The Palmateer

Volume 21, No. 3 *Central Florida Palm & Cycad Society* *September, 2004*

Sept. 18th Meeting—Orlando Area

By Tom Broome

Our next meeting will be in the Orlando area on September 18th 2004. We have a very special day in store for everyone that may be a little different than many of our meetings. We will be at Gaylord Palms in the morning. Gaylord Palms is a large hotel and convention center. **The hotel** is eight stories tall and is built primarily in a circle. The center of this hotel has been covered by a huge steel and glass structure, making it a 4.5-acre atrium, filled with palms, aroids, and other lower light type plants from all over the world. There are waterfalls, and streams with rock structures that make great backgrounds for these plants. They have koi, turtles and small alligators as well in certain areas.

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Above, Gaylord Palms Resort, Kissimmee, first stop on the June 18th meeting where members will get a tour and hear speaker Willie Tang.

Above, at the second stop on June 12th: James Mayer's place in Lutz, a carefully maintained jungle. That's our host in the center in the tank top. Back to camera (foreground) is CFPACS secretary, Chuck Grieneisen; just beyond is the inimitable Faith Bishock.

June 12th Meeting: Tampa and Points North

By John Kennedy

You literally can't miss the house of Jerold Crawford and Jeff McMullin in North Tampa. While hesitant, of course, to draw attention to himself/themselves, Jerold has placed a railroad crossing guard on either side of his driveway (an eBay purchase). The lights weren't flashing when we were there—though they can--but the 40 visitors poking around the house were too busy looking at palms to notice. Our host is a weather buff; the Board met before everyone else arrived and were treated to a demonstration of a sophisticated weather station. When the Moan Network revives next winter, ex-

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The Palmateer

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Membership Dues Increase

Membership dues will go up to $15 a year, beginning in January, 2005. The Board agreed to the increase at the June 12th meeting in Tampa.. At present, dues are $10 annually or $25 for three years. These rates have been in effect since 1998. In the mean time, expenses (primarily for *The Palmateer*'s printing and postage) have skyrocketed.

The new 2005 dues still come with a discount: $15 for one year, $40 for three years.

A sweetener, a bargain, will be in effect until the end of the present year. Renew membership before December 31st and be grandfathered in under the current rate, $10 for one year, $25 for three.

Overseas membership will be raised, effective the same date, to $20 annually. If renewed by December 31st, the current rate of $15 will apply.

It might be noted that membership in the Palm Society of Southern California costs $40 a year.

—John Kennedy

The Central Florida Palm & Cycad Society

service area includes the following counties:

Alachua, Brevard, Citrus, DeSoto, Flagler, Hardee, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Indian River, Lake, Levy, Manatee, Marion, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Lucie, Sumter, Suwannee, and Volusia.

Please notify the Membership Chair (see directory on p. 33) of any changes in street address, phone number, area code, or e-mail address. The newsletter is sent to the address of record.

June 18th Meeting, Orlando

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There are two other areas, as well, called the Everglades and Key West sections. The Everglades section has streams with fog jets, which make an interesting effect. They get in unusual plants from all over, and many of them are plants I have never seen before. The interesting palms I remember seeing are the red sealing wax palms growing in the Everglades section, different species of *Licuala*s, *Chambeyronia*s, and even the red form of *Areca vestiaria*. Around the perimeter are small shops filled with palm items, Godiva chocolates, Ben and Jerry's, a great game room for the kids, and a few very nice restaurants. This whole area is like being outside, but is totally enclosed and air-conditioned. It is great to look at all the plants, and eat outside at the Spanish café type restaurant (the Villa de Flora), but in the comfort of air conditioning, and the best part is, if it rains outside, it doesn't matter.

If this weren't enough, we have leased a meeting room just off the main atrium, and Willie Tang is coming up from Miami to give us a Power Point presentation on his conservation project in China. CFPACS has donated money to Willie's project to help save and conserve the habitat of the very rare, *Cycas debaoensis*, as well as set up a nursery to grow this rare species in a local village. Willie has written an article in *The Palmateer* about the project, but this is the first time we will get to see his presentation. Our meeting room is on the same side as the Everglades area, and there should be a sign showing which room we are in.

We will have a board meeting in the meeting room (St. George #106) from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Willie's presentation will start at 10 a.m. and will go to 11 a.m. We will be treated to a private tour by the head of horticulture and his staff where they will show us how they are able to grow these rare plants in such a unique growing condition. We will start with a short PowerPoint presentation talking about Gaylord Palms at 11a.m., and then we are off on the tour, which should end around 12:15pm. After the tour you are free to go to lunch anywhere you want, but for a great experience, I suggest going to the Villa de Flora restaurant in the south side of the atrium area. It is a buffet style place that has some really great food and is themed towards French, Italian, and Spanish style dishes that are really out of this world. The dessert area usually has items such as baklava, strawberry tarts, and Ben and Jerry's ice cream. It is $18 including your drink, but to me, it is well worth the price. We will end up at Dave Witt's house around 1:30 to 2 p.m. for a tour and plant sale, so vendors please bring your plants.

If you are interested in checking out the resort in advance, their website is www.gaylordhotels.com, and their phone number is 407-586-2000. If you need more information, you can also call me, Tom Broome at 863-984-2739. I hope to see everyone there, I think you all are in for a very special treat.

There are many places to park, which include valet parking, but I suggest self parking on the east side of the hotel. There are also parking areas on the north side of the hotel and west of the convention center. You may be asked to pay $7 for parking close to the hotel, but another perk with eating at the Villa De Flora, is that they will validate your parking, so parking there would be free.

[The meeting schedule is also posted on the CFPACS website.]

Directions

To get to Gaylord Palms, you need to go to the I-4 exit number 65, which is one of the exits that go to Disney World, but we will want the Osceola Parkway East. Gaylord is easily seen on the southeast side of I-4 and can't be missed.

To get to Dave Witt's house you can go on I-4, or the back way to avoid bad traffic. Leave the resort headed east on Osceola Pkwy; turn left (north) onto Vineland Rd. This road will take you underneath I-4 and stay to the right. There are a great many restaurants from here thru the next several lights. Do **not** turn off onto routes 535 or 536. As you leave Lake Buena Vista (resort area), Vineland Rd turns into Apopka-Vineland Rd. Travel north approx. 3 miles past various subdivisions to Sand Lake Rd. Go past Sand Lake Rd., turn right (east) on Wallace Rd. Next street on right side is Burnway Dr. Dave's place is 4th house on the right, 7026 Burnway Dr.

From Interstate 4: go northeast and take Sand Lake Rd. exit (located in between International Dr. and Beeline Exprwy. exits), go west. Turn right (north) on Dr. Phillips Blvd. Turn left on Wallace Rd. Just past LL ballfields, turn left onto Burnway Dr.

—Tom Broome

Front Porch

PALMS MAKE THE MAN

[Reprinted here by permission of the St. Petersburg Times.*]*

By Elizabeth Bettenforf
Published April 9, 2004

Jerold Crawford never met a palm tree he didn't like. ***With 60*** species growing in his North Tampa yard, he knows each by name and temperament: Bismarck. Queen. Triangle. Foxtail. Spindle. Sabal. Royal. Coconut.

He has palm trees etched on his patio doors, and a gold palm-tree charm dangles from a chain around his neck. He knows which ones grow comfortably in our USDA Zone 9B, "where over a 10-year period we can expect the temperature to go down to 25 degrees," and which prefer basking in the more balmy climate of, say, Miami.**He can** tell you which palms are fussy, hearty, hardy, lanky, thorny or prone to fall ill from too many Christmas lights. Frankly, Jerold Crawford is a walking palm tree encyclopedia.

Not bad for an emergency room nurse from Iowa.

"When I moved to Florida years ago, I noticed all the beautiful palm trees," Crawford recalls. "When I would ask people what kind they were, no one knew. I loved the shapes of the leaves and the way the trees look; they're so typical of Florida. So when we bought this house, I started planting them."

Crawford and his longtime companion, Jeff McMullin, share an 1,800-square-foot, ranch-style house on a corner lot in the Sugarwood Grove subdivision of Citrus Park. People know the house for the large antique railroad crossing lights that flank the driveway. Crawford, a model-train buff, paid $1,340 for the pair last year on eBay. "I was all for putting them in the back yard," McMullin says.

Crawford, who jokes that the signals "definitely tested our 25-year relationship," lobbied to put them in front of the house because they're unique: With a flick of a switch the red lights flash and a miniature stop sign turns.

Horticulture buffs are also drawn to the house because of the parade of gorgeous palm trees visible from the street. Over the years the couple have planted such a variety along the perimeter of their property that people sometimes stop their cars and get out to look.

In June, their house will be featured on a tour sponsored by the Central Florida Palm and Cycad Society. **Crawford recommends** that gardeners interested in growing palms first visit places where they can view different species and see what they like. He recommends the Gizella Kopsick palm garden in downtown St. Petersburg, the University of South Florida Botanical Garden in Tampa and Selby Gardens in Sarasota. **"Try different** ones; don't plant all the same thing," he advises. "And realize that for no reason, some palms are just going to die, that it's nothing you did."

To up the odds, Crawford, who works in the emergency room at Brandon Regional Hospital and is also a serious weather hobbyist, installed sensitive weather instruments on his roof. They feed information to a computer in his living room, then upload to his personal Web page. He can check the weather any time, anywhere, to make sure his palms don't need extra pampering.

His palm trees are a real source of pride, he says, because he really cares about how his property looks.

"You know, my dad always kept our yard in Iowa manicured. He loved to do yard work and it was considered a treat to get to go out and help him. He always said that the appearance of your property makes a statement about you," Crawford recalls.

"Now when I'm out in my own yard working and people drive by to see what new things I've planted, it makes me feel good. Maybe this sounds Midwestern and schmaltzy, but I feel like this is my contribution to making Tampa a better place to live."

