



Dade Chapter

TILLANDSIA

Newsletter of the Dade Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society, Inc.
- For Miami-Dade County and the Florida Keys -

JANUARY 2023

MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, January 24, 2023, 7:30 PM
Pinecrest Gardens, 11000 SW 57 Ave. (Red Road), Miami
Free and open to all!

“Introduction to Drawing Leaves” - Margie Bauer, local artist

Have you ever wanted to quickly capture a plant for future reference? Have you ever tried to identify a plant not in bloom? Have you ever thought about expressing your wonder of an interesting plant on paper?

In this “no experience necessary” art and plant ID lesson, you will learn how to make a quick rubbing of a leaf which you can use to id the plant better AND, by transferring the image onto drawing paper to make a beautiful piece of art. This process helps us appreciate so many details of a leaf that we may not have noticed before such as overall leaf shapes, leaf margins, tips and bases, vein arrangements and more!



We encourage you to bring a fresh leaf of your choosing with veins that you can feel and that can fit onto a 9”x 12” paper, a sharpened pencil and drawing paper. **However, we will have plenty of leaves on hand as well as pencils, paper and the other supplies.** If you have a field

sketchbook, please bring it for the rubbing and/or transfer. Reference books will be available to peruse.

Local artist Margie Bauer began her art career with classes at



Fairchild Botanical Garden. She teaches botanical illustration, Zendoodle and mixed media. She volunteers for the Million Orchid Project at the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden and teaches Zendoodle through the University of Miami’s OLLI program. Margie’s work conveys the beauty, fragility and strength of nature, especially our native flora and fauna. She is a longtime member of FNPS.

Margie@tropicalbotanicart.com,

www.tropicalbotanicartists.com, @Natures_Art_by Margie

• **Come early or stay late** to socialize and browse the merchandise and raffle. The raffle follows the program.

Calendar

<https://dade.fnpschapters.org/events/>

Jan. 24 (Tue.): Monthly meeting

Jan. 29 (Sun.): Field trip **** Space limited, please register ****

Feb. (TBA): Chapter workday at Everglades National Park

Other fall events of interest

Jan. 16: Everglades NP [free entrance](#) -Martin Luther King Day

Jan. 17: Native Plant Workshops in [Dade](#) and the Keys

Jan. 16, Feb. 6: Environmentally Endangered Lands [workdays](#)

Jan. 11 & 14, [Broward Chapter](#) FNPS meeting and field trip

Feb. 5: [Miami Blue](#) NABA (repeat of Nov. DCFNPS program)

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- ◆ January meeting ◆ January field trip (Zoo Miami Pineland)
- ◆ Native Plant Day, March 25, 2023
- ◆ Everglades Complex WMA: Management Advisory Group Meeting - By Gwen Burzycki and Riki Bonnema
- ◆ More announcements, things to do and read

(Refreshments are still on hold.)

• **Thank you for your raffle contributions** (native plants, plant-related books, etc.)! **Please (please please!) label each plant with at least the common name on paper or tape** (more info is welcome).

• **Online viewing (TBA):** We are working to determine whether this program can be effectively livestreamed through our YouTube channel. We will let you know before the meeting date. Or check the calendar at <https://dade.fnpschapters.org/events/>.

• **Questions?** Email DadeFNPS@gmail.com, text 305-985-3677

• **February 28: *Special Flora, Fauna and Places Seen on Recent Chapter Field Trips*** - Lydia Cuni (postponed from September)

• **Past presentations:** Use the YouTube link above or from DadeFNPS.org. **Click on Videos** for all available recordings.

We apologize for our inability to livestream our November 22 program “**How the Connect To Protect Network Helps the Fragmented, Endangered Pine Rocklands**” by Daniela Champney. Unforeseeable circumstances forced us to find last minute accommodations, leaving no time to set up the livestream. We do not see this mishap occurring again!

But luckily, Daniela will present this program again to the Miami Blue Chapter of the North American Butterfly Association (NABA) on **February 5 at 1 p.m.** in-person at Miami-Dade College Kendall Campus and live-streamed. Details will be posted soon at <https://miamiblue.org/>

FIELD TRIP: Pineland at Zoo Miami
Sunday, January 29, 2023
Pineland at Zoo Miami

*** *The trip is free but registration is necessary* ***

Attendance is capped by the zoo at 20, so only FNPS members may attend. Email Steve Woodmansee (steve@pronative.com) to reserve.

Time, address and directions are in the newsletter mailed to members. Please join to enjoy all the activities of the chapter!

Zoo Miami contains over 250 acres of Globally Imperiled pine rockland plant community, and it is part of the Richmond Pine Rockland Tract, which is a relatively contiguous tract of natural areas with multiple owners. [The Institute for Regional Conservation](#) lists Zoo Miami as having over 201 native plant taxa, of which 8 are listed as Globally Imperiled in South Florida, 10 are listed as Endangered in Florida, and 20 are listed as Threatened in Florida. We will visit 40 acres or so of recently burned pine rockland located in the northwestern corner of the Zoo. This pineland is outside of the Zoo Miami attraction. If you want to go there afterwards, you will need to pay to enter.

