



Sea Rocket



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

October 2015

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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lois6459@att.net

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Paul Schmalzer, PhD

paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov

Newsletter

David Humphrey

brevcracker@gmail.com

Hospitality

Vacant at this time

Celebrate **FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT MONTH** *October 2015*



Florida Native Plants are part of our heritage



Florida native plants and animals belong here



The Florida Native Plant Society's mission is to preserve, conserve and restore the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

Join our 37 chapters statewide in celebrating native plants throughout the month of October.

For a list of activities in your area visit

Sea Rocket Chapter, Titusville, FL.

FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

<http://www.fnps.org>



October 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—9am-12noon, email Lois at lois6459@att.net for further info and schedule.

October 10 from 10AM to 4 PM. Conradina is having their fifth annual native yards tour on Saturday, 10 October, from 10 am to 4 pm . Tickets are on sale now at EventBrite. See page 8.

October 10 Enchanted Forest Butterfly Garden Workday. Start at 9 AM.

October 10 Malabar Scrub Sanctuary Field Trip Announcement. 0900-1200.
Hosted by Dr. Paul Schmalzer. See Page 7 for directions and details.

October 11 Space Coast Veg Fest & Environmental Education Event. 11 am – 5 pm
Riverfront Park, Cocoa Village. Come and enjoy a, fun, and relaxing day out side. Food vendors, cooking demos, keynote speakers, children's play area, live music, craft beer & wine, contests, giveaways and just a great way to spend time in one of Brevard County's most beautiful parks. The event is free.

October 12 Conradina's Monthly Meeting at 6 pm at the Melbourne Public Library. The speaker is an Eagle Scout;

October 17 Free Family Festival and Native Plant Sale National Wildlife Refuge Week from 10 till 2PM. call to make reservations and for information at: 321-861-5601. See page 8 for more info.

October 24 Enchanted Forest Butterfly Garden Workday. Start at 9 AM

October 24 Florida Parks Summit, Maitland Florida. You're invited to attend discussion and strategy setting session. This session is an opportunity for advocates and users to reassert a public call for investment in parks and public lands. Register by October 9, 2015. Questions call Jonathan Weber at (850)-999-1030. See page 5 for all the details.

October 28 Sea Rocket's monthly meeting with Peggy Lantz speaking on edible Florida. Refreshments begin at 6:30PM with the meeting to begin at 7:00PM.

Planning Ahead

November 18 The Monthly Sea Rocket Meeting will be moving to November 18th. This move is for November Only and is necessary to accommodate the Thanksgiving Holidays.

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"

Sea Rocket Chapter General Meeting Minutes 9-23-15

Board Members, Member and Guests present: 22

Welcome and Call to Order: 7:03

BUSINESS:

Approval of June General Meeting Minutes: accepted as printed in the newsletter

Treasurer Report: Karin Biega, \$4,456.40 checking; \$1,499.78 saving, \$5,956.18 total. A check has been issued to FAnn for \$100. Sponsoring the annual magazine

Refreshments this evening were provided by Shari and Armand. Thank you for providing these snacks for our enjoyment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

National Public Lands Day and Plant Sale: September 26th (10:00-3:00) Need Volunteers

Field Trip to Cruickshank Sanctuary: September 26th 9-12 noon

Brevard Botanical Gardens: September 26th (9:00-2:00) cont. of Incredible Edibles plant sale

October is Florida Native Plant Month: Thanks to Andy Taylor's efforts, Brevard County commissioner Curt Smith will issue a proclamation October 6th at 9am at 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera, FL 32940 Need representative to help celebrate this event – proclamations are usually first on the agenda.

Space Coast Veg Fest & Environmental Education October 11th Sunday 11:00 to 5:00 (set up starts at 8) at Riverfront Park, Cocoa - Outreach only event- Need Volunteers

National Wildlife Refuge Week MINWR October 17th Saturday 10:00 to 2:00 (set up starts at 8:30) Need Volunteers

Newsletter: David Humphrey, Newsletter Chair. Deadline for submittal is the 25th of each month. Review of our wonderful newsletter. Passed sign-up sheet for those that wanted to be added.