Above, the Mule Palm at the home of Jerold Crawford and Jeff McMullin in North Tampa.
Below, the railroad crossing guard on the left of the driveway. There's another on the other side.
(Photo by Tom Barrese)

Jerold Crawford's Bismarckia*, 10 years from 1-gallon size. The red shirt is none other than the Editor.*
(Photo by Chuck Grieneisen)

Idyllic woodland scene, with palms, at James Mayer's in Lutz.
(Photo by Tom Barrese)

Yes, another railroad signal on the patio at Jerold Crawford's. Event organizer Tom Barrese looks into the camera; Jerold is just beyond him.

(Photo by Karen Barrese)

Dean VanderBleek Leads Seed Bank

Dean VanderBleek, of Mims, has become the lead person for the Seed Bank. Assisting him in this busy endeavor are Claudia Walworth of Oviedo, Ron Schwarz of Winter Springs, and Treasurer Mike Merritt of Lake Geneva. Mike Dahme will also help on his regular returns to Florida. Anyone else who wishes to aid Dean should contact him at the new Seed Bank e-mail address: brevocolipalms@yahoo.com Seed donations should be sent to Dean at his home address: 6725 N. U.S. 1, Mims, FL 32754. The Seed Bank helps to support the expenses of printing and mailing *The Palmateer* and to underwrite the small grants CFPACS awards to researchers in palms and cycads.

June 12th Meeting

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changing online reports of low temperatures and frosts, be aware that Jerold will be leading the chorus with much more than a mere outside temperature gauge.

The house is on a regular, small suburban lot in the Sugarwood Grove subdivision. But, oh my, how much can be crammed in! The space between the sidewalk and the street has not been allowed to go to waste, with palms planted in a gravel mulch. Since the house is on a corner, the palms continue around the side. Perhaps most notable is a beautiful Mule Palm (*Butiagrus*) by the end of the driveway, between sidewalk and street. Then there's that handsome, sizeable *Bismarckia* in front of the house. Ten years old? And that big?

Second stop was at James Mayer's place in Lutz. James is a landscaper and his grounds are a demonstration of design and focus. It's a woodland setting, with trees cut high up to allow a shaded understory for the kinds of plants (and palms) that thrive in such a locale. While the palms are not all that unusual, the setting is. Visitors were intrigued by a dwarf, twisted bush, with downturned thorns and small green citrus-like fruit. It is 'Flying Dragon,' a rootstock used in bonsai that is, in fact, a cold-hardy citrus relative, *Poncirus trifoliata*.

Final stop was on the spacious grounds of Karen and Tom Barrese, respectively our Membership Chair and West Vice-President, who organized this meeting and to whom our thanks must be offered. The real business of the day took place here: the plant sale which included, as usual, a few plants that were not palms and cycads. It was here that Ray Hernández and Faith Bishock convinced the Editor to purchase a *Calyptrocalyx forbesii*, despite his initial resistance on learning that the species is from New Guinea.

Again, as ever on these occasions, departing SUVs, vans, and cars showed windows full of waving fronds. *See also page 4 for a story on Jerold and his palms that appeared in* The St. Petersburg Times.

Deadline for December Issue is November 5th. Bright ideas welcomed!

Palm Spotting in Hanoi

[Reprinted with the permission of the author—and of the editor, John Prince--from the June, 2004, issue of NZ Palm & Cycad, *quarterly magazine of The Palm and Cycad Society of New Zealand..]*

By Frans van de Wydeven

Most visitors to Hanoi will tell stories about the city's busy but friendly streets that are thronging with life and lined with buzzing cafes serving great coffee and delicious food. Others rave about the fine French colonial and Art Deco architecture of houses and buildings or collect the uniquely Vietnamese art and oil paintings. However, Frans van de Wydeven *discovers that Hanoi also boasts some interesting palm trees.* [Editor, *NZ Palm & Cycad*]

Flying into Vietnam's capital Hanoi for the first time, I am surprised to see few palms growing in the fields. This is very different from other tropical Asian countries, where, even before landing, I usually spot lots of coconut and oil palms or, like in Cambodia, very tall *Borassus flabellifer* at the edges of rice fields. Even the 25 km taxi ride from the airport into Hanoi, past paddy fields dotted with water buffalo and conical-hatted farmers, does not reveal an abundance of palms. It also strikes me that there are no chickens crossing the road, but this is due to the recent outbreak of the bird flu virus when authorities ordered the mandatory slaughtering of millions of chickens all over Vietnam. As a result, chicken is strictly off the menu and, as I find out, there'll be no chicken dishes, and not even a fried egg, for the next four weeks! Mind you, the lack of chickens on the road is more than compensated by the tens of thousands of little Honda motorbikes that have replaced the quiet hum of bicycles as the preferred mode of transport in Hanoi. Motorbikes carry an incredible range of goods around the busy city streets, with large refrigerators and TV sets being no exception, and I truly admire riders for keeping their balance with such heavy loads in the chaotic city traffic.

Getting back to palms, and as I remember from early geography classes, Vietnam lies in the tropics and therefore there has to be lots of palms. Well there are, but generally not as many in northern Vietnam. You see, Vietnam is a skinny sort of country, only 50 km across at its narrowest point, but extending 1,650 km north to south, with Hanoi, situated at about 21 degrees north latitude, definitely at the northern boundary of the tropics, and thus experiencing more subtropical temperature fluctuations. In fact, areas around Hanoi and further north have a short 'winter' from early December to mid February when daytime temperatures struggle to reach 16 degrees [Celsius]. While most tropical palms are not bothered much by such short duration cool spells, many more palm species grow in central and southern regions of Vietnam.

Old Livistona chinensis *in inner city garden.*

Mean annual rainfall around Hanoi is about 180 cm (1.5 times that of Auckland), and every month receives at least 5 cm of rainfall. This level of precipitation, plus a short dry season, produce conditions that once supported diverse wet evergreen forests, but sadly most forest habitats have been cleared and exist only in isolated patches in the mountains of northern Vietnam. In remaining forests the fan palm *Livistona saribus* and, to a lesser extent, *L chinensis* are common subcanopy species reaching 20 m in height. *Livistona saribus* is native to tropical Indochina and extends north into China as far as Hong Kong. This palm closely resembles *Livistona chinensis*, but differs in having significantly more robust spines on the petiole, especially towards the base, where the spines are up to 1.5 cm wide and 2-3 cm long. *Livistona saribus* also has larger fruit than *L. chinensis*, about 3 cm long and 2 cm in diameter, that is bright blue when ripe.

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Palm glimpses of Hanoi. Above, an avenue of Areca catechu *at pagoda entrance. Right, 4-metre tall* Phoenix roebelenii.

Palmspotting in Hanoi

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Caryota bacsonensis, *Arenga pinnata, Pinanga baviensis* and the rattan palms (*Calamus* spp.) also occur naturally in northern Vietnam forests, as probably does *Phoenix roebelenii*, although it is much more common across the border in neighbouring Lao PDR. *Phoenix loureirii* is also native to the region. However, the clumps seen around Hanoi show palms with slender trunks and plumose leaves. They could very well be hybrids since the literature usually shows this palm as having shorter and thicker trunks.

Around Hanoi city *Livistona chinensis* is planted in large numbers in parks, along roads, and as avenue trees. Many are up to 15 m tall and these palms must be very old since *L chinensis* does not grow very fast, even in the tropics. Some fine examples of tall *L chinensis* can be seen in the grounds of older government buildings. In Hanoi the skies are often overcast for several days on end, and bright sunny days are rare, but *L chinensis* thrive under these conditions and are always lush green, supporting very large fans with drooping tips. In early February one metre long inflorescences appear with white flowers, but, as seed develops, they remain pretty well hidden amongst the foliage, and look much like those on *Trachycarpus fortunei*. Older *L chinensis* have quite slender clean trunks no more than 20 cm in diameter, and look like a cross between *L australis* and *L decipiens,* unlike the more stocky and often sun bleached specimens seen growing in NZ. Could it be that *L chinensis* in NZ, apart from having to endure much higher UV levels, is in fact a different variety than Vietnamese *L chinensis*?

Three varieties of *L chinensis* are known to exist, with only *L chinensis* var. *chinensis* being native to southern China and northern Vietnam. The other two, *L chinensis* var. *boninensis* and var. *subglobosa*, are native to southern Japan, Taiwan and several islands in the South China Sea, but differences with the mainland variety are only reported in terms of fruit colour. *L chinensis* var. *subglobosa* produces fruit that are more blue than the dark grey to almost black coloured fruit of the other two *L chinensis* varieties.

While still on the subject of *Livistona*s, it is remarkable that only as recent as four years ago a new species of *Livistona* was discovered in Vietnam. In 2000 the Ha Long Fan Palm or *Livistona halongensis* was discovered growing on several limestone islands by a team of botanists led by Dr Nguyen Tien Hiep of the Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources (IEBR). It seems remarkable that such a large fan palm has eluded discovery for so long, but it must

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Above, a dwarf Areca catechu *in Hanoi.. Below,* Rhapis excelsa, *as frequently seen there.*

Palmspotting in Hanoi

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be remembered that this palm looks very similar to *L chinensis*, and that Ha Long Bay has at least 2,000 islands, most of which are uninhabited and extremely remote. Dr Tien's team also discovered six other new plants in Ha Long Bay, including what is now called the Ha Long cycad, or *Cycas tropophylla*. The Ha Long cycad looks similar to, but is larger than, *Cycas sexseminifera*. It has keeled leaves characteristic of many Vietnamese cycads, and grows in very little soil on bare and steep limestone cliffs of several Ha Long Bay islands.

Located 165km northeast of Hanoi, the archipelago of Ha Long Bay was designated a World Heritage Site in 1994, and is now one of Vietnam's biggest tourist attractions. One weekend I joined my work colleagues in the drive to Ha Long Bay where we took a boat trip and enjoyed the stunning bay scenery, including the many jagged limestone islands reflected in mirror glass waters and some very spectacular caves. Plenty of excellent seafood restaurants line the road along the beach and you select all live seafood from tanks, which is then caught and cooked before your eyes. Sadly I did not see *L halongensis* growing in its habitat, but upon return to Hanoi I contacted Dr Nguyen Tien Hiep, who told me that a young specimen is on display in his herbarium at the IEBR. He also explained that mature *L halongensis* feature very long inflorescences up to 2 m long, and that ripe seed of *L halongensis* is smaller than *L chinensis* and dark violet in colour. Dr Nguyen Tien Hiep is a keen cycad collector and grows most of the 25 or so Vietnamese cycads at his home in Hanoi.

