

Southern California Bamboo

The Newsletter of the Southern California Chapter of the American Bamboo Society

A California 501(c)-3 non-profit educational corporation, incorporated July 22, 1991

Chapter website: www.ABSSoCal.org

**ABS SoCal Activities / Events planned: (Monthly meetings are usually on the third Saturday of month.)
(Changes will be noted below.)**

Date:	Time:	Activity / Event:
Sat. Sep. 17, 2005	8:00 -10:30 am 10:30 -11:00 am 11:00 - 2:00 pm 3:00 - ?	Fall Bamboo Sale at Quail BG Sale Preview - look at plants available + set up plants for sale Auction of rare bamboos General sale of all bamboos Board Meeting.
Sat. Oct. 15, 2005	10:00 am	TBA: Probably a Bamboo cultivation day at Quail BG. Get hands-on experience caring for the Chapter's reference collection of bamboos.
Sat. Nov. 19, 2005	10:00 am	TBA
Sat. Dec. 17, 2005	10:00 am	TBA

Unscheduled days of bamboo collection maintenance are often held at Quail Botanical Gardens, Encinitas, CA, on some Saturdays, 10:00 to 3:00. Workers generally meet in front of the Gift Shop and then move to the activity areas. If you meet no one by the Gift Shop, check in reference collection. Contact Bob Dimattia for guidance: 760-519-0397. Bring your own lunch, drinks (non alcoholic, that is!) and have a great 'hands-on' time.

Annual Meeting Notice

The Annual Business Meeting of
The Southern California Chapter of the American
Bamboo Society, Inc.

will be held at 3 pm, September 17, 2005
Ecke Building parking lot under the trees
Quail Botanical Gardens,
230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas, California

Agenda

1. Reports
 2. Old Business
 3. New Business
 4. Report of Election Committee
 5. Adjourn. The new Directors will then select officers.
- Please send in your ballot and please attend. We'll work to keep the meeting short.

Big September Sale, next up: Help, Help, Help.

Next up: Our annual fall bamboo sale Sat. September 17 we need continued chapter member support especially that day. New-comers are most welcome. This is an excellent way to learn-by-doing, and if stymied, there are other's to help you! Perfection not required!

We need volunteers:

- to help as cashiers,
- to help buyers list their purchases prior to paying a cashier,
- to help prepare a brief lunch for chapter workers,
- to answer bamboo related questions from general public.

Give **Bob Dimattia (760-519-0397)** a call to let him know what roles you will help perform. Thanks. PS. Helpers will receive a T-shirt from those left over from last year's October event at The Huntington.

We are looking forward to a great day of helping others learn about and obtain bamboo plants for their personal enjoyment and further propagation.

Election of Directors and Alternates

Directors for ABS SoCal are elected for staggered 3-year terms, and Alternate Directors for one-year terms. The term of Director Roy Wiersma will end this year. The term of Alternate Directors Adam Derrickson and Mike Mullert will also expire. (Mike has been chosen to fill the balance of Theo Smith's director term through '06) Director nominees are Roy Wiersma. Alternate Director nominees are Pierre Domercq and Carl Rowland. Brief statements so you can know a little about each of these candidates may be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Your ballot is attached, to be returned by the start of the Annual Business Meeting, 3 pm, Saturday, Sept. 17, 2005, or by mail to arrive by Friday, Sept. 16, 2005.

If you cannot attend, please also complete the proxy form so business can be conducted on your behalf.

