



Central Florida Palm & Cycad Society • 2009:1

CFPACS Spring Calendar

- **Saturday, March 7:** *FIT Botanical Fest*, Melbourne (see page 3)
- **Saturday, April 4:** *Joint meeting with the South Florida Palm Society, Montgomery Botanical Center*, Miami (see page 4)
- **Saturday and Sunday, April 11-12:** *USF Spring Sale*, Tampa
(details coming in the March *Palmateer*)
- **Saturday, April 25:** *CFPACS Spring Meeting, Ron's Palm Paradise*, Valkaria (details coming in the March *Palmateer*)

FIT Botanical Fest

- Saturday, March 7
- 8 am to 4 pm
- FIT Campus, Melbourne



Have you renewed your CFPACS membership for 2009? Please see details on page 2



Central Florida Palm & Cycad Society
www.cfpacs.org

CFPACS 2009 Leadership

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The **Central Florida Palm & Cycad Society** is an affiliate of the **International Palm Society** and **The Cycad Society**. CFPACS is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to scientific and educational projects related to the study of palms and cycads, their propagation, culture, conservation, care, and development. We assist in the preservation of all palm and cycad species for future generations as well as promote and maintain public interest in palms and cycads.

The CFPACS 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 and Volusia*. We also welcome palm and cycad enthusiasts from beyond Central Florida to become members.

**Central Florida Palm & Cycad Society
Membership Dues for 2009:**

US Members (1-year): \$15

US Members (3-years): \$40

Foreign Members (1-year): \$20

Please send dues to:

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

You may also pay by credit card at
www.PayPal.com (please indicate
"payments@cfpacs.org" in the "to" field).

Advertising: is available in *Central Florida Palm & Cycad News*, *The Palmateer* and other CFPACS publications (eNews, Membership Directory). Please contact CFPACS treasurer, Catherine Johnson (e-mail: biokat@aol.com) for advertising rates.

About the International Palm Society:

IPS membership dues are \$45 a year. Membership includes a subscription to *Palms*, the quarterly journal of the IPS. For further information on the IPS, please visit their web site: www.palms.org

About The Cycad Society:

TCS membership dues are \$25 a year. Membership includes a subscription to *The Cycad Newsletter*, the quarterly journal of TCS, and access to The Cycad Society seed bank. For further information on the TCS, please visit their web site: www.cycad.org

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All photographs by Bob Johnson.

FIT Botanical Fest, March 7

The Florida Institute of Technology Botanical Fest is coming up in just a few days. CFPACS is a sponsor of this year's Botanical Fest and will have a large selection of palms and cycads available for sale. In addition to CFPACS, GTC Palms (Okie LoPresti and Neil Yorio) will be there with their usual assortment of well grown palms, including many larger specimens. Additional vendors will offer a wide variety of plants and garden supplies to help you get a jump start on this year's spring planting season. There will also be door prizes, kid's activities and garden tours throughout the day.

FIT has a long association with palms and the Palm Society. FIT founding president Dr. Jerome Keuper was a palm enthusiast and served as CFPACS president. Soon after FIT occupied its present campus Dr. Keuper began planting palms. He quickly became friends with Palm Society founder Dent Smith, and together they worked to make the FIT campus one of the "palmiest" anywhere. The FIT campus today is home to approximately 200 different palm species.

The FIT Botanical Fest has quickly become a premier garden event on the Florida East Coast. CFPACS members always enjoys the day - not just selling palms, but also talking to new and old friends, telling people about the work of CFPACS and signing up new members. We hope to see you at this year's Botanical Fest!



Customers perusing some colorful orchids at a previous Botanical Fest. Not just palms and cycads, but all sorts of plants and gardening supplies will be for sale at the FIT Botanical Fest.

Directions to FIT

From the North:

- _Take I-95 South to Melbourne
- _Take exit 180 for US-192 toward W. Melbourne/Melbourne
- _Turn left at W. New Haven Ave/US-192
- _Continue straight to stay on W. New Haven Ave/US-192
- _Turn right at S. Babcock St./SR-507
- _FIT is at the corner of S. Babcock and University.
- Follow signs for parking.

From the West:

- _Take US-192 to Melbourne
- _Turn left at W. New Haven Ave/US-192
- _Continue straight to stay on W. New Haven Ave/US-192
- _Turn right at S. Babcock St./SR-507
- _FIT is at the corner of S. Babcock and University.
- Follow signs for parking.

