Bromeliad Society HOUSTON Inc.

VOL 55 / 08
August 2022
bromeliadsocietyhouston.org

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE BROMELIAD SOCIETY / HOUSTON

HOUSTON, WE'VE GOT **SEEDLINGS**

Billbergia rosea
Seedlings provided by
Cherie Lee

Seedlings for August! The Raffle is back! Come join our August meeting for a hands on demo!

Letter from the President

Hello Everyone,

It is hard to believe that August is here already and WHAT A SUMMER it has been! HOT! HOT! HOT!

I hope you have found a way to keep your plants cool while finding a bit of relief for yourselves.

We headed to the Appalachian Mountains for a short escape, where the days were in the seventies and the nights were in the high fifties. Unfortunately, even with strong airflow and careful watering, a few of our bromeliads succumbed to the temperatures in the greenhouses while we were gone.

I have been reading a wonderful book written by Jack Kramer – 'BROMELIADS The Colorful House Plants.' Although written in 1965, it has excellent tips and suggestions for keeping all sorts of Bromeliads healthy and

(Continued on page 3)

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST 16, 7PM
Regular meeting
Metropolitan Multi-Service Center
1475 West Gray, Houston 77019

SEPTEMBER 20, 7PM
Regular meeting
Metropolitan Multi-Service Center
1475 West Gray, Houston 77019

OCTOBER 18, 7PM
Regular meeting
Metropolitan Multi-Service Center
1475 West Gray, Houston 77019

Interested in Joining BS/H?

There are two classes of membership:

Individual	$20 per year
Family	$30 per year

All memberships begin with January of the current year.

Visit our website at www.bromeliadsocietyhouston.org for more information.

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Upcoming August program

The August meeting will be an interactive in-person workshop! Come join us and plant seeds together!

Meeting Date:

Tuesday, August 16th, 2022 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

(ZOOM login/social time at 6:30 p.m.)

Meeting Place:

In person at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center at 1475 West Gray St., Houston, TX 77019 and on ZOOM.

Program Presenter: Scherie Townes

Program: Learn about how to plant bromeliad seeds. We will have about 20 different species to choose from. **Join us in-person** and plant a future bromeliad to add to your growing collection! Seeds will be available for in-person attendees only.

Meeting Agenda:

Social time/login

President's Welcome

Announcements

Committee reports

Program

"Show and Tell" with John Schmidt and Gordon Stowe

Adjournment

Deadline for the September bulletin: September 3, 2022

Member meeting

Third Tuesday,
August 16th at 7:00pm.
Hands on activity.
In-person recommended.
Masking preferred.
Zoom will be available.

Raffle resumes!

Get excited! The Raffle resumes this August!

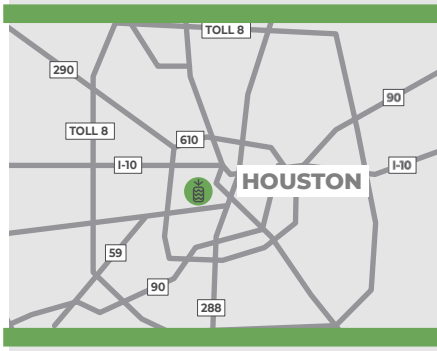
Refreshments

Refreshments duties reserved for members with **last names A-M** please, thank you!

Show & Tell

Send photos of your plants to Gordon Stowe or bring your plant to the meeting! Let's take a look at them and discuss!

Metropolitan Multi-Service Center
1475 West Gray St., Houston, TX 77019



July Program recap | Shangri La Gardens

Shangri La | Botanical Gardens® & Nature Center

What a wonderful presentation by the director of Horticulture at Shangri La Botanical Gardens & Nature center, Jennifer Buckner. We learned about the history of the garden and about some of their future renovations to the Epiphyte garden. The Gardens are free to visitors but they do accept donations.

Definitely worth a visit!

President's message continued ...from page 1

beautiful inside the house. Next time I will bring a few of the least heat resistant plants inside before we leave in mid summer.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the August meeting (in person or via zoom). Be sure to let John Schmidt or Gordon Stowe know what is blooming in your garden. I hope to see a lovely array for "Show and Tell."

