



SEA ROCKET



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

NOVEMBER 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

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Hike Leader

Paul Schmalzer, PhD
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Newsletter

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Hospitality

Karen Sue Gaddy
kargad3@aol.com

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

The Keys to using a Botanical Key with Dr. Paul Schmalzer

Did you know that there are more than 4200 taxa of vascular plants in Florida? And the best picture book guide to Florida wildflowers illustrates only about 750 species, approximately 18% of the total.

Understanding and identifying the full diversity of Florida's plants requires the use of botanical keys and Florida is fortunate in having a recent "Guide to the Vascular Plants of Florida, 3rd edition" authored by R.P. Wunderlin and Bruce F. Hansen. For those not familiar with plant classification, using botanical keys can be quite a challenge.

This program will provide an introduction to identifying Florida plants using botanical keys and you don't need to have a copy of the "Guide" to participate.

You'll have an opportunity to practice using the botanical key and develop the skills needed to classify and identify plants. Don't miss this chance to learn how to identify plants from one of FNPS's premiere botanists.

This program is free and open to the public and will take place at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 444 Columbia Blvd. in Titusville, 321-264-5185. Light refreshments at 6:30pm will be followed by the program at 7:00pm.

NOVEMBER PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO!

(Note: All future planning can change presently. If in doubt, verify the date and times are accurate.)

- November 2:** **Forest Festival & Native Plant Sale! 10 AM-3 PM**, Enchanted Forest Sanctuary. See flyer on page 5. Call 321-264-5185.
- November 6:** **Florida Trail Association (FTA) Hike: Sandhills Conservation Area**, Meet at 8:30 at Lone Cabbage Fish Camp on SR 520 on the St. Johns River. Bring a hat, water, sun screen, and insect repellent.
- November 8-10:** **Native Rhythms Festival, Wickham Park**, Native American culture, music, arts and crafts. See flyer on page 8 for information.
- November 9:** **Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge 50th Anniversary Festival: Merritt Island NWR, 10AM-3PM**, wildlife exhibits, presentations, cake cutting ceremony, natural history displays, children's activities, music, and more. Call 321-861-2384 for information.
- November 13:** **FTA Hike: Sebastian River Buffer Preserve**, Meet at Sams Discount Club at 4255 West New Haven in Melbourne at 8:30 AM. Bring hat, water, sun screen, insect repellent.
- November 15:** **Art in the Forest Reception: Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 6PM-9PM**, local artists, canapé and wine reception, see flyer on the Community Bulletin Board, page 9
- November 18:** **FNPS Conradina Monthly Meeting: Ethnobotany & Edibles, Melbourne Village AHF Building, 6:30PM**, contact Carol for more information: carol.hebert@gmail.com
- November 20:** **FNPS Sea Rocket Monthly Meeting: Keys to using a Botanical Key, Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 6:30 PM**, Dr. Paul Schmalzer Call 321-264-5185 for more information.
- November 27:** **FTA Hike: Salt Lake WMA**—meet at the west entrance of Lowes parking lot at I-95 and Hwy 50 in Titusville at 8:30 AM. Bring a hat, water, sun screen, and insect repellent..
- November 29:** **FTA Hike: Tosohatchee Loop Trail**, Meet at the at Lone Cabbage Fish Camp on SR 520 on the St Johns River at 8:30 AM. \$3.00 per car entry fee applies. Bring hat, water, sun screen, insect repellent.

Date to Remember:

December 11: Sea Rocket Christmas Dinner at Café Margaux—RSVP Today!

December 25: Christmas day! No Monthly Sea Rocket Meeting

Please send calendar items to David Humphrey at brevcracker@gmail.com

For a comprehensive view of Sea Rocket activities go to www.FNPS.com; events, "searocket"

You're Invited!

FNPS Sea Rocket Chapter Annual Holiday Dinner



*Café Margaux in Cocoa Village
Wednesday, December 11, 2013
6:00pm ~ \$29 per person*

*Please RSVP by Monday, December 2nd, 2013
kargad3@aol.com*

Menu:

All dinners include mixed greens salad, Chef's potato & vegetable.

