

# Palm Review

Volume 17, Issue 1

Journal of the Central Florida Palm and Cycad Society

January, 1996

Hello! Welcome to the Central Florida Palm and Cycad Society Palm Review. We hope you like our new look. Please read through this first issue as many exciting developments are discussed not only about the bulletin and its new format but about our society itself. This issue focuses on our chapter and the new journal format. Included are letters from each of our newly elected officers and descriptions of proposed columns. There's also a calendar of events which includes our next meeting and the traditional articles written by fellow members about their "palmy" travels. The next issue theme will be "Coldhardiness". Thanks to all those who have supported the bulletin by sending in contributions and I would also like to remind everyone that it is your input that will make this endeavor a successful one. We hope you enjoy our new look and we are looking forward to hearing your comments!

## Fall Meeting at the Bobick Home

by Sarah Noah

Festivities began at noon with a few hours to walk the garden, socialize with fellow CFPACS members and guests and talk palms. We were happy to welcome fellow IPS members Rene and Dominique Coativy of Lamoriaye France from the European Palm Society to our meeting as well. As you may recall, the Bobicks hosted a meeting at their home for our chapter about two years ago and those in attendance then were glad to get this chance to see the progress of the Bobick garden (and large canine farm). As a fund raising idea, the Bobicks had asked each of us to



Figure 1: Mike Dahme leads the bidding at an auction at Bobick's home, site of our last meeting, while Tom Broome examines the item up for bid.

contribute a plant (not necessarily a palm or cycad) to the society for auction and after ample time for mingling, Mike Dahme gathered folks together and began the bidding (Figure 1). This effort turned out to be tremendously

(Continued on page 5)

## Year End at Kopsick Palm Arboretum

By Bruce Turley

Special thanks goes to Ed Brown, of Jacksonville. Ed has generously given, to the arboretum, the gift of two *Jubaeopsis caffra*, one *Encephalartos longifolius*, and one *Encephalartos ferox*. This donation represents some truly exciting new species for the arboretum, but also the opportunity to display the rare *Jubaeopsis caffra*. Again our membership is bringing notoriety to the garden through donation. Thanks Ed!

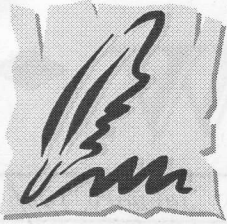
Also, I would like to thank Ted Langley for helping us get these plants from Ed, transported to St. Petersburg. Ted is always there to lend a hand.

Our spring workday will allow us the chance to plant Ed Brown's donations, which we will anxiously await. Speaking of spring workday, please reserve Sunday, March 16, 2 PM, for our next round of hardy work in the arboretum. We really need better attendance than we have received at the last two, so please come out to help and have some fun in the spring air.

The fall workday, back on October 20th, was a great weather day. We were all greatly surprised upon arrival at the arboretum by the addition of 3 new *Bismarkia nobilis*, 3 new *Wodyetia bifurcata*, 2 new *Phoenix roebelenii* and some transplanting we requested earlier, all supplied by St. Petersburg City Parks Department and staff. I can never say enough good things about our city parks department and staff! They make the arboretum entirely possible.

A result of the fall workday is the addition of 2 *Phoenix theophrasti*

(Continued on page 3)



# Letter From The Editor

**H**ello! My name is Elizabeth Stryjewski. I live in Merritt Island and my husband John and I have been in the IPS for nearly 4 years. I volunteered to become the new editor of the CFPS journal back in August when Ed Hall mentioned that he would like to turn this responsibility over to someone else. Since then, I have been appointed by the new Board of Directors of our chapter to head the Publications Committee, the primary responsibility of which is editorship of the journal. I am very happy to be in this position and have several ideas for this new committee. The primary focus of this committee is to find ways to improve communication within our chapter and between our chap-

ter and the community. To accomplish this, I would like this committee to explore three principle areas. These are: upgrading the journal, distributing educational and general information flyers to the public, nurseries and landscapers on caring for and choosing palms and establishing a CFPACS Internet presence including a home page and email list. Both John and Bernie Peterson have offered to sit on this committee and participate in these new endeavors and we invite anyone who is interested in any of these areas or has a different idea for this committee to explore to join us in our efforts.

The most important of the endeavors

mentioned above is upgrading our journal and I would like to go over a few things that would accomplish this. We can increase the quality and "readability" of the journal by not only the new format presented in this first issue, but also by increasing continuity between issues. To do this, we would have articles which run from issue to issue. For example, Bernie has agreed to write an "Ask The Expert" column (see page 4) in which members can submit questions to Bernie concerning anything from palm care to disease control. This article will appear in each edition of the journal and would deal with issues which are of general interest to the palm

(Continued on page 6)

## Distribution of *Calyptronoma* in Puerto Rico

by Mike Dahme

**T**hanks to the kindness of Karina Zuniga and Pedro Rivera, who on short notice scheduled a quasi-official expedition to the habitat area of *Calyptronoma rivalis* (Figure 1) in NW Puerto Rico, I was able to satisfy the wish of a year, for on a prior visit I had failed to locate the type locality of the species on my own. Meeting early outside of the Rio Camuy Park, eight of us in four vehicles caravanned the short distance to the private property (the owner awaited us) on which is located the largest concentration of the Manaca Palm (of the three localities in which the palm is presently known) on the island. This population, with an estimated total of several thousand, extends in and along the banks of the Rio Camuy and a tributary downstream of the park and after the river, at this point barely a stream save for times of heavy rainfall, surfaces from the several miles of underground travel that provides the raison d'être for the park. The total extent of this colony along the watershed is estimated at 1/2 - 2 kilometers, and the consensus of those present was that the palm numbers at this site were clearly expanding (possibly very rapidly).

The descent of 300 feet to the stream bed from the parking area required only half an hour, and though moderately difficult in a few places due to the steep, slippery trail, one was immediately rewarded by the presence of a good-sized, though as yet juvenile, *Calyptronoma* standing sentinel for the extensive colony upstream. Nearby to this and other scattered individuals, growing with the ubiquitous Royal, *Roystonea borinquena*, were patches



Figure 1: Sun-grown *Calyptronoma rivalis* in cultivation at Rio Piedras Botanical Garden at the University of Puerto Rico.

of seedlings, a good indicator of the palm's downstream expansion.