During another weekend in Hanoi I decided to check out the city's botanical gardens. The taxi driver duly drops me off at the impressive wrought iron gate entrance of the gardens, situated close to the Presidential Palace, Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum and the Ho Chi Minh Museum. I pay the entrance fee with a 1,000 Dong bank note, the equivalent of 10 cents, and read on a sign that, had I brought a motorbike, I would also have been able to park this inside the gardens at no additional fee. A Frenchman named Le Marie founded the gardens more than 100 years ago, and his aim apparently was to turn the area into a flora museum for the whole of Indochina and to provide precious saplings to send back to France. Well, he would be disappointed because, as botanical gardens go, the Hanoi gardens are mediocre at best even though restoration has been completed in recent years. Sure, I see some nice old trees labelled with names both in Vietnamese and in Latin, including one of the oldest trees in Viet-

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Palmspotting in Hanoi

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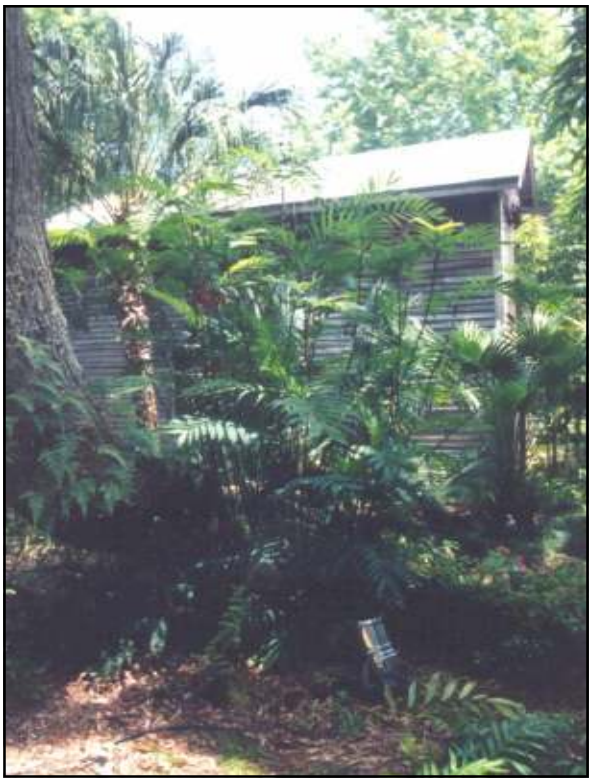
nam, a member of the Muong species, but I have come to see palms and these are sorely lacking. Dotted around the centre lake are some coconut palms *Cocos nucifera*, *Livistona chinensis*, some *Roystonea regia*, and clumps of *Rhapis excelsa*, but none of the palms are labelled, with the exception of just one lonely *Roystonea regia.*

Leaving the botanical gardens behind, I decide to explore other city areas for signs of more interesting palms. I see many mass plantings of juvenile *Roystonea regia*, particularly near new commercial and industrial complexes, but also very tall old specimens can be seen growing in the grounds of several foreign embassies. No great surprise, too, that in Hanoi, as in all the warmer parts of the world, *Dypsis lutescens* is a very common palm in city gardens and in pots at shop entrances. I find surprisingly few mature *Phoenix roebelenii* around Hanoi, but a nice large stand of some 40 mature palms are growing in front of the State Bank building on the east side of Hoan Kiem lake. A palm also seen frequently in gardens is the dwarf betel nut palm, or *Areca catechu,* while the tall variety often decorates the grounds of city Pagodas. For me, the dwarf betel nut palm is the *Hedyscepe canterburyana* of the tropics, and a particularly stunning palm that starts to fruit early when the trunk is less than a metre tall. The familiar lady palm, or *Rhapis excelsa*, is seen in large numbers around Hanoi, mostly in large pots on city footpaths, and, while often subjected to considerable neglect, a clump of *Rhapis excelsa* grown in those Vietnamese blue and white ceramic pots still manages to make a dramatic statement.

Apologies to cycad fans for the lack of details on the many stunning native Vietnamese cycads, but if you have internet access, please read the article by Jeff Chemnick which is available at: http://www.cycad.org/TCS-NL-June-2003.pdf .

Central Floridians are always looking for cold-hardy palms. These seemingly-recently planted Adonidias*—the Christmas/ Manila Palm—are basking in the balmy breezes of Buffalo, New York. Winter temps often go below zero and 9 feet of snow in a season is not unheard of. Maybe the palms are in tubs that are taken inside at the end of the summer? That's Dave Prall, whose amazed expression we can't quite make out. (Photo by Jeri Prall)*



Right, not Hanoi, but the Tampa suburb, Lutz: another glimpse of James Mayer's shade garden . Note the light in the right foreground. Maybe Karen and Tom Barrese might get a picture of the nighttime illuminations here? Lighting can be magical in such a place. . .

Left, obviously an inflorescence. Can you identify the palm? See answer below.
(Photos by Carol Carpenter)

The palm is none other than *Wallichia disticha*, blooming for the first time in Brevard County, at Scott Ward's . The proud 'daddy' stands in front of the palm in the second picture. The third picture shows the *Wallichia* in the of Scott's Indialantic garden. Because of asymmetric timing—male and female flowers not opening simultaneously—fertile seeds are thought unlikely. Scott says, however, that three inflorescences opened in rapid succession and that the first has fruit forming. The palm was bought as a 1-gallon pot from Paul Craft and planted in 1995. It now has 10 feet of trunk.

Palm Beach Annual Picnic, Auction

Who? This picnic and sale is open to all IPS members, all Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society members and neighboring palm society friends.
When? Saturday, September 11, 2004. Starting at 9:00 a.m.
Where? Ruth Sallenbach's home and magnificent 5-acre garden full of rare palms and cycads. 6285 S. Military Trail, Lake Worth, FL 33463. (561) 965-5430
What to bring? 3 things: a covered dish of your choice, any kind of plant you can donate, and a lawn chair.
You'll be in good company with this group of palm nuts! After a delicious meal you can enjoy walking the grounds of Ruth's garden on your own or take an informal tour of the property. The fun-filled day will have door prizes, giveaways, a raffle, and silent auction. The auction will feature palms and cycads for the most part; however, what ever PBPCS members choose to bring will also be auctioned off! (This might be a good time to thin out your bromeliads or orchids.) All proceeds will go to the PBPCS treasury and be used for funding palm/cycad research, educational seminars, donations of palms to public gardens, and newsletter costs, etc.*(Ruth Sallenbach's property is on the west side of Military Trail, no more than 500 feet south of Lantana Road. Ruth says there's too much food left over, so it's not really necessary to bring a covered dish. However, it would be a good idea to bring water.)*

Directions to the Festivities

Ruth's address is 6285 S. Military Trail, Lake Worth.
Take I-95 south to Lantana Rd, west to Military Trail, south to just past Blue Pine Cir (third street on right), look for small picnic sign on right at 6285. Ruth's phone is 561.965.5430.

Heathcote Garden Festival Nov. 20-21, Fort Pierce

Tropical plants, garden ornaments and implements, as well as food will be available at Heathcote Botanical Gardens' 17th annual Garden Festival. The gate opens at 9:00 on Saturday (Nov. 20) and Sunday (Nov. 21) mornings.
Heathcote is located at 210 Savannah Road, Fort Pierce, FL 34981, a block east of U. S. 1. For further details about Garden Fest or to receive a packet of vendor information, call (772) 464-4672 or e-mail hbg@ircc.net

N.B.: Seed Bank offers are now coming through a Yahoo Group. Do not discard as spam!

The USF Fall Plant Festival 2004

By Chuck Grieneisen
I**t's time** again for the fall sale in Tampa. The University of South Florida, in Tampa, is hosting the Fall Plant Festival on Saturday, October 9th, and Sunday, October 10th.The hours will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, and 10a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday. Members of the USF Botanical Garden get in early at 9:30 a.m..

We can really use your support in order for us to be able to continue making palms and cycads available at these sales.

Set up times for vendors are 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Friday, and Saturday morning 7:00 till 9:00.
If there is someone new who does not know how to get to the garden, it is near the southwest corner of the USF campus, in Tampa. You can get to the campus on the Fowler exits from either I-275 from the west, or I-75 from the east. From the east, you will drive a few miles before you see the campus. Turn right into the main entrance, and go to the first light. Turn left, the road will end at the entrance to the garden. From the west, get onto Fowler and drive about a mile, and then turn left into the main entrance, and follow the other instructions. There will be people to show you where to park.
Most of the other societies are there as well, so if you enjoy growing plants such as bromeliads, orchids, ferns, or anything else unusual, you can find it at this sale.
If you need more information on the sale, or would like to be one of our vendors, please contact me, Chuck Grieneisen at chuckfg@mpinet.net or 407-359-6276. I hope to see everyone there.

Ganoderma Update: Not Always Contagious?

Above, (1) the toppled trunk of a Butia capitata. *Right (2), the same trunk cut into five segments (four pictured). Not decreasing diameter of the fungus-rotted sections—marked in black for better visibility.*

By Mike Dahme

California palm wags long ago coined as "The 4 D's" the principal reasons for the diaspora of a palm collection: Death, Divorce, Debt and Disaster. To which I propose a 5th, Disease, in particular the fungus that afflicts the US southeast, *Ganoderma zonatum*. The below observations may be considered a continuation to those in my article a year ago. [1]

- Pictures 1 and 2 (above) are of a 25+ year-old, 15 foot overall, *Butia capitata* that fell completely off its base during a heavy rainfall in early June – every one of the countless thousands of vascular bundles detached. Basidiocarps signifying certain contraction of *Ganoderma* had been appearing on basal leaf bases for at least two years and the fronds of the crown, which at time of toppling still contained 14 green leaves, had exhibited the wilting effect that Elliott and Broschat mentioned in their 2001 paper [2]. After cutting the stem into shiftable sections, I confirmed the observations of the University of Florida botanists: the destroyed tissue was confined to the lower portion of the trunk and narrowed into a cone shape as the fungus ascended the bole. The two lower trunk sections were markedly lighter than the remaining three distal pieces. This palm was remote from others with the disease so infection had to have been via spore transmissions [aerially], not via soil/root contact.

