

# BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SAN FRANCISCO

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## August 2008

# NEWSLETTER

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Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday, August 21, 2008** at 7:30 PM  
Recreation Room, San Francisco County Fair Building, 9th Avenue at Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park,  
San Francisco

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### August Program

#### Bromeliads of Patagonia

When you think of Patagonia you envision glaciers and penguins. These are found in Patagonia but there are also bromeliads – in the Patagonia of Argentina. Come to our meeting this month to discover which bromeliads grow in Patagonia. **Peder Samuelsen**, one of our members and superb photographer, will provide a slide show of a trip some of our members made to Patagonia.

#### August Refreshments

**Roger Lane** signed up for refreshments this month. **Can someone else help with the refreshments?**

#### September Bromeliad Sale

We have had successful fall bromeliad sales in the past and this year we will also be having a sale and display of plants. Mark **19-21 September** on your calendar. We will be setting up the show and sale on Friday in the Recreation Room (our regular meeting room) from 3 to 8 PM. The show and sale will be from 10 AM to 5 PM on Saturday and Sunday.

If you wish to sell plants, you will have to double-tag the plants – the barcodes we usually use will not work because we do not have the cash registers.

Our society will be purchasing plants from vendors and we need your help. Who will volunteer to order plants and pot them for the sale?

We need a colorful display of your plants. On our last fall sale, you outdid yourselves! We need an equally fine display this year. This sale is being coordinated with Orchid fest, so bring in your best plants.

**WE NEED HELP FROM ALL OF YOU TO MAKE THIS SALE A SUCCESS!!!!**



Here is photo of **Peder Samuelsen**, our speaker for this month. **Marilyn Moyer** and **Bruce McCoy** are also in the photo. Photo is courtesy of **Peter Wan** and was taken at last year's garden tour.

## San Francisco Garden Day

Each year the Strybing Society sponsors a Garden Day at Golden Gate Park where each of the plant societies are able to promote their society and hopefully sign up some new members. The following is a summary of the activities this year from our president, **Carl Carter**:

As you know it was a nice sunny day on Saturday, August 2 for the annual Garden Days event. (I got pretty bad sunburn). We got to explain bromeliads and their culture to many people. We had the chance to advertise our Fall Sale, and our club. Harold stopped by and provided our club banners. Roger provided a flat of remainder Tillandsia International plants, and we sold every last one. We also had culture sheets, newsletters 'coffee table books' and membership forms for the constant crowd. I brought a few Marilyn's Gardens neoregelias and Dan brought some Tillandsias and *Aechmea recurvata* for show and sale.

We paid \$35 for the tables, and took in about \$100. That might be a record for this event.

## East Bay Garden Tour

Thanks to **Tom Vincze** for this article on last month's garden tour, thanks for all the people who opened their gardens for our viewing pleasure, and thanks to **Casper Curto** and **Dan Arcos** for planning this event.

In what has become an annual tradition, Bromeliad Society of San Francisco members and guests recently toured four stunning East Bay Area gardens as part of the 2008 Bromeliad Garden Tour. It was a memorable experience for hard-core plant collector and neophyte alike. Bromeliads in the landscape were par for the course, but participants were rewarded by a generous sampling of other exotic plants.

The tour kicked off at BSSF member **Inge Hoffmann's** garden. Approaching her San Leandro address, you first discover an oasis of exotic palms, and a cozy house nestled in between. The full-grown palms were collected from years of travel to many exotic locales. Closer inspection reveals this is truly a collector's garden that goes from rain forest to desert in mere footsteps. It's a garden packed with rare and unusual specimens—you'd be hard-pressed to find many duplicate plantings here. Large cacti specimens frame her garden in back. In a pot grows one of her aloe hybrids. She has the rare *Agave* 'Blue Glow' and a full-grown *Agave* 'Sharkskin'. You can find neoregelias and tillandsias at home on the trunks of some palms. Throughout the yard, you will find

*Aechmea recurvata* and various dyckias, including a large clump of *Dyckia platyphylla* under a palm. No space is used inefficiently; she has even filled the adjacent sidewalk strips with numerous colorful aloes and succulents which she does not ever water, she says.

