



# SEA ROCKET



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

**JULY 2013**

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**

### Co-Presidents

Susan Egger

[sfemc@cfl.rr.com](mailto:sfemc@cfl.rr.com)

Shari Blissett-Clark

[jclark109@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jclark109@cfl.rr.com)

### 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)

### Co-Secretaries

Tom McLeod

[tomemc@cfl.rr.com](mailto:tomemc@cfl.rr.com)

Ron Chicone

[rchicone@yahoo.com](mailto:rchicone@yahoo.com)

### Chapter Representative

Paul Schmalzer, PhD

[paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov](mailto:paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov)

## **Committees**

### Membership

### 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)

### Hike Leader

Paul Schmalzer, PhD

[paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov](mailto:paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov)

### Newsletter

Shari Blissett-Clark

[jclark109@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jclark109@cfl.rr.com)

### Hospitality

Karen Sue Gaddy

[kargad3@aol.com](mailto:kargad3@aol.com)

**Saturday, July 20, 2013**

## **Sea Rocket Annual Cookout**

**You're Invited!** Sea Rocket has held a Chapter picnic every summer for several years, and most of them have been well-attended and enjoyable despite the often stifling summer heat. This year the Board has decided to turn the summer picnic into a summer cookout - complete with bonfire, marshmallows and ghost stories! And you're invited!

We will meet at Sams House on Pine Island at 5:30 to start our fire and begin roasting hot dogs and hamburgers supplied by the Chapter. We'll also supply some beverages like iced tea and lemonade, but you are welcome to bring something else to drink if you'd prefer.

As in years past, this will be a "pot luck" so please bring a side dish to share...something that compliments hot dogs and hamburgers would be great! Beans, potato salad, pasta salad, chili, corn on the cob or veggie shish kabobs to roast, even fixin's for S'mores! You get the idea.

We'd also like you to bring your own plate and silverware so we can reduce the amount of trash we generate.

Please RSVP your attendance to Karen Gaddy: [kargad3@aol.com](mailto:kargad3@aol.com). If you have suggestions or questions call Shari at 321-454-6849, or email: [jclark109@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jclark109@cfl.rr.com).

## **Coming to Sea Rocket in September: Dr. Rachel Wentz presents *Florida on Fire***

"Humans have utilized fire for over 500,000 years; since its capture and domestication, fire has transformed human civilization, affecting diet, material culture, even our anatomy, and its control is frequently cited as one of the demarcations separating 'human' from 'nonhuman'."

"Prehistoric Floridians relied heavily on fire, and we see its application in numerous aspects of their culture. Fire has played a fundamental role within our state's prehistory and history, from habitat maintenance to major urban conflagrations. Florida has had a close affinity with fire and this presentation will explore the numerous ways fire has transformed our state."

# JULY & AUGUST: THINGS TO Do!

Every Saturday	Guided Nature Hike, 10:00am, Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, call 321-264-5185
Every Wednesday	FNPS Sea Rocket Nursery Workday, 9:00am, Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, call 321-454-6849
Friday, 07/05	KBB After the Holiday Clean-Up, 8am-10am at Riverfront Park in Cocoa Village, see page 3 for details
Saturday, 07/06	KBB After the Holiday Clean-Up, 8am-10am, 1st Street South, Cocoa Beach, Sheppard Park, Cocoa Beach, Cocoa Beach Pier, Cocoa Beach, See page 3 for details
Saturday, 07/13	Creepy-Crawly Day, 10am-2pm, Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, See flyer on page 5, call 321-264-5185
Saturday, 07/13	Blue Fest, 10am-1pm, Brevard County Extension Office, See flyer on page 7 for details
Thursday, 07/18	Friends of the Enchanted Forest Meeting, 7pm, Creatures of the Night, call 321-264-5185
Saturday, 07/20	FNPS Sea Rocket Summer Cook-out, 5:30pm, Sams House at Pine Island, see details on page 1
Saturday, 07/27	FNPS Sea Rocket Volunteer Workday, 9am, Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, call 321-454-6849 for information
Saturday, 08/10	FNPS Sea Rocket Volunteer Workday, 9am, Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, call 321-454-6849 for information
Saturday, 08/10	Back to Basics, 10am-1pm, Brevard County Extension Office, See flyer on page 7 for details
Saturday, 08/17	FNPS Sea Rocket Volunteer Workday, 9am, Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, call 321-454-6849 for information
Wednesday, 08/21	“Enthusiast to Advocate” with Capt. Rodney Smith, 6pm, See flyer on page 7 for details
Thursday, 08/29	“State of the Garden” by Brevard Botanical Garden, 2pm, Brevard County Extension Office, Lake Drive, Cocoa, Call 321-633-1702 for information

