

Palm Review

Volume 18, Issue 1

Journal of the Central Florida Palm and Cycad Society

1st Quarter, 1998

Our first meeting of 1998 is coming up: see page 15 for details.

I received several responses to last issue's theme for which readers were requested to submit a photo of a species they thought was growing farther north than they would expect it to. You will find these photos scattered throughout this issue. Please note that they are in amongst text that does not have anything to do with them, so don't get confused! The theme for the next issue is "bragging rights". What do you have in your garden that you're especially proud of? Send in a photo and let the world gloat! Perhaps you will see one of the "Most northerly" entries and think, well they may have one of those but I've got a ____!" Send it in! The deadline for this next issue will be April 1st, which is only about a month from now. So get it together and contribute!

CFPACS Meetings in Daytona and New Smyrna Beach by Neil Yorio

Question: What are the odds of having two Fall CFPACS meetings in a row in which the temperatures during the day were downright*CHILLY?* **Answer:** 100% if you attended the meeting at Doug Keene's in Deland on November



Figure 1: Edgar Hall and Doris Smith admire the garden amongst the trunks of numerous *Sabal palmetto* palms at the Smith's residence.

December 6th were treated to two great gardens.

CFPACS members arrived at Doris Smith's residence in the morning and a tour began in the backyard of her lovely riverfront estate. Upon entering the backyard, one is immediately in the company of a healthy number of large *Sabal palmetto* and oaks, lending to the serene shade immediately behind the house (Figure 1). As the group headed further into the garden, two large *Attalea* sp. were observed towering overhead, barely any trunk but

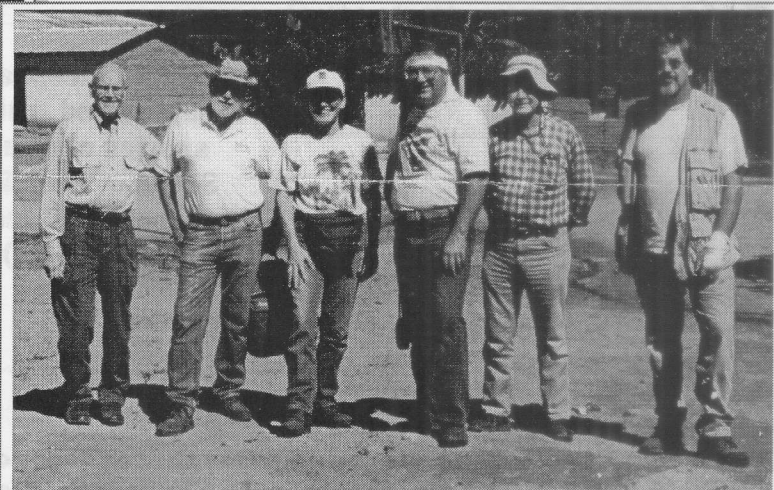


Figure 1: Our Motely Crew: CFPACS members (L-R): Dave Besst, Leu Thomas, Marita Bobick, Bob Bobick, Hersch Womble and Paul Craft in Mexico.

(Continued on page 9)

Hola Amigos!

by Bob and Marita Bobick

We're back and it's great to be home! Spent the first day back doing twenty loads of laundry and sorting through 92 e-mail messages! Now we have time to sit down and recount the experiences of our super Mexican Adventure.

There were six of us who braved the wilds of Chiapas Mexico. (For those of you who aren't up on your Mexican geography...Chiapas is the southern most state of Mexico bordering on Guatemala) Our fellow adventurers were Paul Craft, Dave Besst, Hersch Womble, and Lou Thomas, all of which are as crazy about palms & cycads as we are (Figure 1).

Our trip started out on a rough note....We arrived in Villahermosa late in the evening. We realized that this airport was on the small side when the plane had to make a U-turn on the runway to get to the terminal. We had made arrangements with Avis to have our cars avail-

able for us and had been assured that Avis indeed had a location there. Well no cars and no Avis!!

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Letter From The Editor

I would like to extend thanks to all who contributed to this issue: Special thanks goes to Bernie Peterson and Mike Dahme for continuing to keep us informed and up-to-date with their columns. I would also like to thank Matt Encinosa and Jerold Crawford for submitting "Most Northerly" candidates for this issue's theme. Jerold, a first-time submitter, has also promised to send in a "Member Profile" for the next quarter's issue. That's the kind of enthusiasm we like to see! Go Jerold! Also, we have a wonderful addition to the bulletin, look for some great drawings sent in by one of our newest members, Geoff Stein, an IPS member from California. I would also like to thank Mike Dahme and Neil Yorio who folded, stapled and mailed this issue, a daunting task with such a large issue and with such a wide distribution. Their efforts are greatly appreciated. Rumor has it that they will be taking over these duties permanently.....

There are several new business items to take notice of in this issue: new officers have been appointed and their names are included in the "Officer's Notes" section and they are listed on

page 20 as well. Please note that the Revenue Chairperson position has not been filled. We need a creative, out-going person to think of new ways to generate income for the society. If you would like to serve in this capacity, contact Tom Broome. Tom is also getting a nominating committee together. Contact him if you would like to help find nominees to fill the officers positions for next year's elections.

I often hear people say that they did not see a certain item in the *Palm Review* (meeting dates, submission deadline dates, etc.). To try to remedy this, I will be making a short check list of this kind of "Important Stuff" and writing it in it's own column here on page 2 (see below): That way, if you know you skim by things and might overlook something important, be sure you read this section to find what you may have missed.

Speaking of which, don't miss the announcement of our next meeting! This is a combined meeting with the Palm Beach chapter of the IPS on March 14 in Palm Beach. It looks like it will be a great day (see page 15 for details)!

BULLETIN BOARD

This is a new feature which allows CFPACS members to make general announcements or place classified advertisements free of charge. Simply mail your brief announcement or ad to the editor for inclusion in the next issue of the Palm Review

Medemia argun palms in 2 gal. pots to trade for other unusual palms or cycads. Please call Neil Yorio at (407)779-4347.

Wanted: Encephalartos inopinus and trunkless species of Attalea. Seeds or seedlings. Please call Jerry Hooper at (407) 676-3458.

Plant sale April 4th and 5th at the residence of Jerry and Mary Anne Hooper, 2360 Vermont St., Melourne, FL. Palms, cycads, gingers, and aroids. Many unusual and hard to find plants. A great opportunity to see this garden if you missed the CFPACS tour here last year. Call Jerry at (407) 676-3458 for further details and directions.

Important Stuff:

- Our next CFPACS meeting is on March 14th. See page 15 for details.
- Submission deadline for next *Palm Review* issue is April 1st. This next issue's theme is "Bragging Rights". Send in a photo of a palm in your garden that you are particularly proud of.
- A Nominating committee is being formed now to find chapter officer candidates for elections this fall. Contact Tom Broome if you would like to serve on this committee. He needs your name by April 1st, the members of this committee will be announced in the next issue of the *Palm Review*.
- Want to be on this year's Board? The Revenue Committee still does not have a chairperson. Contact Tom Broome if you would like to serve in this capacity.

Want to add anything to this list? Please let me know!



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.

President - Tom Broome

I would like to welcome everyone for a new year as the Central Florida Palm And Cycad Society.

Last year we should have had an election but we only had one person for each position. We have Tom Broome as president, Neil Yorio as eastern vice president, Dave Witt as central V.P. again, and John Bishock as western V.P.. Our secretary will be Edgar Hall, and our new treasurer will be Dave Beast. I would like to thank our new officers for volunteering, and hope we will have a productive year together.

We are going to have two sales this spring at both Leu Gardens as well as U.S.F.. There are more details on page 8 of the *Palm Review*.

We should have some interesting meetings this year. Group meetings with other chapters, a visit to a botanical garden, and of course our annual auction to name a few. we will try to have the details as soon as possible on these meetings.

Our second year as The Central Florida Palm and Cycad Society, should be a very good year. If anyone has any suggestions, feel free to call or write. We all try to do our best, but we are not perfect. If any of our new members would like to get involved with writing articles, working at a sale, or helping out with anything else, please get in touch with me.

East Coast Vice President- Neil Yorio

For those of you with whom I have not had the pleasure of meeting, I would like to provide a brief

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Palms in the Other Melbourne

by Mark Wuschke

Mike Dahme encouraged me to write this, after a chance comment in an email message about a record cold spell last year. The two Melbournes in Australia and Florida are worlds apart but are probably similar in our cultivated palm flora. I will elaborate a little on what we can grow and how we were affected by the frost.

On the morning in question I was aghast on looking out the window to see a real winter wonderland, the normally green scrubland behind the house being coated with frost. I was expecting a disaster in the garden, dumbfounded, I had to shove off to work and wait for the weekend to check on losses.

Our Melbourne is well outside the tropics (38° South), but the coastal location and relative absence of weather extremes allow us to grow quite a number of palms. Summers can be hot and dry with temp's to 40°C. Winters can be unpleasant enough, with cool damp windy weather and drizzle that seems to last for weeks, but actual temperatures are rarely below 5°C on a cold night, but reaching near to freezing once or twice a year. Droughts, floods, violent storms, cyclones, etc. that plague the palm-growing belt in tropical Queensland are absent here, and the place is very green overall.



Figure 1: Leaflets of *Archontophoenix cunninghamiana* 75-100% shriveled from frost damage.

With a little planning and care, it is possible to grow a good mix of sub-tropical and temperate species. Our Botanical Garden grows about 40 palm species (see Principles 97(1)) but this is only a fraction of what could be grown; the gardeners in the old established park are not much interested in "new" species.

On the 12th of August 1997 saw the coldest night in 30 years. I measured -3°C at our lot some 30km from the coast, much heavier frosts further inland. Daytime temperatures rose to about 14°C in sunny conditions, with another cold night down to 0°C the following night, before overcast brought warmer temps.

