Pup Talk

November 2026

THE SADDLEBACK VALLEY BROMELIAD SOCIETY

Volume 33, Number 11

We Will Meet: Thursday, November 5, 2026, 7:00 pm.

At the Norman Murray Community & Senior Center

24932 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo, CA

Featured for November: Growing *Tillandsias* Commercially

Our speaker wrote the following: "I'm Joey Enthoven, co-owner of Plantaflor USA, a family-run business that specializes in producing and distributing *Tillandsias* for the US market and beyond. I manage over a million air plants across both xeric and mesic growing houses, which means I've spent a lot of hours chasing down the same growing problems most of you deal with at home — just at a bit of a bigger scale. I'm excited to share some of what I've learned about growing, troubleshooting, and getting these plants to do what you want them to do.



I will cover the key aspects of successfully growing Air Plants. I will go over water, light, temperature, and airflow from a common-sense perspective. Most of the techniques I have picked up over years have come from practice. I have killed countless plants, and am willing to share what I have learned so you don't have to."

Please join us for this informative meeting and enjoy all of our other bromeliad activities.

DIRECTIONS: Meetings are the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Norman Murray Community and Senior Center, 24932 Veterans Way in Mission Viejo. Visitors Welcome! Where is that? Off the I-5 take the La Paz exit. Go east on La Paz past Marguerite Parkway to Veterans' Way. Turn left. The parking lot is at the road's end. We are in room Sycamore B.

This Meeting Includes:

Bromeliads and More Wonderful Bromeliads:



* **Show & Tell – A meeting highlight. Bring in your bloomers, show stoppers, interesting plants, questions, even disasters. Help all of us learn and enjoy while you get a free raffle ticket.**
* **Raffle Table – A chance to add to your collection.**
* **Silent Auction – We usually have special plants for you to bid on.**
* **Library & Information — Want to learn even more? Check out a book and read up! Or ask our bromeliad experts that question that is bugging you! We love to talk bromeliads!**

Upcoming Events (mark your calendars):

November 1 — South Bay Bromeliad Associates meeting in Palos Verdes.

November 5 — Our meeting in Mission Viejo.

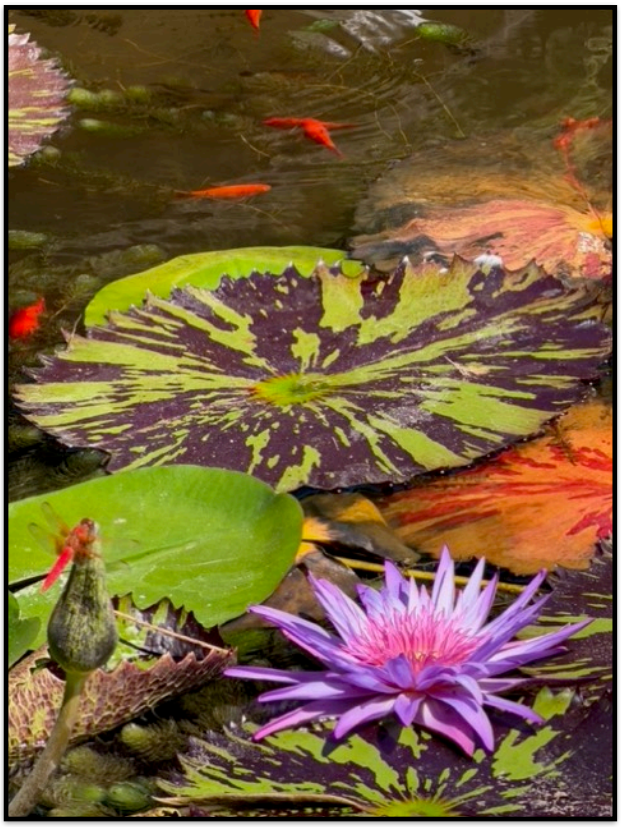
December 3 — Our annual Holiday party.

January 23 — Bromeliad Society International Judges Class in Mission Viejo.

November Refreshment Signups: Ana Contreras, Chris Lutz, Tom and Jody Matossian, Renee Neighbors, and Mary Kermani. Thank you.

Important Announcement: Our web address has changed to: www.svbromeliads.org

Society News: We participated in two great garden events recently. At the end of September, we visited Bird Rock Tropicals and a private bromeliad garden in Encinitas (photos on pages 5 and 6). If you couldn't stay for lunch in Pam's private garden at Bird Rock, I hope that you at least had a chance to enjoy its beauty, such as the waterfall and large pond shown at right. In early October, we were invited to join the South Bay Bromeliad Associates tour of two private gardens in West Los Angeles and Palos Verdes, and we also visited Rainforest Flora in Torrance. I was unable to attend because I had just gotten a new knee and no one else thought to take photos for *Pup Talk*.