From the South:

- _Take I-95 North to Palm Bay/Malabar
- _Take exit 173 toward Malabar
- _Merge onto Malabar Rd NE/SR-514
- _Turn left at Babcock St. SE/SR-507
- _FIT is at the corner of S. Babcock and University.
- Follow signs for parking.

If you want to Google Map your own directions, the FIT address is: 150 W. University Blvd., Melbourne, FL 32901.

The FIT web site is: www.fit.edu



Syagrus pseudococos growing in the FIT Botanical Garden. Garden. Tours will be available during the Botanical Fest.

Montgomery Botanical Center, April 4

After a long winter its time to head south! Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 4th when CFPACS members will join with the South Florida Palm Society for a day at both Montgomery Botanical Center and a 5-acre private garden nearby.

Montgomery Botanical Center is the 120-acre former estate of Robert and Nell Montgomery, widely known as the founders of Fairchild Tropical Garden. During the Montgomery's lifetime, it was the largest and finest private collections of palms and cycads in the world. As a living tribute to her late husband, in 1959 Nell created The Montgomery Foundation, Inc. - later renamed the Montgomery Botanical Center (MBC) - as an independent, nonprofit institution devoted to advancing the science of tropical botany. The mission of MBC is to advance science, education, conservation, and horticultural knowledge of tropical plants, emphasizing palms and cycads, and to exemplify excellent botanical garden design.

We hope that many of you will plan on taking this road-trip down to Montgomery Botanical Center. We look forward to a wonderful meeting with the South Florida Palm Society.

Additional information about this meeting:

- The meeting begins at 10:00 am
- Cost of lunch is \$10 per person
- Friendly reminder, there is no collecting of seeds or plants at Montgomery Botanical Center.



Group planting of *Coccolthrinax borhidiana* at MBC.



One of two massive specimens of *Zombia antillarum* flanking the entry of the estate house at MBC. The MBC collection contains over 356 palm taxa (5230 specimens) and 222 cycad taxa (2900 specimens).

Directions to MBC:

Take I-95 south to Miami. Just beyond downtown, exit on U. S. #1 (South Dixie Hwy.) Go south to SW 42nd Ave. (LeJeune Rd.) Turn left on SW 42nd Ave.; drive to the roundabout. Take the second right off the roundabout to Old Cutler Road. Two miles down Old Cutler Road is Fairchild Tropical Garden; a mile beyond Fairchild is Montgomery, the entrance on the left. The address is 11901 Old Cutler Road, Miami, FL 33156.

Web site: www.montgomerybotanical.org



Stangeria eriopus at MBC. Originally described as a fern in the early nineteenth century, when a living specimen coned in England in 1851 it was reclassified as a cycad.

CFPACS Secretary's Report

Chuck Grieneisen

Note: Beginning in 2009, the Secretary's Report will cover decisions made and important items discussed by the CFPACS board in both e-mail correspondence and board meetings.

The past few months have been very busy for members of the CFPACS Board. Since October of 2008, the board has discussed and decided the following:

- **Palmateer printing** - After comparing costs required to maintain our current printer with the cost of out sourcing printing to a print shop, the board decided to have *The Palmateer* printed at a print shop beginning with the December 2008 issue. In addition to saving CFPACS approximately \$200 an issue, the commercial printer is able to produce *The Palmateer* in booklet format.
- **Palmateer costs** - as an additional means to save money, the board has decided to begin mailing *The Palmateer* at bulk rate beginning with the March 2009 issue. Accepting advertising in *The Palmateer* was also discussed and approved.
- **Workshops** - the board discussed the idea of having more workshops and presentations. We will try to schedule more workshops in the future, both with outside speakers and CFPACS members leading them. It was decided to offer a minimum honorarium of \$125 to those presenting a talk or workshop.
- **Festival of Palms** - the board discussed and approved a new CFPACS event, the Festival of Palms (held at FIT on November 15, 2008), The Festival included a plant sale and three presentations on palm

horticulture. In connection with the Festival of Palms, it was decided to have signs made that could advertise both the Festival of Palms and other CFPACS events.

- **Complimentary Memberships** - in recognition of the time donated to CFPACS by board members, it was decided to offer complimentary membership to board members after completing one year of service, and for as long thereafter that they continue to serve. Most of the current board members already have complimentary memberships based on vendor sales or seed donations, so this decision only affected three of the current board.

