



# Sea Rocket



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

JUNE 2011

*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

**Vacant**

### 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

Shari Blissett Clark

321-454-6849

### Education/Outreach

Shari Blissett Clark

321-454-6849

### Nursery

Suzanne Meyer

321-264-4922

### Hike Leader

Paul Schmalzer, PhD

321-268-5473

### Newsletter

Shari Blissett Clark

321-454-6849

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2011 ~ 7:00PM

## THE STATUS OF CONSERVATION IN FLORIDA

WITH KARINA VEAUDRY, FNPS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Please join the FNPS Sea Rocket Chapter in welcoming Karina Veaudry, the Florida Native Plant Society's Executive Director, as our June speaker. As a professional Landscape Architect for twenty-four years, Karina directs projects throughout the southeast United States that focus on a sense of place, natural heritage preservation, the role of native plants in the landscape, the role of people interacting with nature, and balancing development with conservation. She holds a bachelor's degree in Landscape Architecture from the University of Florida

As Executive Director of the Florida Native Plant Society, Ms. Veaudry works with local chapters throughout the state and educates citizens and local governments on the importance of planting native plants in the exterior environment to increase biodiversity and reduce extinction rates. She works with city and county governments to ensure critical areas of conservation are identified and incorporated into long range planning and future land use plans.



Florida habitats support approximately 4,000 native plants, and in order to preserve this biodiversity, 33% of the state's land mass will need to be committed to conservation. Ms. Veaudry will present an overview of the status of conservation in Florida and outline the steps citizens and local governments can take to ensure a balance between conservation and development.

Ms. Veaudry will address the importance of citizen involvement and oversight of local planning and development strategies, and how monitoring these activities helps ensure the use of best practices and sound science.

Spectacular imagery will be used to illustrate the importance of native plant landscape design and how to use Florida native plants in gardens. Plan to attend this interesting program at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary on Wednesday, June 22nd. As always, Sea Rocket meetings are free and open to the public.

For more information please call 321-264-4922.

## UPCOMING EVENTS & THINGS TO DO

- Every Thursday Sea Rocket Nursery Workday, 9:30am, Contact Suzanne Meyer at 321-264-4922 for information
- Every Monday Scottsmoor Flatwoods Sanctuary Plant Survey, 10:00am, Parrish Park, Scottsmoor, call 321-264-5185 for information
- Saturday, June 4 Sea Rocket Native Plant Sale, The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, See ad on page 3, call 321-264-4922 for more information
- Saturday, June 4 Ace Hardware Pond Tour, call 321-452-3484 for information
- Saturday, June 4 Music in the Forest, The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 5pm to 8pm Call 321-264-5185 for information
- Saturday, June 4 National Trails Day Hike, Mill Creek Preserve, call 321-453-1586
- Saturday, June 11 Volunteer Workday at Indian Mound Sanctuary, 9am to 12 noon, Call 321-264-5185 for information
- Friday, June 17 Friends of the Enchanted Forest Meeting, The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 6:00 pm, call 321-264-5185 for information
- Wednesday, June 22 FNPS Sea Rocket Meeting, The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 7:00pm, "The Status of Conservation in Florida", Karina Veaudry Call 321-264-4922 for information
- Thursday, June 23 Make Oyster Mats, The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 12 noon to 2, Call 321-264-5185 for information
- Saturday, June 25 Volunteer Workday at Fox Lake Sanctuary, 9am to 12 noon, Call 321-264-5185 for information

Contact Shari at [jclark109@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jclark109@cfl.rr.com) if you'd like to have an event listed in this calendar

Don't Forget!

Sea Rocket doesn't meet in July or August...

But we are having a Summer picnic!

Saturday, July 16, 2011 / noon to 2:30

Enchanted Forest Sanctuary ~ Bring a covered dish to share!

Call Shari at 321-454-6849 if you have questions

September speaker: Roger L. Hammer

October speaker: Jay Barnhart





Florida Native Plant Society ~ Sea Rocket Chapter   
and Ace Hardware on Merritt Island presents a

# NATIVE PLANT SALE

at the ENCHANTED FOREST SANCTUARY  
in support of ACE HARDWARE'S POND TOUR  
SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 2011 ~ 10 am to 4 pm

Many plant species to choose from, including:

- |                        |                     |                    |
|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| ☞ Cardinal Flower      | ☞ Florida Canna     | ☞ Firebush         |
| ☞ Scarlet Hibiscus     | ☞ Dune Sunflower    | ☞ Swamp Milkweed   |
| ☞ Horsetail            | ☞ Coral Honeysuckle | ☞ Beautyberry      |
| ☞ Florida Blue Violets | ☞ Blanket Flower    | ☞ Dotted Horsemint |
| ☞ Virginia Willow      | ☞ Coreopsis         | ☞ Sunshine Mimosa  |
| ☞ Lizard's Tail        | ☞ Passionvine       | ☞ & many more!     |
|                        | ☞ Beargrass         |                    |