Our property lies at the bottom of Wheeler's Hill, a rocky ridge
(Continued on page 4)

The Other Melbourne...

(Continued from page 3)

about 500 M high. A small creek flows through the valley, and fog often rises from it on the colder nights; this in itself is a warning of a bad night ahead. The factors that brought on the especially cold temperatures were a high pressure system, with clear conditions with very still nights, and lower humidity than usual. Cold air tends to sink to the valley bottom and stay put in the windless conditions.

Before retiring I usually check the temperature and on this night I was appalled to see it 4°C already at 11 PM. Preparation for the inevitable freeze was pretty much a token effort, mainly due to my own ignorance of what to do, and the late hour. I checked the pilot light on the gas heater in the main glasshouse, and switched on the electric heater on in the "cool" one. This overflow glasshouse, has mainly *Cham.* and *Dypsis* seedlings, young *Brahea*, *Sabal*, and *Livistona* awaiting planting out, and other not-so-interesting odds and ends. It is only heated if sub 5°C is expected. As a final act I brought a few of the nearest pots from the patio into the kitchen under the frowning eye of my wife, and pushed all the others against the brick walls of the house, which might have given them an extra degree or two.

Within a few days frost damage became very obvious, with leaves turning brown and gray on many palms. Worst hit were my large *Archontophoenix cunninghamiana*'s (king palm, Figure 1) where frond damage was 75 to 100 percent, taller specimens faring worse. Though not grown as often as it used to be around town (current trend is the reliable/boring Queen) this is still one of the best feather palms for the city. Older houses and parks feature fine tall trunked specimens, they seem to go particularly well with Victorian architecture.

Even so, I find location is extremely important. An exposed position means bad looking plants; cold winter winds browning and shredding the leaves as does full summer sun. My best specimens are growing close to the house, surrounded by other trees, bamboos, trellised fences, and under the partial shade of a big old eucalyptus. Given water, shade, protection this species will form a trunk within about 5 years when planted from an 8" pot.

The centerpiece of my small front lawn is a large trunked *Ravenea rivularis* trucked down from Queensland and in the ground for 5 years. Majestic's existence outdoors has never been a sure thing here, but until now summer growth has always managed to keep ahead of winter damage. (Queensland people always tell me it will never work, but what do they know? They seem to think winter here is only slightly better than Iceland.) It has the best position in the garden, surrounded by trees and shrubs, and gets generous water & fertilizer in summer which produce vigorous growth. The frost caused all the remaining fronds except 2 to blacken, but the plant has survived. I strongly believe had I started with a smaller plant it would certainly have perished in winters past.

Other than this Majesty and several tall Kings, Queens & Cottons, most other plantings are quite young having been in the ground under 5 years. Damage to palms was irregular and sometimes surprising. Some alleged cold hardy species suffered badly such as *Howea forsteriana* (75% frond damage), *P. roebellini* (50% on young specimens). Others damaged were a large *Rhopalostylis baueri* (90%, see Figure 2), *Laccospadix australasica* (50%), *Hedyscepe* (40%), and a *Caryota* "Thai Giant Mountain" (50%). A common feature on most every palm was the loss of the newly opened or partially opened leaves. Unopened spear leaves however were unharmed.



Figure 2: Shriveled leaflets on *Rhopalostylis baueri*

Less affected (only a bit of browning or spotting) were *R.sapida*, *Brahea dulcis*, *Cham.tepijiote*, *C.oblongata*, *Butia capitata*, *Chambeyronia macrocarpa*, *Lepidorachis mooreana*.

Totally unharmed were the usuals, *Trachycarpuses*, *Washingtonia robusta*, 7 or 8 species of *Phoenix*, *Sabal minor* & *S. mexicana*, *Aceoloraphiii*, *Chamaerops* and *Jubaea*. Also *Butia yatay*, an outstandingly vigorous and hardy palm. Undamaged in a sheltered fernery, some young *Rhapis* clumps, *Guizhania argyrata*, *C. sartorii*, *C.microspadix*, *C.costaricana*, *C.radicalis*, *Lino monostachya*, and, with great relief, *Calamus caryotoides*, its first winter au plein aire. And finally, in the ground and containers around the place, *Livistona chinensis*, *L.decipiens*, *L.mariae*, *L.australis*, *L."eungella"*.

Besides palms, other plants were hit hard too, all my hibiscus plants (several varieties) were totally defoliated to the last, damage was fatal except for a single plant. All bougainvilleas including an entire wall lovingly grown over several years were defoliated, though the toughest variety did recover ("*magnifica trailii*"). A huge Abyssinian banana was badly defoliated but recovered (as always.)

It now being January and over four months past, it is plain that all palms will survive. This has entirely changed my attitude to

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"Pot Planting": A Revolutionary New Advancement in Palm Growing

by Don Tollefson

Due to space limitations, only a portion of this article appears here. This article can be seen in its entirety on the Internet at <http://www.raingardens.com/psst/palmpot.htm>.

I joined the Palm Society in 1988. During the ten years since, I have participated in numerous experiments involving new developments in palm gardening. Although there have been some much ballyhooed, so-called, breakthroughs, in retrospect, none have had much impact. At long last, however, I'm pleased to report what could become a legitimate, new advancement in palm gardening. The technique is simple. When you plant the palm in the ground, leave it in the container. No slitting the sides or cutting open the bottom, simply plant the entire palm in the ground "pot and all," a.k.a. "pot planting." "Unlikely," you say. This is the universal response, but for those who have tried it, "pot planting" works extremely well. Regardless of your climate zone, pot planting should be of importance to you by substantially increasing your ability to grow many new palm species.

My interest in pot planting began shortly after I became a member of the Southern California Palm Society. For most of that time, my curiosity has been accompanied by the curiosity of my co-conspirator, Pauleen Sullivan (the Palm Queen). In 1990, our group visited the Keeline-Wilcox Kentia Palm Growing Nursery near Ventura, California. We noted that the grower had pot planted small kentias (*Howea forsterianus*) in small clay pots. Since the grower had years of experience, we concluded that he most likely had conducted an exhaustive, trial and error determination, that Kentias grew best and fastest pot planted in clay pots.

The following year, Pauleen and I observed some Howeas that had been pot planted in one gallon, plastic pots, at one of her gardens. "Just look at how fast they've grown," she mused. "There must be something to this pot planting." I quite agreed and suggested that we conduct further experiments. It was at this time that we recog-

nized that pot planted palms not only grew much faster than traditionally planted palms, but that they also suffered no ill side effects by remaining pot planted. In fact, the palms seemed even to benefit from being pot planted, long after they had become established. During the next few years, we alternated between pot planting and planting palms conventionally. We began to notice an unmistakable, recurring pattern, in which the palms that were planted conventionally would "sulk" (sit and do nothing) for an extended period of time of from one to three years. Finally, if they survived, they would once again resume normal growth. The pot planted palms, however, would first display an unmistakable, telltale, initial, exuberant spurt of growth, followed by steady growth from then on. It was clear that we were onto something except for one obstacle. Planting palms in the ground in the container was such an unacceptable concept for most enthusiasts, that whenever we mentioned our results, we were practically ridiculed into silence.

Understandably, Pauleen and I became somewhat sheepish in relating our observations. Nevertheless, we continued our investigation. In the spring of 1994, Pauleen asked me if I would plant two, equal sized *Licuala ramsayis*, side by side as an experiment. She suggested that we pot plant one and plant the other conventionally. Later, that same day, we visited the garden of John Tallman. John is the Past President and current Chairman of the Ventura/Santa Barbara Counties Area of the Southern California Palm Society. His new, young palms

Feature Foto



John Stryjewski with a huge *Phoenix reclinata* in Auckland, New Zealand

were doing extremely well. Most significant was that his new, young palms had been pot planted. John quickly explained that his garden was frequented by gophers and he prevented gopher damage by pot planting the palms rather than the conventional method of placing chicken wire around them. Pauleen and I glanced at one another, realizing that pot planting was the likely explanation for John's success with his new, young palms. At that time, we also became quite certain that over the upcoming year, the *Licuala ramsayi* that we had pot planted would far outperform the *ramsayi* that we had planted conventionally.

Right away, the pot planted *Licuala* exhibited the strong initial growth characteristic of a recently pot planted palm. Predictably, the traditionally planted *Licuala* just sat and sulked. After two years, the pot planted *Licuala* was nearly two times the size of its contemporary which stubbornly remained nearly the same size that it was at

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"Pot Planting"...

(Continued from page 6)

the time of planting. Additionally, the pot planted *Licuala* appeared much more robust and possessed far better color. By this time, Pauleen was so convinced of the su-

spikes and three new fronds in just one year! Each of its magnificent, simple-leaved fronds, has been noticeably larger than the previous. This was a large, 15 gallon palm to begin with, a size too large for introduction from the tropics into a temperate climate zone. Yet it suffered no postgreenhouse shrink, and continues to grow and set, all of the Joey, "land speed records"! Whenever I tell anyone about the Joey episode, I always emphasize that if they get one, pot plant it. In fact, that's what I say about all palms now. The red crown shafted palm quickly adjusted to the riggers of the California climate and grows rapidly and beautifully to this day. In fact, it is such a rapid grower that I can't help, but wonder, if it might not one day become a commercial palm.

On my own accord, I have pot planted over thirty new palms in my Malibu Palm Gallery this year. I am carefully documenting their progress photographically, and I have already made some definite, preliminary observations. First, the longstanding rule for the ideal size at which to plant a palm outdoors, in the ground,

remains the same, a five gallon size. Beneficial to success, using all sizes, is to plant a rootbound palm. Preferably, a "substantially" rootbound palm.