Our tour continued northward and up into the hills of Oakland to **Richard Ostreicher's** home and garden. Working with designer Sherry Mercieri, they have created an exotic tropical garden with an Asian touch. The front yard features a pond replete with lily pads and koi. We all admired the antique bell which he brought back from Indonesia. Here, you can find Richard's impressive large *Vriesea* specimens including some 'Red Chestnut' and *fosteriana* hybrids along with alcantareas, tillandsias and neoregelias surrounded by gingers, aloccasias, begonias, bamboos and ferns. The creative use of a large mirror on the side of the house magically extends the visual space of the front garden. The back yard features large Asian pots as focal points, filled with specimen aloes, echeverias and bromeliads. Neoregelias and *Aechmea recurvata* add colorful focal points on the steps leading up to the pavilion that overlooks the home and garden.

Our third stop was to the nearby Fairchild residence and garden. Originally landscaped by Planet Horticulture, BSSF member and landscape designer **David Feix** has weaved a rich tapestry of color and texture into the existing garden with his own new plantings of bromeliads and succulents. The garden features lushly-planted terraces of plants layered in contrasting purples, reds, greens and grays. Pathways in the front yard along the perimeter invite the visitor in to explore and they cleverly extend the perceived size of the garden space. The back yard features a small palm surrounded by splashes of red-, pink- and purple-flowering plants. In one corner you'll find a large red-leaved banana plant (*Musa ensete maurelli*). David graciously offered inspired tour visitors some of his own succulent cuttings to take home and plant in their own gardens.

We wrapped up the tour at **Casper Curto** and **Daryl Ducharme's** residence and garden. On the back veranda, you cannot miss their impressive collection of bromeliads which includes neoregelias, tillandsias as well as some of their blooming orchids. Beyond the veranda, the garden continues up a steep hillside. Going up the stairs, one sees a wonderful collection of large specimen plants on the hillside including numerous aloes and agaves. Their garden features a diverse collection of bromeliads, begonias, aloes, agaves, proteas and other exotics in a xeriscape setting. At the top of the stairs, the hillside levels out to provide an ideal setting for two greenhouses and a vegetable garden with a spectacular view onto Oakland

and the San Francisco bay. The surrounding shady borders are lined with large ferns and elephant ear plants.

Following the visit to their garden, participants shared in a delicious potluck. We were all very hungry and the food was exceptional. This could explain why very little was left over by the end of the afternoon.

The BSSF thanks the garden owners for opening their inspiring gardens to BSSF for this year's tour. Thanks also to all who contributed to the potluck and a giant thanks to **Casper Curto** and **Dan Arcos** for organizing this year's successful garden tour and potluck.

For more photos of the tour, please visit [sfbromeliad.org](http://sfbromeliad.org)

## Bromeliads for the California Academy of Science

The Academy of Sciences, scheduled to open in scant weeks, is looking for specific bromeliads for terrariums (and I think part of the large rainforest planting as well) highlighting the flora and fauna of Costa Rica. Attached is a checklist of the bromeliads of Costa Rica, with notes and suggestions from **Dennis Westler** on plants he thinks might be appropriate.

If you have any of the plants in bold type and can spare individuals/clumps please get in touch with **Twan Nguyen** ([twoonen@mailcan.com](mailto:twoonen@mailcan.com)). The Academy is looking for mature or nearly mature specimens, not small pups as the displays must look good when they open. I do not know which specific plants the horticulturist in charge will decide she wants, but it will help them to know who to ask when the decision has been made, and it will save them some money to get the plants from hobbyists. Also if you have any of the Werauhias on the list, and they are small enough, that would be good to note.

### Bromeliaceae

Plants in **blue** are available in the trade or through hobbyists. Plants in boldface are recommended based on size, durability, interesting form or foliage. \* indicates a tank type, which might provide frog habitat.

**If you do have any of these plants to donate, Twan will be at our meeting this month.**

\**Aechmea angustifolia*, Poepp. & Endl. (Smaller plant than many Aechmeas)

\**Aechmea aquilega* (Salisb. Griseb. (Typical form for

Aechmea, approx. 24-30" in diameter.)

*Aechmea bracteata* (Sw.) Griseb.

