

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

Vol 55 No 2

Feb. 2022

Hello Everyone,
Here on parallel 29.7 (Houston, Texas), we woke this morning to 29-degree weather. Even though we were braced for the weather change, our noses and toes were frigid when we crept out from under the bedcovers. It was hard to believe that just last week we were on parallel 54.2 (Sligo, Ireland) in a 54-degree mist. The Cordyline Australis (Ireland's local "palm" trees) had not been touched by a frost. Goes to show...you never can tell.



We are both happy to be home despite the cold snap and we are looking forward to some exciting Bromeliad events in the next few months. Hopefully, your plants have survived, and you will be sharing them with the rest of us. You are encouraged to bring plants to the "in-person" meeting for show and tell at Grey Center on February 15th. If you are unable to attend in person, you may send photos to grstowe@comcast.net and they will be included for all to see via "Zoom". Don't forget that the meeting begins at 7PM, so be there a bit earlier to chat with others.

I hope to see some of you at the Garden Federation meeting on February 11. There will be interesting presentations, plants for sale, raffles and much more. They are still looking for volunteers from our Society to help host. It will be held at Trinity Episcopal Church – 1015 Holman St. If you can assist, call Valita Landry at 713 203 5806.

I am pleased to announce that a Garden Tour is scheduled for February 26 from 1Pm to 3PM at the home and Frank and Cherie Lee. They will open their spectacular greenhouse and grounds to all of you. I'm sure they will have tips for growing, since their collection is stunning.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Garden Tour
at Cherie and Frank Lee's
home
Feb. 26, 1 –3 pm**

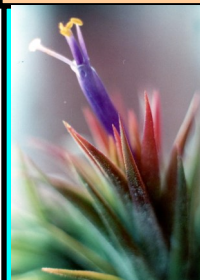
**24672 Pine Ridge
Hockley, TX 77447
See page 5**

**Spring Sale

April 30, 2022
West Gray Multi-service Center
9 am to 4 pm**

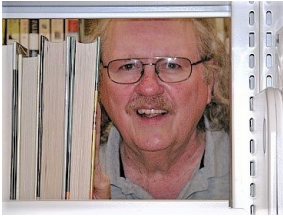
Bromeliad Society/Houston Show and Sale

**May 21 — 22, 2022
Judson Robinson Jr.
Community Center
2020 Hermann Dr.
Houston, TX**



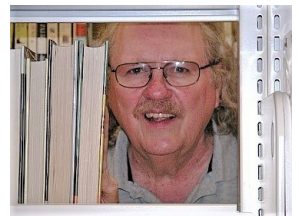
Volunteers Needed For 2022 Show and Sale

**Interested in helping?
More Info to come**



Whipkey's Word

Lepidote



As I write this on Thursday February 2, it looks like winter has finally found us here in the Houston area. The weather forecasters are not predicting this storm to nearly as bad as last year's winter storm Uri, but I still feel like Phil Connors in the movie *Groundhog Day*. Here we go again.

It is overcast, dreary, and the temperature has been dropping all day (38°F at 8 am down to 33°F at 4 pm), and it shows no sign of stopping anytime soon. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights will all bring us temperatures well below freezing. Depending on which source you believe the low tonight will be 27°F, 26°F, or 23°F. No matter what the final value is, it's going to be cold. Not much we can do about the temperature, but we can keep an eye on our heaters and hope that the power continues to flow. One way or another, this too shall end.

Have you been thinking about moving plants from their winter quarters? Don't do it! It is not quite time yet. Here in scenic Rosehill, February 28 is the average date of our last frost. If I want a 90% chance of not having a frost, I have to wait until at least March 25. Check with the extension service to find the frost dates in your area,

It might be too early to move plants out, but there are still tasks that need to be completed. Do any of your plant's summer homes need attention? Do you have beds that need cleaning? Do you have any rotted benches that need rebuilding? Perhaps you have too much shade. If so possibly your trees need trimming. Take a good look at your plants. Do you see any that need repotting? Are there any signs of pests? If you see any problems, try to solve them as soon as possible.

The other day I was looking at some of my *Dyckias*. I noticed that the scurf on some of them was badly damaged. The only thing could think of that would cause this form of damage was careless watering. Some of **lepidotes** will suffer to their scurf if they are repeatedly watered with a strong stream of water. Let's make **lepidote** our word of the month.

Webster's New World College Dictionary, 4th Edition defines **lepidote** as covered with small flakes, scales, or scale like hairs; scurfy.

Sounds to me like many Bromeliads. Take a good look at your plants. Do some of them have a pronounced scurfy appearance? I bet some of the plants in your collection are scurfy. Do you find them attractive? If you do and want more scurfy plants, consider adding some the following **lepidotes** to your collection.