Leaders: Lydia Cuni and Sonya Thompson. Lydia is the DCFNPS secretary and a biologist for Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden. Sonya is a biologist for Miami-Dade County who oversees management of Zoo Miami's natural areas and others.

Difficulty: **Moderate**, there may be some fire breaks, but there may also be walking over rough, rocky terrain. There will be quite a bit of walking, possibly 2 miles.

Bring/wear: Sturdy shoes, bug protection (just in case), sun protection, and water. Consider a walking stick for extra stability, binoculars for birding, and small bag for trash pickup.

Notes: There are **restrooms at businesses nearby**.

If you are late, you might not be able to join the group as you may not enter the pine rockland area unescorted.

Pets are not allowed on our field trips.

Get involved now!

25th ANNUAL NATIVE PLANT DAY - March 25, 2023

Elaine Gordon Enchanted Forest Park in North Miami.

A full day of programs, nature walks, educational tables by organizations and agencies, plant and merchandise sales, raffles, activities for all ages, and plenty of networking and socializing.

● **Can you donate native plants for the chapter sale and raffle? We need lots!** Please pot up volunteers or step up plants as needed to donate in 4" to 3-gallon pots. **Please start ASAP so they are well-established in two months.** If you need pots or guidance on species or have questions, just ask! **We can arrange to pick up plants before the event if required.**

● Please share the date with friends, family, colleagues.
● Can you suggest presenters, organizations to set up a table, vendors, etc.? Want to find out how to help with the preparation? DadeFNPS@gmail.com or 305-985-3677.

● We will greatly appreciate your help that day or the day before for setup. If you are planning to (or might) volunteer, please let Brian Diaz know at briandiaz1210@gmail.com.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year to all our DCFNPS members! It's a quirky thing that the new year, a time representing new beginnings and renewed efforts towards positive life changes, should begin near the start of winter when people and nature are winding down for rest. Everything seems to be quieter, with trees and other plants slowing their growth, the weather getting (mostly slightly) cooler, and less activity from our beloved native wildlife. But here in South Florida, the activity doesn't stop completely! Everything from butterflies to bats, raccoons to overwintering migratory birds, are still out in our natural spaces and gardens searching for relatively scarce food and shelter.

And what forms the basis of this delicate food web? Our native plants, of course! Though they may need a bit more TLC (particularly initial watering), we don't have to stop planting natives in the winter and increasing that scarce food supply. To that end, we hope you are excited to join us for our upcoming programs, field trips, and plant raffles to learn more and acquire new native plants. Happy planting!

Give Miami Day. We are immensely grateful to the 59 donors, including members, friends and family, who donated \$4363, far exceeding our goal of \$2500! Reaching 40 donors, we received the maximum \$1000 match from the anonymous family who supported all organizations, who then doubled our \$1000 because of "a special love for small organizations." After the Bonus Pool addition and adjustments, the final total was **\$6395**.

Adding to the success were our amazing member Suzanne Koptur, who raised over \$1000 on her Champion Page, and board member Gwen Burzycki, whose Champion Page raised over \$500 to honor the late Don and Joyce Gann, founders of the Dade Chapter, to support FNPS Conservation Grant Awards.

A portion of these funds will also be used to support Native Plant Day and potentially other projects. We continue to promote the use of native plants in landscapes to support wildlife, enhance native biodiversity, reduce introduction of non-native pest plants and conserve water through our ongoing educational activities.

Many thanks to: Amy Atkins, Robert Aman, Douglas Barnes, Daniela Champney, Lydia Cuni, Karen Deleon, Brian Diaz, Kenneth Fairman, Arlene Ferris, Carmen Ferreiro, George Gann, Barbara Glaccum, Cynthia Guerra, Jose Gutierrez, Lynn Heyman, Charles Hibnick, Nan Imbesi, Martha Kent, Nancy Koptur, Suzanne Koptur, JoAnne Linardi, Hong Liu, John Palenchar, Stephen Pearson, Patricia Phares, Nancy Ponn, Jennifer Possley, Andrea Primoli, Marilyn Reidy, Donna Rich, Jennifer Richards, Alec Rodriguez, Lourdes Rodriguez, Jeanne Rothchild, Susan Salerno, Rainer Schael, Rebecca Smith, James Snyder, Scott Sutherland, Susan Walcutt, Linda Whitmyre, and 18 anonymous donors.

And thank you to the Miami Foundation and its supporters!

– **Brian Diaz, Dade Chapter FNPS President**



DADE CHAPTER and FNPS NEWS



Welcome new members!