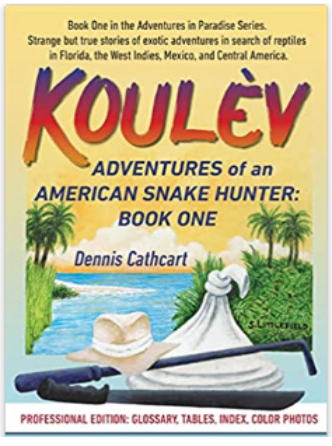
Shirl Stowe

Looking for members to do a garden tour

If you're interested in hosting a garden tour of your home in the next year or so, please contact Gordon or Shirl Stowe!

For the future September program

Dennis Cathcart will present a program at the monthly meeting of the Houston Bromeliad Society on Tuesday September 20. The meeting is held in person at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center at 1475 West Gray St, Houston, TX 77019 from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm.



In September we will have Dennis Cathcart as our speaker, yea. He had a new book out and I have previewed it and it is full of his adventures that he has had through the years while hunting snakes and Bromeliad through the years.

He is flying from Florida and would like to bring just enough books for those that want to buy a copy.

Please let me know by email if you want one by August 31. I will pass the information to Dennis.

Adventures of an American Snake Hunter

Black and white paperback. $17.99
Paperback colored pictures. $34.99
Hard cover colored pictures $47.99

Do not forget to let me know which one you want by August 31st.

Scherie, Scherietownes@hotmail.com

The Perfect Environment

BY SCHERIE TOWNES

We live in growing zone 8 and it ***should be the perfect place to grow Bromeliads***. Well, we almost made it. Our winters are usually very mild with only a very few freeze days. I solved that problem by installing a very heavy duty, dedicated electrical breaker plug in my greenhouse to accommodate several electric heaters. Winter is a breeze, if we have electricity!

And then there is summer. Most days are tolerable but we have more wicked summer days than we have cold as heck winter days. To keep my greenhouse cool enough for my baby bromeliads I installed shade cloth in the roof of my greenhouse. My wireless thermometer in my air conditioned house lets me know when the greenhouse is hovering in the triple digits. I rush out and wet down the shade cloth and the fans that I installed use the wet shade cloth to lower the temperature much as a swamp cooler works. If I only have to do that several times a day for a few days, no problem. Then came 2022 with summer days of triple digits for days and days and days. **There has to be a solution**.

I decided to install a **misting system** in my greenhouse to complement my fans. When I checked the prices and then my wallet I decided that drastic measures must be accomplished. I decided to install the cheapest system that I could find.

If you will examine the pictures I have included it is not the prettiest thing that you have seen. It only took four zip ties to attach the ring to my fan. I ran the small water line from my fan to my water faucet. My water faucet has water splitters on it so that I can run the mister and the water hose from the same faucet.

I also put my fan on a timer so that I save electricity at night by having the fan run only during the heat of the day and turn off automatically. I am still looking for a water timer that turns the water on and runs for more than 300 minutes, which is the limit of the present water timers. Any hints? Presently I have to go out and turn the water on and off with a simple valve, located on the mister hose, see picture.

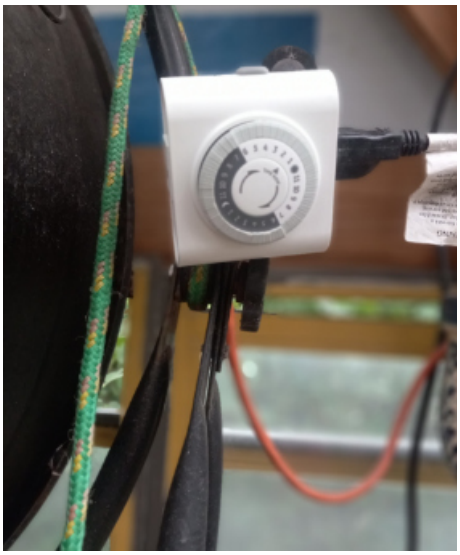
Where to find the supplies? On Amazon, of course.

GE 24-hour Indoor Plug in Mechanical 2 pack Grounded Timer $18.19. I needed two because I installed an additional fan.

Upgraded Dr Prepare Outdoor Misting Fan Kit for patio, backyard 16 ft mist hose $16.00 zip ties from my garage that I use to repair everything around the house that does not require duct tape.

I am considering another system for the plants on my patio. **Hummm**.

The system works for me and is economical. And my plants are **smiling**!