Aechmea fasciata



Cryptanthus 'Frostbite'



Tillandsia funckiana

Following up on the ABC's Mounting Class

We would like to know how everyone's *Tillandsia* mountings are doing since the October ABC's. Send your pictures to the bulletin (lindawhipkey@ymail.com) even if they aren't blooming. Are you fertilizing yet? What about water? What kind of light are they in? Give us the scoop and a picture.

Also, please share what you've done with your ironwood (bois d'arc) if you got one from Vickey Gurka and her sister, Barbara. Do you have bromeliads on it yet? Have you decorated with it? Did someone in your family claim it for their own? Pictures are appreciated for next month's bulletin. Get them to the editor by March 1.

February Program

"Building Healthy Soils Saves Money Now" with John Ferguson of Nature's Way.

This is an introduction to a new model of soil science and fertility management released by the USDA, called the "Soil Food Web". It explains how biological (organic) methods work and how they save you time and money in your gardening projects by preventing many problems. The biological methods are sustainable; greatly reduce water requirements, prevent problems, eliminate air and water pollution, and lower total management costs from property management to erosion control.

For those who want to learn more the following book is highly recommended.

Teaming with Microbes, A Gardener's Guide to the Soil Food Web, 2nd Edition, by Jeff Lowenfels & Wayne Lewis, Timber Press, 2006, ISBN-13:978-0-88192-777-1

This is the most complete book on the market about biological or organic methods in horticulture. It is written in a very easy to understand, non technical format with lots of pictures illustrating the latest research in soil science. It is written for the average gardener and landscaper as an introduction that explains why organic methods work so well and how they help a person save time and money.

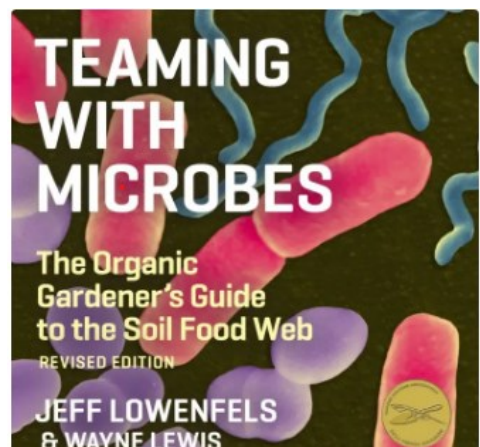
The book is written in two parts. The first part is a easy to understand very basic presentation on the science of soil biology. The second part take the ideas and concepts on the Soil Food Web that were introduced in part one and applies them to solving problems in our yards and gardens. Subjects covered range from taking care of our soil, to compost and mulch choices. Also included is information on compost teas to natural weed control. Each plant group from lawns and turfgrass, to annuals and vegetables, to shrubs perennials and trees are covered.

This book is ***Highly Recommended*** for all gardeners, landscapers or anyone taking care of a lawn or garden or anyone whom makes compost for use in a landscaping project.

Don't forget your 2022 Dues.

\$20 individual \$30 family

Allyn Perlman
6422 Bankside Drive
Houston, TX 77096



Bromeliad Society/Houston, Inc. Minutes - Regular Meeting January 18, 2022

Location: Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, 1475 West Gray, Houston 77019 and on Zoom

Members were able to join the Zoom meeting at 6:30 pm.

Call to order: Vice-President Scherie Townes at 7:10 pm.

Visitors: Patrick Hudnall and Tim Pylate

New Members: Vickie Pinak

Attendance: Via Zoom – 15 logons, 20 members, and 0 visitors
In person – 10 members and 2 visitors

Announcements & Committee Reports:

Shirl Stowe announced that there will be a board meeting on Thursday January 20, 2022 at 7:00 pm.
Linda Whipkey reported that she would send out an email that contained a link to the board meeting.

Program: Scherie Townes introduced our speaker Tim Pylate. Tim is the director of the Armand Bayou Nature Center. His topic was snakes in your garden. He discussed snake identification.

Show & Tell: John Schmidt and the plants owners talked about the plants. The plants were provided by:

Mike O'Neal
John Schmidt
Malcolm McCorquodale III
Chris Nguyen

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by John Schmidt and seconded by Vickey Gurka. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Bromeliad Society Houston February Monthly Meeting

Time: Feb 15, 2022 06:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82742418340?pwd=eDhJVVh2RHBLMHNOenZkQjF1dGZQZz09>

Meeting ID: 827 4241 8340

Passcode: 772864

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,82742418340#,,, *772864# US (Houston)

+12532158782,,82742418340#,,, *772864# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

