

AMERICAN BAMBOO SOCIETY

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

Newsletter Vol. II, No. 1
January, 1981

Dear Member,

The next meeting will be on Saturday, January 17th at the Huntington Library and Botanic Gardens, San Marino, CA. We will meet at the Ikebana Room in the Japanese Garden soon after 1 PM. After a short meeting Mr. Michael O'Brien of Santa Monica, CA will present a talk and show slides of his recent trip to the Fuji Bamboo Garden in Japan. After the talk we will tour the gardens and see some of the extensive stands of bamboo.

Issue No. 4 of the Journal for 1980 is still in preparation; because it is somewhat longer than the others, it has been delayed.

Membership dues for 1981 may now be paid. The yearly dues for 1981 will remain at \$8.00.) H

The meeting at Hakone Gardens in November was quite successful. About forty ABS members attended; most were from the Bay Area, but several drove up from Southern California. Our hosts at Hakone were the members of the Japan Bamboo Society of Saratoga. They provided us with a luncheon featuring Japanese dishes. Hakone Gardens contain about seven different bamboo species. The most spectacular is a stand of very large black bamboo which looks to be over 30 ft. tall with culms that are up to two in. in diameter.

I visited two nurseries and the Strybing Arboretum while in the Bay area. The first nursery was the Bamboo Garden Nursery at 440 N. Llewellyn Ave., Campbell, CA. They sell five or six different bamboos including the giant Japanese timber bamboo, Phyllostachys bambusoides. The second nursery was Inadomi Nursery at 3726 Castro Valley Blvd., Castro Valley, CA. This nursery was called to my attention by Mr. & Mrs. Delahaye of Castro Valley, as a source of Moso bamboo, P. pubescens. Mr. Inadomi has two mature stands of Moso growing in the back of his nursery. He sells the plants in sizes from 5 gal. up. I bought a 7 gal. plant. The price is higher than for other bamboos, but Moso is an exceedingly beautiful species and Inadomi Nursery is the only source of plants that I know.

At Strybing Arboretum, with the help of Ned Jaquith and Ed Rivera, I obtained some starts of Thamnocalamus spathaceous, a hardy clumping bamboo. Long used as an ornamental in Europe it grows as far north as Denmark and is reported to be the most hardy bamboo in cultivation.

Last week we were fortunate in having Mr. Yves Crouzet and his wife Muriel visit us from France. Mr. Crouzet is director of the Bambuseraie de PraFrance, a garden featuring bamboo that covers about 30 acres in Southern France. The gardens were begun in 1855 and contain some of the largest specimens of hardy bamboo in the world. The Moso bamboo for example grows up to 90 ft. tall and over 8 inches in diameter. Mr. Crouzet's collection consists of over 80 different varieties of bamboo.

The Quarantine Greenhouse at Quail has been steadily filling up with new introductions during the last two months. Three species arrived from Jean Dupin of France, ten species from J. Yovane of France and seven species from Werner Simon of Germany. Last night three species were added by George Gonzales who obtained propagules from the State of Nayarit, Mexico, which were obtained with the help of Heriberto Parra E. of Tepic, Nayarit.

A few of the species in the greenhouse have died, but most are already growing vigorously.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Haubrich
President, ABS

P.S. The 1980 membership list of 406 members sorted by state and area code will be sent to all members within two weeks.

American Bamboo Society
1101 San Leon Ct.
Solana Beach, CA 92075



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Newsletter Vol. II, No. 2
January, 1981

Dear Member,

Attached is the ABS membership list for 1980. The names are sorted by state and area code so that you can find other members who live in your area.

The following is a list of the ABS meetings through July, 1981. All meetings begin at 1:00 PM.

March 21, 1981: At the Ecke Building, Quail Botanic Garden, Encinitas, CA. The meeting will feature the identification of bamboos. Bring a plant or plant parts that you wish to identify.

May 9, 1981: At South Coast Botanic Garden in Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA.

July 18, 1981: At the Casa del Prado, Rm 101, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA. The annual ABS Plant Sale will be held between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM in the Sculpture Court of the Casa del Prado.