Events:

Conradina will be holding their 5th annual native yards tour on Saturday, October 10th tickets are available at EventBrite. 6 yards on the tour in the Melbourne area.

Plant Sales and Outreach opportunities still to come: Forest Festival (Nov 7); Native Rhythms Festival (Nov 13-14-15)

BOD meeting 10-13 starts at 5:30pm, at The Village Buffet in Titusville, 3125 Columbia Blvd. (SR-405) members are welcome to attend.

Other announcements: Sara – EFS programs announced; Greg Hendricks – FL Master Naturalist program announced

Plant Swap or drawing: 1 participant – no plant swap executed
FNPS Sea Rocket Chapter Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm

September 23rd Program: What is that fungus among us?

"Dr. Jay Barnhart's program was excellent and very interactive with the attendees. He brought in numerous exhibits for us all to experience. What a wealth of information he shared about the world of fungi.

This Month's Guest Speaker

**In celebrating Florida Native Plants
Peggy Lantz is the perfect guest
speaker.**

She is also a Florida Native, and a Florida Master Naturalist, musician, horseman, leather crafter, outdoors woman, and editor and author. Her publications reflect her many interests. She served as editor of the Florida Native Plant Society's publications and its magazine, The Palmetto, for 15 years, and as editor of Florida Audubon Society's magazine, The Florida Naturalist. Ms. Lantz lives in Woodsmere in west Orange County, Florida, in the community settled by her grandfather in 1914.

BioBlitz at EFS –

"I came – I saw – I counted"
Veni, Vidi, Computator

In May of this year Enchanted Forest Sanctuary (EFS) held their first BioBlitz. This was a 48 hour scientific slam dunk to categorize and count the wide diversity of life found within the Enchanted Forest. Many scientists from disciplines covering ornithology, the study of birds, Lepidopterology, the study of butterflies and moths, and Botany, the study of plants were present. It is an awesome experience to work with these brilliant minds.

I had not participated previously in functions that had been offered at EFS so this was my first experience. What an awesome time it was. There were several hikes that I was interested in attending anyway so I might as well offer to scribe and help EFS at the same time.

The first was the butterfly hike which started at 2:30 in the afternoon, prime flight time and there was a lot of activity in the forest that day. Lots of participants for this one too – moms, grandparents and children of various ages. It was great to watch the young people point out the butterflies and get caught up in their excitement.

I caught the early morning bird hike at 7:30 the next day hoping for peak activity. The turn-out was good, numerous birds and Audubon birders and the guide was a well know expert in the field. I learned a lot about what I heard, since many birds are not always seen.

Later that same day I went on the native plant hike. At the start of the hike the group had 9 members and about 20 minutes into it 3 were scheduled for another hike and departed our company. The members that were left were the guides 4 scientific minds, one of which was Dr. Paul Schmalzer, and Ann Cox, President of FNPS. The other 2 members were Debbie Jeffries from Conradina Chapter and myself from Sea Rocket both scribes for the hike. What an honor to spend time with such wonderful, informative and knowledgeable individuals.



But that's not all! not only did I have the chance to rub shoulders with the best in their fields, I also got a FREE t-shirt testifying to my involvement in the first ever BioBlitz at EFS.

Lois Harris, President
Sea Rocket Chapter FNPS



You're invited: Florida Parks Summit. October 24, 2015 Maitland, Florida

You're invited to attend this special, invitation only discussion and strategy setting session.

On **Saturday, October 24**, 2015. The Florida Parks Summit will bring together conservation, environmental and recreational user groups as well as civic leaders and public officials to discuss the future of our state and local parks and to develop an action plan for building support of Florida's parks and public lands.

State and local parks and public lands face unprecedented challenges. Our state parks system, other state conservation lands, County and city parks, and local land conservation programs face funding shortfalls for acquisition, management, operations and maintenance. It is time for parks advocates to rally to the cause of protecting and preserving places for people, water and wildlife.

Some legislators and state and local officials claim that too much land is in public ownership. Others claim that public lands are poorly managed and should be sold off or put to other uses than conservation and recreation. These challenges require a robust response.