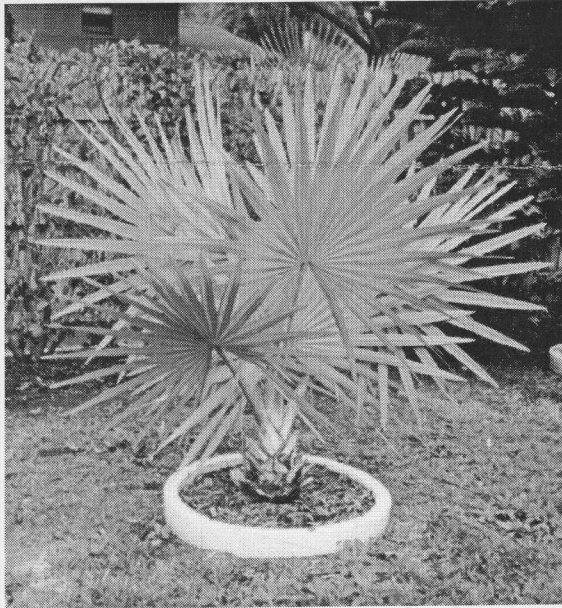
There are two basic reasons for the success of pot planting palms. First, the palm doesn't experience the trauma caused by traditional planting. Most growers fail to even recognize that traditional planting is traumatic to a palm. But the occurrence of trauma is clearly evidenced by the palms' response shortly after it is planted. Typically, traditionally planted palms set back, sulk and in many instances, even shrink in size. This sulking generally continues for one to three years following planting. Traditional planting produces far greater shock to a palm than any other normal event, including exposure to its first cold winter. Does it make sense to prepare a palm for the rigorous test of its first cold winter by first sending it into a devastating

shock?

In most climates, traditional planting limits the growable palms to *Phoenix*, *Washingtonia*, *Butia* and similar genera. These genera don't seem to experience much trauma from traditional planting or are capable of quickly recovering so that they are able to withstand the rapidly ensuing winter. But, remember, the objective of palm gardening is not to be limited by the palms that are capable of enduring or recovering quickly from traditional planting. The objective is to be limited by the cold hardness of the individual palms.

Second, palms like to be rootbound. A rootbound palm is a happy palm. It will grow rapidly while a non-rootbound palm

"MOST NORTHERLY"



Latania lontaroides submitted by Jerold Crawford of Tampa. This palm was planted in 1993. It has seen temperatures as low as 25°F in 1996 and 28°F in 1995. Although it was protected by blankets, it was defoliated both times. As you can see, it has come back nicely.

riority of pot planting, that she believed that she could now grow species that had never before been successfully grown in Southern California.

She believed she was invincible and in her quest to prove it, she ordered two, large, and very expensive, specimen palms from Hawaii. A seven gallon *Iriarteia gigantea* and a 15 gallon *Johannesteijsmannia altifrons* (the "joey"). She also decided to plant an extremely unusual, and rare, 5 gallon, red crown shafted *Prestoa* I had collected from the jungle floor in Venezuela during the 1994 IPS Biennial. All three of these palms were rare gems with the red crown shafted *Prestoa* being the most unbelievable prize imaginable.

To my amazement, all three grew right through the winter. The Joey, a palm that is otherwise known for painstakingly slow growth, has incredibly produced, two new

"MOST NORTHERLY"



Roystonea regia pictured with Jerold Crawford and "Sable". This palm was planted in 1993 and has seen the same temperatures as the Red Latan pictured above and was also protected similarly with the same result but came back vigorously.

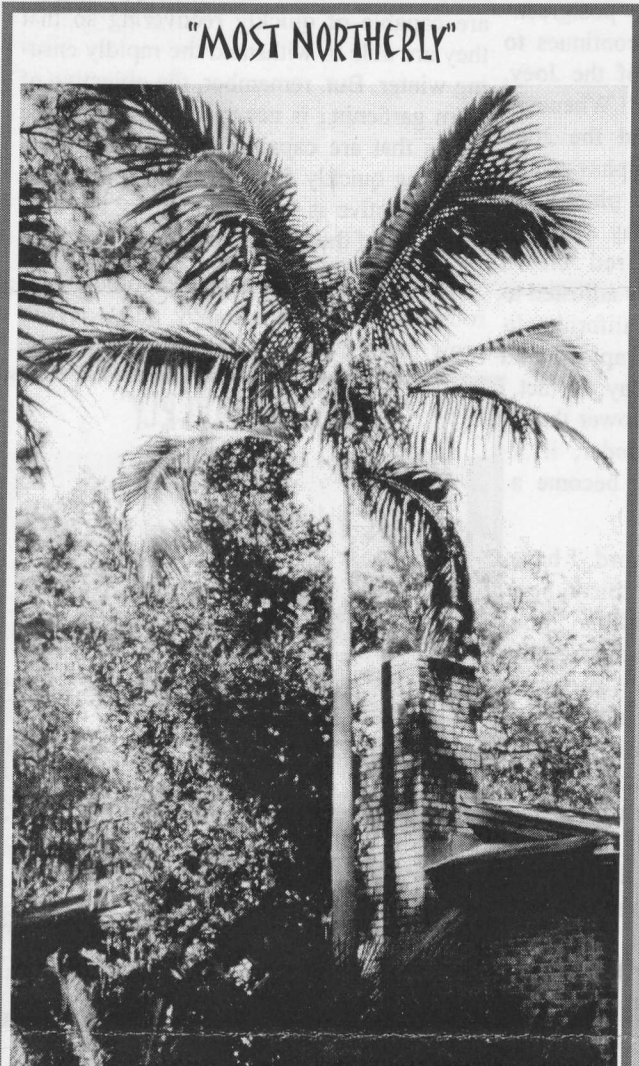
will grow slowly or languish until its roots finally fill up the container. Pot planting provides the opportunity for a palm to "bind" in the pot, a condition, universally

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"Pot Planting"...

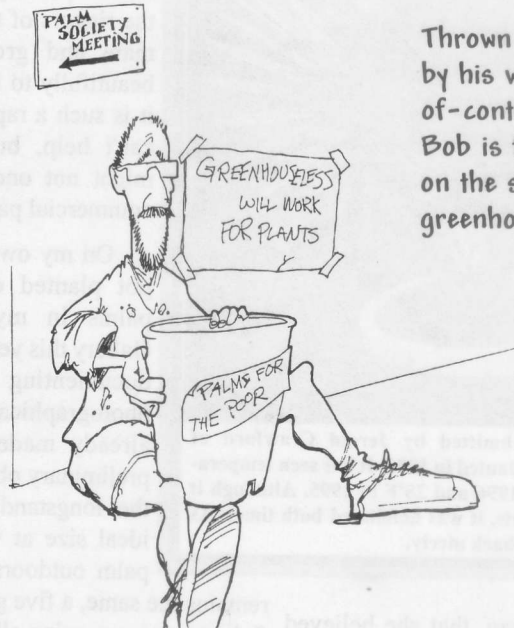
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recognized as essential for vigorous palm growth. As the palm binds, it next sends an exploratory root out one of the



Archontopheonix "illawara" planted in March, 1991 from a 3 gallon size (approximately 2.5 feet overall height at planting) at Matt Encinosa's home in north west St. John's County 1 mile south of the Duval County line. This palm was defoliated in the freeze of February, 1996 when temperatures reached 22°F. The palm is now approximately 30 feet tall.

setback whatsoever, and it binds and continues to grow beautifully, that it will do infinitely better than an identical palm that is removed from the container and planted directly into the ground and goes into shock and sets back for one to three years or even shrinks in size as the onslaught of winter approaches. The test is, "can the palm endure the riggers of its first winter?". The test is not, "can a palm endure the rigors of its first winter right after suffering extreme trauma and setback from conventional planting while attempting to do so in non-rootbound condition?" If you analyze this advancement with logic and common sense rather than with tradition, you will realize that pot planting can add an increased dimension to your current level of palm gardening. Try pot planting and you will find palm gardening to be easier and far more enjoyable than ever before and you will reach new levels that you never before dreamed possible. ■



Thrown out of his house by his wife, due to an out-of-control palm habit, Bob is forced to live life on the streets without a greenhouse

- Geoff Stein


drain holes which further enhances growth. As the palm continues to grow and expand, it finally bursts out of the container, experiencing absolutely no setback during this transition. Observe, for example, a palm that has outgrown its container while sitting on the ground. It grows beautifully, without ever having incurred the least, noticeable setback.

Pot planting is a perfect system in which to introduce a palm into the ground. Contrarily, introducing a palm into the ground conventionally is probably the poorest system. It just makes sense that if you can pot plant a palm and it suffers no

Plant Sales

This spring, we will be at both the University of South Florida sale in Tampa, as well as Leu Gardens in Orlando. The Leu Gardens sale will be on March 28th and 29th. Times will be 9-5 both days. There will be free admission both days. For more information call Dave Witt, 407-352-4115.

The U.S.F. sale will be on April 4th and 5th. Times will be 10-4 on Saturday, garden members get in at 9:30. On Sunday the times will be 10-3. For information call, Tom Broome at 941-984-2739.



CFPACS Meetings...

(Continued from page 1)

huge 20'+ leaves (Figure 2). Several other mature palms were enjoyed by the group, including *Hyphaene* sp., *Brahea brandeegii*, and *Livistona decipiens*. Most interesting was a nice specimen of *Coccothrinax argentata* closer to the water. I was especially intrigued by a story that Doris told of a large, magnificent *Copernicia macroglossa* (Cuban petticoat palm) that was in the garden. At one time, Dent Smith gave it to Jerry Keuper for the campus of FIT, but unfortunately, the palm succumbed to transplant decline soon after delivery. It is amazing to think of the species that Dent had succeeded with in Daytona.

