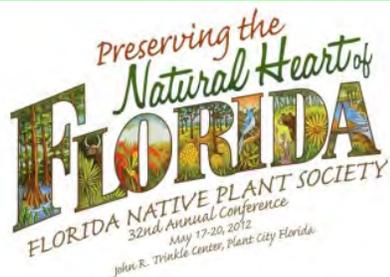


June
2012



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



2012 Conference Highlights
See Page 7

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Palm Beach County Chapter

June Chapter Meeting

Tuesday, June 19 7:30 - 9:00 pm (doors open at 7)
University of Florida/IFAS Mounts Building Auditorium
531 North Military Trail, West Palm Beach

Plant This, Not That: Native Replacements for Common Exotic Landscape Plants

Ryan Leavengood, Director-At-Large for the Palm Beach Chapter/ FNPS

Join us on Tuesday the 19th for an informative discussion on using native alternatives to replace common landscape plants in South Florida. Much like the popular "Eat This, Not That" book provides healthier eating alternatives, Ryan Leavengood will provide examples of how using native alternatives to non-native landscape plants can create a similar design aesthetic while supporting a healthier environment. Native's require lower maintenance and less water than common non-native plants in addition to providing many wildlife benefits.

Ryan will also touch on a few native edible plants, make recommendations for native plant sources, and provide inspiration for native landscape design.

Ryan Leavengood knew nothing about plants when he bought his home 10 years ago. But, after a few years of lawn mowing angst, he was motivated to learn about and embrace native plants. After several years as a member of FNPS Ryan became a Director-at-Large with the Palm Beach chapter. When not working with native plants, Ryan is a computer programming consultant.

*Free Admission • Refreshments
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.

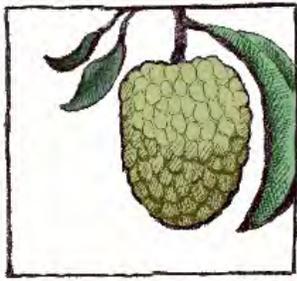
Chapter Notes

~Thank You~

To all those who made donations to the Silent Auction held during the May Chapter meeting.

We would like to acknowledge you in the next newsletter.

If you made a Silent Auction donation, please email Cathy Beals bealsc@bellsouth.net or leave a voicemail (561) 799-4007

**Membership at a Glance**

(As of May 2012)

Business	5
Contributing	6
Donor or Family	32
Individual	108
Library	1
Life	2
Not for profit	4
Student	4
Supporting	3
<hr/>	
Total	165

PBC Chapter Meeting May 15, 2012

Submitted by Cathy Beals, Secretary

On Tuesday, May 15 at 7:30 PM the Palm Beach County Chapter Annual Native Plant Auction and Silent Auction came together in spectacular form! Plant experts **Michael Manna** and **Rufino Osorio** challenged and even traded places on occasion with Auctioneer, **Michael Bodle**. It was a most entertaining and fascinating event, with several groupings of unusual and not-easily-found native plants, all with some interesting descriptions. And the silent auction offered a variety of interesting and unusual items. Overall, it was a resounding success, and the donations added nearly \$900.00 to our chapter finances.

Many thanks to all the volunteer coordinators and plant donors (including **Jeff and Susan of Native Choice Nursery**, **Jane Thompson of Indian Trails Nursery**, Michael Manna and Rufino Osorio of their independently propagated plants.)

Thanks, also to **Myrna Sossner and Nancy Sloane** for providing the evening refreshments and for publishing and distributing the monthly newsletter.

Thanks to **Winnie Said** for composing and editing The DAHOON monthly.

Thank you **Debbie Crawford** for staffing the Mounts Building between closing and meeting time.

And, THANK YOU **Lynn Cox** for providing new and beautiful personalized FNPS Name Tags.

Looking for Florida Basil?

Cypress Acres Nursery
David Barnard, owner
8632 Enren Cut Off
PO Box 1726
Land o 'Lakes Fl 34639
Phone: 813.388.3111

Thanks to Brenda Mills for locating this source



Осінній сирецький
Produced by Roger Hammer
Wildflowers of the Everglades

Chapter Notes continued on Page 4

Gardening with the Natives

by Jeff Nurge

Jamaica Caper (*Capparis cynophallophora*)

Why we like it: The Jamaica Caper is one of our most ornamental native plants. This evergreen large shrub has short branches with oval like leaves that are shiny above and a rusty color underneath. Each spring through early summer it blooms a white brush like flower that turns purplish with age. Following the flower a brown seed pod approximately eight inches long splits open and twists to reveal a strikingly red pulp interior. It's as if nature hung her own decorations on the branches! The connection to wildlife is the attraction of the flowers to our many bee species and the Jamaica Caper plays host to the Florida White butterfly.

