



THE INTERNATIONAL PALM SOCIETY

Mar. 2022

NEWSLETTER

International Palm Society's Hawaiian Islands Biennial

REGISTRATION WILL SOON OPEN! The International Palm Society's Biennial will be Sunday, October 9 through Saturday, October 15, 2022.

The International Palm Society is traveling again, and you are invited to join us for our 32nd Biennial meeting!

The Hawaiian Islands Biennial, October 9th through the 15th, 2022, includes Oahu and the Big Island (Hawaii Island), with an optional pre-Biennial tour in Maui. Attendees will see an astonishingly diverse collection of palm species from *Archontophoenix* to *Zombia*, as well as endemic palms of the genus *Pritchardia*. Notable stops on the 2022 Hawaiian Biennial will include: Lyon Arboretum, Foster Botanical Garden, Floribunda Palms, Ho'omaluhia Botanical Garden, Casa de las Palmas, Rainbow Falls, Volcano National Park, and best of all, many exquisite private gardens and estates with premiere palm and tropical plant collections that are not normally open to the public.

Imagine exploring beautiful gardens, cloud forests, volcanos, and waterfalls (not to mention some of the best beaches) with knowledgeable palm botanists, passionate hobbyists, and professional growers from around the world. Sure, we shall have an unequalled opportunity to view spectacular plants, but this trip is also about fun, fellowship, food, and adventure.

This Biennial event is being offered on a first-come basis in a more intimate setting than would be typical. With space for only 150 attendees, this Biennial is anticipated to sell out quickly.

The IPS is thrilled to host what will be an exceptionally memorable tour with our friends and colleagues.

Registration will soon open and will continue until capacity is reached. Please save the date and check the IPS website or follow our social media for further information. It will be very important to reserve early to ensure your place. We expect this Biennial to be a stellar event, so don't miss out!

***Pritchardia* in Hawaii**

I am pleased to re-introduced Don Hodel to our newsletter readers. Don is the world's acknowledged expert on the genus *Pritchardia*. This is the third species of Hawaii's only endemic palm genus, *Pritchardia*, which he will describe. We hope that this will serve as a field guide of sorts and aid in the identification and differentiation of the various species that we might encounter during the Hawaii Biennial.

Pritchardia* in Hawaii: *Pritchardia beccariana

Pritchardia beccariana, endemic to the island of Hawaii (Big Island) where it occurs in unusually wet forest west and southwest of Hilo, is perhaps the most imposing species of *loulou* and is noted for its tall habit and handsome, full canopy of large, broad, flat, dark green leaves with a conspicuous patch of whitish tomentum on the underside at the petiole. Here it is in all its grandeur along the Saddle Road west of Hilo. © 2006 D R Hodel.



New Lifetime Member

On behalf of our 100% volunteer Board of Directors, I would like to recognize and thank our newest lifetime member of the IPS: **Tracy Strahl**

Our mission to preserve palms in habitat requires like-minded plant conservationists like you! Please consider supporting our society by encouraging new memberships with fellow palm and tropical plant enthusiasts.

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota, Florida

The International Palm Society mid-term board meeting in November 2021 included a visit to the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, in Sarasota, Florida. Our happy group of palm aficionados were met by Russ Johnston, manager of visitor engagement. Of course, we received the full VIP treatment, including tours by garden staff and plenty of behind-the-scenes experiences that IPS members relished. Here are some photos from the outing.



The International Palm Society Board of Directors and IPS members gathered for a special tour of Marie Selby Botanical Gardens.

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota, Florida



The grand lawn ringed by palms and semi-tropical trees

Dypsis cabadae endemic to Mayotte Island.



Arenga pinnata (sugar palm) with a showy inflorescence.

Dypsis leptocheilos with its distinctive fuzzy rust colored tomentum, a tactile experience rarely consummated at 20 feet off the ground. Aerial walkways allowed this up-close experience.



Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota, Florida

Clearly our international membership has a tremendous fondness for palms; however we enjoy a broad interest in tropical horticulture including cycads, ferns, orchids, heliconias, begonias, ornamental gingers, bromeliads, and succulents. Selby didn't disappoint!



Ferns: *Angiopteris palmiformis* (good name, but now called *A. evecta*), looking very prehistoric!

Platycerium superbum, high in a tree



Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota, Florida



Cycads: The critically endangered Cuban cycad, *Microcycas calocoma*, the tallest-growing cycad in the New World. Note the prominently pendant leaflets. IPS member Mike Street provides scale.

Other tropical plants: The sea-grape (*Coccoloba uvifera*) makes an usual choice for bonsai. This specimen has been “in training” since 2008.



Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota, Florida



Selby is a true botanical garden with an active research department that regular visitors never see. By special arrangement, the IPS was granted "backstage" access, and these doors swung open! Inside, we found many rare and breathtaking plants.

Zamia pseudoparasitica, the sole epiphytic cycad.



Calyptrocalyx spicatus with a lovely red emergent leaf.

Begonia melanobullata.



Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota, Florida



Cyclanthus sp. has marvelously wavy leaves.

After seeing so many fascinating plants during our behind-the-scenes tour, we at the IPS heartily agree!



Parting Shots

After an eventful day of superlative plant viewing, we returned to the resort for a buffet dinner and drinks on the sand. Yet another example of why one should never miss an opportunity travel with the IPS!

