



Sea Rocket



Florida Native Plant Society ~ Sea Rocket Chapter ~ Serving North & Central Brevard County

JULY 2010

The purpose of the Florida Native Plant Society is to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

~Sea Rocket~ Board of Directors

President
Suzanne Meyer

321-264-4922
meyermenagerie@cfl.rr.com

Vice President
Debbie Springer

321-745-2192,
rspringer29@earthlink.net

Treasurer
Betty Page

321-269-0555
sioned@digital.net

Secretary

Ginny Blaetz

321-412-5649
vblaetz@hotmail.com

Chapter Representative

Paul Schmalzer, PhD

321-268-5473

~ Committees ~

Membership/Outreach

Shari Blissett Clark

321-454-6849
jclark109@cfl.rr.com

Education

Volunteer Needed!

Nursery

Suzanne Meyer
321-264-4922

Hospitality

Volunteer Needed!

Hike Leader

Paul Schmalzer, PhD
321-268-5473

Newsletter

Shari Blissett Clark
321-454-6849



FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

~ SEA ROCKET CHAPTER ~



CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO OUR

annual picnic

LIVE MUSIC
OYSTER MATS
GAMES

At



The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary
Saturday, July 17 - 11:00 to 3:00 pm

Bring your plate and bring your fork,
and bring some food to share!
Then when you're full of bread and pork,
make oyster mats & show you care!

Sea Rocket Chapter will provide drinks and ice.

Please RSVP to Shari at jclark109@cfl.rr.com, or call 321-454-6849

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UPCOMING EVENTS & THINGS TO DO

| | |
|--|---|
| Every Thursday | Sea Rocket Nursery Workday, 9:30am, Suzanne Meyer, 321-264-4922 |
| Every Tuesday | Deadheaders Garden Volunteers, The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 9:00am, call 321-264-5185 for information |
| Sunday, July 4 | Independence Day! |
| Tuesday, July 6 | Plant Survey at Scottsmoor Flatwoods, 9:30am, Call 321-264-5185 for information |
| Tuesday, July 13 | Plant Survey at Scottsmoor Flatwoods, 9:30am, Call 321-264-5185 for information |
| Wednesday, July 14 | Sea Rocket Board Meeting, Time and Location TBA Call Suzanne Meyer, 321-264-4922 |
| Thursday, July 15 | Friends of the Enchanted Forest Meeting, The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 6:30pm, Call 321-264-5185 for information |
| Friday, July 16, & Tuesday, July 27 | Make Oyster Mats, The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 12 noon, Call 321-264-5185 for more information |
| Saturday, July 17 | Sea Rocket Annual Picnic, The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 11am ~ 3pm, Call Shari at 321-454-6849 for information |
| Sunday, July 18 | North American Butterfly Association (NABA) butterfly census, The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 9:00am, call 321-264-5185 |
| Tuesday, July 20 | Plant Survey at Scottsmoor Flatwoods, 9:30am Call 321-264-5185 for information |
| Saturday, July 24 | Wildflower Hike, The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 10:00am Call 321-264-5185 for more information |
| Tuesday, July 27 | Plant Survey at Scottsmoor Flatwoods, 9:30am Call 321-264-5185 for information |

REMEMBER ~ Sea Rocket will not be meeting in July or August. See you in September!

Submit items for future Calendars to Shari Blissett Clark at jclark109@cfl.rr.com



SEA ROCKETS AUTUMN MEETINGS ~ MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



In September, Sea Rocket will host a native plant salvage workshop.

October wouldn't be autumn without Jay Barnhart and his fungi!
Send photos of fungi to Jay at ruthnjay@cfl.rr.com

And in November, Sea Rocket will present the
National Wildlife Federations Backyard Habitat Program!

Don't miss these interesting programs!

