

AMERICAN BAMBOO SOCIETY

Monthly Newsletter No. 1
February, 1980

Dear Member,

Our meeting for February will be held at Palomar College on Saturday, February 23 at 12:00 noon.

Palomar College, located in San Marcos, CA may be reached by taking the Rancho Santa Fe offramp from the Route 78 Freeway. Go north on Rancho Santa Fe Rd. one half mile to Mission Rd., go right (east) on Mission Rd. for one mile to Palomar College. Go past the main entrance to the eastern most entrance of the campus. Turn left off Mission, enter the campus and proceed about one third mile to the Palomar Botanic Garden located on your right. We will meet near the sign at the garden entrance. I suggest that members bring lunch. We will hold a meeting and then tour the bamboo in the garden.

Our future meetings will generally be on the third Saturday of each month, around noon. I have made arrangements to meet on:

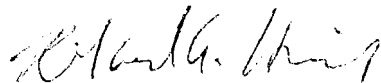
March 15 at Huntington Botanic Garden
San Marino, CA

May 17 at Wild Animal Park
Escondido, CA

I hope that all members will be able to attend the meeting in March. The Huntington has the most extensive collection of mature bamboo in the Western U.S. We have special permission to enter areas not open to the public in order to see some of the stands.

I plan to go east on February 15 to collect plants at the U.S.D.A. plant introduction centers at Miami, FLA. and Savannah, GA. If successful, I will bring back about ten tropical species from Miami and about seven Phyllostachyds from Savannah.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Haubrich
President

AMERICAN BAMBOO SOCIETY

Monthly Newsletter No. 2
March, 1980

Dear Member,

Our March meeting will be at the Huntington Library and Botanic Gardens, San Marino, CA on Saturday, March 15.

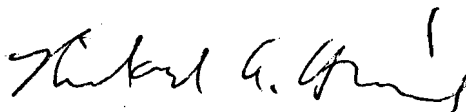
We plan to meet first for lunch promptly at 11:30 AM at the Colonial Kitchen Restaurant, 1110 East Huntington Drive, San Marino. We will meet in the Garden Room. Lunches are priced from \$2.50 up. After lunch we will meet at the entrance near the book store at the Huntinton at about 1 PM. We will then go to the Seminar Room for a 20 minute talk by Tanso Ishihara of the Hokone Gardens, Saratoga, CA who will show slides from the Bamboo Society of Kyoto, Japan. Following the talk we will tour the Gardens and see some of the Huntington bamboo collection.

I suggest that members make their own car pool arrangements. Refer to the ABS membership list for those living near you.

The first issue of the Journal of the American Bamboo Society is in press. I hope that copies will be available to hand out to members on the 15th.

My trip east last month was successful in that I collected several valuable species. From Miami, Fla. I obtained culm and stem cuttings of six different tropicals including the thorny Bambusa arundinacea, B. flexuosa and B. quadua. At Savannah, Georgia I dug rhizomes of Arundinaria amabilis and 18 different Phyllostachyds including the giant P. pubescens.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Haubrich
President, ABS

AMERICAN BAMBOO SOCIETY
1101 SAN LEON COURT
SOLANA BEACH, CA 92075
(714) 481-9869

Monthly Newsletter No. 3
April 1980

Dear Member,

The April meeting will be at noon on Saturday, April 19th at the home of Dorothy Roberts, 625 Sonrisa St., Solana Beach, CA. To get there take the Lomas Santa Fe exit off I-5 at Solana Beach. Go west 0.5 miles to Stevens, south 1.2 miles to Nardo, west one block to Fresca and north two blocks to Sonrisa. Go left on Sonrisa to the third house on the left.

Meetings for May and June are as follows:

May 17th - Wild Animal Park, Escondido, CA.

June 22nd - Plant Sale and meeting at the Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA.

The Plant Sale will be at Patio A, from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

The meeting will be at 1:00 PM in Room 103.

On Sunday, May 4th there will be a plant sale at Quail Botanic Gardens in Encinitas, CA.

The plant sales will feature bamboos, but other plants will also be sold. Members who have plants for the sales should contact me several days before the above dates.

