

Southern California Bamboo

The newsletter of the Southern California Chapter of the American Bamboo Society.
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Office of the President

ABS SoCal has gone through 2 presidents in less than a year and is currently searching for someone to serve in this capacity. An advertisement for this position is found on our Facebook page. Candidate must be a member of ABS SoCal and be approved by a vote of the membership to serve as a Director. The current Board of Directors then votes to confirm or deny this Director the position of president.

Past President Gerard Minakawa resigned in early January 2023 to pursue other activities in northern California and Director Dany Ramos was then voted by the Board to serve as President. Thank you Gerard for organizing activities and for creating our current web site. Dany has moved out of state and consequently also resigned.

A person knowledgeable and enthusiastic about bamboo who can schedule activities is a good candidate. The legal and financial aspects of ABS SoCal are already handled by Roy Wiersma Ph.D. who serves as Treasurer and Newsletter Editor.

World of Bamboo Exhibition

Leadership at San Diego Botanic Garden will meet in late January to discuss this event for 2024 which was postponed in 2023.

Propagation Event at Coop's Roost

Directors met at Gordon's place in Temecula in April 2023 to propagate bamboo for sales.



Figure 1 Clump of *B.m.* 'Alphonse Karr'



Figure 2 Gordon in action



Figure 3 Dany potting bamboo division

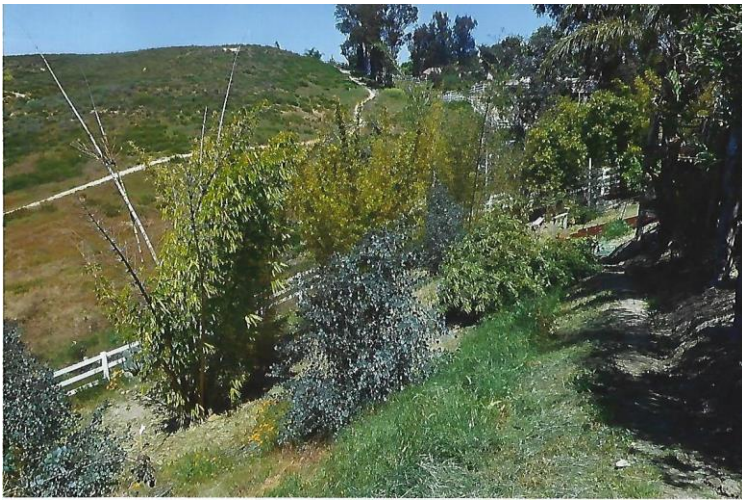


Figure 4 Backyard bamboos at Gordon's place

Bamboo Cooking Event

Landy Banks again graciously hosted a bamboo food event at her place in Garden Grove in November 2023. This year guests were treated to bamboo ceviche dishes and plain cooked bamboo shoots of commerce.



Figure 5 Landy and her presentation of bamboo ceviche



Figure 6 Bamboo ceviche dishes



Figure 7 “Yum yum!”



Figure 8 Bamboo shoots of commerce

Common Reed

Not botanically classified as a bamboo but is possibly the closest native species to true bamboo that is found in southern California. Formerly more abundant and used for aft-shafts of arrows by native people this species is hard to find growing wild in our region except along the southeastern side of the Salton Sea. Was at one time growing even in the Mojave Desert. The native clone is not as aggressive a spreader as the European clone.



Figure 9 Native reed near Niland, Calif.



Figure 10 Irrigation canal near Niland, Calif.



Figure 11 Reeds growing at Wadi Tayyb-Esm, Saudi Arabia October 2022.



Figure 12 Stream and reeds at Wadi Tayyb-Esm, Saudi Arabia October 2022.



Figure 14 Saudi Arabian freeway exit sign.



Figure 13 Wadi Tayyb-Esm, Saudi Arabia October 2022.



Figure 15 Saudi Arabian trash can.

Bamboo in Desert Freestyle Art

Slab City located near Niland, California, is well known for its community of artists. In addition to the 1970s hippie vibe the area also has Salvation Mountain and East Jesus.



