



Hedgehog container by artist Theresa Sandberg



SEPTEMBER Autumn Starting

Cryptanthus 'Sahara'

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REMINDERS

REGULAR MEETING

September 17 at 6:30 PM
N to Z refreshment hosts
MEMBER PLANT SALE
NO RAFFLE

SPEAKER:

[Scott Sandel](#)

Metropolitan Multi-Service Center
1475 West Gray
Houston 77019

Or [By Zoom](#)

OCTOBER MEETING

Speaker: Dennis Cathcart
Dennis selling plants

NOVEMBER MEETING

Seedling

DECEMBER PARTY

BHS HOLIDAY PARTY
SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 7 . 6:00 P.M.
9527 WESTHEIMER ROAD
\$40 PER PERSON

RSVP TO ALLYN PEARLMAN
(deliobys@comcast.net)

FROM THE PREZ



I would like to thank all of the members of our society for their support of our members that sustained damage at their home and greenhouses due to Hurricane Beryl. It is so inspiring that our membership helps others through the hard times. Thank you from me to those of you that helped me through the hard times.

Also, a reminder that we will not have a plant raffle at the meeting this month as we will be having a member's plant sale at the meeting. Bring all of your extra pups that you will not have room for in your greenhouse this winter. Remember to label them with two labels. One to leave with the plant and one for Allyn to use for record keeping for paying the members. Be sure that you bring healthy and clean plants either potted or bare rooted. Twenty percent of the sale of the plants will go to the society and you will receive the remaining 80 percent. Join us for our sale and add to your collection.

I am happy to note that the temperatures are dropping into the upper 80s during the day and into the 70s at night now. We are beginning to see a bit of rain again and my plants are smiling once again as we go into our beautiful fall days.

It is also time for me to till the veggie garden beds to plant a food producing garden once more. The hot summer days eat up the spring garden and not much will produce food but okra and eggplants until fall.

It has been fun to get back out into the yard and work a long time cleaning up, repairing the greenhouse damages. It is not fun to just go out and water and water and run back inside to cool off as we do in August. Now we can actually garden once more

We are going to have a report from the nominating committee and they give us the slate of officers and board members that we will vote on in October.

Our program for October will be presented by our friend, Dennis Cathcart, from Tropiflora. He will be bringing plants to sell and some of his books. If you have not read them, they are wonderful!

September Speaker and Program

Scott Sandel

Northern Ecuador Field Notes



Northern Ecuador Field Notes – Cloud Forest & Lowland Habitats

September 17 Presentation by Scott Sandel

In January of this year, Scott and husband Jim spent two weeks in Ecuador. This is their second trip to Ecuador. This trip was broken into two areas – one in lowland rain forest on the Napo River, and the other part of the trip was spent in mid to lower cloud forest a couple of hours north of Quito. Of course there were surprise plant sightings! Scott will give a travelogue slide show of what was in bloom. There were a few plants, such as *Guzmania sanguinea*, that are well-known species and fun to see in habitat. Some other



The Sky Bridge in rainforest canopy in the Sucumbíos Province, one of the six provinces in the Amazon Region of Ecuador.

September Speaker and Program Scott Sandel Northern Ecuador Field Notes

Brief Bio: Scott's first meetings of any bromeliad society were in Herman Park where BSH used to meet. He and dad Joe starting attending meetings in the mid-70's when Scott was around 11 or 12, and when John Anderson and Don Beadle would come from Corpus to give fantastic slide show presentations.

Scott grew up in Dickinson and in the summer before his high school senior year, he experienced Tropical Storm Claudette in 1979, which holds the rainfall record for a 24-hour period with 42 inches falling in Alvin and 39" in Dickinson. (And we thought Harvey was the worst!)

Scott got his landscape architecture degree from Texas A&M and moved to San Diego in 1985. Scott had a landscape architecture practice in San Diego before taking his current position at the City Planning Department in San Diego as a Parks Planner.

Scott and Jim have traveled through many states of Mexico, all of the Central American countries, and most of the countries in South America.

Scott's dad Joe just turned 102 this August and still maintains his BSH membership!

Scott grows most of the popular bromeliad genera, with a special interest in Alcantarea, mesic Tillandsias, and especially the foliage Vrieseas.

