



Sarracenia Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society The SARRACENIA TRUMPET

FALL 2018

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 16 - Chapter meeting

Why Roadsides and Your Yard Matter, Sustaining Critical Habitat for Pollinators

Liz Sparks and Eleanor Dietrich

Ms. Sparks and Ms. Dietrich are the current and past liaison of the Florida Panhandle Wildflower Alliance and will speak to our group about our pollinators and the role that yards, roadsides and other available areas contribute to the health of our planet through the benefit of pollination.

October 27, 2018 - Annual Monarch Festival

Sarracenia Chapter will have our informational displays, handouts, and native plants for sale at the St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge. The event is from 10am to 4pm. There is no cost except the entrance fee of \$5/car. For more information call (850) 925-6121. See our article in this issue for more details.

November 3 and 10, 2018 - Sopchoppy Depot Park

Sarracenia chapter encourages all of our members and friends to come to the Sopchoppy Depot Park on Nov. 3 and/or Nov. 10 to help us plant natives in the park. Please email Sarracenia.nps@gmail.com if you can help and we will send details.

November 20 - Chapter meeting

Keeping Florida Authentic for Plants and People

Dr. Susan Carr, FNPS

Dr. Carr, President of the Florida Native Plant Society, will be speaking to us on the state of conservation in Florida and preserving as much native habitat as we can.

WINTER BREAK

As usual, we will not meet during December. Our regular 3rd Tuesday meetings begin again in January 2019.

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The Sarracenia Chapter meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month September - November and January - May. Meetings are held at 6:30 PM (6:00 PM social) at the Wakulla Public Library, Crawfordville, Fla. Free and open to the public.

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FNPS promotes the preservation, restoration, and conservation of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.



A SUMMER COMPLETE WITH AIR CONDITIONED FIELD TRIPS

Bonnie Basham Woodward

Hello Sarracenia members and guests! Our summer has passed quickly and was filled with air-conditioned field trips in *June and July* followed by lunch at the world-famous Sopchoppy Pizza House and other important events.

Our intrepid field trip leader, David Roddenberry, has figured out how to have a field trip and still stay cool. In June we welcomed Virginia Craig who led us on a journey along Highways 65 and 379 in Liberty County to discover a wealth of Sarracenia and other rare and interesting plants.

In July, we ventured onto the road sides of Highway 375 where we found over 46 different wildflower species! Dr. Loran Anderson, Professor Emeritus at Florida State University joined us on both field trips and, true to form, found wildflowers not on our "forecast" list. Dr. Anderson is cited as the authority for *Liatris gholsonii*, *Hymenocallis franklinensis*, and *Xyris panacea*.

At the end of September we explored the wilds of the Ochlockonee River State Park, again with Dr. Anderson and host of chapter members and friends.

This summer your board of directors met at Wakulla Lodge for a strategic planning meeting for the upcoming year. It was a time for reflection on the past year and planning for the 2018-2019 Sarracenia events.

In early September a room full of native plant enthusiasts enjoyed a workshop on ways to incorporate Florida native plants into home landscaping. Ginny Stibolt, author of "A Step by Step Guide to Creating a Florida Native Yard" was the workshop presenter. Attendees were treated to a native plant sale after the workshop which was held at the Wakulla Environmental Institute in Crawfordville.

October is Florida Native Plant month. Governor Scott has signed a Proclamation declaring October to be Florida Native Plant Month. In addition, both Franklin and Wakulla county commissions have passed Proclamations declaring October to be "Florida Native Plant

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Month" in their county. Similar proclamations have been passed in other Florida counties.

Looking forward, we have many excellent speakers lined up for October through next May. They include FNPS President Susan Carr on November 20, Shirley Denton, FNPS Communications Chair will visit us in March, and in May Peter Kleinhenz will end our spring programs before our summer break. Mr. Kleinhenz will show us a new means of identifying wild flowers with the new iNaturalist app for iPhones and Android.

Coming up in May is the annual FNPS meeting. This year it will be held in Crystal River and the program workshops and speakers is shaping up to be an event you don't want to miss. Our own Sammy Tedder has been invited to present his program "Where Ethnobotany meets Ethnomusicology" and to play the instruments he has made from a variety of native grasses, plants and trees.



AN EXCITING ANNOUNCEMENT: Many of you receive the Sabal Minor, one of our valuable FNPS publications. Our latest issue of Sabal Minor outlines three board positions that were recently filled. Of note is that our own chapter president, Bonnie Basham Woodward, had accepted the position of treasurer of FNPS. A big congratulations goes out to Bonnie for all of her hard work for our chapter and for her upcoming work with the main FNPS organization.



Lupinus villosus (lady lupine) 6-3-18 field trip
Photo by Bob Thompson

MONARCH FESTIVAL

Bonnie Basham Woodward

October 27, 2018 will be a magical day for you when you attend the Monarch Festival at the St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge.

The festival always coincides with the arrival of the migrating Monarch butterflies. This is the final land-based leg of their 2,000-mile journey before they cross the Gulf of Mexico on their way to the mountains of central Mexico. Like other migrations, this is an inherited behavior pattern; but unlike other migrations, each Monarch is on its own to find its way to those mountains. While at the Refuge, the Monarchs will consume vast quantities of nectar from both the goldenrods and the Salt Bush plants. If you have never seen a Salt Bush Tree covered in Monarchs, you are in for a treat! You can take a wagon ride around the festival site, listen to great music, enjoy the activities aimed at participation by various age groups and watch tagged butterflies take flight.

While you are at the Refuge, be sure to come visit the Florida Native Plant Society booths near the Visitors Center. We will have educational material as well as native plants for sale.