Southern California Bamboo

American Bamboo Society Southern California Chapter Officers:

Director	Michael A. Mullert to '06	619-465-4690	Mamullert@yahoo.com
Director, Vice-President	Bob Dimattia to '06	760-519-0397 (c)	Bamboobob@cox.net
Director, Treasurer	Roy Wiersma to '05	909-980-1740	Rhwiersma@aol.com
Director, Secretary	Don Binnix to '07	714-531-2710	Dbinnix@msn.com
Director	Christian Lydick to '07	760-352-7095	CLydick@ivnet.org
Alternate Director	Adam Derrickson to '05	619-200-1444	Exoticbamboo@aol.com
Alternate Director	Pierre A. Domercq to '05	760-525-2260 (c)	PierreLaw@gmail.com
Chapter rep. to ABS National	JoAnne Wyman to '07	760-749-5716	Wymansrf@incom.net
Newsletter Editor, Membership	Theo Smith	951-359-1706	Trsmith00@sbcglobal.net

Meeting and Plant Sale Sat. September 17, 2005

8:00 - 10:30 Look at bamboos being set out for sale
10:30 - 11:00 Auction of rare bamboos
11:00 - 2:00 pm. General Sale.
3:00 - ? Board Meeting

Buyer information:

1. Admission to Quail Gardens for the sale is free for members of ABS-SoCal and of QBGF. Others pay the regular admission / parking fee (\$8.00)
2. Plants for sale will be assembled for viewing beginning 9:00 am. Nobody is to try to buy or set aside a desired plant. If you have questions, look for someone with a badge.
3. At 10:30 we will be instructed to leave the area, and the auction of rare bamboos will begin. Each rare plant will be described then offered for bid. This is an exciting time as many new species are first bought at auction here and then propagated by the buyer for sales in later years.
4. At 11:00 am the general sale starts. Select plants you desire - hoping you can find the ones you had your heart set on from the earlier viewing. Take your selected plants to a line at a Cashier's table to pay for them. The Cashier will total the amount of your purchase and keep records so sellers can be appropriately credited for plants sold. We expect to be able to accept Visa and Mastercard. Cash and checks made out to ABS-SoCal are good. Sales tax is included in the marked prices. Do not give your money for plants or for Chapter dues to anyone other than a Cashier.

Supplier / vendor information:

Vendor: Our plant sale is a means for "backyard growers" to share their bamboos with others and realize a few dollars in the process. Understandably, "backyard" may mean a few acres as some of us have made a business of growing, buying and selling bamboo plants. However, we strongly encourage each vendor to bring no more than 200 plants in order to maintain a balance of vendors in the sale venue. If you plan on selling bamboo related items, such as fences, books, furniture, etc. please maintain a "low profile" so that the Chapter sale effort receives primary emphasis.

Any chapter member may bring plants for sale providing the plants are free of disease, particularly bamboo mites, and that the plants are well rooted. Don't bring divisions that have been potted less than three months.

Each plant container is to be marked with a Pot Code, a price, and bamboo variety (species) name.

Pot Code: The Pot Code uniquely identifies the seller. Pot Codes are frequently a seller's initials. If you have sold before, use your assigned pot code. If you don't have an assigned Pot Code, contact Theo Smith (951-359-1706, trsmith00@sbcglobal.net) to get one.

Price: Try to keep prices a little below local normal retail. The marked price will include sales tax. Keep the prices multiples of five (5) to make it easier for Cashiers to add the dollars comprising one sale. Counting by fives is much easier than adding a 4 , a 3 , a 9 , a 6 , etc. Some of us are slowing down or never were good with mental arithmetic, so give us a break. Just bump your price up to next whole multiple of five. Yes, that 28 dollar pot will now sell for 30. If someone really wants it, 30 it is. You'll be glad you did.

Delivery: If possible, bring your plants to QBG on Friday, Sep. 16 from about 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. and place them in the parking lot by the Ecke building; place them according to the signs grouping plants by growing habit, species, etc. Plants can also be brought Sat. Sep. 17 from 9:00 to 10:15 am before the auction starts at 10:30. Please park your truck in the "Overflow Parking Lot" west of the Quail bamboo collection soon after unloading.

Sales: All plants are sold through a Chapter cashier, not directly by the person who brought them. This is because selling plants to the public requires a Nursery Stock Permit and a Resale Permit. The Chapter has those documents. We went to this system to encourage amateur growers to participate.