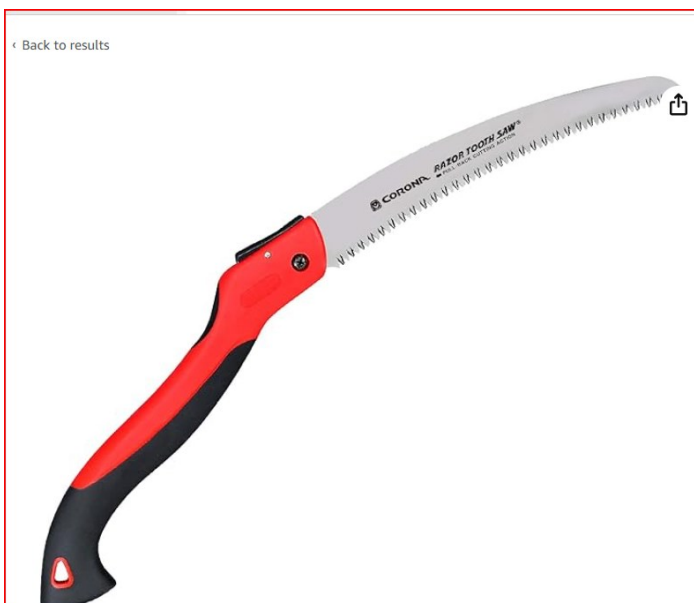
SEPTEMBER TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES

Two very handy tools are the **muck bucket** and the **folding hand saw** ..I have used the muck bucket for soil, soil transportation, soil mixing and soaking *Dyckias* to loosen the roots so they can be sawed through. So, in that case, I use both the muck bucket and the saw. Also, the saw is great for dividing other bromeliads as well. Cuts through nicely. Main thing, keep the saw clean after use so it won't deteriorate and will not spread any unpleasant things it might encounter

Here are the descriptions from Amazon. You can buy these products at almost any hardware store so you don't need to get the ones described from Amazon.

10-Inch RazorTOOTH Folding Saw | Pruning Saw Designed for Single-Hand Use | Curved Blade Hand Saw | Cuts Branches Up to 6" in Diameter |

Durable & Versatile Utility Bucket with Handles | Muck Bucket | Durable Handles | 70 Quart | Purple



ZOOM INFORMATION FOR REGULAR MEETING

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

Topic: Bromeliad Society Houston September Monthly Meeting

Time: Sep 17, 2024 06:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82842959454?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82842959454?pwd=jz6EObwMt7moa14pwE3UHNx8fAjJKa.1)

pwd=jz6EObwMt7moa14pwE3UHNx8fAjJKa.1

Meeting ID: 828 4295 9454

Passcode: 039775

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,82842959454#,,,,*039775# US (Houston)

+12532158782,,82842959454#,,,,*039775# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

- **+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)**
- **+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)**
- **+1 669 444 9171 US**
- **+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)**
- **+1 719 359 4580 US**
- **+1 253 205 0468 US**
- **+1 689 278 1000 US**
- **+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)**
- **+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)**
- **+1 305 224 1968 US**
- **+1 309 205 3325 US**
- **+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)**
- **+1 360 209 5623 US**
- **+1 386 347 5053 US**
- **+1 507 473 4847 US**
- **+1 564 217 2000 US**
- **+1 646 931 3860 US**

Meeting ID: 828 4295 9454

Passcode: 039775

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcau9nroS6>

CULTURAL TIPS SEPTEMBER 2024

REPOTTING for WINTER

It's coming to a time when we can be working with our plants again without broiling. Many of us have to repot now to be ready for winter.

How to repot a bromeliad

To repot a bromeliad, you want to have a few things on hand before you start: protective gloves, fresh potting soil, a new container, wooden stakes (I've used plastic utensils too), and sterilized shears, bread knives or hand saws in case there are any damaged roots or leaves that need to be removed. Shears, bread knives or hand saws also come in handy if you're planning to remove any pups for division or if you are simply separating several plants that have grown together.

When you've got everything ready, follow these steps to repot your bromeliad:

Gently remove the bromeliad from its current container. Clean off as much excess soil as possible from the roots, taking care not to damage them.

