

The Palmateer

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Central Florida Palm & Cycad Society

March 2018

March 24th Meeting in Lutz

By Libby Luedeke

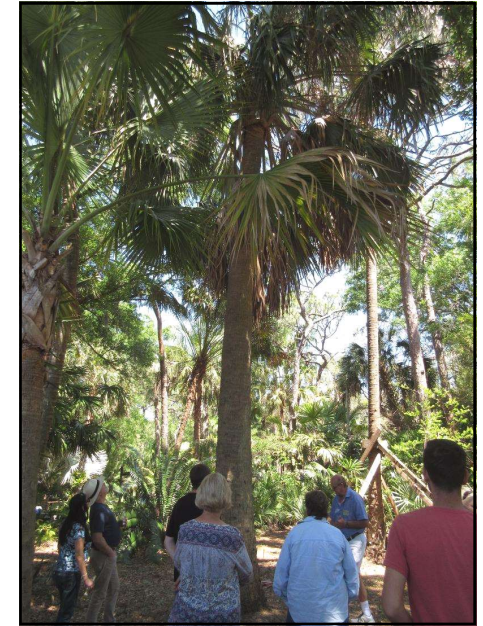
On the road again for our March 2018 meeting, this time to Ted and Nancy Langley's beautiful home and garden in Lutz, FL. We were welcomed with open arms and right away you could see the results of many months of meticulous care and backbreaking work to prepare for our visit.

The property began its transformation in 1983. Ted was at first reluctant to include palms into his garden due to childhood memories of trimming palms at his Grandfather's with a dull carpenter saw. I can see how that would taint your desire. But, he began to see a palm or two that would

be a great addition to his yard. At some point Ted developed a relationship with Dr. U. A. Young from whom he bought and was given many of the plants in his garden and the passion for palms and cycads.

Ted led us on a lively tour filling us in on the many successes and few failures. We viewed many specimen palms and cycads pictured.

Nancy went all out and served us three different kinds of chili to please everyone's palate. And we thank her for her efforts. I know I particularly enjoyed mine. And the other members brought lots of complementary dishes and desserts. Thanks to all. I did that just to entice those that didn't



*Ted Langley—blue shirt at right—takes the CFPACS visitors on the tour of his collection.
(Photos this page by Libby Luedeke)*



Beautiful Coccothrinax sp. guards the Langleys' front door.

join us to try and make it in the future.

Once our bellies were full and our tour concluded we settled down to a lively auction where many of our members collected rare and not so rare palms,

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Renew your CFPACS membership for 2018. See page 14 for details.



*One of several big Butia X Syagrus hybrids at the Langley's'.
(Photo by Libby Luedeke)*

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The Palmateer

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The Palmateer

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March 24th in Lutz

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cycads, orchids, ferns and bromeliads.

Another great reason to be a member of the CFPACS. You can only bid at the auction if you are a member where you can get amazing plants at a much reduced price. After the Langleys were very generous and raffled off many seedlings of plants from their garden.

Then we had a chance to buy beautiful plants from our vendors. They bring well cared for inventory that can't be found at the local big box stores, plus you have the benefit of speaking directly with the growers to get tips on planting and care so that your new purchase will thrive.

Ted and Nancy Langley are both retired from the postal service and besides having an incredible garden, they shared other hobbies and talents. Ted has a passion from motorsports and



Ted's Other hobby: motor sports with the lined-up collection next to the house.

(Photos by Libby Luedeke)

Nancy, other than being a talented cook, is also an amazing quilter. A marriage made in heaven!

The tag for the picture below reads: "Trace, John and Terrence discuss the fauna." Otherwise identified as Tracy Hines, Treasurer; John Kennedy, Editor; Terrence Williams, Central VP (back to camera). Also, center, Noll, Tracy's dog, at the Langleys'.





Encephalartos hildebrandtii above, *Cycas taitungensis* below, with owner Ted Langley.



Cycads in the Langley Garden



Encephalartos villosus, above. *Dioon spinulosum* below.
(Photos by Libby Luedeke)





We won't call them 'old-timers' but long-time members Mike Evans (left) and Phil Stager (right) at the Langley meeting.

No, it's not a bud on the palm trunk, and not the separate trunk of a clumper. It's an unusual fern (tied on), Aglaomorpha coronans, seen at left from a distance at the Langleys' and, right, close up.

(Photos this page by Libby Luedeke)



January Freeze Damage at Channeltron Marina, New Smyrna Beach

By Dave Hall
CFPACS President

This is the first freeze record since 2010 at Channeltron Marina in New Smyrna Beach. We have had temperatures previously near 32 degrees but this was the first freeze that really did noticeable damage since 2010.

