



Sea Rocket



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

December 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**

President

Lois Harris

lois6459@att.net

Vice President

Armand De Flippo

armanddf@rcn.com

Treasurer

Karin Biega

karin@bocabanana.com

Secretary

David Beiga

db453@bocabanana.com

Chapter Representative

Greg Hendricks

gatorgregh@gmail.com

Committees

Membership

Education/Outreach

Shari Blissett-Clark

jclark109@cfl.rr.com

Nursery

Lois Harris

lois6459@att.net

Hike Leader

Paul Schmalzer, PhD

paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov

Newsletter

David Humphrey

brevcracker@gmail.com

Hospitality

Vacant at this time

*Our Monthly Sea Rocket Meeting will be
at Café Margaux, In Cocoa Village,
Wednesday, December 9, at 6:00 PM.*

**Please RSVP Lois Harris
by e-mailing "lois6459@att.net"
or by phone 321-277-5741
by December 2nd.**



December 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.

December 2 **Hike with FTA to Econ River Loop Trail** Meet at Lone Cabbage Cocoa, at 8:30 AM

December 5 **MINWR at 9:00 am. Butterfly Survey**—Volunteers Needed. Participate in a butterfly survey with volunteers and refuge staff to identify butterflies and collect important data for the University of Florida Butterfly Monitoring Network. No experience necessary. Call 321-861-5601 to make reservations.

December 9 **Hike with FTA to prairie lakes trail** Meet at Sam's Melbourne, at 8:30 AM.

December 9 **Sea Rocket's annual meeting and Supper party.** We will be at Café Margaux in Cocoa Village. The Supper will begin at 6:00 pm. RSVP should be in by the second this month.

December 12 **Enchanted Forest Butterfly Garden Workday.** Start at 9 AM

December 16 **"Endangered Tilandsia and the Mexican Bromeliad Weevil"** 12:00pm – 1:00pm. Bring a packed lunch and enjoy a special presentation by Dr. Teresa Cooper, who is currently researching the Mexican bromeliad weevil at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary. Dr. Cooper's research is timely, and needed to protect the native bromeliads.

December 23 **No Meeting**

December 25 **Merry Christmas** from Sea Rocket to all. "God bless us, everyone."

Planning Ahead

Call for Research Track Papers and Poster Presentations for 2016 FNPS Conference.

The 2016 Florida Native Plant Society Annual Conference will be held in Daytona Beach, Florida, **May 18-22, 2016**. The Research Track of the conference will include presented papers and a poster session on Friday May 20 and Saturday May 21.

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** at paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov by February 1, 2016. Include title, affiliation, and address. Indicate whether you will be presenting a paper or poster.

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 11-18-15

Board Members present: Lois, Armand, Paul, Shari

Guests: Friends of EFS

Welcome and Call to Order: 7:00 pm

BUSINESS:

Approval of October General Meeting Minutes: Passed unanimously

Treasurer Report: Karin Biega, Forest Festival deposit \$224.00 - Transfer to savings \$1,000.00 \$3,563.30 checking; \$2,499.91 saving, \$6,063.21 total.

Budget approval for 2016 budget prepared based on income/expenditures from 2015 – passed unanimously

Refreshments this evening were provided Armand, Greg, Shari, and Sharon with Friends of EFS. Thank you for providing these snacks for our enjoyment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

December Holiday Event: Café Margaux – Wednesday, December 9th @ 6:00 pm – Invitation sent, RSVP to lois6459@att.net or 321-277-5741 by December 2nd.

December field trip: No hike scheduled.

Newsletter: David Humphrey, Newsletter Chair, is accepting articles, photos, questions or other member ideas to be published in our newsletter. Deadline for submittal is the 25th of each month.

Events:

Plant Sales and Outreach opportunities:

Native Rhythms Festival (Nov 13-14-15) sorry to say this function did not happen due to lack of volunteer participation.

SCBWF – January 23, 2016 (Saturday only – plant sale) sign-up sheet

BOD meeting – no meeting in December. Next scheduled meeting January 12th @ New York, New York in Titusville starting at 5:30

Other announcements:

Sarah announced happenings at EFS

FNPS Sea Rocket Chapter Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm

Guest Speaker – Due to unforeseen events our scheduled presenter Howard Ferris, a Florida Adventurer, is unable to be with us.

Movie: “Saving Biodiversity through Native Plants” with Doug Tallamy

Sea Rockets 2016 PROPOSED budget plan.