Remove dead or damaged leaves, as well as any pups, if able. To separate them, take your sterilized pair of shears or scissors or your hand saw and cut them from the base of the parent plant. Each pup should be potted into its own container where it will start to grow new roots. If there are no pups, move on to step three. Also, NOTE: DO NOT remove pups if they are **not** about 1/3 to 1/2 of the parent as they still rely on the mother plant.

Fill the new pot to just below the surface with your bromeliad mix. Ensure you don't increase pot size drastically. Unlike some plants, bromeliads don't have big root systems. They prefer to be kept in smaller pots, which is where they're more likely to thrive. A young bromeliad will do well in a four-inch pot and shouldn't be repotted until it starts to outgrow the container.

Place the bromeliad in the center of the container and fill with more soil to the base of the leaves. This process ensures that your plant is deep enough in the soil, but not so deep that it will drown when you water it.

If your bromeliad can't stay upright on its own yet, put stakes such as chop sticks or even plastic utensils in the pot. This measure will help the plant stand tall while establishing its roots until it's big enough to thrive on its own.

SEPTEMBER Fall Color Cryptanthus



Cryptanthus 'Kakadu'



Cryptanthus 'Powder Puff'

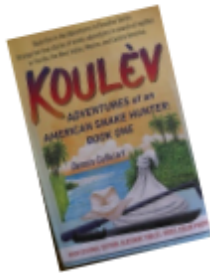


Cryptanthus zonatus



Cryptanthus 'Watermelon Blues'

BOOK REVIEW



Koulèv By Dennis Cathcart

A Book Review
by Chris Bruce



Adventures of an American Snakehunter Book One is the subtitle for this new book in our library collection. Prior to this book, Dennis Cathcart was only known to Bromeliad aficionados as the founding owner of the famous Tropiflora Plant Nursery in Sarasota, Florida. But in this book, the author recounts his endless adventures that added to an expansive knowledge of snakes and snake behavior.

From an early age, he sensed adventure growing up in woody, rural Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. The home of his youth backed up to 25 acres which he frequently explored. That is where his fascination with snakes began. By the age of six, he convinced his dad to build a cage for his first Red Ratsnake. His knowledge of snakes seemed to grow faster than school earned knowledge. By fourth grade he was allowed to keep a snake cage outside his classroom. Frequent absences were eventually accepted by his teachers since they recognized that he was learning while in the outdoors. Growing up in the 1960's, the world was a simpler place than today. The safe world around him allowed him to explore and discover the ocean, the forest and native fauna. Eventually he found other boys who shared his interests. Their friendship provided a sound base for an outdoor life.

By the age of fifteen, he was collecting snakes and riding with them on his bike to Wild Cargo, an animal store twelve miles from his home. There he was able to trade his snake finds for others he wanted to collect. His membership in the South Florida Herpetological Society introduced him to new relationships with scientists, professors and businessmen. Many of these people became lifelong friends and co-adventurers and advisors.

The school librarian was always on the lookout to find books that would inspire him. His friends were a wholesome group with no smoking, drug taking or alcohol use. They stayed out of trouble and enjoyed an idyllic youth hunting, bagging, trading and selling snakes. At first, snake collecting took him on trips throughout Florida to obtain specimens. Soon he was in business and shipping snakes far away to Japan. By 1965 he began taking trips to Bimini, Mexico, Haiti, the Bahamas, and Costa Rica. He never seemed to refuse an opportunity to join the next adventure. He was saved from disaster and death many times, including being left on an uninhabited island with no food or water. His basic intelligence and life experiences gave him the common sense to solve ongoing challenges.

The author only mentions Bromeliads and orchids in passing descriptions of snake habitats. By the end of the book, the reader does not understand how he changes his focus and becomes a plant expert. This memory-filled recollection of a life from childhood to young adulthood describes a very unique individual.

Koulèv, the Haitian word for snake, provides a fast-paced, exciting read. It is perfect for a late summer's day. And the reader is left with a thirst for Book Two.