(Continued on page 9)



The Board of Directors consists of 10 members. 6 of these members are elected to their positions, 3 are appointed by the elected officers and the remaining seat is filled by the immediate past president. If you would like a copy of the new chapter bylaws which outlines election procedures and the responsibilities of the officers, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the journal editor with that request.

### President — Tom Broome

Cindy and I live in Polk City Florida. We have been members of the IPS since 1990. I started a nursery and landscape company in 1985. Even though I have had a casual interest in palms and cycads from the beginning of my career, it was after reading about how cycads are endangered, and finding out how little information there is on them, did I get serious. Instead of collecting just one of everything, I now have colonies of over 100 species of cycads for seed production. Even though I grow countless palm species I also specialize in *Chamaedoreas*, with colonies of 20 species for seed production.

Our chapter is unusual compared to the chapters in Florida, in that we are spread out all over the state. We have a lot of different people, who all have different priorities, on various aspects of the palm and cycad society. As President I am in charge of the board meetings, and have to coordinate the efforts of others for the common good of the society. What I would like to see happen this year as a society, would be to increase the number of serious members who show up to meetings and participate in functions. I would also like to see us have more than three meetings per year. Through media such as our journal, informational flyers, and speakers, I would like to see an increase of information about palms and cycads available to our chapter members as well as our local communities. And lastly I would like to see our revenue increase so that we can do more as a society, as well as enrich our communities with projects and the promotion of palms and cycads.

### East Vice President — Jerry Hooper

As a life-long resident of Brevard County, my interest in

(Continued on page 4)

## Seed Distribution Program

by Neil Yorio

Members of the Central Florida Palm and Cycad Society have recently initiated a seed distribution effort to supplement the chapter's other fund-raising methods (e.g. sales events, auctions, shirt sales, etc.). This timely development coincides with the dissolution of the IPS seed bank as a method of continued seed availability to local chapter members as well as members of the IPS. The start came when Joe Michael donated seed of *Borassus* and *Bismarckia* (and others) last summer but quickly expanded to include seed obtained from other sources, including private and public gardens as well as foreign sources. This past year, seed obtained this way has been distributed to many areas of the globe via the Internet, including Venezuela, S. Africa, Belgium, the Canary Islands, and Australia as well as domestically to Hawaii, California, and Florida. In just this last year, the seed distributions have resulted in donations to our chapter's treasury approximating \$2000, and it appears that as Internet subscribers increase and by "word of mouth", this program offers an alternative fund-raising opportunity for our chapter.

...seed distributions have resulted in donations to our chapter's treasury approximating \$2000...

(Continued on page 6)

## Year End at Kopsick ...

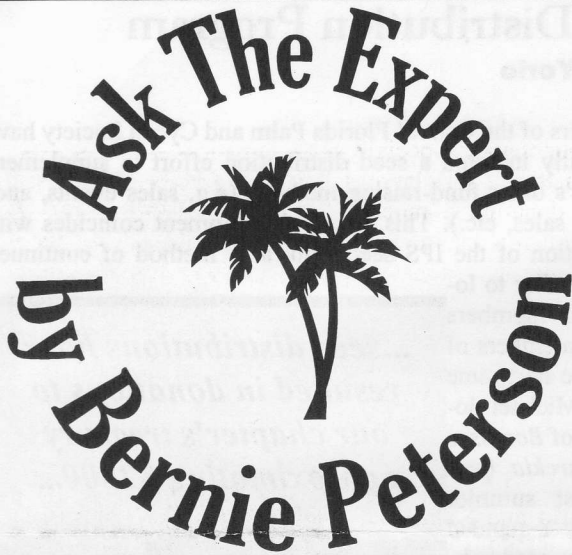
(Continued from page 1)

(memorials), 2 *Dypsis decaryi*, 1 *Chamaedorea radicalis*, 1 *Howea forsteriana*, 1 each *Hyphaene* F2 hybrid, 1 *Sabal guatemalensis*, 1 *Sabal uresana*, 1 *Syagrus sancona*, 1 *Syagrus quinquefaria*, 1 *Syagrus flexuosa*, and 1 *Macrozamia communis* (all previous donations).

Welcome to Rick Nale, CFPACS member and new docent for the tours at the arboretum. Rick's tours will allow us to add a Sunday date to the monthly schedule and a good back-up to Jerry Shrewsbury's years of sole devotion to the docent program. Additionally, Rick has been added as a consultant to the City Beautiful Commission.

From the broken record department, the signage, purged from computer purgatory, is finally at the printer. What was to be our greatest advance for 1996 will instead be our first big move of 1997. Stay tuned!

Anyone needing directions, tour information, or general information for the arboretum may call the Department of Leisure Services for the City of St. Petersburg at (813) 893-7335. ■



For years now we have all been asking Bernie Peterson question after question about anything from our favorite palm's recent decline and how to prevent it's demise to what he would recommend for our central Florida yards. Now Bernie has agreed to write a column for our journal in which he will answer even more questions that we might have about our palms. Take advantage of this expert advise and submit your questions to the journal editor who will then compile them and every other month send them on to Bernie.

## Notes From the Officers ...

(Continued from page 3)

palms began in 1986 when a neighbor, Bill Jewel, gave me a copy of *Palms Of The World* by McCurrach. Well, next stop Fairchild Tropical Garden. Shortly thereafter I met Bud Wideman of Cocoa Beach where I purchased some really unusual palms. *Coryphatan*, *Syagrus x Butia* hybrids and others. Next, I purchased a one acre piece of property in West Melbourne, where Mary Ann and I enjoy our collection of palms, cycads, Aroios, Zingerberales and other unusual plants. If you are just getting started or just getting serious about palms, my advice is to get as large a piece of land as possible, start with proven cold hardy plants that grow well in your area. Experiment with the more exotic and tropical stuff in smaller quantities and purchase these as small plants or grow them from seed. If space is limited, plant palms that contrast or compliment one another together, most of all just plant them. If any members would like to see our garden, give us a call, we'd love to have you.

### Central Vice President — David Witt

What's up palm people? A new central region V.P., that's what. My name is David Witt. I moved my wife & 4 sons to Orlando from our home in Washington D.C. approximately 5 years ago; they can't thank me enough. I have no recall of any palm, cycad or other tropical while waging day to day combat in the urban decay. When looking out my new home's front window I noticed something amiss. No, it wasn't steel bars. My new yard had no palm trees in it. I soon rectified that by planting various palms of all shapes & sizes, oblivious to my snickering neighbors who remarked that most of them "couldn't grow up here". Several freezes from last winter & one the winter before have added a dose of reality to my botanical experiments, nevertheless I press forward down the Holy Grail of cold tolerance. Now, if my formerly 12 foot *Cocos nucifera* can just make it through this winter.....