***Remember: No Sea Rocket Meetings in July & August!***





## Weed Revealed!

by David Humphrey

**Frogfruit**, turkey-tangle, matchstick, cape-weed  
*Phyla nodiflora* (FY-luh no-dee-FLOR-uh)

What an exciting turn of events I've found in Frogfruit. I was at Green Images nursery in Christmas FL. when, by chance, a weed I have been fighting to eliminate from the mix of ground covers I have for a yard, was casually noted by Shari (thank you Shari) as Frogfruit, a native butterfly attractor. With this single offhand comment my work has been cut in half.

Years ago I literally rolled up a mat of frogfruit that left a bare hole in the yard. Frogfruit will cover the ground and provide a low growing, low maintenance yard. It can take dry to boggy soil, withstand salt, and withstand Florida heat as well as Florida freezes. The flowers may not stop traffic, but they will attract butterflies and the plant is a known food source for caterpillars.

Propagation is by division or by seed. I have seen warnings about the spread of frogfruit which, if allowed, can become invasive, but from my experience this flowering "weed" is not wildly difficult to control.

<http://www.fnps.org/plants/plant/phyla-nodiflora>  
[http://www.nababutterfly.com/Phyla\\_nodiflora.html](http://www.nababutterfly.com/Phyla_nodiflora.html)



## **HAPPY 4TH of JULY !**

**It's that time of year again...time for the  
 After the Holiday Cleanups with Keep Brevard Beautiful!**

**Join KBB on July 5th at Riverfront Park in Cocoa  
 to help clean up after the *Red, White and BOOM!* celebration  
 8:00am—10:00am, all cleaning supplies will be furnished by KBB.**

**Then join us on July 6th for the After the Fireworks Cleanup in  
 Cocoa Beach at the following locations: 8:00am - 10:00am  
 1st Street, North & South (both sides of Minuteman Causeway)  
 Sheppard Park  
 Cocoa Beach Pier**

**For more information contact Denise Song 321-631-0501 ext 203  
 Thanks for your continuing support of Keep Brevard Beautiful**

**[www.KeepBrevardBeautiful.org](http://www.KeepBrevardBeautiful.org)**

## FNPS Sea Rocket Chapter General Meeting

June 28, 2013

Submitted by Tom McLeod

FNPS Sea Rocket Chapter meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Susan Egger. After welcoming members and guests, Susan introduced the Board members that were present:

Martha Pessaro, Treasurer, presented an overview of Chapter finances. As of the meeting date the Chapter had a checking balance of \$4,965.10 and a savings balance of 1,402.19. Plant sale revenue from the MINWR sale grossed about \$300; the Chapter has paid \$145.00 to date in State sales tax.

Susan thanked those who helped with the Pollinator plant sale at MINWR. Susan noted that while the sale wasn't monetarily profitable, it did serve to tighten the long-term relationship between Sea Rocket and MINWR.

Susan reminded attendees that there would be a plant raffle at the end of the meeting.

Sea Rocket has been awarded a Florida Wildflower Foundation grant to help replant the butterfly gardens at the Enchanted Forest. There will be workdays planned which will be announced in the upcoming newsletters.

There will be no meetings in July and August. The next meeting will be in September when Dr. Rachel Wentz will present *Florida on Fire*.

The Chapter's summer social will be at Sams House on July 20th; final details will be included in the upcoming newsletter.

The Mystery Plant for June was Yellow joyweed, *Alternanthera flavescens*. Dr. Jay Barnhart made the only correct submission. Congratulations Jay!

Susan introduced Chuck Tague and his program, "Observing Central Florida's Butterflies".

Mr. Tague presented a beautifully illustrated program about local butterfly species which included the morphology of adults, the 4 stages of the life cycle, and various lifestyle practices. He showed how the proboscis is adapted to feed on specific plants for nectar, pollen, or animal waste.

