

Volunteer Views

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FRIENDS OF FAIRCHILD NEWSLETTER • JANUARY 2012 • VOL 32 ISSUE 1

ALL THINGS ORCHID

Beautiful, exotic, displaying an incredible variety of colors, shapes, sizes and fragrances, orchids have captivated the imagination and fascinated people for centuries. At Fairchild, we are preparing for our own wave of orchidmania as the Garden's new partnership with the American Orchid Society (AOS), announced this past November, begins to take shape. The AOS' outstanding orchid collection will be integrated into the Garden's collections, and Fairchild members will have access to new orchid information through AOS classes and seminars. Countless numbers of visitors will have an opportunity to view and learn about this largest and most diverse of the flowering plant families.

At one time, orchids were enjoyed mainly by the wealthy and well-connected who were known to commission orchid collecting expeditions to search for rare, one-of-a-kind specimens in remote parts of the world. Today, orchids are available to and enjoyed by millions thanks, in part, to the work of the AOS whose mission of education, conservation and research parallels Fairchild's own. So who exactly is the AOS?

Founded in 1921, the AOS currently has 10,000 members and 600 affiliated societies around the world including groups in South Florida, one of which meets regularly at Fairchild. From its earliest days, the AOS has organized orchid exhibitions all over the country, and in 1949 instituted the highly respected orchid judging system, still in use today, which established the criteria for judging orchids of superior quality. The AOS also publishes the esteemed *Orchids* magazine, which provides comprehensive, up-to-



Art by Sarah Jane McMillan

date orchid information to its readership. The AOS' long-time commitment to orchid education, conservation and orchid habitat conservation combined with Fairchild's excellence in horticulture and

plant conservation will offer many opportunities for a cross-pollination of information, ideas and research between the two organizations. This exchange will further enhance Fairchild's important science education for students and visitors alike. Local orchid growers are also excited that the AOS-Fairchild partnership will strengthen Miami's role as a center of all things orchid.

The anticipated 2012 opening of the DiMare Science Village with the Joyce and M. Anthony Burns Science Building, the Jane Hsiao Laboratories and The Clinton Family Conservatory will provide an outstanding research facility and a fantastic venue to showcase the AOS orchid collection—including Fairchild's 83 acres—in what promises to be a spectacular combination of science and botanical art. We are looking forward to lots of exciting changes in the year ahead!

FRIENDS OF FAIRCHILD FIELD TRIP TO FRUIT AND SPICE PARK

Join the Friends of Fairchild, Wednesday, February 8 for a tour of the Fruit and Spice Park, 24801 SW 187th Avenue, Homestead, 9:00 a.m.-noon.

The Fruit and Spice Park is a 37-acre tropical botanic garden laid out by geographical regions which features over 500 varieties of vegetables, spices, herbs, nuts and fruits. Chris Rollins, director since 1981, will lead a tram tour of the Park grounds. The tour is free for Fairchild volunteers. Volunteers may wish to stay at the conclusion of the tour to enjoy lunch at the Park's Mango Café. The café will offer a choice of box lunches to Fairchild volunteers for a fee of \$10.00 (see form).

All volunteers attending the field trip must fill out the reservation form and send it to Caryl Chassman at 8340 S.W. 151 Street Miami, Florida 33158. If you have questions, you may also call Caryl at 305.253.1207.

To reserve a box lunch, please select your choice on the form below. Checks should be made out to FTBG in the amount of \$10.00. Mail reservation form and check to Caryl by January 31. Space is limited.

FRUIT & SPICE PARK FIELD TRIP RESERVATION FORM

NAME _____

PHONE: _____



Lunch choice (please check one): Turkey club Tuna Salad wrap Thai chicken salad with peanut dressing.
Drink choice (Please check one): Iced tea Lemonade.
All lunches come with chips and fresh baked cookie.
Include \$10.00 for lunch. Please RSVP by January 31.

