



Sarracenia Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society
The SARRACENIA TRUMPET

SPRING 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 2, 2023 – Field Trip

Dr. Chuck Hess will lead a field trip in Apalachicola Nat. Forest in conjunction with his March 21st chapter meeting program on the Ecology of Northern Florida Forests. Contact the Chapter by email for details.

April 8, 2023 – Sopchoppy Worm Gruntin' Festival Booth and Plant Sale

Our chapter will have an FNPS station at the Worm Gruntin' Festival in Sopchoppy. Find us at the corner of Winthrop Ave. and Rose Street.

April 18, 2023 – Chapter Meeting and Elections

Florida's Carnivorous Plants

Kenny Coogan, author and grower

Mr. Coogan will share his knowledge of carnivorous plants and will also have a selection of Florida eco-type carnivorous plants for sale as well as his new book *Florida's Carnivorous Plants*. At the beginning of the meeting we will hold our annual officer elections.

April 28- 30, 2023 – FNPS Annual Conference

The FNPS Annual Conference kicks off with its virtual platform on April 28. To register or get more info: <https://www.fnps.org/conference/register>.

May 13 – 14, 2023 – FL Panhandle In-Person Conference Field Days

Our chapter is partnering with the Magnolia and Sweetbay chapters to bring the in-person portion of the annual conference to our area. We will offer four field trips plus lunch both days and dinner on Saturday after a speaker presentation Saturday afternoon by Jeff Talbert of the Atlanta Botanical Garden.

May 16, 2023 – Chapter Meeting

Florida's Butterflies

Dean and Sally Jue

Program information to be announced via email and Facebook.

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FNPS ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023

Calling all outdoor enthusiasts! Registration is open for the **2023 Florida Native Plant Society Annual Conference**. The **Conference will kick off virtually on the last weekend in April 2023**, starting with a game night on Friday, April 28th, followed by a full program of speaker sessions Saturday, April 29th, and Sunday, April 30th. To register visit the website at: <https://www.fnps.org/conference/register>.

In-person **Conference Field Days** will follow around the state, starting with field trips near Naples May 6-7th, near Tallahassee **May 13-14th**, and near Sanford May 19-21st. The Field Days will include field trips and opportunities to socialize and network – and are being hosted by the Chapters in those areas. Field Day capacity is very limited, so check out your options and book one or more days around the state soon!

Tallahassee Field Days include two field trip options Saturday, May 13th and two options Sunday, May 14th. We'll have a program and social event Saturday afternoon. It will be a great chance to reconnect with old friends and make new ones!

<https://www.fnps.org/conference/tallahassee-field-days>.



SPRING NATIVE PLANT SALE. Our chapter will host a native plant sale on April 8, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Sopchoppy Worm Gruntin’ Festival. Find us on the corner of Winthrop Ave. and Rose Street – easy to purchase your plants and then drive to pick them up. There will be many native wildflowers, free literature; a plant profile for each plant purchased; and Society members on site to answer questions. We need Chapter member volunteers to help at the booth. Contact us at sarracenia.nps@gmail.com to volunteer.



THE EXPANDING BOUNDARIES OF WAKULLA SPRINGS STATE PARK

We all know that Wakulla Springs is the crown jewel of our North Florida Springs system. No one knows that better than Amy Conyers the current park manager at Wakulla Springs State Park.

Ms. Conyers was our featured speaker at our February 21, 2023 chapter meeting and spoke at length about the new acquisitions at the state park and what the plans are for expanding protections and recreation opportunities in the new areas.

A recent purchase to the park lands is the Ferrell Tract, a 717-acre segment pock-marked with springs and caves that was recently added to the park system. Along with the River Sink Tract, it provides a **linking corridor between Apalachicola National Forest and Wakulla Springs State Park**. This brings a welcome protection to the headwaters of the springs and looks to be a place for hiking and exploring and possibly an opportunity for professional divers.

The acquisition of this property ensures that this sensitive recharge area will be preserved and protected for years to come. This new acreage has not yet been added to the Park’s Unit Management Plan so it is not yet open to the public, but park manager Amy Conyers extended an invitation for a private field trip when she spoke to our chapter in February and many people turned out to enjoy the day among the forest and springs. Thanks go out to David and Deborah Deitz and Jeannie Brodhead who provided this pictorial montage of the field trip to the Ferrell Tract.



Amy Conyers at Meeting House sinkhole.



