



***SINCORAEA burle-marxii* var. *seabrae*—Frank and Cherie Lee**

More information on this plant:

[Sunburst bromeliads - Sincoraeas from Bahia, Brazil — Exotica Esoterica](#)



NOVEMBER *Cryptanthus* 'Kakadu'

THIS ISSUE:

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Zoom for Monthly Meeting—NOT AVAIL-
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Attention:

NOVEMBER MEETING

WEDNESDAY!!

November 20 at 6:30 PM

REMINDERS

NOVEMBER MEETING

WEDNESDAY!!

November 20 at 6:30 PM

N to Z refreshment hosts

Metropolitan Multi-Service Center

1475 West Gray

Houston 77019

Speaker: Dennis Cathcart

Dennis selling plants

NOVEMBER BOARD

November 21

DECEMBER PARTY

DECEMBER 7 . 6:00 P.M.

9527 WESTHEIMER ROAD

Los Tios

\$40 PER PERSON

includes

Dinner, plant, plant auction

RSVP TO ALLYN PEARLMAN

(deliboys@comcast.net)

By NOVEMBER 20

If you would like to donate a plant or item for the auction, please contact Shirl & Gordon Stowe prior to the party and bring your donation to the party.

If you would like to donate funds toward the purchase of plants from Tropiflora for the auction, please contact Cherie Lee by November 20th.

FROM THE PREZ



So much for the seedling vegetable garden this fall. Thank you so very much Houston drought. At least I am keeping up with the bromeliads in the greenhouse and the yard. The grass is a toss up.

I am excited with our upcoming joint meeting with the Cactus and Succulent Society coming on WEDNESDAY, November 20, 2024 at 7:00 PM. We will be sharing our speaker, Dennis Cathcart, with their society and will each have a very short separate Bromeliad Society and Cactus and Succulent Society meeting.

Please remember to bring plants to share for Show and Tell as that is one of the favorite parts of our meeting.

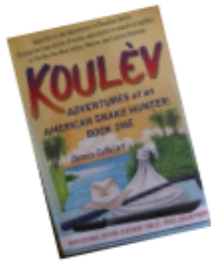
I welcome our new Board and officers for 2025.

President	Michael O'Neal
Vice President	Gordon Stowe
Secretary	Don Green
Treasurer	Allyn Pearlman
Board	Malcolm McCorquodale
Board	Noreen Tolman
Continuing Board	Mary Cinotto
	Frank Lee
	Linda Whipkey
	Don Green will be replaced by the new board

We will have another sale in November with plants from Tropiflora along with our program presented by Dennis Cathcart.

Our job responsibilities are changing for the new year and soon you will get a call from the new president and board to fill the committee positions. Please take a small piece of our society committee responsibilities that make our society so special and rich.

SPEAKER DENNIS CATHCART **Bromeliad Collecting Adventures** **And review of Koulev**



Koulev 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.

Koulev, 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

Officers and New Board Members Elected at October Meeting

Malcolm McCorquodale – Board Position through 2027

Malcolm McCorquodale is a candidate for the BS/H board of directors. He has been growing Bromeliads on-and-off since High School. Malcolm is a member of several local and national plant societies covering Orchids, Ferns, Begonias and of course Bromeliads. Malcolm also enjoys photographing plants and is the official photographer for the American Orchid Society's Houston Judging Center.

Noreen Tolman – Board Position through 2027

Noreen Tolman is a long-time member of the Bromeliad Society/Houston. During her membership she has provided support in many vital areas, serving as Vice President and also as a Board Member for several years. She initiated and manages a Facebook page for our Society. She and her husband Ken handled membership information and greetings at our monthly meetings for many years. She is a qualified BSI Judge and has provided excellent support in many of our shows as well as shows in other parts of the country. She is willing and more than able to become a member of our Board of Directors once again.

Michael O'Neal – President

Mike O'Neal has been around bromeliads most of his life. Growing up, his dad and many of his dad's friends were avid collectors of a wide variety of tropical plants with several specializing in bromeliads. He has been growing bromeliads himself for over 30 years starting with the classic *Aechmea fasciata* received from his dad. Along the way, he has had the opportunity to do almost everything wrong with them and still has a thriving collection. As a fairly recent member of the Bromeliad Society Houston, he continuously wonders why he waited so long to take advantage of the knowledge, experience and resources of a wonderful group of bromeliad growers and he has served as Vice President in the society his dad helped build. Now he is happy to serve as President for the Bromeliad Society/Houston.

Gordon Stowe – Vice President

Gordon has been an avid Bromeliad enthusiast since 2009. He has built 2 greenhouses and a covered Dyckia structure in his yard in addition to planting bromeliads in ground garden areas. He has served on the board of directors for Bromeliad Society Houston more than once. Gordon assists with technology in program presentations and zoom productions. In addition he assists with auctions for the Houston Society and has also provided auction support for the SW Guild and several world conferences. He is happy to serve the Society as Vice President.

Biographies for 2025 Officers and New Board Members

Don Green – Secretary

Don joined BS/HI in 1993. He has served the Society as a member of the Board of Directors, as Vice-President and President. He is an internationally accredited BSI Judge. Don has served many roles in BS/HI and SWBG Shows. He has served as Co-Chair of the Show Committee, Chair of Placement Committee, Chair of Judges Committee and coordinated transportation for the 2016 World Bromeliad Conference in Houston. He is always willing to do what needs to be done for the Society.

