

# Southern California Bamboo

The newsletter of the Southern California Chapter of the American Bamboo Society.  
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Chapter Web site: <http://www.socalabs.org>

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## May 2022 Meeting at SDBG

ABS SoCal held a meeting Sunday May 22<sup>nd</sup> at the San Diego Botanic Gardens in Encinitas, CA. We were there to discuss the new bamboo signage in development and funded in large measure by our Society. Jeremy Bugarchich and Anna Arft of SDBG met bamboo society members at the new entrance which is located at Ecke Ranch Rd. Jeremy drove us around the gardens in one of their electric carts stopping at the area of the in-ground bamboos. Next year SDBG is planning a World of Bamboo exhibit and is seeking ABS SoCal help in preparation for this event. As we walked around the bamboo collection Jeremy and Anna explained the new bamboo signs in development. They will be approx. 24" x 36" in size and 6 in total. Anna is looking for good color photos of bamboo flowers to be used on the signs. Additionally, interpretation will be written in Spanish as well as English. We discussed a sign showing latest info on the molecular basis of bamboo floral initiation using rice as the model plant.

The Japanese Tea House at SDBG is slated for removal because it is now considered cultural appropriation – not designed by authentically trained people in the true Japanese style. The tea house was built for the Del Mar Fair around 2014/2015 and was moved to SDBG.

The collection of bamboo books assembled by George and Betty Shor is no longer at SDBG. During the pandemic the room where the materials were kept needed to be renovated and the bamboo book collection was donated since there was no place to store the books.

## August 2022 Bamboo Sale

We have planned a 3 day bamboo sale Aug. 26<sup>th</sup> (Fri.), 27<sup>th</sup> (Sat.), and 28<sup>th</sup> (Sun.). It will be a downsized version of our previous sales and will be held inside SDBG in the vicinity of the new entrance (Ecke Ranch Rd.). This will be an opportunity to purchase bamboo plants. Admission to SDBG required.



Figure 1 *Bambusa bambos* seedlings including one albino (Seeds sown May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022)



Figure 2 New entrance to SDBG



Figure 4 *Ph. vivax* grove



Figure 3



Figure 5 Sample sign



Figure 6 *Arundo formosana* 'Oriental Gold'



Figure 7



Figure 8 *D. minor* in flower



Figure 9 “Japanese” Tea House



Figure 10



Figure 11 *D. asper* ‘Hitam’



Figure 12 *D. jiangshuensis*

Figure 13 (below) Detail of *D. jiangshuensis*



Figure 14 *B. chungii* clump post bloom



Figure 15 *B. chungii* after flowering



Figure 16 *Guadua angustifolia*- view 1

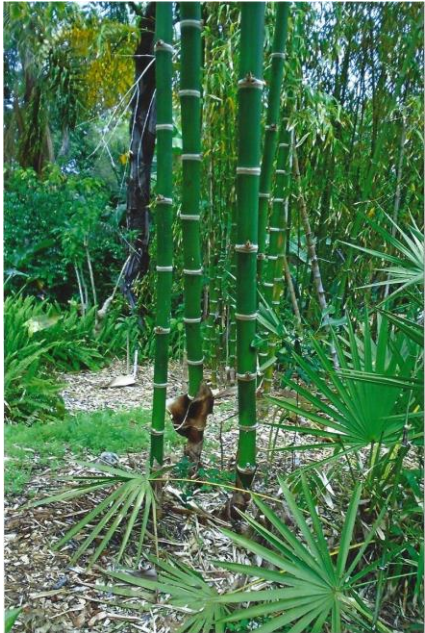


Figure 17 *Guadua angustifolia* – view 2

## Bamboo on Vacation

Roy Wiersma Ph.D. was in Europe in April and May of this year to see the Floriade among other horticultural events. The Floriade is a once-every-ten year horticultural exhibition held in The Netherlands showcasing the latest in ecological and horticultural trends and exhibitions of participating countries.



