



HAWAII ISLAND PALM SOCIETY

WWW.HAWAIIISLANDPALMSOCIETY.COM

President's Message



I want to send out a special mahalo to the generous folks who open their gardens to HIPS garden tours this summer. David Hertzberg, Tony Armstrong, Tim Brian, Bob Gibbens, and Mike at Davis Dalbok's Garden.

Everyone loves seeing the amazing private palm gardens private individuals have created on the island. It is easy to forget how fortunate we are in this perfect climate to have so many amazing gardens available. I don't know of another location that boasts such a diverse collection of rare species from around the world growing at their maximum potential. Please consider hosting a tour at your place in the coming years. We always love seeing new gardens.

Although we have completed the 2019 series of garden tours, we are definitely not done with events for our members. On Sunday, October 6 we are having a potluck lunch and social at Bob and Patty Ferazzi's farm north of Hilo. Besides great food and camaraderie, there will be a palm sale with members sharing all the seedlings they have been germinating the last few years. Please watch your email for the next work day at the zoo set for October. We need all the help we can get to keep the palms and cycads looking their best. On Saturday, November 2 we will present Palms 101 at the main pavilion at the Panaewa Zoo. These talks

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to promote Arbor Day are aimed at new members who need help with the basics of palm care. We will be giving away palm seedlings as well as conducting a guided tour of selected palms in the zoo's collection. Then on Friday, November 8 we will be hearing from Jason Dewees from San Francisco on how to incorporate palms into your tropical landscaping projects. This free lecture takes place at UHH and is open to the public. Bring your neighbors to this one. Much of the money raised at the annual banquet and auction is used to fly in outside speakers, so please join us to see your financial support in action. We hope to see you at all of these events. As always, please share your ideas for new HIPS events with members of the board.

Rick Kelley

Changes To The Board of Directors

Mahalo Stephen!

After serving three years on the HIPS board as Treasurer, Stephen Kling is stepping down after the annual dinner in February 2020. During Stephen's tenure he promoted using new technology to save time and reduce accounting mistakes. Stephen developed automated spreadsheets that integrate with our online bank statements, streamlining bookkeeping and report generation. Steven introduced credit card processing via Square and encouraged the board to move to our new online membership management software allowing online payments. Please join the board in thanking Stephen for his service the next time you see him at one of our events.

Treasurer Position Open February 2020

If you have bookkeeping experience, or are just really organized and willing to learn on the job, please contact Rick Kelley at rickkelley@att.net to become a candidate. We would love to have you on the board!

Welcome Karl Mendonca, our newest board member:



Aloha, I grew up in Hilo. My interest in the outdoors took me to Colorado, where I received my degree in Forestry from Colorado State University. That led me to a rewarding 33 year career with the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management in Oregon and Colorado. My retirement plan was always to return Home to Hilo. So my wife Sandi and I left the frigid winters of Colorado in 2017 to find our retirement home in Hilo. I was fortunate to return to the neighborhood that I grew up and we found a beautiful home in Pi'ihonua on a 1.3 acre lot next to the Wailuku River. I am an avid gardener and active in multiple garden/plant societies and clubs. I am staying busy in retirement tending to my bonsai collection, orchids and currently building a koi pond. But my passion is expanding my current palm collection.

Upcoming Events This Fall

October 6, 2019

Potluck and Palm Sale at the Ferazzi Farm

Bob and Patty Ferazzi are hosting HIPS at their farm in Peepeekeo. Bring your appetite for potluck and palms. HIPS will provide a main entrée and water, please bring a salad, side dish, or desert to share. All members are encouraged to bring potted palms, cycads, and other tropical plants to trade or sell to fellow members. Please test and treat all plant material for little fire ant before bringing to the farm. We will have tents, tables, and chairs for the potluck, but members should bring their own tables and canopies for their sales items. Questions about selling palms at the event? Contact Rick Kelley, rickkelley@att.net

November 2, 2019

Palms 101: An Arbor Day Celebration at the Panaewa Zoo

Join us at the zoo for what has become a HIPS arbor day tradition. This year we have reserved the large pavilion next to the petting zoo and will once again celebrate arbor day by giving away palms. We will have information tables and a variety of talks and demonstrations, as well as a walking tour of the zoo's palm collection.