Several new species have been added to ABS bamboos during the last month. They are:

Arundinaria sp. - Five unidentified species	- H.
A. tecta	- W.
Bambusa glaucescens - typical form	- H.
B. glaucescens Cv. Stripstem Fernleaf	- R.
B. glaucescens Cv. Tinyfern	- R.
Phyllostachys nuda	- R.
P. propinqua	- W.
Unidentified bamboo from the Florida Keys	- R.


The sources of the above are:

H. - Huntington Botanic Garden, San Mareno, CA.

R. - Steve Ray, Birmingham, ALA.

W. - Bob Ward, Little Rock, ARK.

Sincerely,


Richard A. Haubrich
President, ABS

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Monthly Newsletter No. 4

May 1980

Dear Member,

The May meeting will be held on Saturday, May 24th at the San Diego Wild Animal Park; near Escondido, CA. Note that the date has been changed; we will meet on the 24th not on the 17th. We will meet at the entrance gate at noon and enter (free) as a group. Our host is horticulturist, Jim Gibbons, who has kindly offered to provide box lunches for members. If you wish to have a box lunch let me know by May 20th so that I can give Mr. Gibbons a count of the number of lunches needed. After lunch and a brief business meeting we will tour parts of the Wild Animal Park that will be developed for plants. I hope that ABS might participate in this development by planting bamboos, especially some of the giant, hardy, timber species.


The June meeting is on Sunday, June 22nd at the Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA. in Room 103 at 1:00 PM. We will also hold a plant sale featuring bamboos on Patio A of the Casa del Prado from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM that same day.

Several species new to the United States have been imported through efforts of ABS during the past month. Seven species were sent from France by Mr. Jean Dupin, a bamboo collector and ABS member who lives near Paris. Ten species were also brought back from Japan by Linda Teague. I hope that Linda will tell us about her trip to Japan and about her meetings with members of the Japan Bamboo Society at one of our future meetings. All imported plants are in a quarantine green house at the Huntington Botanic Garden. The plants must remain in quarantine for 18 months.

Our membership has grown by 28 during the past week, bringing the total to 85 members. This is due to an excellent article in Home Magazine of the L.A. Times written by ABS member Robert Smaus.

ABS has ordered 10 copies of the book Bamboo by Austin and Ueda. We will offer these for sale to members at the publishers price of 27.50 (plus tax).

Sincerely,


Richard A. Haubrich
President, ABS

SPECIES FROM FRANCE

Arundinaria

anceps Mitf.

Sasa

nipponica Makino
tsuboiana Makino
veitchii form minor

Sasaella

ramosa Makino

Semiarundinaria

yamadori Muroi

Thamnocalamus

tessellatus Munro

SPECIES FROM JAPAN

Bambusa

multiplex var. elegans Koidz.

Phyllostachys

aurea Carr. var. altenata-latescens Makino
edulis Riv. var. heterocycla form Subconvexa Makino
pubescens aureovariegata Kinmei

Pleioblastus

linearis Nakai
pygmaeus Nakai var. distichus Nakai
viridi-striata Makino

Pseudosasa

owatarii Yakushima

Sasa

panicula Makino & Shibata

Semiarundinaria

villosa Muroi

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Monthly Newsletter No. 5

June 1980

Dear Member,

The June meeting is on Sunday, June 22nd at the Casa del Prado in Balboa Park, San Diego, CA. in Room 103 at 1:00 PM. There will also be a plant sale on Patio A. To reach Casa del Prado take the Sassafras St. exit from I-5 (going south) and continue south to Laurel St. Turn left on Laurel and go east entering Balboa Park. Pass the Museum of Man and the Fine Arts Gallery; Casa del Prado is just east of the lily pond.

In July we will meet on Saturday the 26th at the Ecke Building in Quail Botanic Garden, Encinitas, CA. at 12 noon. At this meeting we plan to show some slides on plant hunting in Costa Rica.

There will be no meeting in August so that the next meeting after July 26th will be in September, 1980.

The initial 10 copies of the book Bamboo by Austin and Ueda have been sold; we have ordered 10 more. These should be available soon for \$27.50 (plus tax). The book has many attractive color photographs of both bamboo plants and of products made from the wood. There is also a section on growth and cultivation.

The only other books in print in the U.S. on bamboo are reprints of two 19th century botanic treatises. There are, however, two books that can often be found in local libraries. They are:

Lawson, A.H., Bamboos: A Gardener's Guide to Their Cultivation in Temperate Climates, Taplinger, New York, 1968.