*Aechmea castelnavii* Baker

*Aechmea dactylina* Baker

*Aechmea lingulata* (L.) Baker

\**Aechmea lueddemaniana* (K. Koch) Brongn. ex Mez (Up to 36" in diameter. Can have red foliage if light is bright enough)

*Aechmea magdalenae* Andre| ex Baker

\**Aechmea mariae-reginae* H. Wendl. (Fairly large, good form, spectacular inflorescence)

*Aechmea mexicana* Baker

\**Aechmea nudicaulis* Griseb. (Very tubular, many varieties)

*Aechmea penduliflora* Andre|

*Aechmea pittieri* Mez

*Aechmea pubescens* Baker

\**Aechmea tillandsioides* Baker

*Aechmea tonduzii* Mez & Pittier

*Aechmea veitchii* Baker

*Ananas ananassoides* L.B. Sm.

*Ananas comosus* Merr.

*Androlepis skinneri* Brongn. ex Houliet

*Araeococcus pectinatus* L. B. Sm.

*Billbergia macrolepis* L.B. Sm.

*Bromelia hemispherica* Lam.

*Bromelia pinguin* L.

*Bromelia plumieri* L.B. Sm.

*Catopsis berteroniana* Mez (All the Catopsis are small to medium plants, adaptable to terrariums, cute but not terribly showy. Many have white powder on the leaves, and pretty form, which adds to their interest)

*Catopsis juncifolia* Mez & Werckle

\**Catopsis morreniana* Mez

*Catopsis nitida* (Hook.) Griseb.

\**Catopsis nutans* Griseb.

*Catopsis paniculata* E. Morren

\**Catopsis pedicellata* L. B. Sm.

\**Catopsis sessiliflora* Mez

*Catopsis wangerinii* Mez & Werckle

*Greigia columbiana* L.B. Sm.

*Greigia sylvicola* Standl.

*Guzmania angustifolia* Wittm.

*Guzmania blassii* Rauh

*Guzmania circinnata* Rauh C. Skotak

*Guzmania compacta* Mez

*Guzmania condensata* Mez & Werckle Liesner

*Guzmania coriostachya* Mez

*Guzmania desautelsii* Read & L. B. Sm.

*Guzmania donnellsmithii* Mez ex Donn. Sm.

*Guzmania glomerata* Mez & Werckle|4

*Guzmania herrerae* H. Luther & W. J. Kress

\**Guzmania lingulata* Mez in C.DC. Easy bloomer, various sizes

\**Guzmania monostachia* Rusby ex Mez Nice foliage, common plant

\**Guzmania musaica* Mez in C.DC. Wonderful foliage

*Guzmania nicaraguensis* Mez & C. Baker

*Guzmania obtusiloba* L. B. Smith.

\**Guzmania patula* Mez & Werckle|4

*Guzmania plicatifolia* L. B. Smith.

*Guzmania polycephala* Mez & Werckle

\**Guzmania sanguinea* Andre in C.DC.