November 8, 2019

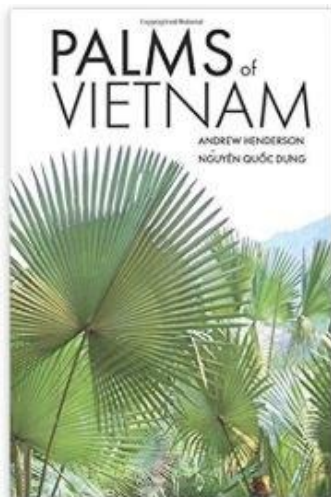
Lecture and Book Signing: Jason Dewees Author of *Designing With Palms*



Here in Hawaii we are blessed with both a climate that can support a wide range of palm species, and access to some of the world's best palm growers with wonderfully diverse and affordable inventories. But the possibilities are overwhelming when creating a garden, and often times we fall back on the familiar - the tried and true line of areca palms on a property boundary or the driveway lined with foxtail palms. An evening with Jason will have you looking at your garden from a new perspective and send you to your favorite nursery with a list of palms you may have never considered.

New Additions To HIPS Library

These books and others are available for loan to our members. To see the complete index of books in our Library and find out how you can check them out, go to our website [here](#).



ON ORDER: PALMS OF VIETNAM PAPERBACK – JUNE 11, 2019
by [Dr. Andrew Henderson](#) (Author), [Dr Nguyễn Quốc Dũng](#) (Author)

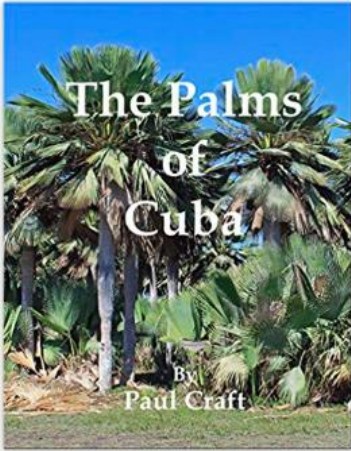
Excerpt from New York Botanical Garden Website:

Andrew Henderson and Vietnamese collaborators

We began our field work in Vietnam in April 2007 when we made a collecting trip to Phong Nha Ke Bang National Park. Little did we suspect at that time how diverse and poorly known the palm flora of Vietnam would turn out to be. Since 2007 we have made 13 more collecting trips and each of these has turned up new species or new records for the country. We have made over 700 collections of palms from Vietnam, and we have described 40 new species in the genera *Calamus* (16 species), *Licuala* (12 species), *Areca* (1 species), *Pinanga* (6 species), *Rhapis* (1 species), *Daemonorops* (3 species), *Korthalsia* (1 species), and *Plectocomiopsis* (1 species). When we began our work in 2007 we thought there might be about 60 species of palm in Vietnam, based on the most recent flora (Gagnepain & Conrard, 1937). We have now recorded a total of 113 species for the country, almost double the earlier number.



Flowers of *Caryota monostachya* from Vietnam.



ON ORDER: THE PALMS OF CUBA HARDCOVER – APRIL 1, 2018
by [Paul Craft](#) (Author)

From the author of *The Encyclopedia of Cultivated Palms*, comes another wonderful palm book.

Considering its small size, Cuba is home to an extremely diversified group of native plants, which includes its palms. Most are native to Cuba and nowhere else. 'The Palms of Cuba' is the only comprehensive guide to all the 98 taxa of palms native to Cuba along with their classification and an identification key. Included are descriptions for each species, distribution maps, habitat types, conservation status, cultivation needs and other useful information. Both the novice backyard grower and the serious palm aficionado will find plenty of useful information on which species can be grown in the landscape. The 232 pages include over 420 photos of the palms in habitat and a glossary of terms as a reference for the reader.

\$500.00 to Young Researchers Through IPS

This year HIPS has chosen to donate \$500.00 to the International Palm Society to leverage its impact in supporting research based conservation through grants to individual researchers. We have requested that our contribution be targeted towards supporting the field work of young scientists that are just establishing their careers. Crucial to saving palm diversity from extinction is baseline information on the distribution of wild palms. The IPS funds palm exploration, which has uncovered new species of palm and extended the known distribution of others. The IPS has also funded careful research into the genetic variability of endangered palms, research that provides crucial data for the conservation action plans for individual species.