### West Vice President — Joe Member

The Vice President position for the West Coast is currently vacant. We need someone to fill this position ASAP. The Vice Presidents are responsible for coordinating efforts associated with organizing general society meetings and promoting the society within their geographic region. If you are interested or have any questions, please call our chapter's president, Tom Broome.

*...the West Coast  
Vice President position  
is vacant...*

### Immediate Past President — Mike Dahme

(this article consists of excerpts (with updates) from CFPS bulletin vol. 14, #1)

I was born in a suburb of Chicago and in the early 1960s I migrated west, leaving the palm-less Midwest behind forever. I attended the "Harvard of the West" (University of Hawaii) and of all the palms there, I recall only the *Cocos* of Waikiki because of the curvature of the trunk provided perfect back support.

1973 - '77 were my "Sailing Daze". I spent more time among palms with lengthy visits to Hong Kong, the Philippines, the soon-to-fall SE Asian dominoes of Thailand, Indonesia (including a few days in Krakatau), the Canary Islands and finally the windward and leeward chains of the Caribbean, P.R., D.R. and the Bahamas. My recollection of palms? Nada.

In 1979 I exchanged the boat (the English word for "hole in the water into which one throws torn-up five quid notes") for eight acres of property taxes in Brevard County and began to wonder what would grow on it. Early experiments included Aussie Pine (failed, soil too compact) and *Schinus terebinthifolius* (of which Henry Nehrling presciently observed, "...it ought to be in every Florida garden.").

(Continued on page 11)



# Internet Spotlight

As many of you know, our parent organization, the International Palm Society, maintains a list server as part of the Internet services they provide to their members. Many people throughout the world from palm novice to expert participate in this. They submit questions and commentary and ask the other subscribers to the list for their comments. Very often many people offer advice and give suggestions via these email messages which would be very valuable to our local chapter but we have no way to disseminate this information among our membership who do not have access to this list, until now! The publications committee is looking for someone who keeps up with the IPSC list and would like to fill our membership in on these conversations. If you would like to join the publications committee in this capacity, please contact the Palm Review editor. We need you!

**The next Palm Review issue theme is "Cold Hardiness": Deadline for submission is March 1st. The following issue theme will be "Disease Control and Prevention".**

## Fall Meeting at Bobick Home ...

(Continued from page 1)

successful, raising just over \$1,300.00 for our chapter. Special thanks to Hersh and Jackie Womble for donating a very large *Dioon spinulosum*, to the Bobicks for donating a much sought after mule palm, to Bernie Peterson for donating a beautiful *Sabal yapa* and to the many others who donated extraordinary gifts to that effort. All fetched great prices for our chapter's coffers. Following the auction, Bob and Marita organized the covered dishes they requested us to bring for a pot-luck dinner into a gourmet affair. There was much to choose from and it was all wonderfully presented. Doug Keene of DeLand commented that "the mistake I made was starting to fill my plate at the beginning of the line instead of near the end". Special thanks also to Carlo and Katherine Jensen, CFPACS members from Tavares, for donating two cases of wonderful wines for the event. Each table was adorned with a *Zamia latifolia* (Figure 2) donated by Bob and Marita, which we all fiendishly eyed until we discovered that the person at the table whose birthday was closest to the day of the meeting was the lucky one who would take it home (not the one with the quickest hand). Jim Miller, a guest at the meeting (and we hope to soon be a CFPACS member) had our table convinced that this day was actually his birthday. By the end of the meal though he admitted it wasn't and another lucky guest went away with the prize. After lunch, we had our first formal meeting where many issues concerning our chapter were discussed. Mike Dahme led the discussion and after an almost unanimous vote by all those present, our chapter name was officially changed to include "cycads", a direction many other chapters have chosen as well, making our official name "The Central Florida Palm and Cycad Society".

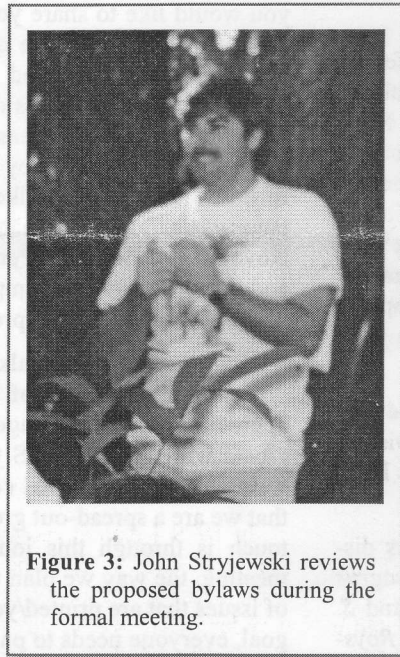


Figure 3: John Stryjewski reviews the proposed bylaws during the formal meeting.



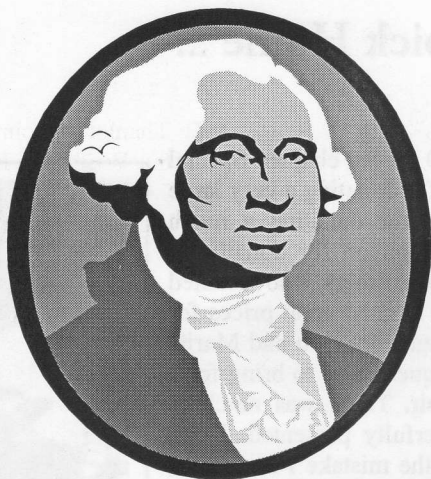
Figure 2: Luis Velazquez places a *Zamia latifolia* on one of the dinner tables to be given away later to a lucky attendee.

John Stryjewski (Figure 3) then headed a discussion on the new bylaws that he, Neil Yorio, Nancy Hall, Mike Dahme and Dave Besst had drawn up. Neil Yorio then outlined the particulars of the seed distribution operation he and Mike Dahme have spearheaded (see "Seed Distribution Program", page 3). Following the formal meeting, a bon fire was built to fend off the rather chilly evening and we gathered around as IPS director and President of the Palm Beach Chapter Paul Craft and Dr. Peter Mayotte, CFPACS member from Winter Park, gave a slide show (despite the slide projector's objections to the unusually cold night) of their recent trips to Cuba and the beautiful palms they have seen there. All chapter members extend their thanks to Bob and Marita for graciously opening their home and garden for our meeting. "Lavishly presented and delicious" said John Kennedy of Vero Beach. Everyone agreed with Doug and Barb Keene who said that we "had such a great time that it must have been illegal".

