



SEA ROCKET



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

November 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

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jclark109@cfl.rr.com

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lois6459@att.net

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jclark109@cfl.rr.com

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Nursery
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Newsletter
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brevcracker@gmail.com

Hospitality
Karen Sue Gaddy
kargad3@aol.com

FNPS Sea Rocket Chapter presents

LAUREL WILT DISEASE: Its Cause, its Target, its Destructive Path, and its Future

presented by Dr. Don Spence

**Wednesday, November 19, 2014
6:30pm**

**Enchanted Forest Sanctuary
444 Columbia Blvd, Titusville, FL 32953
321-264-5185**

**FREE
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Red bay (*Persea borbonia*)

Don Spence is a Certified Municipal Arborist and has owned Native Florida Landscapes since 1995. He specializes in plant disease diagnosis, tree surveys, tree health assessments, and native and exotic plant identification.

Don has a Ph.D. in plant pathology from the University of Florida and has written articles related to invasive species, tree selection, and the importance of using native plants in urban landscapes. He has been a member of FNPS since 1995 where he has been the Pawpaw Chapter's Director and President and was also the VP of Administration for the Society in 1997. Don was born and raised in Volusia County and spent seven years in the U.S. Coast Guard after high school.

NOVEMBER 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 at Enchanted Forest - 10:00am -** For information call 321-264-5185.
- Every Wednesday:** **FNPS Sea Rocket Chapter Nursery Workday—9am-12noon,** Call Shari at 321-890-6154 for more information.
- November 1** **Field trip through Dicerandra Scrub 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM.** Dr Paul Schmalzer is hosting this field trip. See page 11 for complete information.
- November 7,8,9** **Native Rhythms Festival from 10 AM at Wickham Park in Melbourne.** See Page 8 for all the information
- November 10** **Conradina Monthly Meeting at the Melbourne Public Library, 540 E Fee Ave.** Meeting begins at 6:00PM with Glen Bupp the Rare Plant Director at Bok Tower. Glen will be presenting; "Conservation of Florida's Endangered Plants at Bok Tower Gardens". See page 5
- November 12** **Florida Trail Association Hike: Sandhills Conservation Area.** Meet at Lone Cabbage Fish Camp on Hwy 520 & St. Johns River at 8:30AM. Call 321-453-1586 for information.
- November 15** **Forest Festival, Enchanted Forest Sanctuary. 10:00 AM till 3PM** The Forest Festival is always a great day for the entire family to experience nature in a safe and educational way. There will be Games, Music, Hikes, activities, and more all for free. See page 6 for more information.
- November 15** **Native plant Sale from 10 AM till 3 PM at the Enchanted Forest.** Sea Rocket Nursery will be set up to sell beautiful native plants just looking for a home. Call Shari at 321-890-6154 for information.
- November 19** **Sea Rocket Monthly meeting with Don Spence. Enchanted Forest 6:30 PM.** Come hear from Dr. Don Spence, an expert on plant diseases and pathology. Hear about the current status of the LAUREL WILT disease, it's cause, it's target, it's destructive path, and it's future. All are welcome. Call 321-264-5185 for information.
- November 19** **Florida Trail Association Hike: Sebastian River Buffer Preserve** Meet at Sams Discount Club at 4255 West New Haven in Melbourne at 8:30 AM. Call 321-453-1586 for information.
- November 26** **Florida Trail Association Hike: Tosohatchee Loop Trail.** Meet at Lone Cabbage Fish Camp on Hwy 520 and the St. Johns River at 8:30 AM. There is a \$3 per car entrance fee. Call 321-453-1586 for information.

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

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

Looking Ahead

- December 10** **Sea Rocket's Annual Holiday Party.** Located at the Lobster Shanty on Cocoa Beach see page 4 for all the details.
- February 1** **FNPS: Call for Research Track Papers and Posters** for 2015 Annual Conference See Page 11 for all the details.

FNPS Sea Rocket Chapter

General Meeting Minutes

10-22-2014

Welcome & Call to Order: Shari Blissett-Clark, Vice President, called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm

BUSINESS:

Approval of General Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Karin to approve the September meeting minutes, second by Madeline and passed unanimously.

Financial Report: Report was not available, estimated approximately \$6,500. between checking and savings accounts.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Refreshments this evening were provided by Karen G. and Lois. Thank you all for providing these snacks for our enjoyment.