48th annual BSH Show photos, pt. 3

"A DECADE OF BROMELIADS" LIST OF WINNERS | MAY 20-22, 2022

***Top left**: Neoregelia 'Groves Red Tiger' from Margo Racca*
***Top right:** Dyckia 'Pallaphat' from Chris Nguyen*
***Bottom left**:Tillandsia novakii from David Whipkey*
***Bottom right**: Billbergia 'Casa Blanca' from Mike O'Neal*

Most Eye Catching Neoregelia

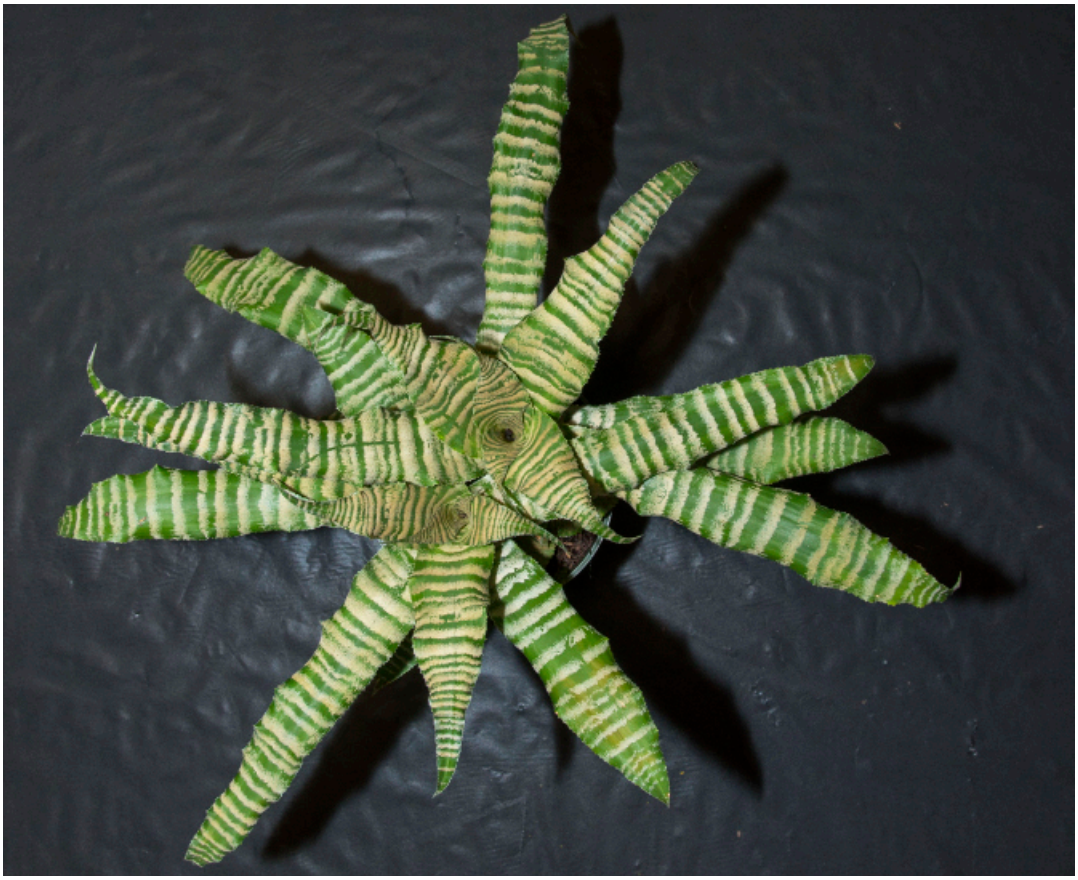
Member's Choice

Best of Judge's section

Best Novice Entry

***Top**: Forzzaea leopoldo-horstii from Rick Richtmyer*
***Bottom**: Cryptanthus 'Judy B' from Rick Richtmyer*

The Bob Whitman Best Cryptanthus Species



The Warren Loose Best Cryptanthus Hybrid

Gary E. Gallick Best Terrestrial

Award Of Merit

***Top**: Hechtia lanata x H. Myriantha from Cherie Lee*
***Bottom::** Tillandsia capillaris from Rick Richtmeyer*

Award Of Merit

Award Of Merit

Award Of Merit

Award Of Merit

***Top left**: Tillandsia triangularis from Rick Richtmyer*
***Top right:** Billbergia 'Cold Fusion' from Frank Lee*
***Bottom left**: Orthophytym conquistence from John Schmidt*
***Bottom right**: Sincoraea ulei from Rick Richmyer*

