

Bromeliad Newsletter

JULY Meeting

MINI SHOW RESULTS

ADVANCED :

Class 1, 2 & 4 No Entries

Class 3 1st. Cheryl Basic Neo. Aussie Rose

2nd. Bruce Dunstan Neo. Guttata

INTERMEDIATE :

Class 1 : 1st. Greg Aizlewood Billbergia Porquito Mas

2nd.-----

Class 2 : 1st. Fred Thomson Alcantarea Heliosea

2nd._-----

Class 3: 1st. M & M. Cameron Neo. shamrock

2nd. M & M. Cameron Neo. annik

Class 4: 1st. Barry Kable Hectia rosea

2nd. M & M. Cameron Quesnelia indecora

NOVICE :

Class 1: 1st Bev. Mulcahy Billbergia unknown

2nd.-----

Class 2 : NO ENTRIES

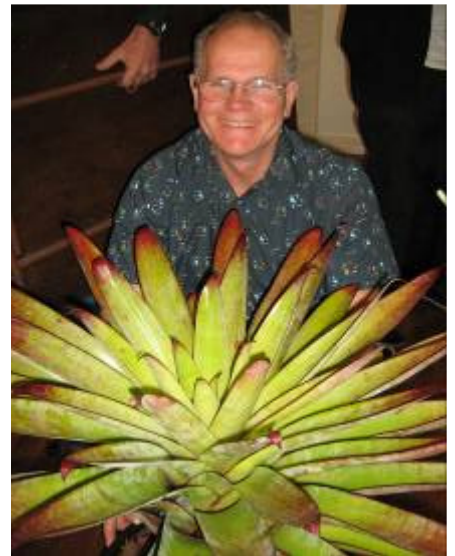
Class 3 : 1st. Betty Shepherd Neo. Van Dorme

2nd.-----

Class 4 : 1st. David Vine Tillandsia Stricta

2nd. Maxim Wilson Androlepsis Skinneri

ADVANCED



INTERMEDIATE



NOVICE



Darwin Bromeliad conference

Some months ago Grandma, Granddad and I attended the Darwin Bromeliad Conference, 'Broms on Arafura'... This was my first conference, so I can honestly say that it was the best that I have ever been to, I think that everything was just about perfect, and I enjoyed every bit of it!

Thursday, the first day after setting up and registering, we all got on buses and went to the Governors House, Mr Tom Pauling, to see his lovely garden. Mr Pauling has a special interest in Bromeliads and we were very lucky to have the opportunity to see his personal house and gardens.

From there we made our way to the Darwin Botanic Gardens. This was a very special day for the staff at the Botanic Gardens, because it marked the opening of the new bromeliad house- opened to the public for the first time just as we arrived!

That night the conference was officially opened by the Darwin Administrator, Mr Pauling, then the guest speakers were introduced, and we had some great entertainment. That night the plant sales opened. I had been warned that the plant sales could get wild, but I did not know it could get that bad! J Anyway I think lots of people came away with some good plant and were very happy with their buys.... And this was just the beginning of a great weekend!

Over the next 3 days we had lots of great speaker and I know I enjoyed listening to them all. The speakers included Dennis Cathcart, Harry Luther, Nigel Thomson, John Olsen, Peter Tristram, Adam Bodzioch, Chris Larson, Harry Frakking, Steven Flood, Len Colgan and The Lord Mayor of Darwin, Mr Graeme Sawyer. Many of these people are well known in the 'Brom World' and it was really good to listen to them speak and get to meet them in person.

Friday morning was a rush to see who had won what in the competition, as the ribbons were placed out... The Grand Champion plant went to Nigel Thomson with Neo Yin and the Reserve Champion went to Bob Hutton with tillandsia funckiana- both really lovely plants! I think it is fair to say though, that in the competition Nigel Thomson took home most of the prizes!