*Guzmania scandens* H. Luther & W. J. Kress

*Guzmania scherzeriana* Mez  
*Guzmania skotakii* H. Luther  
*Guzmania spectabilis* Utley  
*Guzmania sprucei* (Andre) L. B. Sm.  
*Guzmania stenostachya* L. B. Sm.  
*Guzmania subcorymbosa* L. B. Sm.  
 \**Guzmania zahnii* (Hook. f.) Mez  
*Mezobromelia pleiosticha* Utley & H. Luther  
*Pitcairnia arcuata* Andre|4  
*Pitcairnia atrorubens* (Beer) Baker  
*Pitcairnia beachiae* Utley & Burt-Utley  
*Pitcairnia brittoniana* Mez  
*Pitcairnia calcicola* J. R. Grant & J. F. Moral  
*Pitcairnia funkiae* M. A. Spencer & L. B. Smi  
*Pitcairnia guzmanoides* L. B. Sm.  
*Pitcairnia halophila* L. B. Sm.  
*Pitcairnia heterophylla* Beer (Small, spiny, lovely flowers, deciduous, shade tolerant does not hold water)  
*Pitcairnia kalbreyeri* Baker  
*Pitcairnia lyman-smithiana* H. Luther  
*Pitcairnia maidifolia* Decne.  
*Pitcairnia megasepala* Baker  
*Pitcairnia membranifolia* Baker  
*Pitcairnia quesneloides* L. B. Smith  
*Pitcairnia saxicola* L. B. Sm.  
*Pitcairnia valerii* Standl.  
*Pitcairnia wendlandii* Baker  
*Puya dasylirioides* Standl.  
*Puya floccosa* (Linden) E. Morren ex Mez (Of moderate size (for a Puya), xeric, very bright light)  
*Racinaea adpressa* J.R. Grant  
*Racinaea contorta* (Mez & Pittier) M. A. Spencer  
*Racinaea rothschuhiana* Mez, M. A. Spencer & L. B. Smith  
*Racinaea schumanniana* J.R. Grant  
*Racinaea spiculosa* M.A. Spencer & L.B. Sm.  
 These three *Racinaea*s are interestingly shaped plants, which would be good for terrariums of all sizes.  
*Ronnbergia explodens* L.B. Sm.  
*Ronnbergia hathewayi* L. B. Sm.  
*Tillandsia abdita* L. B. Sm.  
*Tillandsia acostae* Mez & Tonduz  
*Tillandsia anceps* G. Lodd.  
*Tillandsia balbisiana* Schult. & Schult  
 \**Tillandsia biflora* Ruiz & Pav.  
*Tillandsia brachycaulos* Schltdl.  
*Tillandsia bulbosa* Hook.  
*Tillandsia butzii* Mez  
*Tillandsia caput-medusae* E. Morren  
*Tillandsia cauliflora* Mez & Werckle  
 \**Tillandsia complanata* Benth.  
*Tillandsia compressa* Bertero ex Schult.  
*Tillandsia dexteri* H. Luther  
*Tillandsia excelsa* Griseb.  
*Tillandsia fasciculata* Sw.  
*Tillandsia festucoides* Brongn. ex Mez  
*Tillandsia filifolia* Schltdl. & Cham.  
*Tillandsia flexuosa* Sw.  
 \**Tillandsia guatemalensis* L. B. Sm. Needs intense light, cool conditions  
*Tillandsia insignis* (Mez) L. B. Sm. & Pittend.  
*Tillandsia ionantha* Planch.  
*Tillandsia juncea* Poir.  
*Tillandsia lampropoda* L. B. Sm.  
 \**Tillandsia leiboldiana* Schltdl.

*Tillandsia longifolia* Baker  
*Tillandsia makoyana* Baker  
*Tillandsia monadelpha* Baker  
 \**Tillandsia multicaulis* Steud. Most clones must have cool nights  
*Tillandsia oerstediana* L. B. Sm.  
*Tillandsia paucifolia* Baker  
*Tillandsia pruinosa* Sw.  
*Tillandsia punctulata* Schltdl. & Cham.  
*Tillandsia schiedeana* Steud.  
*Tillandsia singularis* Mez & Werckle  
*Tillandsia subulifera* Mez  
*Tillandsia tricolor* Schltdl. & Cham.  
*Tillandsia usneoides* L. B. Smith  
*Tillandsia utriculata* L. B. Smith  
*Tillandsia variabilis* Schltdl.  
 \**Tillandsia venusta* Mez & Werckle|4 (Colored foliage in bright/warm/humid conditions)  
*Vriesea castaneobulbosa* (Mez & Werckle) J. R. Grant  
*Vriesea chontalensis* L.B. Sm. A gray leafed *Vriesea* that needs to be close to lights.  
 \**Vriesea heliconioides* Hook. ex Walp. You know how tender this plant is!  
*Vriesea incurva* Read. Excellent plant, decent shape, lovely inflorescence, adaptable. I thought it was from Brazil only  
*Vriesea lutheriana* J. R. Grant  
*Vriesea monstrum* L.B. Smith.  
*Werauhia*s are interesting if you can find them. Bat pollinated, nicely shaped, some are endemic to that area. But most need intense light and humidity to look good. You might ask nurseries what they have that is appropriate in size and needs.  
*Werauhia acuminata* (Mez & Werckle) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia ampla* (L. B. Smith.) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia anitana* J. F. Morales  
*Werauhia apiculata* (L. B. Smith.) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia attenuata* (L. B. Sm. & Pittendr.) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia balanophora* (Mez) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia barii* (J. F. Morales) J. F. Morales  
*Werauhia bicolor* (L. B. Smith.) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia bracteosa* (Mez & Werckle) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia brunei* (Mez & Werckle) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia burgeri* (L. B. Smith.) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia camptoclada* (Mez & Werckle) J. F. Morales  
*Werauhia capitata* (Mez & Werckle) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia comata* (Mez & Werckle) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia diffusa* (L. B. Sm. & Pittendr.) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia dodsonii* (L. B. Smith.) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia gladioliflora* J.R. Grant  
*Werauhia graminifolia* (Mez & Werckle) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia greenbergii* J.R. Grant  
*Werauhia haberii* (J.F. Morales) J. F. Morales  
*Werauhia hainesiorum* (L. B. Smith) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia hygrometrica* J.R. Grant  
*Werauhia kathyae* (Utley) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia kupperiana* J.R. Grant  
*Werauhia latissima* (Mez & WercklÃ©) J.R. Grant  
*Werauhia laxa* (Mez & WercklÃ©) J.R. Grant  
*Werauhia leucophylla* (L. B. Smith) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia luis-gomezii* (Utley) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia lyman-smithii* (Utley) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia macrantha* (Mez & WercklÃ©) J. F. Morales  
*Werauhia macrochlamys* (Mez & WercklÃ©) J. F. Morales  
*Werauhia marnier-lapostillei* (L. B. Smith.) J. R. Grant

