

Membership Benefits

The Palm Society of Southern California (PSSC) is a non-profit volunteer organization and is an affiliate of the International Palm Society, Inc (IPS). Dedicated to the hobby of growing palms in southern California, its mission is to promote education regarding palm's physical characteristics, cultivation, development, propagation, conservation, research and promotion.

Palm Journals

One year of full color Palm Journals: An international contribution of horticultural articles, specific information on how particular species grow in southern California, landscaping ideas, relived travel and expedition experiences, where to find the palms from great growers, companion plants that complement palms, book reviews, and much, much more. The Palm Journal thoroughly covers one genus, area or topic per issue, making it an invaluable set of reference booklets. Back issues are still available for many issues.

Newsletters

Six per year: Providing locally oriented news and announcements from the president, a recap of the last meeting, announcement of the next bimonthly meeting and other upcoming events, The Palm Chef, horticulture column, and much more.

Website

Our website at: www.palmssc.org is designed to facilitate knowledge of palms and give you easy access to information about the PSSC. We show many of the gardens we have visited (meetings page) so you can see what can grow in these communities and what combination of plantings would work for you. More photographs and information on palms will be given in time. The purchase of membership, books, and banquets is available on-line through PayPal.

Meetings

Six outstanding bi-monthly meetings covering private and public gardens: These include viewing of member-host gardens in which palm selection and landscaping ideas may be found and/or guided tours of public and institutional gardens. Meetings are a great place to meet other palm enthusiasts and share growing experiences. If you have a question concerning palm horticulture, there will probably be someone at the meeting who has the answer. Most meetings include an informative talk on palms, an auction and raffle of rare palms and a potluck lunch.

Annual Banquets with Guest Speakers

A wonderful lunch gathering with invited guest speaker(s) of note. Our January meetings still include palm garden viewing, an auction and gathering of like minds, only this month we have an elegant meal together and a special lecture on palms. This is the only meeting reserved for members only.

Palm Seedbank

The PSSC accepts donations of palm seeds, prepares them for planting and then sells or auctions them at PSSC meetings.

Auctions and Palm Raffles

The best auctions in palm circles: You have to be a member to participate. A wide spectrum of selected palms and cycads grown in California are contributed by our grower members. This is an opportunity to get very good prices, and/or find very rare palms. All raffle plants are 100% donations.

IPS Bookstore

PSSC makes the IPS Bookstore convenient for you. It has a large collection of publications covering palms and cycads found throughout the world. Other than mail-order, these publications can be previewed and purchased only at our PSSC meetings. The PSSC web-site has the most extensive web page for the IPS Bookstore.

"Palms for Southern California" Handbook

A guide for Southern Californians of just about every palm that grows here: This booklet tells the size at maturity for California and specific growing needs including minimum temperatures and dry heat tolerance for every species. It is produced by our own members and sold on the PSSC web-site and at every meeting.

Palm Gardens

PSSC gives donations and support to public and private gardens you enjoy. PSSC has provided donations and planting stock to gardens like Huntington, Mathias at UCLA, Mile Square in Westminster, Vista Botanical Garden, Quail Botanical Garden, and many more over the years.

Palm Research Support

Covers a variety of subjects from transplanting methods, classification, growing, nutrition, disease, etc. Support is provided to PSSC supporters like Don Hodel and other authors of note.

Palm Conservation

Many palms are extinct or endangered in the wild. Those who grow rare palms to maturity will be helping with the survival of these palms on our planet. The Palm Society of Southern California will help you learn which palms are endangered, what will grow in your area, and how to find and grow them.

Educating the Public

The sum total of all the above equals greater palm awareness. Not only will joining the Palm Society of Southern California give you knowledge of palms, but you will be helping in letting Southern Californians know there are hundreds of palm species that will grow here. Appreciation of the beauty of each species develops from there. Eventually the public will have more knowledge of palms and more beautiful palm gardens will be planted.