If you would like to host a meeting or have an idea of a meeting venue, please contact your area's Vice President as they always need input in this area. Each

VP is required to arrange one meeting annually for their area, but will coordinate as many as that area can set up.

## MEMBER PROFILE



Our chapter covers most of Central Florida. We are a very spread-out group and this often makes it difficult to get to know one another. To help with this, the publications committee is looking for someone who would like to write a column for this journal that highlights a CFPACS member every issue. Not only will this help us to get to know each other and remember faces, we can also get a better idea of the kinds of collections others in our climate are raising. In addition to this column introducing new members to the rest of the membership, it would allow us to meet the members who have been in the society for many years and who now have some spectacular collections. Perhaps as the author of this column you would like to highlight a favorite palm? If you are interested in writing such a column, please contact the Palm Review editor.

---

## Seed Distribution.....

(Continued from page 3)

Here's how the program works (and how you fellow CFPACS members can participate): Persons who are able to donate seed, however obtained, can advise either myself or Mike Dahme as to species, quantity, etc., and a suggested donation amount (price) determined. This information will then be disseminated in the above-mentioned manners, and donors notified of any resulting requests. Currently, the person possessing the seed does the posting, collects the donation (plus postage) from the seed recipient, and remits the donation amount on to the chapter's treasurer. No major effort is required for domestic mailings, a zip-lock bag and a padded manila mailer usually suffices.

If seed of a particular species is known to be available at a future date (or on a continuing or seasonal basis), please advise so that notification of availability can be made through the Palm Review.

In addition to the species previously mentioned, others distributed to date include *Copernicia macroglossa*, several *Syagrus* spp (including *S. coronata*, *S. oleracea*, *S. schizophylla*, and *S. orinocensis*), several *Chamaedorea* spp, *Acrocomia* spp, *Roystonea borinquena*, *Livistona* spp, and *Zamia* spp. Seed antici-

(Continued on page 8)

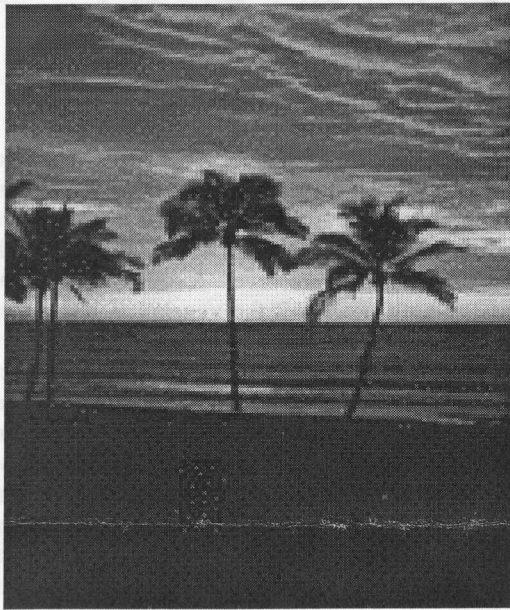
## Letter From the Editor...

(Continued from page 2)

community. Also, we need to "personalize" our journal and use it as a means for us to meet the other members of our chapter. I've asked each of the new Board of Directors to write such an article about themselves (see page 3) and would like to continue with articles about individuals in the general membership through other issues (see adjacent article). If anyone would like to write such a column or submit an article on a friend (perhaps the member who got you interested in the society in the first place?) or even yourself, please submit it to the journal. Don't forget to include a picture!

Additionally, many of us enjoy email we receive through the IPS list server and there are often lively and informative discussions about anything from seed cleaning techniques to disease diagnosis and I think the members of our chapter who do not have email access (yet) would enjoy reading these discussions. Perhaps there is someone in our chapter who enjoys keeping up with the IPSC list who could write a summary of the goings on every other month for the journal (see "Internet Spotlight", page 5). If this is you, please let me know. We need you on our team. Also, I would like to see "Letters to the Editor" appear in each issue and I invite anyone to submit comments and concerns about any subject of general interest to our chapter (see "Letters", page 9). To increase continuity between issues, I would like to have a theme for each issue. We have started this trend off by having the focus of this first issue be our chapter's reorganization and an introduction to the new journal. We will then move on to more "Palmy" issues with the subject of "Cold Hardiness" for the next issue which we would like to publish in March. If you would like to share your thoughts or comments either in the form of an article, a question to Bernie (although questions need not be limited to the journal theme) or simply a comment of your success or failure with palms or cycads due to cold weather, please submit them by email to "editor@palms.org" or by regular mail to my home address. In the future, I would like to see our chapter publish a full color journal, one like many of you saw at our last meeting in November at Bobick's. Perhaps if we are successful this year, and everyone agrees to improve the journal further, a plan for a color journal could be presented to the Board of Directors.

John and I enjoyed talking to everyone who stopped by to discuss our editorship of the journal and its new look. We appreciate your encouragement with what we are trying to create with the CFPACS journal. Everyone we spoke with wants to see our journal come out more often. We all agree that we are a spread-out group and our primary way to keep in touch is through this journal. As John mentioned at the meeting, the way we plan to do this is to increase the number of issues that are printed/year to 6 but in conjunction with this goal, everyone needs to participate in this. You can't increase communication just by receiving the journal more often, you must participate in writing it. My hope is that the ideas have outlined above will facilitate your participation. I look forward to hearing from you!



## Feature Foto

### Any odd-balls in your neighborhood?

Of the palm variety, that is. What's your favorite palm in your yard? Anything you're particularly proud of and want to show off to the rest of us? Send in a photo for this spot!

## WE'RE ON THE WEB!

Thanks to John Stryjewski, We're on the WEB! He has taken advantage of the WWW space provided by the IPS and we now have a CFPACS home page at "CFPACS.palms.org". You will soon be able to reach this page via the link through the IPS home page. After seeing the success of the IPSC List server on the Internet, he has also set up our own CFPACS list to deal with problems and general conversation that is of interest to our chapter. If you'd like to join, send a message simply saying "subscribe" to CFPACS-request@palms.org. The list address is:

[CFPACS@palms.org](mailto:CFPACS@palms.org).