Officers and Committees	Item Description	2016 Proposed	NOTES
		Income	
Membership	Dues (from FNPS)	\$550.00	two checks rec'd each year, January & July
Nursery	EFS Plant Sales	\$3,000.00	sales tax included; send tax in twice year: January 1 and July 1
	Other Plant Sales	\$350.00	sales tax included; send tax in twice year: January 1 and July 1
Other Sales	T-shirts	\$0.00	sales tax included; send tax in twice year: January 1 and July 1
Donations	Unsolicited donations	\$200.00	
	Revenue Total	\$4,100.00	
		Expenses	
President	Admin items	\$25.00	
Vice President	Speaker Fee/Honorium	\$50.00	
	Publicity	\$100.00	
Treasurer	Corporation Filing Fee	\$62.00	actual is \$61.25; rounded up for budget
	Admin items	\$25.00	
	Sales Tax (6.5%) round up	\$238.00	
Secretary	Admin items	\$25.00	
Membership	Admin items	\$25.00	
	Printing	\$100.00	
	FANN Renewal	\$100.00	
Chapter Rep	Expenses to the mtgs	\$240.00	
Education/ Outreach	Printing/banners	\$75.00	
	SCBWF Table-FMN	\$150.00	will not be spent in 2016; but keeping for out years
	Chapter Premiums	\$25.00	
	Consumable Exht Matls	\$25.00	
	FNPS Cons & Res Grants	\$1,000.00	
Nursery	Soil and Amendments	\$200.00	
	Maintenance	\$400.00	
	Plant Sale Admin Items	\$25.00	
	Nursery Registration	\$25.00	
	Native Plant Purchases	\$510.00	
	Tools and Equip	\$200.00	
	EFS Gardens Maint	\$300.00	in kind costs
Hospitality	Summer Picnic	\$75.00	
	Christmas Social	\$75.00	
Newsletter	Admin	\$25.00	
	Expense Total	\$4,100.00	
	Balanced Budget:	\$0.00	

As the title above states, this is our yearly **PROPOSED** budget. Look it over and if you see something missing, or out of bounds bring it to the attention of the board for consideration. Your input is important to balance out the operation of your Chapter.

You're Invited!

FNPS Sea Rocket Chapter Annual Holiday Dinner

*Café Margaux in Cocoa Village
Wednesday, December 9, 2015
~ Dinner at 6:00pm ~*

Please RSVP by Wednesday, December 2nd

Lois6459@att.net or 321-277-5741

Full Menu: Café Margaux..Com

Please join us, Sea Rocket Chapter FNPS,

*To Celebrate the Holidays
And all the Accomplishments we have made
In 2015*

*Attendees responsible for their individual checks
Lois Harris, President.*

Decisions, Decisions.

It seems that bypass pruners are recommended more often than the anvil type – are there any times where the anvil type are better?

The majority of gardeners do seem to prefer the bypass pruners. Closer, more precise cuts are possible with bypass style shears. Cuts are also cleaner with less chance of crushing stem tissue as sometimes happens with the anvil style pruners.

Anvil shears, on the other hand, can take a larger bite without springing (bending or spreading the blades apart). Double-levered anvil blades are often used for lopping shears (long-handled pruners for cutting larger stems up to 1-1/2" in diameter or more). Anvil blades adapt nicely to ratchet-style pruners, as well. Ratchet pruners have more strength, but require less effort to operate, making them ideal for arthritic gardeners. Also, anvil pruners are less expensive than the bypass type.

Always keep your cutting blade sharp. Many better pruners are constructed in a way so as to allow for blade replacement should it become nicked or badly worn.

Professionals have this to say...

Steve Zien, owner of the Citrus Heights-based organic landscape consulting business, [Living Resources](#), leaves no doubt to his preference: "I would never use anvil pruners! Never ever, unless something needed to be pruned right then and there, and it was the only tool I had beside my teeth."

[Sacramento County Farm Advisor](#) **Chuck Ingels** prefers bypass pruners. "I never use anvil pruners because you often can't cut close enough to the branch collar without leaving somewhat of a stub," says Ingels. "When they begin to wear, they often don't cut all the way through. Also, they crush the bark, which bypass pruners can do also, but you can turn the shears so the blade is closer to the collar and make a clean cut."

Luanne Leineke, Community Shade Coordina-

tor for the [Sacramento Tree Foundation](#). "I don't use and usually do not recommend anvil pruners," "I tend to see too many wounded branches, particularly when the bark is soft. I suggest using bypass pruners for up to three quarters of an inch-thick branches, loppers for up to one inch thickness and a hand saw for anything larger."

Pete Strasser, former plant pathologist with Sacramento's [Capital Nursery](#), has only one use for anvil pruners. "Anvils are for deadheading annuals, and that's about it."

Loren Oki, Landscape Horticulture Specialist with [UC Cooperative Extension in Davis](#), also has limited use for anvils: "I was taught that bypass pruners were used on live material, whereas the anvil types were better for dead wood. The bypass type cuts cleaner through the softer material without causing much damage."



To sum it up:

For most common everyday pruning of green and growing plants, ByPass pruners are recommended for their precision cutting ability.

When cutting back larger dead, fallen, or previously pruned branches, you'll appreciate the extra strength you find using Anvil style cutters.