In the front yard of Mrs. Smith's garden were nice specimens of *Ceratozamia robusta*, *C. hildae*, *Dioon merolae*, and *Encephalartos ferox*. There were

even a few cycads there that Tom Broome was stumped as to specific identity. Other interesting plants here were *Areca triandra*, several clumps of *Caryota mitis*, and even a *Ptychosperma* species. Who says you can't grow tropical plants this far north? Several members walked past a palm, quickly dismissed as an *Allogoptera* sp., only to be called back by Jerry Hooper to further discuss its identity. Discussions resulted in either a shaded-out, vegetative (i.e. no indications of flowering) *Allogoptera* or a clumping *Dypsis* sp. This

garden was a truly remarkable visit, for the interesting species that are not "supposed" to grow here, and for the historic importance of seeing the garden planted by the founder of the IPS.

A quick drive south to Frank Rodasta's garden was the second order of the day. For those who were not around in the early days of the CFPS, Frank was the original editor of the bulletin. Frank's residence is also waterfront, with a beautiful view of the lagoon behind his house. Along with several mature palms, Frank has kept himself busy with continued planting of many recently acquired specimens. Surprisingly, some of the new palms planted by Frank were *Carpentaria acuminata*. This species has grown successfully for Frank, as evidenced by a nice plant that survived the '89 freeze (Figure 3). This garden is also represented by the largest and oldest *Jubaeopsis caffra* in Volusia County (all 10" of it!).

A pleasant and casual atmosphere was enjoyed by all while at Frank's, and he generously provided beer, wine, soda, and snacks for the guests, although

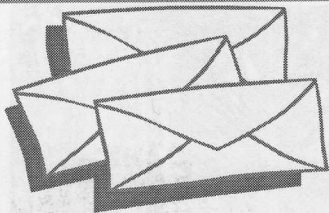
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Figure 2: A number of CFPACS members inspecting one of two huge *Attalea* sp. palms at the Smith's residence.



Figure 3: *Carpentaria acuminata* at Frank Rodasta's residence. Although totally defoliated, this palm survived the '89 freeze as well as surviving when other typically more cold-tolerant palms failed.



Letters to The Editor

Dear Editor

I would like to acknowledge the courage of Bernie Peterson for coming forward with his confession of being the person behind the pseudonym "Paul Meadows". In my recollections of articles within the *Palm Review*, I too have noticed a few pun names and have wondered why contributors are doing this seemingly grave disservice to the readership of the CFPACS. In addition to those listed by Mr. Peterson, be on the lookout for names like "Eric Curry" (*Arikury*), and "Kerry O. Tanno"

(*Caryota no*). I can only speculate that these people are submitting numerous articles to the *Palm Review*, and want to use other "pen" names to make it appear as if there is a larger contingent of CFPACS members actively contributing to the bulletin. So I say to you, dear fellow subscribers of the *Palm Review*, do your part to end the debauchery of our bulletin (and perhaps more importantly, this raunchy display of palm taxonomy) by submitting your article, "ask the expert" question, or letter to the editor.

Sincerely,

Beau Wrasses, Indian Harbour Beach

Seed Distribution Update

by Mike Dahme

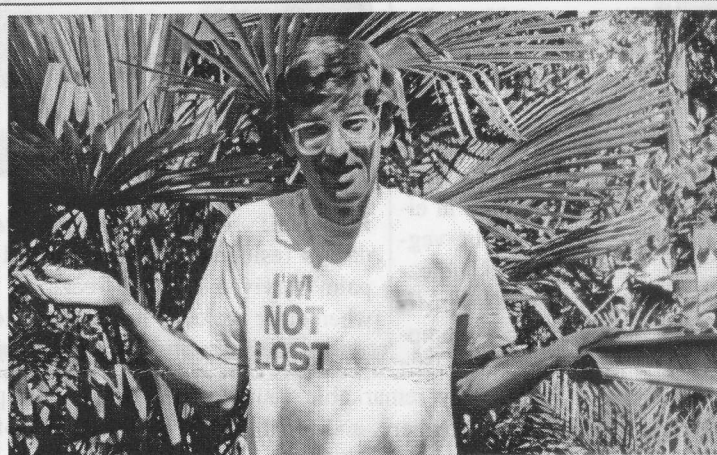


Ask the Expert...

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Seed (or seedlings) of twelve palm species were distributed for donations to the chapter treasury since the last bulletin appeared, the first being over 500 of the quite rare (in collections, if not in habitat) *Colpothrinax cookii*, which was collected in Belize and donated by Lou Thomas and netted the chapter \$120.

Once again Australian Mark Wuschke must be cited (and pictured) for his seed donations, this time of *Normanbya*, *Archontophoenix tuckeri* and *Livistona muelleri*, acquisitions made in part during his recent hiking tour.



Mark Wuschke has again donated seed to our cause. See also Mark's article "Palms in the Other Melbourne" on page 3.

Others to be thanked include Ed Carlson (*Arenga engleri*), John Kennedy for *Roystonea* seedlings, and the duo of Dent Smith and Jerry Keuper for their roles in landscaping the campus of FIT: \$130 worth of *Arenga caudata* and *Sabal mauritiformis* have been recently sent out.

Finally, thanks to another overseas donator, Shri Dhar, for his gift of Spindle Palm seed. ■

We are fortunate to have in Florida the world's finest researchers and writers in the field of ornamental palm horticulture. Dr. Timothy Broschat and others at the University of Florida's IFAS Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center have been providing palm growers with useful information, based on scientific research for many years. Their work on transplanting practices, palm diseases, and improved fertilizer formulations have had direct bearing on my job, and my palm collection. Other IFAS researchers in Gainesville have found that the proper way to plant trees, (not just palms), is to remove the pot or other non-degradable container, place the plant at the proper depth and backfill only with the native soil that came from the hole. Do not amend or improve the soil used to backfill around the roots. Water is the most important soil amendment. Its true that palms and other plants benefit from the addition of

manure, compost and other organic materials: add these on the surface over the root zone as a mulch, this is the way soil is enriched in nature.

Certainly all of us want to be on the fast track or the beeline or whatever to palm growing and there's nothing wrong with trying untested techniques on a small scale, but don't overlook proven techniques and advances that you may not yet be aware of. An excellent book on palm horticulture is *Betrock's Suida to Landscape Palms* by IFAS researcher Alan Meerow. There is also free literature, produced by IFAS, available from your local agricultural extension service. ■



Internet Spotlight

By Mike Dahme

resulted in healthier, faster-growing specimens was generally accepted by other Californian contributors, based upon their own experience or that of others.

Many people commented on why this might be so, including some who wondered how a root-bound palm (which was the condition recommended) could benefit from this. Generally speaking, Florida contributors (and Bob Riffle of Houston) considered the recommendation questionable for application to humid, sub-tropical climes (but would doubtless agree that the idea should be tested for merit). The most interesting aspect to the discussion was the theorizing as to why it would "work", i.e., promote healthier, faster growth, with several persons opining that benefits of pot-planting might include, as Doug Eckel put it, the avoidance of a) root damage, b) a sudden change in soil type, c) change in nutrient levels/types, and d) a change in soil temperature. It is the last-noted aspect, the soil and its temperatures in a cooler climate such as California's that several Floridians, including Jay Ostaffe of Palm Beach, felt might explain why the procedure might have more application to California than to Florida.

On November 21 and 24 lengthy responses to complaints about name changes at the specific or generic levels were made by Bill Baker, a botanist studying *Calamus* and related genera at university in England. This unusual dialogue featured well-reasoned rebuttal by Mr. Baker whom, in lieu of summarizing, is quoted as follows:

"Yes it's true that some people lump and others split. There is as much dispute among these issues among the small community of palm botanists as there is among the growers. However, it is not true to say that splitters get their information from modern molecular methods. Molecular techniques have exploded onto the scene and are having a massive impact on plant taxonomy in general. The current thing is DNA sequencing which is becoming cheaper and easier every day. Molecular people typically use multiple datasets (either several molecular datasets, or molecular and morphological) to construct a hypothesis of evolutionary relationship among the plants they are

Beginning in mid-November an extensive discussion ensued regarding a lengthy tract by Californian Don Tollefson that was posted to the Internet (and subsequently appeared in the November issue of the Palm Journal).

Essentially the article, which as one participant put it, was long on the "what" but short on the "why", recommended the planting of palms (perhaps all plants) in their containers, as opposed to removing same before in-ground planting. Mr. Tollefson's premise that so doing

working with - this is an even more acrimonious and contentious area than lumping and splitting! Once you have a tree (a branching diagram) that represents this hypothesis, it's up to you how to proceed. For example, I've been working on *Calamoideae* for the last three years using molecular and morphological approaches. I have one tree for the genus *Calamus* and its related genera (*Daemonorops*, *Calospatha*, *Pogonotium*, *Ceratolobus*, *Retispatha*) and it is clear that *Calamus* is a very un-natural genus, with the other genera all nested in it. This may explain why people find rattans so horrific to identify, as the generic concepts are so confusing. I have a choice - either I can lump them so that everything becomes *Calamus* - so the biggest palm genus becomes even more enormous. Or I can split *Calamus* into maybe three genera and maintain the other genera too. Well, I haven't decided what to do yet but you can see that you can take either approach and justify it. The ultimate aim is for a more useable end product (once the name changes have been adopted).

Molecular techniques tend to be more useful in the understanding of generic delimitation than species delimitation. After molecular work generic boundaries get changed and there are a load of downstream species name changes, transferring from one genus to another, but that's not really lumping or splitting of species. The same entities are just being moved about.

In general, species delimitation is studied much more from a morphological perspective. Someone commented that a species can be defined as a reproductive unit, which is true, but the major objections to this species concept (the Biological Species Concept) came from botanists who said it just wouldn't work because plants are just too promiscuous and hybridize too regularly. To be absolutely honest most species delimitation work uses a morphological approach and intuitive definition of the species themselves. Inevitably, different workers perceive things differently . . . and so the story goes on.

Someone commented that classifications are man-made. That is a very valid point - they are never set in stone and can be as dynamic as any other field of science. However, these days, we are trying to progress towards a more natural approach with explicit methods that aim to give classifications that reflect underlying evolutionary relationships, so with any luck things will stabilize and become easier for everybody!"