On Saturday, as well as hearing some more great speakers, we went on a bus trip to a wholesale nursery and 3 nice gardens. For me this was a great opportunity to get a better look at the area around Darwin, and of course I really enjoyed all of our stops on the bus trip, they included:

Darwin Wholesales', Harry and Olive Frakkings garden, 'The Dog and Donkey's garden' and another wonderful garden by a lady who grows gingers and heliconia flowers to sell.

After our big day out in the Darwin heat, SOME of us chose to cool off in the pool, but sadly I could not get too many people to accompany me! Now that we were all cooled off and ready to start again, we made our way to the hall where the rare plant auction was held, I must say this was a very exciting part of the conference for me-I had never been to a Bromeliad auction, so I was unaware of just how much fun they could be! I know lots of people came away with so great plants and because of them; we ended up raising a lot of money to go toward the running of the conference.

Sadly the next day was Sunday, meaning that it was the last day and we would all be heading different ways that night, I was having such a great time that I'm not sure where all of the days went! Anyway, Sunday we had lots more great speakers and also had a question and answer time run by all of the people that spoke though out the 4 days. This was very interesting and it was our chance to get a better understanding of anything that did not make sense in the talks.

With all this over, it was time to pack up and get ready for the final lap, the Gala dinner. This was also really enjoyable, but a little sad knowing this was our closing event.

During the dinner the competition prizes were handed out, the judges were acknowledged and the wonderful guest speakers were thanked and given a little something to take home from 'Top End'. Lastly we together, thanked all of the hard workers that put sooo much of their time into making sure that conference ran perfectly!

And with that the Darwin Bromeliad Conference, Broms on Arafura, was officially closed. The time had flown and I was stunned that it was really over!

As I said earlier this was my first conference and it was really wonderful! But something that I had not counted on was the company and friendship, everyone was very nice and I got to know so many lovely people simply because we were all there for the same reason, we love Bromeliads! The next conference is in New Zealand in 2013 and I am hoping to go, If anyone has never been to a conference before it might be a good opportunity to go and work out just how much fun they really are!!!

Our meeting on 21st. July was great, with Rebekah Trevor as our first guest speaker. Rebekah spoke and showed us lots of great photos of the Cairns Conference, how much she had enjoyed attending her first conference, seeing the different gardens—relaxing on the smallish waterfalls at Kakadu and exhausted on the return bus trip {I do mean relaxed and exhausted zzzzzzzzzzz no names mentioned} Meetings are starting at 7am. The members all said they enjoyed having the classes in the hall. Glenn chaired the meeting as the Pres. and V. Pres were absent. David was pleased the roster for volunteers for the EKKA was completely filled with prompting from Glenn. Members bought in pups to be handed out at the EKKA. The date for the Christmas party is Thursday 1st. December. Members were asked to return previous trophies in time for this years Xmas party.

Cheryl Basic was our Guest speaker [on how she started] 1992 at Carindale she started collecting Tillandsia—some from Neville Ryan. Cheryl had a slide presentation and to begin with the best tillandsias were imported from the states. In 1992 Cheryl went on the Palm and Cycad Malaysia tour. 1993 she went to Hawaii and met Sharon Peterson, ,built a shade house and started with some seeds. 1994 went to San Diego. 1996—Orlando for conferences, ,it was the largest with 400 people. Cheryl hired a car and visited nurseries. Cheryl said the plants were all very exciting and so started importing Vriesea from David Shigii. In 1996 she joined the Brisbane Bromeliad Society. 1999 Cheryl and family moved to the North Coast, built lots of bush houses which seemed to fill up all by themselves.

All plants coming into Australia had to be gassed. Neoregelias were ok but Vrieseas turned into mush, so next Cheryl started collecting seeds as harvesting. Seeds from U.S.A. had no restrictions on seeds that were cleaned and correctly labelled and so became Vrieseas galore. Some seedlings of Vrieseas gave great colour. 1996 Orlando Neo. Rose—Painted delight—Hannibal Lector. Grace Goode Hybrid Rapture—Spingali—Pin Up Doll. Neoregelia variegata seeds can be quite different in colouring. Vriesea Kilauea—4 plants out of 50 through quarantine after gassing—so collected seeds. Vriesea seeds give various results. V. Fosteriana x Rubra—V. Platynema variegata x Fosteriana—Kuulei . Seedlings that have F2 could have different tips, some more pink than others and if you're really keen to try growing your own, pollinating is carried out at MIDNIGHT. Have fun and enjoy.

