



# Tropical Fern & Exotic Plant Society, Inc. Newsletter

Volume 15, Issue 5

Editor: Reggie Whitehead May 2013

## April Meeting in Review

**Speaker- Jesse Durko**

**Topic:** Diversity in the Landscape.  
Meeting called to order at — 7:35 pm  
The Society acquired 12 new members from the recent sale at Fairchild Garden.

**Treasurer's report :** \$ 8751.69

The Fern Show and Sale is June 1 & 2; May 31 is the judging and judge's luncheon

**Hospitality-** Hospitality by *Emaryl Israel, Martha Bogaard, Rusty and Ellis Brown*; our new member *Lamar Sapp*

**Raffle** provided by—*Stelmar Nursery*  
Meeting ended at— 9:30 p.m.

*Marie Nock* introduced our speaker, *Jesse Durko*, who spoke about making a garden more interesting.

Jesse is owner of a nursery which bears his name, and specializes in unusual plants. Starting with a horticulture degree from Rutgers University, he worked for the UF Plant Introduction Service, and was Director of Flamingo Gardens nearby in Davie, Florida. He opened his nursery about 22 years ago, and travels widely in search of new plants. Jesse brought many interesting plants for sale to the program, several left with the members.

Jesse showed off some impressively grown specimens of plants he grows in his nursery. He sold many of his plants after the meeting. Among the interesting plants he showed were:

*Alocasia lutea*

*Solanum macranthum*

*Acalypha* (brilliantly colored plant)

*Salvia* species (*variegated*) with orange flowers

*Alstonia* species allied to *A. scholaris*

*Rosa 'Louis Philippe'*, a great landscape type of floribunda /semi-climbing rose

*Radermachera yunnanensis*-- the Kunming *Radermachera*

*Thunbergia 'Fairy Moon'*

*Michelia figo*- with its exquisite banana fragrance in the flowers

*Maniltoa grandiflora* — the Handkerchief Tree, with unusual pendant new foliage that looks like a wet handkerchief, followed by large white clusters of flowers.

One of Jesse's better points was that gardens evolve, whereas landscapes don't. Gardens change personalities, plants sometimes outgrow their areas. If you have plants which don't like being in one spot, move them and see if they like the new area.

There are so many types of plants available to plant and at such reasonable prices that there should be no reason that a landscape could go wanting for color, texture or diversity. Jesse went home with 2 or 3 plants, after arriving 2 hours earlier with half a truckload of specimens. It would be safe to say that we like it when vendors come to do a program, and allow us access to great plants.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Craig Morell, CPA  
Certified Plant Addict*

## Next Meeting, Monday, May 27

The Tropical Fern & Exotic Plant Society presents *Dr. Bruce McAlpin* who will speak on **Unusual Propagation for Uncommon Plants** on Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, in the Corbin Building.

This lecture/demonstration will share techniques that work for him in propagating such plants as **Platycteriums, Epiphyllums, Rhipsalis**, and different aroids. He will bring plants from his collection of rare tropical plants to sell at the end of his program.

The Raffle table will be donated by *Carol Palmer* and *Tim Anderson* (Palm Hammock) and *David McLean* (Trinity Churchside Gardens). Refreshments will be served. *See you there!*

## Annual Show and Sale Reminders

Here are some last minute reminders regarding our upcoming Show and Sale.

You may pick up plant entry cards at the May 27 meeting, or on May 30 when you bring your plants in.

All plants must be identified before they are entered for display. If you are unsure of the botanical name, someone will be there to help you on May 30.

All members are encouraged to participate in the display. Judging will be on a fair scale affording both the novice and seasoned grower a chance to win awards.

The success of this show depends on the generous nature of our members, who by the way made the past shows so successful.

All you will need to bring are your plants, we handle them from that point on. You will need to come back on Sunday after the show (around 4:30 p.m.) to collect your ribbons and plants.