David Roddenberry points out an old “catface”



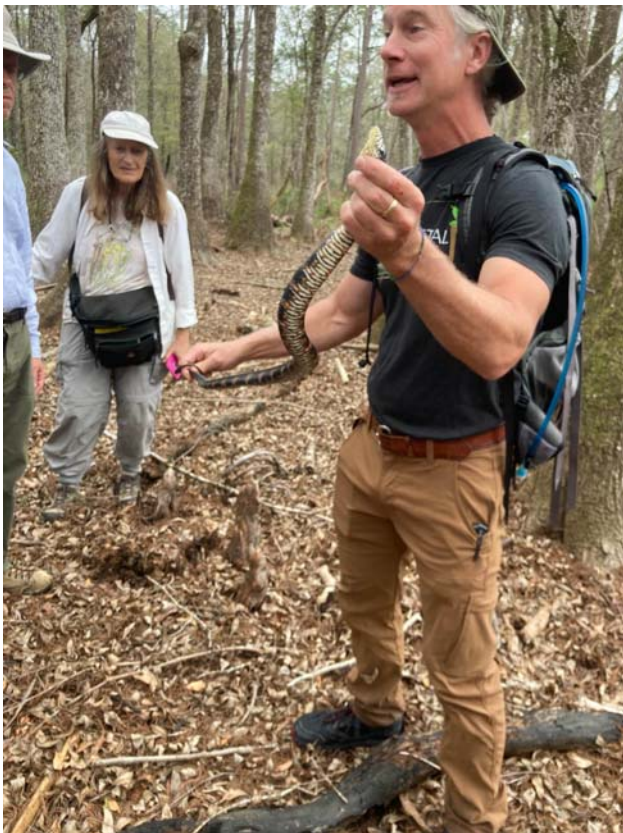
Small sinkhole with blooming Walters Viburnum



The old windmill



Cypress swamp



Biologist Ryan Means with a banded water snake

HEMGROWN NATIONAL PARKS

The Homegrown National Parks mission is to regenerate biodiversity and ecosystem function through voluntary collective action. Folks are urged to go native and go natural by planting native plants in our home landscapes, thus connecting our yard to neighborhoods and parks and cities and forests and into one collective national park. Together we can build a critical ecological network and spark a culture change in how we relate to nature.

FNPS is encouraging all of our members to register their yards: <https://homegrownnationalpark.org/>. Florida currently ranks 35th among the 50 states in documentation of the use of native plants in landscaping.



SOPCHOPPY DEPOT PARK UPDATE

Our chapter president David Roddenberry recently submitted an article on the award-winning native plant

gardens at the Sopchoppy Depot Park. The article is expected to appear in the next quarterly issue of the FNPS publication *Palmetto*. FNPS members will be getting this issue in early summer.

Remember: The City of Sopchoppy maintains a website with a section for the park:

<https://www.sopchoppy.org/sopchoppy-depot-park.html>.

Our Sarracenia Chapter also has a section of our website devoted to the park:

<https://sarracenia.fnpschapters.org/resources> (scroll down to #3 on that page.)

You can see some of what is currently blooming at the park in *The Wakulla Sun* newspaper. They publish an article and photo every week entitled, "Flower of the Week at Sopchoppy Depot Park." A big thanks goes out to chapter board member Lynn Artz for authoring these articles each week.

QUICK LINKS

FNPS's Lunch and Learns series – hour long speaker sessions on lots of native plant topics:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLT16Qn-flr4O7nxo1cDZII-bO0X9Oy126>.

Our Sarracenia chapter has a YouTube Channel. Here is the link:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_xtH-t3PBaGshb6KrTI4PA.



A LOOK AHEAD

April 2, 2023 – Field trip with Dr. Chuck Hess.

April 8, 2023 – Plant Sale – Sopchoppy Worm Gruntin' Festival. This is our annual Spring native plant sale.

April 18, 2023 – Chapter meeting; annual election of officers.

April 28 - 30, 2023 - The FNPS Annual Conference will be a three-day virtual conference the last weekend in April. May 13 and 14 are the Panhandle Field Days. We'll have field trips, a program, a round table discussion on habitat restoration, and a dinner social event Saturday afternoon. Our program speaker will be Jeff Talbert of the Atlanta Botanical Garden with his discussion on conservation and restoration efforts at Deer Lake State Park in the Florida Panhandle. The restoration round table will feature Jeff Talbert, Ryan Means, Helen Roth, Annie Schmidt, Todd Engstrom and others. You won't want to miss the virtual annual conference and the field day activities!

May 16 will be our final chapter meeting of the season with Dean and Sally Jue speaking about our local butterflies.



The Sarracenia Chapter meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month September - November and January - May. Meetings are held at 6:30 PM at the Wakulla County Public Library. Free and open to the public. FNPS promotes the preservation, restoration, and conservation of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

Sarracenia Board

David Roddenberry
Jeannie Brodhead
George Weaver
Sandy Tedder
Lynn Artz

Please Join Us at Any Board Meeting

Email us for dates and location
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, or online at [FNPS.org](https://www.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](https://www.sarracenia.fnpschapters.org)