The Cashiers keep a record of sales by Pot Code and price. When the sale is over, the Treasurer (and helpers) reconfigure the sale information to determine for each seller (Pot Code), first the sales tax, then the amounts due Quail Gardens Foundation (10%), the ABS-SoCal Chapter (20%), and the vendor (Pot Code holder: 70%) With this method, a vendor gets just about 65% of the price marked on a pot; because, remember, the sales tax is computed and subtracted first. Darn government!

Unsold plants: Vendors are encouraged to remove any unsold plants at the end of the sale (2:00 pm) or the following morning. Plants not so "returned to owner" on Monday morning will be given to the Quail Gift Shop to be sold by and the sale proceeds for Quail Gardens.

Some Bamboo related websites of interest:

www.bamboocraft.net from which you can go to gallery titled "Bamboo flora and fauna from around the world" (www.bamboocraft.net/bamboo/) (I'm thinking that the word fauna meaning "Animals, especially the animals of a particular region or period, considered as a group" might not be appropriate in the page title. Think it should be just "Bamboo flora ..." What's your thought? - Unless, of course, it includes the giant panda!)

www.bambooweb.info which is like an on line source list with pictures and lists of those who may sell the plant. Then click on the seller and you can see all the other plants that the seller may also have. Probably the info from the ABS source list was suitably structured in a database with pictures - lots of them - and made easily searchable in a browser. Great place to look at pictures of bamboos. And, I believe one can submit photos for inclusion in the display. Often the pictures have details as to their origin so if you happen to be near where the photo was taken, say our own Quail Botanical Gardens, then you can stop by that place and see the real item.

Part One of the Aug 20 "ABS SoCal Double Header" - The visit to the Sam Maloof Foundation: By Theo Smith

We visited the gardens and the former house of Sam Maloof as the "foundation" is an entity which owns the properties. Let's tell what happened. Sam Maloof has been an excellent craftsman of hand-made furniture - especially tables and chairs, working in his shop in Alta Loma for many years. There came a time about ten years ago when CalTrans was to continue the 210 Fwy through Alta Loma, and the plans called for the freeway to go right through the Maloof property. After much negotiation, and the fact that Sam's house had been declared an historical monument, the Maloofs located a piece of property at upper end of Carnelian St (in Alta Loma, or now merged with Rancho Cucamonga) and CalTrans then paid for the complete relocation of all the items on the former Maloof property - original house which is now a museum, all plants chosen to be moved by Maloof, workshop, etc. And Sam built himself a new house.

Our tour was in two parts. The first docent lead us around the winding paths to observe the plants and the Maloof house from different angles. Because we were a bunch of bamboo enthusiasts, we particularly enjoyed seeing clumps of Mexican weeping bamboo and a very small grove - just recently planted out - of *Phyllostachys bambusoides / vivax* - not sure which.

Then we had a lunch of pizza ordered earlier and delivered to the patio. Big thanks go to Roy Wiersma for making arrangements for us to have these tours and for looking after our needs for food (pizza, that is) and drink (soft, of course, or water)

A second docent took us through the house / museum. The old house, now museum, which we toured, is totally hand-crafted like Maloof's furniture. Observing it from inside is like walking through a piece of California craftwork - which indeed it is. The house grew chunk by chunk, in that now and again through the years Sam would get a permit to add, say another 200 square feet of space, to the house and did this numerous times. Yet the house appears to be all "of a piece" which it is in that its existence flowed from the creative mind of the one who crafted it. As a museum, the house also contains many art works, many ceramic crafts and Indian crafts, which the Maloof's collected over the years. Visit the foundation website, www.malooffoundation.org and then visit the place for an enjoyable afternoon appreciating a finely crafted house and its furniture.



Group getting ready for garden tour.

Sam Maloof, who will be turning 90 in Jan 2006, likes to joke about how years ago some people ordering a chair crafted by him, priced at about \$25,000 by the way! - would say of themselves: "I am getting old and want the chair before I die." Now that Mr. Maloof is the old one, the potential buyer says, "Please hurry, I want it before you die!" The craft work is expected to continue to be done by three "boys" as Sam calls them, actually also skilled craftsmen, who now work closely with him in the finishing of each piece of furniture. Sam Maloof has received many awards, one of the most prestigious of which is a 1985 John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Fellowship. Now that's something! I think now and again we may each have wished to be selected for such fellowship.