WHAT: Monarch Butterfly Festival

WHEN: October 27, 2018

10:00 a.m to 4:00 p.m

COST: \$5/car load admission fee to the federal wildlife refuge

QUESTIONS:

CONTACT: 850-925-6121

Or Sarracenia.nps@gmail.com



CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS:

On November 3 and November 10 in downtown Sopchoppy our chapter will be helping with the planting of native plants in the Sopchoppy Depot Park. Much help is needed for this effort. November 3rd will be a day for digging large holes and planting trees. November 10th will be the day for setting out wildflower plants and more delicate vegetation. We need your help. If you can help either or both days, partial days or full days, please email us at Sarracenia.nps@gmail.com and let us know. We will contact you closer to the time and let you know what to bring and what time to come to Sopchoppy. The new Sopchoppy Depot Park is at 37 Rose Street, Sopchoppy, FL (directly across the street from the old train depot.)



POWER OF ONE

Carole McKay

Reprinted and excerpted from Carole McKay's guest column in the *Tallahassee Democrat*, September 14, 2018.)

The biggest lesson I learned taking the UF/IFAS Master Gardener class last year didn't happen in the classroom.

I've always been concerned about the environment, specifically the plight of native plants. There are so many plants that are endemic to this area – that is, they are only found in this particular region of the world. With all the new construction and expansion of roads, their natural habitat is disappearing at a quick pace. I would drive by all these beautiful wildflowers on the side of the road, thinking – what can I do? I'm only one person, and I can only plant so many flowers.



The star of the show – night blooming petunia (*Ruellia noctiflora*). Photo by Steve Coleman

Last August, a call went out for volunteers. The St. Marks bike trail was being expanded along highway 98 in Wakulla County, and the goal? Rescue the rare and endangered night blooming petunia (*Ruellia noctiflora*).

The next debate I had with myself would be – how can I help? There's certainly no way I could "tomp through the swamps", digging down in the muck. Shoot, some days I'm lucky enough to make it from the house to the car. Nope, that wasn't going to work. My poor body just isn't what it used to be. The response I received was – just come on down and we will find something for you to do. And they did. And we rescued some night blooming petunias. But we ended up doing so much more, and I learned a lesson of a lifetime.

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) was gracious enough to allow us four days to rescue as many plants as we could, and a FDOT employee volunteered her time to help supervise us, making sure we stayed safe from traffic on the busy highway.

Under the Direction of dedicated St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge rangers, Scott Allen Davis and Gail Fishman, UF/IFAS Master Gardeners from all different counties, local native plant societies, as well as other like-minded groups and people, gathered together to save this one tiny wildflower.

To my surprise, there were things I could do. Thanks to the hardworking volunteers, rescued plants were coming in by the hundreds and they needed to be organized and counted. I could always make sure everyone had water and give encouraging words. Never underestimate the power of encouragement.



UF/IFAS Leon County Master Gardeners and other volunteers with some of the rescued plants. Photo by UF/IFAS

After all was said and done, we managed to rescue well over 1,200 night blooming petunia, as well as hundreds of other native plants that are in danger of losing their habitat.

One person, one little plant. Now it's your turn to go out and be that "one" person that makes a difference.

Carole McKay is a Master Gardener with UF/IFAS Extension Leon County. For gardening questions, email the extension office at AskAMasterGardener@ifas.ufl.edu.

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A PROCLAMATION DECLARING OCTOBER AS FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT MONTH

At the October 1, 2018 County Commission meeting one of our county commissioners, Chuck Hess, read a Proclamation naming October as Florida Native Plant month in Wakulla County. This county proclamation was voted unanimously by all of our county commissioners and was the culmination of the efforts of Bonnie Basham Woodward, our chapter president, and other members of the chapter and of Florida Native Plant Society as they worked to carry out the effort to declare October Native Plant Month in the state of Florida. Bonnie was also instrumental in drafting a proclamation which was signed by our Florida governor. Thanks to everyone involved for your dedication to conserving our native plants and the lands they depend on. To review the Wakulla County proclamation refer to our Documents tab on our Sarracenia webpage or follow the link below:

<http://sarracenia.fnpschapters.org/data/uploads/county-commission-proclamation-october-fl-native-plant-month-2018.pdf> .

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PHOTOS FROM RECENT FIELD TRIPS:



Calopogon pallidus (pale grass pink) 6-3-18 field trip
Photo by Bob Thompson



Coreopsis leavenworthii (Leavenworth's tickseed) chapter members and friends 7-14-18 field trip. Photo by Sandy Tedder



Stokesia laevis (Stokes' aster) 7-14-18 field trip
Photo by Sandy Tedder



Carphophorus odoratissimus (vanilla plant) 9-29-18 field trip
Photo by Kitty Loftin



A beautiful day in September at the Ochlockonee River State Park 9-29-18 Field Trip
Photo by Sandy Tedder



Sabatia decandra (Bartram's rosegentian) 9-29-18 Field Trip
Photo by Sandy Tedder



Ginny Stibolt's Native Landscaping Workshop
Photo by Bob Thompson

Sarracenia Board and Regular Volunteers

- Bonnie Basham Woodward
- Jeannie Brodhead
- George Weaver
- David Roddenberry
- Sandy Tedder
- Kitty Loftin

Please Join Us at Any Board Meeting

Second Monday of September
 October, November, January,
 February, March, April
 Email us for location:
 Sarracenia.nps@gmail.com

Other Volunteer Help

Come to Chapter Meetings
 at 5:45 to help set up tables
 and chairs

Membership information is available at all Chapter meetings (ask Jeannie for info) or online at FNPS.org.

Find us on Facebook at Sarracenia Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society