



Sarracenia Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society
The SARRACENIA TRUMPET

WINTER 2021 - 2022

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 18, 2022 - Chapter meeting

Wildlife Food Gardens

Katrina Shadix

Katrina Shadix, an environmental scientist and founder of Bear Warriors United, advocates for conserving and protecting our water, land, air, and wildlife -- and specifically for the protection of bears. Ms. Shadix teaches about restoring wildlife habitats and promotes Wildlife Food Gardening. She will be speaking to our group about Florida friendly landscaping that allows us to live in concert with the wild world around us. See the article later in the newsletter. [This will be a Zoom meeting.]

January 22, 2022 - Crawfordville Arbor Day

Our chapter helps to host and fund the Crawfordville Arbor Day celebration. Free trees are available (see article on page two of this newsletter.)

February 15, 2022 - Chapter meeting

Apalachicola River Slough Restoration

John Tracy

The compromised flow of forested back sloughs of the lower Apalachicola River is identified as a major contributor to the ecological malaise of Apalachicola Bay and East Bay. University of Florida graduate researcher John Tracy will discuss and illustrate principal factors—including the native plant constituency—in the project he coordinates to restore flows and water quality and thus relieve stress on the abnormally salty East Bay.

March 16, 2022 - Chapter meeting

TBA

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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. Free and open to the public. FNPS promotes the preservation, conservation and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.



CHAPTER UPDATES

David Roddenberry

When we bid our friends Happy New Year, maybe we should offer some hint for how they might first remove the weight of the COVID pandemic from their outlook for 2022. And that's something we can't give them—unless they're un-vaccinated friends. It's the same when we wish the Sarracenia Chapter a prosperous 2022. What Sarracenia needs is a resumption of chapter meetings of the pre-pandemic kind. Time will tell if our meetings must stay virtual for a while longer, or if we're able to greet each other again at the Wakulla County Library soon.

We Sarracenias can all be proud that we've held fast and secured the Chapter as an environmental entity in Franklin and Wakulla Counties while COVID imposed such hardship on us. The membership level has held and even increased, and we've continued activities as fully as circumstances have allowed. As you see elsewhere in this issue, we have presentations arranged to kick off the new year.

While carrying on with a complete slate of virtual meetings by Zoom in 2021, Sarracenia achieved a return to a pre-pandemic field trip schedule. There were five trips in three counties, three of the trips drawing 20-25 participants. We plan to make 2022 rich in field trips.



Sarracenia field trip party in the Black Creek Bog in Apalachicola NF, October 2021

The first intimations of spring will come once again before long. A succession of native-plant and plant-community splendors will color our Florida landscape

(cont'd.)

again in 2022. Sarracenia will be enthusing over it all, as we take to the field and as we convene monthly in the best way we can.

ARBOR DAY - A CONTINUING TRADITION

Crawfordville Arbor Day is a day that is very popular with the citizens of Wakulla County. We are always happy to see the number of people that come out to support the event and to pick up their free Arbor Day tree.

This year's Arbor Day tree giveaway will be held on Saturday, January 22, 2022, from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM in downtown Crawfordville at Hudson Park - rain or shine.

Hundreds of trees, in pots, will be given away. It will be a drive-thru only, with one free tree per person and a maximum of two trees per car. Drive-thru starts on Ochlockonee Street where you'll place your order and receive your tree ticket. Your trees will be loaded into your trunk or SUV for you.

This event is sponsored by the Wakulla Garden Club, the National Wildlife Federation, and our Sarracenia Chapter, FNPS. **Please note: VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR SATURDAY'S ORGANIZING AND LOADING OF TREES. TO VOLUNTEER CONTACT JEANNIE BRODHEAD: jeannieb9345@gmail.com.**



Our parent organization, 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-bO0X9Oy126>.

Check out the full FNPS YouTube Channel, as well: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTom519pQlwTC-S_uDjkAEw.



The new FNPS Florida Native Tag. Pre-order at:

<https://forms.fnps.org/license-plate-voucher>. Help us reach our goal.

WILDLIFE FOOD GARDENING

Sandy Tedder

When I first proposed asking Katrina Shadix to speak to our chapter about "Wildlife Food Gardens", I had been aware of Ms. Shadix's keen interest in protecting bears and wildlife. She created the organization, Bear Warriors United, in response to the FWC's misguided effort several years ago to kill a certain number of bears in Florida. She is a tireless advocate for protecting bears, not just in Florida, but all around the country. Our January 18 chapter meeting (*via Zoom*) will be all about providing wildlife food gardens for feeding all types of wildlife.