The Parks Summit will provide a forum for discussion of the role of state and local parks and lands and an opportunity for advocates and users to reassert a public call for investment in parks and public lands for acquisition and management.

A modest registration fee covers the cost of lunch at the park. Space is limited. Please register by October 9, 2015.

You are invited to the Parks Summit to represent your organization or community. Please mark your calendar now for the October 24, Parks Summit and please use the below password with your online registration. If you have any questions, please call Jonathan Webber at 850-999-1030.

Registration: <http://bit.ly/ParksSummit2015>

Password: Summit2015

Elton John sang about Elderberries, but that was just one aspect of this most delightful plant.

Submitted by Patricia Bayer

Elderberry has long been recognized for its remarkable healing abilities. It was described as a curative as far back as Ancient Greek and Roman times, when physicians wrote of its ability to kill bacteria and viruses. But it's also a flavorful food. Used to create everything from elderberry liqueur to elderberry pie, it is a versatile ingredient. Cooking with elderberry is a great way to honor its long heritage in both natural medicine and heritage recipes.

The elderberry is the focus of a classic medical handbook *The Anatomy of the Elder*, written in 1629 by the German physician Martin Blochwitz. Growing in profusion throughout Europe, the elderberry tree could be used for countless remedies, easily procured or gathered by local medical practitioners. Blochwitz detailed a wide range of healing tonics, extracts, salves, elixirs, oils and more, all made from various parts of the elderberry tree—the bark, flowers and leaves. The book also includes many household recipes, such as jams and spirits, based on its fruit. Given both the resurgence of natural medicine and the relevance of Blochwitz's work today, the book was republished in 2010 by BerryPharma AG, a firm that makes medicinal products from elderberry.

There are actually two species of elderberry: the European elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) and the North American variety (*Sambucus canadensis*). Though slightly different, either can be used in many of the recipes calling for elderberry. Whether store-bought or foraged, elderberry grows wild throughout many regions of North America and enjoys a long growing season in the fall. This old-fashioned, scratch-baked elderberry pie recipe honors the ingredients' long and versatile heritage.

Elderberry Pie

1 recipe pastry dough for pie shell

1 egg white for brushing (optional)

Ingredients for Elderberry Filling

3 ½ cups whole fresh elderberries (choose ripe ones that are nearly black in color), cleaned and free of stems and stalks

1 cup white sugar

¾ teaspoon salt

2 tablespoons cornstarch or tapioca

1 tablespoon lemon juice

1 tablespoon unsalted butter, melted

Preparation:

Preheat oven to 400° F

Line a 9-inch diameter pie plate with pastry dough, leaving enough for a top crust. (If desired, brush bottom crust with egg white and pre-bake for 4 minutes to harden slightly.)

In a large bowl, mix elderberries with sugar, salt, cornstarch or tapioca, lemon juice, and butter. Blend well. Pour into pie shell. Place top crust over filling and seal by crimping the edges with your thumb. Use a knife or fork to make a few vents for steam.

Bake 40 – 45 minutes on middle rack. Let sit to cool. Serve plain, or dollop with vanilla ice cream.



Don't forget to check out other EEL Sites and volunteer organizations for more Free Family Fun.

- Enchanted Forest Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EnchantedForestSanctuary?fref=ts>
- SAMS HOUSE : <http://www.brevardcounty.us/EELProgram/Home>
- Barrier Island Center: <http://www.brevardcounty.us/eelprogram/areas/barrierislandsanctuary>
- Keep Brevard Beautiful: <http://keepbrevardbeautiful.org/>
- Florida Trail Assn Hike Schedule: <http://jehikescd.blogspot.com/>

Malabar Scrub Sanctuary Field Trip Announcement

Hosted by Dr. Paul Schmalzer

Saturday October 10, 2015 0900-1200

Malabar Scrub Sanctuary. This is a joint acquisition of the Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program and the State of Florida. Vegetation is scrub, flatwoods, and marshes. Prescribed burning and scrub restoration have been conducted since its acquisition, which began in 1993.