Christmas Party and White Elephant Gift Exchange on December 10th at Jack Baker's Lobster Shanty in Cocoa Beach. Flyers were passed out at the meeting and everyone should receive a flyer via email. Make your reservation to join in the fun. Deadline is December 1, 2014.

Sea Rocket plant sale at Enchanted Forest on September 27th resulted in sales of approximately \$350.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Native Rhythms Festival: November 7 – 9, 2014 at Wickham Park in Melbourne. Sea Rocket will have a booth and needs volunteers for this event. Please contact Karen at kargad3@aol.com or Shari at jclark109@cfl.rr.com if you want to volunteer.

Forest Festival at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary on Saturday, November 15, 2014 from 10:00am to 3:00pm. Sea Rocket will have a plant sale at this function and needs volunteers for this event. Contact Shari at jclark109@cfl.rr.com if you can help or need more information.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS: Membership Committee: Cynthia Schell has offered to head the Membership Committee. Thanks to Cynthia for offering her expertise in this important role. If you're interested in helping Cynthia or want information about any of Sea Rocket's committees please contact a member of the Board.

Treasurer: this position is still open. Please contact Shari Blissett-Clark if you are willing to serve as Treasurer for the remainder of the current term of office (5 months).

The November Program is scheduled for 11-19-2014 @ 6:30, at EFS. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Don Spence, an expert on plant diseases and pathology. Hear about the current status of the LAUREL WILT disease, its cause, its target, its destructive path, and its future.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm.

PROGRAM:

Shari introduced Linda Gombert of Tulinda's Garden. Linda holds an MS in Horticulture from the University of Tennessee and has been living in the Brevard County since 2007.

Linda discussed and demonstrated several ways to propagate plants, including seed sowing techniques, including burning and scarifying to encourage germination. She demonstrated how to generate new plants from existing specimens through stem cuttings, root cuttings, and leaf cuttings, and showed how to properly divide a plant and reduce root damage. Simple layering and air layering were also discussed and demonstrated. Linda shared a variety of propagation "tricks and treats" that, when used, will help ensure propagation success.

Respectfully submitted by Lois Harris, Secretary

PRINT AND MAIL THIS FORM TO SHARI BLISSETT-CLARK.

Address is: 1690 Pine Island Rd, Merritt Island FL 32953



**FNPS SEA ROCKET CHAPTER
Holiday Party & Gift Exchange**

Wednesday, December 10, 2014

Jack Baker's Lobster Shanty

2200 S. Orlando Avenue (A1A) • Cocoa Beach, FL 32931 • 321-783-1350

Canapés at 6:30 pm ~ Dinner at 7:00pm

SOCIAL PLATTERS

Vegetable Board & Shrimp Cocktail Platter

DINNER BANQUET

Appetizer: Fresh fruit cocktail

Includes: Bread basket, Caesar salad, Herb garlic potatoes, Vegetable

Qty. ENTREES: **Members - Please select one entree per person attending (taxes & gratuity included)**

_____	Chicken Florentine	\$ 21.25
_____	Pork Tenderloin	\$ 22.50
_____	Herb Crusted Salmon	\$ 26.25

DESSERT

Ice Cream Sundae Bar

BEVERAGES* *Select at banquet*

Coffee, Tea, Soda, Milk

***No alcoholic beverages are included ~ you will be responsible for your own bar tab.**



Please select your entrees and **mail this completed form with your check**
made payable to FNPS Sea Rocket Chapter to:

Shari Blissett-Clark, 1690 Pine Island Road, Merritt Island, FL 32953

DEADLINE: December 1, 2014*

***Note: This is a pre-paid dinner which is different from previous years –
We will be unable to add diners after the December 1st deadline!**

Member & names of guests: _____

Questions? Contact Shari Blissett-Clark: 321-890-6154, or email: jclark109@cfl.rr.com



White Elephant Gift Exchange:

Please bring a garden-oriented wrapped gift ~ valued at \$10 or less ~
to the banquet for the gift exchange.

This should be a lot of fun for everyone!

We're looking forward to seeing you and your guests at this Holiday Dinner!