This month's meeting will feature two special events: A live auction and a "garage sale," (see page 8). Don't miss the chance to take an official BSI Judges class in January (page 7).

October Show and Tell

Chris Bruce
- *Nidularium procerum*
- *Tillandsia chiapensis* X *T. capitata* Rubra
- *Tillandsia xerographica* #2
- *Vriesea fosteriana* X *Vr. platynema* Pink #1
- *Vriesea lubbergsii* X *Vr*. Voodoo Magic

Don DeBok
- *Aechmea* Burning Bush #3
- *Portea* Candy #5

Daniel Delgado
- *Neoregelia* Buzzsaw #4











October Show and Tell, Continued

Marian Kennell
- *Tillandsia* Fireworks (*T. xerographica* X *T. roland gossolini*)
- *Tillandsia* King Cobra #6
- *Tillandsia jalisco-monticola* #7

Mary Kermani
- *Tillandsia* ? #8
- *Tillandsia* ?
- *Tillandsia* ?

Jeff Sorensen
- *Billbergia pyramidalis* Kyoto #9









Field Trip to Encintias (Part 1): On Saturday, September 26, SVBS members traveled south to visit a very special bromeliad and palm garden that is located near Bird Rock Tropicals nursery. Several of us first visited Tyrone's garden last May on a San Diego Bromeliad Society garden tour. Tyrone graciously invited our society to also tour his garden, which he has grown for over fifty years, hence the mature rare palm collection. His front yard is a beautiful mix of succulents and bromeliads (shown at upper left). His back yard is mostly bromeliads that thrive under the filtered light provided by the palm trees. Tyrone, shown at upper right talking to Kate, is 87 years young, proving once again that "gardening is the fountain of youth."









Field Trip to Encinitas (Part 2): After the visit to Tyrone's garden, we headed to Bird Rock Tropicals, Pam Koide-Hyatt's amazing nursery. Pam, a world-renowned expert on *Tillandsias*, is shown at upper right in her greenhouse with *Tillandsia juerg-rutschmannii.* Thanks to a discount from Pam and a $25 gift coupon from SVBS to our members, most of us returned home with some new plants for our collections. Some of use stayed to have lunch in Pam's beautiful private garden, shown at lower right.









Bromeliad Society International Judges School



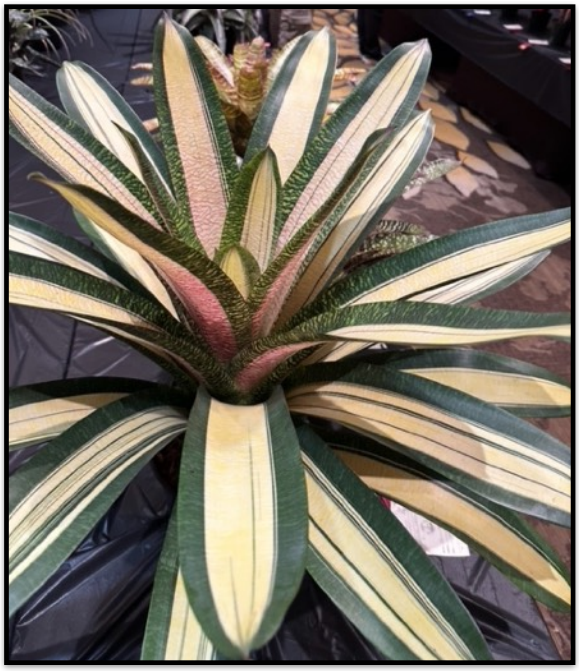
Have you wondered how all of those beautiful bromeliads at our World Bromeliad Conference last April were judged? Here is your chance to find out, and also to learn a great deal of information about your favorite plants. You may be a relative beginner, and you don't think that you could ever become a judge. However, by the time that you have completed the five different courses, you will be much more experienced. You may choose to never become a judge, but you will have learned so much from these one-day courses. You will also learn how to prepare your plants to enter them in future bromeliad shows. All current information is included within the box below.

Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society is organizing Judges School Class # 2. It will be held on Saturday, January 23, 2027. The instructors will be Terrie Bert and Robert Kopfstein. They were the instructors at Class # 1 which was held at the BSI World Conference in April.
Class # 2 focuses on *Tillandsias*.
You can attend Class # 2 even if you didn't attend the previous class.
The location will be the Norman P. Murray Community Center in Mission Viejo, CA. Mission Viejo is located about 15 miles south of Costa Mesa, the site of the World Conference this past April.
The class will be from 9 AM to 5 PM. Space will be limited to 20 people.
Final details are not yet available.
Questions can be directed to svbromeliads.org. Use the Chat box for questions.



