

September
2011



Newsletter of the Palm Beach County Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

Garden Maintenance Party

Saturday, September 24

9am—12pm

Clayton Hutcheson Building



Come help us tidy up our native display garden. Bring your hat, gloves, water, and hand tools.

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September Chapter Meeting

Tuesday, September 20

7:30 – 9:00 pm (doors open at 7)

Palm Beach County Extension—University of Florida/IFAS

Mounts Building Auditorium

531 North Military Trail, West Palm Beach, FL 33415

Twelve Amazing Things You Didn't Know About Palm Beach County Grasses and Sedges

George Rogers, PhD, Palm Beach State College

Dr Rogers will give us all the in-depth background needed to understand the differences between rushes, sedges, and grasses. Ok maybe it will really be an overview to get our minds thinking about this often overlooked community. Then he'll wow us by exploring the biological oddities of 12 selected species and focusing on the unusual natural histories of the species. (Leave your identification books at home for this one.) Lastly, he'll prepare us for what's in store for the field trip, Saturday, October 2 to Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park. We'll take a quick poll to see who plans to attend and would like to carpool.

George Rogers, who received his Ph.D. in botany from the University of Michigan, did postdoctoral work at Harvard. He specializes in plant identification and classification and serves as chairman of the Horticulture Department at Palm Beach State College. A second updated edition of his book, "[Landscape Plants For South Florida, A Manual For Gardeners, Landscapers & Homeowners](#)" was recently released.

*Free Admission • Refreshments • Native Plant Raffle
Public Welcome • No Reservations Needed*

The Florida Native Plant Society promotes the preservation of our native flora through education and conservation. To attract wildlife, promote water conservation and prevent the further introduction of non-native pest plants, the society encourages the cultivation of nursery-propagated Florida native plants and promotes their use as ornamentals in public and private landscapes.

September Election of Officers and Board

submitted by Kristina Serbesoff-King

Per the Palm Beach County Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society, the meeting in September is our annual meeting of the corporation to elect officers, receive reports and amend bylaws if necessary (see page 5 for important news on bylaws). I am excited to announce the nomination slate for the upcoming year's officers and board members. We are very privileged to have 7 of our 9 positions willing to return for another term: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Conservation Chair, Chapter Representative and one of the Director at Large Positions. These candidates have been working with our Chapter for at least one year (officially, many many years as members) and provide a continuity to our Chapter's efforts.

We have two Director at Large positions open and have two able and willing nominees: **Ryan Leavengood** and **Kristi Martin Moyer**. Ryan is a private software/development consultant and has been participating in the business of our Chapter actively. You may remember the propagation workshop he co-led with Michael Manna in May of this year. Kristi was also one of our monthly presenters this past year, giving both a great presentation and great hike focused on her prairie restoration at Pine Jog Environmental Education Center where she is the Facilities and Land Manager. Both of

these candidates, along with our tenured officers and board promise to bring a lot of experience and enthusiasm to our Chapter.

President - **Brenda Mills**
 Vice president – **Lindy Cerar**
 Secretary – **Cathy Beals**
 Treasurer – **Stephanie Duncan**
 Conservation chair – **Michael Manna**
 Chapter Rep – **Lynn Sweetay**
 *Director at large 1 – **Ryan Leavengood**
 *Director at large 2 – **Kristi Martin Moyer**
 Director at large 3 – **Alyssa Dodd**
**new terms*

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our two outgoing Directors at Large, **Mary Jo Aagerstoun** and **Carl Terwilliger**. Mary Jo is the president of EcoArt South Florida. Her perspective on raising awareness and moving policy forward through the use of art has been wonderful. Carl brought to us a long tenure of owning and operating a native plant nursery. He has been a long time supporter of our chapter through his generosity and his own native plant passion. Both will continue to support our Chapter and conservation in Florida. Please take the opportunity to thank them for their work with our Chapter.

Visit the FNPS Online Shop



If you love Florida's native plants, you're going to love what's already offered at the FNPS online shop, and it's only going to get better. Go to <http://www.thefnpsshop.com/> and take a leisurely stroll through our little shop and discover all the goodies that FNPS has gathered for your enjoyment (and purchase, too). The site has everything from hats to tees to wonderful works of original art. And, of course, you don't have to be a Florida native plant lover to love what you see, just a friend to nature and lover of beauty.