Our Chapter group was ultimately comprised of:

Bob and Vikki Dimattia from Vista
John Oden from Altadena, CA
Karen and Eric Ende from Los Angeles
Tony and Sandra Warney from Ramona
Roy Wiersma from Alta Loma (He could have walked to the Maloof's! whose place is but a few blocks from his.)
Donald Binnix Garden Grove
Theo Smith from Riverside (Nice to live close to Alta Loma!)
JoAnne Wyman from Vista
Christian and Rex Lydick from El Centro
Mike Mullert from La Mesa and his son visiting from New York

"Ultimately" is used because Mike Mullert had gone to Yosemite with his son and from there came directly to Alta Loma and arrived just in time to attend the board meeting at Roy's place. And Christian and Rex had come such a distance (from El Centro) that their timing did not get them to the Maloof's either - they did call Bob D's cell phone just as we were leaving to go to Roy's.



Group admiring Mexican weeping clump.

Part Two of the Aug 20 "ABS SoCal Double Header" - The visit Roy Wiersma's Armageddon Gardens: By Roy Wiersma



View of the original Sam Maloof residence, in its new location. The variations in roof elevations arose because of the numerous additions to the original structure.



Group passing clump of Mexican weeping bamboo.

All photos courtesy Bob Dimattia

After touring Sam and Beverly Maloof's gardens and museum, ABS-SoCal assembled at the home (also referred to as Armageddon Gardens) of Roy Wiersma in the patio. The tour began with a description of a *Bambusa oldhamii* (in need of rejuvenation) and some talk about a Siberian elm (great for attracting woodpeckers). The group then went on to examine a *Phyllostachys nigra* (different chromosome number than *Ph. nigra f. punctata*) and a *Dendrocalamus asper* (hasn't pushed up shoots in 4-5 years). It was pointed out that the slope on the north end of the property is about 50% landscaped with California natives including a Catalina Ironwood tree.

The tour then progressed to Roy's grape collection of about 21 varieties including a number of wine varieties such as 'Riesling', 'Cabernet Sauvignon #4', 'Merlot #181', and 'Pinot Noir #777'. Other notable grape varieties in his collection included 'Syrian' (see Numbers 13:23-24), 'Lynblu' (very large blackish 'Concord' like grapes), and 'Sultanina Marble' (de facto variegated 'Thomson Seedless'). After sampling some tasty grapes, the group viewed the rose garden and two stands of *Arundo donax* (both green and variegated).

A portion of Roy's cactus and succulent collection was on display in the duck pen. Roy pointed out a pot of Chewgood Iceplant (*Sceletium tortuosum*) which is native to South Africa and considered to be a powerful anti-anxiety herb. On the way to the second backyard the group had a view of a potted frankincense tree (*Boswellia carteri*) and another portion of the cactus and succulent collection (in pots around the pool).

In the second backyard the group saw the working stream and two waterfalls which emptied into a pond containing two red-eared slider turtles. The stream was bordered to the left by a fern garden. On the sides of the stream were some conifers including a coast redwood, a Monterey pine, and a golden deodar cedar (*Cedrus deodara* 'Aurea'). At the top of the backmost slope were a *Bambusa membranacea* and *Chusquea "breviglumis"*. Further to the south on that slope were *Bambusa tuldoidea*, *Phyllostachys makinoi*, *Phyllostachys viridis* 'Robert Young', *Phyllostachys dulcis*, and a *Bambusa vulgaris* 'Wamin'. The 'Wamin' is particularly good this year with prominent "squished" internodes forming on the new shoots.

The second backyard is essentially a fruit orchard and *Phyllostachys vivax* is centered in that orchard. Another stop was made to sample some of the 'Black Persian' mulberry fruits which were ripe on the 22-N-1 mulberry tree. Yes, that's 22 distinct types of mulberries grafted onto one tree (including the tree).