Experienced gardeners know when to use both and will keep a **sharp** pair of both ByPass and Anvil tools in the shed.

Community Corner

News for and about your Chapter

Photos from The Dicerandra Hike



The group arrives on site.
Photo by Pete Dunkelberg.



Dr. Paul Schmalzer.
Photo by Phyllis Gray.

The full report
describing the
Dicerandra
hike, from the
“Tarpaper”, can
Be found on the
Next page.



November Field Trip Report

Dicerandra Scrub Sanctuary by Pete Dunkelberg

Dr. Paul Schmalzer of Sea Rocket Chapter was our excellent guide to see Titusville's own endemic species, *Dicerandra thinicola*. This plant is in the mint family and is sometimes called the Titusville balm. The first thing we learned is that the best place to see this rare plant along with a lot of other scrub species was a powerline easement right next to the official Dicerandra Scrub Sanctuary. The entrance was just a short walk from Highway 50, and we found the *Dicerandra* plants right away.

The genus is named after an unusual feature of its flowers: *Di* (two), *cer* (horn, from the same Greek root as the word rhinoceros), and *andra* (anthers, or simply male). Each flower has four anthers, and each anther has two "horns" at the end. We saw lots of Titusville balm along with other scrub plants ranging from scrub hickory to a rare species of sandmat. We saw a couple species of *Liatris* blooming, and a couple genera of goldenaster (*Chrysopsis* and *Pityopsis*) also blooming along with fall grasses and other plants.

We were on Florida's Atlantic Coastal Ridge, a yellow sand ridge unlike the white sand we are used to. The Titusville balm has a very small range of just a few acres, and it is quite separated from other *Dicerandra* species. How did this come about? That's hard to say. The ridge is thought to have been above sea level for at least 120,000 years. More recently, say 20,000 to 18,000 years ago, sea level was much lower than it is now and Florida was much larger, extending miles out beyond the current coastline. At this time there may have been dry, sandy areas between our current ridges, allowing the spread of scrub plants. Later, as sea level rose, populations would have become separated, and slowly become different. This scenario is only a possibility, but genetic analysis has found that the differences among *Dicerandra* species resemble genetic drift rather than strong selection.

After seeing enough of the scrub along the power line easement, we went through a narrow gate to the back end of the official Sanctuary to see a small wetland. It wasn't as wet as usual, but it was nice to get into tall grasses, sedges and rushes and see a whole array of different plants. We saw dahoon holly, redroot, royal ferns and, where there was a couple inches of water remaining, some floating hearts. Then it was time to say goodbye and thank our patient host and guide, Dr. Paul Schmalzer. About half of the eleven of us from Tarflower Chapter went back to Orlando while the others went to lunch nearby. After a leisurely lunch, three more went home, and the last four of us went on to Merritt Island. Back in October, Biolab Road had been closed for repair. I wanted to see if the native plants on Biolab Road had been "repaired" or left intact. All is well. The large strangler figs and gray nickers were not disturbed and the smaller roadside plants were merely mowed. Oh, and the road is smoother too.

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

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info@maplestreetnatives.com

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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

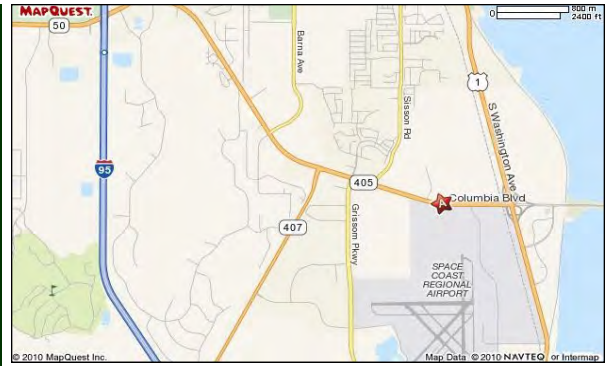


Driving Directions to the Sanctuary:

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

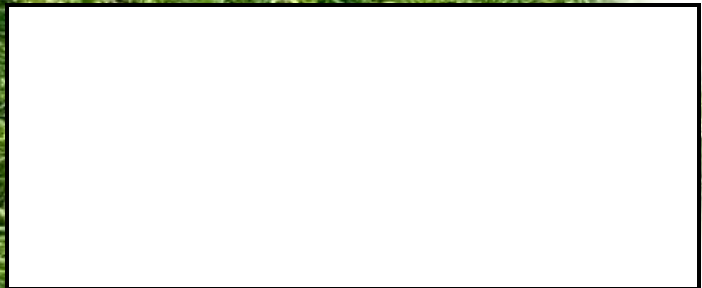


The January 27th Program
Shari Blissett-Clark on Mixed Landscaping
www.fnps.org



Sea Rocket Chapter

444 Columbia Blvd,
Titusville, FL 32780



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