



# Sea Rocket



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

**MARCH 2012**

*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  
VACANT

Vice President  
**Bill Klein**

[Klein\\_William\\_R@hotmail.com](mailto:Klein_William_R@hotmail.com)

Treasurer  
**Martha Pessaro**  
[tigerlily1953@aol.com](mailto:tigerlily1953@aol.com)

Secretary  
**Theresa Clark**  
[wmtc176@gmail.com](mailto:wmtc176@gmail.com)

Chapter Representative  
**Paul Schmalzer, PhD**  
[paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov](mailto:paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov)

## ~ Committees ~

Membership  
**Shari Blissett Clark**  
[jclark109@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jclark109@cfl.rr.com)

Education/Outreach  
**Shari Blissett Clark**  
[jclark109@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jclark109@cfl.rr.com)

Nursery  
**Suzanne Meyer**  
[meyermenagerie@cfl.rr.com](mailto:meyermenagerie@cfl.rr.com)  
**Theresa Clark**  
[wmtc176@gmail.com](mailto:wmtc176@gmail.com)

Hike Leader  
**Paul Schmalzer, PhD**  
[paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov](mailto:paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov)

Newsletter  
**Linda Jean Krupp**  
[lindakrupp@cfl.rr.com](mailto:lindakrupp@cfl.rr.com)

## Wednesday, March 28 What is a Beemat?

FNPS Sea Rocket Chapter is holding the annual meeting on Wednesday, March 28th at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary. Social time will begin at 6:30pm and the meeting will convene at 7:00. The program will feature a speaker from BEEMATs.

Do you have a pond, lake, or other water feature in your yard? How about in your neighborhood? It's hard to travel in any direction here in Brevard County without quickly encountering open water of some kind. These water features collect storm runoff from roadways, bridges, rooftops, and yards; runoff that is laced with petroleum products, chemicals, pesticides, and all manner of polluting residue. Many of the pollutants are known carcinogens; others are toxic, and still others are so poisonous that their introduction to waterways results in the death of plants and animals. What can be done?

Enter Beemats. Join the Sea Rocket Chapter for an "Introduction to Beemats" at the March meeting. This program will describe what Beemats are, how they work, and what they look like. Program highlights will include cause and effect solutions and examples of Beemat successes in a variety of waterways. You can visit [www.beemats.com](http://www.beemats.com) to learn more about their many uses and benefits.

Plan to attend this interesting program; as always, Sea Rocket programs and events are free and open to the public. Please call 321-264-5185 for more information and directions to the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary.



## UPCOMING EVENTS & THINGS TO DO

- Every Thursday** Sea Rocket Nursery Workday, 10:00am, Contact Suzanne Meyer at 321-264-4922 for information
- Every Monday** North Buck Lake Scrub Sanctuary Plant Survey, 10:00am; call 321-264-5185 for information
- Every Saturday** GUIDED NATURE HIKES 10:00am, Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 321-264-5185
- Every Wednesday** Florida Trail Association HIKES  
3/7: Tosohatchee North; 3/14: Prairie Lakes;  
3/21: Econ River Trail; 3/28: Seminole Ranch/Orlando Wet lands, 321-453-1586
- Monday, 3/12** FNPS Conradina Chapter Meeting, 6:00pm, Melbourne Fee Avenue Library, [www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org)
- Friday, 3/16** Introduction to Wine-making with Native Plants, The Green Marketplace, 6:00pm. Registration required, 321-536-1410.
- Saturday, 3/17** Dicerandra Scrub Field Trip, Dicerandra Scrub Sanctuary 0900-1200. 321-264-5185
- Saturday, 3/17** Fox Lake Sanctuary Workday, 9:00am-1:00pm. 321-264-5185
- Sunday, 3/18** Friends of the Enchanted Forest - 2:00pm, The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 321-264-5185
- Tuesday, 3/20** Lunch with Nature, 12:00 noon, The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, "Sharks" with Ron Thorstad, bring a bag lunch, 321-264-5185
- Saturday, 3/24** Indian Mound Station Sanctuary Workday, 9:00am, 321-264-5185
- Wednesday, 3/28** Make Oyster Mats, 12:00 noon, The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 321-264-5185
- Wednesday, 3/28** FNPS Sea Rocket Chapter Meeting, 6:30pm, The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, "Beemats" 321-264-5185
- Saturday, 3/31** "Landscaping with Florida Natives Yard Tour" sponsored by FNPS Conradina Chapter, Registration required; call 321-536-1410.