Mr. Tague's program also discussed the wide variety of pupa (chrysalis), including its development.

And finally, Mr. Tague highlighted many of the native plant species which play host to butterfly larvae and provide nectar for adults.

More information may be obtained at "www.chucktague.com" or by emailing Chuck at [kingrail@mac.com](mailto:kingrail@mac.com).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM

### **A BIG THANK-YOU to the volunteers that helped at the MINWR Pollinator Week Plant Sale!**

**Susan Egger**

**Tom McLeod**

**Marlys Breckle**

**Bill Klein**

**Louanne Marletta**

**Suzanne Meyer**

**David Humphrey**

**Ron Chicone**

**Duane Gaddy**

**Karen Gaddy**

**Annette Myers**

**Bill Meyer**





Enchanted Forest Sanctuary  
Management & Education Center

Presents

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Creepy Crawly Day

July 13, 2013  
10:00am ~ 2:00pm

Come spend the day  
discovering the world of creepy  
crawlies through guided walks,  
hands on activities, and even  
enjoy a buggy snack!

Suggested donation \$1

444 Columbia Blvd, Titusville, FL 32780  
321.264.5185 • [www.efs.eelbrevard.com](http://www.efs.eelbrevard.com)

Find us on  
**Facebook**

## Mystery Plant



**Do you know this plant?**

Send your guess to Shari at

[jclark109@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jclark109@cfl.rr.com)

**Winners will receive a nursery grown  
Florida native plant for their yard! \***

**The June Mystery Plant was  
Yellow joyweed, *Alternanthera flavescens***

\* Must be present at the September 2013  
meeting to claim prize.

# Tulinda's Garden

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Horticultural Consultation

Linda Gombert Phone 321-639-4017  
[www.TulindasGarden.com](http://www.TulindasGarden.com) Mobile 321-446-9338



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**Maple Street Natives**

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[www.maplestreetnatives.com](http://www.maplestreetnatives.com)  
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# green images

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Christmas, Florida 32709

407-568-1333  
[greenimage@aol.com](mailto:greenimage@aol.com)



## Sea Rocket Chapter Awarded “La Florida, Land of Flowers” Community Grant

The Florida Wildflower Foundation has awarded the Sea Rocket Chapter a \$500 grant under the “La Florida, Land of Flowers” Community Grant Program.

This wildflower grant will greatly aid the Sea Rocket Chapter in reestablishing the gardens that surround the Education Center at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary. The existing plants consist of 70% woody perennials and the addition of Florida wildflowers to these plantings will provide year-round color and expand garden biodiversity.

The pollinator gardens at the entrance to the nature center were vandalized in October 2012 during the peak of autumn bloom season when nearly 5000 square feet of garden was sprayed with an unknown herbicide. Virtually all the herbaceous plants were killed or seriously damaged. Sea Rocket Chapter will repopulate the vandalized area with Florida wildflowers; in addition, native wildflowers will be planted in three existing garden beds located in the parking area.

The Sea Rocket Nursery Committee will lead the replanting effort with scheduled workdays throughout the summer. These workdays are open to anyone who would like to help; that means YOU! Here's the workday schedule through August:

Wed. 7-10-13	Wed. 7-17-13	Wed. 8-07-13	Sat. 8-10-13
Wed. 7-24-13	Sat. 7-27-13	Wed. 8-14-13	Sat. 8-17-13
Wed. 7-31-13		Wed. 8-21-13	Wed. 8-28-13

Please contact Susan Egger or Shari Blissett-Clark for more information about the workday schedule. Workdays are held at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary and run from 9am to 1pm, but feel free to come late or leave early; we're happy to have your help whenever you can give it!

## Sea Rocket is Seeking Newsletter Help

The Sea Rocket Chapter has been enjoying the editorial assistance of Linda Jean Krupp for some time now, and she's done a great job! But she has recently taken on a very demanding leadership role with the Titusville Art League (TAL) and isn't able to continue as our Sea Rocket editor. Thanks, Linda Jean, for your support, advice, and hard work over the past years!

This transition is an opportunity to build a newsletter team that will be able to meet the goals of the Chapter as we build community relationships and broaden Sea Rocket's educational outreach.