## Leu Gardens Makes Major Improvements In The Palm Collection

by Ed Hall

For those of you who haven't visited the Harry P. Leu Gardens in Orlando lately you are in for several surprises. Within the last two years, the palm collection has increased nearly 100% and recently some of the older plants in the collection were relocated to establish botanical uniformity (the plants are now arranged by



Figure 1: A massive *Sabal causiarum* weighing 7,600 lbs. is hoisted by a crane into an awaiting truck.

County Palm Society and FNATS that Eric applied for and received, 2) donations made by individuals and the CFPACS & 3) continual searching by Eric of all possible sources, this collection has increased greatly.

This spring over 50 new species will be moved from the nursery and permanently planted in the garden. Some of these new species will be located in areas previously occupied by palms of different tribes. Thanks to Disney World, Leu Gardens was able to correct some earlier botanical mistakes. Disney World on two weekends provided a large crane, a truck and three experienced people from their horticultural staff to move the misplanted palms. A total of 16 palms were moved. Some of the larger included a *Phoenix canariensis* that weighed 30,000 lbs., a *Phoenix sylvestris* at 15,000 lbs. and a large *Sabal causiarum* (Figure 1) at 7,600 lbs. The major weight difference between the two *Phoenix* and the *Sabal* was the size of the root balls.

Assuming the 1996-97 winter doesn't result in severe damage to the palm collection, you should expect to make this one of our 1997 visits. It must be noted that the winter of 1995-96 though fairly severe didn't kill any of the mature palms. ■



Figure 2: Workers lift another large palm for transplanting to a new home.

tribe). Their efforts were spear-headed by Eric Schmidt of the Horticultural staff. Through 1) two grants from the Broward

# PALM PUZZLER



Send in an interesting picture of a palm or cycad, this time (unlike the "feature foto" on the previous page) of something puzzling. I've started this off with a *livistona rigida* I have in my back yard which is in a very wet spot and has developed tight clumps of grass-like projections (see arrow) coming up at the base of the trunk. Can this palm have some sort of breather root or is my weed problem worse than I thought? Please send your comments to the journal editor and/or a picture for next issue's puzzler!

## Seed Distribution.....

(Continued from page 6)

ated in the not too distant future include *Corypha umbraculifera*, *Normanbya*, and *Syagrus oleracea*. Please advise of interest by phone or E-mail per IPS directory.

Many thanks to Joe Michael, Cesar Diaz, Mike Dahme, Francisco Bermudez, Bernie Peterson, and Tom Broome for providing seed to our distribution program. I look forward to their future generosity in this effort and would also encourage others to participate to further benefit the chapter and it's members. ■

**The new CFPACS T-Shirts are now available! The price is \$18.00 plus \$3.00 postage. Please send a check (made payable to "CFPACS") to: Ed Hall, 1111 Glen Garry Circle Maitland Florida, 32751**

## CFPACS Members Visit The Palms of The Florida Keys

by Neil Yorio

On the weekend of June 1, 1996 CFPACS members Mike Dahme, Karen Yorio and myself attended a 2-day trip with 19 members of the South Florida Palm Society to the Florida Keys. The tour began with a preliminary stop on Key Largo at an old coral-rock mine now turned native preserve. A tour was given by a local naturalist, and though nearly all the vegetation was of the non-palm variety, a number of the native *Thrinax radiata* plants were observed growing in the underbrush of the native poisonwood and gumbo limbo. From there, the group then proceeded another 80 miles to Key West. Along the way, more *Thrinax morrisii* were seen poking out above the canopies of the surrounding native vegetation. At mile marker 32, we came up to Big Pine Key where the native palm vegetation abruptly changes. The major palms observed here were numerous native *Coccothrinax argentata* and *Thrinax morrisii* growing both in undisturbed areas and as leftovers from land clearing for development.

Arrival at the Eaton Lodge, our Key West night's lodging, was quickly followed by post travel lager, showers, and a guided walking tour of the palm gardens of the island. South Florida member Pat Tierney was our intrepid guide, who first took us to the beautiful garden of Nancy Forrester. This garden is open to the public, not far from the main drag, and is certainly a must see for anyone visiting Key West. Among the large, spectacular palms at this location were *Phoenicophorium borsigniana*, *Arenga microcarpa*, *Arenga pinnata*, *Attalea rostrata* and *phalerata*, and *Bismarckia nobilis*. In addition, there was a large group planting of *Licuala grandis* that had perfect dark green leaves, obviously due to the climate and regular doses of fertilizer.

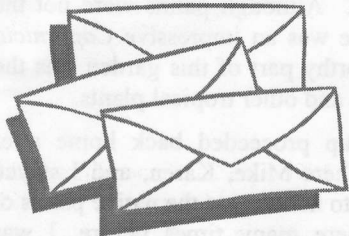
The next garden to visit was located at the Key West public library. This garden was planted by Pat Tierney, and though this garden was small, it had a number of superb palms. Among those were a large *Pseudophoenix sargentii* which was showcased in the middle of the red bricked paved garden as well as *Sabal causiarum*, *Copernicia alba*, and *Coccothrinax sp.* A short walk away was our final palm stop in Key West, which was at Peter Whelan's residence. The most impressive view of this garden is from the Key West cemetery, where a huge *Corypha umbraculifera* can be seen towering over all other vegetation on the street. Although this garden was on a very



Figure 1: A nice specimen of *Copernicia rigida* at the estate of Baxter Gentry on Sugarloaf Key. Karen Yorio provides scale.

(Continued on page 10)





# Letters to The Editor

We would like to have a column come out in each issue where members can express their opinions on anything to do with our society and a "Letters to The Editor" column fits that bill. Please let us know what's on your mind. Perhaps you have an idea for improving the society or a direction you think the society should take. We certainly want to hear from you about this new format for the journal. What do you think of it? Also,

at the last Board of Directors meeting, the idea of charging dues for membership in our society was raised. You must have a comment on this! Everyone has something to say when it comes to money. What do you think of this new Board of Directors and the new direction our society is taking? Send your letters to the Palm Review Editor. We want to hear from you!