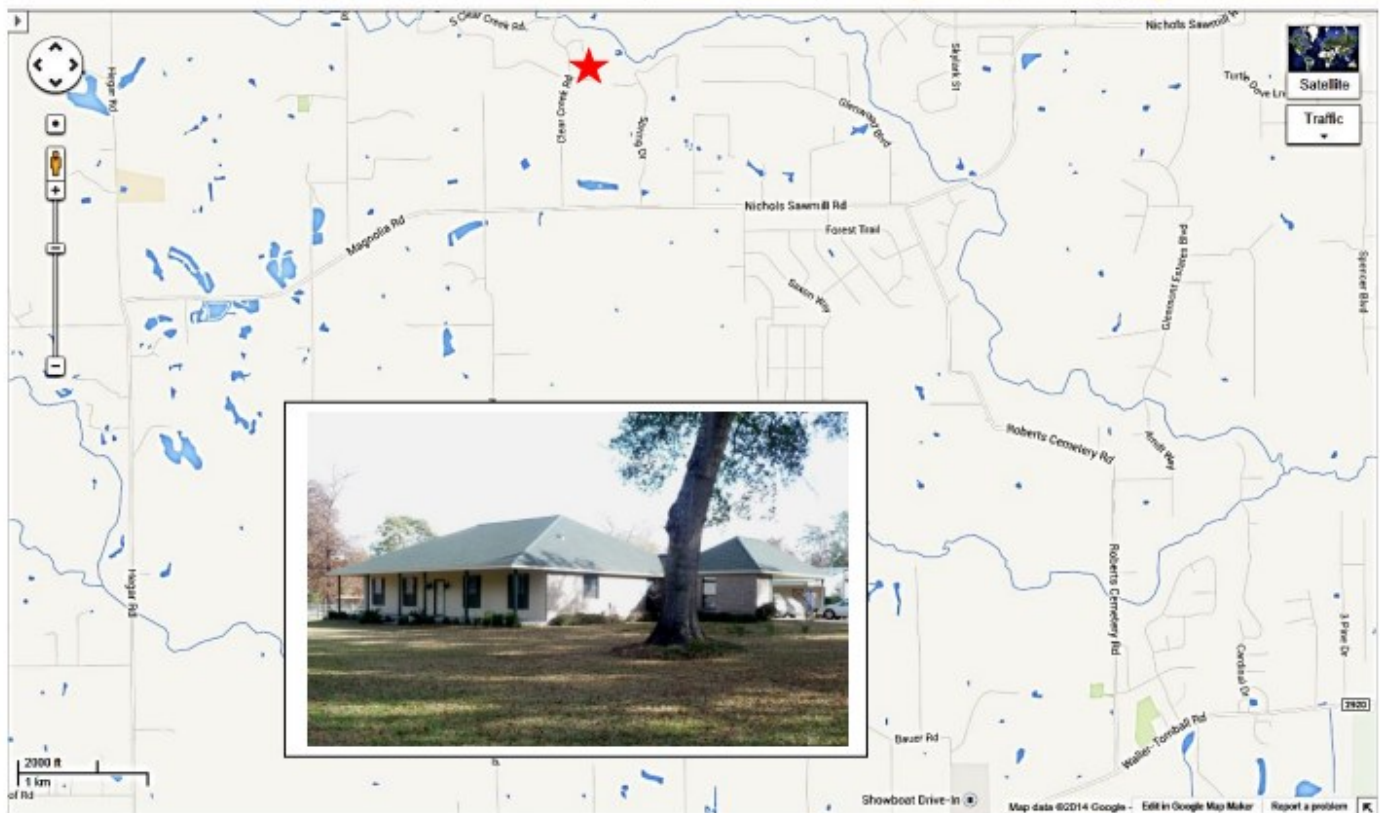
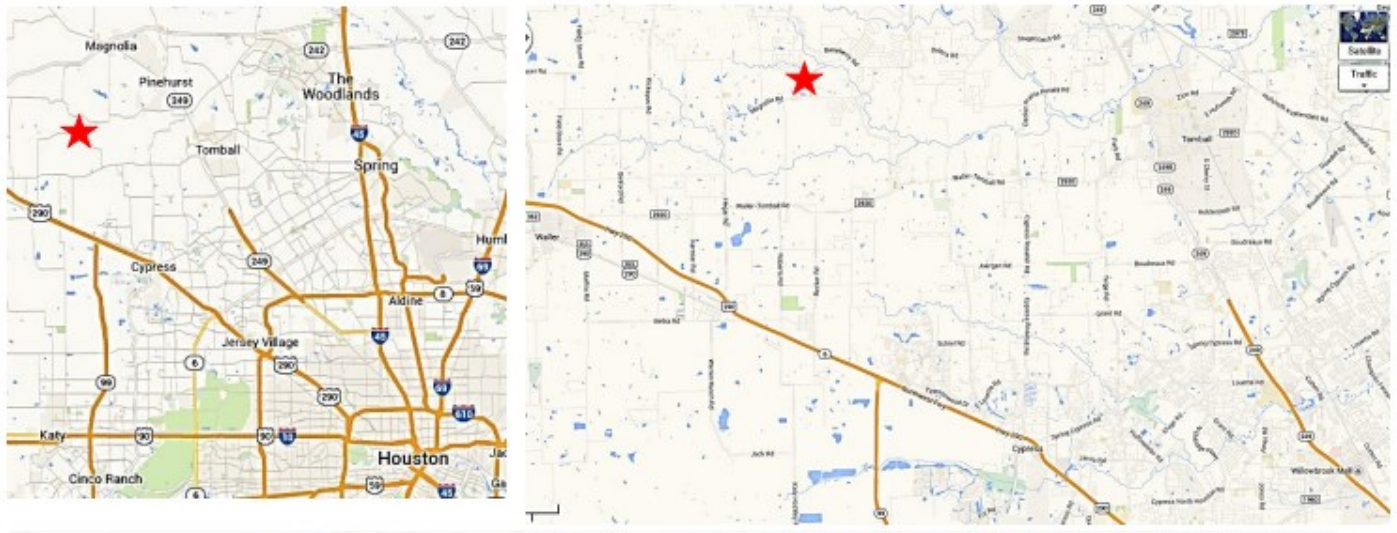
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 827 4241 8340

