



“Broms are addictive”

Bromeliad Society of Queensland Newsletter

January 2013

From the President

At the time of the last meeting we were wondering if it ever would rain again in SEQ. That was well and truly answered over the Australia Day weekend. I hope your properties came through the wind, rain and flooding consequences of the rain depression OK.

The February meeting is combined with our AGM. An important aspect of the AGM is organising volunteers to fill a variety of positions and jobs which together make the Society's activities happen. The Society has a big schedule of diverse activities across the year. Your Committee hopes all our activities will be well supported by member's attendance and contributions. Talk to someone on the Committee to discuss ways you could help as a volunteer.

As I foreshadowed, Ross Stenhouse is stepping down from his position as editor of Bromeliaceae. The role will be filled by three co-editors Chris and Jennifer Coulthard, and me.

As I write this, Ross's final edition is in proofreading and should be in the post before our next meeting. The magazine is on a continuous cycle such that as soon as one edition is released the next has to be underway. Each year the magazine needs 80-100 pages of articles and 60-80 photographs. The role of editor is not to create the material for the magazine but to review, edit, collate and publish material from various authors and sources. We hope many of you will take the time to write something and share your photos. We are looking at getting tips from members on how they overcome issues in their garden/collection. Short notes are a great help in filling gaps on pages. Members could also write about botanical gardens they visit, conferences, review new books etc.

See you at the meeting!

John

January Meeting

Our President John Olsen opened the meeting and welcomed members and visitors - two of whom came from Rockhampton.

John also announced that the bus trip has been postponed until October as Russel's garden and other in the area were decimated by the heat. The bus trip will be reset for later in the year, with the rest of the trip to be advised if you wish to make a booking you can pay a deposit now. (*Editor's Note: As you will all be aware,*

Bundaberg has suffered significant damage and so we will be reviewing this trip as time may not be appropriate even later in the year.)

For the March meeting, John asked for volunteers to help open and close the hall, and set up the tables and chairs as the regular helpers will be at the conference in New Zealand.

The committee is looking for a new venue for the Christmas Party. If you have any ideas, please let a committee member know. A South side venue is an option for consideration.

The tillandsia workshop will be held at the Olive Branch on 26th May. There will be a guest speaker from New Zealand.

John also asked if anyone in the society is a solicitor or whose partner is a solicitor. The committee would like advice with the wording of the grower's sales agreement.

The AGM will be in February. Positions are available. The nomination forms are available and will close a fortnight before the AGM.

At the shows in Autumn and Spring, plants must be potted but Tillandsias will be accepted if they are hung on anodised aluminium. Some samples were shown. Colours are available – gold, silver, copper, green etc. Available from www.inspirewithwire.com.au and rainforest flora in USA.

Peter Paroz spoke about his *Tillandsia cyanea*. The inflorescence was branched which Peter said he had not seen previously.

The display table was on Aechmeas and Bruce spoke about the Aechmeas on the table.

Aechmea allenii from Panama

Aechmea fendleri like *Aechmea* 'True Blue'

Aechmea 'MEND'

Aechmea 'Bert'

Aechmea 'Reginaldo' variegata

Bruce said that anything with *chantinii* needs to be looked after during winter in Brisbane.

Pam Butler also had a *Tillandsia velutina*. Beautiful shape.

John spoke of the growing of clumps of *Tillandsia funckiana* growing on wire and then hung by fishing line.

Greg announced the Cryptanthus Workshop on 20/04/2013 at the Sunshine Coast.

Conferences after New Zealand – Parramatta 16-19 April 2015

BSI Conference Hawaii @ Alamona south of Waikiki 8-14th September 2014.

Conferences are a great experience and members would enjoy them very much.

Card to be sent to Derek Butcher from the BSQ members, as he has not been well.

Pam gave the Treasurer's Report. At future meeting several copies of her report will be on the library table for viewing.

Barry Kable announced that Anne McBurnie will be selling her collection – sets of 10 plants for \$5 each plant.

International Orchid Fair 1-3rd March 2013, at the Beenleigh Showgrounds.

