



# Sea Rocket



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

August 2014

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

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

### Vice President

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

### Treasurer

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### Secretary

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## Chapter Representative

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## Committees

### Membership

### Education/Outreach

Shari Blissett-Clark

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### Nursery

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

### Hike Leader

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### Newsletter

David Humphrey

[brevcracker@gmail.com](mailto:brevcracker@gmail.com)

### Hospitality

Karen Sue Gaddy

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



Lois Harris, is presenting  
**Landscaping Techniques for Florida**  
at the **September Monthly Meeting**.  
Lois will focus on using Native plants in  
your own landscaping plan.

# Just for Fun

# August Places To Go, Things To Do!

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

**Every Saturday: GUIDED NATURE HIKES - 10:00am -** For information call 321-264-5185.

**Every Wednesday: FNPS Sea Rocket Chapter Nursery Workday—9 am-2 pm,** Call Shari at 321-454-6849 for more information. (We have shade)

**August 2 Bats of Florida Sams House 9:30 AM** The importance of conserving species will be shown through the example of Florida Bats and their beneficial contributions to the biological diversity of their natural areas. Shari Blisset-Clark will also discuss the threats that the species are facing. For further information contact; Martha Pessaro, Naturalist at (321) 449-4720

**August 9 Keep Brevard Beautiful (KBB) Beach Cleanup 8:30 till 10:30** Pelican Beach Park ([map](#)) Ethan Shoda host of the event. Please arrive on time, recycling will be done at the end of the event.

**August 9 KBB 9:30 to 11:30 Canova Beach Park, Florida A1A, Indian Harbour Beach, FL, ([map](#))** Join us for the monthly beach clean-up event. We'll meet near the South crossover by the picnic table (on the right when facing the beach) see our volunteer coordinator (Chris) for your supplies. Contact Chris at: [www.sandypawsbrevard.com](http://www.sandypawsbrevard.com).

**August 16 Sams House Super Soaker Invasive Species Eradication Game** from 10:00AM to 11:00AM. Learn about invasive plant and animal species and the harm they do to the local biodiversity. Pretend to "eradicate" them using water squirters and photos. This is a family-fun, wet, outdoor activity for all ages (especially the young at heart).

**August 23 Butterfly Garden Workday from 9AM till 12PM.** Volunteers are working in the various butterfly gardens around the kiosk at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary.

**August 23 Saving Seahorses Through Citizen Science**  
Barrier Island Center, Melbourne Beach, 11:00 to Noon. Research scientist Nancy Ho will explain how you can help with the conservation of these amazing fishes. Show-and-tell with baby seahorses included!  
Please call to enroll. barrier Island Center Staff (321) 723-3556

## ~~~~~ STAY TUNED FOR COMING EVENTS ~~~~~

**September** Sea Rocket Chapter will begin hosting hikes again. Stay tuned for further info.

**September 24 Sea Rocket Monthly Meeting.** Landscaping Techniques for Florida

**September 27 National Public Lands Day from 10AM till 3PM** Enchanted Forest is hosting music and some other fun and productive activities. Sea Rocket will be hosting a Native Plant sale as well.

**October 22 Sea Rockets Monthly Meeting at the Enchanted Forest** from 6:30pm till 8:00pm. Linda Gombert, of Tulinda's Garden, will be presenting "Plant Propagation Basics",

**November 19 Sea Rocket Monthly Meeting.** NOTE: THIS MEETING IS A WEEK EARLIER THAN USUSUAL IN DEFFERENCE TO THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY - Program TBA

**December The Sea Rocket Holiday Party,** date and location TBA

Pease send calendar items to David Humphrey at [brevcracker@gmail.com](mailto:brevcracker@gmail.com)

For a comprehensive view of Sea Rocket activities go to [www.FNPS.org](http://www.FNPS.org); events, "searocket".



# Why 'DOG DAYS'?



“The term Dog Days was coined in ancient Rome, and was named after the star Sirius, the Dog Star, which is the brightest star besides the sun. It was thought that due to the rising and setting of Sirius at around the same time of the sun each day this time of year, that Sirius added it's heat to the sun's heat, thereby making the days hotter. Hence the term Dog Days.

