

Aloha Edition — Private Gardens, pt. 2

Aloha from Hawaii and the 32nd International Palm Society biennial.

This is the second of a two-part survey of breathtaking private palm gardens visited on the Big Island of Hawaii.

PARADISE FOUND

David Davenport and Robert Welch acquired over eleven acres of prime ocean view property in Hilo in 2005, and began creating a garden in 2013. Today Paradise Found has colorful tropical plants, meditative pathways, lava tubes, bee hives and of course plenty of palms.



Refreshments are served! David welcoming us with a lilikoi (passion fruit) and honey spritzer, all ingredients sourced from their property. Robert's background in design is clearly evident by the use of color and texture throughout the garden.



Our gracious hosts with Puna (the cat) and a splendid *Tahina spectabilis*.

Andrew Street (two thumbs up), Jeffry Brusseau, Robert and David on a delightful botanical trail meandering through the garden.



Coconut grove and apiary.



The black lava rock is the natural substrate of the garden. It is mineral-rich and porous, and as organic matter accumulates, it sustains mosses, ferns, herbaceous plants, shrubs, trees, and of course, palms.

Hyophorbe indica, sure to be an in-habitat highlight of the upcoming (sold-out) La Reunion "mini-biennial."



ANDERSEN GARDEN

Cindy and Jerry Andersen operated a successful nursery in Fallbrook, California for many years and pined for a palette to grow truly tropical plants. The opportunity came when offered the small house and 2-acre garden which was the last home of former IPS President Ken Foster*. Ken was legendary in his travels around the globe collecting rare plants and seeds. Their property even included a double coconut, which had seemingly vanished in the weeds only to be re-discovered by Jerry years later.

The Andersens have astonishingly transformed this once forgotten 2 acres into an 8-acre tropical plant extravaganza that, of course, highlights palms but also includes cycads, cordylines, bromeliads, philodendrons, anthuriums, and more!

*While on the subject of Ken Foster, please read his heartfelt outgoing message at the conclusion of his term as IPS president, nearly 50 years ago. (Principes 18: 156. 1974):

Finally, a personal word from your outgoing president. I felt very humble two years ago when you were elected me president of The Palm Society. And today I feel even more humble at having had the opportunity of working with such a wonderful group of people. I must think of the many friendships made, of the warm, sincere associations encountered with so many in our society. The past two years has been the most exciting time of my life. I know we have a vital society and it will continue to grow and prosper. Thank you very much.

Our hosts, Cindy and Jerry Andersen:





Past president Ken Foster's home. Note the leaf of *Borassodendron* foreground center.

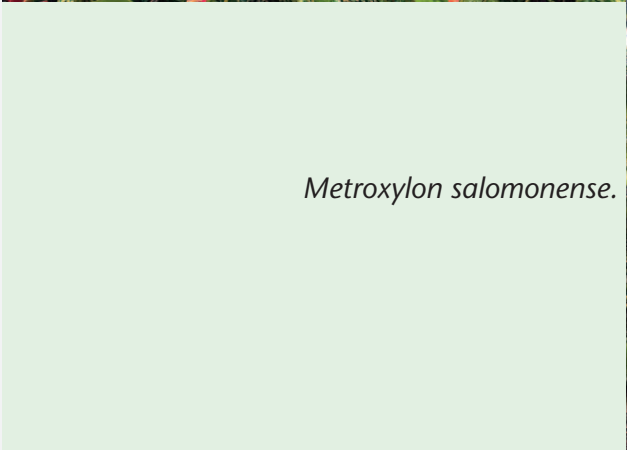
After a wonderfully sunny and unusually dry biennial, finally umbrellas made an appearance.



A form of *Chrysalidocarpus arenarum*, with beautiful red petioles.

Bentinckia condapanna.

Chambeyronia lepidota, found in high elevations in New Caledonia (below).



Metroxylon salomonense.





