



Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society

Affiliate of the International Palm Society

Monthly Update

February 2017

JANUARY "THANK YOU"

Door: Janice DiPaolo & Don Bittel

Food: Ingrid Dewey, Janice DiPaola, Steve Garland, Ruth & Terry Lynch, Elise Moloney, Pat & Lauren Morris, Richard Murray, Tom Ramiccio, Tom & Mary Whisler

Plants: Robin Crawford, Dale Holton, Jeff Searle

Auction: Don Bittel & Terry Lynch

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Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society 2017 Officers & Executive Committee

Tom Ramiccio, President & Sales Chair
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Don Bittel, Vice President (772) 521-4601

Elise Moloney, Secretary (561) 312-4100

Janice DiPaola, Membership (561) 951-0734

Ingrid Dewey, Treasurer (561) 791-3300

Charlie Beck, Director, Editor & Librarian
(561) 963-5511

Terry Lynch, Director & Events Chair (561) 582-7378

Richard Murray, Director (561) 506-6315

Gerry Valentini, Director (561) 735-0978

Tom Whisler, Director (561) 627-8328

Betty Ahlborn, Immediate Past President
(561) 798-4562

Appointees

Brenda Beck, Historian
Brenda LaPlatte, Webmaster
Ruth Lynch, Refreshment Chair

UPCOMING MEETING

February 1, 2017
7:30 p.m.

At Mounts Botanical Garden

Speaker: Chad Husby, Ph.D.
Botanical Horticulturist
Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

Subject: Exploring the Spice Islands
in the Footsteps of David Fairchild

FEATURED AUCTION PLANTS:

Johannesteijsmannia altifrons
Carpoxylon macrospermum

VISIT US AT

www.palmbeachpalmcycadsociety.com

All photographs in this issue were provided
by Charlie Beck and Elise Moloney.

Opinions expressed and products or recommendations published in this newsletter may not be the opinions or recommendations of the Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society or its board of directors.

Montgomery Botanical Center Tour, January 2017
by Charlie Beck

The Palm Beach Palm and Cycad Society (PBPCS) sponsored a tour of the 120 acre, Montgomery Botanical Center (MBC) in Coral Gables. The MBC began as the private estate of Robert and Nell Montgomery. The planting at MBC began in 1932. Palms and cycads were an early focus of Robert Montgomery. As a living tribute to her late husband, Nell created The Montgomery Foundation in 1959 which was later named the Montgomery Botanical Center. The MBC is an independent, nonprofit institution devoted to advancing the science of tropical botany. The estate is not generally open to the public but occasionally opens for private tours. Lucky for us, Terry Lynch (Director & Events Chair, PBPCS) arranged a tour of MBC's fabulous palm collection.

In the past decades, MBC has transformed into a scientific collection of plants propagated from seeds collected from wild populations. This collection method insures that species are true to name. Collection sources are documented and growth records are maintained. This data is shared with the scientific community.

MBC rolled out the red carpet for our society. Golf cart drivers met us in the parking lot and shuttled us down to a meeting room where we left refreshments for a luncheon which was planned after the tour. The golf cart drivers followed along with the tour in case anyone tired of walking during the 2 hour tour.

Dr. Larry Noblick, Palm Biologist at MBC, led the tour. Dr. Noblick is a world renowned palm expert. He is a leading authority on several palm genera including *Syagrus*, *Butia*, etc. Dr. Noblick has traveled extensively to habitat to collect seed and to discover palms previously unknown to science. In fact, many of the palms that we saw that day were grown from seed that he personally collected, and some of the palms were first described and named by Dr. Noblick. We could not have had a better guide. The tour was focused, so we saw a large number of palms, but at the same time Dr. Noblick spent plenty of time providing insight and answering questions.

What impressed me most was the large variety of palms that could be seen nowhere else in South Florida. The palms were mostly grown from documented, habitat collected seed so we had confidence that the names were correct. Most of the palms were labeled with the year acquired. I included the palm's age in parenthesis after the name in the photo captions.

My observation was that many of the palms grew at a rapid pace- much faster than they would grow in Palm Beach County (PBC). The soil at MBC is a very thin layer over an oolitic limestone base. It's very different than the deep sandy soil that we have in PBC. Many of the palms grown at MBC prefer this

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Village Marina
396 Torpey Road
Fort Pierce, Florida. 34946
Wes Taylor
Office 772-464-4391 Cell 772-519-1297

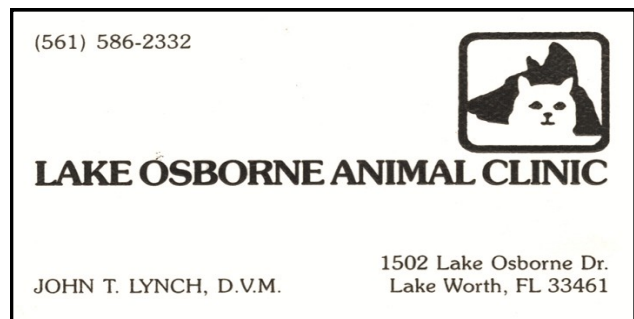
The business card features a green and blue background with palm tree silhouettes. On the right side, there is a circular inset image showing a white egret standing on a small island in a body of water, with a bright sun setting or rising behind it, creating a silhouette effect.