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



## Sea Rocket Elects New Officers

Chapter elections were held at the February meeting, which means that those who stayed away for fear of being pressed into service can relax – *it's all over until next year!*

Sea Rocket is fortunate to have the guidance of the following individuals for the year ahead:

**Bill Klein, Vice President:** Bill brings new ideas and a positive attitude to the Board. Bill's already hard at work planning programs, so if you have suggestions, requests, or just feel the need to help out, don't hesitate to let Bill know.

**Martha Pessaro, Treasurer:** Martha has many years of experience serving as Treasurer for 501(c)3 organizations, and she's already busy converting Sea Rocket's financial records to Quick-Books to improve budget and reporting efficiency. Hello, 21<sup>st</sup> Century!

**Theresa Clark, Secretary:** Theresa has already proven her mettle by serving as interim Secretary for the past several weeks. Theresa's competence and organizational skills will add a professional polish to Chapter business.

Sea Rocket was not able to fill the President's position. However, our by-laws do not absolutely require one in order for the Chapter to function, and the new Board is currently discussing options for handling this vacancy. If you're interested in serving Sea Rocket in this capacity, don't hesitate to contact one of the Board members. Remember, it is an honor and privilege to serve FNPS and its conservation mission!

Sea Rocket's returning Board members include Paul Schmalzer, Ph.D. as State Representative; past-president Suzanne Meyer as Nursery Committee co-chair with Theresa Clark; Linda Krupp as Newsletter Editor; and Shari Blissett Clark as membership chair and Education/Outreach chair.

The new Board wishes to gratefully acknowledge the many years of service that outgoing officers Suzanne Meyer, Betty Page, and Ginny Blaetz dedicated to the Sea Rocket Chapter. Remember to thank these hard-working members the next time you meet them.

### Landscaping with Florida Natives Tour



Saturday, March 31, 2012  
10 A.M. – 4 P.M.



Conradina Chapter South Brevard  
FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY



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### Walter Kingsley Taylor, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus, Biology  
University of Central Florida  
and noted author

will present



*"Our Favorite Places to Visit"*  
(for Florida wildflowers and nature)

in the Nyami Nyami River Lodge at the  
Brevard Zoo

on Monday, April 9th at 6:30 P.M.

Public welcome - no charge

For more information, contact

Vince Lamb at 321-258-5168

### CONRADINA CHAPTER FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY



FNPS Mission: 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.

Vince Lamb 9/2012

## Membership Meeting Minutes ~ February 22, 2012

Submitted by Theresa Clark

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Suzanne Meyer.

The first item of business was the election of new officers to the board. Although no members had volunteered for the position of president, there were candidates for the remaining positions. Suzanne presented the slate of available candidates for a single vote as follows: Bill Klein - vice-president; Theresa Clark - secretary; Martha Pessaro- treasurer

All voting members at the meeting voted in favor of the slate of candidates. New officer positions will become effective at the first board meeting. When possible, the board will hold board meetings immediately before monthly chapter meetings on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month at the Enchanted Forest. Suzanne stated that some meetings can be accomplished by e-mail and that some will need to be specially scheduled when additional time is required.

A discussion of the unfilled president position followed. Shari Blissett-Clark offered to share the position of president with another member if there is a member who will assume her current responsibilities as chair of the Education Committee. Suzanne Meyer also stated that she would be willing to share the position of president with another member until someone is found to assume the position full-time.

