



BONNET HOUSE

MUSEUM & GARDENS

A Property of the Florida Trust

The Newsletter

January - March 2015



Bonnet House and the 1926 Hurricane

Saluting EDSA and Joe Lalli

Preparations Underway for
Impressions: A Juried Art Exhibit

From the CEO

Saluting EDSA and Joe Lalli

Bonnet House Museum & Gardens has been blessed for many years to have, as our pro-bono partner, EDSA. Based in Fort Lauderdale, EDSA is a well-respected international landscape architecture and planning firm with satellite offices in Baltimore, Orlando, the Middle East, and China. Beginning with Ed Stone, founder of EDSA, the firm has provided Bonnet House with advice on many matters including long range planning for capital improvements, the replication of Frederic Bartlett's design of the Desert Garden, and the design for the South Gate project. Over the years, many EDSA partners have served on the Bonnet House Board. They include Ed Stone, Doug Coolman, Scott Lamont, and Joe Lalli.

Ed Stone knew Evelyn Bartlett before her property became a museum. He told me a funny story about being invited to dinner parties where he would be Mrs. Bartlett's escort for the evening (a frequent invitation). Ed was asked by his friends how it felt to date someone in the triple digits, as Mrs. Bartlett was by then in her 100s!

Ed's service on the board in the 1980s and 1990s came at a critical time in the development of what would become Bonnet House Museum & Gardens. He was very involved in the planning of turning a private residence into a museum. It must have been a very interesting time to be involved with Bonnet House, and his involvement was critical. Ed Stone passed away in 2009, but his influence on Bonnet House continues today.

In 2000, Joe Lalli joined the board and served until 2012 except for 2003-2004 when Doug Coolman served on the board. Doug developed plans for signage at the east and west gates as well as for the A1A wall.

Scott Lamont has served on the Bonnet House board since 2013. He has devoted much of his time to helping us create a long range strategic plan for some very new and exciting improvements to the property that will facilitate visitation and make more areas of the property accessible for visitor enjoyment.



Joe Lalli was a passionate supporter of Bonnet House. Joe and his studio created a number of long range plans that included reopening the historic south entrance to the property. In 2013 that plan became a reality as we began to fundraise to begin construction. Joe designed the beautiful entrance which truly is the grand entrance that the property deserves. Phase 1 of the South Gate was completed in May of 2014. Phase 2 will get underway in 2015. Earlier, Joe did the design for the restoration of the historic Desert Garden. He also designed a number of strategic landscapes that were installed to screen the view corridors from the Main House from condo development to the south of the property.

Sadly, Joe passed away on Friday, October 24, 2014. He will be missed in so many ways. To have such a remarkably talented and dedicated friend was an honor for Bonnet House and for me. Joe's work will live on at the Bonnet House and in our hearts forever. Thank you everyone at EDSA for everything you do for us! Bonnet House would not be what it is today without your talent and support over the past four decades.

Karen Beard

Karen Beard, CEO

Cover image: *South Entrance* by Clay Wieland
Above photos: South Entrance landscape design by EDSA

Development News

by Patrick Shavloske

Bonnet House Donors Power-Up Welcome Center



Built in 1993, Bonnet House's Welcome Center is one of the few buildings on the property that doesn't date back to the estate's 1930s and 40s period of significance. Galvanized conduit was used in its construction to carry the electrical wires to the building. While that was a common practice then, experience has shown that galvanized metal does not stand up too well to the salty water table of the barrier island. In August, the conduit failed and the Welcome Center lost its electrical power. With copper a costly commodity and a significant distance from the transformer to the Welcome Center, fixing the problem came in at over \$30,000. Thanks to the generosity of our members and friends, \$14,600 was raised in just six weeks to help cover the repair cost. The balance of the cost was covered through a contribution from the Bonnet House Alliance. Bonnet House offers a sincere thank you to the benefactors who helped out in this moment of need.