- It has mostly been my experience that once a clumping species [Paurotis, *Phoenix reclinata*] exhibits the tell-tale "conks", death of the entire organism is but a matter of time. However, in two instances plants have deferred total destruction, at least so far. Picture 3 [next page] shows the remaining two stems of a Paurotis clump on which I first noticed basidiocarps in July 1997. The plant had been in the ground since the early '80's and was quite large at the time. The two stems, approximately eight feet each, didn't exist in '97, being subsequent suckering growth. In the other half dozen or so instances of *Ganoderma*-afflicted, similarly-aged, *Acoelorraphe* here, total destruction occurred within approximately two years from onset of symptoms of the disease.

- Picture 4 [next page] shows the remaining one prominent stem and basal suckers of a *Pinanga coronata* clump. The stem was quite small when I returned from a trip and first noticed the complete destruction of all other stems of this slender trunked species that was grown from seed in 1983. Basidiocarps were present, confirming the

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Ganoderma **Update**

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cause of loss. It's now over a year later but the last stem of this clump has continued to grow, and has been joined by some additional small suckers. Very odd.

- Picture 5 [opposite page] shows what appears to be a *Phoenix reclinata* clump, one genetic organism, but which in fact consists of a dozen or so plants that were mass-planted in the early '80's. About two years ago one of the taller stems fell over, and I then noticed the *Ganoderma* reproductive "conks" on that stem near to the ground. None of the other stems has thus far shown sign of having contracted the disease, though obviously in close root and stem contact.

The 2001 paper by Elliott and Broschat couldn't specify what occurs after spores of the fungus are released and only theorized that soil surrounding an afflicted palm might be likewise contaminated; however, the authors stated that " . . . replacement palms planted into the same site where a palm died from *Ganoderma* butt rot also become diseased and die", and strongly encouraged replanting with anything but a palm. Nevertheless, based on my limited experience I am cautiously optimistic that the disease is transmitted only by aerial spores, and am assuming the risk of replanting with palms. Certainly some species appear to be much more susceptible than others: while the losses of Paurotis clumps here were likely attributable to my prior practice of culling stems, this cannot account for the loss of a half dozen plus Queen Palms. *Phoenix* spp may also be highly susceptible. But so far none of literally hundreds of arborescent *Livistona* spp has shown sign of the fungus, nor any *Sabal*s in the vicinity, among many other genera.

Citations:

[1] *Ganoderma zonatum* – A.I.D.S. For Palms, Palmateer Sept 2003
[2] G*anoderma* Butt Rot of Palms 1-18-2001 http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/BODY_PP100

Above (3) the two remaining stems of the Paurotis clump. Below, (4) Pinanga coronata *suckers.*

From story on opposite page, Phoenix reclinata *clump (5), comprised of a dozen or so separate plants, mass-planted.*

Export of Açaís Berries Helps Preserve the Amazon

By John Kennedy

Euterpe oleracea is the source of fruit for a thriving berry export business. The long account appears on the front page of the Business section of the August 4th edition of *The New York Times*. However, the name of the palm itself is never given in the story, just its production of açaís berries. Farmers in an area close to the mouth of the Amazon have formed co-ops and are conserving the palms to harvest the fruit, which is described as tasting like "blueberry with a hint of chocolate." An American firm, Sambazon, buys the berries, which are rich in antioxidants and amino acids, for sale as juice to the health-conscious in the U. S. It's now sold in a number of supermarkets mostly, if would seem, in California. The story demonstrates a connection—not always seen—between environmental conservation and commercial profit.

The locale in the article is Igarapé-Miri, near Belém, in the Brazilian state of Pará. I had thought to reprint the entire piece in the December issue of *The Palmateer*, but learned that permission to reprint would cost $150. No sale. Just a brief summary instead. The *Times* story also does not mention that the species was previously cut (and destroyed) for heart of palm.

Below, Euterpe oleracea*, the Açaí Palm—a clumping species—that produces nutritional berries exported to the U. S.*
(Photo from the PACSOA website)

Off On My Tangent. . .

Nosing through my pots this morning, I came to a 1-gallon with mesh on top. Seeds—the mesh to discourage rabbits, squirrels (how can I encourage squirrel predators?), and, generally, any other munchers. Took off the mesh and, yes, something coming up, but what? I fished out the tag: *Chamaedorea seifrizii*, the date "8/27/03." Three weeks short of a year to germinate. The moral of the story is a) don't give up on palm seeds too soon; b) buy small palms someone else has germinated; or c) both of the preceding. I go for (c).

—John Kennedy

GIZELLA KOPSICK PALM ARBORETUM: Phase II

By Ray Hernández

A brief history

The City of St. Petersburg has boasted perhaps the most encompassing palm arboretum in central Florida since 1976. The arboretum I am writing about is, of course, the famous Gizella Kopsick Arboretum. Without question, it is the most formidable collection of mature palms in central Florida. Mature, seeding palms here include the following: *Latania lontaroides, Dypsis leptocheilos, Coccothrinax miraguama, Wodyetia bifurcata, Bismarckia nobilis, Elaeis guineensis, Veitchia montgomeryana, Archontophoenix alexandrae, Roystonea regia, Arenga pinnata, Acrocomia aculeata, Syagrus schizophylla, Thrinax morrissii, Thrinax radiata, Dypsis decaryi, Hyophorbe lagenicualis, Adonidia merrillii, Cocos nucifera* and *Pseudophoenix sargentii.*

Above, Dypsis crinita*, one of the new plantings at the expansion of Gizella Kopsick Palm Arboretum in St. Petersburg. Left, that's Phil Stager at the podium at the dedication of the new phase.*

At Kopsick, the long-term success of the "not so common" and often times not so hardy palm, can be attributed to the favorable microclimate that exists here. Located on the easternmost tip of the St. Petersburg Bayfront and Pinellas Peninsula, winds from any northerly direction must pass over either heavily urbanized areas or the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico and Tampa Bay, prior to arriving here. By then, a good portion of even the worst arctic chill is modified. Even the infamous 1989 Christmas Freeze did little damage here with minimum temperatures only in the upper 20's. Not even Merritt Island or points farther south can boast to have such high all time winter minimums. CFPACS last visited the arboretum shortly after the tragic events of September 11 during Palmfest 2 in 2001. A brief history of the arboretum can be found at this website: http://www.stpete.org/palm.htm.

<u>The expansion – Phase II</u>

Before 2004, any addition to the arboretum was modest and noticed only by the frequent visitor and/or avid palm collector. Long time CFPACS member, St. Petersburg resident, fellow palm nut and personal friend, Phil Stager, has made it a goal to expand the arboretum and continue the beautification of the city he calls home. The entire city has become dedicated

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Above, part of the new planting beds at Kopsick. That's Tampa Bay in the background. Right, any dedication of a palm garden brings out folks with shovels to plant a palm or few. A new sign also was erected (upper right).

Kopsick: Phase II

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to beautification. Previous Mayor David Fisher and current Mayor Rick Baker have promoted this through the formation of the *City Beautiful* commission. On Saturday May 1, 2004, Phil's dream became a reality with the opening of Phase II of the Gizella Kopsick Arboretum.

Some 100 people including fellow palm nuts, neighborhood residents, local dignitaries and city officials including Mayor Baker himself attended the cake cutting ceremony. Our own beloved Phil gave a brief speech on the uphill battle it sometimes became trying to expand the arboretum. One of the primary concerns for local residents was the potential loss of the waterfront view currently enjoyed along North Shore Drive. The existing arboretum and nearby tennis courts are spaced apart some 100 yards and therefore provide an "alley" through which to view the bayfront.

Phase II was carefully planted about the perimeter of the tennis courts, thus preserving the waterfront view. In addition, fast/tall growing specimens were carefully planted in areas where some tall trees already existed. In short, a happy compromise was made, allowing Phase II to become a reality. This no doubt can be attributed to some of the political prowess of our very own Phil. Many palms were "imported" from the tropical land of south Florida and include the following: *Kerriodoxa elegans, Coccothrinax barbadensis/argentea, C. spissa, C. miraguama sp. havanensis* and *C. borhidiana, Dypsis baronii* and *crinita, Licuala spinosa, Hyphaene sp., Caryota gigas, Schippia concolor, Thrinax radiata* and *T. morrissii, Copernicia baileyana* and *macroglossa, Syagrus amara, Wallichia densiflora, Chamaedorea tepejilote* and *C. radicalis, Beccariophoenix, Astrocaryum sp.,* and *Gastrococos crispa.* Palms also recently added to the original arboretum include *Aiphanes sp., Adonidia, Carpentaria* and *Kentiopsis oliviformis.* When all was said and done, over $70,000 was spent on new palms, sidewalks and concrete curbing to enclose the planting beds.

What's Next

Despite the plethora of new palms at Kopsick, the arboretum will continue to expand. Many of the planting beds are large and have plenty of room for new additions. Further expansion, however, hinges on funding. One method of raising funds is through the Gizella Kopsick Brick Program. For $50, you can have your name permanently etched into a brick lining a path between the original arboretum and phase II. It's a small price to pay when one considers that Kopsick may be the largest arboretum in the U.S. not charging admission. The proceeds from the brick program go towards maintenance and the purchasing of new palms. Look for a society meeting at Gizella Kopsick Arboretum in the coming year.