~ The Sea Rocket Board of Directors ~

Conradina Chapter Florida Native Plant Society

Glen Bupp, Rare Plant Curator, presents

*Conservation of
Florida's Endangered Plants
at Bok Tower Gardens*

6:00 PM

Monday, Nov. 10, 2014

Melbourne Fee Avenue Library



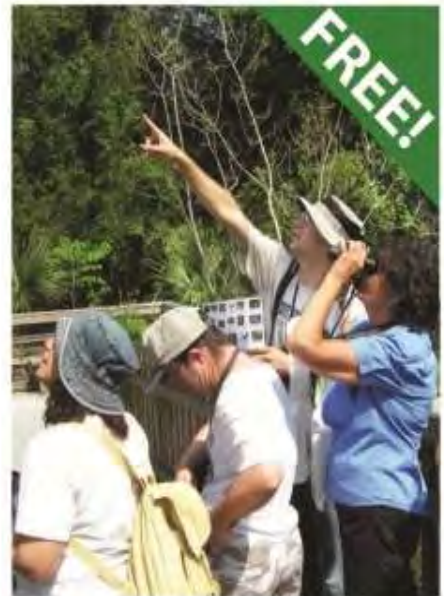
Florida has the third highest number of federally endangered plant species in the United States. Many of the species are endemic to narrow regions of the state, a result of Florida's unique geologic evolution.

The Rare Plant Conservation Program at Bok Tower Gardens is involved in many techniques to conserve the endangered plant species of Florida such as, seed banking, population introductions, population monitoring, and new research. This presentation will outline some conservation efforts conducted by the Rare Plant Conservation Program including research partially funded by the Florida Native Plant Society.



Enchanted Forest Sanctuary
Management & Education Center

Forest Festival



Saturday,
November 15th
10am - 3pm



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



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Facebook & Twitter!



The final plan for this “island” is to plant flowering, herbaceous plants, that will light up the area in their seasons. On the 19th a number of plants were set aside for planting. On Monday (when the Enchanted Forest is normally closed) Sea Rocket Volunteers came in and planted all the plants set aside.



The way the “island” looked before clearing.

Our Thanks to:
David Biega
Lois Harris
Greg Hendricks
David Humphrey
Madeline Klinko

**For their hard
work and willing-
ness to keep Sea
Rocket relevant in
our community.**



The way the “island” looked after clearing.

PLANT LIST

Yellowtop (7)
Stokes Aster (5)
Scarlet Sage (5)
Elephants Foot (3)

Scarlet Hibiscus (3)
Sand Cord Grass (2)
Elderberry (1)
Goldenrod (1)
Flatwoods Plum (1)

Purple Bluestem (1)
Black-eyed Susan (1)
Mist Flower (1)
Palmetto (1)
Butterfly Bush (1)





Native Rhythms Festival

November 7- 9, 2014 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

Sandy's Perfect Persimmon Pudding

Authored by Sandra Webb

This is a fairly easy and straight forward dessert pudding made from our native Diospyros or persimmon fruit. It is nutritious, delicious, and very special. The fruits are usually ripe in October in Central Florida, but start checking for ripe fruit in early August. (The sooner, the better, because wildlife also love this native delight.) It is necessary to collect fruit when they are **VERY ripe**: soft (mushy), yellow to orange with a few dark spots (and full of medium size seeds). They will not ripen off the tree. A fairly large number must be collected to make two seedless packed cups of pulp/skin. You can place a large tarp under the tree and shake the tree LIGHTLY to dislodge ripe fruit. If they split on impact, they are very ripe. The skin is soft and edible, so you needn't separate. You can collect a few at a time, wash, squeeze the seeds out and freeze the pulp if you can refrain from eating them out of hand.

Pulp can be added to or substituted for other fruit in nearly any recipe, box muffin or cake mix, other desserts, or added to stuffing (dressing) or to chicken/turkey dishes. You can also use Asian Persimmons, or other similar fruit, but the texture and taste are very different.