- **Board Transitions** - We welcome Ron Hart as Central VP and Mike Evans as West VP. Ron replaces Claudia Walworth who served as Central VP on a temporary basis for the second half of 2008. In addition to the two new board members, two current board members have moved to new positions - John Green has moved from Seed Bank Coordinator to East VP and Christian Faulkner has moved from West VP to Seed Bank Coordinator.

- **Other items of business** - included CFPACS sponsorship of the 2009 FIT Botanical Fest, awarding of the 2009 HomeTown Grant (see announcement in the March *Palmateer*) and participation in the 2009 Epcot International Flower and Garden Festival.



Looking up into the crown of *Copernicia baileyana* at MBC.

CFPACS Seed Bank Report: 4th Quarter 2008

John Green

The CFPACS seed bank has been somewhat slow over the past 3 months, although there was an increase over the same period last year. There were 16 seed orders filled from October 2008 through December 2008, which resulted in a sales total of \$315, excluding shipping charges. As usual we have most customers from Florida, but also had orders sent to California and Kansas. We had one international order that went to England.

Significant seed donations were received from CFPACS members, making for several very attractive and successful seed offers. During this period Mike Dahme donated the largest number of species, which included *Arenga engleri*, *Carpentaria acuminata*, *Licuala paludosa*, *Licuala spinosa*, *Ptychosperma caryotoides*, *Raphia farinifera*, and *Serenoa repens*. John Green provided *Coccothrinax miraguama*, *Livistona decora*, and *Ptychosperma shefferi* (all collected at FIT Botanical Garden), which brought in the largest total sales amount and with the *Coccothrinax miraguama* bringing in the largest single species sales total. John Kennedy donated *Allagoptera arenaria*, *Coccothrinax argentata*, and *Sabal etonia*, which resulted in the second highest sales total. Anne Michaels donated *Copernicia glabrescens*, *Copernicia macroglossa*, and *Syagrus schizophylla*.

PJ Klinger donated some very popular *Butia x Jubaea* seeds, which sold faster than any I have seen recently. Christian Faulkner provided seeds for *Pseudophoenix sargentii* ssp. *sargentii*. Dean Van DerBleek donated *Chamaedorea radicalis* and *Phoenix sylvestris* seeds. Neil Yorio provided another batch of the very popular *Syagrus botryophora* seeds. Dave and Gerry Prall donated *Archontophoenix myolensis* and *Syagrus sancona*. Other popular seed donations came from Tom and Karen Barrese - *Zamia floridana*, Mike Merrit - *Pritchardia beccariana* and *Rhopaloblaste augusta*, Rick Nale - *Dypsis leptocheilos*, Lyle Niswander - *Veitchia arecina*, and Richard Lundstadt - *Livistona australis*.

Special thanks go out to our seed bank customers for their continued support of the CFPACS, especially Mike Ricigliano who again ordered a list topping \$95 of seeds during this period.

Your seed donations are always greatly appreciated by the CFPACS, without which we would have no seed bank at all. To donate, please contact the seed bank coordinator at seedbank@cfpacs.org to arrange shipping or pickup.

I wanted to also mention that I will be passing on the seed bank coordinator duties to Christian Faulkner. I have very much enjoyed my time in this position, and consider it an honor to be associated with such a great group of folks.

Please keep CFPACS updated with your current e-mail address, or you will not be able to receive future offerings from the seed bank.



This Ptychosperma shefferi is happily growing in "The Jungle" at FIT. This specimen is a prolific source of seeds for the CFPACS seed bank. Native to the north coast of New Guinea, it has attractive undivided leaflets as a young palm and will eventually grow into a large clump - as long as you remember to give it lots of water.

President's Message

Bob Johnson

Welcome to the first edition of the Central Florida Palm & Cycad News! This new CFPACS publication serves a few functions. It provides a way to keep our membership in touch with all that is going on with CFPACS in between Palmateers (this premier edition is a bit late, in part due to the January and February freezes that forced some changes in our spring schedule). It will also save the society money - this newsletter is being distributed electronically to every member with an e-mail address, saving on printing and postage costs that would be incurred if this material were included in The Palmateer. We will initially print and mail a black and white version of this newsletter to those that we do not have e-mail addresses for, but we hope that everyone with e-mail will share their address with the society so that they can receive the Central Florida Palm & Cycad News in color (and earlier). We will continue to print The Palmateer in color and in the new booklet format - it should arrive in your mailbox by mid-March.