In addition to cool native plant merchandise, you can shop for beautiful original art like this watercolor by our very own Cathy Beals!

Gardening with the Natives

by Jeff Nurge

Butterflybush (*Cordia globosa*)

Butterflybush or bloodberry as it is sometimes called is an endangered native to the coastal rock barrens in the Florida Keys. Typically five to eight feet in height and shaped like a mound this fast growing bush flowers throughout the year with small white flowers that present themselves on spherical balls that all butterflies find irresistible. This is especially important for our small butterflies, like the Cassius and Ceraunus blues that find it easy to reach the nectar. The flowers give way to juicy red berries that drive the cardinals into the yard for a delicious feast. I've watched them in my yard strip a bush of all their berries in less than 10 minutes!

Butterflybush is used to growing in very harsh conditions but does very well in mainland Palm Beach County. For the best results it is recom-



The juicy red fruits of butterfly bush are irresistible to many South Florida birds.

Photo by LeRoy Rodgers

mended that it be grown in moist but well drained soils with some organic material. It will take full sun but light shade during some course of the day would be helpful to establishing this plant. In the shade, the plant becomes vine like and seldom flowers. In the wild garden, butterflybush will spread aggressively by seed. From one plant I now have at least 20 growing in my garden. They fill in nicely between other natives and provide a continuous moveable feast for butterflies and birds alike.

This plant is available at native nurseries. Visit the Association of Florida Native Nurseries at www.afnn.org, but don't stop there. The site provides only a snapshot of the offerings at local nurseries, so call around.

Jeff Nurge www.FloridaNativeGardening.com

Kissimmee Prairie Field Trip

Saturday, October 2, 2011: Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park. 10:00 am –12:30 pm.

This preserve protects the largest remaining expanse of Florida dry prairie, home to an array of endangered species, including the endangered Florida grasshopper sparrow. While driving the road into the preserve, visitors enjoy sweeping vistas of grasslands reminiscent of the Great Plains of the Midwest. The Park also has enough varied habitats, including wetlands, dry prairie, and hardwood hammocks, to offer the nature tourist a full day of recreation. We will start the walk at the Visitor's Center.

Leader: George Rogers, Palm Beach State College

Address: 33104 N.W. 192nd Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34972, phone (863) 462-5360

Directions: Located 25 miles northwest of Okeechobee via U.S. 441 and County Road 724

Difficulty: Easy/moderate - short distance, mostly on sandy paths.

Bring: Sun protection and water to carry. Bring lunch if you'd like to picnic afterward.

Note: There are facilities on site. Pets on leash are allowed.

More info: See <http://www.floridastateparks.org/kissimmeeprairie/>

Need to RSVP or Lost? Try Lindy's cell (561) 312-0660

Notes from Palmway Hammock

by Ann Weinrich

"Palmway Hammock" is ready for the migratory bird invasion! Inventorying the flora after having been gone several months, we discovered lots of very busy plants. The soldierwood is covered with flowers and buzzing insects. Red fruits and a few flowers are on the Simpson stoppers. The firebush flowers are dappled with butterflies. There's tons of fruit on the coco plum, the stem diameter (DBH) of which is now almost five inches.

There are flowers and fruits on the inkwood, and the mastic branches are covered with fruits. All the peperomia have "invisible flower" spikes on them. Fruit pods on the Jamaica caper are bursting open red. The Bahama strongbark is drooping with fruits. The scorpion tails all have flowers as do the rouge plants. There are several



"branches" of fruits on the cabbage palm, which is entwined by the snow-berry with lots of little white flowers. There are more drooping branches with fruits on the marlberries. The Florida boxwood is covered with fruits and insects and there are clumps of green fruits all over the pigeon plums. The darlingplum and dahoon plums. The darlingplum and dahoon holly are both covered with fruits. And there is one mysteriously dead tree – one of our favorite white stoppers - lost to who knows what. It was just about to go into the power lines, so it's probably just as well.

Isn't it amazing what goes on when you're not around to tend to things? Mother Nature just takes over! Welcome back to South Florida, all you migrants!