Allyn Pearlman – Treasurer

For BS/H Treasurer: Allyn Pearlman Allyn joined BS/H Inc. in 1991. He was editor of the BS/H Inc. Bulletin from 1992-2002 and has been membership chair since 1993. He has served BS/H Inc. as a Director and President and was Chairman of our annual show in 1995. Allyn is an active supporter of the Southwest Bromeliad Guild and is currently Treasurer of that organization. Allyn also serves as Treasurer of the Cryptanthus Society International and for many years has served as Treasurer of BS/H Inc. He is a member of Bromeliad Society International and is an Internationally Accredited Master Bromeliad Judge.



[A BEAUTIFUL MYSTERY \(Shirl Stowe\)](#)

After hurricane Beryl passed, we “dove” into our yard, salvaging derelict Bromeliads that had been scattered here and there. A dark green plant with slender fountain-like leaves drew our attention. It measured about thirty-four inches from the tip of the pendant leaves to the top center of the plant. Somehow, despite its current toppled condition, it had not suffered any damage. Embedded in an unbroken pot, it seemed content to be left where it was. Opposing spines on each drooping blade warned us not to approach. Nonetheless, we placed this beauty upright on a stand and left it in partial sun. No name tag was to be found.



A BEAUTIFUL MYSTERY (Shirl Stowe)

First, I took it to be a kind of Ananas until, most suddenly, the center leaves of the plant began to turn scarlet and flatten out a bit. The bright color spread throughout the heart of the plant. Its lower leaves remained green. Sincorea came to mind. But over the next few days the center seemed to rise, forming an upright cone supported by a stalk, carrying some of the red leaves upward as it grew. It rose in height about one foot while the cone covered itself with small violet and white flowers. The entire transformation took only a few weeks. It WAS SPECTACULAR



A BEAUTIFUL MYSTERY (Shirl Stowe)

Then, even more suddenly, our mystery plant lost its splendor. The delicate blooms wilted and browned. I supposed this to be the end of its cycle. Instead... nearly three weeks later, small green scurf covered “berries” emerged.

Months later those berries ripened to a brownish yellow. We had to try them. After boiling them and then peeling off the soft skin, we took a taste. Indeed, the flavor was that of a tart pineapple.

I have surmised that the plant is a Bromelia. Beyond that, however, we need your help. Is it:

Bromelia balansaea? Bromelia pinguin? Bromelia serra? Bromelia sylvicola?

We would love to put name tags with the others we found as well.



NOVEMBER TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES



Fishhook disgorgers. Available at Academy. Useful for lifting smaller pots & pulling weeds from sticky plants.



Pickup tool, bought at lawn and garden shop. Useful for moving overhead hangers, hooks, picking up items that aren't extremely heavy.

ZOOM INFORMATION FOR BOARD MEETING

Topic: Bromeliad Society Houston November Board Meeting
Time: Nov 21, 2024 07:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81611361725?
pwd=yrMzhHea5nxz2YvK6NyqjK87oLwXAq.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81611361725?pwd=yrMzhHea5nxz2YvK6NyqjK87oLwXAq.1)

Meeting ID: 816 1136 1725
Passcode: 239244

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,81611361725#,,,,*239244# US (Houston)
+12532050468,,81611361725#,,,,*239244# US

Dial by your location

- **+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)**
- **+1 253 205 0468 US**
- **+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)**
- **+1 669 444 9171 US**
- **+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)**
- **+1 719 359 4580 US**
- **+1 646 931 3860 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**

Meeting ID: 816 1136 1725
Passcode: 239244

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81611361725?pwd=yrMzhHea5nxz2YvK6NyqjK87oLwXAq.1>

BULLETIN BOARD NOVEMBER 2024

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Shirl Stowe	11/1
Renee Leiber	11/3
Carole Richtmyer	11/5
Elayne Kouzounis	11/9
James Billimek	11/10
Sidney Newton	11/14
Adepwjii Djujemisi	11/14
Cindy Gray Strickland	11/25
Peg Raymond	11/28
Cristy Brenner	11/30



N to Z Bring Refreshments

OCTOBER 2024 RAFFLE

DONORS	WINNERS
Don Green	Marianne Canevaro
Cherie and Frank Lee	Adepeji Djujemisi
Mike O'Neal	Vickie Gurka
Linda and David Whipkey	Elyane Kouzounis
	Eddie Novak III
	Blanca O'Neal
	Mike O'Neal
	Jennifer Peskey
	Gordon Stowe
	Shirl Stowe



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

More...
NOVEMBER 2024



The extinction of dinosaurs 66 million years ago colorized



PLEASE NOTE: The regular meeting is on **WEDNESDAY** November 20.

ALSO:

DECEMBER PARTY

DECEMBER 7 . 6:00 P.M.

9527 WESTHEIMER ROAD ... Los Tios

\$40 PER PERSON includes: Dinner, plant, plant auction

RSVP TO ALLYN PEARLMAN (deliboy@comcast.net)

By NOVEMBER 20

If you would like to donate a plant or item for the auction, please contact Shirl & Gordon Stowe prior to the party and bring your donation to the party.

If you would like to donate funds toward the purchase of plants from Tropiflora for the auction, please contact Cherie Lee by November 20th.

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

STANDING COMMITTEES-----

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 Margo Racca	Cherie Lee 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 NOVEMBER 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 Nurse-
ry**