And in response to questions from Phil Bergman and others concerning particular instances of botanical name changes:

"In a sense, the decision whether or not to accept or reject changes rests with the users. Worthwhile changes are accepted ultimately because they are more meaningful and easier to use.

One very important factor that horticulturists the World over often forget is that the plants that we have in cultivation often represent progeny from a single or a very small number of introductions from the wild. Consequently, in cultivation you see only a snapshot of the variation that exists in nature and morphological disjunctions are much more conspicuous. When the full range of wild variation is studied, so-called discrete entities merge into continua and boundaries break down. Sure,

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 9)

there was some competition with a particular member known to "hog" the beer and food (Figure 4). Following the tour, a board meeting was held in the warmth of Frank's living room. The meetings at Doris Smith's or Frank Rodasta's gardens were both

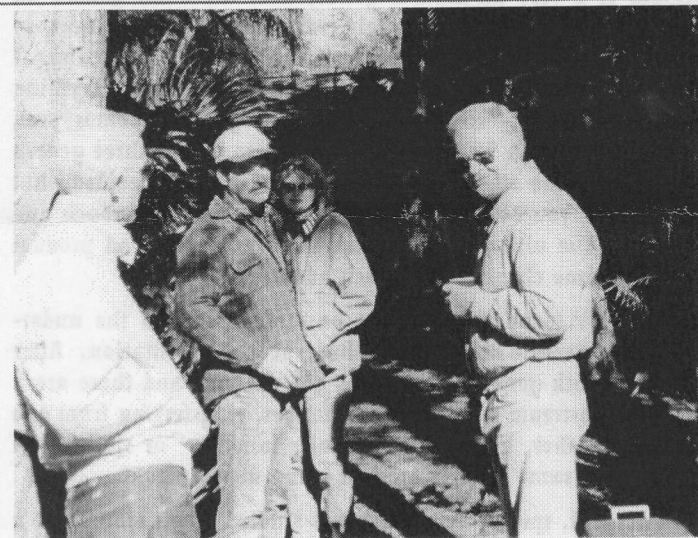


Figure 4: Doug Keene tries to throw his weight around with other CFPACS members while he attempts to monopolize the beer cooler. Not surprisingly, several members were successfully able to get around him and help themselves to the food and drink kindly provided by Frank.

"must see" for members of CFPACS, and those who did not attend certainly missed out on something special. and drink kindly provided by Frank. ■



The Other Melbourne...

(Continued from page 4)

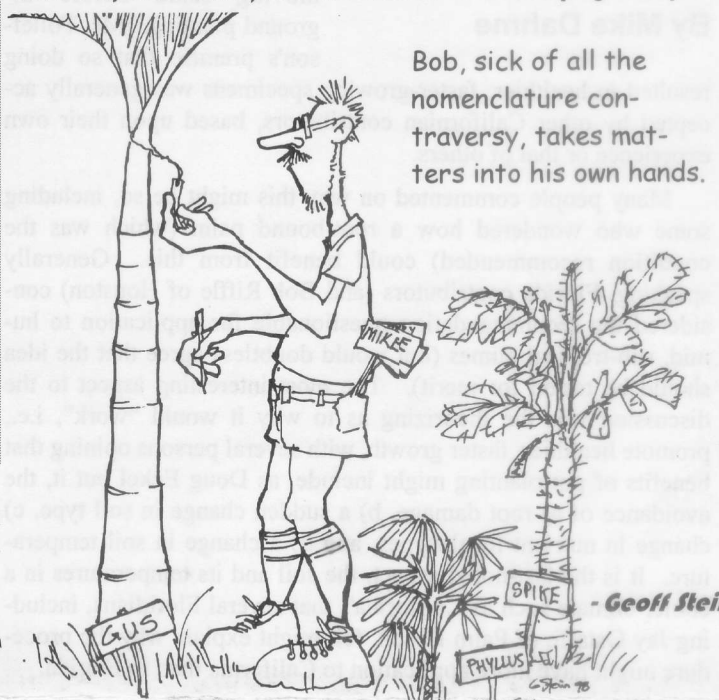
outdoor planting! In Melbourne, exotic palms have to be brought down from Queensland at considerable expense and inconvenience, or grown from seed, so in many cases I have but a single specimen of most species. Fear of losses and being unable to replace these plants, I tend to keep them in containers under glass. This is great but eventually space considerations take over. I have since begun planting out many more palms and hope to be able to advise on the successes next year.

Best wishes to everyone in the Central Florida society, I enjoy receiving your journal and it's been a pleasure exchanging seed and correspondence over the last year. ■

(Continued from page 11)

you can recognize subspecific ranks (subspecies, varieties, forms), but there are nomenclatural repercussions. To recognize a white-crown shaft form of *Chambeyronia macrocarpa*, for example, as say var. *alba*, means you have automatically created an extra variety to account for all the others which *has* to be called var. *macrocarpa* (according to the rules). Some taxonomists might object to that as var. *macrocarpa* might be considered as sort of dustbin entity that contains the stuff that's left over when you take var. *alba* away. One solution is to recognize such things as cultivars.

Taxonomy is all about communication. It is a fundamental discipline in biology (although many biologists don't realize it, believe me!) for that reason. It is worrying that you



Bob, sick of all the nomenclature controversy, takes matters into his own hands.

feel taxonomy sometimes limits the communication of users - if you are really finding this to be a problem then we are failing somewhere. But then, taxonomists are not in the business of perpetuating the communication of names they consider to be meaningless. It's a tricky problem to reconcile."

At November's end a questioner asked Gary Wood why levels of cold-hardiness indicated in *Palms for Southern California* might not apply to other locations (the American SE specifically). Bob Riffle concurred with Gary's assumption that California's lower humidity was the reason, adding that California freezes don't last as long as those of the SE and that ours are often accompanied by freezing rain. Dave Witt's view was that the moisture accompanying the freezes is as equally culpable for the damage or death to palms (due to bud rot or fungal attack) as the temperature. ■

Amigos...

(Continued from page 1)

It was about 2 clicks from the airport...Half the crew went hiking to get the cars and two of us stayed with the luggage...the airport literally locked up and turned off the lights, while we waited and slapped at mosquitoes. Needless to say, we didn't get our cars that night and had to catch a cab...but the next morning, Avis made good and we were on our way to Palenque. For those unfamiliar with driving in Mexico, the first rule is...THERE ARE NO RULES...this includes speed-limits, stop-lights, passing on curves, etc. Hersh Womble took to Mexican driving like a duck to water and thus earned his name..."A.J." (as in A.J. Foyt the race car driver) for the remainder of the trip.

Upon our arrival in town, things definitely improved. Our hotel was located on the outskirts of town, on about 50 acres of garden complete with squawking parrots and other unusual birds. The gardens included about 25 species of palms, many which were loaded with seeds! The restau-

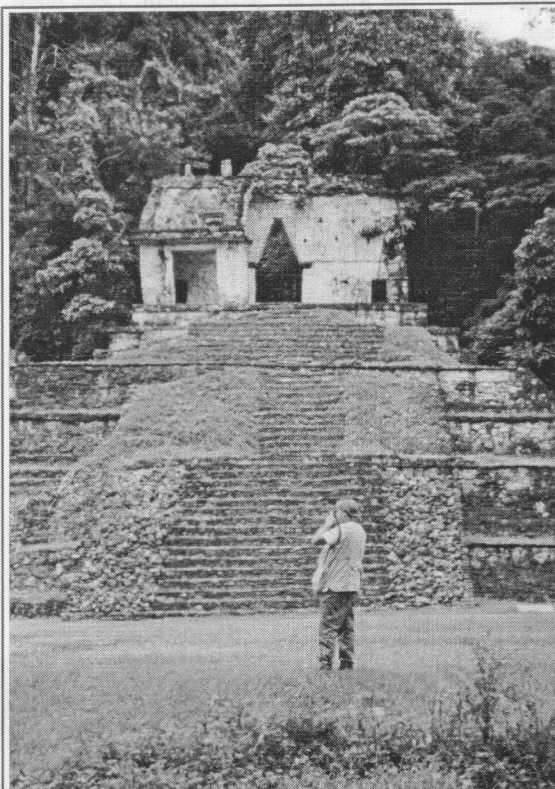


Figure 2: Paul Craft taking a photo in front of a Mayan temple at the ruins of Palenque with the rainforest surrounding it.

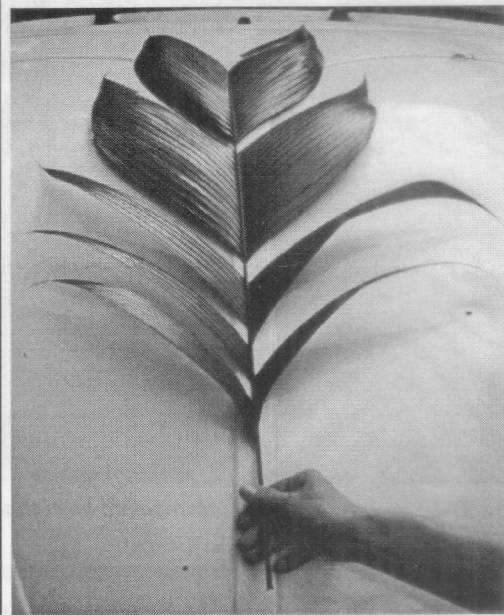
rant was open air and the food and Margaritas were excellent! The view of the mountains surrounding us was an impressive sight. A truly restful haven to return to at night! Our first day was spent touring the famous ruins of Palenque (figure 2). A Mayan ruin nestled in a rainforest. The architecture was mind-boggling. To see these temples in person, you realize just what architectural and engineering knowledge these people possessed over two thousand years ago. The air was thin, and the steps both steep and high, but we all somehow made it to the top of the largest of the pyramids. We had heard that the jungle surrounding the ruins was rich in different palm species, so we started off into the jungle. There we found numerous *Chamaedorea* species including, *C. ernesti-augustii*, *C. oblongata*, *C. elegans* and *C. pinnatifrons*. We also found

Cryosophila stauracantha, and *Astrocaryum mexicanum*, which we learned quickly not to grab as you are sliding down the

mountain side! (Very thorny) We also came across many ruins of temples that as yet had not been unearthed and were covered over by the jungle. A few clicks from the main ruins was a waterfall with a few smaller ruins...at this point we had a slight mishap when Paul Craft slipped and fell on some steps injuring his wrist. From them on, he was known as "The Wounded Bird". Then the six muddy explorers returned to the hotel for Margaritas, dinner and bed. What a great day!