After a relatively warm fall, January weather took an about turn for the worse. We had two nights with temperatures below freezing. The first night was the worst, with a prevailing north-west wind. All night between 10-15 MPH. The temperature fell to around freezing around 4 a.m. and lasted till about 9 a.m. The lowest recorded temperature was 29 degrees at 7 a.m. There was a coating of thin ice in the dogs' water bowls out near the dock. The second night was calmer winds and a little frost by morning. The temperature was

not as low with 32 degrees for just around 2 hours.

Every freeze here at Channeltron throughout the years has had its own characteristics. This freeze was relatively on the light side with few hours of freezing temperatures. The palms in the open with no canopy tree cover suffered the worst damage. These palms--*Dypsis lutescens*, Bottle and Spindle Palms--were 75% defoliated even close to the water's edge. Palms under the canopy of oaks and pines fared a lot better. Only 30-50 leaves showed damage.

These palms were the Sugar Palm, *Arenga pinnata*, the Teddy Bear, *Kentiopsis oliviformis*, *Chambeyronia macrocarpa*, *Ptychosperma salomonense*, and *Syagrus botryophora*. All the damage seemed to occur head high and above. Palm fronds below this level were not damaged.



Left, Dypsis leptocheilos, the Teddy Bear Palm at the marina. Below, Syagrus amara, the Over-top Palm. Both with freeze damage.



Freezing temperatures were relatively short, indicating that penetration was not at ground level.

There were some surprises with this freeze compared with that of 2010. The *Kentiopsis oliviformis* and *Chambeyronia* suffered more

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Left, *Ptychosperma salomonense*, freeze damaged at the marina.

(Photos in New Smyrna Beach by Dave Hall)

January Freeze Damage, New Smyrna Beach

(Continued from page 6)

damage with less freezing time. I believe the reason to be less canopy cover due to loss of leaves and branches due to Hurricane Irma. Second surprise was no damage to *Ptychosperma elegans* and one *Adonidia merrillii*. Usually these freeze very easily but somehow they were able to shake off the cold.

[Dave Hall is the owner of Channeltron Marina.—Editor]

For the June issue of *The Palmateer* let us know how well freeze-damaged palms recovered.

—Editor

Right, *Veitchia sessilifolia*, Edgewater.

(Photo by Libby Luedeke)

January Freeze Damage, Edgewater

By Libby Luedeke

Most of us in Central Florida had a rough experience in the January freezes. For the most part we came out pretty good. Just some singed leaves and defoliation of some bushes. We have a *Veitchia sessilifolia* that was destined to

fail, but sometimes you just have to try. On the other hand I have this *Archontophoenix alexandrae* pictured that was virtually unfazed. We experienced four nights under freezing temperatures for a total of over 16 hours. Much to my surprise she held strong. Being that it holds a commanding place in our landscape, we are very fortunate.



What's in an Apopka Garden?

Well, not much at the moment! It seems that the January cold snap took its toll on many of our favorites. We have been fortunate to enjoy a few mild winters in a row. That was the good news.

The bad news is that those mild winters allowed many palms to grow bigger than we would be able to successfully cover. To make matters worse, we were out of town during this time and so our babies stood no chance.

Matters have been even more complicated by the fact that we had planned to move as many of them as possible to our new home in the Green Swamp area south of Clermont over the next few weeks.



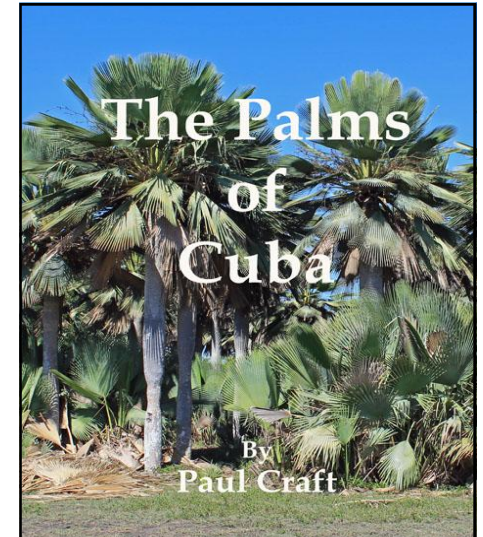
The beloved but injured Licuala ramsayi in Apopka.

It's nearly impossible now to tell which are worth transporting and which need to visit the compost pile. Then, a couple of weeks ago, the large, precariously dangling limb left over from the hurricane decided to finally drop – right on top of my all-time favorite *Licuala ramsayi*. (See photo) Ramsay suffered some minor damage from the cold and even the large limb couldn't halt his growth spurt. He will be a challenge to dig up.