The group was shown the kiwi teepee and the chayote trellis as ways bamboo poles are utilized at Armageddon Gardens in the landscape. Roy also pointed out the F2 generation segregants of a rainbow-leaved corn he is hybridizing. He also showed the group the various exotic vegetables being grown in his raised vegetable garden. The group then ventured to the front yard where a tropical food garden displays plants such as coffee trees, an ice cream bean tree, and a tamarind tree. The group then looked at some Colorado blue spruces, a Giant Sequoia, and a dawn redwood.

After Roy finished leading the tour, the group sat down for a Board meeting and a raffle of bamboo plants. After the raffle, Roy showed the wines he is making this year in the kitchen. These included Marechal Foch (red wine) and Pinot Noir (for sparkling wine).

Ballot for ABS SoCal Election of Directors and Alternate Directors

Directors:
Vote for One:

___ Roy Wiersma

_____ write in

Alternate Directors:
Vote for Two:

___ Pierre Domercq

___ Carl Rowland

_____ write in

Please detach, vote, fold, sign on the outside, stamp, seal shut with tape or staple and mail, or bring to the September meeting and turn in by 3 pm.

_____ *fold* _____

Proxy Statement to be used if you are unable to attend the September 17, 2005 ABS SoCal Business Meeting.

I, _____ (print)

a member of ABS SoCal, hereby give my proxy to (select one)

_____ The President of ABS SoCal

_____ (write in)

to vote on any matters that come before the ABS SoCal board at the annual meeting on September 17, 2005.

(Signature)

Date: _____

ABS SoCal Member Name:



Election Committee

The Southern California Chapter of the
American Bamboo Society, Inc.
P. O. Box 230181
Encinitas, CA 92023-0181

fold

Grafting Bamboo by Roy Wiersma

Would you like to do some experimenting with your tropical clumpers this fall? Why not try grafting your bamboo? For example, wouldn't it be cool to have *Bambusa vulgaris* 'Vittata' grafted onto a *Bambusa oldhamii*? How about grafting a *Dendrocalamus asper* onto a *Dendrocalamus giganteus*? These combinations would result in bipartite culms. Perhaps if you were to become good at grafting bamboo you could get a tripartite culm. As with most of my articles I strongly recommend the reader to do his/her own background research on the topic(s) in the article. In this case the reader is encouraged to get a copy of an article entitled "The Grafting of Large Monocotyledonous Plants" (by Thomas J. Muzik and Carl D. La Rue) which appeared in the November 28, 1952 edition of *Science*. They were the first (as far as can be determined) to successfully graft bamboo. Admittedly, they did not report interspecific graft unions as mentioned above. However, they did get pieces of *Bambusa longispiculata* to unite.

The method used was very simple, "The shoot was grasped firmly and broken with a quick jerk." They further state that the rupture occurs in the intercalary meristem since the cells are weaker in this region. "An exact fit is very important, but trimming of the edges proved deleterious." It was recommended to tie the top shoot piece (scion) to the bottom piece (stock) (this may be done, among other methods, by using toothpicks or nails inserted in both pieces and secured with rubber bands- R.W.). Perhaps a variation on the snapped shoot method above is to try cutting the young shoots with a sharp knife and then matching scion to stock (in spite of the warning above). The use of a grafting compound to hermetically seal the wound is also advised in the second method. In the first method the culm sheaths helped to shield against loss of moisture. Muzik and La Rue also grafted sugar cane (photo of graft union longitudinal section provided in original article), guinea grass (*Panicum maximum*), and Merker grass (*Pennisetum purpureum*). "On the average about 3% of the grafts [including bamboo] were successful." Subsequent growth results of successful unions were mixed, "For example, one of the bamboo grafts grew approximately 10 ft in 8 months, whereas another stayed green but grew hardly at all over the same period." A word of caution about grafting bamboos and any other plants; be careful to choose scions and stocks which are free of viruses so that you do not infect an otherwise healthy plant. If you can get some graft unions to work in your bamboos (even of the same species) we will feature them in a future edition of this newsletter.