## Distribution of *Calyptronoma*....

(Continued from page 2)

sion, perhaps a quarter of a mile or so from the waterfalls to which we slogged, rising 50 to 600 feet above sea level, for an hour amongst the heart of the colony in and above a muddy ravine (Figure 2). The palms were brought to the attention of the botanical community about 15 years ago when the property owner notified Mr. Miguel (Pablo) Vives, of the Puerto Rico Dept. of Natural Resources, who, with others from the US Dept. of Agriculture and conservationists has been monitoring the stand by regular visits. Indeed, permanent tags enumerating the mature individuals are in place, and the highest number that I reached



Figure 2: Juvenile *Calyptronoma* in the muddy ravine.

before turning back was 183. As this palm, like the island's *Prestoea*, is not a rapid grower and does not flower until quite tall, there are many large specimens consequently not tagged, and no doubt a factor of 10 for smaller, but easily observable juveniles would not be an hyperbole. As for the smallest, seedling-stage and slightly larger, enumeration would scarcely be possible, for many of these are located up to 50 feet above the bottom of the ravine on steep, muddy and quite slippery slopes as well as on the

bed itself. How the palm is colonizing the slopes is not immediately clear, for all of the mature plants are located immediately adjacent to the stream bed and seed are not in a position to drop to the slopes; however, the seed, which were available both beneath some of the palms and on inflorescences 30 or so feet up, are quite small (5 mm long, 3 wide, or an eighth inch by 3/16) so

easily ingestible.

With collections in hand we made our way up to the vehicles to say our good-byes, but Mr. Vives and his party offered to lead us to the type locality "... 3 miles E. of San Sebastian along the old carriage road towards Lares" (*Common Trees of Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands*

Vol. 2) about 12.5 statute miles west of the Rio Camuy population. This stand, reported in 1970 to contain 20 individuals, is located just off and visible from an unenumerated rural road a mile South from Rte 111, and though it is likely that I traversed it a year earlier, only the tops of the eight or nine remaining palms, all in the 20 - 30 foot range (at least two of which are mature), are all that is visible due to the vegetation



Figure 3: One of the eight remaining palms at the original site

which encompasses them, and would be easily missed but for a guide. Although Mr. Vives had counted about 100 seedlings along the bank (only one was in use by the palm, the other having been cleared for habitation) of the small stream that was, either a tributary or the river itself, the Rio Culebrinas on his last visit "about 10 years ago", none was seen on this occasion, which he thought an indication that they had been collected (seedlings are being grown by the Vivero de Recursos Naturales in near-by Arcibo) and no seed was found on the ground or the old inflorescences of the mature trees. This small stand, remnant of that first described by Cook in 1901, is obviously on the way out. Indeed, the remaining individuals, emergent as they are, do not present the same aspect as those of the Rio Camuy population,

(Continued on page 11)

## Community Clipboard

### February



18th: John Kennedy will be discussing palms at the Information and Technology Lab of the Indian River Community College Library which is at 3209 Virginia Avenue in Fort Pierce.

### March



1st-2nd: The next CFPACS meeting in Miami (see "Our Next Meeting", page 11)



15-17th: Plant Fair at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens in Sarasota

16th: Spring Workday at Kopsick Palm Arboretum at 2:00 p.m.

*If you have events you would like to let other CFPACS members know about, please submit them to the Palm Review editor.*

## Keys Trip...

(Continued from page 8)

small lot, there was enough room for a number of large palms. In addition to the large *C. umbraculifera*, *C. utan* and *C. "lecomptii"* were also present. Also, nice specimens of *Borassodendron machodonis*, *Licuala ramsayi*, and *Copernicia macroglossa* were enjoyed by all. After the tours, an exceptional dinner was had by the group at The Blue Heaven, an out-of-the-way outdoor restaurant in Key West, which was followed by an outstanding slide presentation by Lester Pancoast on his beautiful water color paintings of palms.

The following day, the group traveled to Sugarloaf Key, where the venue was the historic garden of Baxter Gentry. It was this garden that was the incentive for Mike and I to join the S. Florida group on this trip. His *Borassus* palms were mentioned in an article written in 1988 by Julia Morton entitled "*The Distribution, Propagation, and Products of Borassus Palms*" (Economic Botany 42:420-441) and were no disappointment to us, except for the fact that they were both male. The sizes, number, and excellent condition of the palms in this collection rivals any public garden. Other impressive palms at the Gentry estate were *Copernicia rigida*, *Syagrus schizophylla*, *Coccothrinax crinita*, *Hyphaene sp.*, and a putative *Latania X Bismarckia* hybrid. Also visited by the group on Sugarloaf Key was

the garden of Daphne Bettle. Although palms were not the mainstay of this garden, there was an impressive *Copernicia baileyana*. The most noteworthy part of this garden was the huge collection of bromeliads and other tropical plants.

The S. Florida group proceeded back home after lunch at Bahama Mama's, where Mike, Karen, and I stayed another day on Big Pine Key to investigate the native palms of this island. Having been there many times before, I was intrigued by a 1990 article in *Principes* by Clifton E. Nauman (34:191-198) that discussed a possible hybrid between *Thrinax morrissii* (Keys Thatch Palm) and *Coccothrinax argentata* (Florida Silver Palm) because it is the only island in the Keys where the two species occur together. Mike and I had lengthy discussions and a number of lagers comparing a putative hybrid I discovered from a previous trip with the two native species. Morphologically speaking, the hybrid is intermediate in size, leaf color, and number of leaflets per leaf than the suspected parents. In addition, failed inflorescences were observed, which may possibly be another sign of intergeneric hybridity. A scant number of *Serenoa repens* and *Sabal palmetto* were also observed on Big Pine Key, but were very minor constituents of the vegetation compared to the Silver Palm and Keys Thatch Palm. Quite the opposite of what we central Florida residents are used to.



**Figure 2:** Putative hybrid between *Coccothrinax morrissii* (center) and *Thrinax morrissii* located on Big Pine Key. Palm has intermediate morphology between suspected parent plants, *Coccothrinax argentata* (right) and *Thrinax morrissii* (left in background).

