



*Sarracenia Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society*  
**The SARRACENIA TRUMPET**

SPRING 2021

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### April 17, 2021 - Field Trip

##### **Sarracenia Chapter In-Person Field Trip**

A guided field trip on Saturday, April 17 at 9 A.M. will visit Florida-endemic Ashe magnolia and the Ochlockonee River bluffs in Wakulla County. For COVID safety, participation is limited to 12 persons. If interested, send email to [Sarracenia.nps@gmail.com](mailto:Sarracenia.nps@gmail.com). Details will be provided.

#### April 20, 2021 - Chapter meeting

##### **Biology and Ecology of the Endangered Ashe Magnolia**

##### **Kelly Thomas**

Ms. Thomas, with UF/IFAS, will speak to our chapter on the Ashe Magnolia, an endangered tree which is endemic in Florida, where it is restricted to ravine slopes and bluffs in certain counties in the Panhandle.

#### May 18, 2021 - Chapter meeting

##### **The Pinelands in Spring**

##### **Sarracenia Chapter Virtual Field Trip**

Come along on another virtual field trip. Our previous virtual field trip was well received and this one promises to be another excellent way to see our native plants from the comfort of your couch. We will be out in the field in the Apalachicola National Forest visiting areas that have recently been burned to see what comes back after the burn. You will be surprised. Enjoy David Roddenberry's knowledge of our region's native plants and Sammy Tedder's filmmaking and musical talents.

**SUMMER BREAK – As in the past our summer break takes place during the months June through August. Our regular 3rd Tuesday meetings begin again in September, with any activities in the interim being announced by email and on our Facebook page. Additional in-person field trips are contemplated over the summer.**

\* \* \*  
*The Sarracenia Chapter meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month September – November and January – May. Meetings are held at 6:30 PM. Free and open to the public. FNPS promotes the preservation, restoration, and conservation of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.*



### CHAPTER UPDATES

We're happy to see the green hues of spring. Our Sarracenia chapter is still in "virtual mode" due to ongoing Covid-19 coronavirus issues, but meetings go on and Zoom meetings have been well attended and informative. We look forward to when we might hold in-person meetings and large field trips once again.

Chapter members David Roddenberry, Sammy Tedder and Bob Thompson are planning another virtual field trip so that our members and the general public can join in a guided field trip from the safety and comfort of their homes as it is still not entirely safe to hold large gatherings. January's chapter meeting included an excellent virtual field trip into the pinelands and pitcher-plant bogs in the Apalachicola National Forest in the fall season. We will enjoy the new virtual field trip at our May chapter meeting as referenced in our Upcoming Events listings on this page.

Also coming up in May is the FNPS Annual Conference. The conference will be held entirely online this year. See the article below for further details.

### FNPS ANNUAL CONFERENCE - MAY 14-16, 2021

Join us for FNPS's premier event focusing on the preservation, conservation and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida. The 40th annual conference of the Florida Native Plant Society designating "40 Years of Celebrating Native Florida" and will be held virtually on **May 14-16, 2021**.



FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY  
40TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Registration:  
<https://www.fnps.org/conference>, then click the REGISTER link on the left. When you're on the registration page, go to Attendee Registration, and then find the button "Register Now" (black button

in the middle of the page). You won't need the login and password fields on the L.H. side of the page yet. Once you register, look for an email invitation from FNPS with a link to login to WHOVA (within a week or less you'll receive the email invitation to WHOVA, a virtual conference platform that can be used on desktop computers, laptops or cellphones.) You'll then create a login and password at WHOVA so that you can participate in the annual conference. The agenda and speakers and programs are all set so that you can see what to expect at the conference. WHOVA makes it easy to attend a virtual conference and FNPS has put together a great lineup. The registration fee is \$35.00 (student registration is free.)

Event information can be found at

<https://www.fnps.org/conference/2021>.

Conference agenda can be found at

<https://www.fnps.org/conference/agenda>.

Coming soon: Silent Auction items can be viewed and bid upon at

<https://www.fnps.org/conference/silent-auction>.

Workshop topics and times will be posted at

<https://www.fnps.org/conference/workshops>

soon.

Friday, May 14 at 7 pm, we kick off with a plant trivia game and a review of the weekend's events.

Saturday morning at 9:15 it's wildlife biologist and author Craig N. Huegel with "The Truth About Pollinator Gardens."

Other speakers and workshop sessions can be found on the agenda page and on the FNPS conference page. The conference will conclude on Sunday evening following a discussion with Emily Roberson, director of the Native Plant Conservation Campaign.