However, our motto is “No palm or cycad left behind” so at some point in the near future, you will see a new round of articles entitled “What Grows in a Clermont Garden!”

Happy planting!

—Ron Hart/Maryann Krisovitch



Paul Craft's long-awaited book has now been published. It has 232 pages and more than 420 pictures with information on all 98 native taxa in Cuba.

The list price is \$39.95. For a limited time, no shipping charges are added on to domestic orders.

To order the book go to:
<http://www.palmnutpages.com/palmafanalia/cartweaver3/details.cfm?product=190>



Above, *Sabal mauritiformis* and, right, *Acrocomia aculeata* on the island of Roatan.

On a Honduran island. . .

On a recent visit to the beautiful island of Roatan which is one of bay islands of Honduras I observed some of the native palms growing in habit. These were *Sabal mauritiformis*, *Acrocomia aculeata*, *Attalea cohune*, *Coccothrinax argentata*, and *Thrinax radiata*. Not to forget the beautiful beaches dotted with tons of coconut trees.

—Dave Hall



**Seen at the
Langley
Homeplace**
(Photos by Ted)



*Above, Chuniophoenix
hainanensis*



Right, Rhaps humilis



*Left, Zombia
antillarum,
trunk close up
below*



*Ceratozamia
mexicana, new
flush of leaves*

4th Quarter 2017 Seed Bank Report

By Libby Luedeke

Hello all, I hope that this new year is treating you well. The cold weather has played havoc on some things in our yard, but for the most part we have fared pretty well.

Seed sales have been low this quarter although we did send them far and wide. We had some seeds that weren't viable and it cut back on what we were able to offer. But in a couple of weeks we should have some more ready to go. Our total sales were about \$149.00.

As always, if you have any seeds to donate we would be happy to accept them. Feel free to email at the address below with any information or questions you may have. Hope you all have a great 2018.

Jerry and Libby Luedeke
117 East Connecticut Ave
Edgewater, FL 32132
theseedbank@yahoo.com

From the Editor's Desk

Did we luck out on our meeting at the Langleys' on Saturday? You bet! After some truly chilly days earlier in March (not to mention freezing temps previously in the winter through much of Central Florida) our quarterly get-together turned into a warmish near 80-degree day under sunny skies. What a gorgeous place! Yeah, CFPACS visited—in 2011?—but I wasn't along on that occasion, so was stunned at how beautiful the homesite. The 1.7 acres looked bigger than that to me but then it's filled with mature evergreen oaks and mature pines. A glorious setting for many young palms that like some shade/shelter initially before growing into the canopy. For the species that need sun from the start, there was the area behind the house and along the front

and side perimeters of the property.

* * * *

The auction was going on as I sat next to Treasurer Tracy Hines and watched Phil Stager handle the bidding. Not paying a lot of at-

tention, since I had most of the palms offered. When, what to my inattentive ears came a chorus of people shouting my name. (Hey, think I'm deaf or something? I have my hearing aids turned all the way up!) Huh? I

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Claire Thompson (with husband Bob) is the newest member of CFPACS, joining at the Lutz meeting. As a member she could bid on auction palms and cycads, returning home with a substantial haul. (Photo by Libby Luedeke)

From the Editor's Desk

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haven't bid on anything. But there's a palm for me. Dave Hall, our prez, was announcing that it was in appreciation for my labors as editor. I looked at the palm, a 6-gallon *Chamaedorea stolonifera*, 3 stalks, the tallest, 4 feet high. Exactly what I would have asked for, had I been offered a choice. I did have a beautiful specimen but several years back a hurricane destroyed its cover, exposing the palm to full sunlight. I watched it turn brown and head for the palm cemetery. The shade/cover has returned. I have a great spot for this palm! Thank you so much, my palm friends. I have been editor since the end of 1988, except for the hiatus 2009-2012.

* * * *

Notable at the Langley place were all the big hybrid palms that are mostly deliberate crosses for

cold hardiness. I can't recall seeing elsewhere such mature specimens that are remarkably handsome. *Butyagrus* was there and also *Butia x Jubaea* that Merrill Wilcox pioneered in Gainesville. **Now, we** all take risks with palms, pushing the envelope with species that may (we hope) prove hardy enough for where we happen to be. But it's plain common sense to have basic palms that will reliably survive where we live. I didn't count all the motor-cycles on display, I'm guessing 30. In beautiful condition.