For more information about the International Palm Society, including information about the upcoming Biennial in Reunion May 2020, visit them at <https://palms.org/>



IPS Grant recipient Roxaneh Khorsand, ascending *Mauritia flexuosa* in Brazil.

2019 Garden Tour Highlights



Thanks to gracious garden hosts, David Hertzberg, Tony Armstrong, Tim Brian and Bob Gibbens, and Davis Dalbok, the 2019 Garden Tour Season was full of variety – a young garden, a nursery showcase, an extremely diverse and compact city garden, and a resilient garden recovering from hurricanes and volcanic activity.

None of this could be possible without the help of volunteers welcoming members, facilitating parking, guiding groups, and handling the details behind the scenes so that fellow members could enjoy learning about palms and gardens while connecting with friends.
Thank You!

Photos from the Dalbok tour are on the main page of our [website](#), you can also see photos of Tim and Bob's tour on the [Forums page](#).

The Dalbok garden: a story of resilience.

After Hurricane Iselle in 2014 and losing almost a third of the palm collection to severe VOG a year ago, the surviving palms leafed out and is returning to its former lushness. *Attalea cahune* at the HIPS tour in 2012 (middle) and 2019 (right).



How Long Do Palms Live?

For many of us, when we look in the mirror the signs of aging are painfully apparent, we can even recognize the signs of age in our pets, but when it comes to plants, the same rules don't apply. Plants don't develop in the same way that we do. We go through phases of life in a predictable sequence and grow into a determined shape and size. Once we reach maturity we stop growing. Plants, however, are modular organisms growing constructive units like leaf nodes and branches, and never stop growing until they die. Their developmental timing and form is strongly dependent on their interaction with their environment which helps explain why the same species of palm can look quite different and grow at much different rates depending on where it is growing.

You have to consider how plants grow to fully appreciate longevity. The Bristlecone Pine is recorded to live over 5,000 years, but what does that really mean? Bristlecone pines are what we consider conventional trees, meaning

that when the cells in their trunks and branches die, they fill up with resin or sap and form wood. The living parts of these trees are layered over their wooden scaffolding of hardened dead cells. Sure, the scaffolding has been around for 5,000 years but at any one time, the age of their metabolically active cells are not more than 100 years old. On the other hand, palms are not conventional trees and are incapable of forming wood. The cells that provide structure and energy transport in palms have to keep metabolically active since the moment they were first made. So a 720 year old *Livistona eastonii* in Western Australia certainly deserves to be in the running for the oldest living non-clonal organism, likely having metabolically active cells more than seven times as old as those in the celebrated Bristlecone Pine. A 350 year old *Lodoicea seychellarum* in the Seychelles may be over three times as old as the Bristlecone pine or mighty Giant Sequoia.



The tall wax palms of Colombia, *Ceroxylon quindiuense*, towering over a hundred and sixty feet in the air we assume are ancient because of their height (left), but they are similar in age to a diminutive stem of *Iguanura geonomiformis* (= *I. wallichiana*) from Malaysia (center) standing about 7 feet tall - both approaching 100 years old. A little iguanura can be twice the age of those *Corypha* species growing 3 foot wide trunks before they die, flowering in just 50 years (right). Photos from <http://www.palmweb.org/> and <http://www.palmpedia.net/>

Find out more about the differences between palms and conventional trees, and how scientists measure the age of plants and their metabolically active cells, by checking out [Cell Longevity and Sustained Primary Growth in Palm Stems](#) in the American Journal of Botany by P. Barry Tomlinson and Brett A. Huggett, December 2012.

Free Cycads



Member Lindy Fisher would like to give away four huge cycads of unknown species.

From Lindy: I am treating them for scale right now. If you just cut it at ground level and lean it back into a pick up, and put it in the ground in a one foot deep hole, they live. I put large rocks around them until they get good roots. I have 15 of these and that is too many. I am tired of having to pick off the baby sprouts from the trunk all the time. I am near Kurtistown and they line my mile long driveway. Come visit me and we can discuss it. They are free. They are in cinder mixed with soil and rocks. Call me on my cell at 214-695-2928 or email me at lindyfisher57@gmail.com

Note from the editor:

This newsletter goes out quarterly, the next newsletter will go out December 31st. If you have any questions, comments, or would like to contribute to the production of the newsletter, contact Mary <mailto:marylock@sbcglobal.net>.