Award Of Merit

Award Of Merit

Award Of Merit

Award Of Merit

Top left: *Araeococcus flagellifolius from Frank Lee*
Top right: *Orthophytum glabrum from Cherie Lee*
Bottom left: *Orthophytum* 'Moon Dust' *X harleyi from Rick Richtmeyer*
Bottom Right: *Vriesea platynema X V. saundersii from Frank Lee*

Award Of Merit

Award Of Merit

Award Of Merit

***Top Left**: Billbergia '*Last Hurrah*' from Linda Whipkey*
***Bottom Left**: Aechmea '*Aztec Gold*' from Frank Lee*
***Right:** Tillandsia '*Elisa*' from Margo Racca*

All photos from page 5-10 of 48th BSH Show Division Winners taken by Malcolm McCorquodale and are © 2022 by Malcolm McCorquodale, Houston Texas.

The Bromeliad Society/Houston, Inc. has permission to use these photos on its web sites and in its publication(s) provided credit is given to the photographer and the copyright statement is not removed.

Congratulations

48th BSH show winners!

See you again next year!

Submit your photo!

Want to share some of your spectacular broms? Send along high-resolution photos along to bsh.editor@gmail.com before the end of the month for them to be featured in the newsletter.

When sending along your rock-star image, be sure to name your image file for easy identification like the example below:

Plantname_OwnerName.jpg

What's Blooming?

PHOTOS COLLECTED FROM BSH MEMBERS, JULY-AUGUST 2022

Tillandsia No ID, but its really pretty, need help with identifying - M. Yuen

Sincorea ulei - Cherie Lee

What's Blooming?

CONTINUED

Tillandsia 'Marvelous Masterpiece' - *Alicia Baker*

Tillandsia 'Marvelous Masterpiece'
Bloom, close up - Alicia Baker

Aechmea 'Maginali' - *G. Stowe*

Random musings…

Book for sale!

Used - like new

$35

Contact **Shirl Stowe,** birddogL19@outlook.com for details if interested!

Name that Bromeliad!

We're still lookin' for these two to get ID'ed if anyone out there can tell what they are! See the June 2022 bulletin for more detailed photos.

If you are able to help us identify the photos, please send along your expertise to bsh.editor@gmail.com

From Alicia Baker: "This is a Vriesea, don't know which one. Was in a basket a friend gave me. But it is very pretty."

From Alicia Baker: "This is an Aechema that I bought a long time ago from.Mercer. soft leaf like a fasicita but have no idea what it is. Maybe some else does. I have to look it up.once it is full bloom."

Looking for contributors

Interested in writing for the BSH Bulletin? We are looking for passionate plant lovers who are interested in sharing their wisdom.

Please also send over any communications you would love to share - announcements, classifieds, etc.

Follow us at

@bromeliadsocietyhouston

Please follow our adventures and keep up with news on our **new Instagram** page!

If you'd like to contribute photos for the IG, we'll do weekly member "whats blooming" posts! Just send photos to bsh.editor@gmail.com

Editor's notes

Hello there!

It's currently my third bulletin to push out and it's really helped me deep dive into the world of bromeliads more, and helping me see which ones I really like caring for. I think if I could narrow it down (its hard, I love them all!) Tillandsias are my current obsession.. But I've been itching to add more Cryptanthus to our tiny collection but not sure where to start! There does not seem to be a lot of vendors that carry them specifically!

Bromeliad Society HOUSTON Inc.