How to grow it: Plant the Jamaica Caper in full sun to part shade in well drained soil as it does not



tolerate standing water. Once established, once or twice a week irrigation is sufficient for this drought tolerant plant. For those of you that live close to the coast the Jamaica caper is also salt tolerant. Feed once a year with a palm fertilizer to avoid the occasional leaves that may turn yellow. This will ensure a healthy green appearance. Jamaica Caper is one of those few native plants that are heavy "feeders" so a little help is appreciated. The Jamaica Caper forms a nice pyramidal shape without any training and can grow up to 15 feet making it a fine specimen plant.

It can also be used in the landscape as a large loose hedge. Trim lightly so as not to lose the blooms! There is a related species called Limber Caper (*Capparis flexuosa*) that is vine like. The flowers are almost identical but typically bloom later in the year. This is a wonderful plant for an informal garden as it sneaks around other plants only to reveal itself when it blooms!

Where to buy it:

This plant is available at native nurseries, including **Native Choice Nursery in Boynton Beach (561-843-1192)**. To find other nurseries that carry it, 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

CONTRIBUTIONS WANTED FOR THE DAHOON

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

We are also interested in your suggestions for improved content.

Send us an email!
dahooned@gmail.com



Chapter Notes (continued from page 2)

Palm Beach Chapter BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was held at Mounts Botanical Gardens, UF/IFAS Extension Building on Tuesday, April 17, 2012 from 5:30 pm -- 7:15 pm (and followed by the regular monthly meeting).

ATTENDEES: Brenda Mills, President, Lindy Cerar, VP, Stephanie Duncan, Treas., Cathy Beals, Sec'y, Lynn Sweetay, Chapter Rep., Ryan Leavengood, Dir., Susan Lerner, Dir., Fran Leavengood, Myrna Sossner and Nancy Sloane, Newsletter Publishers, and Winnie Said, Newsletter Editor.



President, Brenda Mills called the meeting to order and asked for reports. Brenda asked for a head count of people planning to attend the FNPS Annual Conference in May and noted that there will be a Treasurer's workshop as part of this year's program.

Treasurer's Report: Stephanie Duncan reviewed the financial statement. The current balance is \$11,050.12, which includes the \$5,000 grant money from the Chastain Foundation. She also reviewed the need for a field trip waiver form for upcoming field trips. Waiver forms for future field trips will be the responsibility of the coordinator. She also suggested seeking a volunteer (librarian) to manage the book inventory, and Brenda agreed to seek one via the next issue of our local newsletter. Stephanie also reviewed potential adjustments to our evening meeting plant drawings specifying that a suggested donation is \$1 per ticket or six tickets for a \$5 donation. The Board agreed with this suggestion. Sales tax collection procedures were also detailed in line with our formal 501(c)3 status. In addition, Stephanie reviewed and requested assistance to provide the required disclaimer information for the application to the State of Florida. This disclaimer is required to appear on our chapter documents and notices. A question regarding officer insurance was also introduced.

Monthly Meeting Sign-in Sheets: Stephanie reviewed and asked for feedback on the need for the sign-in sheets at meetings. It was agreed that these would be best used to identify newcomers/potential new members. A discussion followed regarding the use of updated membership information as a checklist for regular attendees. And the potential use of names and email addresses (of non members) for website notice of meeting announcements and upcoming events. It was also noted that a headcount of meeting attendees would be helpful for summary information for the annual report. The Board agreed that a native plant would be presented to first-time meeting attendees or new members identified at each meeting.

Chapter Representative, Lynn Sweetay reported on recent membership activity and her efforts to recover dropped members. She also noted that there is a membership letter forthcoming from the State level that will be useful for ongoing membership activities. The need for updated monthly membership lists was once again suggested for distribution to officers and members, as this information is not readily available. It was suggested that this information be forwarded specifically to the newsletter editor and publishers, among others. The need for a membership volunteer (along with membership material) at the front greeter table at meetings was also recommended.