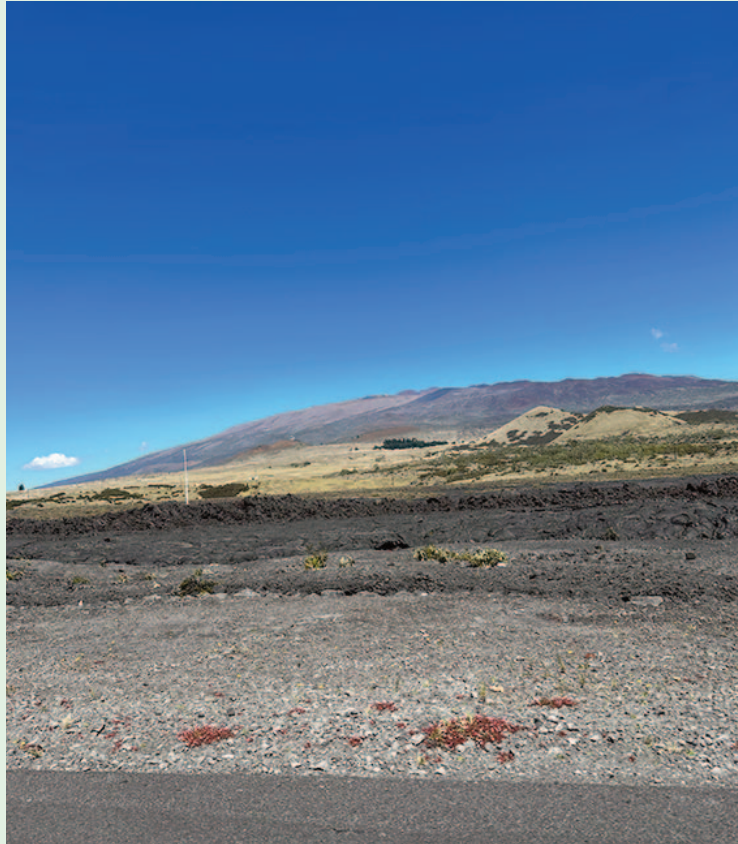
Lemurophoenix halleuxii (left) is irresistible! Here's a lovely New World palm (right) that flummoxed even the experts. Grown from seed collected by Jerry, oblivious to the machete wielding guides nearby, in Colombia.



IPS Director Gregg Hamann with his namesake cycad, *Zamia hamannii*. Photo by Dr. Cindy Adair.

BIENNIAL EPILOGUE-KONA

The drive from Hilo to Kona traverses the the saddle road, at 6000 feet elevation, between Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa. Ironically, Mauna Loa, the world's largest active volcano, erupted just six weeks later. It was the first eruption since 1984.



THE CLOUD FOREST, KONA

Our first stop was a much anticipated visit with long-time IPS director Norm Bezona at the Cloud Forest. Norm's dalliance with the Palm Society (as it was then known) dates to the year of our founding, 1956, when he began corresponding with Dent Smith. Norm became a member in 1961 and, well, I'll let Norm explain: "I was involved with their regular meetings and spent all the time I could at Fairchild Gardens. Dr. David (Fairchild) was my hero and shaped the rest of my life! I met many amazing folks like Dr. Hal Moore, Mrs. Fairchild, Dr. Natalie Uhl, Dent Smith and many others. I remember well the trip to Colombia with the Palm Society (Ed. note: 1974, led by Ken Foster) because it was a real adventure. Our group got lost while exploring the Calima River area for palms. Spent much of the night in pouring rain before we were found!"

The IPS last visited the Cloud Forest during the 2004 Hawaii biennial. At that time several *Pritchardia schattaueri* were planted. Returning alumni from that biennial eighteen years ago were delighted to revisit these now considerably larger trees (please see group photo below).



Norm Bezona (left), IPS member since 1961. Right: Our hosts, Voltaire and Norm (photo by Dr. Cindy Adair). Below: Small group photo beneath several well grown *Pritchardia schattaueri*, planted by the IPS during the 2004 biennial. (photo by Dr. Cindy Adair)





The bright red, long and unbranched inflorescence of *Laccospadix australasicus* in the Cloud Forest.