Next Board Meeting

September 20

5:15 to 7:15

Mounts Botanical Garden

It's time to get together again and complete the business of the Palm Beach Chapter of Florida Native Plant



Society. We'll focus on updates of "old business" and setting the program for next year (speakers, field trips and events), so bring your ideas and join us!

Go Native...Florida Natives for Your Yard

On Saturday, August 20th a small group gathered at the IFAS facilities to present an overview of the benefits of landscaping with native plants, plant selection and placement as part of Mounts Botanical Garden ongoing workshops. Thirty-eight people spent their Saturday morning hearing from our in-house experts – **Rob Hopper**, **Rufino Osario**, **Lindy Cerar** and **Lynn Sweetay** while Brenda Mills organized the days activities, Alyssa Dodd answered membership questions and sold books and **Sue Dingwell** provided some amazing publicity. Native Choice co-owners, **Jeff Nurge** and **Susan Casamento**, were on hand to start folks off on the right foot with a selection of native plant for purchase. We gained one new member, sold a handful of books and hopefully inspired new projects. Plus we now have several presentations ready for future requests. Next year may hold more opportunities. Mounts Botanical Garden has invited FNPS back for another workshop.

Changes to Bylaws Proposed

submitted by Brenda Mills

It's time for our annual meeting to elect officers, receive reports and amend the by-laws. You'll see a separate article covering the election of officers (see Page 2). Three types of changes to the by-laws are proposed for your consideration, which are the first revisions since 2005. The proposed by-law changes will be reviewed here and are listed in their entirety below.

First, our chapter wants to be considered as tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. To do so we have filed an application under the FNPS GROUP EXEMPTION LETTER (GEL) 501(c)3. This will ensure we are recognized as being organized and operated exclusively for exempt purposes set forth in section 501(c)(3). Organizations described in section 501(c)(3) are commonly referred to as charitable organizations. To complete the GEL application and meet its requirements our by-laws need to be amended, specifically Article II-Purpose, Section 2 and Article IX - Dissolution and Rights to Assets. To fulfill the 501(c)3 reporting and oversight requirements, FNPS asks each chapter to provide specific information. To this end, the by-laws reflect the Chapter Representative's new responsibility to prepare a report of the chapter's activities for the FNPS Board meeting and the Treasurer's new responsibility to submit an annual revenue and expense report and an asset, liability and fund balance report in the format required for the annual Florida Registration for Charitable Organizations.

The second type of change proposed for the by-laws is to clarify authority to spend funds of the chapter. In the past, we have operated under the guideline that expenses \$500 or greater required approval from the Board of Directors. By adding a new Section 8 to Article V – Board of Directors, this guideline will become official and will be followed in the future.

The third type of change is just housekeeping to update the title of the Chapter Representative (it had been listed as "Chapter FNPS Director") and the responsibilities of the Secretary. **Cathy Beals** will be relieved if it is approved that the Secretary no longer has keep minutes of all meetings.

I hope this clarifies the purpose and intent the proposed by-laws changes. Should you have any questions before our September 20th annual meeting, please do not hesitate to contact me (bmills@sfwmd.gov) or Stephanie Duncan duncan694@aol.com.

Proposed Changes to by-laws are as follows. Proposed additions are underlined; proposed deletions are in strikethrough.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

Section 2. ~~Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the purposes for which this corporation is formed are exclusively charitable and educational within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.~~

Said organization is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, or scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contribu-

Continued on Page 6

Bylaw Changes *(continued)*

tions to which are deductible under section 170(c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code. We shall not issue any stock.

ARTICLE V – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The business of this corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors consisting of nine members: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chapter FNPS Director Representative, Conservation Chair, and three Directors at Large. The Board of Directors shall make rules and regulations to govern its meetings and the affairs of the corporation.

Section 8. Expenditures of Five Hundred dollars (\$500) or more will require a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Duties of the Secretary

- a. Be custodian of all chapter records except financial.
- b. Be the registered agent for the corporation.
- c. Prepare corporation correspondence.
- d. Provide to the membership written notice of special meetings, bylaws amendments, and director removal motions.
- e. Record minutes of all Board meetings or as requested.

