



Sarracenia Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society
The SARRACENIA TRUMPET

SPRING 2022

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 9, 2022 – Native Plant Sale

Our Sarracenia Chapter will provide an FNPS station in the upcoming Sopchoppy Worm Gruntin' Festival on Saturday, April 9 (9am to 5pm). There we'll also conduct a native plant sale.

April 19, 2022 – Chapter Meeting

Aquatic Invasives

John Kunzer

Mr. Kunzer is a biological scientist with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Invasive Plant Management Section. He will be presenting on our local aquatic invasive plants and how they can or cannot be controlled.

April 23, 2022--Chapter Field Trip

Place and details TBA

April 30, 2022 – FSUCML Open House

Our Sarracenia Chapter will provide an FNPS station in the upcoming FSU Coastal and Marine Lab Open House at 3618 Hwy. 98 St. Teresa, FL on April 30. The event is from 10am to 3pm.

May 17, 2022 – Chapter meeting

Fungi in the Field

Dr. Thomas Dolan

Dr. Thomas Dolan, botanist, Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences at Butler University, and Sarracenia Chapter member, will present to our chapter on our local fungi.

May 20 - 22, 2022 – FNPS Conference (Virtual): Gateway to Florida's Bio-diversity

You can register for the virtual annual conference at this link: www.fnps.org/conference/register. See article later in this newsletter.

✦ ✦ ✦



PINGUICULAS, THE "LITTLE GREASY ONES"

Jeannie Brodhead

Over the years I've often seen butterworts in moist areas along paths and roadways, never before realizing what cool little plants they are. Then, I bought a book, The Savage Garden by Peter D'Amato. I originally bought the book because it has a pitcher plant on the cover. Since pitcher plants are Sarracenias and I'm in the Sarracenia chapter, I really needed that book!

Pages 188-218 tell all about butterworts from all over the planet. In Florida we have six species of *Pinguicula*, commonly called butterworts or pings. I learned that all pinguiculas are carnivorous. Their leaves are covered with tiny hairs that are covered with a sticky goo. When a gnat, fruit fly or other tiny insect lands on the leaf it becomes stuck. The more it tries to get away, the more stuck it becomes.

This action causes the leaf to secrete enzymes that dissolve the insides of the prey, creating a nutrient rich soup that the plant then absorbs. I need a big patch of them during sand gnat season!

I read that butterworts are pollinated by hummingbirds. Charles Darwin, in the 1870s noticed that butterworts produce a strong bactericide. In Northern Europe butterwort leaves were applied to sores on cattle to promote healing. The leaves were also used to curdle goat's milk to produce a ropy, yogurtlike cheese. I wonder if our native butterworts will do that, too.



Godfrey's Butterwort

Pinguicula ionantha

Photo by Jeannie Brodhead

Pinguicula (cont'd.)

The panhandle butterwort, *Pinguicula ionantha*, is endemic to five counties of Florida's panhandle. Endemic means that they are only found in those 5 counties and nowhere else on the planet. They were first described in 1961 by Robert K. Godfrey from plants that he collected in the Apalachicola National Forest near Sumatra. *P. Ionantha* has a 4-6" stalk with a single one-inch wide flower. The flowers are pale lavender to white with a deep purple throat and a hairy protruding yellow palate. The petals are nearly oval and indented at their ends. They are found in very wet places, sometimes blooming underwater.

Since all six of the Florida pinguiculas are found in our area, my mission now is to locate and photograph all of them and put them on iNaturalist. Yesterday I went out with a friend and found my first three species, *P. pumila*, *P. lutea* and *P. planifolia*. Check out my iNaturalist account-jeannieb32327 to see photos of what we found.



Godfrey's Butterworts

Pinguicula ionantha
Photos by Jeannie Brodhead

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE FROM FNPS.ORG

Bonnie Basham, FNPS President

Welcome to spring! While it's still cool up here in north Florida, I'm sure you are already out in your garden preparing to welcome new and returning plant friends.