*Tenderloin of Beef Brochette with Onions, Peppers,
& Wild Mushrooms, Cabernet Herb Demiglace Sauce*

~or~

Crisp Peppered Grouper, Sherry Lobster Cream Sauce

~or~

*Herb Roasted Chicken over Lemon Linguine Pasta,
Tri colored Peppers, Greek Basil, Olive Oil & Garlic*

*Chocolate Truffle Cake with Godiva Mousse
Amaretto Almond Cake with White Chocolate Mousse*





Announcement:

**FNPS 2014 Endowment Grant Research Awards
and Conservation Grant Awards**

The Florida Native Plant Society maintains an **Endowment Research Grant** program for the purpose of funding research on native plants. These are small grants (\$1500 or less), awarded for a 1-year period, and intended to support research that forwards the mission of the Florida Native Plant Society which is "to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida."

FNPS Conservation Grants support applied native plant conservation projects in Florida. These are small grants (\$1500 or less) awarded for a 1-year period. These projects promote the preservation, conservation, or restoration of rare or imperiled native plant taxa and rare or imperiled native plant communities. To qualify for a Conservation Grant, the proposed project must be sponsored by an FNPS Chapter.

Application guidelines and details are on the FNPS Web site (www.fnps.org), click on 'Participate/Grants and Awards'. Questions regarding the grant programs should be sent to info@fnps.org.

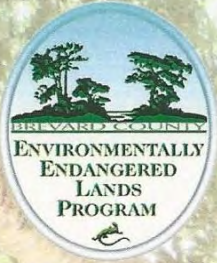
Application deadline for the 2014 Awards is March 7, 2014. Awards will be announced at the May 2014 Annual Conference in Fort Myers. Awardees do not have to be present at the Conference to receive award.

**Call for Research Track Papers and Poster Presentations
Florida Native Plant Society 2014 Conference**

The Florida Native Plant Society Annual Conference will be held at Florida Gulf Coast University, Fort Myers, Florida, May 15-18, 2014. The Research Track of the Conference will include presented papers on Friday, May 16 and Saturday, May 17. The poster session will be on Saturday May 17.

Researchers are invited to submit abstracts on research related to native plants and plant communities of Florida including preservation, conservation, and restoration. Presentations are planned to be 20 minutes in total length (15 min. presentation, 5 min. questions).

Abstracts of not more than 200 words should be submitted as a MS Word file by email to Paul A. Schmalzer paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov by February 1, 2014. Include title, affiliation, and address. Indicate whether you will be presenting a paper or poster.



Enchanted Forest Sanctuary

Management & Education Center

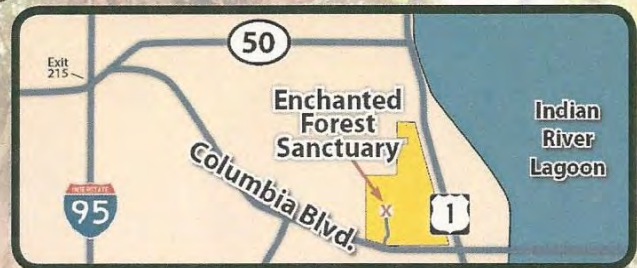
Presents

FREE!

Forest Festival 2013

Saturday, November 2nd
10:00am - 3:00pm

Guided Walks
Live Animals
Education Programs
Live Music
Face Painting
Exhibitors
and More...



444 Columbia Blvd, Titusville, FL 32780
(321)264-5185 www.eelbrevard.com

Find us on
Facebook



~ Florida Native Plant Society ~
Sea Rocket Chapter



FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SALE

Saturday, November 2, 2013

**The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary
10:00am ~ 3:00pm**

Over 50 Native Plant Species!

~ Butterfly Plants ~
~ Flowering Shrubs ~
~ Native Flowers & Grasses ~
and MUCH MORE!

The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary is located at
444 Columbia Blvd., Titusville. For driving directions
please call 321-264-5185



Sea Rocket General Meeting Minutes: October 23, 2013

Submitted by Tom McLeod

The general meeting of FNPS Sea Rocket Chapter was called to order at 7:02 PM by Co-president Susan Egglar.

Susan asked if there were corrections to the September meeting minutes as printed in the October newsletter; no corrections were made. Shari Blissett-Clark moved to adopt the meeting minutes as distributed, Bill Klein seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Martha Pessaro gave a brief Treasurer's report, stating that September's total deposits were \$5,638.00. The plant sale at the FWF's Wildflower Symposium netted \$320, bringing the YTD plant sale total to \$2,800. In addition to this Sea Rocket has sold \$1,015 in plants to Brevard Botanical Garden which will boost the plant sale revenue to \$3,815 once that money has been collected.