In the second item of business, Suzanne announced that she had issued the checks for the state science research and the state conservation grants, two expenditures that were approved by the Sea Rocket chapter membership at the January, 2012, meeting. This is the second year that Sea Rocket has made contributions to the state FNPS for grants. Dr. Paul Schmalzer, chair of the state FNPS science committee, explained that state grants were funded primarily by contributions from the individual chapters. Suzanne also announced that she had issued a check for \$100 to the state FNPS for new software. She pointed out that revenue for such contributions from Sea Rocket is generated primarily from the chapter's plant sales. Shari noted that only a few chapters in the state have plant nurseries..

An extensive discussion relating to the Sea Rocket nursery followed. Members present were in favor of the proposed move of the nursery location from the Water Treatment Plant in Titusville to the Enchanted Forest. Among the reasons for preferring a nursery at the Enchanted Forest are the numerous seedlings available at the Forest, which can be nurtured for eventual sale, the ease of facilitating workshops on site to show people how natives grow and how to care for them, an existing water well with a working pump, the ability to control irrigation and avoid unwanted pesticides, use of an existing greenhouse and other amenities, the limited transport of nursery plants for the sales and better tool storage options. The cost of building a new nursery at the Enchanted Forest can be covered by the chapter's savings account for capital improvements. This account accrues from a 15% donation of proceeds from the plant sales.

Shari informed members that the chapter will have the Sea Rocket exhibit set up for the Green Living Expo sponsored by the University of Florida Extension Office on Lake Drive in Cocoa. This event is scheduled for Saturday, February 25, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Dr. Schmalzer reminded members that online registration is now available for the FNPS Annual Conference to be held in May in Plant City. He emphasized that registration fees did not go up and that very affordable hotel rates are available this year.

Newly elected Vice-President Bill Klein sought suggestions for future speakers and members were encouraged to contact him with ideas. Ideas discussed at the meeting for locating speakers included perusal of old editions of the Palmetto magazines and links on the state FNPS website. Specific speaker recommendations included the new executive director of the FNPS, and the chair of the FIT biology department.

Dr. Schmalzer announced that the next field trip is scheduled for March 17, from 9 a.m. to 12 a.m., at the Dicerandra Scrub Sanctuary.

Joan Faulls announced that the "Music in the Forest" event at the Enchanted Forest will be held on March 3, 2012. Visitors are encouraged to bring snacks, dinner and, or, drinks. Members were also reminded of the annual Earth Day event at the Enchanted Forest, to be held on April 21. This is the biggest and best plant sale for the chapter.



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

**Maple Street Natives**



Sharon & Brent Dolan  
7619 Henry Ave.  
West Melbourne, FL 32904  
ph: 321-729-6857  
e: [info@maplestreetnatives.com](mailto:info@maplestreetnatives.com)  
[www.maplestreetnatives.com](http://www.maplestreetnatives.com)