On our chapter field trips, as a means to gaining access to rare and often overlooked native plants, we explore out of the way places that haven't yet been trampled and developed and this often brings us into contact with many wildlife species, including bears. If we are making too much noise or have a convoy of autos driving to a place, we might miss seeing the wildlife that abounds, but don't be fooled into thinking that there is no wildlife around. The bears and wild things have heard US and have likely moved on to quieter and safer part of the woods.

Those of us who live in less urbanized areas share the forest and the swamps and the areas of disappearing habitats with wild creatures. The more that people move into the country the more the wildlife could use our help when we have commandeered their habitats. We live in a world of disappearing ecosystems and declining biodiversity. One of the ways we, as humans, can help our fellow creatures is to plant wildlife food gardens that can save the birds, the bears, and the other creatures that share this planet. Plan to attend our January 18 chapter meeting (*via Zoom*) and see how Katrina Shadix can help us understand how we can live WITH our bears and wildlife and make substantive changes in our environment. If you are not on our email list for meetings and would like the Zoom link, please contact us at Sarracenia.nps@gmail.com.



FAVORITE QUOTE: *"If American's replanted half of their lawns with native plants, shrubs and trees, we would have more wildlife habitat than all the national parks combined."* Doug Tallamy, professor in the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware.



SOPCHOPPY DEPOT PARK UPDATE

Do you love a wildflower meadow? Some of our chapter members were involved in helping to design and plant a meadow at the Sopchoppy Depot Park this year. The effort started out with a grant application to the Florida Wildflower Foundation by the City of Sopchoppy with the lion's share of the grant application completed by chapter member Lynn Artz. Planning was begun early in the year and by mid-year the grant had been awarded and clearing was begun on an area about 100' long by about 25' wide. The area was solarized over the summer months and plants and seeds were obtained in October. Volunteers helped to set out the plants and seed various areas in the meadow. Although the plants are still young or are coming up as seedlings this endeavor promises to be a wonderful addition to the Sopchoppy Depot Park. The meadow is located at the south side of the park adjacent to the pond and parking area.



Staging the plants before setting them out in the meadow



Volunteers planting the meadow - October 2021

Butterflies and other pollinators were attracted to our meadow plants the day they were set out. We even had a Monarch butterfly sample the newly planted blazing star (*Liatris spicata*) plants. Below you will see a zebra longwing and a cloudless sul

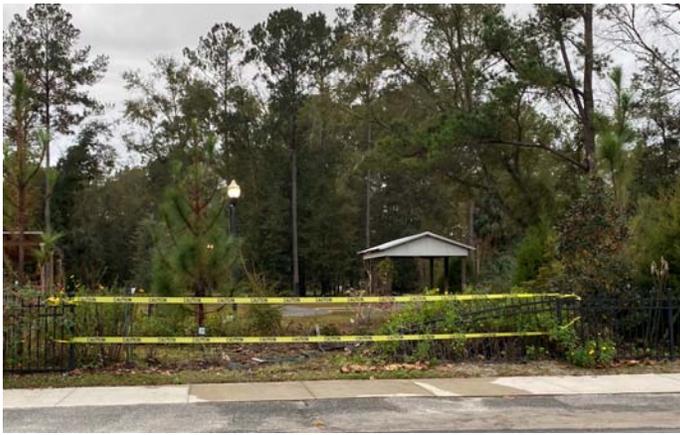
fur butterfly on our false sunflower (*Helianthus helianthoides*) and scarlet rosemallow (*Hibiscus coccineus*).



Butterflies enjoying the nectar

There is always a need for volunteer 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 volunteer: Sarracenia.nps@gmail.com. We surely thank all of our volunteers who currently help with the park and want to give a special thank you to Steve and Leslie Cushman who have spent hours helping us remove invasive trees and shrubs. They went the extra mile for us and we can't thank them enough.

A few more of our recent photos from the Sopchoppy Depot Park show how a recent auto accident happened at the front of the park on Thanksgiving night. A very big "oops" resulted when a car traveling south on Railroad Avenue neglected to stop for the stop sign and ran through the park fence and into the northwest section of the park (photos on following page.)



The driver didn't stop until he hit the corner of the picnic pavilion in the background. Quite a crunch but no one was hurt.



The *Sarracenia minor* pitcherplant bog garden – Nov. 2021



Sopchoppy Depot Museum looking through coral honeysuckle and blazing star plants in the park

Sarracenia Board and Regular Volunteers

David Roddenberry
 Jeannie Brodhead
 George Weaver
 Sandy Tedder
 Bonnie Basham, Lynn Artz, Kitty Loftin, Pam Pafford

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