FAIRCHILD AT NIGHT

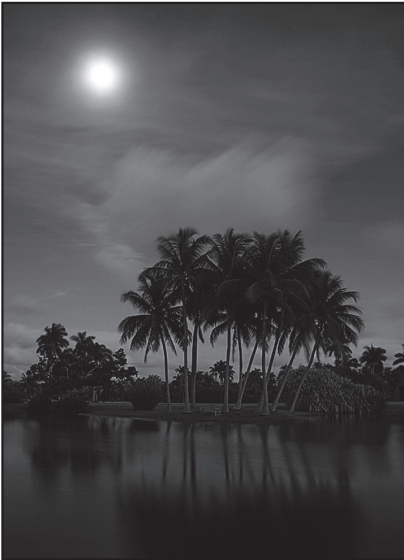


Photo by Pedro Lastra

This year Fairchild will be offering evening programming, *Thursday Nights at Fairchild*, 7:00-9:00 p.m. from January-April. Leaders of Miami's arts community including Martin Margulies, Founder of the Margulies Collection, Bonnie Clearwater, Director of MOCA and others will give talks about their respective collections and museums. Rodney Snyder, Research Director for Mars, Inc. will kick off the Chocolate Festival with a talk entitled, "Chocolate is American History". In the weeks that follow, look for lectures by Gaby Orihuela, Fairchild's Visitor Experience and Exhibits Manager, author and naturalist, Roger Hammer, Fairchild's International Conservation Officer, Melissa Abdo and Dan Kimble, Superintendent of Everglades National Park. Moonlight tours are scheduled once each month, January-

April. Lectures and moonlight tours are free for Fairchild members. Fairchild volunteers may purchase passes (\$5 each) in the Volunteer department to be used at night events. For detailed information about lectures, times and locations, see Fairchild's website, www.fairchildgarden.org or visit the Information Desk in the Visitor Center.

DID YOU KNOW?

In December 2011, we had 13,000 visitors. Of those 13,000, more than 7000 people took a Fairchild tram tour and more than 350 took a walking tour. Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who help to interpret the Garden for Fairchild visitors!

MUSIC, MOVIES AND MORE LECTURES

Besides the great line-up of Thursday night programs, Fairchild will present a Sunday afternoon concert series featuring student musicians from UM's Frost School of Music. Sunday Sounds are scheduled at 1:00 p.m. from January-April (except during festivals). Or join us for a classic 80's film during Fairchild's movie nights scheduled in February and March. Looking for some lunch-time learning? Bring your lunch to Fairchild for a noon lecture on January 31. Brandi Reddick from Miami-Dade's Department of Cultural Affairs will discuss the role of public art in Miami. More lunch programs to follow. See Fairchild's website for more information.

IN MEMORIAM



Fairchild staff and volunteers mourn the recent deaths of two volunteers. **Dr. Leonard Greenfield**, a dedicated and beloved volunteer

who worked in the Herbarium for six years, passed away on October 13. Leonard's passion for teaching and learning were evident in his outstanding work at the Garden.

Ludmila Freedland, a devoted volunteer for 14 years, passed away on October 23. Ludmila's many interests and wide-range of talents were applied in many areas of the Garden, and she could often be found in the Herbarium, sewing and repairing irreplaceable herbarium specimens. Each has left their mark in an important way at the Garden and will be missed by their friends and colleagues.

FRIENDS OF FAIRCHILD



FRIENDS OF FAIRCHILD

Volunteers who give or are committed to giving 30 hours of service to Fairchild each year are members of the Friends of Fairchild. Friends are invited to participate in monthly meetings featuring lectures, a yearly field trip and the annual Volunteer Appreciation Brunch in March. Mark your calendars now for these upcoming programs:

Wednesday, February 8, 9:30 a.m. Field trip to Fruit and Spice Park, Homestead (*See information page 1*)

Wednesday, March 14, 10:15 a.m., Volunteer Appreciation Brunch, Garden House
Saturday, April 28, 8:00 a.m., Guided bird walk at Fairchild. Are you missing out on seeing birds in the Garden? Join Joe Barros, President of the Tropical Audubon Society for an early morning tour of Fairchild and see the birds and other wildlife which call the Garden home.