Passcode: 772864

Frank and Cherie Lee's Home
24672 Pine Ridge Road, Hockley, Texas 77447
832-566-5786 or 832-566-5788



From Tomball (249):

- West on FM 2920 (Waller-Tomball Rd) for 8.2 miles
- Turn right on Roberts Cemetery Rd for 3.3 miles
- Turn left on Nichols Sawmill Rd for 1.7 miles
- Turn right on Clear Creek Rd for 0.6 miles
- House on northeast corner of Clear Creek and Pine Ridge

From 290:

- Take Hegar Rd exit and turn right on Hegar Rd for 5.2 miles
- Turn right on Magnolia Rd for 2.2 miles
- Turn left on Clear Creek Rd for 0.6 miles
- House on northeast corner of Clear Creek and Pine Ridge

What's Blooming - Jan./February 2022



Canistropsis billbergioides 'Cinnamon' - Lee



Tillandsia leonamiana - Whipkey

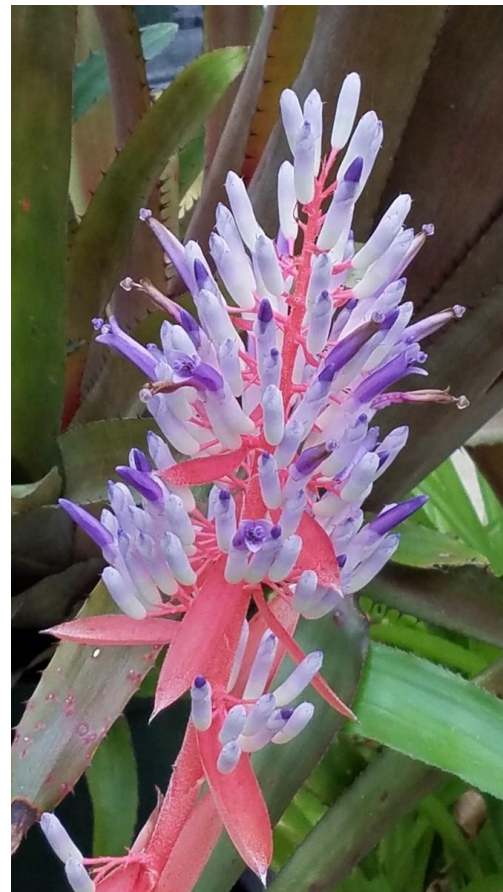


Ursulaea mcvaughii - Lee





***Billbergia amoena rubra* - Lee**



***Portea alatisepala* - Lee**



***Tillandsia ixioides* - O'Neal**



***Tillandsia aeranthos* 'Major' - Whipkey**

February Birthdays

Malcolm Anderson	2/4
Laurie Skov	2/17
Vickey Gurka	2/18
Alicia Baker	2/26



March Birthdays

Sue Softy	3/3
Annette Dominguez	3/18
Odean Head	3/22



BS/H 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: Jimbo3@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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21503 Cypress-Rosehill Road
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 12/31/22	12/31/23	12/31/24
	Madge Donaldson	Alicia Baker	Gordon Stowe
	Michael O'Neal	John Schmidt	Melenie Yuen

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

Southwest Bromeliad Guild	Don Green
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1	Annual Show	David Whipkey
2	Bromeliad Culture	David Whipkey
3	Courtesy	Midge Gorman
4	Directory	Mary Cinotto
5	Email Communications	Linda Whipkey
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

Bromeliad Society International	Annette Dominguez, Cherie Lee, Margo Racca
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HOUSTON INC.

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FIRST CLASS