

Southern California Bamboo

The newsletter of the Southern California Chapter of the American Bamboo Society.
A California 501 (c) (3) non-profit educational charitable corporation, incorporated July 22, 1991
Chapter Web site: <http://www.socalabs.org>

Volume 24, No. 2

October, 2018

September Board Meeting



Figure 1 In Ecke Building seated left to right: Alternate Director Tony Gurnoe (Director of Horticulture at SDBG), Member Hannah Lichnerawicz, President Gerard Minakawa, Recording Secretary Landy Banks, Vice President Adam Graves, and Treasurer Dr. Roy Wiersma

The ABS SoCal Board of Directors held a quarterly board meeting on September 15, 2018, at the San Diego Botanic Garden in Encinitas, CA. Minutes to follow in next newsletter.

Fall Bamboo Sale

In lieu of a fall bamboo sale at the San Diego Botanic Garden, ABS SoCal will be partnering with volunteers at SDBG to propagate desired bamboos for our upcoming sales. The date of the event is to be determined and will be led by SDBG Horticulture Director Tony Gurnoe. Please check our website and your e-mail for any notifications.

November Bamboo Food Event and Talk

ABS SoCal will be holding a bamboo food event at the San Diego Botanic Garden on November 17, 2018. Members are encouraged to bring prepared dishes made with bamboo. This event will include some presentations of how the dishes are prepared. In addition, Adam Graves our Chapter Representative will also be giving a talk on his August 2018 trip to the ABS National Meeting held at Xalapa, Mexico. See our website for current details: www.socalabs.org .



Figure 2 *Dendrocalamus giganteus* grown from a seed of original plant at then Quail Botanical Gardens (now SDBG). Photographed Sept. 15, 2018.

San Diego ZooBoo Tour

On June 12, 2018, members of ABS SoCal were treated to a tour of the San Diego Zoo bamboo collection. This included a behind-the-scenes peek at the walk-in refrigerator used for short term storage of bamboo for the pandas. ABS SoCal Vice-President Adam Graves who is employed by the Zoo organized the tour. He along with Dany Ramos who is also employed by the Zoo led the tour of bamboos. The following though not an exhaustive list were in order the bamboos shown to us beginning on the Tiger River Trail:

Otatea glauca, *Otatea acuminata aztecorum*, *Bambusa multiplex* ‘Alphonse Karr’, *Bambusa eutoldoides*, *Bambusa ventricosa* [not sure what causes bellies but pandas prefer the bellies], *Phyllostachys vivax*, *Chusquea circinata*, *Pseudosasa japonica* [they had form *tsutsumiana* but it died], *Sasaella masamuneana albostrata*(?), *Bambusa lako*, *Bambusa dolichoclada* ‘Stripe’, *Dendrocalamus asper*, *Bambusa oldhami*, *Bambusa textilis*, *Bambusa dolichomerithalla*, *Bambusa beecheyana*, *Bambusa eutoldoides* ‘Stripe’(?), *Dendrocalamus asper* ‘Hitam’, *Borinda fungosa*, *Bambusa textilis gracilis*, *Bambusa vulgaris* ‘Vittata’, *Bambusa multiplex* ‘Fernleaf’, *Fargesia papyrifera*, and finally a mass planting of *Fargesia* spp., *Yushania* spp., and *Bashania* spp.

There was also a mystery species of *Pleioblastus* shown to us along the tour for which Adam asked help in identification: approx. 15 feet tall and all green. Six acres of bamboo are grown outside of public view for the pandas, red pandas, and Madagascar bamboo lemurs. The area known as Bamboo Hill contains about 30 genera. The final area viewed is by a reservoir/catchbasin/drain, is the coldest location at the zoo hence the cultivation of the *Fargesias*, *Yushanias*, and *Bashanias*.

After being admitted through a normally closed area and after having the soles of our shoes sprayed with a disinfectant, we were allowed to see inside the Bamboo Cooler where harvested bamboos are kept as panda food. A minimum of 9 species all

hand harvested are temporarily stored in this walk-in refrigerator.