At left are the students at the WBC Judges school last April. Participants were from various Southern California Bromeliad societies, Rain Forest Flora Nursery, and even one person from Spain, who is considering attending the January class.

Two Special Events at our November Meeting: The first special event will be a **live auction** of the beautiful *Vriesea* shown below. It is a hybrid created by David Fell, one of the foremost *Vriesea* hybridizers in the world. At the 2014 World Bromeliad Conference in Hawaii, we visited David's nursery on the island of Oahu. David brought this *Vriesea* Cosmic Cory to show at our WBC conference last April, but somehow it ended up with the San Diego Bromeliad Society. David meant to donate this beautiful plant to our club and we recently acquired it. His hybrids are very valuable and at the Hawaiian conference, many plants sold for over $400. We checked with David about this particular *Vriesea* and he said that offsets (pups) sell for $150, plus shipping costs from Hawaii. This is a full-grown plant, so don't expect to bid $20 for this gorgeous bromeliad. The minimum bid will start at $100. Please look at the photo of Tyrone's garden on page 5 at lower left to see how much beauty a similar *Vriesea* would add to your garden.





Vriesea Cosmic Cory from the BCR Registry



The second special event at the November meeting will be a "**Garage Sale**."

It's time to clean out your garage, garden bench, shed, etc. Find the items that you no longer want, need, or plan to use. Bring them to the November meeting. Either give them away or determine the price you want to sell them for. If selling, attach a tag with the amount and your name or initials. The proceeds are yours to keep, with no percentage for the club. This activity will be done by having another table placed along the dividing wall in the back of the room close to the kitchen. Move into Fall with a cleaner space around you.

2026 Society Officers/Committee Heads

President:	**Chris Bruce**	***Pup Talk* Editor:**	**Cristy Brenner**
Vice President/Programs:	**Jeff Sorensen**	***Pup Talk* Team:**	**Pete and Patti Dunn**
Secretary:	**Open**		**John Marzolino**
Treasurer:	**Mary Kermani**	**Refreshments:**	**Launi Cory**
Fundraising:	**Yvonne Wilson**		**Mary Kermani**
Librarian:	**Sue Goldberger**	**Supplies:**	**Amy Uyemura**
Membership	**Nada Chatwell**	**Webmaster and Zoom**	**John Marzolino**
Plant Table:	**Michael McGuire**	**New Member Liaison:**	**Patti Dunn**



Tillandsia Mystic Rainbow 'Peachy Pink'. Photo by Ed Voelker.

Where did the phone numbers and email addresses go?

Now that *Pup Talk* is on a website that is accessible to everyone, some board members are concerned about the security of their personal information. If you are a member, be sure to keep your membership roster that has all of the contact information. Rosters are available from Nada at the meetings.

Our New Web Address:
www.svbromeliads.org

SVBS 2027 DUES/MEMBERSHIP

Dues are $15 per membership (for one person or for two or more at the same address). Please send a check & info to: Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society 24891 Camberwell Street, Laguna Hills, CA, 92653

Membership Name(s): _____

Newsletter via: [ ] email (dues $15/year) or [ ] USPS (Dues $20/year) or [ ] Both (Dues $20/year)

Street: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Phone Number(s): (____) _____-_____ (____) _____-_____

Email: _____

Pup Talk, November, 2026
Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society
1068 Santa Cruz Circle
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

FIRST CLASS PLEASE!

The Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society next meets Thursday, November 5, at 7:00 p.m.

Festivities include:

* **Program: Growing *Tillandsias* Commercially**
* **Plant raffle and silent auction (Bring a show & tell plant to receive a free raffle ticket!)**
* **Show & Tell with lots of our plants to see and enjoy**
* **Lending library for books you need to learn**
* **Friendship and Information**

A big thank you goes to all who contributed information, writing, photos, and production of this newsletter including Cristy Brenner (Ed.), John Marzolino, Pete & Patti Dunn, Chris & Hank Bruce (our show and tell photographer), Jeff Sorensen, and Ed Voelker,

***Pup Talk* is a publication of the Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society. Any opinion expressed herein is not necessarily that of the Society. Send comments, inquiries, and articles to: cbrenner4@cox.net. Deadline is mid-month before month of publication. When credit is given, nonprofit publications may reprint from us.**

The Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society is an educational organization promoting the study and cultivation of bromeliads and fellowship among those who do. We are an affiliate of the Bromeliad Society International.