The trip to the Keys was certainly a well deserved and worthwhile one. I would suggest to anyone who intends to visit the Keys to definitely make a point of seeing both the gardens and native Keys vegetation outlined in this article. It would undoubtedly be a great future trip for the Central Florida chapter. ■

## Our Next Meeting

Our kick-off meeting for 1997 will be an excursion to south Florida for the weekend of March 1st and 2nd. The meeting will officially commence at Fairchild Tropical Gardens in Miami. We are to gather at the garden entrance at 11:00 am that Saturday morning to begin a tour of the garden's palmetum conducted by our host for the weekend and fellow IPS member from the South Florida chapter Richard Leitner. Keep in mind that if you are a member of another garden (such as Leu Garden in Orlando), your admission will be waived. Following the tour, we will sit down to a catered luncheon at a park adjacent to Fairchild. The price of this luncheon is \$8.50/person and checks (payable to "CFPACS") should be mailed to Ed Hall by February 20th. From there we will head to Paul Drummond's yard for a tour and then on to two more private gardens, sunlight permitting. Events for Saturday evening are still to be determined. Sunday morning begins with tours of three more private gardens and then we will finish the day at Dearmond Hull's home with a tour of his garden and nursery and possibly a plant sale. If you need accommodations for Saturday night, Richard suggests you try the Dadeland Marriott. Prices there are \$99.00/night for CFPACS members and you can have up to 4 people/room if necessary. Mike Dahme and Neil Yorio have reserved another block of rooms at the Howard Johnson in Coral Gables (1430 S. Dixie Hwy). The rate there is \$65.00 and members should refer to CFPACS when making their reservations, call (305) 665-7501.

## Distribution of Calyptronoma.....

(Continued from page 9)

which are well-shaded and consequently more graceful.

Time did not permit a visit to the third locality of the palm, the Lago Guajataca area (intermediate between the two visited) and scheduled departure on the following day meant that we couldn't accept Mr. Vives' offer for another occasion. But this population is also reportedly small in number. The three known localities, though within 12.5 miles of each other, are on separate watercourses, two of which flow northward (the Rio Culebrinas flows westward) and it would appear unlikely that the development of any one was affected by another (though damming of the rivers in recent decades might have changed flow directions), and thus that at least two of these remaining sites are remnants. However, that one, the Rio Camuy population, is apparently so rapidly-expanding might be an indication that it is a relatively recent introduction, via bird or mammal, into a terrain highly favorable for development of this species. Though botanical authority (see *Principes*, July 1995) now considers this palm to be conspecific with one of two species found on Hispaniola (where it is not considered as threatened), it is fortunate that such an habitat area exists on Puerto Rico - for it is more likely than not unique.

I thank Francisco Bermudez for introductions, Karina and Pedro for arranging the trip, and Pablo and his friends for their time and trouble in leading us to the original collection site, and all of the above for their good company. ■

## Notes From the Officers...

(Continued from page 4)

About January of '83 my present conversion occurred. I received my first seed shipment (of thousands) from the IPS, included were seed of *Bismarkia*.

In May of '83 I received my first CFPS bulletin, on which was penned, "Just found you might be interested in attending our next meeting. If so please call me. Ed Hall".

In May of '90, I received a long overdue shipment of *Borassus* seed from PASCOA. Six months later came the first appearance of the aforementioned *Borassus*, which was planted directly to ground. I glimpsed Nirvana. In '92 - '93 I obtained all previous issues of *Principes* and realized how much time (and money) I had spent reinventing the wheel. I continued planting *Borassus* and now refer to my Grant home as "Borasic Park". Counting *Borassus* still in my greenhouse (in buckets) the number is probably about 70 but a friend in Miami is on his way up for the weekend and says he's "liberated" 3 fruits from a plant in a well-known garden, so maybe that's 9 more! The 'biggest', and there's but a few of them at that size, might have a foot of trunk and be 3 feet overall. i.e., I still could leap them (if pressed to do so by, say, a hungry bear). Bo be slow. My advise? Plant your *Borassus* when you're young, better yet, have your forebearers do it.

**Treasurer — Ed Hall**

**Secretary — Nancy Hall**

After coming to Florida in 1969, Ed and Nancy Hall moved to their Maitland home in 1972. They were first introduced to palms by fellow IPS member (and then co-worker of Ed's) Dave Besst back in the early 1970s and joined the IPS soon thereafter. Since then, Ed has served as an IPS director and between he and Nancy, they have served our chapter as president, treasurer, fundraiser and secretary. The greatest joy Ed and Nancy have found over the years is the creation of a garden oasis at home where they can escape the hustle and bustle of the outside world. On a visit to their yard one realizes the love they have for gardening and the time they must put in to it as there are seemingly millions of pots of and exotic bromeliads everywhere and wonderful, swooping palms hanging over their swimming pool. Ed and Nancy have been active members of our society and, as many of us know, they have been the "glue" that has held our chapter together for many years. We all thank them for giving so much of themselves and we will always be grateful. Ed and Nancy are beginning to change direction in their lives though and although they will remain active members of our chapter, they would like to turn their responsibilities as treasurer and secretary over to someone new for next year. If you are interested in these positions and would like to find out a little more about what they entail, please contact our society president, Tom Broome.

(Continued on page 12)

## Notes From the Officers...

(Continued from page 11)

### Membership — John Stryjewski

My wife Elizabeth and I have been members of the CFPACS and the IPS for about four years. I am excited about the recent changes taking place in the Central Florida Palm and Cycad Society. One of the most important changes is an effort to get more members involved in the running of the society. To this end I have agreed to be the Membership Committee Chairman.

This committee has the twofold task of attracting new members and keeping old members. In the keeping old members area, we will more closely monitor who is active and who is not (and who's been naughty and who's been nice) and follow up and find out why some people are not active. The committee will also suggest to the Board of Directors activities or services that members are looking for. As for attracting new members, I have a three pronged approach ("tri-fid" in palm talk). First, I am working with our society journal editor to insure that the journal has something for everyone. Next, I want to advertise the society and its events more aggressively. This will be done by distributing the journal and informational leaflets to libraries, schools, and palm sellers. Finally, we will be sure to follow up on new member contacts with letters of introduction and welcome. Some of the other ideas being tossed around are: more community outreach programs such as the Kopsick Arboretum and more interaction with related societies like the Native Florida Plant Society.

If you like what you have just read -- get involved. I am looking for members in the East, Central and West geographic regions to join the membership Committee. Maybe you only want to offer your two cents or maybe you want to be the "Johnny (or Jenny) Apple Seed" of the palm world. It doesn't matter! Join the committee and get involved. If you own or work at retail or wholesale plant nursery, contact me for some leaflets and membership applications. Give them to your customers and friends. Promote the society and we all gain. I can be contacted at:

phone: (407)453-1303

e-mail: [membership@cfpacs.palms.org](mailto:membership@cfpacs.palms.org)

mail: 5155 Wildwood Ave.