Directions: I-95 south to Malabar Road (SR 514). This is the second Palm Bay exit. Go east about 3 miles on Malabar Road. Sanctuary is on north side of road, just past the Malabar Fire Station. Turn left into sanctuary entrance, go north to gate. Parking is in gravel lot to left.

The field trip will last about 3 hours. Malabar has established and well marked trails. Bring water, hat, sunscreen, and insect repellent. Hike will be mainly in scrub and flatwoods.



With October upon us, and hopefully a break in the weather, Enchanted Forest Sanctuary is working overtime to maximize this time.

October 3 Dicerandra Guided Hike 9:30am – 11:30am Join guide Jim Stahl for a hike through the Dicerandra Scrub Sanctuary (DSS). DSS is home to *Dicerandra thiniicola*, a mint plant found only in North Brevard County. **Spots limited, call 321.264.5185 to register.** Hike will meet at Dicerandra Scrub Sanctuary, 4900 Melissa Dr., Titusville, FL 32780. Please wear closed-toed shoes, sunscreen, a hat, and bring water.

Saturday, October 10, 10am – 2pm – Family Fungus Day

Discover local mushrooms on a Guided Fungus Hike, learn about some magnificent mushrooms with hands-on activities, and even make your own mushroom craft to take home! This FREE event is sponsored by Toyota and the National Environmental Education Foundation through the Everyday Events Grant!

October 17 9:00am – 11:00am- Scottsmoor Flatwoods Sanctuary Exploration Ride

Enjoy a leisurely trailer bench ride through Scottsmoor Flatwoods Sanctuary, exploring plants and wildflowers of East Central Florida Pine Flatwoods and Oak-Saw Palmetto Scrub. **Spots limited, call 321.264.5185 to preregister.** Please wear closed-toed shoes, a hat, sunscreen, and bring water. Please meet at Scottsmoor Parrish Park (4055 Magoon Ave., Scottsmoor, FL 32775) at 8:45am
AND MUCH MORE...

A Minor Major Change

The **NOVEMBER MEETING** will be held on the **18th, Wednesday, NOT** on the 19th as previously advertised. We will still be having Howard Ferris talk about his adventures and experiences in the Florida outback. So for the record, and your calendars the: **November meeting will be on the 18th, with refreshments beginning at 6:30PM at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary.**

Sorry for the confusion.

Celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week

Free Family Festival

Saturday, October 17 from 10 am to 2 pm



Ongoing Live Animal Exhibits, Face Painting, Children's Crafts and Games and Native Plant Sale
10 am to 2 pm

Call 321-861-5601 to make reservations for the following programs:



Nature Driving Tour at 9 am
Songbird Walk at 9 am
Live Bat Presentation at 11 am
Snakes & Turtles Alive Presentation at 12 pm
Live Hawk and Owl Presentation at 1 pm

Call 321-861-5601 or visit http://www.fws.gov/refuge/merritt_island
Visitor center is located on SR 402, 5 miles East of Titusville.

Landscaping with Florida Natives Tour



Saturday, October 10, 2015
10 AM - 4 PM

Conradina Chapter - South Brevard
FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY



Tickets at Eventbrite.com

Tickets available at Maple Street Natives Nursery and Naturewise Nursery
Tickets \$6.00 per person
At your leisure visit 6 homes Saturday Oct. 10th from 10-4 pm.



Community Corner

News for and about your Chapter

A beautiful “Blazing Star” (*Liatris spicata*) blooming now in **Joanie Faulls** backyard. The fall blooms are coming in. Thank you Joanie for the picture. Keep them coming.

Joanie started it with a picture of her beautiful liatris Blazing star so I figured I'd show off some fall activity in my little meadow.



Aquatic Milkweed—(*Asclepias perennis*). I can't say where I got this one, but I'm glad it found a home with me. There are several blooms, and I'm hoping for a nice crop of seed.



This may not be a hummingbird, but at my property is just as rare. A turkey hen, how wonderful to see her perching on my fence.

Elliott's Lovegrass (*Eragrostis elliottii*). I fell in love with this grass very quickly. It is a silverish color, very contrasty to other plants, and produces a lot of seed. Birds like the seed as much as I.