For more information please contact Debbie Springer at 321-745-2192

MYSTERY PLANT



**DO YOU KNOW THE NAME OF THIS
FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT ?**

Email your best guess to:

jclark109@cfl.rr.com

**Winners* will receive a Florida
native plant for their garden!**

** Must be present at September meeting to claim prize*

THERE WAS NO WINNER IN JUNE



The June Mystery Plant was
Alabama Supplejack, *Berchemia scandens*

Enchanted Forest Needs Guides

**The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary
invites you to become a Guide!**

**Training is free and focuses on
your interests and talents.**



**Guides are needed for
groups of all ages and
abilities.**

**Please call Joe Swingle
~ 321-264-5185 ~
for more information**



June Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Ginny Blaetz

June 23, 2010

President Suzanne Meyer called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm and made several announcements. She then called for a motion to approve May 2010 general meeting minutes. A motion was made for approval and seconded, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer Betty Page gave the Treasurer's Report:

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Receipts | 1521.54 |
| Expenditures | <u>1978.71</u> |
| Current Balance | \$3622.35 |

Betty stated that \$653.80 is to be reimbursed to SR by Keep Brevard Beautiful for the KBB Xeriscape Grant. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report and it was seconded. The motion to approve the Treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

Featured speaker Dr. Ross Hinkle explained the 11 year experiment which was conducted at Kennedy Space Center to ascertain the effects of double the "normal" amount of carbon dioxide on existing ecosystems. Chambers were constructed over existing scrub habitat in order to deliver and control various levels of CO₂. In addition, open topped chambers and unchambered scrub were monitored for CO₂ levels and habitat response. The study concluded that Florida palmetto scrub stored a lot of carbon in the bio mass above ground but even more in the roots underground. Pine flatwoods performed even better in CO₂ storage capacity.

Towers with a variety of measurement devices were also constructed to measure which environments stored or released the most carbon dioxide. Pasture/ lawns stored very small amounts of CO₂ but were better than urban areas dominated by pavement. Overall, pine flatwoods performed best for CO₂ storage.

Dr. Hinkle concluded that many thousands of acres of wildlands need to be available as CO₂ sinks just to keep up with normal human respiration. He hopes to develop models which show how to integrate maximum carbon storage capacity into land management plans while allowing for other uses of the land at the same time.

Dr. Hinkle answered questions.

Door prizes were awarded.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Friends of the Enchanted Forest Acknowledge Sea Rocket Chapter

Submitted by Martha Pessaro

Editor's Note: Sea Rocket Chapter has used the Enchanted Forest as a plant sale venue for many years, and it has long been our policy to donate 15% of sale proceeds to The Friends of the Enchanted Forest.

"To our Friends at the Florida Native Plant Society ~ Sea Rocket Chapter:

The Friends of the Enchanted Forest wish to gratefully acknowledge the generous donation received from your Chapter. We have used the funds toward the replacement cost of our leaking pond pump. Serenity Pond will thrive once more after the pump installation is complete and we owe a great big **THANK YOU** to FNPS ~ Sea Rocket! The hard work, diligence, and love that Sea Rocket members invest in our community illustrates the spirit of volunteerism and provides inspiration through the beauty that native plants bring to our world.

The Friends of the Enchanted Forest also wish to thank the dedicated Sea Rocket members who braved the heat and humidity of June to come out in support of the Ace Hardware Pond Tour! All the Pond Tour visitors were enthusiastic and Suzanne Meyer, Debbie Springer, Betty Page, Ginny Blaetz, and Shari Blissett Clark did a fabulous job of answering questions and educating visitors about Florida's wonderful native plants!

The Friends of the Enchanted Forest appreciate Sea Rocket's support and extend their heartfelt thanks!"



Nursery News

Submitted by Suzanne Meyer

Our nursery committee has been hard at work and, boy, does it show! Sea Rocket's last plant sale was held on June 5th at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary. As in years past, this sale was held in conjunction with the Ace Hardware Pond Tour. Even though it was one hot day, our committee managed to stay cool while educating visitors and selling our great plants.

We're pleased by the fact that more and more folks are anticipating and planning for our plant sales. This is due in part to Sea Rocket's outreach and advertising efforts, and our plant sale revenues have certainly been impacted! This year we earned \$930.75 at the Pond Tour Sale!

Please don't forget that our dedicated nursery volunteers can always use some help! It's hard work, and we don't take a summer break because the nursery is the financial life blood of the Chapter. Please consider getting involved with the plant sales; after all, getting out there and meeting new people and talking about the many benefits of native plants is what we are about. Education is always our first priority.

The next planned plant sale will be during Forest Festival on November 6, 2010 at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary. The weather should be much kinder to us by then, so give some thought to getting involved. Maybe you'll find your place in our educational outreach programs!

And as always, THANKS to all our nursery volunteers for another incredible plant sale!

Did You Know?

Laurel Wilt Disease is killing thousands of Redbay trees in Florida!