GROWING CYCADS IN CENTRAL FLORIDA

Zamia loddigesii

By Tom Broome

Zamia loddigesii is a very good plant to grow in central Florida. The look of this plant can very considerably. This species can have leaflets and thin as ¼ inch, and they can also be as wide as 2 ½ inches. *Zamia loddigesii* is thought by some to be an ancient natural hybrid between *Zamia furfuracea*, which has wide leaflets, and *Zamia spartea*, that has very thin leaflets. I have seen plants of *Zamia loddigesii* that had very wide leaflets, very thin leaflets, and everything in-between.

Care for this species is pretty similar to the care of *Zamia furfuracea*. It prefers full sun and the leaves are less hardy than some of the other cycads. Like many cycads they are more cold hardy than frost hardy. I have seen plants out in the open get their leaves burned at 28F, but plants under trees were not burned at all at 20F. I have found that they react fairly well to fertilizer applications and can push new leaves as much as three times a year. I also grow these in north Lakeland. They do very well here and are really pretty difficult to kill, making them an excellent species to grow for the novice cycad collector.

Zamia loddigesii—*no wonder cycads are confused with palms.*
(Photo by Tom Broome)

By Chuck Grieneisen

The *Zamia loddigesii* is another trouble free cycad for the Central Florida landscape. Looking a little like a "coontie" and a little like a "cardboard palm" (both of which are cycads). It is slightly larger than the "coontie" (except maybe the Palatka giant form) and not quite as big a spread as the cardboard palm, with a maximum spread of 5-6 feet for a real big one.

Its cold hardiness is similar to the "cardboard palm" (*Zamia furfuracea/maritima*) in that the leaves will burn in the mid-lower 20's but the stem or caudex is more cold hardy than that. Having some in Oviedo for the last few years, mine haven't been tested below 27 degrees. At that temp there was no leaf burn, but was probably real close.

Like most cycads, it likes a well-drained soil. It likes our sandy Florida soils. In containers it likes a well-drained mix. One I use is to mix one 3 gallon container of peat, three 3 gallons of perlite, and one 1 gallon of sand (Florida soil).

It likes part shade to almost full sun best. It can be grown in the shade, but it just slows down its growth. It can also adapt to full sun as well.

They seem to transplant O.K. I have moved them from container to container with no problem. I had the opportunity to dig some large ones out of the ground to put them in containers. Of the 3 that I dug, all 3 lost all the leaves. The one that I just moved up to a bigger container did not do that. I dug them up, some in February and some in March. They didn't produce leaves till June, but when they did it was all in unison. Also when they made the new leaves they produced cones prolifically as well.

In Florida, at least in the Oviedo area, they are self-pollinating. That means that the beetle or weevil that pollinates it has established itself here from its native Mexico. I harvested some seeds that had been self pollinated in about March, after they started to fall from the plant. I let them set for a month for the embryos to develop. That seemed to work out well. But to insure pollination where you

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Zamia loddigesii*: a receptive female cone. But those sure aren't palm petioles.*
(Photo by Chuck Grieneisen)

Above, a close-up of the Z. loddigesii, thin-leaved form . Below, male cones.
(Photos by Tom Broome)

Grieneisen

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are, I would still hand pollinate them. The cones look very similar. I can't tell them apart visually. I just remembered which plants produced pollen and which one produced seeds from the previous year.

Although it is not considered endangered in its native habitat, and is reportedly common in cultivation, I have just not seen too many of them.

So, for small spaces in the garden, for a cycad that's just a little different than the "coontie" and "cardboard palm," you could give the *Zamia loddigesii* a try.

Remember that poor savaged Sabal?

In just two months, it has become this!

Another view of the recovery

In the June issue of *The Palmateer*, I published several pictures of an amputated—to put it politely—*Sabal palmetto* in a parking strip of a business (a pharmacy) on SR 60 in Vero Beach. The palm was struggling to come back. After I got the issue off, I went in and asked the pharmacist why the *Sabal* had been chopped down, for it had been about 15 feet high, like the three others close by. He was amazed, had authorized no cutting, was unaware that anything had happened to it.

The palm has more than survived. From the end of May (when the first picture was taken) to the end of July (when the pictures directly above and to the left were taken), it has added at least a foot of soft trunk and four fully adult leaves. In the July picture above, the 1-gallon pot placed next to the trunk is as high as the stump remaining below the cut.

—John Kennedy

The Virtual Tour

The 2004 IPS Biennial in Hawaii

By Mike Merritt

On Sunday evening, May 29, 2004, palm-loving folks from all over the world gathered in Waikiki Beach, Honolulu, Hawaii, for a welcoming dinner and opening lectures that signaled the beginning of the 2004 IPS Biennial meeting. 206 palm hobbyist attendees registered, coming from 24 nations. A sizable group of predominantly Spanish speakers, from several continents and islands, was present. A group of French speakers, mainly from New Caledonia, were also present, as were a sizable group of Australians. Individuals from such diverse lands as Germany, Switzerland, Britain, New Zealand, Morocco, the Bahamas, Israel, India, Taiwan, and the Philippines were in attendance. But many familiar faces from the Central Florida, Palm Beach and South Florida Chapters could also be glimpsed in the crowd.

The biennial and post tours were organized and run by the Hawaii Island Palm Society. Transportation was provided by Polynesian Adventure Tours, and their colorful buses were a constant feature of our existence for the entire two weeks.

We're not in Florida, any more, Toto, with the mist on the mountains, even if that's CFPACS prez Ray Hernández and Ruth Sallenbach on the IPS tour.

The Public Botanical Gardens

The first day featured the Harold L. Lyon Arboretum, managed by the University of Hawaii at Manoa, in the center of the southeastern peninsula of Oahu. Like most parks or gardens in the Hawaiian Islands, it is in the hilly interior, where moving about means a lot of climbing or descending. The park covers several forested ridges and valleys, and can be conceptualized as consisting of three sections, a landscaped lower section with many plantings, a higher forested section with scattered labeled plantings and clearly marked trails, and the wilderness of the upper part of the park, where labels and trails are both hard to find. A typical landscape of ridges and valleys in the upper section. Impressive specimens of numerous species of *Corypha*, *Archontophoenix*, *Pritchardia*, *Hydriastele*, *Metroxylon*, *Areca*, and *Marojejya*, among others, were found in the first two sections. In the second section is an amazing grove of towering *Roystonea oleracea.*

The landscape in the upper reaches of the Lyon Arboretum on the southeastern peninsula of Oahu.

The second day started with a tour of the Wiamea Valley Audubon Center, located inland in the western part of the northern peninsula of Oahu. The species in the palm walk in the shadow of a towering cliff are organized according to region of origin, mostly the tropical Pacific and southeastern Asia. Various species of *Ptychosperma*, *Acanthophoenix*, *Pigafetta*, *Clinostigma*, *Kentiopsis*, and *Chambeyronia* were represented. Departing from type, a fair-size specimen of *Livistona carinensis* was found along the walk. The rains came in the late morning, and unprepared members of the tour group (including myself) remained wet for the rest of the day. A pair of *Pigafetta filaris* silhouetted against the leaden gray sky. We were told by some who had grown this species that most of the growth to their imposing stature occurs in first 4-5 years.

In the afternoon, we traveled to the Polynesian Cultural Center on the eastern coast of the northern pen

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Above, Nephrosperma vanhoutianum*, right* Gronophyllum cylindrocarpum*: both species in Ho'omaluhia Botanical Garden.. (Not* Gronophyllum *any more?* Gulubia*?)*

insula for non-botanical entertainment. As the center is owned and operated by the Mormon Church, we could not indulge any wishes for cold beer that might have occurred. As the rains continued, we purchased colorful clear plastic raingear for two dollars apiece and wandered around viewing various shows and educational programs. In one tent, a native Hawaiian comedian performed before a multicultural audience, lampooning all the cultures, including his own. He was especially tough on the Japanese, represented by a huge part of the audience, who endured it stoically, showing little reaction. In another tent, a young lady lectured a small number of listeners on the origins of the early settlers of the Hawaiian Islands (the eastern Pacific and, possibly, also South America).

Dinner was in a vast roofed stadium with thousands of people packed like sardines. The food was excellent and included dishes of octopus and raw fish, with seaweed salad on the side. The hula dances performed later in an outdoor theater were interesting, but the huge crowd was jammed into such a small space that it was difficult to move.

During the morning of the third day, we toured the Ho'omaluhia Botanical Garden, maintained by the City and County of Honolulu slightly inland of the northern coast of the eastern peninsula of Oahu. Although this is the windward, rainy side of the island, we were spared from the rain on this day, though heavy gray clouds loomed over the nearby mountains. This garden receives my vote for the most impressive and varied of the public gardens that we viewed. Among the palm genera viewed here as large, mature plants were *Nephrosperma*, *Phoenicophorium*, *Metroxylon*, *Neoveitchia*, *Burretiokentia*, *Gronophyllum,* and *Gulubia costata.*

We saw a whole grove of 60-ft *Cyrtostachys renda*, most having brilliant red crownshafts. *Dypsis decipiens*, coming from the desert regions of Madagascar, has a reputation for being difficult in Florida, but a robust-looking trio was growing on an embankment in an area receiving over 150 inches of rainfall a year. On the opposite side of the road was the dwarf blue form of *Pritchardia hillebrandii.* Notable by their relative absence were most New World

palm genera. However, the garden did have a grove of either *Iriartea* or *Socratea*, tall New World stilt-root palms.

The Private Gardens

The fourth day found us on Hawaii, the "Big Island". From our base in Hilo on the eastern, windward, rainy side of the island, we toured remarkable local gardens belonging to Lars and Leanne Swann, Pauline Sullivan, and Bo-Göran and Karolyn Lundkvist. Pauline began her garden in 1990, the Swanns and Lundkvists began their gardens in 1996. What they have achieved in that short period of time is truly remarkable, all the more so because acreage in southern Hawaii Island is far from what might be envisaged by U. S. mainlanders.

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The raw acreage is a jumble of jagged lava rock containing only a few pockets of soil. The lots are usually colonized by a forest of Ohi'a trees (*Metrosideros polymorpha*). Normal sandy, limey, or clayey soils are not available on Hawaii Island, so local folks looking for fill use ground-up volcanic cinder. Developing land involves the clearing of some of the Ohi'as, breaking up lava rock for paths or flat areas, and filling in pockets with cinder to make areas for planting. Every scrap of vegetable matter is saved for use as mulch.