(P.S. Ignore the torpedo grass in the picture. May the nematodes of a thousand tomato plants infest its rhizomes.)



Email from Matt Hayden:

Greetings everyone. As most of you know, our Florida property was featured in the annual state wide publication Guide for Real Florida Gardeners. (See [Sea Rocket Newsletter for Dec. 2014](#)). It's been 4 years of restoration into the project. This year, I entered the property into the Keep Brevard Beautiful competition. This year, the competition is focusing on sustainability. Corporations and municipalities won their categories. Many great programs happening here.

I didn't enter because the property is beautiful. I entered to show that any home owner can break the cycle of buying sod, fertilizing and irrigating it, and then mowing. We've put in over 250 plants, and now have 5 tortoises that have moved back on to the property, not to mention a huge bird list. But what I wanted to document was that it was easy to do. By mowing not at all, durable, hardy native plants would return. This habitat has returned to the point that 2 winters ago, a rufus hummingbird from out west stayed on our property all winter. There were only 2 recorded in the state that year. I had 60 birders and photographers here to get the bird.

Last week I get an invitation for 2 banquet tickets at the Indian River Festival. I didn't enter to win anything....I only wanted Keep Brevard Beautiful to understand that our new fertilizer ordinance that restricts products and application dates (which I worked hard to get passed), is not only feasible, but still too generous. I'm doing it with zero lawn fertilizer, and zero lawn irrigation. It doesn't matter how restrictive the new regs are, we exceed them already, and anyone can do it.

We went down tonight and had dinner and danced to a great band. We came in second in our category which was "individual". The winner in our category was a company owner that was serving the space center contractors to comply with industrial hygiene requirements. We were the only residence recognized for our efforts in sustainability. Matt Reed from Florida Today was the M.C., and said on stage that he was blown away by the entry, and all that we've accomplished. That's good enough for me.

Matt

Matt Heyden and his wife, Lora Losi are board members for Space Coast Audubon, and Lora is a member of the Sea Rocket Chapter. They purchased a home high on a dune that the turf had finally given up the ghost, hence the name: "Dune of Death", which is what they call the property. With a design from Sharon Dolan of Maple Street Natives, and guidance from Sea Rocket members, slowly, but surely, the property is welcoming back the wildlife that had been run off by 30 years of pesticides, fertilizers, mowing and blowing.

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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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

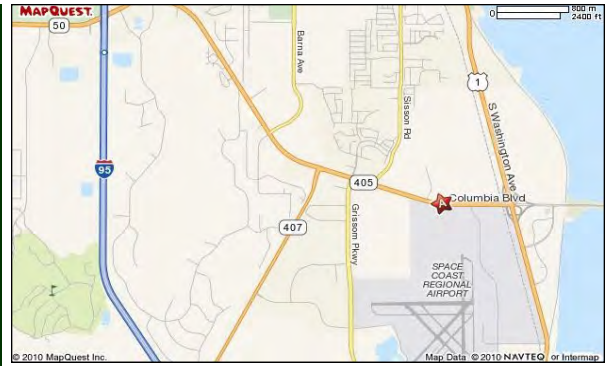


Driving Directions to the Sanctuary:

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: 444 Columbia Blvd, Titusville, FL 32780

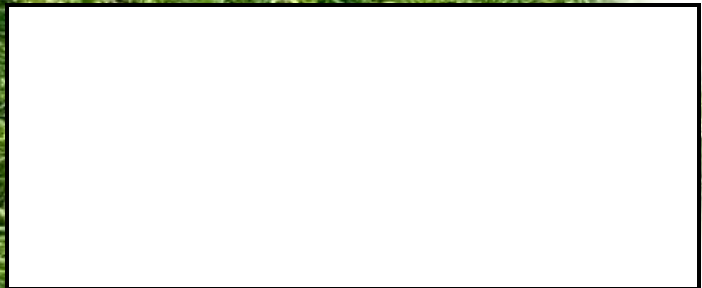


The November Program
A Florida Adventurer, Howard Ferris
sharing his adventures in wild Florida
www.fnps.org



Sea Rocket Chapter

444 Columbia Blvd,
Titusville, FL 32780



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