Reference

Muzik, Thomas J. and La Rue, Carl D. 1952. The Grafting of Large Monocotyledonous Plants. *Science*. Volume 116 (November 28, 1952).

"It is well to remember that the entire population of the universe, with one trifling exception, is composed of others."
—Andrew J. Holmes

Information about candidates for Director and Alternate Director of ABS SoCal:

Roy Wiersma for Director Age: 35 I have been involved with ABS-SoCal since 1991. I have grown true bamboo (*Phyllostachys nigra*) since 1989 although I have been growing *Arundo donax* since about 1976. I presently serve as Treasurer. My duties include counting and distributing the monies of our semi-annual bamboo sales, preparing federal and state non-profit tax forms, reimbursing members for expenses incurred, and taking care of a host of other small items which help keep the ABS-SoCal organization running smoothly. I also enjoy writing articles for the membership and I have done this for a number of years now. In the near future I hope to see ABS-SoCal obtain at least 10 kinds of bamboo not already in ABS-SoCal's extensive collection.

Pierre Domercq was nominated and has agreed to act as an Alternate Director. (He is currently completing Mike Mullert's term as an alternate director.) He has lived in Fallbrook, California for more than thirty years. He has been a chapter member for only a few months, but has shown unbridled enthusiasm for our group and enjoys helping out. Pierre is a law school graduate, recently passed the California State Bar Exam and is awaiting admission to the State Bar. He works in a family law firm in Carlsbad. If you need to contact him, he can be reached via e-mail at Pierrelaw@gmail.com or via telephone at (760) 434-3330.

Carl Rowland began to collect bamboo plants in 2001. In the Summer of 2003 Carl went to Mike Mullert's place in La Mesa willing to work for free plants for himself and his friend, Bill. That year he became a member of the ABS. The rest is history, working, reading, studying and trading bamboo. As director, Carl intends to encourage bamboo education, importation and identification of new plants, and insure good care to the existing reference collection. Carl currently has 30 species of bamboo. His current favorite bamboos are *Bambusa chungii* and *Khasia (Drepanostachyum-khasianum)*.

ABS 2005 National Meeting and Rare Bamboo Auction October 19 - 22, 2005 Houston, TX

For more information see

<http://www.texasbamboosociety.net/> This site, maintained by the Texas Bamboo Society which is hosting the meeting, contains the continually updated information on the events planned for the ABS 2005 National Meeting. One point of interest is the growing list of rare bamboos to be auctioned. There are some familiar names and there are some I've never heard of before. Interesting.

The event promises to be fun and beneficial to bamboo aficionados. I hope some of our So Cal chapter members might attend and report back to the rest of us what they experienced and learned.

The Southern California Chapter of the
American Bamboo Society, Inc.
P. O. Box 230181
Encinitas, CA 92023-0181



**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 2005 is (check one)
- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual: \$40 - ABS and ABS SoCal Chapter | <input type="checkbox"/> Annual: \$15 - ABS SoCal ONLY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime: \$600 - ABS Membership only | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting: \$60 - ABS and ABS SoCal Chapter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime: \$300 - ABS SoCal Chapter only | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron: \$120 - ABS and ABS SoCal Chapter |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15/year for each additional Chapter checked below: |

- Florida Caribbean; Hawaii; Louisiana-Gulf Coast; Mid-States; Northeast; Northern California;
 Oregon Bamboo Assoc.; Pacific Northwest; Southeast; Texas Bamboo Society; Tierra Seca

Make check to ABS-SoCal: Mail to: ABS SoCal Membership, P. O. Box 230181, Encinitas, CA 92023-0181
 Check here only if you do NOT want your phone number and e-mail address listed in directories.

Note: Newsletter is available in .pdf format at the ABS SoCal website: www.abssocal.org - IN COLOR!