We all know its spring because our annual FNPS conference is just around the corner - May 20-22. If you have not registered, please take a moment and do so now: <https://www.fnps.org/conference/2022>



The conference is all about our bio-diverse state and celebrates Jacksonville as the 'Gateway to Biodiversity.'

Our keynote speaker is Ginny Stibolt, a member of Ixia chapter and author of four peer-reviewed books on Florida gardening.

Ginny has a new book, due out May 10 and published by University Press of Florida. It's entitled: Adventures of a Transplanted Gardener - Advice for Gardeners New to Florida which is filled with helpful advice. Ginny learned as she became acclimated to Florida gardening and shares those secrets with you. You can purchase it in advance at www.upf.com. (University Press of Florida).

As a conference attendee, you will get a chance to hear from and meet three native plant pioneers who traveled the state decades ago to spread the good news about the benefits of planting native wildflowers along roadsides, in parks, and in the gardens of Florida citizens: Anne MacKay, Nancy Bissette (Heartland chapter member), and Carolyn Schaag.

To honor these three women, and celebrate their achievements, the Florida Wildflower Foundation (FWF) has donated \$5,000 toward the efforts of FNPS and our chapters to educate and mentor university students in an internship program.

Update (cont'd.)

In addition, FWF is offering up to an additional \$5,000 for our outreach work as a match for donations from you our FNPS members.

More information about this exciting and generous program will be shared with you shortly. We will be asking members/conference attendees to chip in \$10, \$15, or more toward the match of this generous donation.



In other news, IF YOU have not purchased a voucher for your FNPS Native Florida license plate please do so now: <https://forms.fnps.org/license-plate-voucher>. Funds generated from the sale of this plate will help FNPS chapters with their outreach efforts, fund grants to chapters as well as others. In addition these funds will assist chapters in your work to educate Florida gardeners in your chapter-area about the benefits to our environment, animal habitat and general well-being as we seek to conserve, preserve and restore Florida native plants and their habitat.

Finally, we will have our annual membership meeting May 23 during which we will elect new officers. I look forward to seeing you at our virtual conference.



CHAPTER ELECTIONS IN APRIL

David Roddenberry

Maybe life was improbable. The rarity of it in the known universe suggests so. The life, the existence, of the Sarracenia Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society seems improbable to me. I love to say its name fully.

An FNPS chapter seated in Franklin and Wakulla Counties is atypical. I occasionally hear the story of the Chapter's conception—in the field on an environmental project. Some members have been in for the entire 15½ years.

Life and Sarracenia go on. The Chapter goes on because it keeps us connected to something real and ancient, yet ever fresh—the natural environment in all its splendor and diversity. It goes on because of the participating and dues-paying members. It goes on also because some members lead and steer it. Once a year we elect or re-elect those leaders. That time is here; the April meeting will include the Chapter election.

Sarracenia is approaching, if not this April then the next, the time when its survival will depend on mustering new leaders for the way ahead.

I have served as president for half of Sarracenia's life, enjoying compensation every time we're in fellowship in the field or in the meeting room. I'm willing to go one more year in the position if nominated. I believe the other current officers are willing to accept re-nomination. Dr. George Weaver, the treasurer (who has served in the position for *all* of Sarracenia's life, so far) indicates that he would go one more year. Jeannie Brodhead and Sandy Tedder hold the vice-presidency and the chapter secretary positions, respectively. I expect both will accept nomination again this time.

We're still without a chapter representative to FNPS. The position is essential in order that we go forward in concert with the rest of FNPS. We've been filling in recently. I don't exhort, but I have hope that we'll nominate and elect someone as chapter rep.



THE IMPORTANCE OF VOLUNTEER HOURS

Jeannie Brodhead

Volunteering hours are very important to non-profits such as the Florida Native Plant Society. They show growth of the organization and are very important for obtaining grants and maintaining our non-profit status. It is estimated that each volunteer hour is worth over \$26.00.