McClure, F.A., The Bamboos: A Fresh Perspective, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1966.

Lawson is a gardener in England. The book covers the care, cultivation and propagation of plants. Most of the book is devoted to the description of the species which are hardy enough to grow in England. The species descriptions are non-technical which makes them easy to read but not precise enough to distinguish two closely related species. The growing habits of plants in England is quite different from most of the U.S. i.e. in general a given species grows faster and taller in California than it does in England.

McClure's book is the result of over 40 years of study of bamboo in both the East and in the Americas. I find the book somewhat difficult to read, but well worth reading twice. The book gives a thorough description of all parts of the plant including the flowers. There is also a chapter on propagation and a chapter that describes in detail seven selected "elite" species.

The Bamboos of Costa Rica.

Costa Rica has at least 20 different native species of bamboos belonging to 8 different genera. The only one of these that is grown in the U.S. is Chusquea coronalis. Many people believe that the Chusqueas are one of the most beautiful of the ornamental bamboos. This is why Bill Teague and I flew to Costa Rica three weeks ago. We wanted to find, dig, and bring back some of the many native species.

We were fortunate to have the assistance of Dr. Richard Pohl of Iowa State University who took us to many native habitats and identified the various species for us. Dr. Pohl, an expert on grasses has been studying, observing and collecting specimens of the bamboos in Costa Rica for about 15 years.

Bill and I were quite successful. In a two week period we collected plants of 17 different native species including six Chusqueas and three species of the genus Rhipidocladum. The latter have long thin culms which clamber up trees and then hang down like long vines with tufts of leaves at intervals of a few inches.

The plants are now potted and growing in the special quarantine greenhouse of the Huntington Botanic Garden, where they must stay for at least 18 months. I will write a detailed account of the Costa Rican trip later for inclusion in the Journal. Slides, mostly taken by Bill Teague, will be shown at the July meeting.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Haubrich
President, ABS

AMERICAN BAMBOO SOCIETY
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Monthly Newsletter No. 6
July 1980

Dear Member,

The July meeting will be on Saturday, July 26th at the Ecke Building in Quail Botanic Garden, Encinitas, CA at 12 noon. To reach Quail take I5 to the Encinitas Blvd. exit which is about 20 miles north of San Diego. Go east on Encinitas Blvd. for 1/2 mile, turn left onto Quail Gardens Dr. and go north for 1/2 mile to the gardens. The Ecke Bldg. is south of the parking lot.

The meeting will include a talk with slides on the bamboos of Costa Rica. After the meeting members may tour the gardens. There are 12 different species of bamboo planted at Quail. Picnic tables are available for those who wish to bring a lunch to eat before or after the meeting.

There will be no meeting in August. Beginning in Sept. we plan to schedule meetings on the third Saturday of each month. During the coming year two or three of our monthly meetings will be held in the Los Angeles area.

During the last month four species have been brought in from the Phillipines by Mr. & Mrs. Rex Christensen of Pasadena, CA. One of these is Schizostachyum diffusum (Blanco) Merr., a climbing bamboo whose fresh cut stems have been used as a source of drinking water in the forest.

I am compiling a list of sources of bamboo plants in the U.S. If you have plants that you wish to sell please send me a list of species, sizes, times when they are available and whether or not you will ship. When completed I will send the source list to all members. A preliminary list is now available to anyone who requests it.

Notes on Selected Species

Dendrocalamus asper (Schult.) Backer ex Heyne

This is the giant tropical bamboo pictured in the July issue of Sunset Magazine. In its native habitats in Burma and Java it is reported to grow over 100 feet tall and up to 8 inches in diameter. The culms are covered with white hairs which are quite thick and long on larger plants. The large leaves, 1 ft long by 2 inches wide, are often pendent from the branches. The plant will withstand several degrees of frost but I can find no record of the temperature at which it is killed.

Although it was acquired in 1971 the Huntington plant is

only about 30 feet tall and contains less than a dozen culms. The gardener in charge of its care told me that each year the new culms emerge late in the summer and stop growing as soon as the cool fall weather arrives.