Pedro Alberni, Katie Arsham, Cara Catlaw, Mary Chandler, Maria Garcia-Larrieu, Overton McGehee, Smarty Plants Nursery (<http://www.smartyplantsnursery.com/>)

DCFNPS Everglades National Park workdays. Every other

month on a Saturday, 9 AM-noon (Feb. date TBA). Help maintain our native landscape at the Ernest F. Coe Visitor Center. **Potential new volunteers:** Please contact Patty in advance (pharespl@gmail.com) for more details. Non-members and students can help, too! Known volunteers will receive updates by email. Read more in our online [calendar](#).

DCFNPS volunteers are invited to collaborate with the Connect To Protect Network (CTPN) at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden on occasional pineland projects in the urban area. It's a learning opportunity and easy. For information or notices about these or other future CTPN+DCFNPS volunteer opportunities, contact ConnectToProtect@FairchildGarden.org. Tell the CTPN leader Daniela Champney you are with DCFNPS.

FNPS publications

• The latest *Palmetto* magazine (Vol. 38: No. 4) was sent by postal mail or email in December. Articles by Dade members include a spotlight on the Fairchild Conservation Team (by Raul Moas), and "Pigeonwings and Butterfly Peas" by Roger Hammer. Members can find many past *Palmetto* issues [here](#).

• *Sabal Minor* newsletter. <https://www.fnps.org/home> under resources. The Nov. 2022 – Jan. 2023 (Vol. 24, No. 3) includes

• "Poeppig's Rosemallow (*Hibiscus poeppigii*)" by Laurie Brooks, Dade Chapter member and Keys resident.

• FNPS Awards and Grants for 2023 (Research Grants, Conservation Grants, Dan Austin Award for Ethnobotany, Cornelia McNamara Grant to fund applied research).

Application deadline for the 2023 Awards is March 3, 2023.

The FNPS Annual Conference will be held as a virtual meeting, April 29 - 30, 2023, with weekend field trips statewide in May.

Paid advertising



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MORE NEWS and THINGS TO DO

Dade Native Plant Workshop - at the MDC Kendall Campus. nativeplantworkshop.ning.com/. A free public workshop every 3rd Tuesday, led by Steve Woodmansee. Novices and experts alike are welcome! **Jan. 17, 5 PM:** Onagraceae (Evening Primrose family). In South Florida we have only two genera in this family, *Ludwigia* and *Oenothera* (which now includes *Gaura*).

Florida Keys Native Plant Workshop (virtual meeting).

Jan. 17, 5:30 PM: Laurie Brooks presents on the Rubiaceae (Madder Family – Wild Coffee, Firebush, Gardenias, Pentas, etc). For more info: FKNPW@outlook.com.

Biscayne National Park's Beach Cleanup. Help prepare for sea turtle nesting season. Weekdays 8 AM-3 PM, now through April. Groups of 4-12 may register, ages 16+. For info or to sign up, email bisc_beach_cleanup@nps.gov.



If you would like to organize a group including DCFNPS members, please contact the editor at DadeFNPS@gmail.com to announce in *Tillandsia* (deadline 20th of each

month).

Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) workdays. Help and learn about our natural areas.

Jan. 16: Tropical Pineland Preserve in Olympia Heights

Feb. 6: County-Line Scrub Preserve

Pine Rockland Working Group webinar recordings.

<https://www.pinerocklandworkinggroup.org/archive-2022-webinars>. Fascinating presentations from the fall 2022 conference are **available to all**. Learn about pinelands and associated birds, butterflies, moths, tiger beetles, bats, gopher tortoises, microbiomes, history, restoration, management topics. Several DCFNPS members are presenters.

EVERGLADES COMPLEX WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA: MANAGEMENT ADVISORY GROUP MEETING

By Gwen Burzycki and Riki Bonnema

During the fall of 2022, DCFNPS was invited to contribute to and comment on the management plan for the Everglades Complex Wildlife Management Area (ECWMA). This group of conservation lands (Figure 1) consists of the Everglades and Francis S. Taylor Wildlife Management Area (Water Conservation Areas 2 and 3) plus the Holey Land and Rotenberger Wildlife Management Areas. It represents almost all of the existing Everglades south of Lake Okeechobee between the Everglades Agricultural Area and Everglades National Park. Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge is not included.

Management plans for all state-owned conservation lands greater than 1,000 acres are required, and must be reviewed and updated every 5 years. The State of Florida requires that there be input from local groups, including conservation, recreation, and other user groups who have an interest in these conservation lands. FNPS has coordinated with the State of Florida to let them know that our membership is interested in being involved, so when conservation land near us came up for management plan revision, DCFNPS was invited to participate in the Management Advisory Group (MAG) by the managing agency, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). Other FNPS chapters do this on a regular basis, and the Board felt it was important for our conservation voice to be heard to balance recreational interests, so Gwen and Riki volunteered to participate.