Figure 16 Saudi Arabian freeway signs.



Figure 17 Saudi Arabian flag man.

Editor's Note

The editor visited the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in October 2022 on a tourist visa. The relatively recent change to allow foreigners to visit KSA on tourist visas is gratefully acknowledged.



Figure 18 Bamboo poles used in artwork at East Jesus, Calif.



Figure 19 Art enclave of East Jesus, Calif.

Bamboo in Kerala State, India



Figure 20 Bamboo at Idukki Reservoir

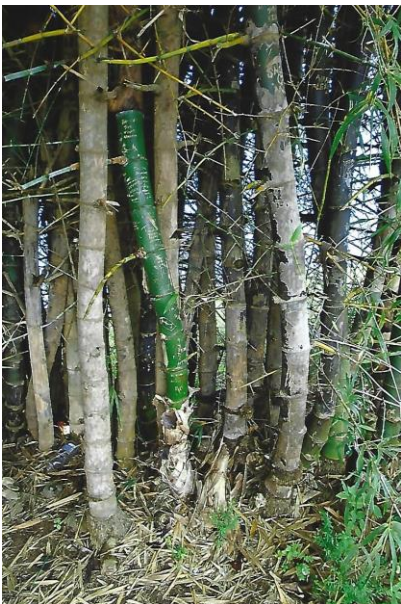


Figure 21 Close-up of bamboo at Idukki Reservoir



Figure 22 Bamboo pole handle



Figure 23 Bamboo at bus stop in Tripunithura



Figure 24 Bamboo at Chris Bottle Crafters



Figure 27 More beautiful topiaries



Figure 25 Variegated bamboo at Chris Bottle Crafters



Figure 28 Entrance sign for Hill Palace Museum, Tripunithura, Kerala, India



Figure 26 Exquisite topiary at Chris Bottle Crafters Garden Centre in Muvattupuzha, Kerala, India



Figure 29 Dinosaur at Hill Palace Museum



Figure 30 Bamboo at Hill Palace Museum



Figure 31 Bamboo in Kunnathunadu, Kerala, India

Editor's Note

The editor visited Kerala State, India in October 2023. He saw many wonderful bamboos, spice plants, rubber trees, tea plantations, the location of the lost city of Muziris among many other interesting things, tried numerous curries and had a great time.



Figure 32 Clumping black bamboo at Subhash Bose Park



Figure 33 Brazilian trees planted by Portuguese over 400 years ago Kochi, Kerala, India



Figure 35 Bamboo Hot Pad



Figure 34 Dog bone made of bamboo

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Figure 36

The Southern California Chapter of the
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Note: This newsletter is available in PDF format at the ABS-SoCal Web site: www.socalabs.org – In Color!

**Application for membership in: The American Bamboo Society
and the Southern California Chapter of the American Bamboo Society**

Renewal New

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Fax: (_____) _____ e-mail: _____

- Membership for 2024 is (check one):
- Annual: \$50- ABS and ABS SoCal Chapter (\$40 digital)
 - Annual: \$20- ABS SoCal only
 - Supporting: \$70- ABS and ABS SoCal Chapter (\$60 digital)
 - Lifetime: \$800- ABS Membership only (\$600 digital)
 - Patron: \$130- ABS and ABS SoCal Chapter (\$120 digital)
 - Lifetime: \$300- ABS SoCal Chapter only
 - \$15/year for each additional Chapter checked below:
 - Three years: \$140- ABS and ABS SoCal Chapter (\$110 digital)
 - International: \$55- ABS only (\$40 digital)
 - Florida Caribbean; Hawaii; Louisiana- Gulf Coast; Mid-States; Northeast; Northern California;
 - Pacific Northwest; Southeast; Texas Bamboo Society

Make check to ABS SoCal: Mail to: **ABS SoCal Membership, 5387 Topaz St. , Alta Loma, CA 91701**

Check here if you do **NOT** want your phone number and e-mail address listed in directories.