



Pup Talk

April 2026

THE SADDLEBACK VALLEY BROMELIAD SOCIETY

Volume 33, Number 4

We Will Meet: Thursday, April 2, 2026, 7:00 pm.

**At the Norman Murray Community & Senior Center
24932 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo, CA**

Featured for April:

We will not have a speaker this month because our meeting is less than two weeks away from our World Bromeliad Conference in Costa Mesa. We will be covering all of the last minute details and answering any questions that you may have.

After the break, we will spend extra time on Show and Tell, and perhaps ask: “Could this plant be shown at the conference and what might be done to make it show quality.”

Last month, we had a high quality selection of plants for our raffle table. The good news is that this month we will have another plant table from the same superior grower. The plants were all grown outdoors in Mission Viejo and are acclimated to our area. Once again, there should be a wide variety of genera and many unusual plants. We should also have another interesting silent auction.



Sincoraea ulei on the head table at the 2024 World Bromeliad Conference in West Palm Beach, Florida.

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.



Upcoming Events (mark your calendars):

April 2 — Our meeting.

April 11 — UC Master Gardeners of Orange county Expo and Plant Giveaway & Sale. (See page 7)

April 14-18, 2026 — World Bromeliad Conference, Costa Mesa. Please see pg. 8 for printable fliers or go to BromSale.com.

April Refreshment Signups: Rose Wakely, Sue Goldberger, Chris Lutz, Sharon & Andy Saldana, Susan Fortune.
Thank you.

For World Bromeliad Conference information go to: BromSale.com

To Volunteer to help at the conference go to: <https://signup.com/go/xGuGBYN>

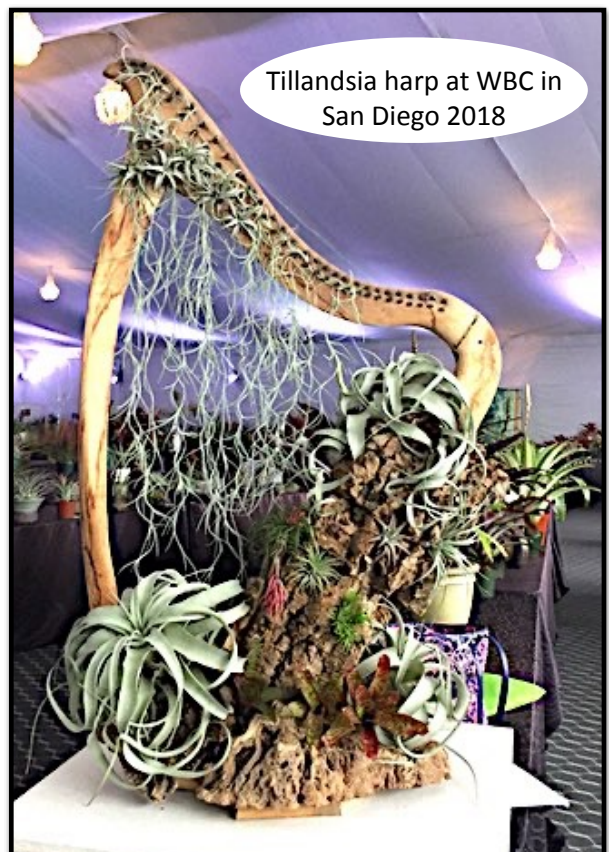
To hear a podcast about bromeliads and our society from radio host Bill Brooks:

“We are now posting ‘In the Garden’ shows on Apple Podcasts and Spotify. I’ve already posted the Bromeliad show I recorded with you. The show will air on March 26 on 88.9 FM KUCI. From Mission Viejo, you probably need to listen on your computer. You can listen to the show now on Apple Podcast at this link: <https://podcasts.apple.com/au/podcast/in-the-garden-with-uc-master-gardeners/id1879981013> You can listen on Spotify <https://open.spotify.com/show/0B6Tpqk25xY9H4aYoPumsX> “



Society news: It’s Showtime! At the time of our meeting, it will be less than two weeks from the world conference. It’s going to be a great conference with over 170 registrants. Bromeliad fans are coming from all over the world: Australia, New Zealand, Japan, India, the Netherlands, Spain, Puerto Rico, Ecuador, and Brazil. Many are coming from other states: Florida, Louisiana, Texas, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio, New Hampshire, Michigan, Illinois, Missouri, Colorado, Oregon, Arizona, Nevada, and Hawaii. (Growing bromeliads in some of these states must be a real challenge—we are so spoiled!)

Have you registered for the conference? If you haven’t, you can attend the show and sale, but you **will not** be able to attend the opening session and buffet dinner, two days of educational seminars, bus tours to nurseries, the rare plant auction, or the banquet. Do you really want to miss all of this? Remember, the last WBC in our area was in 1984—and there may never be another one!



March Show and Tell

Kenton Boettcher
Tillandsia ionantha #1

Cristy Brenner
Billbergia 'Diane' #2 & #3
Billbergia 'Diane' dark form (aka 'Howard') #2
Billbergia 'Flamenco'
Billbergia 'Perriam's Pride' #4
Billbergia 'Thelma Darling Hodge'

Don DeBok
Tillandsia caerulea

Patti Dunn
Tillandsia caerulea (on pickle ball) #5



March Show and Tell, continued

Jeff Sorensen

Tillandsia sprengeliana #6

Kerry Wakely

Tillandsia Birds

Dylan Zoller

Guzmania alborosea #7

Pitcairnia heterophylla forma *albiflora* #8

Tillandsia kretzii #9



Please Help!