Pandas here are geriatric having chewing issues; “eating” 600 lbs daily. Bundles of bamboo pieces 3-4 ft in length consisting of 5 species are fed to the pandas for breakfast, lunch, dinner, and overnight meals. Pandas are picky eaters with an estimated 50% waste. Bamboos of the genus *Phyllostachys* are considered “broccoli” with those of the genus *Bambusa* considered ‘ice cream’. Other species are fed to them as well. Pandas also eat fruit and “bread” made of ground bamboo. In the wild pandas live 22-23 years.



Figure 3 Rex the Lion



Figure 4 Past President Dany Ramos leading tour. Here showing Mexican Weeping Bamboo.



Figure 5 *Bambusa ventricosa*



Figure 8 *Chusquea circinata*



Figure 6 Bamboo Fence



Figure 9 *Dendrocalamus asper*



Figure 7 Bamboo Jungle Gym in animal enclosure



Figure 10 Answering questions



Figure 12 Adam Graves (left) and Tony Gurnoe (right) examining “false” flowering of *Bambusa vulgaris* ‘Vittata’



Figure 11 San Diego Zoo Bus



Figure 13 Adam Graves opening back entrance to Panda Exhibit



Figure 14 Spraying disinfectant on soles of shoes to protect pandas from diseases



Figure15 Adam Graves showing can of disinfectant



Figure 16 Bamboo Cooler



Figure 17 Inside of Bamboo Cooler looking left



Figure 18 Inside of Bamboo Cooler looking right



Figure 19 Portion of tagged meal for pandas



Figure 20 Panda



Figure 21 Panda Exhibit entrance



Figure 22 “Cold” section of San Diego Zoo

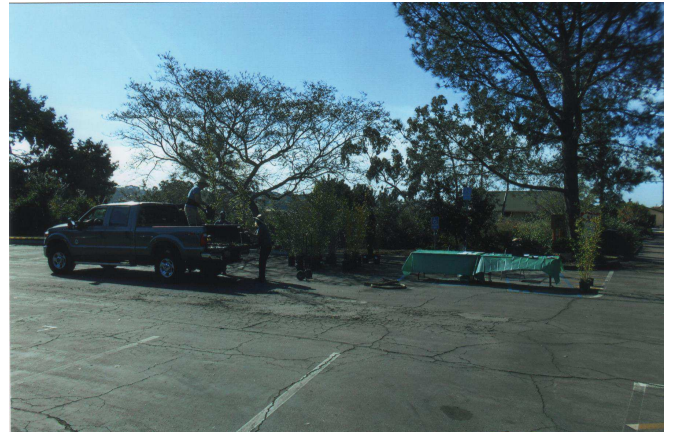


Figure 24 Unloading for sale



Figure 23 Bamboo signage



Figure 25 Plants and goods for sale

Spring Bamboo Sale

After a 9 year hiatus, ABS SoCal held a bamboo sale. The sale, organized by ABS SoCal Treasurer Roy Wiersma, Ph.D. was held at the San Diego Botanic Garden on April 21, 2018. ABS SoCal thanks lifetime member Ralph Evans assisted by successor Chris, and Gordon and Devon Dibble for their participation in the sale. See chart for results.



Figure 26 Goods for sale



Figure 27 Books for sale



Figure 30 Past President Ralph Evans (yellow shirt) helping a customer



Figure 28 Cashiers tables



Figure 29 Poles for sale

The Southern California Chapter of the American Bamboo Society
 Spring 2018 Bamboo Sale (April 21, 2018)

| Pot Mark | Grower | Plants Sold | Gross incl. tax | Sales Tax 7.75% | To SDBG | To Chapter | To Grower |
|-----------|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|------------|-----------|
| ABS-SoCal | ABS-SoCal | 0 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | |
| SDBG | San Diego Bot. G. | 0 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | |
| OVB | Gord. & Dev. Dibble | 14 | \$495.00 | \$35.60 | \$45.94 | \$91.88 | \$321.58 |
| RJE | Ralph Evans | 2 | \$120.00 | \$8.63 | \$11.14 | \$22.27 | \$77.96 |
| RW | Roy Wiersma | 1 | \$5.00 | \$0.36 | \$0.46 | \$0.93 | \$3.25 |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