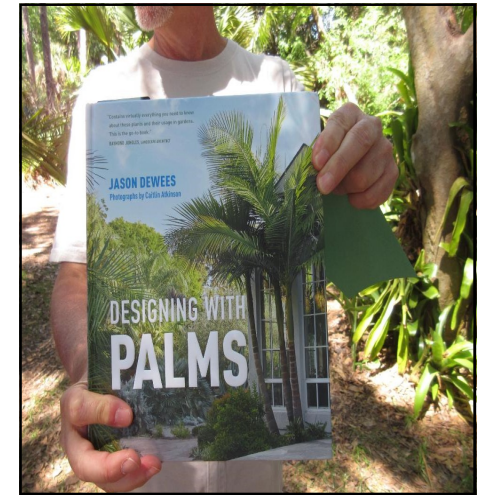
* * * *

Big news! *The Palms of Cuba* by Paul Craft has just been published. Paul has been at this for 25 years? No, probably only 10. Anyway, there are 98 taxa (species) covered in the book with many pictures. I've always thought that many Cuban palms would grow in Florida, particularly south of Central Florida. I think I have 5 or 6 growing here

in Vero Beach. See the picture of the book cover on page 8, together with ordering information. The *Coccothrinax* in front of the Langleys' house was a gift from John Bishock, who told Ted only that it was from Cuba. Paul Craft's book may make the ID easier to establish. After all, that thick fabric webbing of the trunk is very distinctive.

* * * *

About 40 members enjoyed the day at Ted and Nancy Langley's palm and cycad spread in Lutz. We thank them for their lovely hospitality. A new member joined up that day: Claire Thompson, who has recently moved from Seattle to nearby San Antonio in Pasco County. The girl has the fever, friends, and was soon bidding (wide-eyed) in the auction. Husband Bob just laughed at her pleasure, doubtless knowing that his labors with the shovel would soon be required. Welcome, Claire!



Keith Santner (above) brought a new palm book to the meeting: Designing with Palms by Jason Dewees. Breathtaking pictures of spectacular plantings. I suspect, however, that most of us have acquired palms one or two at a time without any idea of design. Indeed, small house lots don't usually leave much room for dramatic effects. Nevertheless, the book's pictures are enough to get folks salivating.

(Photo by Libby Luedeke)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Where we were on March 24th: palms, cycads, and other tropicals wrap the Langley house in Lutz. (Photo by Libby Luedeke)

First, I'd like to thank the Langleys for hosting us at their wonderful garden in Lutz. It was spectacular and showed off all the hard work and dedication they have given it through all these years.

Second, I would like to remind our members to share any of their freeze or hurricane damage that occurred recently with their palms and cycads and prospects for recovery. Please provide a brief description with a picture to John Kennedy our *Palmateer* editor.

Finally, I would like to give an overview of our next meeting that is still in planning. We want to have an indoor social event (hopefully at Mead Gardens). We would like all members to bring a palm, cycad, something else you have grown or some related item to be auctioned off for the society. We plan a raffle of some mature specimens. Luncheon will be catered and your auction item is admission for palm society members. We will accept new memberships at the door! Bring a friend. Our tentative date is Saturday, June 9. Stay tuned for more information.

—David Hall

PayPal Tutorial

Here is how to make a payment to CFPACS using PayPal

1) Log on to <http://www.paypal.com>

2) If you have a PayPal account, log into your account. If you do not have a PayPal account, click on the 'Personal' tab. Once on the 'Personal' page go to 'Send Money' and then 'Send Money Online.'

3) Once on the 'Send Money' page, type 'payments@cfpacs.com' in the 'To' field. Type in your email address in the 'From' field and the amount you wish to pay in the 'Amount' field.

4) From there you will be taken to a secure page where you can enter your name, address and credit card information.

5) When you are ready to finish up the payment process, please indicate whether your payment is for membership or seeds or t-shirts in the message field.

The International Palm Society (IPS)

9300 Sandstone Street
Austin, TX 78737-1135
Regular membership, \$55,
quarterly journal
<http://palms.org>

The Cycad Society

11701 Barchetta Drive
Austin, TX 78758
Regular membership, \$35,
quarterly newsletter
<http://cycad.org>



Join CFPACS Please print

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

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County _____

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: \$20 one year; \$55 three years;
foreign: US\$20 one year) to:

Maryann Krisovitch
Membership Chair

1008 Little Fawn Court
Apopka, FL 32712

membership@cfpacs.com

Membership also available at website:
www.cfpacs.com

Those joining before October 1 have access
to all four issues of *The Palmateer* for the
current year.



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Beccariophoenix alfredii at the Langleys'.

(Photo by Libby Luedeke)