Susan Egglar introduced Lois Harris who gave a brief summary of the Florida Water and Land Legacy petition. Lois stated that the deadline for signature collection is February 2014, with 685,000 signatures required by then; to date 530,000 signatures have been collected.

Susan announced that the Sea Rocket Board had approved a donation to the petition fund in the amount of \$250.00. Petitions for the Water and Land Legacy Amendment are available at EFS for those who may not have already submitted one.

Joanie Faulls reminded everyone that Forest Festival is scheduled for Saturday, November 2nd, from 10AM to 3PM. Exhibits will include Florida wildlife and several family activities are planned, including guided hikes, musicians, artists, and the plant sale. Admission is free.

Joanie also announced Music in the Forest, Art in the Forest, and the Native Rhythms Festival. Information about all these events can be obtained at www.EELbrevard.com, or by calling EFS at 321-264-5185.

Susan announced that the plant sale will be held in the usual location on the west side of the building rather than in the nursery. Nancy Escoffier asked if that arrangement had been successful during the Wildflower Symposium sale and a discussion of plant sale locations ensued.

Susan reminded everyone that the November meeting is held one week earlier than usual, November 20, to accommodate the Thanksgiving holiday. The November program will feature Dr. Paul Schmalzer who will discuss the use and components of a Dichotomous Key in plant ID.

Susan announced that Sea Rocket's Holiday dinner will be held at Café Margaux on December 11th with canapés at 6:00 and dinner at 7:00pm. Details regarding menu selection and cost will be included in the November newsletter.

Susan thanked those who provided refreshments for the meeting: Annette Myers, David Humphrey, Shari Blissett-Clark, Lois Harris, and Joanie Faulls.

Susan Egglar introduced Shari Blissett-Clark who presented "The Secret World of Bats" which discussed bat distribution, biology, and lifestyles. Myths and misconceptions surrounding bats were exposed and the benefits of bats were outlined. Shari recommended the following websites for those wishing to learn more about bats: www.batcon.org, and www.floridabats.org.

The meeting was adjourned by Susan Egglar at 8:05PM



Native Rhythms Festival

November 8-10, 2013 at Wickham Park Melbourne, Florida

Native American, World Cultural Music and Arts & Crafts

Day & Evening Concerts, Food, Jewelry,

Drums, Workshops

FREE Admission - Family Friendly Event

Call (321) 452-1671 or visit the event website for details

www.NativeRhythmsFestival.com



Scan QR code
For Website



Scan QR code
For Facebook

Community Corner

News for and about your Chapter

From the Sea Rocket Board Room



Thank you for your plant donations!

Karen: for the Rouge, Tropical Sage, Spiderwort, Scorpions Tail

Suzanne: Corky-stem Passion Vines

To our world class volunteers:

Thank you so much for all the hard work you did to make the Wildflower Symposium a success. The clearing, the planting, the watering, the maintenance, the nursery, and certainly the Symposium itself. There is no doubt in our minds that y'all are the best!—SR Board

FROM: Kent L. Wimmer

TO: Sea Rocket Chapter

“Thank you very much for the Sea Rocket Chapter’s generous \$250 donation to the Florida Water and Land Legacy Campaign which we received today. Please let your Board and members know that we very much appreciate their strong support for the Legacy Amendment.”

The Friends of the Enchanted Forest
invites you to...

Art in the Forest

Friday, November 15th, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Join us for a **chic art reception** featuring **North Brevard Artists**, hors d'oeuvres by **Jolene's Custom Cuisine** and music under the stars.

Tickets must be purchased in advance.

\$20 per person or \$35 per couple

Proceeds benefit Enchanted Forest education programs.

S U C R

Saturday, November 16th, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

guests can enjoy a **FREE** art viewing, music and outdoor painting demonstrations.



For more information or to purchase tickets
please call (321) 268 - 5888 or email
bhoelscher@cfl.rr.com.