Section 5. Duties of the Treasurer

- a. Keep and maintain correct accounts of financial transactions.
- b. Deposit all monies accruing to the corporation and be custodian of the same.
- c. Disburse funds as directed by the Board of Directors.
- d. Submit to FNPS an annual revenue and expense report and an asset, liability and fund balance report in the format required for the annual Florida Registration for Charitable Organizations.

Section 6. Duties of the Chapter FNPS Director Representative

- a. Represent the corporation at all Florida Native Plant Society Board of Directors meetings or find an alternate if unable to attend.

- b. Report back to the corporation on the matters discussed and actions taken at the FNPS Board of Directors meetings.
- c. Prepare a brief written report for each calendar quarter, due at the quarterly FNPS board meeting.

ARTICLE IX – DISSOLUTION AND RIGHTS TO ASSETS

~~In the event that all memberships are terminated or that the corporation is dissolved, then the Board of Directors shall pay or adequately provide for any debts or obligations of the corporation and dispose of any remaining property according to state and federal law. In no event shall any earnings, property, or other assets of the corporation be distributed or inure to the benefit of, any member, former member, officer, director or any other private individual, either directly or indirectly.~~

Upon the dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the organization is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

If you would like to view the entire bylaws document along with proposed changes discussed here, go to <http://palmbeach.fnpschapters.org/pdf/proposedbylaws2011.pdf>

FNPS teams with Northwood GREENlife for Native Urban Forest Pilot

The past two months have seen a flurry of activity as our chapter has joined forces with the Urban Forest team from Northwood GREENlife. You may recall that this project will plan and plant native trees in a 45 block corridor along Spruce Avenue in West Palm Beach, linking six diverse neighborhoods. The corridor is also home to two public schools, a community center, several churches and a commercial area, Northwood Village. Funding from private and government sources will be sought.

Mary Jo Agerstoun and I met with four of the county commissioners, and four of the various neighborhood groups who will benefit from the planting. This project will have enormous and far-reaching impact. In meeting with the commissioners, several goals were pursued including: 1) pointing out the need to create canopy cover, as prescribed in 2007 by the [American Forests report](#); 2) asking for action to implement the report's findings; 3) explaining the value of choosing native trees for planting; 4) getting support for the specific Northwood GREENlife project.

Our get-togethers were met with enthusiasm, and often had unexpected positive results. The commissioners were all in favor of the goals stated above. We got approval to put the American Forest report back on the county's website— some commissioners had not heard of it! We also got letters of support, suggestions for increasing collaborative efforts for tree-giveaways on Arbor Day, and requests for further information of several kinds. Each county commissioner received a copy of the Spruce Avenue Urban Forest Adaptive Management Plan. **City Commissioner Sylvia Moffett**, a Northwood resident, was so enthusiastic she subsequently attended three of our presentations to the neighborhood groups. Those presentations, at the separate Northwood neighborhoods, were fantastic opportunities to give the native plant message to a whole new audience. Several people took membership applications, and many expressed their thanks for the opportunity to learn more about the importance of native plants.

Dedicated FNPS members came out on a hot day in July to survey the area: **Chris Lockhart, Cathy Beals,**

Dennis de Zeeuw, Jane Thompson, Mary Jo Agerstoun and myself. Jane went a step further and created a native plant palette of trees and understory vegetation that would be appropriate for the site, which of course was originally coastal hammock, but now must also cope with the stresses of urban life. Thanks again to all who participated!

Our chapter is continuing to provide horticultural information and expertise, as well as other professional services to this effort to create a model urban streetscape. One of the exciting components of this project will be the development of educational materials to help teach the residents to know and care for native plants. We are also engaged in ongoing consultations with West Palm Beach staff in preparation for gaining WPB Commission endorsement. We have obtained an important letter of support from **Eric Weakley**, Director of Environmental Resources Management (ERM).

Looking to the future, the team who is writing the proposal that will ultimately be the basis for grant requests, **Jeanne & Bob Taylor**, are designing a document that will be adaptable to many other groups. The hope is to form a model that others will want to, and be able to, use in their own neighborhoods. Our chapter can be proud to be part of this incredible effort. Here is a list of things that are in the works now: 1) develop and cost out native canopies and understories for Spruce Avenue; 2) develop plan and timeline for duplicating Pilot Project in other neighborhoods; 3) develop policy language for citywide deployment of "green infrastructure."