Save the seeds and grow new trees from them, or give them away, but please don't just throw them away. Persimmon trees are either male or female, so one of each is needed for eventual fruit. Please don't take all the fruit and be sure to eat what you take. Wildlife depend on it. Master Gardeners, Master Naturalists, Native Plant Societies, Native Nurseries, and many others would love to have the seeds you don't want to plant. (Editor mote—I agree)

Dry Ingredients:

1&1/2 cup sugar (or baking substitute to equal the amount)
2 cups all purpose flour (not self-rising)
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 - 1 teaspoon cinnamon
1/2 - 1 cup finely chopped walnuts (or 1/4 cup finely chopped black walnuts)
option: mini-marshmallows on top, last two minutes

Wet Ingredients:

3 cups milk (room temperature)(one separated for puree)
2 large eggs (room temperature)
2 tablespoons butter (or margarine)
1- 1&1/2 teaspoons real vanilla extract
2 packed cups Persimmon puree



If frozen, thaw persimmons in refrigerator two days ahead of time. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Puree persimmons in blender with one cup milk (more if necessary to mix well). In a large bowl, sift or mix dry ingredients thoroughly and make a well in center. In a separate large bowl, mix pulp and wet ingredients thoroughly and add to well with dry ingredients. Mix thoroughly with nuts and pour into a greased 9 x 13 baking pan. Bake this at 350 degrees for sixty-five to seventy-five minutes, checking frequently. If top starts to look too dark, cover with foil. Check by knife or toothpick in center coming out clean. Served warm with ice cream or whipped cream, this is a Thanksgiving favorite. Refrigerate any leftovers.

Enjoy!

This recipe has been in my family for generations (Southern Ohio - Northern Kentucky).

Sandy

What's Blooming Around Here This October?



Diane Stees sent us a picture of her **Marberry tree**. It is happily growing on Cocoa Beach. (It is 10 feet tall).



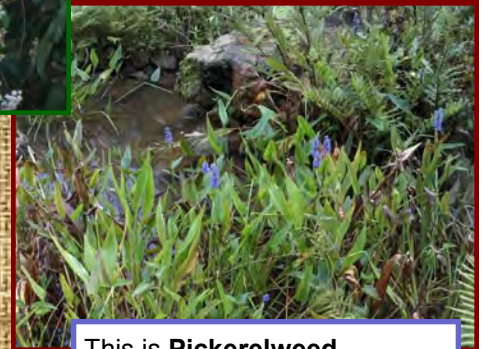
This is a **Skyblue Cluster vine** (*Jacquemontia pentanthos*) blooming at the Sea Rocket Nursery.



Jim and Nancy Escoffier sent in all these lovely's. From the top left CW there is a **Coral Honeysuckle**, **Indigo**, **Necklace pod**, and **Porter weed**. Merritt Island



Cassia (yellow) and a **Frostweed** (white). Both were taken at the Enchanted Forest in Titusville



This is **Pickerelweed** (*Pontederia Cordata*) blooming at the Enchanted Forests' Serenity Pond.



Muhley grass and Firebush
Both of these are blooming in my yard here in Rockledge - Dave



Even **Gaillardia** is still colorful. **Goldenrod** blooming for Susan Egler in Titusville.



FNPS: Call for Research Track Papers and Posters for 2015 Annual Conference

Dear FNPS Chapters,

The Florida Native Plant Society Annual Conference will be held in Tallahassee, Florida, May 28-31, 2015. The Research Track of the Conference will include presented papers and a poster session on Friday May 29 and Saturday May 30.

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, 2015**. Include title, affiliation, and address. Indicate whether you will be presenting a paper or poster

Chris Waltz
FNPS Administrative Services

Email: info@fnps.org
Phone: 321-271-6702
Fax: 815-361-9166
Web: www.fnps.org

FNPS
PO Box 278
Melbourne FL 32902-0278

Dicerandra Scrub Field Trip Announcement

**Saturday November 1, 2014 0900-1200
with Dr. Paul Schmalzer**

Dicerandra Scrub Sanctuary. 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. Prescribed burns have been conducted on the site since acquisition. The endemic *Dicerandra thinicola* occurs here and should be in flower.

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 St. Rt. 50 (Cheney Highway). West on St. Rt. 50 to Indian River Plaza Shopping Center.

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

Bring hat, sunscreen, water, and insect repellent.

Community Corner

News for and about your Chapter

PLEASE NOTE

Even though I occasionally publish recipes using native plants, the Enchanted Forest is a Sanctuary for both plants and animals,

**"What grows in the forest,
Stays in the forest".**

The only animals allowed to forage for food in the Enchanted Forest, live in the forest. ~~

- Editor Dave

LOCAL NEWS.

Another good year for sea turtles nesting in Florida

In 2014, loggerhead turtle nest numbers remained high and leatherback turtle nesting reached a new record in the state according to FWC research scientists.