Preparations Begin for Impressions: A Juried Art Exhibit



Bonnet House's largest annual fundraising event is Impressions: A Juried Art Exhibit. The event honors the artistry of Frederic and Evelyn Bartlett

by offering today's artists the opportunity to exhibit and sell their work in the museum's Carl Weinhardt

Gallery. The two month exhibit opens with a cocktail party on March 5, 2015. This year's event will be co-chaired by Bonnet House board members T.J. Bedard and Bill O'Leary. Calls to artists will be going out in a couple weeks, and sponsorship opportunities are available starting at just \$500 and include VIP access to the exhibit. Be sure to save the date and plan to attend! For sponsorship information, contact Patrick Shavloske at (954) 703-2603 or patrickshavloske@bonnethouse.org.

Year End a Good Time to Review Estate Plans



2015 is right around the corner. As 2014 comes to a close, many of us will reflect on what we accomplished this past year, what we didn't do that we wanted to, and resolve anew to get things done better in the New Year. Creating an estate plan is many times one of those things we all know we need to do but somehow never get around to doing. Sometimes it's also something that we did get done, checked it off the list, and then never kept it up-to-date as time passed. Why not make a resolution for 2015 to create an estate plan or update the one you have? For most people it really is a simple and affordable process. And while you're doing it, please consider including a bequest for Bonnet House's maintenance endowment. Such a gift will benefit Bonnet House for years to come and ensure the support you provided in life will continue permanently.

Bonnet House and the 1926 Hurricane

by Bonnet House Curator Denyse Cunningham

Now that hurricane season 2014 is over it is time to count our blessing and to reflect on the damage inflicted in the past.

On the night of September 17, 1926 a hurricane struck the southeast coast of Florida. Winds of 140 miles per hour hit Miami-Dade and South Broward. The storm started around midnight on Friday and raged and scoured the Florida East Coast for twelve hours. The U.S. Weather Bureau in Miami described the storm as probably the most destructive hurricane ever to hit the United States. Occurring many years before hurricanes were first formally named, the storm was known to those who suffered through it as “The Hurricane” or “The Big Blow.”



*The Beach Road, now A1A was washed away by the storm.
Meeks Collection*

In Broward County alone the death toll reached at least 64; in the entire state the number was nearly 400. The local paper reported that 15 died in Fort Lauderdale but the death toll varies from source to source.

Fifteen thousand homes were damaged in the entire storm and from 6000 to 7000 of these were totally destroyed. In a complete survey of storm damage made by the Red Cross to assist in administering aid relief, it was estimated that in Fort Lauderdale 868 homes were entirely destroyed.

The considerable damage many of the newer structures suffered was the result of the boom-time construction of flimsy buildings that were put up by people who knew nothing about hurricanes. Old-timers, who had lived through storms before, put up buildings that would withstand the strong winds.

The effect of the storm on the African-American communities of Broward County is difficult to determine as the papers of the day did not always list news from those areas. Even the names of some of the victims were left out. A tent was set up by the Red Cross on 5th Avenue in the Northwest section of Fort Lauderdale where African-Americans could be

treated.

Fort Lauderdale Mayor Jack Tidball declared martial law and County judge Fred Shippy warned he would deal summarily with anyone found pilfering from open stores or dwellings. Prisoners were used to help in the clean up and rebuilding efforts.



*“Sand Finished” Automobile
Cox Collection*

The Las Olas beach area suffered much damage during the storm as the Fort Lauderdale Daily News reported on September 24, 1926:

Work burying fish, which were washed ashore, and drowned rabbits, rats and other small animals, has been accomplished along the bathing beach... Miss Virginia West, 10 year old daughter of Frederic West, manager of the Las Olas Inn, was especially commended by members of the Red Cross corps for her untiring assistance in burying these decayed fish and animals and for assisting in removing broken bottles from the beach.



The Las Olas Inn was on the beach and suffered greatly. The 30 year old grove of coconut palm trees at the

*Las Olas Inn, which made the historic Inn one of the most picturesque spots in Broward County, was blown down and uprooted. Australian pines in the back of the Inn were also destroyed. Waves swept through the lower part of the Inn building destroying practically everything on that floor. A four-inch deposit of sand was left on the upper floor. Small fish were swept through the lobby and out the rear.
Floyd Pyles Collection*

By September 30, 1926 bathers were allowed back to the beach only if wearing a suit.