Secretary's Report, Cathy Beals reported that our Chapter is currently seeking a replacement secretary. President requested that the secretary complete the review and revisions to the Bylaws prior to the September annual meeting.

Vice President and Education Chair, Lindy Cerar reported that Naturescaping at MacArthur Beach State Park was not as well attended in 2012 and that sales at the April 14 event brought in \$204.00. Lindy also noted that the FNPS sign for the butterfly garden has been mounted on the boardwalk overlooking the newly installed garden. Plants were purchased by Palm Beach County Chapter of FNPS and installed by volunteers and this combined effort was accepted as "in-kind" sponsorship for this year's Naturescaping event. The rain barrel donated by Sustainescape, Inc., Dennis de Zeeuw, was also part of our sponsorship. In past years, our chapter has made a \$500 sponsorship contribution.

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE:

Ryan Leavengood reviewed ongoing website development, which has been limited. and Brenda suggested an assistant who is willing to help with this project for a reasonable hourly rate. Consideration is to be given to additional links/pages announcing other chapter (and/or community) activities as well as local photos, upcoming events, etc. Brenda will talk with Matthew King regarding assistance with getting pages populated.

OLD BUSINESS

AWARD FROM The Chastain Foundation- President Brenda Mills has been in contact with Landscape Architect Rob Hopper to discuss a landscape design according to the Chastain Foundation's recommendation using native plants in a residential landscape. A meeting with a Habitat representative will be scheduled.

Board members, Ryan Leavengood and Lynn Sweetay reviewed details of their upcoming programs for June and July 2012 meetings respectively.

The next PB County Chapter FNPS Business Meeting will be held July 17, 2012 at 5:30 pm (prior to the regular monthly meeting).

~Submitted by Cathy Beals, Recording Secretary

Upcoming Chapter Events

Tuesday, June 19- Chapter Meeting- Plant This, Not That: Native Replacements for Common Exotic Landscape Plants -Ryan Leavengood, PBC FNPS Director

7:30 - 9:00pm (doors open at 7pm)
Mounts Botanical Garden
531 North Military Trail, W Palm Beach FL 33415

Saturday, June 23 and Sat. July 21- Volunteer Event:Native Plant Demo Garden Maintenance

Location: Clayton Hutchenson Building at Mounts Botanical Garden
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. Work parties are held on the Saturday following our monthly meetings. 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!



Tuesday, July 17 - Palm Beach Chapter Board of Directors Meeting

5:30 - 7:30pm
Mounts Botanical Garden
531 North Military Trail, W Palm Beach FL 33415

Members are invited to attend and participate. The Palm Beach Chapter meeting follows the Board Meeting.

Tuesday, July 17- Chapter Meeting- The Great Palm Beach Trade-Off

Increase your landscape diversity.....Bring in your native plants for trade!

How it works

Selections

Only Florida Native plants will be accepted.
2 total plants per participant
Baby plants will be accepted if they are unusual or rare

Trading

You will receive a ticket for each plant you bring. When trading starts, tickets will be drawn to determine the order of choosing.

Specifications

Container sizes- 4 inch to 3 gallon
Plants should be healthy and sized appropriately for their container.
Common plants must be full and adult size.
Plants should be established in their containers and rooted in their normal growing medium. (Not transplanted within a week of the Trade-off).
Baby plants must have several sets of adult leaves and be sized appropriately for a minimum 4 inch container.
Water plants must be packaged in non-leaking containers.

Labeling

Label your plants with as much information as you have for the new owner. Some information is mandatory.

Labeling instructions continued on the next page

Events (cont.)

Great Palm Beach Trade-off Sample Label

Common Name _____

Scientific Name _____

Light:

Moisture:

Soil:

Bloom Color: _____ Annual/Perennial Mature Plant Height: _____



Save the Date

Tuesday, August 21, 2012

Palm Beach Chapter Meeting: Underwater Natives – the ones that don't need to be watered!

Chris Buzzelli, Senior Scientist, SFWMD

7:30 – 9pm

Mounts Botanical Garden

531 North Military Trail

W Palm Beach FL 33415



Sunday, August 26, 2012

Field Trip: Snorkeling in Lake Worth Lagoon

Led by Chris Buzzelli, SFWMD.