Autumn show 13 -14 April

Spring Show 3 -4th November

Rob Murray gave a quick demonstration of the society's website. Looks more user friendly
www.bromsqueensland.com.au

Guest Speaker

Maxim did a presentation about the Gardens he visited when he was in America for the World Conference. Orlando weather is warm and sub-tropical like Sarasota. There are lots of trees. Marie and William Selby. The following is a transcript of his talk including selected photos.



Sarasota Bay in 1920.

Introduction: In September 2012, I attended the BSI Conference in Orlando, Florida. The weather is warm and subtropical, just like South East Queensland, where all plants thrive.

Four of us rented a car and drove to the Bay of Mexico, to visit the Selby Gardens in Sarasota.

The Selby Gardens have a special place in the collection, cultivation and study of bromeliads.

They started as the private garden of Marie and William Selby after they bought 7 acres along the

Her father was a geologist and invented parts for oil drilling.

In 1908 she married William who was a partner with his father in Selby Oil and Gas (part of the Texaco Oil Company). The family was very wealthy and she landscaped the property.

In 1955, they set up the William and Marie Selby Foundation, which was very generous and philanthropic. When she died in 1971 she willed the property to the community as a Botanical Garden. After consultation with the New York Botanical Gardens, it was decided to dedicate these gardens to specialise in epiphytes, especially:

- bromeliads,
- orchids, and
- gesneriads.

The gardens opened in 1975.

In 1978, the Mulford B Foster Identification Centre was established at the Marie Selby Gardens in honour of the man who many regarded as “the father of bromeliads”.

Mulford Foster started out in Philadelphia, but in 1923 he moved to Orlando, Florida to work as a landscape architect, and was active in extending our knowledge of bromeliads.

He went on collecting trips to South America, was a hybridiser, and edited the Bromeliad Society Bulletin.



Harry Luther (1952-2012) worked at the centre for many years, and described over 200 new species, and was an international expert. He was a keynote speaker in Cairns and Darwin.

The departments at Selby Gardens include:

1. The Mulford B Foster Bromeliad Research Centre. (BRC)
2. The Orchid Research Centre.
3. The Gesneriad Research Centre.
4. Herbarium
5. Molecular Studies Laboratory.
6. Research Library.

Bruce Holst is the director of Botany. At the B.S.I conference, he gave an entertaining talk on his expedition to the Roraima Tepui, a spectacular table mountain in South East Venezuela.

In this region of South East Venezuela are a number of tabletops with 400 metre tall cliffs on all sides, they reach 2810 metres.



His team ascended in two helicopters and they identified many species unique to the area, including new bromeliads.

The Selby Gardens are a centre for serious scientific studies.
It has an extensive collection:

1. Living plants number more than 20,000 in the greenhouse, including 1200 genera and 6000 species.
2. The herbarium has over 100,000 specimens, and I think these are dried and preserved.
3. There is a liquid-preserved collection of flowers in 28,000 bottles, mostly orchids.

The gardens are open to the public with over 180,000 visitors each year. There is a kiosk that sells coffee and snacks. You can enjoy the gardens and talk to the squirrels.

Here are some of the plants in the garden and shade houses.



Deuterocohnia is from South Bolivia and North Argentina. It grows on rocks in vast cushions. Needs bright light and a well-drained mix.

Quesnelia is from the central coast regions of Brazil, is found on rocks, on trees, or in the sun by the ocean. It is not unlike *Billbergia*. *Quesnelia quesneliana* is frequently seen in cultivation, and grows in full sun near the edge of the ocean.



Hectia marnier-lapostollei named after a French horticulturalist, Julian Marnier-Lapostolle, owner of Grand Marnier Liqueurs. It comes from Mexico. It's a true xerophyte, and has a fuzzy white coating of trichomes like a dusting of snow.

Puya laxa is from Bolivia very spiny, and heavily frosted with trichomes.



Aechmea orlandiana is from Espirito Santo, central east coast Brazil, and grows very well mounted. It has tough clinging woody stolons, and was named by M.B Foster after Orlando where he lived.

Neoregelia carcharodon is a very dramatic plant used a lot in hybridising. Its big size, toughness, wicked spines are desirable features in hybridising. This might be 'Rainbow' a cultivar. It was discovered in the state of Rio de Janeiro, and introduced by Chester Skotak from Costa Rica, and used to produce great plants like Hannibal Lector.



7. *Aechmea alopecurus* is native to Brazil.

8. *Aechmea woronowii* is native to Ecuador.