Other ancient cultures had their own myths about Dog Days, all centering around the rising and setting of the Dog Star. Some cultures even sacrificed a dog on the first day of Dog Days in an attempt to appease Sirius' wrath, which in their opinion, was the cause of the intense heat during this time of year.

Our modern day usage of the term has little to do with Sirius or his alleged wrath. We use the term Dog Days to refer to anything that is slow, lazy or languishing.

I like Marion Webster's definition for the term Dog Days- "a period of stagnation." I'm taking a nap.

<http://voices.yahoo.com/where-did-term-dog-days-summer-come-from-494528.html>



# ***SEA ROCKET ANNUAL PICNIC***

**Fox Lake Park**

**July 20, 2014**





Lois, thank you for the pictures. I had a camera but never used it. My bad. Seems to be a lot of eating going on here, but as it turned out we had a rain storm that prevented the kayak races, horseshoe tournament, and hike for life. The food was delicious, and the company was very compatible. The rain and lightning stopped the outdoor activities, but the pavilion provided all the cover needed to have a wonderful time.







## My Urban Meadow

By Dave Humphrey

This is a Spring time picture of my "Meadow". It has filled out a bit more in the Summer. Not noted in the picture I have mimosa with a strong root hold, and some Frog Fruit volunteered for meadow duty. I planted two Scarlet Sage. I even got a couple Cut Leaf Evening Primrose plants that have found a home in the range here.

In prepping the site I ran a tiller over the ground breaking up heavier clumps of bahia grass and hopefully digging in seed from the first year. I'm planning to get a native garden certification for this garden. Does everyone in the neighborhood like it? I'd have to say it's accepted, with reservations.

There is one group I know loves it, and that is the pollinators. The air is alive with life, pollinators busy doing pollinator things. It is quite a sight to see. As I understand it next year will be even better.

I have watered, but very little. I mow carefully, mostly weed eat, and pull out weeds/plants I don't want. I have found that I spend a whole lot more time admiring the color and pollinators than I do sweating over the site. "I Like That" (Andy Rooney)



# Community Corner

News for and about *your* Chapter

Coming Soon exclusively  
to this newsletter

## The “Native Niche”

“Niche” From the World English Dictionary; **Ecology:** The role of a plant or animal within its community and habitat which determines its activities, relationships with other organisms, etc.

### A new feature written by Sea Rocket’s own Lois Harris.

Lois, who is doing a tremendous job as Sea Rocket’s secretary, has offered to write a new feature for the newsletter called the “Native Niche”. She, being a garden designer, has native plants on her heart. The “Native Niche” will offer new ideas and an authority that can help in design issues.



### Dear Sea Rocket Members:

The Sea Rocket Chapter mourns the loss of Anna De Filippo, honorary member and mother of Armand DeFilippo. Mrs. De Filippo passed away in the comfort of her home in Titusville on July 16th. She was 96 years young!

We'll all miss Anna's lovely smile and twinkling eyes at meetings and events where she volunteered regularly with Armand.

Please view Anna's obituary at <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/floridatoday/obituary.aspx?n=anna-rose-defilippo&pid=171773879&fhid=5703>



*From the Sea Rocket Board Room*

**Thank you for your plant donations!**

Madeline—for the prickly pear.

Suzanne—for the blue curls.



### The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary Education Center

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

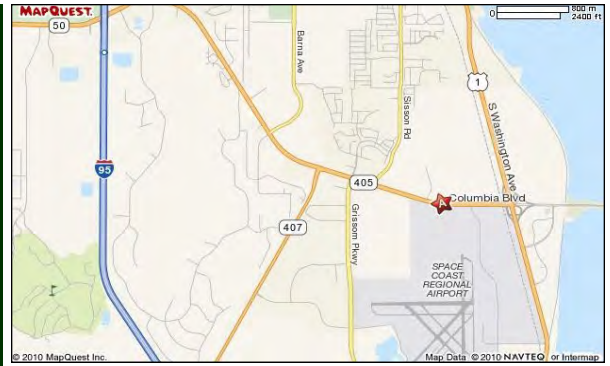


Driving Directions to the Sanctuary:

**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



**September PROGRAM !**  
**Landscaping Techniques for Florida**  
**Presented by Lois Harris**  
**[www.fnps.org](http://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!**