*Werauhia moralesii* Luther  
*Werauhia nephrolepis* (L. B. Smith. & Pittendr.) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia notata* (L. B. Smith. & Pittendr.) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia ororiensis* (Mez) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia osaensis* (J. F. Morales) J. F. Morales  
*Werauhia paniculata* (Mez & WercklÄ©) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia pedicellata* (Mez & Werckle) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia picta* (Mez & Werckle) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia pittieri* (Mez) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia ringens* J.R. Grant  
*Werauhia rubra* (Mez & WercklÄ©) J.R. Grant  
*Werauhia rugosa* (Mez & WercklÄ©) J.R. Grant  
*Werauhia sanguinolenta* J.R. Grant  
*Werauhia singuliflora* (Mez & Werckle) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia stenophylla* (Mez & Werckle) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia subsecunda* (Wittm.) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia tiquirensis* (J. F. Morales) J. F. Morales  
*Werauhia tonduziana* (L. B. Smith.) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia umbrosa* (L. B. Smith) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia uxoris* (Utley) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia victoris* (Utley) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia viridiflora* J.R. Grant  
*Werauhia viridis* (Mez & Werckle) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia vittata* J.R. Grant  
*Werauhia vulcanicola* (J. F. Morales) J. F. Morales  
*Werauhia werckleana* (Mez) J. R. Grant  
*Werauhia williamsii* (L. B. Smith) J. R. Grant



Inge Hoffman's yard provides a sea of bromeliads, cacti and succulents in. Photo is courtesy of Tom Vincze



Aloes, agaves and other exotics fill the hillside of Casper and Daryl's garden. Photo is courtesy of Tom Vincze



Neoregelias in exotic planters create a nice focal point in Richard Ostreicher's landscape. Photo is courtesy of Tom Vincze



Visitors admire the Fairchild garden while designer David Feix speaks. Photo is courtesy of Tom Vincze

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**BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SAN FRANCISCO (BSSF)**

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The BSSF is a non-profit educational organization promoting the study and cultivation of bromeliads. The BSSF meets monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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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**BSSF 2008 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS**

PRESIDENT	Carl Carter	510-661-0568	carl.carter@ekit.com
VICE PRESIDENT	Bruce McCoy	510-835-3311	bruce.mccoy@gmail.com
SECRETARY	Dorothy Dewing	650-856-1441	dodntoto7@yahoo.com
TREASURER	Harold Charns	415-861-6043	Harold@States-Street.com
DIRECTORS:			
	Roger Lane	650-949-4831	rdodger@pacbell.net
	Marilyn Moyer	650-365-5560	MarilynMoyer@comcast.net
	Peder Samuelsen	650-365-5560	Pedersam@comcast.net
	Peter Wan	408-500-2103	peterkwan@earthlink.net

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**BROMELIAD SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL**

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BROMELIAD SOCIETY  
OF  
SAN FRANCISCO

Roger Lane  
Newsletter Editor  
551 Hawthorne Court  
Los Altos, CA 94024-3121

**Come to meeting this month to see Patagonia bromeliads!**

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