Speaking of all that is going on with CFPACS, as I read over the secretary's report (page 5) I was taken by how hard your leadership has been working the past few months. Our society is very active, and your board members do a tremendous amount of work behind the scenes to brainstorm, plan and make things happen. I appreciate all that each and every board member is doing to help make CFPACS a successful organization. I encourage you to take a moment to thank your board members for their work the next time that you see them at a meeting or sale.

I am pleased to welcome two new members to the CFPACS board. Ron Hart of Apopka joins our team as Central VP and Mike Evans of St. Petersburg comes on as West VP. Welcome, Ron and Mike! We also have a bit of 'musical chairs' going on with the board - John Green has gone from seed bank chair to East VP and Christian Faulkner has moved from West VP to seed bank chair. John and Christian have both done outstanding work for the society. I am thankful that they both will continue to serve CFPACS in their new positions. I also want to thank Claudia Walworth for her service to CFPACS. Claudia had previously served as seed bank chair, and agreed to step into the Central VP position for the second half of 2008 at my request. Claudia brought many good ideas to the board over the past few months.

Finally, it has been several years since CFPACS has published a membership directory. We plan to mail out a new membership directory along with the June Palmateer. Please be sure that we have all of your correct contact information for the new membership directory.



Thrinax ekmaniana, one of the rarest palms in the world is known from just threelimestonehills in northern Cuba. This specimen is part of a group planting at MBC. The mulch is gravel.

CFPACS T-Shirts -

Get 'em while they last!



Sales of the new CFPACS T-shirts have been brisk since their debut at the Festival of Palms on November 15th. If you want a particular color, plan on getting one at the next CFPACS meeting or sale. Our T-shirts are preshrunk and come in white, lime green, serene green, sand and canary. Small CFPACS logo on the front, large logo on the back with the phrase "Plant a Palm!" \$12 each for sizes S, M, L and XL. \$14 each for 2XL and 3XL. T-shirts may also be mail ordered.

Florida residents please add 6.5% sales tax. Shipping costs within the US are \$4 for the first shirt and \$1 for each additional shirt.

Shipping outside of the US can be arranged - please e-mail payments@cfpacs.org for info. Payments (check or money order) may be sent to: CFPACS, PO Box 560907, Orlando, FL 32856. Payments may also be made through PayPal: www.Pa yPal.com.

Save Our Sagos

www.saveoursagos.com

1-800-636-9588

A Pesticide Spray Additive that enhances the effectiveness of pesticides used to combat armored scale insects

We have discovered an additive that, when combined in solution with an EPA-registered pesticide, has been shown to be highly effective in eradicating infestations of the Cycad Asian Scale (CAS) insect (*Aulacaspis yasumatsui*) as well as other problem insects in the garden and around the home!

The additive has been shown to penetrate the insect's armored scale defense, thereby carrying the lethal pesticide to the fragile insect and her eggs. The *Aulacaspis yasumatsui* insect has demonstrated extreme resistance to other current treatments.

BEFORE



AFTER



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Spring Plant Sales

March 7	8am-4pm CFPACS Sale	FIT Botanical Fest (see page 3) Florida Institute of Technology • Melbourne 150 W. University Blvd • Melbourne, FL 32901 (321) 674-8000 • web site: www.fit.edu
March 14-15	9:30am -4:30pm	South Florida Palm Society Spring Sale Montgomery Botanical Center 11901 Old Cutler Road • Coral Gables, FL 33156 SFPS web site: www.southfloridapalmsociety.org
March 21-22	Sat. 9am-6pm Sun. 10am-5pm	Spring Garden Festival Kanapaha Botanical Gardens 4700 S.W. 58th Drive • Gainesville, FL 32608 (352) 372-4981 • www.kanapaha.org
March 21-22	9am-5pm	Spring Plant Sale Harry P. Leu Gardens 1920 N. Forest Ave. • Orlando, FL 32803-1537 407-246-2620 • web site: www.leugardens.org
March 21-22	10am-5pm	Spring Plant and Garden Festival Marie Selby Botanical Gardens 811 South Palm Avenue • Sarasota, FL 34236 (941) 366-5731 • web site: www.selby.org
April 11-12	Sat. 10am-4pm Sun. 10am-6pm CFPACS Sale	USF Botanical Gardens Spring Plant Festival University of South Florida Botanical Gardens 4202 E. Fowler Avenue NE #107 • Tampa, FL 33620 (813) 974-2329 • web site: www.cas.usf.edu/garden