RETAIL  
M-Sat 8-5

FLORIDA NATIVE TREES, SHRUBS, WILDFLOWERS, GRASSES



## **FNPS Board of Directors Meeting, February 11-12, 2012**

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

1. The FNPS-sponsored travel trips to Nicaragua occurred in the fall of 2011 and January 2012. Reports are that the second trip was better organized than the first. It was expected that FNPS would receive a donation from the travel agency for each trip; however, that has not occurred. The field trip to the Bahamas has filled and is occurring in February. It is organized differently and FNPS will receive funds from it.
2. The Communications Committee chair is still open.
3. The 2011 annual report is being developed. It is hoped that it will be ready by the Conference in May.
4. The status of several Chapters was reviewed. The Solidago is alive and well. The BOD voted to dissolve the Live Oak Chapter as it was no longer functioning. Efforts are underway to revive and reorganize the South Ridge Chapter and the Sea Oats Chapter.
5. There was extensive discussion of the FNPS web store, which began operating in 2011. The store has generated some revenue for FNPS, some Chapters that have merchandise to sell, and FNPS-artists members who had work to sell. There were concerns about how much of the Treasurer's time was going to be required tracking this activity. Also, the accounting firm under contract to FNPS would have to increase its fees to reconcile the books. The BOD voted to allow the VP Administration to revise the contract for the web store to avoid these problems.
6. FNPS has identified the need for a new data management system that would allow the FNPS Executive Director, now located in Gainesville, and the FNPS Administrative Services in Melbourne to access and use the membership and other data. The 2012 budget identified \$2000 for this; however, the expected cost will be \$5000-\$6000. The Sun Coast Chapter has voted to donate \$1000 to this project. There was a request for other chapters to donate to this if they could. The BOD voted to allow the Executive Committee to modify the 2012 budget to allow for the acquisition of a new data management system.
7. FNPS has issued policy letters on expanded hunting on public lands, control of hydrilla in Lake Apopka, and US Fish and Wildlife Service Endangered Species Act language relating to plants.
8. The FNPS annual fund drive raised \$8800.
9. The Nominating Committee is working on nominees for President, VP Finance, Secretary, and Directors at large.
10. The BOD voted to allocate \$500 to the education budget to support the Meadow Project.
11. Thirteen chapters are now covered under the FNPS 5013c Group Exemption letter. This allows chapters the benefits of 5013c status with less work than qualifying individually.
12. The Sun Coast Chapter has voted to donate \$1500 to support a Conservation grant; if a quail-fied conservation proposal is not received the donation may be used for a Research grant. The Tarflower Chapter has voted to donate \$1500 for a Research Grant in honor of Sam Hopkins. The Sea Rocket Chapter has voted to donate \$500 toward a Research grant and \$500 toward a Conservation grant. Conservation grants are being funded entirely through donations. Research grants are being funded through donations and the modest interest earned on the endowment.
13. The 2012 Conference will be held in Plant City. Registration should open at the end of February. Items are needed for the Silent Auction. A chapter booth will be available for chapters to sell merchandise with the proceeds to the chapter.
14. The 2013 Conference will be held at the University of North Florida Conference Center in the Jacksonville area.



## Florida Native Plant Society Annual Conference Registration

Conference registration is now open and available [online](#).

Visit our [conference web page](#) to find out about programs, field trips and social events, then click on the orange [REGISTER button](#) to sign up.

Field trips fill quickly, so don't delay if you have your heart set on a particular trip!

### THIS CONFERENCE IS BUDGET FRIENDLY

The Conference Committee has secured  
a hotel price of \$77.28 at the Red Rose Inn in Plant City.

In addition, there has been no increase in conference fees.

Questions? Contact [info@fnps.org](mailto:info@fnps.org) or 321-271-6702.

### Sea Rocket Field Trip

#### **Dicerandra Scrub Sanctuary**

**Saturday March 17, 2012 ~ 9:00am**

This is a joint project of the Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program and the State of Florida. Vegetation is primarily oak scrub and scrubby flatwoods with a depression marsh down slope. A prescribed burn was conducted here in the summer of 2008. The endemic *Dicerandra thincicola* occurs here.

#### **Directions:**

Parking is limited at the site. We will meet at the Indian River Plaza Shopping Center. Park at the western (former K-Mart) corner of the shopping center, and we will car pool to the site.

1) US 1 to State Road 50 (Cheney Highway).  
West on State Road 50 to Indian River Plaza Shopping Center.

OR

2) I-95 to Titusville, State Road 50 exit. East on State Road 50 (Cheney Highway) to Indian River Plaza Shopping Center.