Calendar of events

SAVE THE DATES

Aug 16	Regular meeting Seed Planting demo
Sep 20	Regular meeting Speaker: Dennis Cathcart
Oct 18	Regular meeting (To be announced...)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
August 1	**2**	**3**	**4** 7:30pm Houston Orchid Society General meeting First Christian Church 1601 Sunset Boulevard, Houston, TX	**5** *Happy Birthday Joe Sandel*	**6**	**7**
8 *Green Thumb Gardening Series of Lectures* *Herbs 101*	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12** *Happy Birthday Vicki Pinak*	**13** *Happy Birthday Scherie Townes*	**14**
15	**16** 7:00pm BSH General meeting Metropolitan Multi-service center 1475 West Gray St. Houston, TX 77019 Hybrid in-person & online Zoom	**17** *Happy Birthday Gordon Rowell*	**18**	**19**	**20** *Happy Birthday Kimberly Merchant*	**21**
22	**23**	**24** *Happy Birthday Joanne Woolsey*	**25**	**26**	**27**	**28**
29	**30**	**31** *Happy Birthday Charlien Rose*	September 1 7:30pm Houston Orchid Society General meeting First Christian Church 1601 Sunset Boulevard, Houston, TX	2	3 *Happy Birthday Tommy Emmanuel*	4
5 *Happy Birthday John Schmidt*	6	7	8 *Happy Birthday Martin Clint*	9	10	11 *Happy Birthday Kathy Stahl*
12 *Happy Birthday Noreen Tolman & Phil Speer* *Green Thumb Gardening Series of Lectures: Plant propagation*	13 *Happy Birthday Don Green*	14	15 *Happy Birthday Debbie Gerstner-Wolf*	16 *Happy Birthday Jimmy Woolsey*	17	18
19	20 7:00pm BSH General meeting Metropolitan Multi-service center 1475 West Gray St. Houston, TX 77019 Hybrid in-person & online Zoom	21	22	23	24 *Happy Birthday Mary McBryde*	25 *Happy Birthday Patricia Buenaventura & Sheila Skov*

2022 Officers and Chairmen

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Shirl Stowe
birddogL19@outlook.com

Vice President
Scherie Townes

Secretary
David Whipkey

Treasurer
Allyn Pearlman

Past President
Cherie Lee

Board of Directors

Through 2022
Madge Donaldson
Michael O'Neal

Through 2023
Alicia Baker
John Schmidt

Through 2024
Gordon Stowe
Melenie Yuen

Standing Committees

Publicity
Allyn Pearlman

Bulletin Editor
Melenie Yuen
bsh.editor@gmail.com

Plant Sales Chairman
Allyn Pearlman

Programs Chairman
Scherie Townes

Standing Committees Ex-Officio
Shirl Stowe
Cherie Lee

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Annual Show
David Whipkey

Bromeliad Culture
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Midge Gorman

Directory
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Garden Tours
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Members & Visitors Register
Noreen Tolman

Membership
Allyn Pearlman

Seedlings
Allyn Pearlman

Show & Tell
John Schmidt

Raffle Plants
Frank & Cherie Lee

Virtual Communications
Mike O'Neal

Webmaster
Joy Reynolds

Bromeliad Society International

Annette Dominguez **Cherie Lee** **Margo Racca**

Southwest Bromeliad Guild

Don Green **Shirl Stowe**

BS/H membership

There are two classes of membership:

Individual	$20 per year
Family	$30 per year

All memberships begin with January of the current year. Visit our website at www.bromeliadsocietyhouston.org for more information.

Please send your check to:

Allyn Pearlman
6422 Bankside Drive
Houston, TX 77096

Cryptanthus Society membership

There are two classes of membership:

Individual	$20 per year
Family	$25 per year

Please send your check to:

Carole Richtmeyer
18814 Cypress Mountain Dr.
Spring, TX 77388

Jimbo's Nursery
& LANDSCAPING

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

15019 8th Street West, Santa Fe, TX 77517 ▪ 409-925-6933

www.jimbosnursery.com

Houston Orchid Society
www.houstonorchidsociety.org
Regular meeting first Thursday of month at 7:30 PM
First Christian Church | 1601 Sunset Blvd

Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society
www.tgcfernsoc.org
Regular meeting third Sunday of month at 2:00 PM
Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center
2020 Hermann Drive., Houston, TX 77004

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER…

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 bsh.editor@gmail.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: bsh.editor@gmail.com

BROMELIAD SOCIETY/ HOUSTON INC.

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.

Affiliated with the Bromeliad Society International

Member of Southwest Bromeliad Guild

Affiliated with the Cryptanthus Society International

ON THE COVER...(and back cover!)

My oh my…isn't it always fun to come home with a wonderful surprise? August will be full of fun surprises. Always be on the lookout for surprise plants that will suddenly grace your growing collection. Fun things in the works for the next year it seems…keep your eyes peeled! You'll never know what you'll find!

If you'd like to join in and contribute any photos, a written column, or ideas for improvement, please send along your thoughts and feedback to bsh.editor@gmail.com

Special thank you to Scherie Townes for your editorial contributions.

A serendipitous find on a random sidewalk during a bike ride from Gordon Stowe