The members shown below (Kate is not pictured) have been working on planning our conference for over a year. The organization of such a huge international conference is a monumental undertaking and for some of our committee members it has almost been a full-time job. We all have been working on different tasks and Chris Bruce, our president, has somehow kept it all organized. Now it's your turn to please help us a little for just a few hours during the conference. We need lots of people and most of the tasks are simple such as security or cutting sales tags. You do not have to be registered for the conference to volunteer. We have an online signup where you can see all of the times and tasks. Below is an example of part of the online signup. **Please go to: <https://signup.com/go/xGuGBYN>**



> Conference Staff Room: Attendant	8:00am – 12:30pm	1 of 1	🗨️ (0) JM	FULL
Check conference aprons, cas...				
> Plant Sale: Assist Vendor Setup	8:30am – 12:00pm	1 of 3	🗨️ (0) CB	SIGN UP
Help vendors move plants an...				
> ShowPlant&Art: Security	8:30am – 12:30pm	0 of 2	🗨️ (0)	SIGN UP
Observe the room to prevent ...				
> Conference Staff Room: Attendant	12:15pm – 5:00pm	0 of 1	🗨️ (0)	SIGN UP
Check conference aprons, cas...				
> Conference check in	12:15pm – 5:00pm	0 of 2	🗨️ (0)	SIGN UP
Assist checking in registrants ...				



If you didn't register for the conference you will still be able to see spectacular displays by the various Southern California bromeliad societies and nurseries. You will also be able to buy amazing bromeliads from Florida, Colombia, and Peru, as well as Southern California nurseries. In addition, you will be able to see the judged bromeliad show with amazing plants, such as the one at right, that you have never seen before.



We hope that you have registered so that you can also attend the seminars, rare plant auction, and banquet, but the WBC will be well-worth attending for the opportunity just to purchase these rare bromeliads.



Special Garden Event:

The weekend before our WBC conference there will be an “Expo and Plant Giveaway and Sale” at the Norman Murray Center in Mission Viejo. Cristy Brenner and Sue Goldberger will be at our booth to advertise our conference and distribute fliers. Please advertise the event to other garden clubs that you attend. We will also be giving people our great SVBS pamphlet.



UC MASTER GARDENERS OF
ORANGE COUNTY
present
GARDEN EXPO

— at —

**Norman P. Murray
Community & Senior Center
Mission Viejo**

April 11, 2026 - 9:00am to 1:00pm
free admission

- Plant Giveaway & Sale - Cash only
- Gardening Demos & Talks
- All the gardening info you need for success!

 **UC Master Gardener**
University of California
Agriculture & Natural Resources

Come to the U.C. Master Gardeners Expo and Plant Giveaway and Sale for information, inspiration, and answers to those tough plant problems. More than 1,500 plants will be available for giveaway and purchase along with information tables and presentations on tomatoes, peppers, herbs, California native plants, succulents, houseplants, hydroponics, composting, and bees.

This is our last chance to advertise our conference, so I'm including our fliers one more time. Please email or text them to gardening friends and other clubs that you may attend. We need as many non-bromeliad people as possible to attend the Friday and Saturday plant sales. Conference registrants will have already purchased most of their bromeliads on Thursday night or Friday morning. Many vendors will be bringing bromeliads all the way from Florida, and they don't want to take them home. The top flier is for registrants of the conference and the bottom one is for the general public. Note: There is a revision to the cost of parking.

BROMELIAD PLANT SHOW & SALE

Don't miss the first World Bromeliad Conference in the greater Los Angeles area since 1984!

When: April 15-18, 2026
Where: Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa
3050 Bristol St. Costa Mesa, CA
What: Huge free Bromeliad Sale (all-day hotel parking \$20,
or reserve cheaper hotel parking at spothero.com)
Judged Bromeliad Show
Seminars by speakers from around the world*
Garden and nursery tours*
Rare plant auction*

*Requires conference registration at BromSale.com



bromeliadsociety.org

BROMELIAD PLANT SHOW & SALE

Don't miss the first World Bromeliad Conference in the greater Los Angeles area since 1984!

When: April 17-18, 2026
Where: Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa
3050 Bristol St. Costa Mesa, CA
What: Huge Bromeliad Sale & Judged Bromeliad Show

See a beautiful display of the best bromeliads in Southern California. The sale includes plants from nurseries in Florida and San Diego. Choose from hundreds of different species and hybrids, most of which may be grown outdoors in Southern California. The show and sale are free and all-day hotel parking is \$20 (cheaper hotel parking at spothero.com.) For additional conference information and to learn about bromeliads go to BromSale.com.



bromeliadsociety.org

2026 Society Officers/Committee Heads

President:	Chris Bruce	<i>Pup Talk</i> Editor:	Cristy Brenner
Vice President/Programs:	Jeff Sorensen	<i>Pup Talk</i> 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 'Inca Gold'.
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 Web Address:
bromeliadsociety.org

SVBS 2026 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, April, 2026
Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society
1068 Santa Cruz Circle
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

FIRST CLASS PLEASE!

Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society

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The Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society next meets Thursday, April 2, at 7:00 PM.

Festivities include a:

- * **Program:** Last chance for conference information;
- * **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.

