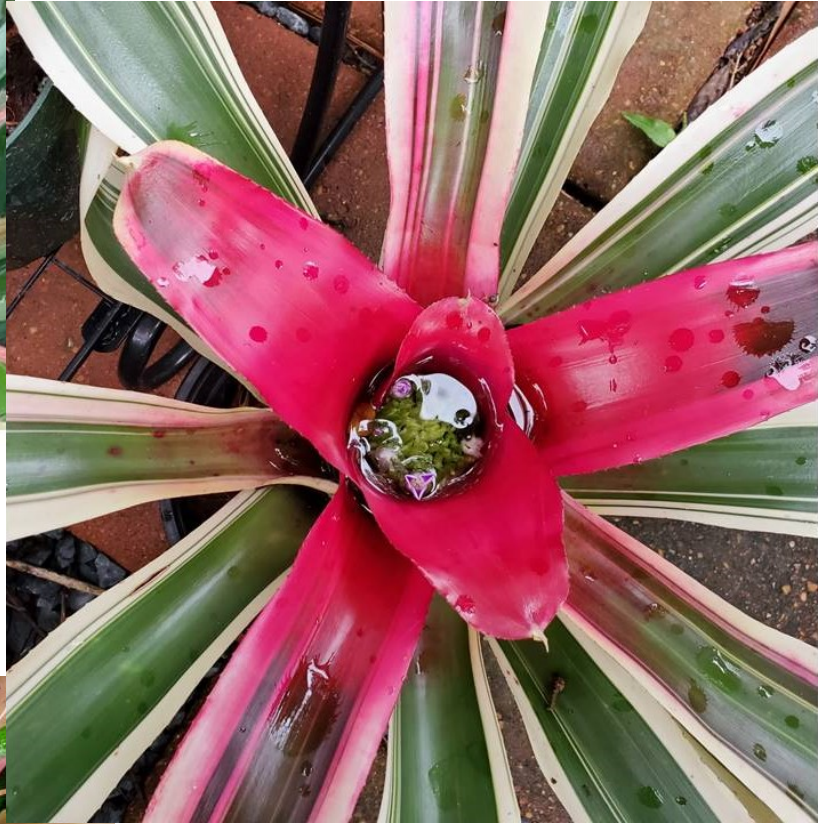
Neoregelia 'Grapevine' — Baker



Vriesia flammea — Lee



***Bromelia serra*- Lee**



***Neoregelia* 'Raphael' — Baker
(Probably 'Skotak's Raphael')**



***Neoregelia* 'Cotton Candy'- Baker
(Probably *Neoregelia* 'Grove's Cotton Candy')**



***Neoregelia* 'Red Throat' — Baker**

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

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



JULY BIRTHDAYS

Rev. Dave Schneider	7/1
Maylon Lemar Adams	7/9
Allyn Pearlman	7/12
Aaron Davila	7/23
Mary Cinotto	7/25
Seth Nicolas	7/26



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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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

Bromeliad Society International

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

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*Bromeliad
Society*

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FIRST CLASS