Other Events

Risk & Response: Sea Level Rise Summit

June 21-22

Marriott Boca Town Center, Boca Raton

Palm Beach Chapter FNPS member Chris Lockhart wants everyone to know about this important summit addressing the future of Florida and our coast (40% of our nation's risk from sea level rise is in Florida). Summit coordinated by the Center for Environmental Studies at Florida Atlantic University will highlight interrelationships between sea level rise, limestone geology and water management in Florida; share ongoing responses and adaptation planning of agencies, institutions and civic society to sea level rise; and compare the Florida situation and response with other vulnerable localities in the U.S. and worldwide.

Details available at this website: <http://www.ces.fau.edu/SLR2012>

FNPS Conference Highlights

What We Learned at the 2012 Conference "Preserving the Natural Heart of Florida"

by Lynn Sweetay, Brenda Mills,
and Stephanie Duncan

Bok tower is awesome. It is one of 37 institutions participating in the Center for Plant Conservation to conserve and restore the rare native plants of the US. The conservation team collects and maintains both living plants and seed. Seeds are stored at Bok Tower and some are sent to Fort Collins Colorado cryogenic long term storage. The National collection provides material for establishing new populations as well as research and prevention of extinction. About 64 of Florida's rarest plants are housed at Bok Tower gardens! The grounds were beautiful and more and more native plants are being used in the gardens. Also worth mentioning is the coachwhip snake we saw which was at least 7 feet long (and a first for me), and one of the largest gopher tortoises I have ever seen. There is a gorgeous view from an elevation of 298ft (one of the highest spots in Florida). This is well within reach (only about 2.5 hours from my house) for a great day trip.

Coreopsis leavenworthii (our state flower) is found throughout Florida but is rare outside of the state! There are 3 distinct groups of plants within the state. In north Florida the plants are grow on straight stems with larger flowers that are darker in color. In south Florida the plants are decumbent and have smaller pale yellow flowers while in central Florida the plants lean to one side and are medium flowers. Dr. Deng (UF/IFAS) spoke of his research on these plants. His finding showed that there is a high level of genetic diversity (a good thing) and a moderate level of genetic differentiation in natural populations in the North, Central and Southern parts of the state. Seed collected in all three areas and grown in a different area showed no clear differences making this an ideal plant to produce for highway beautification and restoration. Did you know there were at least 6 different petal shapes in Coreopsis? You can read his full report at <http://flwildflowers.org>



It is not easy to **restore a bahia grass pasture** but it can be done! Mary Barnwell presented her project which took place from 2001-2009. First you have to remove the bahia. Then find a comparable natural community to the one you wish to restore (in this case pine flatwood and sand hill communities).

Burn, chop and truck the result to the new location and use a combine to spread the materials. Wait a year and see what comes up. Mow what you don't want. Take an inventory to see what is still missing and find and plant those plants. Wildlife surveys showed that the restoration increased the native animals in that area.

FNPS T-shirts (with two color choices in men's and women's sizes), FNPS hats and very sturdy FNPS shopping bags were a take home must!



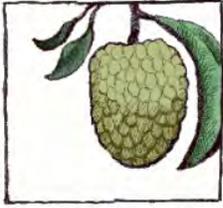
Enhancing Habitat for Native Insect Pollinators: Due to the decline of the European Honey Bees there is action underway to try and supplement the pollinating of crops through the use of Native Bees. 70% of native bees nest in the ground and the other 30% nest in hollow plants, holes in wood or debris piles. In order to use the bees for the crops there needs to be native plants in close proximity to the crops. Several farmers have agreed to be test sites. The farmer plants several rows of their crop, then a row of natives are planted and then several more rows of crops. Another initiative is to promote the use of the medians of roadways for pollinator corridors.

Making Connections: A statewide wildlife habitat network for Florida: The Florida Panther needs to have more room for their individual territories. The largest concentration of the panther is south west of Lake Okeechobee. Studies are showing that a growing number of the panther deaths are not from man or vehicles but from other panthers because of their concentration in one area. Defenders of Wildlife are working with state, local and federal government and the private sector to protect and expand the panther habitat. While male panthers will venture across the Caloosahatchee River females are hesitant due to lack of a sufficient supply of food. The Defenders also participates in state transportation planning to develop methods to reduce panther mortalities on roadways.

Note – A few days after conference an announcement came out that a large tract of property along the north side of the Caloosahatchee River that had been slated for development had been purchased and will provide those wildlife corridors needed to allow the panther to move further north. This purchase was through the efforts of Defenders, Nature Conservancy, US Fish and Wildlife, Wal-Mart and private donors just to name a few.