**Bring hat, sunscreen, water, and  
Insect repellent!**

### **TITUSVILLE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB 2012 SPRING TREE & PLANT SALE**

**Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup> (10:00am to 7:00pm)**

**Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup> (8:00am to 2:00pm)**

**North side of SEARSTOWN MALL  
on Country Club Drive and U.S-1**

Specials on Agapanthus, Azaleas, Bottlebrush, Camellias, Canna, Crape Myrtle, Gardenia, Holly, Jasmine, Lorapetalum, Pineapple Guava, Roses. Verbena, Bald Cypress, Boxwood, Flax, Juniper, Native Grasses, Oak, Podocarpus, Pittisporum, Tea Olive, Viburnum. Tomatoes will be available.

**Plant prices from .50 cents to \$50.00!**

Master Gardeners and helpers will offer advice and assistance with your purchases.

Membership applications will be available.

**Children will receive a  
FREE TREE SEEDLING in support of  
Titusville's "Tree City" designation**

**Bring empty pots/containers/trays  
for recycling!**

**321- 480-8807 or [reddiefla@yahoo.com](mailto:reddiefla@yahoo.com)**



## **Start Planning Your Project - the Florida Wildflower Foundation's La Florida, Land of Flowers, Community Grant Program Opens for Applications on April 2nd!**

The program provides planting grants for agencies or organizations within counties that have adopted an acceptable [Wildflower Resolution](#). Any county whose commission officially adopts a resolution prior to the May 11 grant application deadline is eligible. Up to 16 grants of \$500 will be awarded for wildflower seeds or plants (but not both). [Download](#) an application worksheet.

[Seeds for Schools](#) grants are available to schoolteachers statewide. Applications will be accepted beginning April 2. The grants are available to schoolteachers statewide. Grants provide \$50 worth of native wildflower seed. [Download](#) the program planning document. [Read more](#) about the Foundation's grants and [sign up](#) for e-alerts announcing the opening of application periods.

### **Save the date - Florida Wildflower & Garden Festival**

A free festival of fun, plants, speakers, gardening demonstrations, children's activities and entertainment. Vendors provide information, products, and arts and crafts related to native plants and sustainable gardening; gardening for birds, butterflies, and wildlife; habitat creation; environmental conservation, recycling and green living.

### **MYSTERY PLANT**



**Can you identify this Florida native plant?**

Send your identification to Linda Jean at  
[Lindakrupp@cfl.rr.com](mailto:Lindakrupp@cfl.rr.com)

**Winners will receive a nursery-grown  
Florida native plant for their yard!**  
(Must be present at the April meeting to claim prize)

**The March Mystery plant was Procession flower  
(*Polygala incarnata*)**

**Saturday, March 24th, 2012  
9 am to 3 pm**

[www.flawildflowers.org](http://www.flawildflowers.org)



The **Green** Marketplace  
Native Plants &  
Locally Grown Produce

Visit our website  
[www.naturewiseplants.com](http://www.naturewiseplants.com)

321-536-1410



### The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary Education Center

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

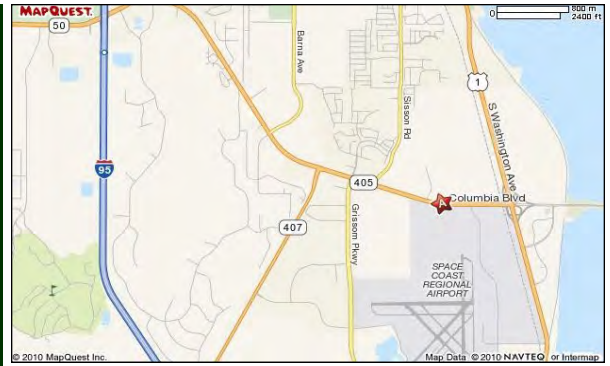


Driving Directions to the Sanctuary:

**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, March 28, 2012  
FNPS Sea Rocket Meeting  
The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary ~ 6:30pm  
“What’s A Beemat?”  
Call 321-264-5185 for information**



### Sea Rocket Chapter

PO Box 236341

Cocoa, FL 32923-6341



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