Enchanted Forest Sanctuary
444 Columbia Blvd.
Titusville, FL, 32780

From the Desk of Susan Egger

On Saturday, October 12, Dr Paul Schmalzer held the first Sea Rocket hike of the fall season. Dr. Paul, Laura Clark, Madeline Klinko, Tom McLeod and Susan Egger met in the old Kmart parking lot before going to Dicerandra Scrub, one of the EEL properties in Titusville. Unfortunately the Dicerandra was not yet in bloom, but over 25 species of plants were identified. The scrub jays welcomed us into their neighborhood and provided many photo opportunities, all at no charge! Even MR G. Tortoise came out to say hello! We learned that the Federally-protected Dicerandra mint is endemic to the ridge in Titusville and is also found in a small area in Mims. We all had a good workout walking in soft sand, and learned where the Dicerandra plants are located.

Hopefully we will return in a few weeks to see the Dicerandra mint blooming in all its glory!



Dicerandra thinicola,
or Titusville mint.

Coastal Searocket

Cakile lanceolata

Brassicaceae (Mustard Family)

Cá-ki-le lan-see-oh-LAY-tuh

By David Humphrey

The Coastal Searocket, for which our FNPS chapter is



named, is a little recognized short lived perennial succulent plant. I have seen it growing in Titusville, along the banks of the Indian River Lagoon.



Its distribution follows the Atlantic coast of Florida and Gulf coast west to Louisiana.

It grows naturally in what is called a coastal strand. A coastal strand is found at or

just above the high tide zone in loose sand or dunes. The Searocket can grow up maybe 20 inches, but because of its environment (sea side) it generally will grow much shorter. It has white to pale lavender flowers that bloom between July and September.

Bees, bugs, butterflies and other pollinators frequent the humble Searocket bloom. Full sun or partial shade is needed. The Searocket grows naturally in low nutritional sandy soils. Being a succulent it can take drought. Propagation is by seed. Two seeds form in a pod shaped much like a rocket. The pod separates top from bottom. The bottom half stays with the plant while the top half drops off, and if the conditions allow, the seed can travel a great distance in the water. When finally deposited by the last wave of the largest wake or highest tide, the pod will, in time, break open and the seed will sprout to begin a new cycle of life. The Coastal Searocket has a deep root system to resist wind and erosion. It is very useful in holding beach front property in place.

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=CALA2

<http://www.florida.plantatlas.usf.edu/Plant.aspx?id=2036>

**GET YOUR NATIVE
PLANTS HERE!**

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green images

Florida Native Landscape Plants

**1333 Taylor Creek Road
Christmas, Florida 32709**

407-568-1333

greenimage@aol.com

The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary Education Center

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

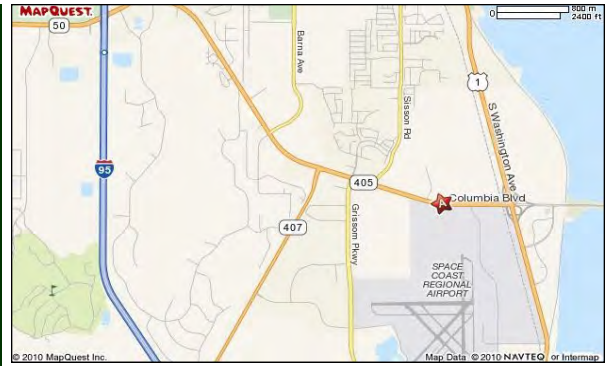


Driving Directions to the Sanctuary:

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/www.fnps.org

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



NO MEETING IN DECEMBER
NEXT PROGRAM IN JANUARY 2014!

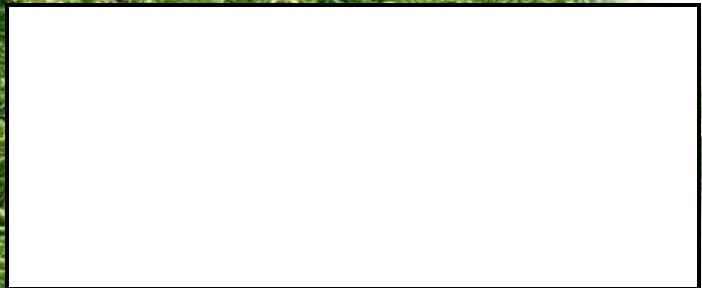
www.fnps.org



Sea Rocket Chapter

PO Box 236341

Cocoa, FL 32923-6341



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