The Lily Pad

Newsletter of the Bonnet House Alliance

A Note From the Alliance President By Susan Howell



Season's Greetings to everyone and may your holidays be blessed with love and warm wishes.

Our November 10th Roaring Twenties Soiree was a wonderful event where "Gatsby" clad members and guests were greeted with a vintage 1933 Pierce Arrow automobile parked at the Bonnet House front entrance then enjoyed

a nostalgic speakeasy themed evening on the veranda with live jazz and a fun casino. Susie Williams won the Flapper costume contest and our own "Gatsby guy" Patrick Shavloske will enjoy an overnight stay at the Hard Rock Casino with dinner for two for having the highest casino total winnings of the evening.

On November 25th our Alliance participated in the HANDY'S FALL FESTIVAL OF TREES at the Galleria Mall. Our Holiday Tree with the theme of "Sea Monkeys" was successfully sold at the auction and selected by BLACK TIE South Florida for their media campaign. Please watch the society sections in local magazines and newspapers for this delightful event which promotes community awareness of our Bonnet House Museum and Gardens.

This year's Holiday Christmas Luncheon was held at the Lauderdale Yacht Club on Tuesday, December 9th. We enjoyed a delightful holiday musical performance by Anthony Corrado. The 50/50 Raffle jackpot of \$215 rolled over from our October luncheon and will rapidly increase in

this fun way to support the Alliance. Our charity toy drive this year graciously benefits the Childrens Aid Club.

Long time Alliance supporter Helen Furia (Leo Goodwin Foundation) will be remembered fondly for her many years of sponsorship which made our hallmark Entirely Entertaining Luncheon possible. Our hearts and loving prayers go out to her family and friends. Helen was a tremendous asset to our Alliance and she will be dearly missed for her kindness and dedication to the Bonnet House Museum & Gardens through our Alliance.

As you enjoy the season and shop for gifts, please keep in mind our upcoming Entirely Entertaining silent auction and raffle. Ask your favorite retailers, restaurants, spas, theaters, hotels, cruise lines/travel agents, etc. for a tax-deductible donation in the form of a gift certificate, vouchers, gift baskets or items that may be combined for our raffle. This is an important part of our fund raising process which makes our signature luncheon a continued success to promote community awareness and insure the preservation of our beloved Bonnet House. Donations must be submitted by January 26th to our Ways and Means VP, Patti Kearson and Committee Chair, Lauren McGee.

A special Thank You to all the Bonnet House volunteers who made our Soiree possible. We look forward to working together in February and for all future events. We are truly blessed to have you as our partners. Entirely Entertaining continues to astonish and delight with each year surpassing the past with extraordinary "table-scapes" by local artists, designers and members. Mark your calendars and reserve your tables; you must not miss this one of a kind Bonnet House tradition.

Alliance Calendar January - March 2015

January 19	11:00am	General Membership Meeting	15th Street Fisheries
February 23	11:30am	Entirely Entertaining	On the Veranda
March 16	2:00pm	Volunteer Social	TBD

The Gardens

Snowflake Shrub Now in Bloom



The Snowflake shrub (*euphorbia eucocephala*) is native to Southern Mexico & to El Salvador where it is called the *Flor de Nino* as it blooms in December in celebration of the Christ Child.

Currently, it is in bloom in our butterfly garden near Rosie's Palace. Be sure to stop by and take in the beauty and aroma of the Snowflake shrub.

A shrub to small tree, the inflorescence has white whorled leaves or bracts that are mistaken for the flower. Centered in the bracts, the true flowers are quite small and fragrant like a tangy jasmine. The milky white sap (latex) is toxic and identifies it as a spurge that can be used as a purgative. With over 2,000 specimens, the Euphorbia family includes many ornamental specimens such as poinsettias, crown-of-thorns, snowbush, pencil plant and crotons.

