



Newsletter of the

# Hawai'i Bromeliad Society

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HONOLULU, HAWAII

MAY 2020

*We'll meet again . . . don't know where . . . don't know when . . .*

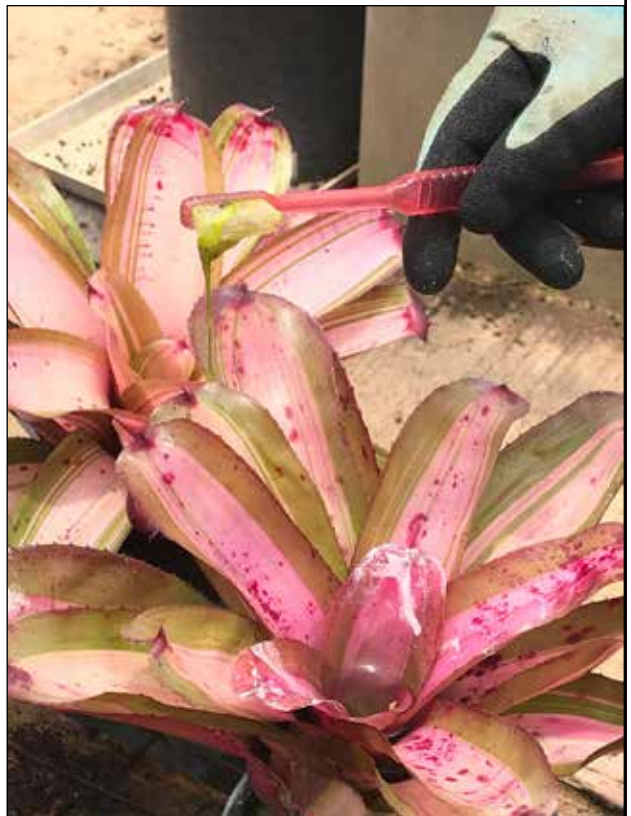
## **BUT NOT IN MAY — MAY 30 MEETING IS CANCELLED**

But things are shaping up for June. As of now, it looks like Lyon Arboretum will open up to volunteers in the next couple of weeks, and we will talk with them about holding our meeting on June 30—masked and with social distancing, of course. And as you can see from the pictures on page 2, our intrepid student helper Aziz (together with benign neglect) has the bromeliad garden looking great.

What's new with your gardens . . . and lives? Post photos to our Instagram account ([hawaii\\_bromeliad\\_society](https://www.instagram.com/hawaii_bromeliad_society)), or send them to us at [hawaii.bromeliad.society@gmail.com](mailto:hawaii.bromeliad.society@gmail.com).

Also let us know if you are interested in ordering bromeliad seeds from the Bromeliad Society International. If you ever wanted to try growing plants from seeds, this is a good way to start without having to harvest the seeds from the plants yourself. BSI sells packets (at least ten seeds each) for \$3.00. The current seed varieties offered include some species that we rarely see in Honolulu: *Aechmea bracteata* variegated, *Aechmea La tigre*, *Aechmea politii*, *Aechmea recurvata* red form, *Aechmea tillandsioides*, *Catopsis nutans*, *Deuterocohnia longipetalia* silver, *Encholirium* sp. unknown, *Fosterella* species 1983-0041A, *Fosterella spectabilis*, *Fosterella villosula*, *Guzmania monostachia* var. *alba*, *Orthophytum foliosum*, *Pitcairnia maidifolia*, *Pitcairnia nigra*, *Pitcairnia staminea*, *Puya mirabilis*, *Tillandsia floridana*, and *Vriesea* 'green nova.'

Not that we're bored, but that's a photo of Terese cleaning fungus off *Neoregelia* . . . wait, is that my toothbrush?



### 2020 OFFICERS AND CHAIRS OF THE HAWAII BROMELIAD SOCIETY

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## **MAY MEETING**

**THE MAY MEETING  
IS CANCELLED.**

Stay Safe.

Enjoy Your Gardens.

Fingers Crossed for June.

# WHAT'S BLOOMING AT THE ARBORETUM?



## WHO WAS OLAF OLE BROMELL?

It's a good guess that he was the guy who bromeliads are named after. But what's surprising is that he lived in Sweden over three hundred years ago, and probably never saw a plant that belonged to the family to which he gave his name.

Bromell was a medical doctor, and the chief medical officer in the district of Göteborg in southern Sweden. He was also the author of a popular gardening manual, and wrote the first book on the local plant life around Göteborg, *Chloris Gothica*. His friend Charles Plumier was a French botanist and missionary, who made several plant-hunting expeditions to the West Indies, and in his 1703 book *Nova Plantarum Americanarum Genera*, he coined the family name *Bromelia* in honor of his Swedish friend.

Because plant names in Europe were in Latin, the family became known as *Bromeliaceae*, and individual plants were called Bromeliads.

As for Plumier, he also wound up in plant history, giving his name to a genus of frangipani: *Plumeria*.



Bromell ↑  
Aziz →

Refresher Quiz: From these three inflorescences, can you name the genus of each plant?