Symptoms include:

- ~ sudden browning of leaves at the crown of the tree
- ~ streaked discoloration of the wood directly underneath the bark
- ~ rapid death of the tree

If you suspect Laurel Wilt Disease, contact the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (FDACS) immediately!

1-888-397-1517

Or visit

www.doacs.state.fl.us/pi/enpp/pathology/laurel_wilt_disease.html

FNPS Board of Directors Meeting, May 20, 2010

Submitted by Paul A. Schmalzer, Ph.D.

The Florida Governor and Cabinet approved a resolution commemorating FNPS on its 30th anniversary.

The Conservation Committee received seven nominations for Conservation Grants. The BOD approved total funding of \$5000, split between the three highest ranked projects:

Little Salt Spring Invasive Species Removal,
Reintroduction of the Fragrant Prickly Apple-cactus,
Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve Watershed Invasive Plant Eradication Task Force "Toolshed"

The Landscape Awards Committee received 12 nominations for awards. Awards were presented at the Banquet Saturday night.

The Science Advisory Committee received 18 applications for the Endowment Research Awards. Grants of \$2500 each were approved by the BOD for:

Christopher G. Oakley, Department of Biological Science, Florida State University, "Can among-population variation in mating system help to explain patterns of adaptive genetic diversity in the endangered endemic *Hypericum cumulicola*?"

Adam C. Payton, Department of Biology, University of Florida, "Investigating rarity: Species delimitation and evolution in *Dicerandra* (Lamiaceae) annuals"

The 2011 FNPS Annual Conference will be in Orlando with four chapters sharing the local arrangements. The 2012 Conference will be held at Hillsborough Community College in Plant City, Florida with the Suncoast Chapter sponsoring the meeting. The 2013 Conference will be held in Jacksonville with two chapters as sponsors.

Renovation of the FNPS web site is planned over the next year.

A new Chapter is forming in Suwannee County.

FNPS General Assembly Membership Meeting, May 22, 2010

Submitted by Paul A. Schmalzer, Ph.D.

1. By laws amendments were approved to allow the Vice President for Finance and Vice President for Administration to serve two consecutive two-year terms and to allow the *Sabal minor* to be distributed electronically.
2. The slate of officers was approved as presented: President: Ann Redmond, Vice President for Finance: Steve Woodmansee (2nd term), Secretary: Peg Lindsay, Directors at Large: Ann Moore, Dr. Carrie Rheinhart-Adams, and Rick Joyce (2nd term).
3. The FNPS Chapter Award went to the Magnolia Chapter.
4. Several Green Palmetto Awards were given.
5. The Mentor Award was present to Ann Cox particularly for her work with the Land Management Review Committee.
6. Silver Palmetto Awards were presented to Kari Ruder, Vince Lamb, and Cindy Liberton.

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e: info@maplestreetnatives.com
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RETAIL
M-Sat 8-5

FLORIDA NATIVE TREES, SHRUBS, WILDFLOWERS, GRASSES



MEET~A~MEMBER: Madeline Klinko

Interview by Shari Blissett Clark

SBC: How did you get interested in native plants?

MK: Through the Space coast Birding & Wildlife Festival (some of your members are hike leaders). I love hiking to see natural communities. Conservation has long been an interest.

SBC: Have you used natives in your yard? If so, how?

MK: I live in a deed-restricted Titusville community that favors turf grass. I'm replacing St. Augustine with Bahia, enlarging my mulch beds, and adding natives here & there. The city well-field is behind my lot. Within 10-20' I'm finding Hercules club, Coral bean, Beautyberry, Saw palmetto, assorted oaks & other trees, and a variety of autumn & spring wildflowers. I've cleared or pruned back Boston fern, aphidistra, air potato, and grapevine which seems to allow other natives to fill in.

SBC: Which is your favorite plant and why?

MK: I think I'm seeing buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*) blooming on the south side of the water ditch in at least 2 places on Fox Lake Road (left of the entrance, and one bush about 3 car-lengths back from the South Street traffic light). Anyone - feel free to let me know if I'm right or not!

SBC: What types of programs do you think Sea Rocket should plan for the future?

MK: I enjoy the programs and have no recommendations.

Thank-you Madeline!