Please let one of us know if you would be interested in helping with any part of them - we need all the help we can get. And it's fun!

Sue Dingwell

[Northwood GREENlife's](#) mission is to promote environmental responsibility in the Northwood District of West Palm Beach, FL. Our ultimate goal is to make West Palm Beach's Northwood District a showcase and thriving sustainable community.

Visit www.northwoodgreenlife.org



Upcoming Events

Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 20

Mounts Building, UF/IFAS Extension

5:15 – 7:15pm **Chapter Board Meeting**

It's time to get together again and complete the business of the Palm Beach Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society. We'll focus on updates of "old business" and setting the program for next year (speakers, field trips and events), so bring your ideas and join us!

Monthly Garden Maintenance

Saturday, September 24

Clayton Hutchinson Building, UF/IFAS Extension

9:00 am – 12:00 pm **Get Your Hands Dirty!**

Come and learn from experts as you help us maintain our Native Plant Demonstration Garden. It's a great opportunity to ask questions, identify plants, and take home cuttings for your garden. Drop by anytime between 9:00 am and noon to learn, socialize, and enjoy brunch in the open air. Don't forget to bring your garden tools if you have them! More info: 561-247-FNPS (3677).

Field Trip

Sunday, October 2

Mounts Building, UF/IFAS Extension

7:30 – 9:00pm **Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park**

Field Trip to Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park led by Dr. George Rogers, Palm Beach State College. See page 3 For details.

October Chapter Meeting

Tuesday, October 18

Mounts Building, UF/IFAS Extension

7:30 – 9:00pm **Native Plants and Other Wilds of the Big Cypress National Preserve**

Steve Woodmansee, Senior Biologist, Institute for Regional Conservation, will share his knowledge of the native flora of Big Cypress. The Sierra Club will join us for our October meeting. More info: 561-247-FNPS (3677).

Contributions Wanted

Your suggestions for content are welcomed.

We are always interested in original native plant articles, essays, field reports, photos, event announcements, or other content suggestions.

If you would like to contribute to our chapter newsletter, please email LeRoy and Shari Rodgers at

dahooned@gmail.com

Membership at a Glance

Business	7
Contributing	10
Donor	1
Family	31
Individual	107
Library	1
Life	2
Not for profit	4
Student	4
<u>Supporting</u>	<u>4</u>
Total	171

Membership Update

Our chapter has 171 members as of September 3rd. We have 10 new members in the months of July and August. A very warm welcome to **KRISTEN BERGMANN, CINDY LEVITT, BRIAN MCADOW, MARY MCKINNEY, MOLLY MUNRO, DIANE NEIL, SHARYN SANSONI, SPENCER SCHWARTZ, CARLA WATKINS,** and **DAVID WITMER.**

Fifteen memberships renewed or rejoined in July/August. Renewing or rejoining individual members are **CHARLES BECK, TERENCE BROWN, CINDY BUSH, ANNA MAE CAVALERI, ALYSSA DODD, CHARLES FREDRICKSON, SIMEON HETHERINGTON, STAS KACZOROWSKI, SUSAN LERNER, BRENDA MILLS, JIM PHILPOTT,** and **ROBERT SMITH.** Our renewing family members are **GENEVIEVE GOLDSTEIN** and **CARMINE & JUDITH PORRAZZO.** **PALM BEACH COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENTION (ALLEN SISTRUNK)** renewed as a Not-for-Profit Member.

Thank you all for your continued support of FNPS!

Pine Jog Field Trip Notes

by Lindy Cerar

On Saturday July 30, our diverse group of 18 gathered in one of Pine Jog Environmental Center's new Green-certified Gold Level LEED buildings compete with rain-fed cisterns, efficient lighting and inviting windows that beckoned us toward the surrounding restored native habitat. **Kristi Moyer**, the Facilities Manager and enthusiastic hostess, gave a lively and informative summary of Pine Jog's founder Mrs. Kay's vision that began over a half century ago, and the many changes and challenges that followed. These green buildings were part of the collaboration between Pine Jog and Palm Beach County School District: Pine Jog contributed 15 acres from their existing 150 acres for a new environmentally-focused elementary school; and Palm Beach County donated the new "Green" environmental center and dubs on educating the 150 children in the after-school program in exchange. The after school program aligns well with Pine Jog's mission while providing essential income since the trust fund set up by Mrs. Kay has been another casualty of these economic times.



