

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SAN FRANCISCO



June 2007

NEWSLETTER

Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday, June 21, 2007** at 7:30 PM
Recreation Room, San Francisco County Fair Building, 9th Avenue at Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park,
San Francisco

June Program

To Be Determined

At the time the newsletter was being developed the topic for the June meeting had not been resolved. But it will be a great meeting and probably the plant table will contain leftovers from the sale.

June Refreshments

Casper Curto, Daryl Ducharme, and Gus Samaniego will provide refreshments this month.



This is *Tillandsia crocata* – a tillandsia everyone should own. It is easy to grow and it has very fragrant flowers. We have **3 different kinds** of crocata at the sale. Photo is by Derek Butcher and is courtesy of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies.

May Meeting

Last month, **Jerry Krulik** showed us how the Singapore Botanic Gardens have evolved over the years. Originally, the bromeliads were all grown outdoors, but the conditions on the equator are not conducive to happy bromeliads, so they are now grown in a shade house with the orchids. He also had slides of the plant material on the roof of the Singapore International airport – mostly cacti and succulents. It is amazing how well some of these cacti did on the equator in very humid conditions.

June Plant Sale

Our combined plant sale with the San Francisco Succulent and Cactus Society will be on **June 16th** and **17th** this year at the County Fair Building.

Setup will be on Friday, **June 15th** from 3 PM to 8 PM.

Sale schedule is

- Saturday - 9 AM to 5 PM
- Sunday - 9 AM to 4:30 PM, Clean-up: 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM

This is our **main annual event that brings in money to support** the society. We will have a lot of interesting plants available for the sale and some are from new vendors.

We really need as much support as you can provide. At the May meeting some of you signed up to help at the sale. **If your name is not in the following table, please try to fill in where you can.**

If you are selling plants please make sure they are clean and free of pests.

Friday, June 18	
3 PM – 8PM SETUP	
Dennis Westler	? – 8PM
Brian Ransom	6 PM – 8 PM
Tom Vincze	4 PM – 8 PM
Gus Samaniego	4 PM
Bruce McCoy	6 PM – 8PM

Ford Greene	4 PM – 7 PM
Marilyn Moyer & Peder Samuelsen	4 PM - ?
Tom Koerber	4 PM – 6 PM
Saturday, June 16	
9 AM – 5 PM	
Alicia & Drew Morrison	3 PM – 8 PM
Roger Lane	9 AM – 5 PM
Dennis Westler	???
Tom Vincze	9 AM – 3 PM
Bruce McCoy	9 AM - Noon
Marilyn Moyer & Peder Samuelsen	9 AM – 5 PM
Peter Wan	9 AM – 5 PM
Tom Koerber	9 AM – 5 PM
Sunday, June 17	
9 AM – 4:30 PM	
Tom Koerber	9 AM – 4:30 PM
Roger Lane	9 AM – 5 PM
Dennis Westler	?
Dorothy Dewing	?
Marilyn Moyer & Peder Samuelsen	11 AM – 4:30 PM
Carl Carter	9 AM – 4:30 PM

Bromeliad Donations for the New California Academy of Science Exhibits

The California Academy of Science is scheduled to return to its location in Golden Gate Park in the fall of 2008. In preparation for the new live exhibits, the Steinhart Aquarium is asking for plant donations to display in their Biotopes. Although the primary focus will be plants native to the forest of Costa Rica, Borneo, and Madagascar, they are also looking for plants to display in their other exhibits:

- The Alligator Swamp
- The Amazon Flooded Forest
- The Costa Rican Butterfly canopy
- The Chameleon enclosures
- The Poison Arrow “Frog enclosures
- Special terrarium exhibits along the Academy Café.

Currently we are asking for your help in identifying some small bromeliads that are endemic to Costa Rica/Panama and Columbia/Surinam [one of the plants we have at

the sale is from Surinam – Ed.] that would live well in a terrarium environment for our reptiles and amphibians that are endemic to that region.

If members of the Bromeliad Society of San Francisco would like to share their knowledge or donate plants to the Steinhart Aquarium, please contact:

Ned McAllister,
Biologist at the Steinhart Aquarium
(415) 321-8060
nmcallister@calacademy.org

If you have any questions, please contact Tuan Nguyen (dionae@hotmail.com)

For those in the Bromeliad Society that are interested, Tuan is trying to organize a behind the scenes tour of the exhibits at the temporary Steinhart Aquarium on Howard Street. This will give you an opportunity to meet up with Academy Staff and see some of the animals and displays that are being prepared for the Grand Opening in 2008.

The Note

This article by Bobby Powell was originally printed in the July/August 2000 issue of BROMLINK, journal of the Gold Coast Bromeliad and Succulent Society of Queensland, Australia and is being reprinted from the March 2003 BROMELIANA, newsletter of the New York Bromeliad Society.

This note was sent with a plant that was given to the person who was the “hybridizer”.

Hello, I’m back home at last and it is great to meet you. I’m not just any plant. You gave my Grandmother to Bob six years ago and she said she had a warm sunny spot and good life in Cairns. She told me about you and you’re your progeny, a beautiful garden and now I can have a look for myself.

You made my family from *Aechmea weilbachii* and *Nidularium billbergioides* and called us X Nidumea ‘Beacon’. My name has been changed a bit. Don’t you hate it when they change stuff like that? First you have to get it into your old brain, change tags, and then try to remember it! *Nidularium billbergioides* has now been

transferred to the *Canistropsis* genus so now I am X *Aechopsis* ‘Beacon’.

X *Aechopsis* sounds like a Chinese meal! Add on Beacon and it sounds like a bacon chop or something. Well, my dear, I do not look like a Chinese meal and I am going to send up a spike you will love. Remember, it’s your love of bromeliads that has found me back here where it all started with Granny.

In those books written by a butcher¹ and a beetle² it says we are no longer in cultivation. Well, Lynn has a number of us and loves us too, so we will not die out. Most of the family is in spike now. Just think of all the babies.

Don’t just stand there. Unwrap me, pot me, and show me your garden and all my relations! Oh Gosh! I’m pregnant but I wasn’t sent home in disgrace – just sent home to Grace. My baby will be a beauty. One day next year it will brighten your days with a lovely inflorescence, and I will probably have two more babies! Just talk to me now and then we will put up bright Beacons everywhere.

Your own,

X *Aechopsis* ‘Beacon’

¹Derek Butcher, Australia (BSI Cultivar Registrar)

²Don Beedle of Florida (former Registrar)



This photo of *Aechopsis* Beacon is by Derek Butcher and is courtesy of the Florida Council of Bromeliad.

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SAN FRANCISCO (BSSF)

The BSSF is a non-profit educational organization promoting the study and cultivation of bromeliads. The BSSF meets monthly on the 3rd Thursday at 7:30 PM in the Recreation room of the San Francisco County Fair Building, 9th Avenue at Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. Meetings feature educational lectures and displays of plants. Go to the affiliate section of the BSI webpage for information about our meetings.

The BSSF publishes a monthly newsletter that comes with the membership. Annual dues are single (\$15), dual (\$20). To join the BSSF, mail your name(s), address, telephone number, e-mail address, and check made payable to the BSSF to:

Harold Charns, BSSF Treasurer, 255 States Street, San Francisco, CA 94114-1405.

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BROMELIAD SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

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BROMELIAD SOCIETY
OF
SAN FRANCISCO

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Come to Our Plant Sale This Weekend!!!!