REPORTED BY RUTH KIMBER

LUCKY DOORS JAN CALOON— PHYLLIS JAMES

RAFFLES— Michelle Cameron [2] Jan Caloon- Thelma Hughes[2]G.
Frahm Ric. Cairns



Bob Cross and his team are to again be congratulated on an excellent display at the Ekka. Thanks also to the volunteers who manned the stand and all those who donated pups for distribution. The location was good from the point of view of exposure as the exhibits hall got a huge amount of traffic.

The pictures don't do justice to the large screen image at the back of the display which constantly turned over colourful images of bromeliads assembled By Glenn Bernoth and so familiar to our members as the meeting back-drop.



The Ekka is a challenging time of year for bromeliads looking their best but our growers have again delivered excellent plants for the display. They are quite a small band of suppliers and should be acknowledged.

The Ekka

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDER

GETTING STARTED WITH BROMELIADS

27TH. AUGUST—UNITING CHURCH HALL NEW FARM This is a follow up to help those show-goers with an interest to get some basic info.

*3rd. SEPTEMBER FIELD DAY . ANN AND BARRY KABLE
281 REDLAND BAY RD. CAPALABA . BARRY AND ANN HAVE A LARGE RANGE OF
PRIZE WINNING BROMELIADS, ORCHIDS AND FOLIAGE PLANTS. Join us
on our field day and listen to our MYSTERY GUEST SPEAKER PLANT SALES
9AM.—1PM. MORNING TEA PROVIDED
MORE INFO CONTACT BEV. 32087417 RUTH 32080546 [AFTER 4PM]*

*29TH. OCTOBER FIELD DAY—TERRY TIERNEY 125 BOULIA ST. GREENBANK
JOIN RUTH AND BEV. AND MAKE THIS A FUN FILLED DAY. TERRY has a large
display of foliage Vrieseas , Cacti and Succulents. There will also be a
Guest Speaker.*

*PLANT SALES 9AM.—1PM MORNING Tea PROVIDED
MORE INFO AS ABOVE*

12TH—13TH NOVEMBER SPRING SHOW

MINI SHOWS AND POPULAR VOTE

AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER POPULAR VOTE

August Decorative Display Theme—"Country in the City"

OCTOBER MINI SHOW

LIST OF PITCAIRNIOIDEAE GENERA FOR CLASS 3

Ayensua, Brewcaria, Brocchinia, Connellia, Cottendorfia, Deuterocohnia

HERE IS A NOTE ON THE LIGHTER SIDE FROM 1983.
PETER PAROZ

Many years ago, the editor of the day invited members to compose limericks with a bromeliad theme. [As a reminder, a limerick is a five line verse with a rhyme pattern aa bb a]

One plant that I have is called MEND;
I'd like to give one to a friend.
But—what do you think,
The pups are not pink,
On Mend, you cannot depend. OLIVE TREVOR

There was a brom grower from Pisa,
Who couldn't tell Vriesea from freesia.
With flowers dissected, dissected,
The keys he inspected,
And that didn't make it easier. PETER PAROZ

A happy young grower named Nancy,
Tried her hand with Bromelia balansae.
But one bright sunny morn,
She got caught on a thorn,
And balansae's no longer her fancy. LEN BUTT

Have you heard of the genus Ananus,
There's comosus, bracteata and nana(s)
The first two are tall,
The last one is small,
But the whole group will drive you bananas. JOHN HIGGINS

The Ekka

One of our Committee Barry Kable snuck a few bromeliads into his business's display. He also had a really dramatic orchid as shown in the picture right and showed a Cryptanthus Crib below with his cryptanthus displayed inside.