Youth Programs

Exploring Oriental Cartooning & Design with Cindy Jenkins

Creative, experienced and certified art teacher, Cindy Jenkins, will be teaching a variety of art classes for middle and high school students (ages 12-18) at Bonnet House this winter.



January 10, 2015 Manga Cartooning
January 17, 2015 Zendoodle
January 24, 2015 Dragons
January 31, 2015 Kimono's and Origami

Classes are 2 hours 12:30pm to 2:30pm
Cost is \$80.00 for 4 classes or \$25.00 per class

All materials included!
Maximum 15 students

For more information and reservations please email lindaschaller@bonnethouse.org.

Bonnet House Volunteers Help Make Orchid Festival A Success

By Patrick Shavloske



December 6th and 7th saw the Orchid, Garden, and Gourmet Food Festival return to the Bonnet House grounds.

2014 marked the eighth year for the festival, and the beautiful, sunny weather that weekend made for a wonderful day for the Fort Lauderdale community to come and experience Bonnet House. "I've always wanted to come here, but never made it until today. What an interesting place!" was heard many times. In addition to over forty vendors of orchids and gardening supplies, gourmet food trucks paired with wine courtesy of Whole Foods and ever popular bloody marys and mimosas made for a fun and festive atmosphere. "There's no way Bonnet House

could stage an event like this without our volunteers," said CEO Karen Beard. "It's just amazing and inspiring to see the passion they have for sharing the story of Bonnet House," she continued. Linda Schaller, Director of Education and Volunteer Programs, reported that over 100 volunteers helped at the Orchid Festival this year. From serving beverages to acting as room docents and directing traffic, the festival's success was made possible by Bonnet House volunteers. A very special thanks goes to each and every person who volunteered to make such a happy community gathering possible!



Calendar of Events

Music Series



January 22, February 12,
March 12 & April 9
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
CONCERTS UNDER
THE STARS
Purchase tickets at
bonnethouse.org

River Cruise



March 28, 2015
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
CRUISING DOWN THE
RIVER
Purchase tickets at
bonnethouse.org

Impressions



March 6, 2015
5:30 pm
IMPRESSIONS: A JURIED
ART EXHIBIT
Purchase tickets at
bonnethouse.org

January 4 & February 8
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
BIRDING CLASS

January 7 - February 11
9:30am - 12:30 pm or
1:00 pm - 4 pm
WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

January 8 - February 12
9:30am - 12:30 pm or
1:00 pm - 4 pm
ACRYLIC WORKSHOP

January 12, February 9 &
March 9
10:00 am
LECTURE SERIES

January 13 - February 10
9:30 am - 11:30 am
CALLIGRAPHY WORKSHOP

January 13 - 27
12:30 am - 2:30 pm
ZENTANGLE WORKSHOP

January 22, February 12,
March 12 & April 9
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Young Artist Music Series
CONCERTS UNDER THE
STARS

January 15, 6:00 pm
IN THE DETAILS: A Bonnet
House Fine Artist Exhibit

February 7, 14, 21 & 28
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
ORCHID CLASSES

February 10 - 24
12:30 am - 2:30 pm
ZENTANGLE WORKSHOP

February 23
11:00 am - 2:00 pm
ENTIRELY ENTERTAINING

February 25 - April 1
9:30am - 12:30 pm or
1:00 pm - 4 pm
WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

February 26 - April 2
9:30am - 12:30 pm or
1:00 pm - 4 pm
ACRYLIC WORKSHOP

March 3 - 31
9:30 am - 11:30 am
CALLIGRAPHY WORKSHOP

March 5
6:00 pm
IMPRESSIONS: A JURIED
ART EXHIBIT

March 10 - 24
12:30 am - 2:30 pm
ZENTANGLE WORKSHOP

Please visit us online at
bonnethouse.org for more infor-
mation and a detailed calendar
of events.



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BONNET HOUSE
MUSEUM & GARDENS
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Concerts Under the Stars

January 22 February 12 March 12 April 9

For tickets visit
Bonnethouse.org

BROWARD COUNTY
FLORIDA
Cultural Division

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