I volunteered to be the volunteer hours coordinator for Sarracenia chapter to help us acknowledge our many volunteers. I know that many of our members are active in projects that support the FNPS mission of promoting the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

Volunteer hours should be reported monthly. Some hours such as attendance at meetings and field trips will be bulk reported but I need to know what each member has done for other projects. If you have written

articles, made presentations, worked on native landscaping projects, helped with plant surveys, helped with plant rescues or propagated native plants for plant sales or community projects your time spent is very important. You can send a recap of what you have done to Sarracenia.nps@gmail.com. Feel free to send the information as soon as you have finished the project or at the end of each month. I will need to know the date(s), how much time was spent working on the project and a brief description of what you did.

In 2021 our Sarracenia chapter was #2 on the list of FNPS chapters reporting volunteer hours, with 23,444 hours. That averaged 30 hours per member. Our Jan./Feb. volunteer hours for 2022 were 173 hours, which averages to 2.19 hours per member. We are now #4 on the list.

Let's let the state organization know what an active chapter Sarracenia is! If you have any questions, feel free to contact us. We need more members to report their volunteer hours!



WINTER FOREST WALK

Our chapter had a wonderful field trip on February 20, 2022, to the Wakulla Springs State Park, East side. Led by George Apthorp, we were a group of about 10 adventurous folks who followed George Apthorp into the woods where there were no trails except an occasional deer and raccoon trail.

One of our fellow field trippers was a photographer from outside the U.S., Ernesto Reyes Mouriño. Below are some of the photos he took on the field trip.



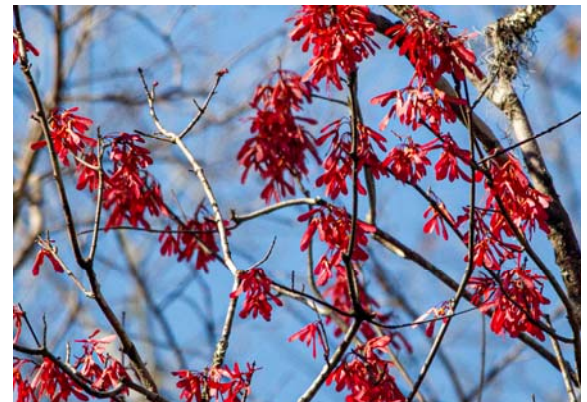
George Apthorp, George Weaver and David Roddenberry provided a narrative of plants as we walked the lands near the Wakulla River.



Red Buckeye tree *Aesculus pavia*



Purple violet *Viola* species



Red Maple seed clusters *Acer rubrum*



Mosses are small, non-vascular flowerless plants



DID YOU KNOW

Did you know that the speaker (Dr. Jim Folsom) at our chapter meeting last month was a bread baker? He also writes a very interesting blog that you can find here:

<https://botanyincontext.com/> and here:

<https://www.tiktok.com/@botanyincontext> (videos).

Check out this link, too:

<https://botanyincontext.com/index-to-reports-in-the-gazette/>.

Did you know that Dr. Craig Huegel writes a blog? He is known for his knowledge of plant-animal interactions and the design of wildlife-attracting landscapes. He has a great blog that you can find here:

<http://hawthornhillwildflowers.blogspot.com/>.

Did you know that you can review past YouTube videos of valuable information on native plants from FNPS's Lunch and Learns series? You can get lots of valuable information, from eating wild edible plants to creating a native pollinator garden. Here is the link to the Lunch and Learn sessions:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLT16Qn-flr4O7nxo1cDZil-bO0X9Oy126>.

Did you know that our Sarracenia chapter has a YouTube Channel? Here is the link:

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



The Sarracenia Chapter meets on the 3rd 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.

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

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 on the Join/Support tab.

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

Visit our webpage: Sarracenia.fnpschapters.org