We can use help with the following tasks:

- Photographers who are willing to attend Sea Rocket events and meetings and take photos;
- Consistent (monthly? Bi-annually? Annually?) article contributors;
- MS Publisher users to format the newsletter;
- Data entry fingers to keep our distribution lists updated;
- Editor in Chief to coordinate the above activities!

If you are interested in getting involved with the newsletter please call Shari; if you have ideas, suggestions, or want to volunteer, please call Shari. If you can offer intermittent or limited help, please call Shari. *Come on... just call Shari!* 321-454-6849 or [jclark109@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jclark109@cfl.rr.com)



*Linda Jean engaged in her passion...painting!*



Capt. Rodney Smith presents:

## "Enthusiast to Advocate"

at the Brevard Zoo Nyami Nyami River Lodge

Wednesday, August 21 at 6:00 PM

Learn why you should become an advocate for the issues that are important to you. Rodney Smith worked as a fishing guide on the Indian River Lagoon

Coast for years while serving as publisher of *Coastal Angler* magazine and writing several books. As Chairman of the Marine Resources Council and a leader of Anglers for Conservation, Rodney has become a strong advocate for protecting our natural resources.



Rodney Smith with his granddaughter

Concerned citizens involved with conservation lands, the Indian River Lagoon, beaches and wildlife species are invited to attend this free event. Refreshments will be served. Hosted by Preserve Brevard, a 501(c)(3) organization focused on conservation lands in Brevard County

design by Vince Lamb





UF/IFAS Brevard County Extension Service Presents...

# Back to Basics

ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES



**DATE:** August 10, 2013

**TIME:** 10:00AM-1:00PM

**LOCATION:** Brevard Extension Service  
3695 Lake Drive, Cocoa

**COST:** FREE!

<http://backtobasicsbrevard2013.eventbrite.com>

Classes Offered During Event

TIME	ROOM 1	ROOM 2
10:30am	Sustainable Floridians Program	Basics of Container Gardening
11:15am	Getting Youth Outdoors	Basic Money Management
12:00pm	Canning/Freezing	Basics of Etiquette for Families

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 286.26, F.S., persons needing accommodations or an interpreter to participate in the proceeding should notify the University of Florida Brevard County Extension Service no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting at 321-633-1702 or fax 321-633-1890.  
Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution

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)
**BLUE FEST**

Saturday, July 13, 2013  
 10:00am—1:00pm  
 University of Florida Brevard County Extension  
 3695 Lake Drive Cocoa FL 32926

For further information contact:  
 (321) 633-1702  
[bluefestbrevard2013.eventbrite.com](http://bluefestbrevard2013.eventbrite.com)  
 Pre-register at the link above!

Join us and learn about:

Water Conservation

Water Use

EXPLORING WATER

Local Waterways

Water Related Activities

Mini-Seminars  
Vendor Booths  
Door Prizes  
Kid-Friendly Activities

**UF** UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA  
 Brevard County IFAS Extension Service



**Brevard** COUNTY

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 286.26, F.S., persons needing accommodations or an interpreter to participate in the proceeding should notify the University of Florida Brevard County Extension Service no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting at 321-633-1702 or fax 321-633-1890.  
Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution



### The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary Education Center

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

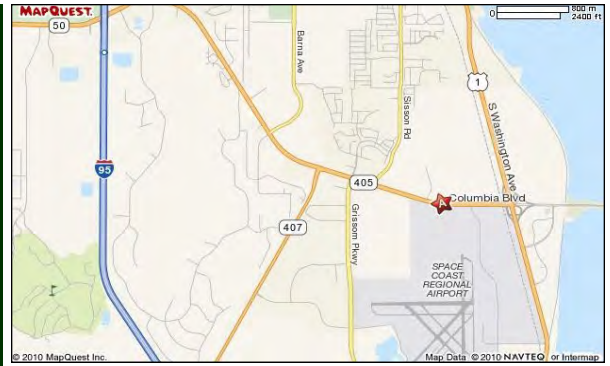


Driving Directions to the Sanctuary:

**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



**Sea Rocket Chapter takes a program hiatus during July & August.**  
**Regular monthly programs will resume in September with “*Florida on Fire*”, presented by Dr. Rachel Wentz**



### FNPS Sea Rocket Chapter

PO Box 236341

Cocoa, FL 32923-6341

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