Kristi Martin Moyer (blue shirt) discusses Pine Jog's native plant restoration efforts with chapter members.

The new parking lot is shaded by the coastal hammock trees planted there in the 1960's. All the water that falls in Pine Jog, stays in Pine Jog. Ten cisterns collect roof rainfall for drip irrigation and two cisterns route water to toilets. Storm drains bubble up into bios-swales and retention areas (helped by grants from SFWMD). Our first stop was the beach dune recreation. Nutrient-poor sand from construction was piled up and inoculated with natives like dune sunflower, prickly pear, necklace pod and spider lilies. Nearby relocated oaks and wax myrtles, salvaged by root-pruning and transplanting from impacted areas, added to the adjacent coastal hammock. Kristi recalled how the root-pruning and utilizing winter dormancy proved most successful for transplants. The existing slash pines, with their typical aversion to

heavy equipment, did not fare as well following construction, but were left in place to provide nesting and perching sites. A beautiful *Lysiloma latisiliqua* (wild tamarind) provides dappled shade, a favorite nectar to the sulfur butterflies and fine mulch to the hammock. The colorful butterfly garden blossoming with sage, verbena, coontie, white lantana and black-eyed Susan's appealed most to the children.

The newly created prairie is used for insect netting in this outdoor classroom. A screech owl box above the prairie was home to two owl babies just last year! As with all gardens, the unwanted volunteers like Mexi-

can clover and red non-native passion vine must be held at bay. Pine Jog volunteers and staff are vigilant in this pursuit. Some non-native fire bush was inadvertently planted by mistake and replacement of these is ongoing. Kristi encouraged us to walk into the prairie for a closer look at the diversity of grasses, wildflowers, shrubs and vines and the multitude of critters these support. New varieties of natives are continuously

added as they are made available. Kristi is hoping for the chance to burn the prairie one day to really stoke up the diversity, but climates—natural and political—need to be supportive before this can happen.

An added treat for us was Al the beekeeper from the Palm Beach Beekeepers Association who gave us an intimate tour of the hive through the transparent wall. The Queen and all her subjects were on full view as we huddled around to catch a glimpse of her like adoring groupies. We learned how a queen is created by feeding her more royal jelly—the most nutritious food in the world—after day 3 of her 3 to 5 year long life of laying 3000 eggs per day. While most bees work even harder and wear themselves out after 8

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Monthly Meeting Notes

Submitted by Cathy Beals

At the August meeting, four members presented slides of their personal gardens: **Cathy Beals, Stephanie Duncan, Brenda Mills, and Kathy Walters.**

President **Brenda Mills** announced that the election of officers will take place in October this year and that some changes are needed to our bylaws. Also that our storage area in the Mounts building is being relocated to a more convenient space. **Myrna Sossner** noted that she has been using a Rewards Program at Staples to help save money on distribution of the monthly newsletter.

Many **THANKS** to our volunteers for their gracious generosity of time, effort, plants and refreshments: **Debbie Crawford** staffed the Mounts building in August between closing time and meeting time. **Ann Cavaleri, Nan Owens, and Sue Sanchez** provided refreshments in August. **Lindy Cerar** and **Chris Schwartz** provided refreshments at the July meeting. **Rufino**

Osorio and **Gene & Sue Sanchez** donated plants for the August raffle including: Bird pepper, Bahama strongbark, crabwood, snake bark (*Colubrina arborescens*), blackroot, sleepy hibiscus, and sea-myrtle.

Garden Maintenance volunteers on Saturday, August 20: **Cathy Beals** (also provided refreshments), **Steve Chase, Michael Manna, and Tess Mazzella.** Garden Maintenance volunteers on Saturday, July 23: **Alice Bojanowski, Charlie Fredrickson, Jackie Kadish, Lucy Keshavarz, Michael Manna, M. Willow Manna, Tess Mazella, Chris Schwartz** (also provided refreshments), **Terry Walker, Kathy Walters, and David Winters.**

Thanks, also to garden volunteers **Dave Winters** and **Lucy Keshavarz** in June, whose names did not appear in a prior newsletter.