There were many orchids on display and for sale. The Selby Gardens are well worth a visit.

Pam Butler also spoke about Selby Gardens. She was assisted by Narelle and Greg Aizlewood who also provided slides. (Editor's Note: Narelle took a low profile approach. See the photo.)

We'll provide some of these on the web site shortly.



Notes taken by RUTH KIMBER



Thank you Ruth.

LUCKY DOORS

Clarke Allen Michelle Cameron

RAFFLES

Narelle Aizlewood
Teresa Overington (2)

Janet Richter
Jenny Ittensohn

Sue Price (2)
Mary Gudgeon

Cheryl Weaver
Fred Thomson



Coming Events

February Meeting

6.45pm

Start plant sales

7.30pm

Start meeting

The February meeting is our Annual General Meeting so it will involve voting for the new committee and also our normal monthly meeting.

Plant of the month is Tillandsia. Bring your plants along for discussion. We do not have a guest speaker this month. Instead, we are running a panel discussion that will focus on Tillandsias. Some of our experts will be speaking and are available to answer questions.

Membership Renewal

Just a gentle reminder that Society membership expired in December. Renewals are due prior to the Annual General Meeting (February) in order to be eligible to vote.

See Roy at the meeting to make a payment or alternatively post a cheque through to the Society.

Single Membership is \$35.00. Family Membership is \$40.00 and Overseas Membership is AU\$50.00. Family Membership is for up to *four* people and refers to couples and immediate family below the age of 16.

This is also an opportunity to update your information. If you've moved recently or have a new email or phone contact details, please let us know as we do send out information via email which is not contained in the magazine.

2013 Australasian Bromeliad Conference – New Zealand

This is an opportunity to see something different. This is being held in Auckland from 15th to 18th March 2013. Check out the web site for further information – www.bsnz.org.

Jose Manzanares Presentation – 27th March

Jose is attending the Cool Broms Conference in New Zealand and is coming to Queensland to visit family following the conference. We are currently trying to get Jose to provide a special presentation for BSQ members on 27 March (Location To be confirmed). As we get more details, we will let you know.

Jose is well known as the author of a number of books on bromeliads. He has covered plants of Ecuador in two volumes and will shortly release another two.

Autumn Show

NOTE: This event has a date change

Our big show and sales event at the start of the year is scheduled for **12th and 13th** April (previously 13/14) at the Brisbane Table Tennis Centre. Unfortunately there has been a need to change dates and so not this will be on Friday and Saturday and not Saturday/Sunday as previously advised.

Start getting your plants ready for sale and also for showing. *Be part of us!!!!*

Tillandsia Workshop – 26th May

This has now been scheduled for 26 May 2013. Andrew Flower from New Zealand will be our guest presenter. We will bring you more information closer to the day.

Bus Trip – TBA possibly October

This has now been postponed until the second half of the year. Watch this space for further information. We believe that a trip to Bundaberg will not be a possibility and so are looking at an alternate trip. This could be either to Northern NSW or perhaps the Toowoomba region as a weekend or perhaps a day trip to close northern areas.

Brisbane Ekka – 8th to 17th August

This is where we showcase our plants and we will be having another exhibit this year. It commences on 8th August and we'll need volunteers to staff our display – morning and afternoon shifts. Remember you get free entry to the show with this.

Spring Show – 2nd to 3rd November

This is scheduled for 2nd and 3rd November. Lock the date in now!!

Christmas Party – 5th December

An event not to be missed. We'll have a new and exciting venue so get in early and book the date.

Seedbank

Peter Ball has seed available for collection. See him at the next meeting.

Vriesea - <i>saundersii</i> - French Quarter - Highway Beauty - <i>hieroglyphica</i> - Phillip - <i>philippo-coburgii</i> - Moonglow	- <i>schwackeana</i> - Van Acevi - <i>neoglutinosa</i> (large clone) Nova	Alcantarea - <i>heloisae</i> - <i>odorata</i> (ex Sitio Roberto Burle-Marx) - <i>Purpurea</i> - <i>regina</i> - <i>vinicolor</i> Hawaiian Red	Pitcarnia - Species JG 30083	Puya - <i>coerulea</i> Guzmania - <i>conifera</i>
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Show Results – January

This was a mini show.