Remember, we will begin accepting plants at 10 a.m. on Thursday, May 30. You may bring plants in, up until 7 p.m. that evening. **However, it would be extremely helpful for plants to arrive earlier in the day so that they may be properly placed in the display.** If you need help in getting a plant or plants to the garden, please let Show Coordinator, *Marnie Valent (305) 233-5929* know. We will try to accommodate all reasonable requests.

## Display Plants

If you are participating as a vendor,

*(Show and Sale continued on page 2)*

# The Tropical Fern & Exotic Plant Society, Inc.

## Officers for 2013

<b>President</b>	
Marnie Valent	(305) 233-5929
<b>Vice President</b>	
Marie Nock	(305) 232-2257
<b>Secretary</b>	
Craig Morell	(305) 667-1173
<b>Treasurer</b>	
Bob Benaim	(305) 793-9755
<b>Membership</b>	
Sherrin Smith	(305) 213-2598
<b>Hospitality</b>	
Martha Bogaards	(305) 661-2305
Emalyl Israel	(305) 235-0886
<b>Special Sales</b>	
Marie Nock	(305) 232-2257
<b>Librarian</b>	
Juan Espinosa-Almodovar	(305) 444-3103
<b>Raffle Table</b>	
Skye Palmer	(305) 595-9291
Argeo Hernandez	(305) 633-9099
<b>Webmaster</b>	
Bob Benaim	(305) 793-9755

Board of Directors will consist of the above officers and chairs; and the following individuals.

<b>Steve Forman</b>	(305) 662-2368
<b>Debbie Lamb</b>	(305) 251-8675
<b>Mike Twyford</b>	(305) 444-6332
<b>Reggie Whitehead</b>	(305) 613-5944

### Trinity Churchside Garden

*Landscape Design, Consulting;  
Medicinal, Weird, and Native Plants*

**DAVID MCLEAN**

14 S.W. 11 Street    Open Sat and Sun and by appointment    (954) 768-0423  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315    Just west of South Andrews Avenue

*The first Saturday of each month is a special day!*

SHERRIN A. SMITH (Miami Native)  
PLANT, PET, AND HOUSE SITTING; Personal Assistance  
305 213-2598 Phone    305 668-4622 Fax  
E-mail: sas56chevy@aol.com



#### Mounting Plaques

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Pressure Treated Lumber

12" x 12" - \$ 7.00

15" x 15" - \$ 10.00

18" x 18" - \$ 13.00

21" x 21" - \$ 16.00

24" x 24" - \$ 20.00

Contact – Bob Benaim, 305-793-9755 or  
staghomrescue@gmail.com

*(Show and Sale continued from page 1)*

your display plants also will need to be brought in on **Thursday, May 30, beginning at 10 a.m.** More information for vendors is covered in the vendor packets. (Since our vendor's plants will be an essential part of the display, it is imperative that these plants be at the Garden in a timely manner so that they may be incorporated into the design — your show designer will be extremely grateful for your help in this regard. Other member's display plants should also be brought in during this period.) If you are a member and are interesting in selling as a vendor, you will need to contact **Vivian Waddell**, (vcwaddell@yahoo.com).

### Selling Plants — Member's Table

Members wishing to sell through the Member's Table will be able to bring their plants in on Friday, May 31 and Saturday morning, June 1 **before** 9 a.m. Members may bring in up to 30 plants per day.

Your plants **MUST** be double tagged. One tag will go to the cashier (**please mark your tag with your initials**) and one tag remains with the plant. *Remember to include the price of the plant on both tags.*

The society collects 15% of your sales. Members participating on the Member's Table will be mailed a check from our Treasurer, shortly after the weekend sale.

### Volunteers

On Friday, May 31, volunteers, are of course invited to attend our Appreciation Luncheon. If you would like to bring something for the Appreciation Luncheon, please contact either **Emalyl Israel** (305) 235-0886 or **Martha Bogaards** (305) 661-2305.

Our luncheon will be from **12 – 1 p.m.** prior to judging of the show.