The next day after an early breakfast, we headed for Aqua-Azul, a series of large waterfalls which puts Niagara to shame. On our way through the mountainous road we frequently stopped to explore and found *Geonoma* sp., *C. pinnatifrons*, *C. elegans*, *C. cataractarum*, and *Sabal mauriti-*

PALM PUZZLER



While in Mexico, the crew found this *Geonoma*. but what species is it? Any one have any idea?

iformis. On one stop, Paul, "The Wounded Bird" spotted a *Zamia* on a steep slope. He explained to Bob (fluttering his wounded wing) that with his injury he could not make it up to the plant. Bob volunteered and after sliding down the slope twice, was able to get pictures and bring a leaf-frond specimen back to the group which proved to be *Zamia lacondonis*. Then after viewing the falls, we headed back to Margaritaville!

The next day, we headed for the mountains and San Cristobal de las Casas, a colonial city at 7,500 feet. This city was also the center of the Zapatista up-rising of 1994 and we were amazed at the amount of federale troops we saw traveling on the roads in large convoys. This was also our first and only encounter with "banditos"...which consisted of 2 kids and a rope blocking the highway demanding pesos to get by. After a good laugh, we decided to oblige. In San Cristobal, we met

(Continued on page 14)

Amigos

(Continued from page 13)

up with our guide, Miguel, and made plans for the rest of our trip.



Figure 3: *C. stolonifera* and *Ceratozamia mexicana* in habitat at Sumidero Canyon.

After donning our jackets (it was COLD at that elevation), we explored the city with its curious mix of tourists and ex-hippie types. We had a good night's sleep, and headed down the mountains to Tuxtla Gutierrez, a city of more than a half a million people and the capital of Chiapas.

Tuxtla was to be our final home base, and our hotel, Camino Real was touted as the Chiapen Dream. A super luxury hotel "Disney style" at Howard Johnson prices!! We arrived late in the afternoon and had a few Margaritas poolside. We met with Miguel again and he offered to show us his greenhouse at the University where he is a Master's Degree candidate and part-time professor. His specialty is palms and cycads and in his greenhouse he has many new species of cycads as yet undescribed and we were honored to be shown these plants. We went to bed early with the anticipation of seeing some exciting things in the morning.

The next day we headed for the Sumidero Canyon, "The Grand Canyon of Mexico", but instead of a dry and arid landscape, this was a cloud forest situation filled with numerous tropical plants. We had come here to locate *Chamaedorea stolonifera* in habitat. Our guide Miguel explained that it would only be a fifteen minute hike from the top of the canyon to find this elusive plant. This is where we learned about 'Mexican Time', two hours later, after traversing numerous rocky slopes, corn fields, and coffee plantings, we finally found our quarry. What a sight! Thousands of *C. stolonifera* in a thin band halfway up the mountain (Figure 3). We also found *Ceratozamia mexicana* and more *C. ernesti-augustii*. Lou Thomas, our friend from Belize, thought he had died and gone to Heaven!! (His sole purpose of this trip was to see this plant). It was truly a magnificent sight, and worth the four hour muddy hike! Since there was still some

daylight left, Miguel wanted to show us a population of *Zamia splendens* located near the village of San Fernando. He told us it was close by and an easy climb. After driving what seemed like hours on a muddy road in the rain, we arrived at dusk. The plants were located half-way up the mountain on a straight up slope that seemed to be coated with Teflon mud...it was one step up and slide back two. But we finally met our objective and made it to the plants (Figure 4). After a few pictures, we slid back down the treacherous slope to the cars and made our way through dense fog to our hotel and a much needed Margarita!! Another great day!

The next morning, we met with Miguel and a few of his friends and headed west out of Tuxtla to see *Dioon merolae* in habitat. After a few hours of driving we began to see that we were in the arid foot-hills of the Sierra Madre range. At a certain point, we stopped the cars and began the trek over red sandstone hills. Through brush and around steep crevices we climbed higher. At the summit, we looked down to what only could be described as a box canyon, the sandstone cliffs holding hundreds of precariously perched *Dioon merolae*. At this point Miguel sweeping his arms wide, welcomed us to his "Jurassic Park". It truly was!! Many of the *Dioons*, were at least 12 feet tall and had to be hundreds of years old.

This was truly an extraordinary sight not viewed by many, and is about to be protected by the Mexican government. Let's hope that they succeed! We needed to head back early to Tuxtla, Miguel's fiancée was having a benefit dinner for her ecological project in the southern regions of the Sierra Madre. We were all

(Continued on page 16)



Figure 4: *Zamia splendens* near the village of San Fernando.

Community Clipboard

March

14th: Saturday: Our first meeting of 1998!



A Joint CFPACS/PBP&CS meeting- see details at right.

28th + 29th: Leu Gardens Plant Sale from 9:00- 5:00 both days. See ad page 7.



April

1st: Palm Review deadline for 2nd quarter issue
4th + 5th: USF Plant sale. See ad page 7.

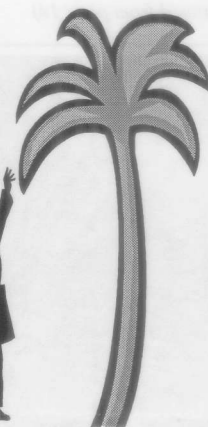
•between June 13th and July 31st: 2nd quarter CFPACS meeting being arranged by West Coast VP John Bishock. Palm Review deadline for this quarter is July 1st

•between September 12th and October 31st: 3rd quarter CFPACS meeting being arranged by Dave Witt. Palm Review deadline for this quarter is October 1st.

•between December 12th and January 31st, 1999: 4th quarter CFPACS meeting being arranged by Neil Yorio. Palm Review deadline for this quarter is January 1st, 1999.



Our Next Meeting ...



We are delighted to announce that Paul Craft of the Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society has arranged a joint



meeting for our two chapters in the Palm Beach area. On Saturday, March 14: we will be joining the PBP&CS on their Spring Field Trip. The trip will start at Norm and Ann Moody's, 7153 Wilson Road, West Palm Beach. A free lunch will be provided. After lunch, we will spend the afternoon at Dale Holton's Nursery

Directions to Moody's 5-acre botanical wonderland are: from the corner of Jog and Southern, go south on Jog to Pioneer. Then west on Pioneer to Cleary Rd. Then north on Cleary to Wilson Rd. Then west on Wilson to #7153, which is the second property on the left. Plan on attending; this should be a lot of fun! For more information, call Dale Holton at 561-965-6792.

Directions to Norm and Ann Moody's coming south on the Turnpike: Take exit number 99 (Okeechobee Blvd), head east on Okeechobee Blvd. to Jog road (next traffic light), go south past Southern Blvd to Pioneer Road, turn right, go to Cleary Road, turn right, go to Wilson Road, turn left. Address is #7153 Wilson Road. I will see if we cannot get a couple signs up at the various intersections so people will know where to turn. For those coming on I-95, exit at Southern Blvd, go west to Jog Road, turn left and then follow as above.



After only 65 years Bob finally gets to see a new leaf open on his Actinokentia

- Geoff Stein

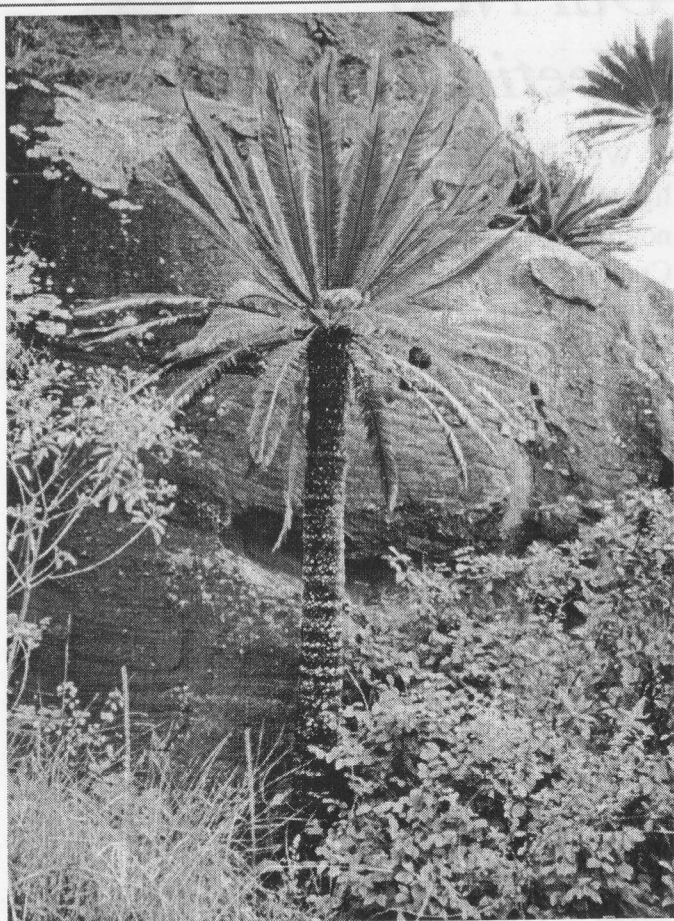
*Amigos**(Continued from page 14)*

Figure 5. *Dioon merolae* in habitat in the sandstone cliffs of the Sierra Madres.

invited to attend, but Hersh and Dave were the only ones hearty enough to go... the rest of us youngsters were exhausted and went to bed early.

