

SOUTH BAY BROMELIAD ASSOCIATES NEWSLETTER

REGULAR CLUB MEETING: 1:30 p.m.

First Sunday of the month*

Peninsula Center Library

701 Silver Spur Road, Rolling Hills Estates, CA

Website: www.bsi.org/webpages/sbba/

**Exceptions: July Summer Picnic, August Show/Sale, December Holiday Party*

2024 SBBA OFFICERS

President—Barbara Smiley	310-337-7710
VP/Programs— OPEN	xxxxxxxxxxxx
Treasurer-Katherine Poehlmann	310-308-0048
Secy/Roster—Nada Chatwell	949-463-0637
Auctioneer— OPEN	xxxxxxxxxxxx
Editor—Katherine Poehlmann	310-308-0048

SBBA December 1st Meeting: “I’m Dreaming of a White Christmas”

In So Cal, we can only dream of snow. But that doesn’t mean we can’t celebrate the holidays. That will happen at Nancy Zinner’s lovely home where we enjoyed a delicious BBQ for our summer potluck last July.

Nancy’s address is in the roster. If you don’t have a copy, ask Nada Chatwell (phone at upper right, this page). Hours are noon to 3 p.m. Potluck rules are the usual: bring a side dish, appetizer, or dessert. SBBA will provide the entrées and beverages (coffee, tea, assorted sodas, water). To make sure we don’t have an overload in any category, please RSVP to Katherine Poehlmann with your planned potluck contribution (enough to serve 6-8) and number of people in your group. SBBA members may bring guests.

We’ll have an informal gift exchange: bring one, get one. Thanks in advance to all who offered to help with seating arrangements before and cleanup afterwards. Please arrive 20-30 minutes early to help set up tables and chairs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

► **2025 Election Time.** The nominating committee has a temporary slate of officers. Voting will take place at the Christmas party. If you don’t plan to attend, you can still vote by email. Additional nominations are invited (even yourself!). Contact any member of the committee: Barbara Smiley, Nada Chatwell, or Katherine Poehlmann.

2025 Candidates are:

President: Georgiann Keller

VP/Programs: Nada Chatwell

Membership/Secretary: Lori Watson

Treasurer: Nancy Zinner

Newsletter Editor: Katherine Poehlmann

Auction Coordinators: Ted Johnson and Don Debok

Hospitality/Welcome: Mallory Hartt and Pat Powers

Librarian: Ted Johnson

► **Sad news.** Former SBBA member Mike Moody lost a heroic battle with cancer on November 19th. He was someone truly special whose kindness and sense of humor touched endeared him to many garden enthusiasts in several South Bay clubs. He was especially active in the L.A.

International Fern Society. A Celebration of Life for Mike will begin at 4:15 p.m. on Saturday, Nov 30th at Sunnyside Mortuary, 7651 Commonwealth Ave, Buena Park, CA 90621. Details regarding the graveside service at Riverside National Cemetery are TBD and will be shared later.

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Garden Hacks

New use for tea bags. We're usually advised to compost used tea bags. But they can also be used to sprout seeds. Lay wet used tea bags out like cookies on a baking sheet. Tuck a few seeds into each bag. Keep the bags moist by watering lightly every day. When seeds sprout, treat the bags like tiny peat pots and transfer them to garden soil.

Listerine in the garden. The key ingredients in Listerine include alcohol, thymol, menthol, and eucalyptol. These components have powerful antimicrobial properties, which help combat plant diseases and deter pests. Alcohol is particularly good at killing bacteria and fungi, while menthol and eucalyptol can repel insects with their strong scents.

How to apply as a fungicide:

- 1 Mix one part sugar-free Listerine to 3 parts water in a spray bottle
2. Spray the solution directly onto the affected plants.
3. Make sure to spray leaves, stems, and the surrounding soil but be careful not to overdo it, as too much alcohol can harm your plants.
4. Repeat this process every week or so.

To use the solution as an insect repellent, lightly spray it on plants that are prone to pest attacks. The strong minty aroma will deter insects, and the alcohol will help dehydrate and eliminate pests.

Caution: Test the solution on a small area of your plant first and wait 24 hours to ensure there are no adverse reactions. Use Listerine as a supplement, not a replacement, for regular plant care like watering, fertilizing, and ensuring proper sunlight.

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Halloween 2025 Moneysaving Hack

Start now to prepare for next Halloween. Every time you go out to eat, collect a few condiment packets (ketchup, mustard, mayo, salad dressing, etc.) Choose bright-colored packets. By the time October arrives you should have dozens of packets that look like wrapped candies. Palm them as you put them into kids' collection bags so they don't notice that it's a Trick instead of the expected Treat.