Last summer I dug a piece of rhizome with one attached culm from the Huntington plant. After potting, the culm grew new leaves and branchlets. In April the plant was put into the ground at Quail Botanic Garden. A new culm has grown to 11 feet and a second has just pushed through the ground.

Aside from the above two specimens I know of only two other places where D. asper is grown in the U.S., at U.S.D.A. Mayaguez, Puerto Rico and at U.S.D.A. in Miami, Florida. Last February I saw the three clumps at Miami; they contain culms that are 45 feet tall and 5 inches in diameter.

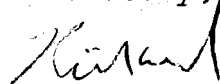
There is a problem in propagation of this beautiful bamboo in California. Plants from Florida and Puerto Rico may not be permitted into Calif. because they harbor burrowing nematodes. Because both the Quail and Huntington plants are of limited size, it will probably take several years to obtain enough propagation material to make the species generally available.

Phyllostachys pubescens Mazel ex. Houz. de Leh. (P. edulis, P. mitis) Moso Bamboo.

Moso has the reputation of being the largest of the giant hardy running bamboos. It is reported to grow 75 feet tall with culms up to 8 inches in diameter. But according to Ueda (1970) the largest Moso produced in Japan is 69 ft tall and 7 1/2 inches in diameter at eye height. In the U.S. I doubt if such size has ever been reached. Last February I saw Moso growing at U.S.D.A. in Savannah, Georgia where it was introduced over 50 years ago. The culms are about 40 feet tall and 4 inches in diameter. The plants grow in a woods where they compete with trees that are 100 feet tall partially shading the bamboo. In better circumstances Moso may grow much larger.

Moso is particularly difficult to propagate. Out of 20 species which were dug at Savannah last February Moso was the only one that failed to produce viable plants from the rhizomes. Linda Teague brought back a variegated variety of Moso from Japan this spring, but it is still too soon to tell whether it will survive. Fortunately I recently received a small plant from Steve Ray of Birmingham, Ala. Hopefully it will grow and provide material for establishing the species in California.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Haubrich
President, ABS

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Newsletter No. 7
September 1980

Dear Member,

The September meeting will be held at 12:00 noon on Saturday, September 20th at the Ecke Building in Quail Botanic Garden, Encinitas, CA. See Newsletter No. 6 for directions to Quail.

Our schedule of regular meetings for the coming year is every other month at the following locations. When possible the dates will be on the third Saturday of the month.

November 1980. Hakone Gardens, Saratoga, CA.
January 1981. Huntington Botanic Garden, San Marino, CA
March 1981. Quail Botanic Garden, Encinitas, CA.
May 1981. Los Angeles State and County Arboretum, Arcadia, CA.
July 1981. Balboa Park, San Diego, CA.

A plant sale will be held along with this meeting.

ABS plans to establish a quarantine greenhouse at Quail for importing bamboos from foreign countries. A special permit has been requested from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The request is being processed and at the moment I am optimistic that we will get the permit.

The Huntington Botanic Garden Annual Plant Sale will be held Sunday, Sept. 28, 1980 from 9 AM to 4 PM at the Pasadena Center, Exhibition Hall (West), 300 East Green St., Pasadena, CA. A special pre-sale will be held on Saturday, Sept. 27th from 4 to 7 PM for "Friends of the Huntington." I am enclosing a list of the bamboo species that will be at the sale.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Haubrich
President, ABS

Huntington 1980 Plant Sale

Arundinaria...12

(9)1-gal @ 3.00; (3)2-gal @ 5.00

Arundinaria argenteostriata...22

(10)10" @ 7.50; (4)2-gal @ 5.00; (8)1-gal @ 3.00

Arundinaria chino...26

(4)1-gal @ 3.00; (17)2-gal @ 5.00; (5)3-gal @ 7.50

Arundinaria graminea...9

(7)2-gal @ 3.50; (2)10" @ 5.00

Arundinaria variegata...15

(13)2-gal @ 5.00; (2)8" @ 6.50

* Bambusa...9

(6)15-gal @ 35.00; (1)3-gal @ 10.00; (1)10" @ 12.50

* Bambusa glaucescens...18

(18)15-gal @ 45.00

* Bambusa glaucescens 'Alphonse Karr'...62 (SAVE ONLY THESE 30 FOR SALE)