Miguel had to study for an exam the next day, but three of his friends offered to take us to an area to see an undescribed species of *Ceratozamia*. They told us to wear hats, because the second leg of the journey would be in the bed of a truck. We were game and after an hour of driving we arrived at a point where our car was to be parked and we all jumped into the truck. After traversing miles on a bumpy and mountainous dirt road and fording numerous streams, we arrived at a small isolated village. We were told that the hike to the sight would only take a half hour each way.

Thirty minutes later, Bob and Lou realized they were talking "Mexican Time" and decided to head back. The rest of us began to climb, through shoulder high grass (Tick territory!), down steep slopes, and walking through streams. When asked how much further, Jesus would only

answer, "mas, mas!". Finally after an hour and fifteen minutes of hiking, we arrived in a small shady valley of oaks and pines, and perched on the slopes colonies of *Ceratozamia*. They appeared to be a wide leaved form of *C. norstogii* to be described in the future by Miguel as *C. miranda*. Paul's opinion on the age of the specimens was at least a hundred years old. When asked if we wanted to see more, we thought of the return trip and opted to leave. When we arrived at the village, we found Dave, Bob, and Lou sitting patiently in the truck-bed watching the farmers spreading and sun-drying their corn crop on an old basketball court. We said good-bye and headed back on our long trip to Tuxtla.

The next day was a free day, and "Wounded Bird" thought it might be time to get an x-ray of his wrist. After countless times of getting lost, we arrived at a hospital and went to the emergency room. After a few initial questions, they told us to have a seat and wait. Looking around at the number of people waiting and the conditions in the hospital, Paul opted to wait to see a doctor when he got home, so much for socialized medicine. We then went to see an old friend of Dave's, Alfredo, who has a nursery in town. After touring his nursery and enjoying his hospitality, we headed back to enjoy our free day of rest. Alfredo invited us to dinner at a local restaurant that evening, and we enjoyed getting to know him better.

We planned to go to Lagunas de Montebello the next day. We were to meet with Miguel outside San Cristobal, but when we arrived he was unable to join us. We said our good-byes (we were leaving the next day) and thanked him. Then we opted to go to the village of Las Rosas to see the *Chamaedorea plumosa* that Hodel had described. Sure enough it was there and being used as street plantings! We spotted a *C. plumosa* full of ripe seed clusters in a small yard and asked if we could buy the seed from the owner. After a bit of haggling, we agreed on the price, and bagged up the seed. We had a feeling that lots of crazy palm people had been

(Continued on page 17)

Figure 6: A new species of *Ceratozamia* Miguel plans on describing. The best one was blue with pin petioles. He plans to call it "*Ceratozamia zoquensis*".

Amigos

(Continued from page 16)

here before taking pictures and buying seed... the cost was high and everyone in town was watching us. One man even flagged us down to show us his *C. plumosa* and offer to show us habitat in the mountains... We were really getting bad vibes by that time, and opted to leave. Further down the road we spotted a *Brahea* species in a field. We asked the farmer if we could go into his field, take pictures, and pick the seeds. We think the species was *B. dulcis*, and unfortunately the seed was not ripe. We gave the man a few pesos and Paul gave the children some of his M&M horde. We returned to Tuxtla hours later and prepared to leave the next day.

The final leg of our trip was from Tuxtla over a mountain range and through a rain forest called Selva Negra and then onto Villahermosa where we would spend the night. This was an all day drive with hours of twisting winding roads, and occasional stops to see the bromeliads, huge tree-ferns, and other various tropical plants. It was a sight to behold! After coming down off the mountains, we hit the flat-lands of the state of Tabasco where we passed miles and miles of banana plantations. We saw *Attalea* species and *Acrocomia mexicana* along the way. Then we were in the bustling city of Villahermosa where we checked into our hotel, returned our cars (somewhat dirty), and had a few last Margaritas together. We caught our plane the next day.

Thus ends our saga of Mexico 1997! We enjoyed it thoroughly. We could not have had better travelling companions, or better weather. It was a once in a lifetime experience which we will never forget.

P.S. We received an e-mail from "The Wounded Bird" yesterday...He went to the doctor when he got back. He had traveled for over eleven days with a broken arm and a broken wrist. ■



Notes From the Officers...

(Continued from page 3)

introduction about myself. In the summer of 1992, my wife Karen and I purchased a house in Indian Harbour Beach. Walking around a yard with grass and weeds led me to think that I could provide some kind of improvement. So, off to that nursery in Rockledge I had driven by so many times in the past, but never stopped. I was amazed to see different types of palms (previous to this date, I thought there were only 4 types of palms in the world!) I don't know why I was drawn to this section of the nursery, but in retrospect perhaps it was my six years at FIT that had the subliminal impact. While at the nursery, I met a person who was quite friendly and knowledgeable about palms (and quite tall, I might add). I began to appreciate the differences I could now see between different species, and felt more compelled to know more about this beautiful group of plants (beginning to sound familiar?).

Shortly after joining the IPS, I attended my first CFPS meeting which included among other gardens the tour of Joe Michael's palm collection. Even as a novice, I wondered why there was such a stir amongst palm society members around a big *Washingtonia* palm in his garden. After asking the "obvious" question, I came to hear the word "*Borassus*" for the first time. I now have 3 small (but growing quickly) plants from this very palm in my garden. As I attended more meetings, I met more members and soon found that this wonderful group of plant lovers suited me just fine.

Now, as a member of the board, the issues that I feel are most important are maintaining the high quality of our bulletin (kudos to our editor and all the authors), holding well-attended meetings, encouraging more participation (donations) in the seed distribution effort, maintaining current members and growing with new members, and supporting public and research gardens. In addition, I would like to extend a number of requests to the members of the CFPACS. First, I would welcome you to attend the board meetings. They are open to everyone in the society, and held during a regular meeting. Second, submit material to our bulletin, the *Palm Review*. It can be anything from an article, feature photo, question for Bernie, whatever. The point is, this is your bulletin, and you can help to make it the best it is. Third, if you would like to have a meeting at your garden, please let your regional vice president know about your intentions. Our job as board members is to plan these meetings, and we would like to hear from you. These garden tours may be part of a regular meeting or as an informal meeting. Lastly, I would ask that you attend these meetings, get to know your fellow CFPACS members, and get more involved your palm and cycad society.

THE CFPACS YEARLY SCHEDULE

By: Neil Yorio

One of the hot items at the recent board of director's meetings was the concept of a yearly schedule for the CFPACS. In the past members were rarely notified of upcoming meetings more than a

(Continued on page 18)

Notes From the Officers...

(Continued from page 17)

week or two in advance. A yearly schedule should allow members to know in advance when and where the meetings for the year will be. Discussions from the board resulted in the following benefits of this plan: (1) The regular meetings will be linked with the distribution of the *Palm Review* (on a quarter year basis) so that members should receive their bulletin at least two weeks prior to the meeting. (2) The schedule functions as a great planning tool for board members in the assignment of meeting locations to regional vice presidents. (3) Members know in advance the date of the upcoming meetings allowing them to make necessary arrangements in order to attend.

The yearly schedule provides for some flexibility with the date of regular CFPACS meetings. For example, the first quarter of 1998 includes the months of January, February, and March. The deadline for submissions to the bulletin is the first day of the first month of the quarter (Jan. 1). The editor of the *Palm Review* will attempt to get the bulletin out by the end of the second month of the quarter (Feb. 28). The meeting window will begin the week-end of the second week of the third month (Mar. 14) and last approximately six weeks. A reason why exact dates for future meetings can not be established too early is that the flexibility of the schedule may help to avoid conflicts with meetings and events of other palm and cycad societies.

Take a look at the calendar of events ("Community Clipboard") on page 15 of this issue of the *Palm Review*. You will notice that the deadlines for submission to the bulletin as well as the dates of events already planned and the regional meeting assignments. Your vice presidents are hard at work trying to get the exact locations and dates pinned down for their respective meetings, so keep an eye on the schedule for new meeting developments.

Finally, it should be re-iterated that this yearly schedule allows for only four regular chapter meetings. Chapter meetings are defined as those in which a board meeting will be held (either before or after the garden tours). This is not to say that there are only going to be four meetings per year. The CFPACS welcomes informal meetings in addition to the regular meetings. Generally, our informal meetings have been at one garden, and people can spend more time there. Examples of informal meetings are the recently held gathering at Doug Keene's "Florassic Park" in Deland last year, and at Hersh Womble's garden a few years ago. If you are interested in having an informal meeting, please contact your regional vice president for help in planning.

Treasurer - Dave Besst

CFPACS General Ledger

INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 12/31/97

INCOME:

SEED SALES	3392.42
PLANT SALES (CLOSED)	369.30
PLANT SALES (PUBLIC)	1642.47
TEE SHIRTS	544.60
DONATIONS	132.00
MEMBERSHIP DUES	262.00
MISCELLANEOUS	30.00
INTEREST INCOME	<u>288.99</u>
GROSS INCOME	6 661.78

GENERAL EXPENSES

MEETINGS	1019.81
INCORPORATION FILING FEES	70.00
POSTAGE	8.56
DONATIONS	325.00
PLANT PROD.	159.50
NEWSLETTER	<u>2284.14</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	3867.01

NET INCOME 2794.77

BALANCE SHEET (AS OF 12/31/97)

ASSETS:

CURRENT ASSETS

CHECKING ACC'T	4491.13
CD (NL ENDOWMENT FUND)	6450.62

FIXED ASSETS

OFFICE EQUIPMENT (COMP, ETC. & SOFTWARE)	1570.88
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TENT ?