Advanced

Class 1

1st – Aechmea chantini Len and Oliver Trevor
2nd – Aechmea “Frederike” var B and A Kable

Class 2

1st – Vriesea “Berry Forrest” Len and Olive Trevor
2nd – Vriesea “Celestial Jewel” Len and Olive Trevor

Class 3

1st – Dyckia “Arizona Ice” Len and Olive Trevor
2nd - Dyckia fosteriana B & A Kable

Class 4

1st – Tillandsia straminea Bruce Dunstan
2nd – Catopsis sessilifolia Peter Paroz

Intermediate

Class 1

1st – Aechmea “Roberto Menscal” Mal and Michelle Cameron
2nd – Aechmea correia-arijoi Maxim Wilson

Class 2

1st – Vriesea “Sunset” Fred Thomson
2nd – Vriesea “Ice Snowberries” Mal and Michelle Cameron

Class 3

1st – Dyckia “Toothy” F2 Mal and Michelle Cameron
2nd – Dyckia mariner lapstolle cv Pam Butler

Class 4

1st – Tillandsia xerographica Pam Butler
2nd – Tillandsia pruinosa Pam Butler

Novice

Class 1

1st – Aechmea “Frederike” Betty Shepherd
2nd – Aechmea Orlandiana Betty Shepherd

Class 3

1st – Dyckia (Sir Galahad unreg Catlan) Norma Poole
2nd – Dyckia “Hot Chocolate” Jenny Ittensen

Class 4

1st – Tillandsia pruinosa John Olsen
2nd – Guzmania Sanguinea tricolor John Olsen

SHOW SCHEDULE FOR 2013 MEETINGS

Here is your opportunity to participate. The more plants we have the better it is for the members. If you are interested in broms then bring along your plant so everyone can share your pleasure.

February - POPULAR VOTE - any genus, species & hybrids + novelty bromeliad display

March - POPULAR VOTE

April - MINI SHOW

Class 1 – Bromelioideae not listed elsewhere in Schedule, species & hybrids (*Acanthostachys*, *Ananas*, *Androlepis*, *Araeococcus*, *Bromelia*, *Canistropsis*, *Canistrum*, *Edmundoa*, *Fascicularia*, *Hohenbergia*, *Hohenbergiopsis*, *Neoglaziovia*, *Nidularium*, *Ochagavia*, *Orthophytum*, *Portea*, *Quesnelia*, *Ursulaea*, *Wittrockia*)

Class 2 – *Guzmania* species & hybrids

Class 3 – *Pitcairnia* & *Pipinia* species & hybrids

Class 4 – any other flowering bromeliad species & hybrids

May - POPULAR VOTE

June - POPULAR VOTE

July - MINI SHOW

Class 1 – *Billbergia*

Class 2 – Tillandsioideae not listed elsewhere in Schedule, species & hybrids (*Alcantarea*, *Catopsis*, *Mezobromelia*, *Racinaea*, *Werauhia*)

Class 3 – *Neoregelia* up to 200mm diameter when mature, species & hybrids

Class 4 – any other flowering bromeliad species & hybrids

August - POPULAR VOTE

September - POPULAR VOTE

October - MINI SHOW

Class 1 – *Neoregelia* over 200mm diameter when mature, species & hybrids

Class 2 – *Tillandsia* species & hybrids

Class 3 – Pitairnioideae not listed elsewhere in Schedule, species & hybrids (*Brocchinioideae*, *Lindmanioideae*, *Hechtioideae* (= *Hechtia*), *Puyoideae* (= *Puya*), *Navioideae*, *Pitcairnioideae* (= *Deuterocohnia*, *Encholirium*, *Fosterella*)

Class 4 – any other flowering bromeliad species & hybrids

November - POPULAR VOTE

Plant of the Month

Each month there is a focus on a different plant. The following is the list for 2013. At the start of each meeting there will be a short discussion on the plant. Please help by bringing along your plant for discussion. Problems can be addressed but remember no diseased plants should be presented – use a photo.

February	Tillandsia
March	Cryptanthus
April	Guzmania
May	Alcantarea
June	Vriesea
July	Intergenerics
August	Pitcairnia
September	Dyckia, Orthophytum, Puya
October	Billbergia
November	Neoregelia, Nidularium