Given an annual rainfall rate of 150 inches without any marked dry season, most plants seem to grow amazingly fast in the cinder material. Since temperatures rarely go below the upper 50's, the most tender tropicals are happy here. Pauline is near sea level, and the Swanns and Lundkvists are at about 800 feet, so their temperature highs may occasionally reach the upper 80's. For lots higher in elevation, the upper limit may be in the low 80's. Some palm hobbyists living at the higher elevations report that some warmth loving species (e. g., coconuts) grow very slowly, but Madagascar *Dypsis* and New Caledonian species grow very well. Air circulation is good on the windward side of Hawaii Island, as there always seems to be a steady breeze from the ocean.

Above, Pritchardia hillebrandii*, dwarf blue form, Ho'omaluhia Botanical Garden. Left, a trio—look closely, there are three trunks—of* Dypsis decipiens *in the same garden.*

As in the public gardens, the species composition in these three gardens was primarily of Indo-Pacific origin, with emphasis on palms of Madagascar, New Caledonia, and the Seychelles. Despite being north of the main tectonic zone, Bo-Göran warns that his garden is occasionally affected by minor temblors and shifting of surface soils.

On the fifth day we were treated to four palm and cycad collections. In the morning we viewed the private garden of Garrin Fullington, who has spent eighteen years transforming an area of cattle pasture into a tropical garden. I was impressed by the huge, furry inflorescence of a *Burretiokentia hapala* and by a row of *Archontophoenix purpureas* along his driveway. Cynical zone 9B person that I am, I have always doubted the reality of an *Archontophoenix* species that consistently had purple crownshafts. But there they were, lined up like soldiers for inspection, one purple crownshaft after another.

Later we visited the campus of the University of Hawaii at Hilo. A professor whose main professional interest is the study of fungi showed us his impressive and comprehensive on-campus collection of cycads, a private passion. In the late afternoon, we visited the Panaewa Rainforest Zoo. The Hawaii Island Palm Society has been planting palms in the zoo for many years, and many impressive specimens were seen.

But before going to the Panaewa Zoo, we visited the palm collection of Jeff Marcus, well-known proprietor of Floribunda Palms. Jeff has been growing many of the rare palm species advertised in his list of seedlings

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for hobbyists. Many of his sales are to local people in the Hawaiian Islands, and many of the aforementioned collections were formed from his seedlings. Jeff's collection of in-ground palms was as impressive as any of the other private gardens, consisting mainly of palms of the Indo-Pacific region, such as *Dypsis prestoniana*. Self-described as "hyper", Jeff over-exerted his voice speaking loudly to the four visiting subgroups, and, presiding at the general meeting later that night, Jeff could only croak that he needed a voice transplant.

On the sixth day of the biennial, we visited a group of estates on Onomea Bay, on the upper east coast of Hawaii Island, that used to be sections of the estate of the late Donn Carlsmith. What can one say about groves of *Pigafettas* and a commanding view of Onomea Bay?

The complex tour arrangements, ground transportation, meals, plane flights, etc., all went like clockwork to the extent that we were unaware of this aspect of things. Much credit is due to Hawaii Island Palm Society members like Karen Piercy. Karen shepherded the IPS party from day first to day last, and was joined on the post tour by her spouse Steve.

Palmed Out

Near the end of the biennial, I had reached a point where I had seen so many spectacular palms that I turned away in boredom from yet another *Pigafetta* or *Metroxylon*. I had seen hedges of *Cyrtostachys renda*, driveways lined with *Archontophoenix purpurea*, and even shopping center parking lots where the landscape islands were planted with groves of the orange crownshaft form of *Areca vestiaria*. So I chose to change my focus to a study of endemic palms, a type of activity that was rewarding for participants at previous biennials in New Caledonia, France, and Thailand.

The Genus Pritchardia

In the Hawaiian Islands, the term "endemic palm" refers to medium-size to large, slightly costapalmate fan-leafed palms belonging to the genus *Pritchardia*, called loulus by the native Hawaiians. Many *Pritchardias* are spectacular sights. *P. pacifica* and *P. thurstonii* are used for landscaping in tropical regions throughout the world. Of the Hawaiian *Pritchardias*, perhaps the most spectacular are the species with large, stiff, plate-like leaves, like *P. viscosa* (native to Kauai), *P. martii* (native to Oahu), and *P. hardyi* (native to Kauai). Other species are only slightly less spectacular because of some leaf-folding (*P. hillebrandii*, native to Molokai) and also a tendency to pendant leaf tips (*P. remota*, native to Nihoa). To me, *P. affinis* (native to Hawaii Island), with its deeply folded gray-green leaves, has a slight resemblance to central Florida's own cabbage palm (*Sabal palmetto*).

On the fourth night of the biennial, all of the scheduled talks concerned this genus. First to speak was Melany Chapin, a botanist specializing in palms and resident of Hawaii. She was followed by Don Hodel, currently at the University of California. Both have published papers on *Pritchardia*, some for PRINCIPES/PALMS, which, unfortunately, I have not seen. The following discussion is based on the talks, the Jones and Riffle-Craft books, and on other bits of information that I have been able to gather from the Web.

Twenty-three species of *Pritchardias* endemic to Hawaii are currently recognized. *P. glabrata* (native to Maui), *P. aylmer-robinsonii* (native to Ni'ihau), and *P. napaliensis* (native to Kauai) are currently considered separate species despite their similarity to *P. remota*.

In the talks, the hypothesis was proposed that the genus *Pritchardia* may have evolved in the Pacific, based on the fact that Pacific species such as *P. pacifica* (native to Tonga) and *P. thurstonii* (native to Fiji) have small fruits, perhaps maximizing their potential for dispersal to other islands. When *Pritchardias* reached Hawaii, they would have undergone a process of speciation into the various environments found on the various islands. The Hawaiian environments may have encouraged the development of larger fruits (some of the Hawaiian *Pritchardias* have fruits as large as two inches in length or diameter),

Enter the Polynesian settlers about 1,500 to 2,000 years ago, bringing with them pigs and rats, which found the large *Pritchardia* seeds to be an excellent source of nourishment. Recruitment of younger individuals in the wild populations would have been severely curtailed. The arrival of Europeans in the early nineteenth century brought about the clearing of most of the lowland forests for agriculture, with further adverse effects for the loulu populations.

Today, most of the loulu species are classified by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service as critically imperiled or vulnerable. Some may have become extinct without ever being described. *P. maideniana* was described from a tree in a botanical garden in Tahiti. It cannot even be verified that it is from the Hawaiian Islands. *P. affinis* and *P. hillebrandii* have not been found in the wild, but are known only from the remnants of groves apparently planted by the native Hawaiians. *P. viscosa* is known in the wild only from three specimens, the rest having been destroyed by Typhoon Iniki in 1992. Only

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one mature individual of *P. munroi* (native to Molokai) is known in the wild. In 1985, only twelve individuals of *P. schattaueri* (native to Hawaii Island) remained in the wild.

Other speakers on *Pritchardia* night described the reintroduction of endangered *Pritchardias* to the wild, with specific talks on *P. schattaueri* and *P. lanigera*. Other reintroduction programs are in progress for *P. glabrata*, *P. munroi*, and *P. affinis*. Lyon Arboretum is planting *P. martii*, Most of the gardens we visited had *Pritchardia* collections, offering chances for study and species comparison.

The Other Talks

On the first night, Don Hodel gave a talk on doing field collection of palms in Myanmar. The talk was similar to his article in the July issue of PALMS. Don was one of the first botanists to get into that country in quite a few years. In his talk, he confided that the trip tended to focus his interest on the genus *Calamus*. Following Don's talk, Tobias Spanner described searching for palms in South America.

On Friday night, Leng Guan Saw (Forest Research Institute, Malaysia) described searching for *Licuala* species on the island of Borneo. There are 46 species on Borneo alone. In Scott Zona's talk on Madagascar palms, Scott revealed that his group was able to find *Dypsis ambositrae* in the wild, so that it had not become extinct after the destruction of its previously known habitat. His group found a new species of *Dypsis* that spends part of its growth cycle completely submerged near riverbanks.

At the farewell dinner on Saturday night, outgoing IPS president Horace Hobbs made his goodbyes. The new president is Florida's own Paul Craft. Afterward, Andrew Henderson gave us an update on his current work in progress, a field guide to Old World palms. Andrew has found the task to be sufficiently daunting that he has divided the work into two projected volumes. The first will be south Asia, excluding Malaysia, the Philippines, and Indonesia. He also advised that he was able to develop an excellent field key for the genus *Calamus*.

Following Andrew's talk, Leonel Mera, speaking in Spanish, translated for us English speakers by Lupita Butler, invited the IPS to have its 2006 biennial in the Dominican Republic. He hoped that political conditions would permit a post-tour to be held in Cuba.

The Volcanoes National Park Tour

A non-palm diversion was offered on Sunday between the biennial and post-tour. The main road into the park circles around the caldera of Kilauea Volcano, which has been in eruption for 20 years. At the park visitors' center, we could view artwork and we were treated to an exhibition of hula dancing, said to be authentic and free of any commercially motivated enhancements. Seating was informal (spread out on a piece of waterproof material on the grass), but far more comfortable than on Oahu on Tuesday.

The Post Tour

The post tour, with 86 registrants, was rather laid back and low key compared to the biennial, but still provided unique places to see, and also provided an opportunity to visit the dry side of Hawaii Island and Kauai. On Monday, we went to the Hawaii Tropical Botanical Garden, located on Onomea Bay on the eastern, windward coast of Hawaii Island, not far from the former Carlsmith estate. The special focus of this garden is gingers, heliconias, bromeliads, and anthuriums, but many unusual palm specimens were also available to see.