Total Plants Sold 17

| | | | | | | |
|----------------|-----------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Poles (Dibble) | 3 | \$15.00 | \$1.08 | \$1.39 | \$2.78 | \$9.75 |
| | | | | | | |
| Totals | 20 | \$635.00 | \$45.67 | \$58.93 | \$117.86 | \$412.54 |

| Receipts: | Cash | Starter Cash: R. Wiersma |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Checks | \$605.00 | Memberships 1 \$50.00 |
| Credit | \$155.00 | |
| Totals | \$810.00 | \$175.00 |
| | | \$635.00 actual |
| | | \$635.00 expected |
| | | \$0.00 excess |

Note: ABS-SoCal will pay the discount rates, transaction fees, etc. this sale.
 Roy Wiersma: Treasurer

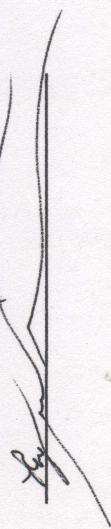


Figure 31

May 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

By Landy Banks

So Cal Chapter of the American Bamboo Society

Quarterly Board Meeting 05/19/18

19 May 2018 / Time: 1:00 PM / Location: San Diego Botanical Gardens

ATTENDEES

Adam Graves, Roy Wiersma, Tony Gurnoe, and Landy Banks

AGENDA

Last Meeting Follow-up

1. Bamboo sale results---Roy provided us with the results of Sale, which will be attached to minutes.
2. Communication---Landy to Keep members informed of all our events and meetings, and post to FaceBook as an event. Also the need for more publicity and more plants for the sales was mentioned. Adam to make a list of email addresses to advertise.

New Business

- Sponsor Adam Graves to WBC in Xalapa

Adam estimates about \$1000. To \$1200. For Congress registration, airfare, and lodging. Roy checked the budget, he said if Adam is sponsored, Maybe he can write an article, or presentation for our meeting in November, for all that could not make the trip. Adam agreed. Roy made the motion to sponsor Adam, Tony second it, and all 3 of us voted yes.

NOTES

- For Future events at the SDBG, Tony will be booking our quarterly meetings for the rest of this year, Michael Fischer is the event coordinator and will be copied on emails. This way Roy will be able to advertise with correct date and place.

- Gordon suggested posting signs on the road to the SDBGs, and reminded us on getting permits if posting on private property.
- If needed for advertising Adam can print some flyers.
- SocialABS needs to participate in more Green shows or Home shows
- We need SocialABS logo stickers, and T-shirts for members. Let me find bamboo fabric t-shirts (Viscose is all there is)I will price them and let you know next meeting.
- Gordon already got a logo to make stickers

ACTION ITEMS

1. Sale improvements: Website needs a Hyperlink to be able to sign up members online and be able to receive payment online.
2. Putting the newsletters on the website will be useful
3. Signs for Bamboo sale may be at the SDBG, Tony will look for them.
4. Species--Roy will go to the LA arboretum, and Huntington Library to see about getting divisions for San Diego Botanical Gardens to have mother clones. Roy will try to get it done by July. Tony mentioned that SDBG volunteers can help with this project. If Tony is not available for divisions, Jeremy will be next in line.
5. A Species list is important for people who are looking for specific bamboos.
6. Roy suggested sending a form to sellers to list what they are bringing to the sale, and compile a list from these forms.
7. Specimen plants may sell or not, SDBG always holds auctions, Tony will look into it for rare specimens.
8. Roy mentioned to sell species list for people to find out where to find.
9. Tony suggested for us to Join SDBG in their sale in October instead of the September bamboo sale just for the SocialABS. It was discussed and agreed that it would be beneficial for both the SDBG and the SocialABS. Adam to Check with Gerard.
10. Adam mentioned that Danny can bring in bamboo seeds (he has a licence for seeds) of new species to share with the SDBG, when he returns from the WBC in Mexico.

NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

1. Finish action items
2. Bamboo propagation party in July

Building With Bamboo

This bamboo construction event was held March 17, 2018, at ABS SoCal President Gerard Minakawa's place in Landers, Calif. The following photos feature ABS SoCal member Gordon Coop building the structure.



Figure 32



Figure 33



Figure 34



Figure 35



Figure 36



Figure 37



Figure 38



Figure 39



Figure 40



Figure 41



Figure 42

2017 ABS National Meeting Report By Adam Graves

In November 2017, the Southern California chapter sent Adam Graves to San Francisco as our chapter representative. He met with several SoCal ABS members and the ABS National board to conduct organization business and attend the ABS national seminar.

At the ABS National board meeting, the following topics were discussed: The Arts & Crafts budget was increased to \$3000 for the 2018 competition; \$3000 has been allocated for the ABS National website to be

improved; Two grants were approved at \$1500 each: One for the study of *Guadua trinii* from Argentina and Mexico, and one for a Clavijero bamboo garden improvement project in Xalapa, Mexico. With the next bamboo congress in Xalapa, visitors will be able to see the progress of this grant if they attend the 2018 World Bamboo Congress.

The speakers for the seminar days were varied and interesting. Chris Papadopolous spoke about using bamboo in his building material research lab. He showed a presentation with all of his equipment and the findings about PSI and tensile strength of several different species of bamboo. Lynn Clark then spoke about her academic research into the *Chusquea* genus, and how varied it is in both phenology/morphology and range distribution. Zach Gould then continued the presentations with a brief talk on his architectural project, the "Grass House : Building in Washington DC". He showed pictures of the first fully bamboo-made structure on the east coast that complied with all building codes. Finally, Martin Mortera spoke on using bamboo to create temporary emergency housing for victims of natural disasters in Mexico.

The next day there was a tour of local bamboo nurseries, the Bamboo Sourcery owned by Jennifer York, and the West County Oasis Bamboo Nursery owned by Jesus Mora. The day finished with a rare bamboo auction, the proceeds of which went to benefit the American Bamboo Society. The top seller, a *Bambusa textilis albostrigata* with a rare inversa mutation brought in \$1000.

Finally there was a tour of the BamCore facilities. BamCore is a company that flattens round, hollow timber bamboo in a

"patented, low embodied energy process... [to] manufacture super strong structural panels and other engineered projects".

The next ABS (Inter)National Meeting will be in Xalapa, Mexico, just before the World Bamboo Congress begins in August 14th-18th.



Figure 43 Bamboo Craft inside Hansen Greenhouse at Mt. Baldy Visitor Center (Sept. 2018)



Figure 44 Bamboo Decal made by member Gordon Coop

| Chapter Officers of the Southern California Chapter of the American Bamboo Society | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Director, President | Gerard Minakawa to '19 | (305)965-3997 | gerard@socalabs.org |
| Director, Vice President | Adam Graves to '19 | (619)855-1113 | adamrgraves@yahoo.com |
| Director, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Webmaster | Roy Wiersma Ph.D. to '19 | (909)980-1740 | RHWIERSMA@aol.com |
| Director, Rec. Sec. | Paulina Hermansen to '19 | (818)438-2810 | paulinahomes@gmail.com |
| Director | Dany Ramos Cisneros to '19 | (619)818-8277 | mahalo299@msn.com |
| Alternate Director | Tony Gurnoe to '19 | (760)436-3036 | tony@socalabs.org |
| Alternate Director | Landy Banks to '19 | (714)943-2822 | landy@socalabs.org |
| Chapter Representative | Adam Graves to '19 | | |

Figure 45

The Southern California Chapter of the
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5387 Topaz St.
Alta Loma, CA 91701



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 2019 is (check one):
- Annual: \$20- ABS SoCal only
 - Annual: \$50- ABS and ABS SoCal Chapter (\$40 digital)
 - 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.