Probably the best book to describe many bamboo species is Index to Bambusaceae by Suzuki. The book is 8 1/2 x 11 1/2 in., and 384 pages. Each species is described in both Japanese and English and by photos and drawings. The species photos are in black and white, but there are 16 pages of color photos. We have been unable to obtain the book in the U.S. The publisher in Tokyo will mail us 20 copies (by surface mail) for 395,400 yen (about \$1,500 today). If you wish to order a copy of the book, send a check to ABS for \$75.00. I have five checks so far with six more promised. I will send the order within a few days. The first 20 checks will receive the book at our cost.

We have six copies of the book Bamboo by Austin and Ueda for sale at \$27.50 (plus tax). The book has many attractive color photographs of bamboo plants and objects made from bamboo. There is also a section on the growth and cultivation of the plants.

The meeting at the Huntington on January 17th was well attended with 65 members present. Mr. Michael O'Brien of Santa Monica showed slides of some of the many bamboo species growing in the Fuji Bamboo Garden in Japan. Mr. O'Brien is a student in the Landscape Architectural Certificate Program at U.C.L.A. Extension. He is interested in encouraging the greater use of bamboos. Mr. O'Brien has some additional slides of objects made from bamboo which I hope he will show at some future meeting.

Dr. Tom Soderstrom of the Smithsonian has sent me some seed of Merostachys neesii Rupr. which comes from Brazil. As far as I know no member of this genus has been cultivated. The seed is fresh, in good condition and should germinate. Seedlings, like other imports, must be quarantined for two years.

Some seed of Otatea aztecorum, the Mexican Weeping bamboo, were brought back recently from Mexico by George Gonzales. Several have started to germinate which should produce new clones. All the plants now grown in California appear to have come from one introduction to the Los Angeles Arboretum.

Steve Ray has recently informed me that he can now ship bamboo plants from his nursery in Alabama. Steve sells a wide selection of bamboos including giant Phyllostachys bambusoides and P. viridis. The address is Steve Ray's Bamboo Gardens, 909 79th Place South, Birmingham, AL 35206.

Manny Singer of Northridge has told me about the newly formed Arboretum at Calif. State University, Northridge. The arboretum, covering 21 acres on the campus located at the corner of Lassen and Lindley in Northridge, will feature Japanese, Chinese, palm, conifer and bamboo gardens. Planting has already begun. Help and plant donations (tax deductible) are urgently needed. Contact Prof. Kenneth Jones, Dept. of Biology, Calif. State University at Northridge, Northridge, CA 91330, (213) 885-3356. I hope that some members will participate in the planting of bamboo in the garden.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Haubrich

AMERICAN BAMBOO SOCIETY

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

Newsletter Vol. II, No. 3
March, 1981

Dear Member,

The next meeting of ABS will be held at 1:00 PM on Saturday, March 21st at the Ecke Building in Quail Botanic Gardens, Encinitas, CA. To reach Quail take I5 to the Encinitas Blvd. exit which is about 20 miles north of San Diego. Go east on Encinitas Blvd. 1/2 mile, turn left onto Quail Gardens Dr. and go north for 1/2 mile to the Quail entrance. The Ecke Building is south of the parking lot.

The meeting will be concerned with the identification of species. If you have plants that are not identified, bring a potted specimen or plant parts and we will try to identify them. Parts that are useful for identification are culm leaves (sheaths), culms with branches, branchlets with leaves and rhizomes.

On Saturday morning of the 21st I plan to dig and remove a clump of Bambusa tuldoides at Quail. I am asking for volunteers who would like to learn the art of bamboo division. The plant has about 14 culms; it should produce at least 10 propagules. Some will be potted for Quail's upcoming plant sale; the remainder will be available to those who dig. If you are interested please call me sometime before the 21st.

The following meetings will be held at 1:00 PM in May and July.

May 9, 1981: At South Coast Botanic Gardens in Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA. Mr. Walter Lutz will talk on art objects made from bamboo.

July 18, 1981: At Casa del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park, San Diego CA. The ABS Annual Plant Sale will be held on this day at the Sculpture Court of the Casa del Prado between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM.

Gakken, the Japanese publisher of the Suzuki book has now informed me that they are out of the books, but they expect a new printing in April. I have written them to reserve 50 copies, enough for all those who have ordered it plus 8 extra for future orders.