On Tuesday, we traveled to the dry, western coast of Hawaii Island, stopping at a black sand beach near the southern tip of the island to view a remnant grove of *Pritchardia affinis*. On Wednesday, we visited two remarkable estates and gardens on the western side, belonging to Brian Lievens and Norman Bezona. Brian is a landscape architect, and the layout of his grounds serves as a laboratory and demonstration model for his projects. Of native loulos, he grows only *Pritchardia schattauerii*, so that he will be in a position to offer non-hybridized seeds and young plants to clients and neighbors.

Norman Bezona's property at 3,000 ft elevation is a preserve for native species in which many non-native palms and bamboos have been planted. A special treat was to see Norman's house, which he graciously opened to us. The house is in three levels on a hillside. It is framed with some type of light-colored and strong lumber and features enormous windows, and an open interior design that minimizes interior walls. The outer walls seem to be solely for purpose of supporting the enormous windows. When one lives on the leeward side of Hawaii, who needs walls?

On Thursday, we traveled to Kauai and went straight to the McBryde Garden and Allerton Garden, each managed by the National Tropical Botanical Garden, a congressionally-chartered, privately funded, non-profit organization that conducts scientific research and promotes plant conservation. In Florida, the NTBG maintains the Kampong, the former home of David Fairchild. These gardens, located on the southern coast of

(Continued on page 26)

2004 Biennial

(Continued from page 25)

Kauai, are beautifully landscaped and have a global selection of palm species. The Allerton Garden, a former private estate, has many unique engineering features that involve the movement of water for aesthetic purposes. The McBryde Garden includes a large *Pritchardia* collection in the upper valley that is used for scientific research.

On Friday, we traveled to the north shore of Kauai to see two remarkable gardens. Hale manu ("House of Birds") is a bed and breakfast on a 3.5-acre lot that has been landscaped into a beautiful garden featuring many palm plantings. The landscaping is open and huge beds of flowers have been planted, so that the palms are surrounded by blocks of exotic color. The second garden was the Pepperwood Plantation, owned and operated by "Jungle Dan", a local landscape designer. Many of his exotic palm plantings are in a dark ravine accessible by a steep, slippery trail. Dan also maintains a large planting of native *Pritchardia* species.

On Saturday, we were back on Oahu, and went to two of the gardens maintained by the City and County of Honolulu. The first was the Koko Crater Botanical Garden, located in a volcanic crater on the eastern tip of Oahu. Because the sides of the crater screen out rain clouds, the park is remarkably dry, receiving about 15 inches of rainfall per year. Entering the park, we passed a huge collection of *Plumerias*, most having grown into large trees that might be the envy of many in Florida. Because of the dry climate, the park has extensive plantings of Caribbean palms, which are regarded in Hawaii as being dry climate palms. I marveled at 40-ft tall *Copernicia albas* with skirts of old leaves reaching to the ground. There was an extensive collection of *Brahea* species. There were large groves of *Pritchardia remota* and *Pritchardia schattauerii.*

Our final stop was at the "grand old lady" of Honolulu gardens, Foster Botanical Garden, surrounded by skyscrapers in downtown Honolulu. The garden has a global selection of palm species, most of which are quite mature and towering in their size. At one end of the garden was a fruiting coco-de-mer (*Lodoicea maldivica*). However, most of the plantings of loulu species were surprisingly young. The garden also included a comprehensive cycad collection, including the legendary *Encephalartos woodii* Many gardens in the world have offsets of *E. woodii* from a plant collected in South Africa in 1895, where the plant is now unknown in the wild.

Epilogue

From Foster's Botanical Garden, we returned to our hotel, the Prince Kuhio, where I looked out from my room at Waikiki Beach, partly blocked by an intervening hotel. Later we had our farewell dinner, where everyone made their emotional farewells to newfound friends and fellow palm fanatics. On Sunday morning, it was the shuttle to the airport and long flights to return to our normal lives with visions of tropical paradises in our heads that will not soon fade.

Mike Merritt's photo album of the IPS 2004 Biennial may be viewed at http://community.webshots.com/user/mmerritt113

Above, Pritchardia viscosa *growing at the Pepperwood Plantation on Kauai. Right,* P. martii, *Lyon Arboretum, Oahu.*

Here are five more of the palm spots taped by your editor for broadcast over public radio station WQCS in Fort Pierce. No one has ever asked how to contact CFPACS or the Palm Beach chapter.

Palm Points #35
Brittle Thatch Palm

The Brittle Thatch Palm is native to the Florida Keys. Brittle Thatch Palm is readily available in the nursery trade.
An ideal palm for small, tight places, it is unlikely in its owner's lifetime to get higher than 15 feet. The trunk is perhaps 6 inches across.
Its fan leaves are small and bright green, with silvery undersides. The crown is only a few feet across.
Brittle Thatch Palm takes sun from earliest age and doesn't do well in shade. It requires good drainage.
The Latin name is *Thrinax morrisii.*
This palm is completely salt tolerant and can withstand windy conditions. It looks better when not constantly buffeted by wind.

Palm Points #36 Lady Palm

A bushy, clumping palm, Lady Palm has thin fiber-wrapped stalks topped by dark green leaves. The leaves are distinctive and look as if a palmate leaf has been chopped into four or five thick segments that are cut almost flat along the outer edge.
In partial shade Lady Palm grows to about 8 feet. Lady Palm can grow well next to house foundations. It looks good as an unpruned hedge.
Lady Palm grows well in tubs and is often used as an indoor plant, for it takes the low light and low humidity that many palms cannot. It needs to spend some time outside if most of its life is indoors.
[This is, of course, Rhapis excelsa*, although the Latin name was not, by accident, included.]*

Palm Points #37
Palm Societies

A natural next step to an interest in palms is to join a palm society.
The Central Florida Palm & Cycad Society's service area runs from St. Lucie County to Gainesville. This group meets four times a year, on a weekend: on the East and West Coasts, and in the Central area. The fourth meeting is sometimes outside the region.
Cost is nominal.
Martin County residents can join the Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society. With a more compact area, this society meets monthly. Again, the cost is modest.
For addresses of these societies, or of the International Palm Society, contact me at Indian River Community College.

Palm Points #38
Ribbon Fan Palm

The Ribbon Fan Palm from Australia is a good substitute for Washingtonia. It grows to about 40 feet at moderate speed.
Its bright green palmate leaves are "weeping." That is, the segments are cut almost to the leaf stem and droop at least half their length.
Ribbon Fan Palm has a heavy crown, with many leaves, and is perhaps 15 feet across. Its 15-18 inch diameter reddish brown trunk is attractive. Leaf bases remain on young trees, but after some years, the leaf bases and dead leaves fall off on their own.
Ribbon Fan Palm takes full sun from a young age. In habitat, it grows in swampy areas, sometimes in partial shade.
[Formerly Livistona decipiens*, the species has now become* Livistona decora.*]*

Palm Points #39 Cycads

A King Sago Palm or a Queen Sago Palm or a Cardboard Palm: all are cycads. Not really palms, their fleshy pinnate leaves look similar.
Cycads are cone-bearing plants related to pine trees. Palm-lovers often grow cycads as companion plants. Palms grow continuously but cycads have distinct periods of growth.
King Sago is a medium clumping plant with high cold tolerance that grows in full sun or light shade.
Queen Sago is a less cold tolerant, larger clumping plant with finer leaves that grows in similar conditions.
Coontie is Florida's only native cycad. A small clumping species, it grows in full sun to heavy shade.
Cardboard Palm, a single-trunked species, takes full sun.
[Cycads in the genus Cycas*—including King & Queen Sagos—are not presently recommended for planting because of infestation of the Asian Cycad Scale.]*

From the Editor's Desk

Our congratulations to Paul Craft, who became president of the International Palm Society (IPS) during the recent Biennial in Hawaii. Paul is familiar to so many of us from his years of operating a palm nursery in Palm Beach County. Some of us can remember back to his days of selling palm seeds. I have a *Clinostigma savoryanum* from the nursery phase, now 6 feet overall: I just begun to bald (I think). From the seed phase, I have *Borassodendron machadonis*, beautiful and will form a trunk in a few years: my hair was black then (I think). After his nursery closed, Paul was involved in a business enterprise in the Keys, but has now returned to Palm Beach County. He was a fixture at the Palm Beach chapter sales. Good luck and godspeed, Paul!

* * * * *

September 18th you-all have a date to meet at Gaylord Palms Resort in Kissimmee. You've seen it in the distance from I-4: a towering hotel with a towering glassed-in area to one side. Inside the atrium is a 4.5-acre **tropical** garden, sidewalk café and other features, all in the air conditioning! I am always happy for my palms in the Florida summer—as long as the rains come regularly—but, for myself, prefer to view them from within the air-conditioned house. At Gaylord, you can be outside and also inside (oxymoron, anyone?).

* * * * *

Livistona decipiens is no more. Through the grapevine, I have heard that the new name will be *Livistona decora*. Now run out and change the labels so that you are correct and up-to-date. We love taxonomists, we really do, Scott. We grind our teeth in salute. Some other revisions in *Livistona* (Central Florida's favorite genus?) also in the offing, too complicated for my tired brain.

* * * * *

This issue marks my sixth anniversary as Editor of *The Palmateer*. Do I get some kind of award? A medal? A banana split? Something in honor of the occasion? Editors don't last all that long, for not-very-mysterious reasons. I've enjoyed it, most of the time, have managed (I think) not to insult anyone, though I have occasionally wished to do so. The job is easiest when there is sufficient material sent to me, which is not always the case. The standard size is 32 pages. Occasionally, it goes longer, offending the postal-rate gods. Sometimes I have much less than needed and have had to scratch for more. And it helps if I am able to assemble the goods during vacation time, which is right now—together with a late meeting date (such as September 18th), so there's no push to get the issue into members' hands at least a week before an early-in-the-month meeting. Doesn't work that way during the rest of the year when I am working: I am not yet retired, wondering what to do with myself. There's plenty on my plate for the foreseeable future.

* * * * *

The deadline for submission of material for the December issue is November 5th. Thanksgiving, Christmas, the end of my fall semester make for exciting, jam-packed times. And, of course, there is the Christmas **sociable.** Anyone who has come across something interesting, maybe a tip on growing, should write it up for the newsletter.