Article Reprinted from the Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society, Pup Talk, September 2022

BULLETIN BOARD SEPTEMBER 2024

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Tommy Emanuel	9/3
John Schmidt	9/5
Andrea Varesic	9/10
Kathy Stahl	9/11
Phil Speer	9/12
Noreen Tolman	9/12
Don Green	9/13
Chris Krumrey	9/14
Debbie Gerstner-Wolf	9/15
Erin Arthur	9/16
Debbie O'Neal	9/16
Jimmy Woolsey	9/16
David Whipkey	9/21
Mary McBryde	9/24
Patricia Buenaventura	9/25
Sheila Skov	9/25



N to Z Bring Refreshments

AUGUST 2024 RAFFLE

DONORS	WINNERS
Ruby Adams	Ruby Adams
Don Green	Don Green
Cherie and Frank Lee	Vickie Gurka
David Whipkey	Elyane Kouzounis
	Eddie Novak III
	Blanca O'Neal
	David Whipkey

NOTICE:

If you would like to purchase one or both of Dennis' books, please let Mike O'Neal know. He will ask Dennis to bring books for you. Mike's email and phone number are included in the directory.



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.tgcfersoc.org

Regular meeting third Sunday of month at 2:00 PM

Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center

2020 Hermann Drive., Houston, TX 77004



Houston Cactus and Succulent Society

www.hcsstex.org

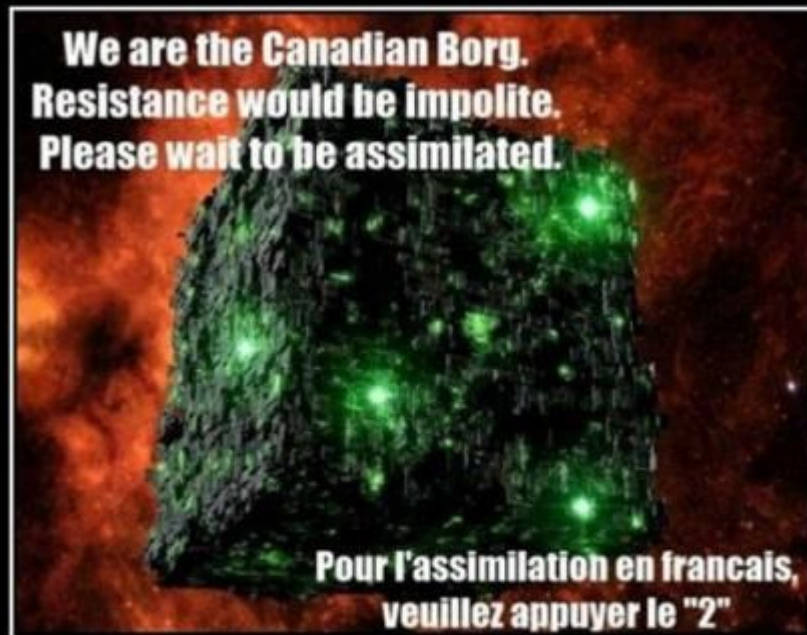
Regular meeting fourth Wednesday of month at 7:00 PM

Metropolitan Multi-Service Center

1475 West Gray, Houston, TX 77019

BULLETIN BOARD

Humor
SEPTEMBER 2024



CANADIAN BORG

Eh?

**Trainer: What is your
fitness goal?**

**Me: Clipping my toenails
and breathing at the same
time.**

GLOSSARY

Aegeotropic	Aegeotropic means growing in all directions ie not affected by gravity. <i>Tillandsia bulbosa</i> is an example of an ageotropic plant
Bigeneric	A plant that is the result of crossing two different genera. It will have an 'x' in front of its name, eg: x <i>Anamea Scorpio</i> . The bigeneric name will be a cross between the genera involved in the parentage, as in the above case: <i>Ananas</i> and <i>Achemea</i> = x <i>Anamea</i> .
Bract	This is a specialized leaf found below a flower or on the stalk of a flower cluster and sometimes brightly coloured
Caulescent	Stem-like growth
Compact inflorescence	Branched inflorescence.
Digitate inflorescence	'Finger-like' with 'branches' coming from one point. <i>Tillandsia disticha</i> has a digitate flower spike
Discolor	Having two different colours. In a bromeliad leaf it usually means a green leaf with red underside
Epiphyte	An epiphyte is plant that grows attached to another plant/tree but it is not a parasite
Flavo	Yellow margin on the leaves
Fenestration	The white spaces between the coloured markings on foliage <i>Vriesea</i> that let the light into the leaf, like little windows
Grex	A group of plants with the same parents
Hemiepiphyte	This is a plant that spends part of it's life cycle as an epiphyte
Inflorescence	Includes the flower stem and the flower head with usually small, sometimes insignificant flowers
Imbricate	Overlapping sections eg, on the inflorescence of <i>Tillandsia concolor</i>
Lanceolate	Large at the base then tapering to a point
Lithophyte	A plant that grows on and/or between rocks and crevices
Mesic	A growing habitat containing a moderate amount of moisture
Myrmecophyte	Ants inhabit the base of bulbous <i>Tillandsia</i> varieties. An example <i>T. bulbosa</i>
Novar	A variegated or albomarginated plant that has lost it's variegation
Pedicel	Flower stalk
Rupicolous	Living or growing on or among rocks
Semi sessile	Flowers on a short stem
Simple	A single un-branched inflorescence
Stolon	Long woody runner or stem from a mother plant that a new pup develops on
Stoloniferous	Pups/plants form at the end of a stolon
Saxicole	A plant that grows on and/or between rocks and crevices
Xeric	A growing habitat containing little moisture or very dry