Figure 18

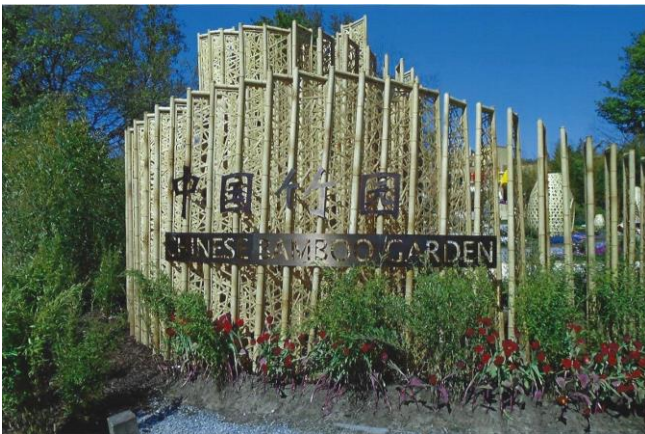


Figure 19



Figure 20



Figure 21



Figure 22



Figure 23



Figure 26



Figure 24



Figure 27



Figure 25

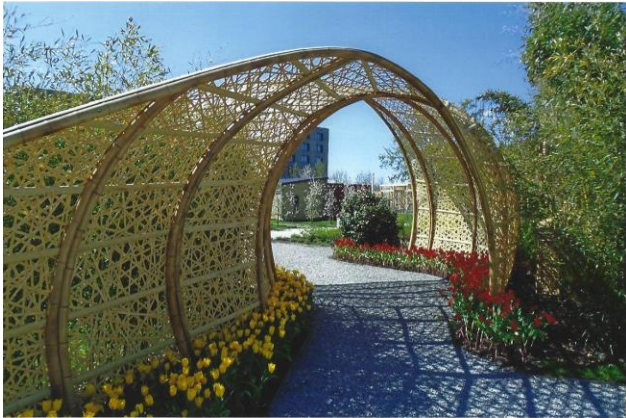


Figure 28



Figure 29



Figure 31



Figure 30



Figure 32



**Figure 33** Trash cans in Germany

### **ABS SoCal Election Results**

Thank you so much to all of you who mailed back the ballot for Directors! The mail-in ballot was done in accordance of our by-laws and gives you members a direct say in who is on the Board. Envelopes containing the ballots were opened in the presence of Board members Landy Banks, Dany Ramos and Roy Wiersma. The tally is as follows:

17 returned ballots

16 votes for Gerard Minakawa

16 votes for Landy Banks

16 votes Dany Ramos

16 votes for Gordon Coop

16 votes for Roy Wiersma

There were also two write-in candidates receiving one vote each.

Selection of Officers will be done by the newly elected Board at another Board meeting.



**Figure 34** Bamboo planted in front of the Auchan Mall, Luxembourg City, Luxembourg



**Figure 35** Landy Banks (left) and Dany Ramos counting ballots





**Figure 36**

### **Pinyin – Books from Bamboo**

[Translation from Dutch to English by Google Translate]

Bamboo and wooden strips (Chinese: pinyin, jinadu) were the main document writing media in China before the widespread adoption of paper during the first two centuries AD. Silk was occasionally used, for example in the Chu Silk Manuscript, but this was prohibitively expensive for most documents.

#### **Writing materials**

The earliest surviving examples of bamboo strips date back to the 5th century BC during the Warring

States period. However, references in earlier texts preserved on other media make it clear that a precursor to these Warring States period bamboo strips were already in use in the late Shang period (from about 1250 BC). Bamboo or wooden strips were the standard writing material during the Han Dynasty and excavated examples have been found in abundance. Subsequently, the invention of paper by Cai Lun during the Han Dynasty began to displace bamboo and wooden strips from common use, and by the 4th century AD, bamboo had largely fallen into disuse as a medium for writing on in China.

#### **Dimensions**

The long, narrow strips of wood or bamboo usually each carry a single column of brush-written text, with room for several dozen visually complex ancient Chinese characters. It is said that each strip of wood or bamboo is as long as a chopstick and as wide as two. For longer texts, many strips were sewn together with hemp, silk or leather and used to make a kind of folding book called jiance or jiandu.

## Excavations

Through the use of storing books made from the sustainable bamboo strips in royal tombs, many works have been recovered in their original form over the centuries. An important early find was the discovery at Jizhong in 279AD of a tomb of a king of Wei, although the original restored strips have since disappeared. Several important discoveries have been made in recent years.

## Status

One attribute used when writing on bamboo strips was a small blade used to scrape mistakes and make changes. Decorated knives became a symbol of their office for some officials, indicating that they had the authority to alter and amend records and ordinances.

## Bian Que

In 2013, archaeologists in Chengdu found 920 bamboo strips containing recipes for treating ailments dating back 2,000 years. Archaeologists speculated that the traditional Chinese remedies were written by the successors of Bian Que, said to be China's earliest known physician. Further tests have now confirmed that the lyrics were written by Bian Que himself. Translation work has also revealed the remarkable content of these ancient medical manuscripts. According to experts, the works are mainly based on studies to diagnose diseases by taking the patient's pulse. Other practices mentioned are internal medicine, surgery, gynecology, dermatology, ophthalmology and traumatology. In addition, archaeologists have found a 14-centimeter-long figurine on which the main acupuncture points are indicated. This figurine is believed to be a key to deciphering the origins of acupuncture treatment.

Reference: 'Pinyin boeken van bamboe' by editor (Dave Modijefsky) pp.2-3, *Bamboe – Tijdschrift van de European Bamboo Society, afdeling Nederland, Jaargang 31, Nummer 2, 2021.*

<b>Chapter Officers of the Southern California Chapter of the American Bamboo Society</b>			
Director, President, Webmaster	Gerard Minakawa	(305)965-3997	<a href="mailto:gerard@socalabs.org">gerard@socalabs.org</a>
Director	Dany Ramos	(619)818-8277	<a href="mailto:mahalo299@msn.com">mahalo299@msn.com</a>
Director, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor,	Roy Wiersma Ph.D.	(909)251-8448	<a href="mailto:RHWIERSMA@aol.com">RHWIERSMA@aol.com</a>
Director	Gordon Coop	(951)768-4878	<a href="mailto:coopsroost@netzero.net">coopsroost@netzero.net</a>
Director, Rec. Sec.	Landy Banks	(714)943-2822	<a href="mailto:landy@socalabs.org">landy@socalabs.org</a>
Alternate Director			
Alternate Director			
Chapter Representative			

**Figure 37**

The Southern California Chapter of the  
American Bamboo Society, Inc.  
5387 Topaz St.  
Alta Loma, CA 91701



Note: This newsletter is available in PDF format at the ABS-SoCal Web site: [www.socalabs.org](http://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 2022 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.