State BOD Meeting Notes

Submitted by Lynn Sweetay, Chapter Rep.



FNPS State Board of Directors Meeting

May 17, 2012
Plant City, Florida

Treasurer Report: A total of \$2200 was received for the Exumas trip. The vendor for the Nicaraguan trip is paying us in installments.

The FNPS webstore is now being run solely by Greg Krolczyk who will turn over a % of sales to FNPS. Chapters and individuals can contact Greg to negotiate the placement of items for sale. It has been agreed that this will be the sole web store for FNPS and chapters are encouraged to advertise the store.

Three endowment grants of \$1500 each were approved for the following studies: Beak sedges (FSU), the herbivory of the invasive Mexican cactus moth on native *Opuntia*, and the parentage of hybrid *Tillandsia* (FIU). These grants were funded by chapter donations along with the interest from the Endowment Fund.

No conservation grant was awarded this year as none of the 9 applications met the criterion for the grant. Conservation Chair Annie Schmidt suggested that grants for education or restoration be added by other committees.

Science Advisory Chair Paul Schmalzer announced that 11 papers and 6 posters were being presented at the convention.

There are 7 applicants for Landscape awards in 4 categories.

Executive Director Kellie Westerveldt reported that a new online database has been purchased which will allow us to coordinate members and efforts for the club. She also announced the acquisition of a \$20,000 grant for strategic planning. We will coordinate our lapsed member program starting in July so that all chapters are participating in the same ways.

The 2013 Convention will be held in Jacksonville at the University of North Florida on May 16-19. The convention theme is Celebrating La Florida: the 500th anniversary of the Founding of Florida.

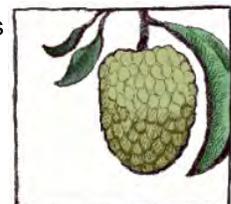
Help Wanted:

- FNPS is looking for a Board Secretary*, a Communications Chair (we have 2276 friends on facebook) and an Annual Report Director.
- Education Chair Kari Ruder is looking for ideas on the direction this committee should take, and for assistance with their mission.
- Anne Cox, Land Management Partnership Chair, is looking for people interested in coordinating with the South Florida Water Management District for Land Management Reviews, as well as help with data collection for their projects. You can email Anne at Impartners@bellsouth.net.

Internet:

- Please use **Good search** and **Good shop** and designate FNPS Melbourne as your recipient. Use the link on the FNPS website. <http://www.fnps.org>
- FNPS Store <http://www.thefnpsshop.com> Find plants, books, artwork, T-shirts, hats and more. Are you looking for lotus for your pond??? They have it.
- FNPS Blog <http://fnpsblog.blogspot.com> You can have it emailed to you!

*UPDATE- during the general member meeting at the FNPS conference, Martha Stewart was nominated and approved to be the Board Secretary



Announcements

Reviewers Needed

for Upcoming Land Review of Fisheating Creek W.M.A.

July 11-12 2012

Interested parties please call

Anne C. Cox, Ph.D.

FNPS Land Management Partners Chair

561 744-9531 Voice

561-339-1549 Cell

Impartners@bellsouth.net



A Message from the Editor

Please note: The Dahoon newsletter will not be published during the month of July. You will receive the next issue in August before the monthly meeting. Until then.....

Wishing you a summer filled with native abundance.

How Can I Become a Member of the Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS)?

You can join on-line . .

http://www.fnps.org/pages/fnps/membership_appl.html

Membership forms are also available at the chapter meeting held every 3rd Tuesday of the month at the University of Florida/IFAS Mounts Botanical Garden auditorium in West Palm Beach

The Florida Native Plant Society is registered as a 501(C)3 non-profit organization

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247-3677 palmbeach@fnpschapters.org

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Director at Large—Kristi Martin Moyer

Director at Large—Ryan Leavengood

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312-0660 lindycerar@yahoo.com

Membership Chair—Dennis de Zeeuw
954-560-4771 dennis@sustain-scape.com

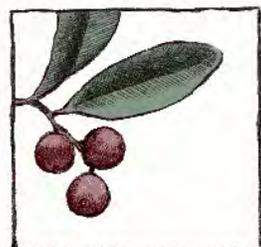
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www.palmbeach.fnpschapters.org
www.fnps.org

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