RESOURCES

BROMELIAD SOCIETY HOUSTON WEB PAGE

[Bromeliad Society /Houston – Sharing the love of Bromeliads in the Space City... \(bromeliadsocietyhouston.org\)](http://bromeliadsocietyhouston.org)

BROMELIAD SOCIETY HOUSTON FACEBOOK

[\(20+\) Bromeliad Society Houston | Facebook](#)

BROMELIAD SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

[BSI | The Bromeliad Society International](#)

FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES

[https://fcbs.org/ index.php](https://fcbs.org/index.php)

BROMELIADS IN AUSTRALIA

[Bromeliads in Australia](#)

NEW ZEALAND BROMELIAD SOCIETY

[Welcome to the BSNZ Website](#)

BROMELIAD THAILAND

[\(20+\) Bromeliads Thailand | Facebook](#)

BROMELIADS SOUTHERN AFRICA

[\(20+\) Facebook](#)

CRYPTANTHUS SOCIETY

CryptanthusSociety.net

WIKIPEDIA

[Bromeliaceae - Wikipedia](#)

Please feel free to let the editor know of other sites you've found.

2024 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT Scherie Townes	SECRETARY David Whipkey	
VICE PRESIDENT Michael O'Neal	TREASURER Allyn Pearlman	PAST PRESIDENT Shirl Stowe

BOARD OF DIRECTORS -----		
Through 2024 Gordon Stowe Melenie Yuen	Through 2025 Frank Lee Linda Whipkey	Through 2026 Don Green Mary Cinotto

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PUBLICATION Allyn Pearlman	PROGRAM CHAIRMAN Michael O'Neal
EDITOR Mary Cinotto	STANDING COMMITTEES EX-OFFICIO Shirl Stowe Cherie Lee
PLANT SALES CHAIRMAN Allyn Pearlman	

COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

ANNUAL SHOW David Whipkey	HOSPITALITY Debbie Taylor
BROMELIAD CULTURE Carole and Rick Richtmyer	MEMBERSHIP Allyn Pearlman
COURTESY Midge Gorman	SEEDLINGS Allyn Pearlman
DIRECTORY Mary Cinotto	SHOW AND TELL Gordon Stowe
EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS Mary Cinotto	RAFFLE Cherie and Frank Lee
GARDEN TOURS Gordon and Shirl Stowe	REGISTRATION John Sarkisian
HISTORIAN David Whipkey	ZOOM COMMUNICATION Michael O'Neal
HOLIDAY PARTY CHAIRMAN Allyn Pearlman	
BROMELIAD SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL -----	
Annette Dominquez	Cherie Lee
Margo Racca	Daniel Wolf

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

TO: Ruby Adams
3906 Woodmont Circle
Houston, TX 77045-3514

FOR THE OCTOBER MEETING:

Dennis Cathcart. Author of:

Koulèv: Adventures of an American Snake Hunter, Book One

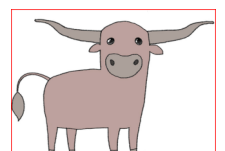
AND

Koulèv: Adventures of an American Snake Hunter, Book Two

And Dennis will be selling plants from Tropiflora Nursery



WELCOME
from Louisiana
to Texas



Gretchen and Mitchell Fontenot