Wednesday, May 9, Coffee at 9:30 a.m., program at 10:00 a.m. Corbin A, Topic: TBA

SCARECROW WINNERS

Congratulations to the **Garden Groomers**, whose "Grim Groomer" won the 3rd annual Scarecrow Contest at Fairchild. A highlight of the Edible Garden Festival, all scarecrow entries were original, botanically-themed creations voted on by Fairchild visitors. This year's scarecrow prize was a \$100 gift certificate to Whole Foods which the Groomers used to prepare a great picnic celebration.



Pictured sitting (L-R): Maruchi Pando, Judy Stewart, Malotte Read, Sigrid McNeil. *Pictured standing (L-R):* Susan Heckerling, Valerie Joseph, Fairchild horticulturist Mike Freedman, Bud Read, Louise Bennett, Karen Alexander, Freda Tschumy and Pat Thompson

FAIRCHILD VOLUNTEER TRAINING PROGRAM



ORIENTATION TOURS

Orientation Tours are required for all new volunteers.

The next tours are being offered on Tuesday, January 31 and Saturday, February 11. Tours begin at 10:00 a.m. at the Lily Pond by the South Gate. The weekday tour includes a visit to the CTPC. **RSVP to 305.667.1651, ext. 3364.**

BASIC HORTICULTURE CLASSES

One of Fairchild's priorities is providing up-to-date information and useful gardening tips to both visitors and volunteers. Fairchild's Horticulture team has prepared a fantastic selection of horticulture classes with information for volunteers to use in their home gardens, when volunteering at Fairchild or to share with visitors. Priority registration is given to volunteers

working in horticulture, but classes are open to all volunteers. All classes will be held on Tuesdays in Corbin A, 1:30-3:30 p.m. (*unless otherwise noted*):

March 20: Plant Propagation by Seeds and Cuttings (Held at the nursery at the CTPC)

Learn how **Mary Collins, Fairchild's senior horticulturist, Marlon Rumble, nursery manager and Tiffany Lum, nursery horticulturist** propagate and grow wonderful plants for the Members Day and Spring Plant Sales.

March 27: Growing Bromeliads

Did you know that intentionally stressing bromeliads can lead to great results? Learn why from **Jason Lopez, Fairchild's living collections manager.**

April 3: Pruning

Richard Campbell, director of horticulture and senior curator for tropical fruit will demonstrate proper pruning techniques, an important skill for any serious gardener.

April 10: Palm Basics

Sara Edelman, palm and cycads manager, will teach you everything you need to know to successfully grow palms in South Florida.

April 17: Proper Fertilizing

Learning how and when to fertilize your plants is key to a healthy garden. **Noris Ledesma, curator of tropical fruit and Richard Campbell** will teach you what you need to know.

April 24: Plant Collections Documentation & the Home Garden Journal

Plant records are at the heart of Fairchild's work as a botanic garden. **Marilyn Griffiths, plant records manager,** will demonstrate why keeping records and journaling about your home garden can add another dimension to your gardening experience.

To register for Basic Horticulture classes, RSVP to Sandy, 305.667.1651, ext. 3324.

VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTIONS

67,863
VOLUNTEER HOURS

Fairchild volunteers share their time, talent and energy in countless ways to help the Garden grow, and we recognize and thank all of you for all you do. The numbers of hours given only tell part of the story. The real story is the exciting and meaningful future ahead for Fairchild made possible thanks to your dedicated participation as volunteers. From **September 1, 2010-August 31, 2011** volunteers gave 67,863 hours in the areas listed below:

Horticulture: (Aquatics, Butterfly, Conservatory, Early-Birds, Flower Garden, Groomers, Heliconia, Lakes, Native Habitat, Nursery, Palms, Plant Records, Plant Sales, Propagation, Rainforest, Special Projects, Vine Pergola, Weed Warriors, Weed Whisperers): **11,082**



Education: (Challenge, Discovery, Explorer, FAB, Office): **6,495**

Center for Tropical Plant Conservation: (Archives, Conservation, Herbarium, Library, Research): **5,167**

Garden Operations:

Visitor Services: Tram and Walking Tours **4,483**
Hosts and Shuttle **7,700**
Admissions, Information Desk, South Gate **4,801**
Member Services and Donor Relations, Shop **4,390**

SPECIAL EVENTS & FESTIVALS:

(Butterfly, Chocolate, Concerts, Dog Day, Edible Garden, Food & Garden, Mango, Ramble, Orchid, Teas): **16,697**

All other areas: (Fairchild Farm/Tropical Fruit, Friends of Fairchild, Office, Special Projects, Training Classes, Trustees): **7,048**

Thank you for all your amazing contributions Fairchild volunteers!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY

PLANT I.D. WORKSHOP, Fridays, February 3, and March 2, April 6, 1:00 p.m. Reserve online at www.fairchildgarden.org

PLANTS AND PEOPLE: *Tours For Those Living With Alzheimer's*, Mondays: January 23, February 11 & 27, March 12 & 26, April 16 at 11:30 a.m. RSVP to 305.667.1651 ext. 3388.

FAIRCHILD'S 6TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL FEATURING COFFEE AND TEA, Friday, Saturday & Sunday, January 20-22, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

SPLendor IN THE GARDEN: *Luncheon and Fashion Show*, Thursday, January 26, 11:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. For tickets contact: 305.667.1651, ext. 3375.

FAIRCHILD CHALLENGE: *Environmental Debates*, Saturday, January 28, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

NIGHT OF A THOUSAND PIXIES, Saturday, January 28, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

SUNDAY SOUNDS: *Presented by UM's Frost School of Music*, Sundays, January 29, February 5, 12, 19, 26, March 4, 18, 25, April 1, 8, 22, and 29, 1:00 p.m.

LUNCH-TIME LECTURE AT FAIRCHILD: Tuesday, January 31, 12:00 p.m., Corbin A. Brandi Reddick, Miami-Dade County, *Creating a Visual Legacy: New Public Art in Miami-Dade County*

FEBRUARY

GALA IN THE GARDEN – PARADISE FOUND, Saturday, February 4, 6:30 p.m.

*MOVIE NIGHT AT FAIRCHILD: *Sixteen Candles*, Friday, February 10, 6:30 p.m.

VALENTINE'S DAY CONCERT, Tuesday, February 14, 7:00 p.m. For tickets, call 305.667.1651 ext. 3358.

*MOVIE NIGHT AT FAIRCHILD: *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*, Friday, February 24, 6:30 p.m.

FAIRCHILD CHALLENGE: *Research Project Showcase*, Saturday, February 25, 1:30- 3:30 p.m.

**FIRST LADIES TEA, Sunday, February 26, 3:00 p.m.

MARCH

*MOVIE NIGHT AT FAIRCHILD: *Pretty in Pink*, Friday, March 2, 6:30 p.m.

FAIRCHILD'S 10TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL ORCHID FESTIVAL, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, March 9-11, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**ORCHID TEA ROOM, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, March 9-11, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

*MOVIE NIGHT AT FAIRCHILD: *Dirty Dancing*, Friday, March 16, 6:30 p.m.

*MOVIE NIGHT AT FAIRCHILD: *The Breakfast Club*, Friday, March 30, 6:30 p.m.

FAIRCHILD CHALLENGE PRESENTS: *YouthCaN Miami*, Saturday, March 31, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

APRIL

FOOD & GARDEN FESTIVAL FEATURING THE 33RD ANNUAL SPRING PLANT SALE, Saturday & Sunday, April 14-15, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

BROMELIAD SHOW & SALE, Saturday & Sunday, April 21-22, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**SPRING GARDEN TEA, Sunday, April 29, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

*\$10 for members; \$15 for non-members; \$8 for member child; \$10 for non-member child.

** Call 305.663.8059 for tickets and information. Teas are held at the Visitor Center Ballroom and Veranda.



Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden Mission Statement

We save tropical plant diversity through exploring, explaining and conserving the world of tropical plants; fundamental to this task is inspiring a greater knowledge and love for plants and gardening so that all can enjoy the beauty and bounty of the tropical world.

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Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

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