The Strybing Arboretum Society of Golden Gate Park will hold its 17th Annual Plant Sale, free to the public, on Saturday April 4th, 1981 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Hall of Flowers, Ninth Avenue and Lincoln Way, San Francisco. A special preview sale will occur on Friday, April 3, 5:00 to 7:00 PM for Strybing members only. Membership is available at the door for \$18.00. Many unusual plants will be offered.

Sample
my

including the following species of bamboos:

HAVE

- * Arundinaria veridi strata
- Chimonobambusa marmorea
- * Phyllostachys flexuosa
- Pseudosasa japonica
- * Shibataea kumasasa
- Sinarundinaria murielae (Thamnocalamus spathaceous)

* Sasa humilis
For more information on the bamboos call Jim Smith at 558-4024, after 10:00 AM on a Friday.

* Sasa variegata
Journal Vol. 1, No. 4 is now in press. It will be mailed in a week or two to those who have membership for 1980. This will be the last mailing to those who have not renewed their membership for 1981.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Haubrich



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Solana Beach, CA 92075



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SOLANA BEACH, CA 92075
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Newsletter Vol. II, No. 4
April, 1981

Dear Member,

The next meeting of ABS will be at 1:00 PM on Saturday, May 9th at the South Coast Botanic Garden, 26701 Rolling Hills Rd., Palos Verdes Peninsula. To reach the garden take the Harbor Freeway, 11, south from its intersection with the San Diego Freeway 405. Go about 4 miles and exit on Pacific Coast Highway. Go west for 3 miles on Pacific Coast Highway to Crenshaw. Turn left on Crenshaw and go 1/2 mile to Rolling Hills Rd.

The meeting will feature a talk with slides by Mr. Walter Lutz. Mr. Lutz has lived and traveled extensively in the Orient. Over the years he has gathered together the largest collection of bamboo art objects in the world.

The meeting in July will be held at Casa del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA at 1:00 PM on Saturday, July 18th. The ABS Annual Plant Sale will also be held that day at the Sculpture Court of the Casa del Prado between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM. I will send a list of species available at this sale in the next Newsletter which will be issued in July.

If you have paid for 1980 membership you will find inclosed the fourth and last issue of the Journal for 1980. Those who have paid for 1981 membership will receive the 4 issues of the Journal, yet to be published, for 1981. If you are a new member and wish to receive the back issues of the Journal for 1980, they are available for \$8.00.

The semiannual Plant Sale at Quail Botanic Garden will be held between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM on Sunday, May 3, 1981. The following is a list of the bamboos to be sold. The Bambusa's are clumping bamboos; all the others are runners. An asterisk indicates that there is a very limited supply of the species at this sale.

* Bambusa glaucescens Cv. Alphonse Karr.

The yellow culms have green stripes and grow up to 35 ft. tall and 1 1/2 in. in diameter. Good for a hedge.

* B. glaucescens Cv. Silverstripe.

Many of the leaves are green with white stripes. It can grow as high as 45 ft. but usually doesn't exceed about 30 ft. Also good for a hedge.

B. oldhamii, Giant Timber Bamboo.

It is the most common giant bamboo in Southern Calif.

B. tuldooides, Puntingpole bamboo.

The plants are divisions of a clump dug from Quail on March 21, 1981. This species grows culms to 55 ft. tall and 2 1/4 in. in diameter. It produces large numbers of culms in a short time.

* B. ventricosa Buddah's Belly bamboo.

It is best when grown as a pot bound ornamental; it then shows the characteristic swollen internodes.

Arundinaria argenteo-striata

A dwarf bamboo with variegated leaves.

A. chino Var. vaginata F. variagata

This dwarf grows to about 4 or 5 ft. and has masses of small, narrow green and white variegated leaves.

A. disticha

One of the smallest bamboos growing no more than 2 ft. high. The leaves are very small and numerous.

A. viridi-striata

The name means green striped and is due to the golden yellow leaves which are striped with green. It is a beautiful, vigorous growing dwarf that gets no more than 2 or 3 ft. tall.

Chimonobambusa marmorea

Marble bamboo grows to about 6 ft tall.

Phyllostachys aureosulcata - Yellow groove bamboo.

Growing to about 30 ft. the culms are green with a distinctive yellow groove running the length of each internode.