If you'd like to be featured in this article, please contact Shari at jclark109@cfl.rr.com

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Suzanne Meyer



These are certainly the lazy days of summer, but that's no reason to stay indoors! Get outside during the cooler parts of the day and enjoy the bounty of *La Florida*!

Which begs the question "What's to do in July?" So glad you asked! Sea Rocket is hosting it's annual potluck picnic at our wonderful Enchanted Forest on July 17 between 11am and 3pm.

There will be live music by singer/songwriter Sheryl Paige (read Sheryl's bio and listen to her tunes at www.sonicbids.com/sherylpaige), and Michelle Peters-Snyder of the Nature Conservancy will be there to share in our picnic and to educate us on oyster mats. They are easy and fun to make and really benefit the oyster beds. To find out more about this project, visit www.nature.org/oysters

Picnic-ers will have the option of playing "Plant Jeopardy," hiking the trails, or spending time inside the Nature Center to cool off and check out the interactive exhibits, the well-stocked library, and the Gift Shoppe!

And for the first time Sea Rocket has invited the Tar-flower, Pawpaw, and Conradina Chapters to join us, so there will be plenty of opportunity for socializing and sharing information!

Sea Rocket will be providing assorted beverages and ice. Don't forget to bring a covered dish to share and also silverware, a plate and a cup.

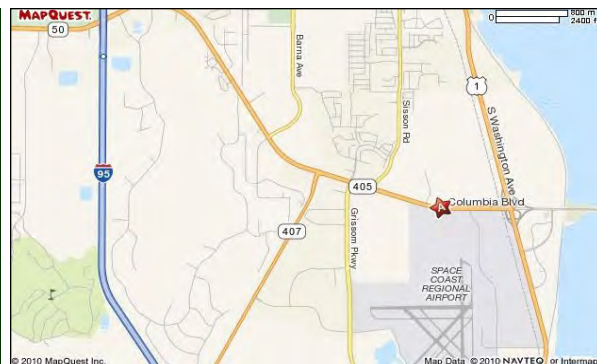
To RSVP or get more information about our picnic, please contact Shari Blissett Clark at jclark109@cfl.rr.com Last year's picnic was fun, but I'm thinking this year will be even better! See you at the picnic!

(For directions to the Enchanted Forest, call 321-264-5185)

Note: There will not be a membership meeting in July or August. Meetings will resume in September.



The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary Education Center
444 Columbia Blvd, Titusville, FL 32780 321-264-5185



Driving Directions to the Sanctuary:

From I-95 Northbound: take SR-407 Exit 212 east 2.7 miles to SR-405 intersection. Turn right onto SR-405 and go east 1.9 miles (the Sanctuary entrance is on the left 0.4 miles past Sisson Road)

From I-95 Southbound: take SR-50 Exit 215 east. Turn left onto SR 50 and turn right onto SR-405 (2nd light) Travel 3.6 miles (the Sanctuary entrance is on the left 0.4 miles past Sisson Road)

From U.S. HWY 1: go west 0.5 miles on SR-405 in south Titusville. Sanctuary entrance is on the right.



Florida Native Plant Society

For membership information, address change: P. O. Box 278, Melbourne, FL 32902-0278
Phone: 321-271-6702; Fax: 321-951-1941; Email: Info@fnps.org/www.fnps.org
Sea Rocket Chapter mailing address: P. O. Box 236341, Cocoa, FL 32923-6341

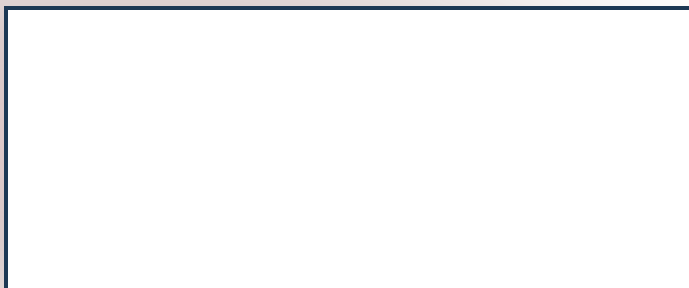


**REMEMBER TO RSVP FOR THE ANNUAL
PICNIC ON JULY 17!**

***NO MEETINGS IN JULY OR AUGUST ~
SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!***



SEA ROCKET CHAPTER
PO Box 236341
Cocoa, FL 32923-6341



GO GREEN! RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL AND SAVE SOME GREEN! GO GREEN!