Many, many thanks to all of you for all that you do!

Pine Jog (continued)

by Lindy Cerar

weeks! If the hive gets too big, a new queen is created. She will take one maiden voyage where she mates on the wing with up to 14 drones (hopefully from other hives) to collect all the genetic material she will need for her lifetime of egg-laying. Guard bees check in each bee before it is allowed to enter, but usually food is an acceptable bribe from a newcomer. Scout bees search for potential new locations and return to waggle-dance the route of their top choices. Once a majority of them agree on a new location, they do a unified waggle dance and the hive swarms.

European honey bees brought here on ships from Europe with the original settlers are the perfect pollinators and 30% of our food depends on their pollination. Bees utilize the Earth's magnetic field and take orientation flights to practice so they can eventually make a "beeline" back home. Although no one knows exactly why bees are declining, most suspect it is a combination of pesticide exposure, too much interstate travel for seasonal pollination jobs and changes to their internal GPS from cell phones and wave-emitting technologies.

Al encouraged us to welcome our pollinator friends to our gardens and if they become a nuisance, contact BeeUnderstanding@gmail.com or the [Palm Beach Beekeepers Association](#). Oh, and if you suffer from seasonal allergies, eat local bee pollen and honey!



Field trip attendees catch a glimpse of the Pine Jog Queen Bee and all her subjects.

Announcements

We're still on a campaign to transition the Dahoon from paper to digital. Our single biggest chapter expense is the Dahoon, and our biggest source of income, which is membership fees, isn't enough to cover the costs. We supplement the costs by our annual native plants auction and by other events (Naturescape, Everglades Day...). In addition, it's just better for the environment.

We previously asked that you let us know if you would like to receive the Dahoon electronically through email. So far, over 20% of the membership responded in the positive. But that's not enough, basically, if you have an email address, we want you to sign up. We understand that not everyone is on the "information superhighway" and we'll continue to mail out the paper copy for those that want it. So if you want to receive The Dahoon via email, please send an email to palmbeach@fnpschapters.org.

La Flor de Nicaragua: Plant Expedition

November 2011

There are only 2 spots left for the November 2011 trip. If you've been thinking about it, now's the time to join Aventuras Naturales & FNPS on this Once-In-A-Lifetime-Outdoor-Adventure this Fall. These spots will not last long. Call right away.

To reserve your spot in November, call 954-603-2907 or email tours@aventurasnaturales.org

Books for Sale - Rufino Osorio is offering for sale books on gardening, botany, and natural history from his collection at a discount to FNPS members. Contact him at rufino_osorio@yahoo.com for details.

Track Your Time! - Cathy Beals wishes to remind everyone that we need to keep track of all volunteer activities: for plant donations, for volunteer activities at outreach events, etc. They can fill in the sign-in sheets available at meetings or send me their activity dates and times (bealsc@bellsouth.net)

Dear FNPS Members,

The Society is seeking an innovative dynamic individual, self motivated with strong leadership skills to fill the position of Executive Director (ED). The responsibilities of this position include: furthering the Society's mission, goals and objectives; fundraising; and organizing and coordinating the FNPS annual conference. FOR MORE DETAILS & COMPLETE JOB DESCRIPTION, please visit: http://www.fnps.org/pages/fnps/page_announcement.php?id=3644 Applications will be accepted via email to: vpadmin@fnps.org. Applicants must submit resume and cover letter of no more than seven total pages no later than October 5, 2011.

Position starts January 2012, with possible December overlap.

Sincerely,

Jackie Rolly, Vice President Administration

*Promoting the preservation, conservation, and restoration
of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida*

Florida Native Plant Society
Palm Beach County Chapter
534 29th Street
West Palm Beach, FL 33407



Florida Native Plant Society

Palm Beach County
Chapter

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**Membership Renewal
(complimentary)**



Newsletter of the Palm Beach County Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

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PALM BEACH COUNTY CHAPTER
FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
MEETS

**3rd Tuesday of the month
7:30 P.M.**

(doors open at 7:00)
Mounts Building Auditorium
University of Florida/IFAS Extension
531 North Military Trail
(1/4 mi north of Southern Blvd.)
West Palm Beach, Florida

**Meetings are free and open
to the public.**