P. flexuosa

It can grow to over 30 ft. tall and 2 1/2 in. in diameter, but it is usually smaller. Some of the culms grow in a zig-zag pattern.

* P. nigra Black bamboo.

Always popular because of its jet black culms and branches.

* P. nigra Cv. Henon.

This is a giant variety of black bamboo. The culms which are green with no trace of black, can exceed 50 ft. in height and 3 in. in diameter.

Pseudosasa japonica Cv. Tsutsumiana

This is a form of the Arrow bamboo that develops culms with swollen internodes.

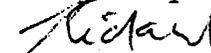
Sasa tessellata

This dwarf which generally does not exceed 4 ft. in height, has leaves as large as 2 ft. long and 4 in. broad. It does well in a pot and in shade. It has successfully been grown indoors.

Semiarundinaria fastuosa Var. viridis

It can grow to about 30 ft. high.

Sincerely,


Richard A. Haubrich

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Newsletter Vol. II, No. 5
July, 1981

Dear Member,

The ABS Annual Plant Sale will be on Saturday, July 18 between 10 AM and 3 PM at the Sculpture Court of the Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA. A list of species is given below. There will also be a talk at 1:00 PM titled "The Giant Tropical Bamboos" in Room 101 of the Casa del Prado. To reach Balboa Park exit from I-5 (going south) on Sassafras St. in San Diego. Continue south from the exit to Laurel St., turn left on Laurel and go east until you reach Balboa Park. Enter the park, pass the Museum of Man and the Fine Arts Gallery; Casa del Prado is just east of the lily pond.

The books Index to the Japanese Bambusaceae by S. Suzuki have arrived and were sent out by us on June 29th. If you were one that ordered the book, you should have received your copy by now. Our cost was \$80.00 per book. If you have not already done so, please send us the additional \$5.00.

ABS has acquired several new copies of the book The Bamboos: A Fresh Perspective by F.A. McClure. Published in 1966 the book is now out of print and not generally available. Floyd McClure was for many years the world's leading expert on bamboo. This book summarizes the bulk of his life's work. We have 10 copies to sell at \$50.00 each.

The Journal for 1981 has been delayed. The present plan is to produce the first two issues during the summer, the third this fall and the fourth near the end of the year. Issue No. 1 will describe the Giant Tropical Bamboos and No. 2 will describe the Sasas.

In June we received 17 species of bamboos from Dr. W. Lin of the Taiwan Forestry Research Institute. They include the largest bamboo, Dendrocalamus giganteus, the very useful Melacanna baccifera and several species of giant tropicals with striped culms.

For those who plan to come late to the July 18th plant sale I will hold plants if you deposit \$5.00 per plant before the sale.

The following species will be sold. An asterisk indicates a limited supply. Comments follow each species. For species on the list with no comments see the last Newsletter.

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Clumping Bamboos

- * Bambusa beecheyana - A fast growing giant with broadly arching culms up to 50 ft. tall and 5 in. in diameter.
- * B. glaucescens Cv. Alphonse Karr.
- * B. glaucescens Cv. Golden Goddess - This dwarf grows to about 10 ft. tall.
- B. glaucescens Cv. Silverstripe
- B. oldhamii - Giant Timber Bamboo
- B. tuldooides - Puntingpole Bamboo
- * Chusquea coronalis - Many say that this bamboo is the most beautiful they have ever seen. Rare.

Running BamboosArundinaria argenteo-striataA. chino Var. vaginata F. variegataA. disticha* A. humilis - A dwarf that can grow to about 6 ft. tall but is generally shorter.A. viridi striata

- * Chimonobambusa quadrangularis - Square Bamboo. The culms are square in cross section with rounded corners. An outstanding ornamental. Rare.

Phyllostachys aurea - Golden Bamboo. Culms to 27 ft. tall and 1 5/8 in. in diameter. CommonP. bissettii - A vigorous growing bamboo up to 20 ft. tall.P. nigra - Black Bamboo.P. viridis Cv. Robert Young. Culms up to 45 ft. tall and 3 in. in diameter, turning yellow with some green stripes.

- * P. vivax - A giant with culms up to 70 ft. tall and 5 in. in diameter.