For information about the Ace Hardware Pond Tour call 321-452-3484  
For information about the Plant Sale call Suzanne at 321-264-4922  
To learn more about Florida's native plants visit [www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org)



The Friends of the Enchanted Forest  
invite you to attend

## "Environmentally Endangered Lands Program: Past, Present, & Future"

featuring

Mike Knight ~ EEL Program Manager  
Vince Lamb ~ EEL Program Procedures  
Committee

Friday, June 17, 2011  
6:00 pm

## Enchanted Forest Sanctuary

Plan to attend this important  
meeting and learn how you can help  
preserve the EEL Program



For more  
information  
contact

Barb at 321-268-5888 or  
Vince at 321-258-5168



The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary is  
located at 444 Columbia Blvd in Titusville  
~ call 321-264-5185 for driving directions

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**June Plant Sale!**  
~Special Discounts ~  
Buy 5 and get 1 FREE!

Mix and match OK ~ free plant of  
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to in-stock plants only.

The Green Marketplace  
at Adamson Rd.

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[www.naturewiseplants.com](http://www.naturewiseplants.com)

321-536-1410

**Sea Rocket  
Needs Your Help!**

**Volunteer!**

Vice President  
Education Committee  
Membership Committee  
Nursery Committee

Contact a Board Member &  
ask how you can help!

## **Membership Meeting Minutes ~ May 25, 2011**

*Submitted by Ginny Blaetz*

President Suzanne Meyer brought the meeting to order at 7:12 pm and requested a motion to approve the minutes of the April meeting. June Boehm made a motion to approve the April minutes as published in the newsletter and Annette Myers seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Suzanne made general announcements of upcoming events and stated that 2 people had correctly guessed the mystery plant in the recent newsletter.

The speaker for the evening, Billy Rhodes, was introduced. Billy is a member of the Bonsai Societies of Brevard and Florida. He has extensive experience in bonsai and recently traveled to China to explore bonsai there. Bill gave an entertaining short course in "Beginners' Bonsai" which included general information and hints on how to bonsai Florida native plants. Bill stated that he prefers to use specimens which have been growing in the ground and have developed interesting shapes from environmental stresses.

Billy explained that many of the bonsai specimens available at fairs and "big box" stores are often already dead when purchased. Healthy bonsai can be obtained from growers or at special bonsai shows, or by rescuing plants when others "re-landscape".

Natives which lend themselves to bonsai are those shrubs and trees which have small leaves, don't mind being in a pot, are cold tolerant, and thrive on pruning. Billy specifically mentioned bald cypress, Simpson's stopper, Florida privet, Red maple, Green ash and Buttonwood. The later can prove a bit difficult due to its cold sensitivity. Billy does not recommend growing bonsai (or any plants) indoors as air conditioning is not good for them. He only brings his indoors when he is "showing them off".

Bonsai need to be potted in special pots which have large drainage holes. They require a special soil which facilitates drainage. They are watered every day, not misted or soaked. They are wired into their pots because they are usually very top-heavy and would otherwise fall over. Pots can be very expensive, and some are antiques, but inexpensive ones can also be obtained and even plastic ones are available. The shape of the pot is very important & should be chosen in harmony with the shape of the plant.

The pruning of plants and reduction of leaves is done frequently, and repotting is necessary when the plant becomes root bound. At this time roots may also be pruned. Bonsai trees may live for over a hundred years when well cared for.

An exhibit of bonsai is available for viewing at the Brevard Zoo. The Bonsai Society of Brevard will have a booth at the Melbourne Art Festival in October and a larger show in November at the Zoo. The Bonsai Society of Brevard meets at the Melbourne Fee Avenue Library on the third Saturday of every month at 1 pm. More information can be found at the Society's website at [www.bonsaisocietyofbrevard.org](http://www.bonsaisocietyofbrevard.org)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

## **FNPS General Assembly Membership Meeting Minutes, May 21, 2011**

*Submitted by Paul A. Schmalzer, Ph.D.*

Following is summary of the General Assembly Membership Meeting held at the FNPS Annual Conference on May 21, 2011:

1. Vice-President for Administration Jackie Rolly was reelected for a second two-year term.
2. Treasurer Daphne Lambright was reelected for a second two-year term.
3. Three new Directors at Large were elected: Greg Krolczyk, Matt King, and Ray Jarrett.
4. The revisions to the Bylaws, as recommended by the Board of Directors, were approved.
5. Green Palmetto Awards were presented to Nancy West, Nadine Foley, Lavon Silverness, Gwen Burzcki.
6. Four Silver Palmetto Awards were presented.
7. The Mentor Award was given to Dr. Loran Anderson, Professor Emeritus, Florida State University, for his decades of contributions to botany and conservation in the State.
8. The Chapter Award was given to the Paynes Prairie Chapter.



# Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program



## Public Presentation

### Celebrating 20 Years of Land Conservation, Public Access, and Environmental Education

Come hear about our successes over the past 20 years!  
A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

Wednesday, June 1st 6:30 p.m. at Cocoa Beach Library

Sunday, June 5th 3:00 p.m. at Titusville Library

Thursday, June 9th 6:30 p.m. at Central Reference Library in Cocoa

Wednesday, June 15th 6:30 p.m. at Melbourne (Fee Ave) Library

Saturday, June 18th at 11:00 a.m. Melbourne Beach Library

Thursday, June 23rd 2:00 p.m. at South Mainland/Micco Library

Thursday, June 30th 6:30 p.m. at Franklin T. DeGroodt Library (Palm Bay)

Thursday, July 7th 6:30 p.m. Merritt Island Library

Saturday, July 16th 3:00 p.m. at Suntree/Viera Library



For more information, contact: 321-255-4466 or email: [eel@brevardparks.com](mailto:eel@brevardparks.com)

## FNPS Board of Directors Meeting, May 19, 2011

*Submitted by Paul A. Schmalzer, Ph.D.*

The Board of Directors approved two new FNPS Chapters. The University of Florida Student Chapter is the second student chapter in FNPS. It is being mentored by the Paynes Prairie Chapter. The Santa Rosa County Chapter was also approved. It will select a final name at a later date.

The FNPS web merchandizing site is up and running. It can be reached from the FNPS web site home page. Net income since inception has been about \$1200. More merchandise is needed.

FNPS finances are in better shape due to a very successful annual fund drive and actions to contain expenses.

The FNPS-sponsored travel trip to Nicaragua for the fall of 2011 has filled. FNPS will receive a donation from the travel agency since the trip filled. There are four people on a waiting list for this trip; a second trip will be held in January 2012 if four additional people register.

A second summit of Native Plant Societies in the Southeastern U.S. is being held in Cullowhee, NC this summer.

The BOD accepted with regret the resignation of Anne Redmond as FNPS President. The BOD approved appointing Steve Woodmansee, current Vice-President for Finance, to serve the remaining one year of Anne's term as President. Filling the VP for Finance position will be considered at the August BOD meeting.

The BOD approved two Conservation Grants, as recommended by the Conservation Committee. One award of \$1500 went to the Emerald Marsh Conservation Area Hardwood Restoration Project submitted by Jo-Anna Emanuel, St. Johns River Water Management District; this project seeks to restore wetland hardwood trees to a degraded floodplain hardwood swamp. A second award of \$400 was approved to extend the 2010 project of restoring populations of *Harrisia fragrans* (fragrant prickly apple-cactus). All awards were funded by donations from Chapters and individuals.

The BOD approved three Research Grant Awards as recommended by the Science Advisory Committee. All awards were funded by donations from Chapters and individuals. Recipients were Glenn Bupp, Florida Institute of Technology, "Evaluating ploidy in the endangered Florida endemic *Lupinus aridorum* to aid conservation efforts" - Grant amount \$1000. Tonya Fotinos, Florida International University. "Conservation genetics of the endangered Key Tree Cactus *Pilosocereus robinii*" - Grant amount \$1500. Mizuki Takahashi, Bucknell University, "Clonal spread and ages of *Serenoa repens* in a threatened ecosystem" - Grant amount \$1500.

The 2012 Conference will be held in Plant City. Planning for this conference is well underway. The 2013 Conference will be held in the Jacksonville area.

The FNPS membership had increased to about 2990 before the Conference.

A draft annual report has been completed and will be finalized soon.

A "Board Pledge" was approved for all BOD members.

## Celebrate National Trails Day ~ June 4, 2011

*with the Florida Trail Association*

Join Dennis Miranda, FTA's Executive Director, for a hike in Mill Creek Preserve on National Trails Day, Saturday, June 4. Meet at 9 a.m. for about 3 miles of hiking through scenic hardwood hammock forest and pineland and over the tributaries of Townsend Branch Creek. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water, sunscreen, bug spray and a hat. Features of the trail include benches, interpretive signs and a unique pedestrian bridge with designs by local artist and metal sculptor John Patterson. Many of the trail's amenities are constructed from recycled material, local stone, and logs of non-native invasive trees.

The 1,230 acre Mill Creek Preserve, the first property acquired through the Alachua County Forever Program, was opened to the public in April of 2008. It is located just north of the town of Alachua. The parking lot is on the south side of CR 236, one-quarter mile west of the intersection of CR 241 and CR 236. If the parking lot is full you can park along CR 236. For more information about this hike contact Jim Escoffier at 321-453-1586.





