

The Florida/
Caribbean Chapter
of the ABS



The Florida Bamboo News

Volume 9 Issue 1

February 2004

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Dragonfly on shoot tip of a true Dragon's Nest—*B. disseminator*

Sunset Celebration Bamboo Artist to Present at FTG

Madek (Marek) Porembski - a fixture in Mallory Square, Key West, FL- will present his original bamboo artwork at the next meeting of the FCC/ABS Feb. 21 at 2:00 PM at Fairchild Tropical Garden, Miami. Madek will discuss and demonstrate techniques he uses to create unique items from bamboo. He is an island native of beautiful Key West. His designs reflect the tropical island surroundings of Key West and have a definite mystical influence inspired by Australia Aboriginal tribal art and ritual of all indigenous people on the planet. Madek's work in bamboo began with the making of didgeridoos. From this initial project sprang drums, flutes, incense burners, pipes and fountains, all made from the unused bamboo scraps. He originally painted designs on the instruments he created, now carving directly on to the skin of the bamboo. The design is then emphasized with the flame of a blow torch. More details can be found at <http://www.bamboodastudios.com>



Bamboo Incense Burners

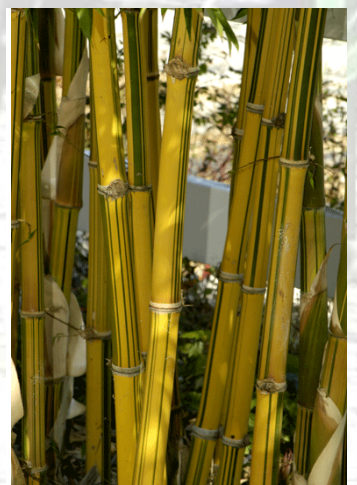
Photogenic Bamboo—Images Shared by Chuck Theroux of Bountiful Earth



B. eutuldoides viridi-vittata



B. chungii



B. pervariabilis viridistriata

2004 ABS Annual Meeting:

- Huntington Gardens, California October 13th-16th
- Join us in California for an unforgettable bamboo-experience!

FCC/ABS Treasurer's Report—2003

The Florida/Caribbean Chapter of the ABS experienced many challenges and changes in 2003. The chapter was reorganized in the first quarter and hosted the ABS Annual meeting with Fairchild Tropical Garden in October. Our regular meetings and workdays were both fun and informative.

The expenses were unusually high in two areas— the Oct. ABS meeting and Newsletters/Postage. The newsletter that preceded the meeting was an extended edition and 1400 copies were printed and mailed to the entire ABS membership. Obviously, these two expenses were due to a special circumstance. Our budget for 2004 will be discussed at the first membership meeting, Feb. 24—2:00 PM, at Fairchild Tropical Garden.

This year, the Annual June Show & Sale will be a two day event. Already our largest single source of income, the June Sale should now add a bit more to our chapter's income.

We're still discussing a second Bamboo Show & Sale for the Central Florida area. Check the newsletters' calendar and the FCC/ABS website Events Page for updates. (www.tropicalbamboo.org/events.html)

Cash On Hand	
Beginning Balance 01 April 2003.....	\$3700
Income	
Membership.....	1280
June Sale.....	4429
Newsletter Ads.....	405
ABS Seed Money for Annual Meeting.....	1000
Total Income.....	\$10,814
Expenses	
Annual Meeting.....	\$5108
Newsletters/postage.....	4101
Workdays.....	123
Refreshments for meetings.....	194
Office Supplies.....	394
Non-Profit Corp Filing Fee/2004.....	150
Total Expenses.....	\$10,070
Approximate Balance Beginning 2004.....	\$744

Marcotting bamboo—an often ignored propagation method

I am often asked questions about propagation of tropical bamboo species and, occasionally, someone asks about air-layering. The procedure I use (marcotting) involves growing new roots on a small unwounded branch that is still attached to a tree. Air-layering requires that a wound is made to a branch or stem of a plant and the wound is wrapped in rooting medium until roots form.