Pseudosasa japonica Var. tsutsumianaSasa palmata - Culms to 7 ft. tall and 1/2 in. in diameter with leaves up to 15 in. long and 3 in. broad.S. tessellata

- * Shibataea kumasaca - Broad short leaves give this the appearance of no other bamboo.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Haubrich



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Newsletter Vol. II, No. 6
September, 1981

Dear Member,

There will be an ABS sponsored talk at 1:00 PM on Sunday, September 20, 1981 in the Ecke Building at Quail Botanic Garden, Encinitas, California. The talk by Dorothy Roberts which is titled "Uses of Bamboo in Colombia" will feature slides showing low cost housing constructed of bamboo.

The book "The Bamboos" by McClure is sold out. Since the book is out of print we have at present no source of more copies. The book "Index to Japanese Bambusaceae" by Suzuki is also sold out and will not be reordered in the near future. Members who wish to obtain a copy may try ordering directly from the publisher- Gakken Co., Ltd., 4-40-5, Kami-Ikedai, Ohta-ku, Tokyo, Japan. The price is 19,000 Yen plus shipping.

ABS has ordered copies of two books by Oscar Hidalgo Lopez on bamboo and its uses. The first book is titled "Bambú, su cultivo y aplicaciones en: fabricación de papel, construcción, arquitectura, ingeniería, artesanía." The second is "Nuevas técnicas de construcción con bambú." The books which are in paperback will sell for \$35 and \$12 respectively.

I plan to revise the list of Sources of Bamboo in the U.S. If you sell bamboo on a regular basis please send me a list of the species available. Also state whether or not you ship plants. If you know of sources of bamboo plants please send me the names and addresses.

Last month I attended the Primer Simposio Latinoamericano sobre Taxonomía, Silvicultura y Aprovechamiento Industrial del Bambú which was held in Manizales, Colombia, S.A. The five day symposium covered, as the title states, the taxonomy, culture and industrial applications of bamboo. Representatives from most Latin American countries attended. The taxonomy of bamboo was covered by three U.S. bamboo experts, Cleofé Calderón, from the Smithsonian and Richard Pohl and Lynn Clark from Iowa State. Papers on the culture and uses of bamboo covered many subjects. I was particularly interested in methods of propagation which included use of embryo culture and culm cuttings.

One day was spent visiting a bamboo farm which grows the giant Bambusa guadua, the most used bamboo in Colombia. Guadua is also an extremely attractive, giant, ornamental which hopefully one day can be established in the warmer parts of the U.S.

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Huntington Plant Sale

The Huntington Botanic Gardens will hold its Annual Plant Sale on Sunday, September 27, 1981 from 9 am to 4 pm at the Pasadena Center Exhibition Hall (West), 300 East Green Street, Pasadena, CA. A presale will be held for Friends of the Huntington on Saturday, September 26 from 4 to 7 pm. The following species are for sale.

Clumping Bamboos

Bambusa beecheyana

B. glaucescens Cv. Alphonse Karr

B. glaucescens Cv. Golden Goddess

B. oldhamii Giant Timber Bamboo

B. tuldooides Puntingpole Bamboo

B. vulgaris Cv. Vittata This large tropical has golden - yellow culms with vertical green strips. Plant it only in a location that has little or no frost. The species is rarely sold by nurseries and is generally available only at the Huntington Sales.

Chusquea coronalis

Otatea aztecorum Mexican Weeping Bamboo. A beautiful ornamental with long, slender leaves which occur in such abundance that their weight arches the tops of the culms. A mature clump may reach 20 ft. in height with culms up to 1 1/2 in. in diameter.

Running Bamboos

Arundinaria chino A small to medium size bamboo. One variety has narrow, white striped leaves. The typical variety grows taller and has green leaves.

A. disticha

A. variegata Dwarf Whitestripe Bamboo. This is by far the best of the variegated bamboos. The leaves usually hold their distinctive white-green stripes throughout the year. Growth is slow and spreading is far less rampant than in related species.

Chimonobambusa marmorea Marble Bamboo

C. quadrangularis Square Bamboo

Phyllostachys aurea

P. bambusoides Cv. Slender Crookstem. A form of Madake, the Giant Japanese Timber Bamboo. The cultivar is characterized by zig-zag growth in some of the culms. The culms are smaller in height and diameter than in the typical form.