## Brazilian Pepper (*Schinus terebinthefolia*)

Submitted by Jay Barnhart

Reproduced with permission from Sebastian Inlet's "Outgoing Tide"

Even if you are not interested in plant identification, this is one species recognition that should be a requirement for all plant lovers, but not because it is something to be enjoyed and appreciated; rather, it deserves to be sought out for destruction and removal at every possible opportunity. A careful observation of the growth pattern, stature, and leaf structure will soon construct and capture an indelible mental picture that can make you an expert in sorting out this vile exotic invasive intruder that is aggressively taking over every square foot that our native plants seem unable to defend.

Brazilian pepper is a small bushy evergreen tree or large shrub with pinnately compound leaves. It tends to form thickets, and can grow up to 30 feet in height. Brazilian Pepper is the terrorist of the plant world, waging biological warfare on our land as it possesses an array of offensive and defensive techniques that enable its invasion and conquest of the area upon which it encroaches. It not only excels in producing innumerable, attractive, succulent bright red berries which entice our native birds to ingest, and which then harmlessly pass through the digestive tracts and eventual fecal bird droppings, the plant also produces toxic substances called *allelopaths* which prevent native plants from germinating or growing within its shadow or root domain.

Brazilian Pepper was introduced into the United States in the mid-1800s as an ornamental, and was quite popular for its abundant bright red berries which are most striking around the Christmas Holidays. It has been erroneously called "Florida Holly", an unfortunate misnomer since Florida has a beautiful true native red berry-bearing tree which is correctly called Dahoon Holly (*Ilex cassine*).



A certain degree of management is being achieved through organized "Pepper Busts", and studies are being done to discover or develop a substance or organism that will help to eliminate Brazilian Pepper. As individuals we can do our part by learning to identify the plant and using whatever method is appropriate for the situation at hand to destroy it.

Since Brazilian Pepper has close family ties (*Anacardiaceae* Family) to poison oak, poison ivy, and poison sumac, it would be advisable to wear some skin protection while handling it, or avoid contact completely if a known allergy exists to plants in this family.

## Maple Street Natives



Sharon & Brent Dolan

7619 Henry Ave.

West Melbourne, FL 32904

ph: 321-729-6857

e: info@maplestreetnatives.com

www.maplestreetnatives.com

RETAIL  
M-Sat 8-5

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## Tulinda's Garden

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Mobile 321-446-9338

## green images

Florida Native Landscape Plants

1333 Taylor Creek Road

Christmas, Florida 32709

407-568-1333

[greenimage@aol.com](mailto:greenimage@aol.com)

### The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary Education Center

444 Columbia Blvd, Titusville, FL 32780 321-264-5185

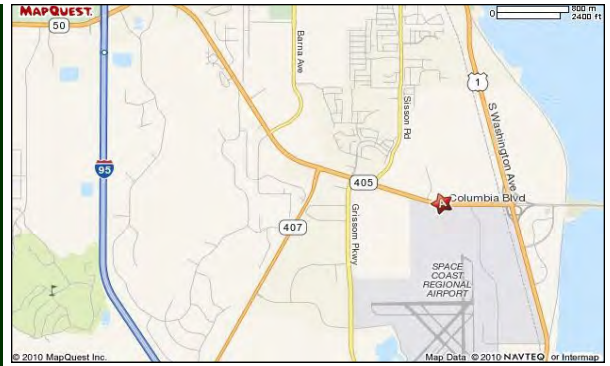


Driving Directions to the Sanctuary:

**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](mailto:Info@fnps.org)/[www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org)

Sea Rocket Chapter mailing address: P. O. Box 236341, Cocoa, FL 32923-6341



**FREE & OPEN  
TO THE PUBLIC**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2011 ~ 7:00PM**

### THE STATE OF CONSERVATION IN FLORIDA

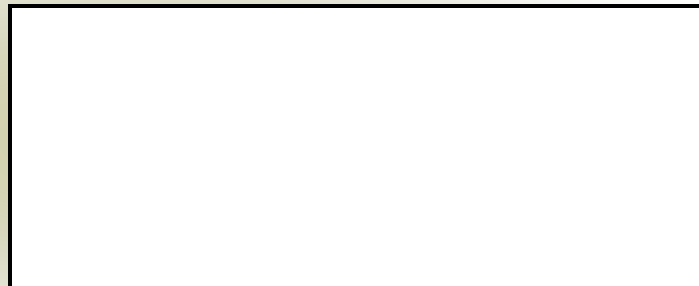
**WITH KARINA VEAUDRY  
FNPS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



### **SEA ROCKET CHAPTER**

**PO Box 236341**

**Cocoa, FL 32923-6341**



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