Contributors are not required to have masters degrees, or any degrees. The editing is gentle, usually no more than the minor correction of spelling and grammar. (Palmpeople can't spell: FACT) A potential article can be sent as a Word attachment to an e-mail message. The text font and size is 10-point Garamond, but I can easily change anything submitted. Pictures may also be attachments, jpg, if possible. It's a lovely idea to identify the pictures (I may guess wrong, if it's up to me).

* * * * *

My role as a missionary for palms continues with a presentation before the Cocoa Rockledge Garden Club on October 12th and with a 'class' at McKee Botanical Garden in Vero Beach on November 13th. Dates are not yet set for a workshop on Palm Basics at Heathcote Botanical Gardens, Fort Pierce, some time in May, and (perhaps) on the afternoon of the same day, a second workshop—on Intermediate Palms. I may be soliciting suggestions for what to include in a second installment that would go beyond what beginners need to know. I also answer *basic* questions about cycads, Tom, gleaned from my reading of *The Palmateer*, and from naïve questions to cycad practitioners.

* * * * *

Walking around my half acre, I always encounter my mistakes. Guilt wars with ignorance. There's the *Dictyosperma album*, 20 years old, with 2 feet of trunk, and four small leaves. Since I knew it was tender, I planted

From the Editor's Desk

it in the lea of a laurel oak for protection. The oak has protected it to the extent of growing past the little palm, which lives in perpetual shade. I've spoken of my two dwarf *Bismarckia*s, planted about 20 years ago along the back of the lot because I knew they would get big (ha!). Instead, my neighbor's laurel oaks—may they rot—have kept them to a foot of trunk and five or six big leaves. The *Borassus aethiopum* came from a seed planted in the open ground, then more sunny than now; it does have two small, mature leaves and a 10-inch trunk. Perhaps the champion mistake is *Copernicia hospita*, two small ear-like leaves, 25 years ago and now? Two slightly bigger ear-like leaves. While it still exists, and won't grow, I have to acknowledge that neither the wedelia nor the pothos have done it in. Last year, I asked members to send me recollections of their mistakes, but had no takers. Maybe—unlike mine—their mistakes just die, rather than cling to unattractive life.

* * * * *

Only one of my two 25-year-old *Allagoptera arenaria* fruits (we won't say regularly, but often). This year, it has contributed about 600 seeds to our Seed Bank. All of these are from inflorescences that followed good out-of-season rain in December. No new inflorescences have appeared in this summer so far, reflective probably of the lack of rain. It's not quite drought in Indian River County, but hovers just above that. My other mature palm of the same species, about 25 feet away, in the same partial shade, only produces male flowers. A while back, I e-mailed two notable palm experts (outside of Central Florida) to ask why this was so, but never received a reply. Maybe they didn't know, either.

* * * * *

Nosing through my pots this morning, I came to a 1-gallon with mesh on top. Seeds—the mesh to discourage rabbits, squirrels (how can I encourage squirrel predators?), and, generally, any other munchers. Took off the mesh and, yes, something coming up, but what? I fished out the tag: *Chamaedorea seifrizii*, the date "8/27/03." Three weeks short of a year to germinate. The moral of the story is a) don't give up on palm seeds too soon; b) buy small palms someone else has germinated; or c) both of the preceding. I go for (c).

John Kennedy

Above, the staminate Latania *at Joe and Anne Michael's place in Wabasso. Why the constriction? The famous Christmas Freeze of 1989? Asit Ghosh gives scale to the old palm. Below, another male in decline,* Borassus aethiopum, *also at the Michaels'. Caused by. . .salt water intrusion? Hurricanes?*
(Photos by Mike Dahme)

Seed Bank Report, May-July

Joseph Prabhaker of Ortanique very generously donated seed of *Bismarckia nobilis*, *Phoenix rupicola*, *Attalea butyracea*, and *Corypha umbraculifera* (quickly sold out), $105.75. First-time donor, Steve Rohrmayer sent *Coccothrinax miraguama,* $103. Charlene Palm donated *Copernicia alba* and *Hyophorbe verschaffeltii*, $65. Three packages of seed of 46 spp. came from Montgomery Botanical Center, $81. *Allagoptera arenaria* from John Kennedy, $41 (more left!). Mike Dahme donated *Hyphaene dichotoma*, $22.50. The total for the period is $534.54.

Donors of seed that earn the chapter $100 or more within a year receive a complimentary annual membership. Steve Rohrmayer has just qualified for this distinction, as has Joseph Prabhaker (again).

Our thanks to seed donors and to those who got it from us. It should be noted that non-payment means that no further orders will be accepted from that person.

--Dean VanderBleek and Mike Dahme
(Dean from July 1st)

A little bit of Hawaii in Kissimmee? Another view of Gaylord Palms Resort, site of the September 18th CFPACS meeting. (Photo by Tom Broome)

Second Quarter 2004 Meeting Minutes

The second quarter board meeting was called to order at the residence of Jerold Crawford, June 12, 2004. It was agreed that new membership flyers were needed, but was undecided who would print them. It was agreed that there would be no online subscriptions for *The Palmateer*.

Finding a new seed bank person was also discussed. It is now temporarily filled but some possible people to take it over full time were discussed. It was also agreed to streamline the job as well.

The possibility of raising the subscription rate of *The Palmateer* in 2005 after many years without rate hikes was also discussed. Having a roster in *The Palmateer* every 2 years was also discussed.

The possibility of taking over a vacant "share" of the MBC seed distribution was discussed. What that is, is that MBC sells a one year "share" or percentage of the seeds that they distribute to the "shareholders." One of the shareholders isn't receiving his shares anymore. We discussed if our society would like to get his share for free of charge. We would have to get a FedEx number to receive the seeds, though.

—Chuck Grieneisen, Secretary

Land O Lakes, June 12th: the plant sale at the Barreses'. That's Karen Barrese, our Membership Chair , in the white shorts. (Photo by Tom Barrese)

TREASURER'S REPORT

March 13, 2004 to June 12, 2004

INCOME:

Seed sales……	150.20
Membership Dues……	1,570.00
Donations to CFPACS……..……...……..	0.00
Public Sales (USF Spring Sale)……...	492.80
Private Sales (Mar. 13 meeting in Vero Beach)……	263.45
Back Issue Sales……	0.00
Total _____	2,476.45

EXPENSES:

Publications (v. 24, no. 2, parts of 1 and 3, and roster)	2,227.85
Grants (Willie Tang, for cycad conservation)……...	1,000.00
Miscellaneous (Corporate annual report fee) ……	70.00
Total _____	3,297.85

INCOME - EXPENSES …….. -821.40

Bank balance 03/13/04…… 24,020.03
Bank balance 06/12/04…… 23,500.58

Net increase……. -519.45 (decrease)

(Note: Club-budget and bank reporting periods do not exactly coincide.)

ASSETS:

Endowment (mutual funds)……. 10,000.00 (purchase price)
……. 9,456.26 (value at time of purchase)
……. 9,010.91 (current value, close of market 6/10/2004)
(6,052.10 Washington, 2,958.81 banked from sale of Putnam shares)

Office equipment and tent…… 1,595.00
Computers and software……..… 2,544.41 minus depreciation
Printer……..… 2,200.00 minus depreciation

—Michael Merritt, Treasurer

If caught by the madness of palms and cycads, a partial remedy (that feeds on the disease) is fellowship with those similarly addicted, aided by the judicious quarterly appearance of The Palmateer. Join the Central Florida Palm & Cycad Society, at the mere cost of $10 for one year, three years for $25. Remember: after December 31st, membership dues go up. If already enrolled, renewal at the current amounts may be made prior to December 31st. Send your check made out to CFPACS, to the Membership Chair at the address listed below.

Please print

Name_____
Street_____
City_____
State,
Zip_____
Email_____
Phone (area)_____

Wish to be added to Seed Bank E-mail list? (Circle one) YES NO

Willing to be listed publicly in roster? (Circle one) YES NO

Mail check made out to CFPACS (domestic: $10 one year; $25 three years; foreign: US$15 one year) to:

Karen Barrese
Membership Chair
5942 Ehren Cutoff
Land O Lakes, FL 34639

Membership also available at website:
www.cfpacs.org

The picture-taker, while on vacation at Los Sueños Marriott Resort in Costa Rica, spotted these Licuala grandis *against a perfect background.*

(Photo by Eileen Plasencia)

Deadline for December Issue: November 5 (Guy Fawkes Day)
All materials for publication should be submitted by 5:00 p.m., sooner, if possible. Send to jkennedy@ircc.edu

The International Palm Society (IPS)

Anyone interested in joining the IPS and receiving the quarterly, illustrated journal, *Palms*, should send a check for $35 (regular membership) or $45 (family membership) to:

International Palm Society
P. O. Box 368
Lawrence, KS 66044

Dues may also be paid online at the IPS website, www.palms.org

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Waikiki, the Pacific glimpsed beyond the balcony, a cool drink on the table. A rest stop before going to look even more palms during the Biennial.
(Photo by Mike Merritt)

Yes, it's Hula hawaiiensis *at the IPS 2004 Biennial.*
(Photo by Mike Merritt)

Picture at left "shows a planting of *Dypsis bejofo* in the Sullivan garden. The background in this picture illustrates the most remarkable aspect of Pauline Sullivan's palm gardening concept. Pauline believes that each palm should be set off by itself without the intrusion of other objects or plants. Hence, her garden is a nearly flat bed of cinders, punctuated at intervals by solitary palms. This unusual concept did not appeal to everyone in the IPS party, but is certainly a novel approach. Another unusual concept was the use of hundreds of *Cyrtostachys renda* clumps for a hedge around the border of the property (just as south Floridians and Ruth Sallenbach use *Dypsis lutescens* clumps). (Pauline Sullivan is now confined to a wheelchair and could not remain long with the IPS group. Her son provided the main interface with the group.)" *From Mike Merritt's account of the 2004 Biennial in Hawaii, story begins on p. 21.*