The society will need volunteers to help with the show and sale. There will be a sign-up sheet at the May meeting, or contact **Marnie Valent** (305) 233-5929 if you are interested in volunteering on Show Weekend. Do not forget to tell family and friends, as well as *strangers* about our beautiful annual show and sale.

**Welcome New Members**

Buck & Karun Buckley 26200 S. W. 187 Avenue Redland, FL 33031-1782 (305) 951-1796	Maria Dolores & Alphonse Hayeck 6815 S. W. 73 Court Miami, FL 33143 302-323-9705 lolishayeck@gmail.com	Bill Tuer 205 Bent Tree Drive Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418 (561) 401-2490 William.tuer@gmail.com
Caroline Dickinson 713 Navarre Avenue Coral Gables, FL 33134 (305) 951-1452 dickinsoncarolin@bellsouth.net	Eric Martinez 10473 S. W. 55 Street Miami, FL 33165 (305) 726-9020 flfireman1@gmail.com	Dr. Robert E. Walsh 415 Alhambra Circle Coral Gables, FL 33134 (954) 873-8083 bosquie1997@yahoo.com
Mark Friedrich 12938 25th Street Loxahatchee, FL 33470 (561) 790-3789 maf131@aol.com	Jill Menzel 10 Edgewater Drive, 9G Coral Gables, FL 33133 (305) 669-1837	
Linda Geyer 1342 Polk Street Hollywood, FL 33019 (954) 661-3613 geyerred@comcast.net	Mark & Deidre Peters 18 Danzar Ft. Pierce, FL 34951 (772) 240-2811 peterscrotonnursery@gmail.com	

**Raffle Table for May**

May 27 ..... *Palm Hammock Orchid Estate*  
 ..... *Trinity Churchside Garden*

**Tropical Fern & Exotic Plant Society  
 P.O. Box 902094  
 Homestead, FL 33090-2094**

\_\_\_ Individual Member \$15.    \_\_\_ Household Membership \$17.  
 \_\_\_ Life Membership \$125.    \_\_\_ Life Household Membership \$150.  
 (Yearly dues are for calendar year - January - December)

This is for a New Membership: \_\_\_ or for Renewals: \_\_\_

**Member's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of additional member:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip + 4:** \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_

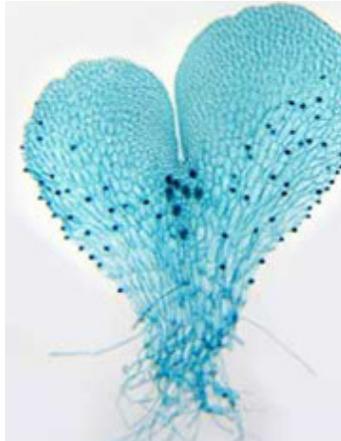
**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Amount enclosed: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

# Going GaGa Over Ferns

by John Banta

It seems that Duke University botany department really likes the music of Gaga. Kathleen Pryer, a Duke biology professor and director of the Duke herbarium, believes that Lady Gaga should be honored with the naming of a number of ferns newly discovered in Central America. *Gaga germanotta* from Costa Rica and *Gaga monstraparis* found in Mexico. The Costa Rican species uses Lady Gaga's original family name, **Germanotta**, as the species epithet. The team from Duke is reassigning



a number of species in the genus, **Cheilanthes**, into the genus, **Gaga**, based upon DNA analysis. A curious coincidence during the DNA work, a defining stretch of the DNA had a sequence of the following nucleotides, guanine, adenine, guanine, adenine would be written in the epigenetic shorthand as GAGA.

*(Fern gametophyte resembling one of Lady Gaga's interesting costumes.)*

**Next Meeting, Unusual Propagation for Uncommon Plant, Dr. Bruce McAlpin, Monday, May 27, 7:30 p.m**

*Tropical Fern & Exotic Plant Society, Inc.  
6880 S. W. 75 Terrace  
South Miami, FL 33143*