**Many of you enjoyed our January chapter meeting program which was a virtual field trip to the pitcherplant bogs of the Apalachicola National Forest. Here is a link to our chapter YouTube Channel that goes directly to this virtual field trip for those that might have missed it**

<https://youtu.be/siDnM9stmSY>.

## KAYAKS AND CORAL ARDISIA

*Jeannie Brodhead*

I recently heard the news that a kayak/canoe park was being developed along the Sopchoppy River so we went down to the corner of Rose and Camellia Streets to check out the site. As we walked down the trail to the river, we noticed that much of the surrounding area was covered with exotic, invasive coral ardisia plants full of their pretty red drupes. Since one mission of our Florida Native Plant Society is to restore the native plant communities, we knew that we had to help.

I did a little research and found that first, we needed to remove and destroy as many of the drupes as possible before they are carried away or dropped to the ground to sprout. The IFAS website recommended that we hold off using herbicides until late summer or fall when the plants are pulling their energy down to the roots in preparation for winter dormancy. When the time comes, we will clip the stems and dab the herbicide on the cut end. We don't want the herbicide to affect the surrounding vegetation so we will do this carefully.

For now, we are visiting the site whenever possible and removing the drupes to be put in the trash and sent to be incinerated. We usually remove about three gallons of drupes on each visit. I found that using a large, reinforced tote bag with a flat bottom works well. It is easy to carry in the dense underbrush and can sit on the ground while we strip off the "berries". Sometimes, I clip the stem of the plant and insert the drupe laden stems into the bag. Then, as I strip off the drupes, they all fall into the bag.

The smaller plants are easy to pull out, roots and all but the larger ones will need the herbicide treatment. We tried to use a Pullerbear<sup>®</sup> to remove the larger plants but the ground is really soft and it is hard to use in those conditions.

We realize that this will be a long-term commitment. In addition to the coral ardisia there is also nandina and climbing fern on the property. We'll strive to remove these as well.

If you are interested in learning more about the park or want to volunteer please check out "Friends of the Sopchoppy River, Inc." on Facebook.



Invasive coral ardisia plant



FNPS has been providing weekly lunch and learn presentations that can be viewed anytime on the FNPS YouTube channel. Please check out the previous lunch and learn topics on the Youtube playlist for FNPS: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLT16Qn-flr4O7nxo1cDZll-b00X9Oy126>. There is a lot of information and many helpful techniques for improving our landscapes and learning about our native plants.

Check out the full FNPS YouTube Channel, as well: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTom519pQlwTC-S\\_uDjkAEw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTom519pQlwTC-S_uDjkAEw).



## SOPCHOPPY DEPOT PARK UPDATE

From a recent report by Sarracenia chapter president, David Roddenberry, he says, "...it looks like it could be a fine year in the park. First greeneyes about to flower, one fringe tree a spectacle right now, some azaleas flowering ...pinewoods milkweeds growing big leaves, plenty of Leavenworth's tickseeds showing, variety of plants looking promising in the pond." He also mentions the blooms on our hooded pitcherplants in the new bog garden. Over the last couple of days I have taken some photos that I know you'll enjoy. Come and visit the park in downtown Sopchoppy (across the street from the train depot.) Email us at [Sarracenia.nps@gmail.com](mailto:Sarracenia.nps@gmail.com) to volunteer; we always enjoy the help.



*Sarracenia minor* - hooded pitcherplant with blossoms

Many thanks to our regular volunteers: David Roddenberry, Jeannie Brodhead, Betsy Rudden, Pam Pafford, Sandy Tedder, Lara Edwards, and George Boszilkov.

There is always a need for volunteers help to maintain and weed the park plantings or to set out new specimens or check water conditions, so if you would like to help out, please contact us at our chapter email address to let us know: [Sarracenia.nps@gmail.com](mailto:Sarracenia.nps@gmail.com).



*Chionanthus virginicus* – fringe tree



*Rhododendron canescens* – wild azalea blossoms

### Sarracenia Board and Regular Volunteers

David Roddenberry  
Jeannie Brodhead  
George Weaver  
Sandy Tedder

### Please Join Us at Any Board Meeting

Email us for dates and location  
[Sarracenia.nps@gmail.com](mailto:Sarracenia.nps@gmail.com)

### Other Volunteer Help

Ask how you can help with Chapter meetings, or help us at the Sopchoppy Depot Park.

Membership information is available at all in-person Chapter meetings, or contact us at [Sarracenia.nps@gmail.com](mailto:Sarracenia.nps@gmail.com), or online at [FNPS.org](http://FNPS.org) on the Join/Support tab.

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

Visit our webpage: [Sarracenia.fnpschapters.org](http://Sarracenia.fnpschapters.org)