DEAN OUER'S GARDEN, KONA

As the moderator of the International Palm Society's most popular product, Palmtalk (nearly 5000 unique users in the last year alone), Dean Ouer is identified by the moniker "Dypsis-Dean." So it's really no surprise that he has a superlative collection of that genus. And let's face it, "Chrysalidocarpus-Dean" is just not quite as snappy.



So we will start with a *Dypsis*, *Dypsis marojejyi*. The "mad-fox" with the mad-mod(erator) himself!

Now a parade of Dypsidinae: Below left, *Chrysalidocarpus mananjarensis* (the "mealy bug palm"), inset petiole detail. Below right, *Dypsis rosea*, please note the light pink crownshaft peeking between tropical foliage.





Chrysalidocarpus basilongus with its pendulous basal leaflets.

Chrysalidocarpus ambostrae (below).



Chrysalidocarpus lastellianus.

MORE COLORFUL CROWNSHAFTS

Euterpe oleracea var. "black crownshaft."

Below, *Euterpe* "orange crownshaft."



Euterpe catinga.



A pair of perfectly grown *Dictyocaryum la-marckianum* (pale, blue-gray crownshafts) along with *Areca macrocalyx* (reddish crownshaft).

Pinanga "blue fruit."



The "red" *Marojejya darianii*.

A pair of *Loxococcus rupicola*.

Calyptrocalyx albertisianus with an emergent red leaf (below).



A variegated *Philodendron*.



Final Biennial note: I hope newsletter readers have enjoyed this multi-part photographic survey of the exceptional palms (and the even more remarkable members) of the Hawaii Island Palm Society (HIPS). Even those of us not fortunate to live in the Hawaiian Islands would benefit from a HIPS membership. Their newsletter, Pritchardia, is superb, and their activities (e.g., the annual palm auction, garden tours, and educational programs) are out of this world.

[Hawaii Island Palm Society](#)

Please consider joining today:

[Hawaii Island Palm Society - Join us](#)



New IPS Benefactors

We are happy to welcome the following new IPS Benefactors:

- Mr. Elvis Cruz, Florida**
- Dr. Larry Noblick, Florida**
- Mr. Bill Sanford, California**
- Mr. Michael Valentine, Colorado**



Become an IPS Benefactor

IPS Benefactor one-time dues will increase to \$5000 on January 1, 2024.

If you love palms and wish to support the International Palm Society's mission of research, education, and conservation, this would be an ideal time to become an IPS Benefactor. Benefactor benefits include lifetime membership, our journal *Palms*, the webinar library, and invitations to small group travel (led by noted experts) to very desirable and exotic palm habitats. Furthermore, benefactors will typically be invited to attend the board of directors midterm meetings (e.g., Peru 2025) which occur in the years between Biennials.

A Benefactor membership is currently \$2500 but will be raised to \$5000 effective January 1, 2024. So now is the time! Moreover, if you are already a lifetime member, a one-time donation of \$1500 prior to December 31 will make you a Benefactor member, a level of support we hope you will strongly consider.

Travel with the IPS

The International Palm Society's 33rd Biennial destination: NEW CALEDONIA in 2024 (Southwestern Pacific Ocean)

Sunday, September 22 to Monday September 30, 2024 (8 days!).

Capacity 150.

Expected to sell-out.

Registration tentatively opens late August, 2023.

Organizers have worked tirelessly to arrange a once-in-a-lifetime itinerary that includes access to palm-rich areas normally off limits to island visitors. Mark your calendars and watch this space for further information.

"I have so many great memories of the 2000 [New Caledonia] Biennial, where not only did we see fantastic palms, but also the sensational non-palm flora of the island and the astonishing beauty of the landscape." John Dransfield



Parting Shots

Appropriately, the unforgettable 2022 Hawaiian Islands biennial ended with a true green flash sunset off the Kona coast (photo by Gregg Hamann).



Parting Shots

The last glimpse of native Loulu at Kona airport before departure home.