It is not often easy to encourage root formation from the nodes of happily-growing, uncut bamboo culms. I don't waste time arbitrarily wrapping nodes on every clump in the nursery. I do, however, keep a lookout for any 'volunteer' roots forming at the branch bases. As I walk down the rows of bamboo, especially after periods of heavy rain, it's not unusually to see what I call caterpillar feet—little white roots— where the branches meet the culm. Within a few days, these root tips will dry up so the window of opportunity is small. I simply wrap the entire node with a propagation medium contained by polyethylene film. Sometimes, an irrigation drip line is secured to ensure the medium stays moist. After three or four weeks, the assembly is unwrapped and the branch/root cluster is severed from the culm. These are potted up and, depending on the amount of developed roots, the success rate is extremely high.

Robert Saporito—FCC/ABS President



Unwrapped root-mass on *B. chungii*
—ready to be removed.

Renew your FCC/ABS Membership

As tropical clumping bamboo continues to be discovered in the Southern U.S., its popularity has never been higher. Make sure you renew your FCC/ABS membership to ensure you don't miss any of the exciting developments in the chapter as well as the tropical bamboo world.

For the first time, you can choose an FCC/ABS-only membership for just \$15.00 annually. Other ABS chapters have been accepting chapter-only membership and it has been suggested that we do the same. With a chapter-only membership you will not receive the ABS Bamboo Magazine, the ABS Source List, Membership List, or the Scientific Journal. If these publications are of no interest to you but you enjoy the FCC/ABS newsletters and events, the chapter-only membership might be an option.

For chapter-only memberships, we cannot process credit cards. Payment must be made by check.

Nancy Bess to Present at Morikami

Bamboo in Japanese Culture Wednesday, April 28, 2004

Bamboo contributes to every aspect of Japanese life, from entertainment to religion, from disposable goods to family treasures. One can say that bamboo's presence in Japan is so pervasive that hardly a day goes by, anywhere in the country, without interaction with bamboo. Slides taken from 15 years of artist and author **Nancy Moore Bess'** research in Japan will illustrate the historic place of bamboo as reflected in design, art, language, literature, gardens, toys, kitchen ware, and ritual objects.

Morikami Museum & Japanese Gardens

4000 Morikami Park Road
Delray Beach, FL 33446

**Only
\$40 per
year!**

With your FCC/ABS membership, you'll receive four quarterly chapter newsletters as well as the quarterly **ABS Bamboo Magazine**.



Don't miss our informative & fun meetings, events, & activities!

FCC/ABS Sign-Up Form

- 1-year ABS & FCC Membership \$40.00
- 3-year ABS & FCC Membership \$110.00
- 1-year FCC-ONLY Membership \$15.00

Total: _____

Method of Payment

- Check
- Visa
- MasterCard

Name

Address

Phone

Credit Card #

Exp. date

Signature

The Florida/Caribbean Chapter of the ABS

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We're on the web!
www.tropicalbamboo.org

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 Term expires in 2005
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 Reprint of Ad missing in the Aug03 issue



Guadua angustifolia Bicolor

2004 FCC/ABS Events

Feb. 21, 2004—2:00 PM

Meeting—FTG Miami:

Bamboo Art/Craft Presentation

March 27, 2004

Workday—Brevard Ext. Office

April 17, 2004—2:00 PM

Meeting /Workday—FTG Miami

April 28, 2004

Nancy Bess /Morikami-Delray, FL

June 12 & 13, 2004

Bamboo Show & Sale - FTG Miami

Aug 22, 2004

Workday—Deerfield Arboretum

Sept 25, 2004

BBQ at Tropical Bamboo Nursery

Nov. 13th, 2004

Meeting TBA—FTG Miami

Nov 21, 2004

Workday—Homestead Ext Office