(12)15-gal @ 40.00; (12)5-gal @ 15.00; (6) 2-gal @ 5.00

Chimonobambusa quadrangularis...18

(5)1-gal @ 8.00; (7)2-gal @ 20.00; (6)5-gal @ 30.00

Chimonobambusa marmorea...3

(1)2-gal @ 7.50; (2)1-gal @ 4.50

Indocalamus...14

(2)1-gal @ 3.00; (9)2-gal @ 7.00; (3)10" @ 10.00

Phyllostachys aurea...12

(2)5-gal @ 7.50; (7) 10" @ 10.00; (3)15 gal @ 35.00

Phyllostachys bambusoides 'Slender Crookstem'...10

(1)3-gal @ 7.50; (5)10" @ 12.50; (4)15 gal @ 35.00

Phyllostachys bissetii...12

(1) 2-gal @ 7.50; (1)8" @ 12.00; (9)10" @ 15.00; (1)15 gal @ 35.00

Phyllostachys flexuosa...7

(1) 2-gal @ 5.00; (4)3-gal @ 8.50; (1)8" @ 14.00; (2)10" @ 17.50

Phyllostachys nigra...31

(7)3-gal @ 10.00; (5)8" @ 15.00; (19)10" @ 20.00

Phyllostachys vivax...14

(7)10" @ 17.50; (1)5-gal @ 15.00; (5)15 gal @ 40.00

Pseudosasa japonica...20

(1)1-gal @ 5.00; (16)2-gal @ 8.00; (2)3-gal @ 12.00

Sasa...10 (5)1-gal @ 2.50; (5)2-gal @ 4.00

Sasa palmata 'Nebulosa'...7 (1)1-gal @ 5.00; (2)2-gal @ 7.50; (1)8" @ 10.00
(3)10" @ 12.00

* clumping bamboos. all others run and may become invasive.

AMERICAN BAMBOO SOCIETY
1101 SAN LEON COURT
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Newsletter No. 8
November 1980

Dear Member,

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, November 15th at Hakone Gardens, 21000 Big Basin way, Saratoga, CA. Hakone is a Japanese Garden and a park of the City of Saratoga. To reach it go toward San Francisco on Highway 280 from Highway 101 in San Jose. Take the Saratoga - Sunnyville Road Exit and go south through Saratoga to Big Basin Way. Turn right and go a short distance on Big Basin Way to the outskirts of town; Hakone is on the left.

We will meet at Hakone at 11:30 am and go from there to a local restaurant for lunch. Those who plan to have lunch with us please call Jim Marshall at (408)-867-2344 before 9:00 am not later than Wednesday, November 12. After lunch we will have a meeting at Hakone starting about 1:30 pm. Slides will be shown after which we will tour the gardens. I look forward to meeting our many members in the Bay Area.

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, January 17, 1981 at the Huntington Botanic Gardens, San Marino, CA.

ABS now has a U.S.D.A. Departmental permit (No. 58420) to import bamboo rhizomes, seeds, and "starts" with culms up to 2 feet long. Our first acquisition consists of 13 seeds of Apoclada cannavieira (Avaro da Silveira) McClure. Anyone wishing to import plants under our permit please contact me and I will supply the necessary information and documents. All plant material must remain in quarantine at Quail Botanic Gardens for two years.

The National Geographic for October, 1980 contains an excellent article on bamboo, beautifully written by Luis Marden. I recommend that all members read the article.

Ken Brennecke has been setting up a computer processing package to put out the ABS Journal. The computer will facilitate producing future issues, but the initial set up has delayed issue No. 3. It should be out in 3 weeks with No. 4 following about one month later.

(over)

There will be a plant sale at Quail Botanic Gardens on Sunday, December 7th from 10 am to 4 pm. See Newsletter No. 6 for directions to Quail. ABS will sell bamboo plants at the sale.

Most bamboo species flower infrequently, most flowers produce no seed, and often the seed does not germinate. Starting last August a potted Phyllostachys meyeri began to flower; it has produced abundant seed. The seed are viable as some have already germinated. If you would like to try growing plants from seed, let me know and I will send you some seed. P. meyeri is a hardy (to -15° F) running bamboo that grows to about 30 feet high.

I have updated the list of sources of bamboo. It now includes 5 nurseries that will ship plants. If you want a copy of the list, write and I will send it.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Haubrich
President, ABS