P. flexuosa

P. nigra Black Bamboo

P. nigra f. *punctata*. The culms vary in coloration from speckled to solid, dark brown or maroon.

P. nigra Cv. Henen

P. vivax

Pleioblastus shibuyanensis f. *pubescens* This is a dwarf that grows up to about 2 or 3 ft. tall.

Pseudosasa japonica

P. japonica Var. *isutsumiana*

Sasa palmata

S. tessellata

Shibaiaea Kumasaca

Sincerely,

Richard A. Haubrich

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Solana Beach, CA 92075



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1101 San Leon Ct.
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Newsletter Vol. II, No. 7
November, 1981

Dear Member,

ABS members will meet at 1 pm on Saturday, December 19, 1981 at the library of Strybing Arboretum, Golden Gate Park, 9th Ave. at Lincoln Way, San Francisco, CA. Jim Smith will give a talk and show slides on the bamboos in Golden Gate Park and at Strybing. Following the talk Jim will lead a tour of the bamboos at Strybing.

Quail Plant Sale

Quail Botanic Gardens will hold its semiannual plant sale, "Christmas in Flowerland Bazaar," on Sunday, Dec. 6, 1981 between 10 am and 4 pm. Quail is located ½ mile east of the Encinitas Exit of I-5 on Quail Drive in Encinitas, CA. The following bamboo species will be offered.

Clumping Species

Bambusa glaucescens Cv. Fernleaf
B. g. Cv. Golden Goddess
B. g. Cv. Silverstripe
B. tuldoidea Puntingpole Bamboo
B. ventricosa Buddha's Belly Bamboo

Running Species

Arundinaria disticha
A. chino Var. *vaginata* F. *variegata*
Chimonobambusa quadrangularis Square Bamboo
Phyllostachys nidularia
P. nigra Black Bamboo
Pseudosasa japonica Arrow Bamboo
P. j. Var. *tsutsumiana*
Sasa palmata
S. takizawana Var. *lasioclada*
S. tessellata

The Quarantine Greenhouse

A prime objective of ABS is to introduce bamboo species into the U. S. We have a special U.S.D.A. departmental permit to import bamboo; it requires that each imported plant be quarantined in a special greenhouse for two years. The greenhouse located at Quail Botanic Gardens is 9 by 12 ft. and contains about 80 plants of 35 different species. As plants have grown the greenhouse has become overcrowded. We therefore plan to build a new 20 by 30 ft. greenhouse which will allow existing plants to

grow free of crowding as well as provide space for new acquisitions.

The new greenhouse will cost about \$2,500. Quail Gardens Foundation has already agreed to pay one third the cost if ABS will raise the rest. We propose to raise the money at 2 plant sales at Quail. The first will be the regular semiannual sale on December 6. The second will be a special auction of rare bamboo species to be held in March, 1982.

The auction will feature 24 different species most of which are only rarely or never offered for sale. The list includes *Dendrocalamus asper* the giant Burmese bamboo pictured in the July, 1980 issue of Sunset Magazine and *Arundinaria amabilis* the Teastick Bamboo which was described and pictured in the October, 1980 issue of National Geographic. Some of the others are *Phyllostachys pubescens* (Moso), *P. bambusoides* (Madake) and the Giant Thorny Bamboo of India *Bambusa arundinacea*. I invite all members to participate in the auction. If you can not attend, we will accept sealed bids by mail and ship the plants to you. A list of the species with descriptions and the terms of the sale will be mailed to all members well in advance of the auction.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Haubrich

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P.S. Bamboos and Palms are often planted together. Some ABS members might therefore be interested in joining The Palm Society. The following notice is submitted by The Palm Society.

PALM SOCIETY members receive our international quarterly journal "PRINCIPES" plus informative bulletins issued by Northern and Southern California chapters. Our Seed Bank distributes seed of rare palms collected worldwide. Chapters meet frequently, enjoy viewing beautiful collections, conduct rare palm sales, and exchange cultural information. Regular membership \$15 to The Palm Society, Inc., Box 368-BS, Lawrence, Kansas, 66044.

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1101 San Leon Ct.
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