"Sea turtles face many important threats at sea and on land, which need to be addressed for the recovery of these charismatic and endangered species, but the results of the 2014 nesting season in Florida are encouraging and provide a positive outlook for the future", said Dr. Simona Ceriani, FWC research scientist.



From the Sea Rocket Board Room

Thank you for your plant donations!

Dave—for the Sunshine Mimosa

Greg—for the Purple Bluestem Grass



The Volunteers taking a break for the camera. **Lois Harris** is missing only because she took the picture.

In front we have :

- Madeline Klinko
- David Biega
- Greg Hendricks
- Dave Humphrey
- Lois Harris (Photographer)

Portulaca pilosa

Pink Purslane or Kiss-Me-Quick

Portulacaceae

By David Humphrey



While inspecting (and admiring) my native "meadow" out by the curb, I noticed another native that has found a home. It is pink purslane or kiss-me-quick. (The picture is of my plant). The conditions given

for its growth are all perfectly met by this malnourished, arid, strip of sand. This diminutive succulent is an annual in Florida. I found it blooming happily in late Spring and was still blooming in mid August. It blooms daily in the morning hours before the heat comes up. Being a succulent it is uniquely positioned to "grow where no other plant has grown before." The Portulaca is also salt tolerant. It is recommended to use Portulaca Pilosa in a rock garden or in xeriscaping in hopelessly diminished soil (as I have). Every spring the little plant appears from tiny black seeds the size of poppy seeds (or nearly invisible) in bare sands on roadsides and poor soils. And that is exactly what it had done.

The nutritional value of the purslanes are well documented. The plants are high in vitamins and omega 3. As far a taste goes this purslane (pilosa) has a bitter edge to it. The common Purslane (Purslane Oleracea) has a radish like heat to it and is more palatable than this plant. Native Americans used the plants for its medicinal value as well. It has anti-inflammatory properties and was used to treat fevers and as a poultice for burns. ~~



Hosting the Sea Rocket Newsletter since 2001;

www.NBBD.com

North Brevard Business & Community Directory

David N. Rich

Peak Performance Co.

4030 Winter Terrace, Titusville, FL 32780

321-267-7367

DavidNRich@gmail.com

www.AboutTitusville.com

Tulinda's Garden

Garden & Landscape Design
Horticultural Consultation

Linda Gombert

www.TulindasGarden.com

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Mobile 321-446-9338

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W. Melbourne, FL 32904
321-729-6857

Maple Street Natives

info@maplestreetnatives.com

www.maplestreetnatives.com

www.facebook.com/maplestreetnatives

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

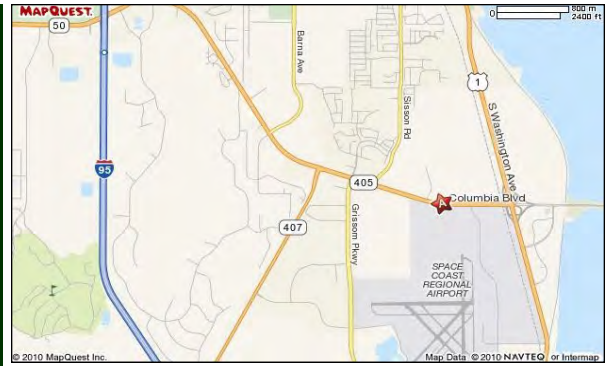


Driving Directions to the Sanctuary:

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!

Chapter Christmas Party (Details inside)

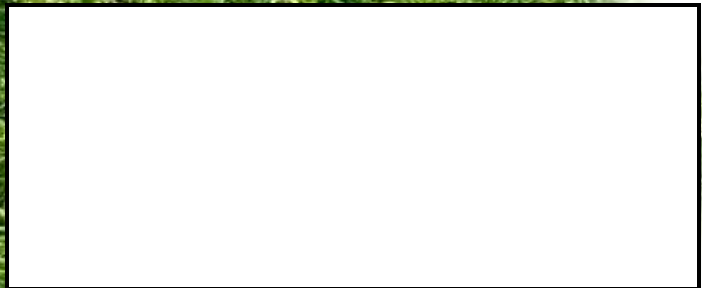
www.fnps.org



Sea Rocket Chapter

PO Box 236341

Cocoa, FL 32923-6341



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