TOTAL ASSETS 12512.63

(Continued on page 1)

(Continued from page 18)

Secretary - Edgar Hall

April 15, 1998 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

President Tom Broome called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM at the home of Dave Besst. Although minutes from the December 6, 1997 CFPACS meeting were not available for review, pertinent actions taken at the meeting were reviewed. The treasurer's report was reviewed and approved as appears in the treasurer's notes on the previous page..

The Board of Directors for 1998 were approved as follows:

Tom Broome: President

Mike Dahme: Immediate Past President

Neil Yorio: East Coast Area VP

Dave Witt: Central Area VP

John Bishock: West Coast Area VP

Edgar Hall: Secretary

Dave Besst: Treasurer

• Appointed Officers were approved as follows:

John Stryjewski: Membership Chairman

Liz Stryjewski: Publication Chairman

Revenue Chairman: position vacant

NEW BUSINESS

Election of future board members and officers will be significantly improved by the implementation of the following schedule:

• **April 1:** Nominating Committee appointed by President and published in 2nd quarter *Palm Review* issue.

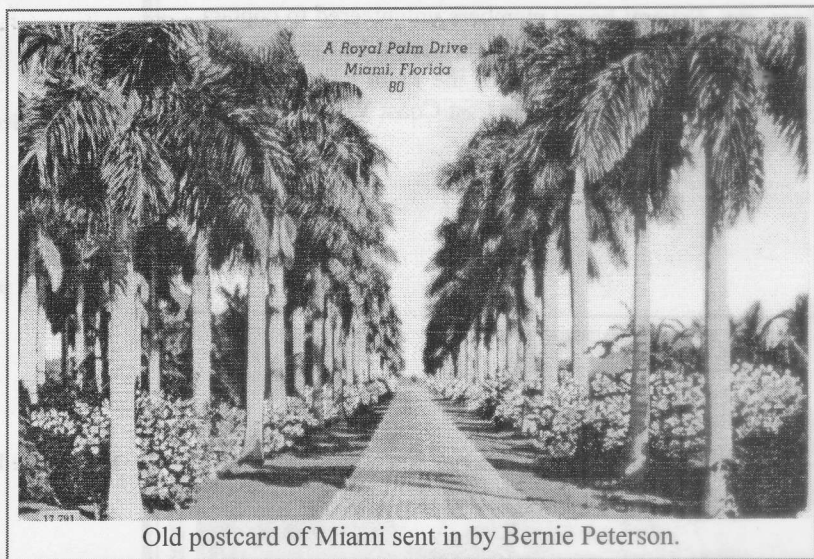
• **July 1:** Nominees (list of candidates) provided by the nominating committee to Publication Chairman along with balloting forms for the 3rd quarter issue of the *Palm Review*.

• **November 10:** Ballots, postmarked by November 1, counted and certified by Membership Chairman. Results of election published in the 4th quarter *Palm Review* issue.

• Post cards will be mailed to former members reminding them to renew for 1998. Current membership is 123 members. The goal is to increase membership to the 200 -300 range.

• The Publication Chairman indicated as the membership grows so grows the effort to get the *Palm Review* to the membership on time. Particularly needed are volunteers who are willing to collate, staple and get the Review in the mail. Speeding up the printing process appears to be beyond volunteer help; professional printing will be investigated by the Chairman. Any volunteers out there?

• The mailing list for individuals affiliated with botanical institutions that receive complementary issues of the *Palm Review* was updated for 1998.



Old postcard of Miami sent in by Bernie Peterson.

• The mailing list for editors of botanical publications that have an exchange relationship with the CFPACS was also updated,

• Lifetime memberships were approved for Individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the Central Florida Palm And Cycad Society. These individuals are: Lib and Byron Besse, Elling Eide, Jerome Kueper, Mrs Dent Smith, UA Young and Joe Michael.

• Approved purchase of disposable name tags for chapter events. In addition, the Vice President coordinating the event will be responsible for obtaining a roster of attendees.

• Approved submission of pertinent information to the IRS to certify CFPACS as a non-profit organization.

• Clarified membership as follows: New memberships received between October and December are included in the following year at no additional charge.

• Approved development of the chapter budget for 1998 by the treasurer. The budget will be reviewed and approved at the June meeting.

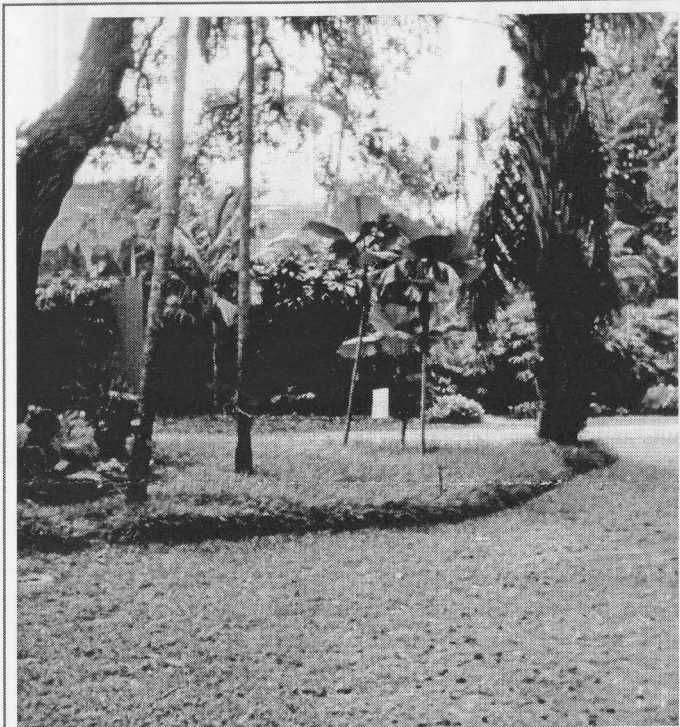
(Continued on page 20)

Notes From the Officers...

(Continued from page 19)

OLD BUSINESS

• A proposed planning calendar was submitted for review by Neil Yorio. This calendar will be used for scheduling general meetings concomitantly with board meetings, establishing deadlines for submitting items to the *Palm Review*, and to coordinate chapter events with activities by other groups with interests similar to CFPACS, i.e., other Florida chapters of the IPS, major botanical gardens, etc. Several board members volunteered to contact these organizations. The calendar should be available for publication in the next issue of the *Palm Review* and is outlined in the notes from the East Coast VP, Neil Yorio, on page 17. ■



Licuala grandis at Fairchild Tropical Gardens. Photo taken last November by Jerold Crawford.

New Our ^ Chapter Officers and How to Reach Them:

President:

Tom Broome
9128 Golden Gate Blvd.
Polk City, FL 33868
(941) 984-2739

East Vice President:

Neil Yorio: Neil.Yorio-1@ksc.nasa.gov
211 Wimico Drive.
Indian Harbour Beach, FL 32937
(407) 779-4347

Central Vice President:

David Witt: palmhead@msn.com
7026 Burnway Dr.
Orlando, FL 32819
(407) 352-4115

West Vice President:

John Bishock
4631 Hidden River Road
Sarasota, FL 34240
(941) 322-2233

Immediate Past President:

Mike Dahme: palmyra@palmnet.net
P.O. Box 89
Grant, FL 32949
(407) 724-8417

Palm Review Editor:

Elizabeth Stryjewski: editor@cfpacs.palms.org
5155 Wildwood Ave.
Merritt Island, FL 32953

Membership Chairman:

John Stryjewski: membership@cfpacs.palms.org
5155 Wildwood Ave.
Merritt Island, FL 32953
(407) 453-1303

Treasurer:

Dave Besst
1810 Huron Trail
Maitland, FL 32751
(407) 629-6830

Secretary:

Edgar Hall
5827 Tuscanvilla
Weeki Wachee, FL 34607
(352) 596-2914

Revenue Chairman: Position Vacant: Contact Tom Broome

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?

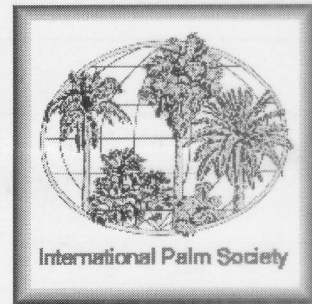
- ◇ Learn how to grow exotic Palms and Cycads
- ◇ Meet interesting people
- ◇ You can get this journal!
- ◇ Help promote something great — the greening of our cities

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 and Membership Renewal Form

- New Member Renewing member (Please check one)

Name: _____

Street: _____

County: _____

Phone: _____

City: _____

State, ZIP Code: _____

Country: _____

Membership is \$10.00 for all U.S. addresses (including Puerto Rico) and \$15.00 for all foreign addresses. For renewing members, your dues status appears below your name on the address label of this issue. For example, "Paid through '97" indicates that your dues for 1998 are due while "Paid through '98" and "Lifetime Member" indicate that dues are not required. Make check payable in US\$ to "CFPACS"

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

CFPACS Treasurer
1810 Huron Trail
Maitland, FL 32751

How did you find out about us? _____

INTERNATIONAL PALM SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

Regular Membership	US\$35.00 per year	Supporting	US\$100.00-\$499.00 per year
Family	US\$45.00 per year	Life	US\$500.00, one time fee
Commercial	US\$45.00 per year	Benefactor	US\$2500.00, one time fee
Friend	US\$45.00-\$99.00 per year	Airmail Delivery	Add \$20.00

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. MasterCard and Visa payments are also accepted. **Notice:** Foreign checks must be in US\$ payable on US bank.

(name) _____

(telephone) _____

(street address) _____

(fax) _____

(city, state or province) _____

(e-mail address) _____

(postal code, country) _____

(membership Category) _____

Amount paid _____ (US\$)

Card Number _____ Expiration date ____/____

Circle one: check/draft MasterCard Visa

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



Mike Merritt
 1250 Bee Lane
 Geneva, FL 32732

In This Issue...	<i>"Most Northerly"...</i>
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