HOLTON NURSERY
PALMS and CYCADS
5221 3rd Road
Lake Worth, FL. 33467
Phone (561) 965-6792
Email cycadnut@gate.net

"By appointment only"

The business card has a white background with black text. It features two illustrations of palm trees: a larger one on the left and a smaller one on the right. The text is centered and includes contact information and a note about appointments.



(561) 586-2332



LAKE OSBORNE ANIMAL CLINIC

1502 Lake Osborne Dr.
Lake Worth, FL 33461

JOHN T. LYNCH, D.V.M.

The business card is white with black text. It features a logo in the top right corner consisting of a black square with a white silhouette of a cat's head and a black silhouette of a dog's head. The text is arranged in a clean, professional layout.

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highly alkaline substrate and that might be the reason for such rapid growth. Another factor might be that their winter low temperatures are a couple of degrees higher than ours and temperatures recover quicker there than they do here. The palms at MBC are fertilized only twice a year.

While perusing the photos note the following:

- *Medemia argun* (once thought to be extinct) & *Corypha taliera* are rarely seen in South Florida.
- Other rare species include *Attalea crassipatha*, *Ravenea xerophila* (largest specimen ever) and *Borassus madagascariensis*.
- Distinctive petticoats of *Hemithrinax ekmaniana* & *Coccothrinax borhidiana*
- Interesting leaf base patterns of *Copernicia alba* and *Copernicia prunifera*
- Spaghetti like inflorescence of *Syagrus vermicularis*
- Colourful fruit of *Nypa fruticans* & *Hyphaene coriacea*
- Vase shaped stem of *Pseudophoenix vinifera*
- Rarely seen, perfectly grown, *Trithrinax brasiliensis*
- Very tropical looking, spiny *Oncosperma tigillarum*.
- *Raphia australis* which reportedly grows the longest palmate leaf in the plant world- up to 60' long (Unfortunately it was planted high and dry rather than in a swampy area where it could grow to full potential)
- Uncommon species of the genera *Syagrus* & *Livistona*

Thanks to Terry Lynch for organizing the tour. Thanks to Ruth Lynch for coordinating the luncheon. Thanks to Dr. Larry Noblick for leading the tour and thanks to MBC staff for their assistance.



Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society Ramble

Deerfield Arboretum

February 4, 2017

10:00 a.m.

Additional details
will be provided
at the February 1st meeting



Dr. Larry Noblick



Allagoptera caudescens (22)



Attalea crassispatha



Bactris major (9)



Butia eriospatha (24)



Borassus madagascariensis (21)



Carpentaria acuminata



Coccothrinax alta (14)



Coccothrinax borhidiana (20)





Corypha utan (21)



Corypha taliera



Hemithrinax ekmaniana (20)



Hyphaene coriacea (21)



Howea forsteriana (24)
Marshal Dewey



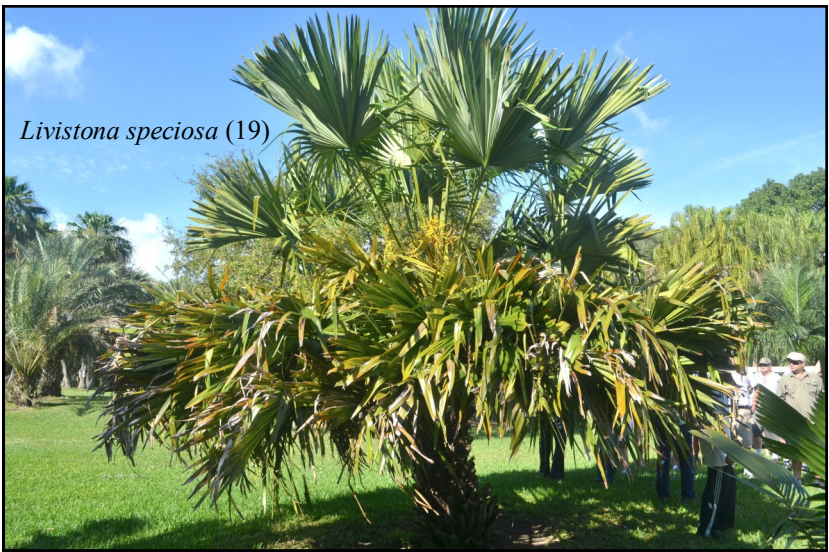
Hyphaene coriacea (21)



Hyphaene petersiana



Livistona mariae (20)



Livistona speciosa (19)



Livistona nasmophila (24)



Nypa fruticans (34)



Medemia argun (19)



Nypa fruticans (34)



Nypa fruticans (34)
Tom Whisler



Oncosperma tigillarum (18)



Phoenix dactylifera (iberica) (17)



Phoenix paludosa (29)



Pritchardia hillebrandii (16)



Pseudophoenix vinifera (19)



Raphia australis (17)



Pseudophoenix vinifera (19)





2017 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOW DUE



Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society

Affiliate of the International Palm Society

Membership Application

Internal Use Only	
#	
\$	
Y	

Please select one of the following options:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--|-------------------|
| New Membership | Membership Renewal | Change of Address |
| 1 Year - Individual | \$20.00 | |
| 1 Year - Dual Membership | \$30.00 for two individuals living at the same address | |

Please fill in the following fields with your information:

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Email Address:		Website (optional):	

I am interested in learning more about advertising with Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society, Yes No

Please make your check or money order payable in US dollars to: **Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society.**

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