Merritt Island, FL 32953

### Revenue — You?

Our society needs someone who is interested in running and improving upon our current fundraising efforts. You will be in charge of all auctions, plants sales, the seeds distribution efforts and

*Our society is looking for someone to head our fundraising efforts....*

## Our Chapter Officers and How to Reach Them:

- President:** Tom Broome  
9128 Golden Gate Blvd.  
Polk City, FL. 33868  
(352) 984-2739
- East Vice President:** Jerry Hooper  
2360 Vermont St.  
West Melbourne, FL 32904  
(407) 676-3458
- Central Vice President:** David Witt  
7026 Burnway Dr.  
Orlando, FL 32819  
(407) 352-4115
- West Vice President:** Position Vacant! Call Tom Broome!
- Immediate Past President:** Mike Dahme  
P.O. Box 89  
Grant, FL 32949  
(407) 724-8417
- Palm Review Editor:** Elizabeth Stryjewski
- Membership Chairman:** John Stryjewski  
5155 Wildwood Ave.  
Merritt Island, FL 32953  
(407) 453-1303
- Revenue Committee Chair:** Position Vacant! Call Tom Broome!
- Treasurer:** Ed Hall
- Secretary:** Nancy Hall  
1111 Glen Garry Circle  
Maitland, FL 32715

any other way you can come up with that will generate funds for our chapter. If you would like to know more about how to get involved, please contact the CFPACS president, Tom Broome ■.

**WARNING!!!** If there is a "This is Your Last Issue" notice under your name on the address label on this bulletin, this issue will be the last one you receive unless you send in the membership application on page 13. Let us hear from you!

# Join US

What is the Central Florida Palm and Cycad Society?

- ◊ The CFPACS is dedicated to the preservation and promotion of palms and cycads. We are an affiliate of the International Palm Society which serves the Central Florida Region.

Why join the Central Florida Palm and Cycad Society?

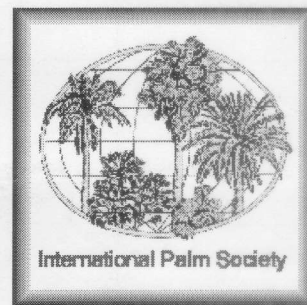
- ◊ Learn how to grow exotic Palms and Cycads
- ◊ Meet interesting people
- ◊ You can get this journal!
- ◊ Help promote something great — the greening of our cities

How do I join the Central Florida Palm Society?

- ◊ Fill out the CFPACS form below

How do I join the International Palm Society?

- ◊ Fill out the International Palm Society form below



## Central Florida Palm and Cycad Society Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Street: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

**If you live in the Florida counties of:** Alachua, Brevard, Citrus, Desoto, Flagler, Hardee, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Indian River, Lake, Levy, Manatee, Marion, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, Sarasota, St. Lucie, Seminole, Sumpter and Volusia. **Membership is Free.** **If you live elsewhere in North America:** Membership is US\$7 per year. **Outside North America:** Membership is US\$12 **Make check payable in US\$ to CFPACS**

Send the above information and fee (if applicable) to:

Membership  
 5155 Wildwood Avenue  
 Merritt Island, FL 32953

How did you find out about us? \_\_\_\_\_

## INTERNATIONAL PALM SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

Regular - USA	US\$30.00 per year	Supporting	US\$100.00-\$499.00 per year
Regular - all other countries*	US\$30.00 per year	Life	US\$500.00, one time fee
Family	US\$40.00 per year	Benefactor	US\$2500.00, one time fee
Commercial	US\$40.00 per year	Libraries - USA	US\$35.00 per year
Friend	US\$40.00-\$99.00 per year	Libraries - All other countries*	US\$35.00 per year

\*DIRECT AIRMAIL DELIVERY? Member dues at above rates include airlift delivery, where available. Direct airmail service is also available to all non-USA destinations for an extra fee of US\$20 per year. Please indicate by a check here [ ] if you wish this optional service for faster delivery to be added to your subscription charges. [Note that the "airlift" delivery to most non-USA addresses is included in dues and is faster than surface mail, but slower than Direct Airmail.]

IPS membership is accepted on a calendar year basis. New members' dues received after October 1 will be applied toward the following year unless otherwise specified. You may also pre-pay membership dues for up to three years (at the rates specified above). This would protect you from any dues increase in 1998 or 1999 -- but is offered primarily as a convenience for those members paying by international bank draft in US dollars. MasterCard and Visa payments are also accepted. Please indicate here if you wish to sign up for additional years: \_\_\_\_\_ (2 years total) or \_\_\_\_\_ (3 yrs total). **Notice:** Foreign checks must be in US\$ payable on US bank. Credit card orders may be sent by fax to (913)-843-1274.

(name) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (street address) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (city, state or province) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (postal code, country) \_\_\_\_\_

(telephone) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (fax) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (e-mail address) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (membership Category) \_\_\_\_\_

Amount paid \_\_\_\_\_ (US\$)  
 Circle one: check/draft MasterCard Visa

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 Card Holder's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mail with payment to: The International Palm Society, P. O. Box 1897, Lawrence, KS 66044-8897, USA

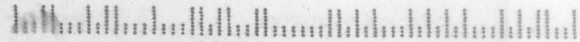


CFPACS  
 5155 Wildwood Ave.  
 Merritt Island, FL 32953



Merritt, Michael  
 P.O. Box 160152  
 Altamont Springs, FL 32716

3271670132



In This Issue...

Revitalization of Central Florida Palm and Cycad Society...

**Table of Contents**

Fall meeting at Bobick Home by Sarah Noah	1
Year End at Kopsick Palm Arboretum by Bruce Turley	1
Letter From the Editor	2
Distribution of Calyptronoma in Puerto Rico by Mike Dahme	2
Notes From the Officers	3
Seed Distribution Program by Neil Yorio	3
Ask the Expert	4
Internet Spotlight	5
Member Profile	6
Feature Foto	7
Leu Gardens Makes Major Improvements in the Palm Collection by Ed Hall	7
Palm Puzzler	8
CFPACS Members Visit the Palms of the Florida Keys by Neil Yorio	8
Letters to the Editor	9
Community Clipboard	10
Our Next Meeting	11
Names and Numbers of Officers	12
CFPACS and IPS membership application forms	13