



FNPS Mission: 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.

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## Holiday Decorating with Natives & Natural Materials

**6:00 P.M. - Dec. 13 - Melbourne Fee Ave. Library**

Join us for an evening of celebrating the holiday season creating decorations made from native plants and other natural treasures. Supplies will be available but you are welcome to bring in some materials to share.

Ideas for items to bring:

- Treasures found on the beach
- Pinecones (they could be painted in holiday colors)
- Feathers
- Pine and Southern Red Cedar branches
- Smilax vine (watch for the thorns)
- Coontie fronds
- Palm fronds
- Grasses
- Seagrape leaves
- Yaupon Holly branches

Other supplies you might need:

- Clippers to cut materials
- Scissors
- Wire/cutters



Martha Steuart finishing wreath

PLEASE DO NOT BRING EXTREMELY MESSY ITEMS TO THE LIBRARY.

## Conradina Chapter Awards FMNP Scholarship

Teresa Urban of Indialantic was chosen to receive a scholarship to attend a Florida Master Naturalist Program (FNMP) module. She provides administrative and technical support for a computer software company. Terrie works as a volunteer at the Turkey Creek Sanctuary where she leads the maintenance effort for two butterfly gardens. She is an avid butterfly gardener with the NWF Backyard Habitat certification and the Monarch Waystation certification.

The Florida Master Naturalist Program is an adult education program developed by the University of Florida and provided locally by Brevard County Parks and Recreation. The mission is to promote awareness, understanding, and respect of Florida's natural world among Florida's citizens and visitors.

### Officers and Directors

President:

Martha Steuart

Vice-President:

Carol Hebert

Secretary:

Suzanne Valencia

Treasurer:

Suzanne Valencia

Past President:

Michelle Provencal

Chapter Rep:

Vince Lamb

Directors at Large:

Christine Crawford

Brent Dolan

Sharon Dolan

Rita Karpie

Linda Mongioi

Lucy Serody



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## Carol's Corner

Text and photo by Carol Hebert

Autumn has arrived! You may have to look for plants changing color and they are! Along the roadside you may see Goldenrod, Broomsedge and Salt Myrtle. Virginia Creeper is turning red and so is Red Maple. Leaves are dropping and the grape vine is beginning to turn yellow along with American Elm. My Climbing Aster is in bloom and so is my Wild Hoarhound (*Ageratina aromaticum*) and Muhly grass. The Skyblue Clustervine is almost done but what a display! A photo of the Skyblue Clustervine is shown on the right. You must always enjoy nature and the seasonal changes!



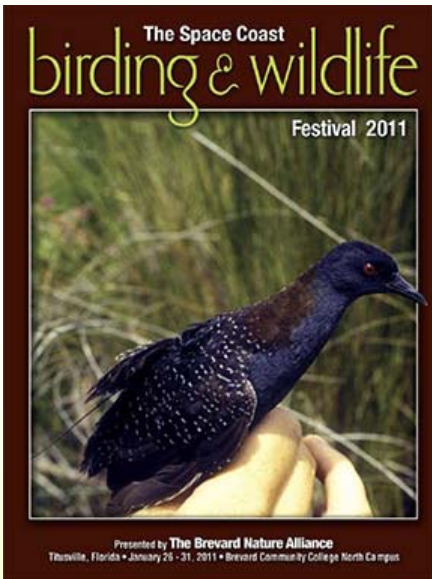
Skyblue Clustervine (*Jacquemontia pentanbos*)

## Volunteers Needed at Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival

The Florida Wildflower Foundation has committed to provide a booth at the exhibit center at the Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Center at BCC North Campus in Titusville on January 26-31. Volunteers are needed to staff the booth and talk to visitors about Florida wildflowers and the Florida Wildflower Foundation. Would you be interested in volunteering for a couple of hours? Please send an email to [vince@vincelamb.com](mailto:vince@vincelamb.com) or call Vince at 321-258-5168.

Exhibit hours are 3 PM to 6 PM on Jan. 26 (Wednesday), noon to 6 PM on Jan. 27, 9 AM to 6 PM on Jan. 28, 9 AM to 6 PM on Jan. 29 and 9 AM until 3 PM on Jan. 30 (Sunday). The exhibits are free to the public.

For more information, visit [www.spacecoastbirdingandwildlifefestival.com](http://www.spacecoastbirdingandwildlifefestival.com)



## Wildflower Photographer to Present at January Meeting

Wayne Matchett, author and photographer of a blog about Space Coast Wildflowers, will present a slideshow of his wildflower photographs at the January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of Conradina Chapter FNPS. Wayne present a virtual tour of Wickham Park. More than 100 species of wildflowers have been identified in this park. Visit Wayne's blog at [www.spacecoastwildflowers.com](http://www.spacecoastwildflowers.com).



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## Invitation to a Winter Solstice Party - December 11, 2010

The Partnership for a Sustainable Future invites Conradina Chapter FNPS members and their families to attend this party to be held from 5 P.M. until 9 P.M. at the Lagoon House, 3275 Dixie Highway (US 1), Palm Bay 32905. The Partnership for a Sustainable Future is a coalition of local organizations including Space Coast Audubon Society, Turtle Coast Sierra Club and both Florida Native Plant Society chapters.



This fun, annual end-of-the-year celebration is the time for all members of the Partnership to gather and celebrate. Join us in toasting past and future successes and enjoy a delicious potluck dinner. Each person should bring an appetizer, salad, desert, hot or cold main dish to share, and the beverage of their choice. Cocktail hour 5 pm; Dinner: 6:00 p.m..

We will have a live auction so bring those lovely items you no longer treasure, perhaps someone else will give them a good home. All proceeds go to the Partnership for conservation work.

## Field Trip to Cruickshank Sanctuary - Dec. 4, 2010

Paul Schmalzer, Ph.D., will lead a field trip to the Cruickshank Sanctuary in Rockledge on Saturday, December 4th from 9 A.M. until approximately noon. This sanctuary is a joint acquisition of the Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program and the State of Florida, acquired in 1995 with an addition in 2008. Vegetation is pine flatwoods, oak scrub, and freshwater depression marshes. Prescribed burning, mechanical treatment of fuels, and thinning of pines have been done to restore habitat conditions. There has been a positive response of the Florida Scrub-Jay population to habitat restoration. Several rare plants occur in the sanctuary.



Directions: Central Rockledge just west of US Highway 1, 360 Barnes Boulevard.

From I-95: Take Fiske Blvd Exit 195. At the intersection just north of I-95, go east on Barnes Boulevard 2.4 miles to the Sanctuary entrance and small parking area.

From US-1: Turn west onto Barnes Blvd and travel 0.5 miles. The Sanctuary entrance is on the north side of the road.

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## FNPS Board Meeting Summary      Nov. 11, 2010      Haines City

- FNPS governance structure will be studied to develop a more effective approach to the Board of Directors time sensitive business decisions, improve the methodology of how committee members are approved, and streamline Board of Directors meetings.
- A New chapter has formed in Suwannee County – the Sparkleberry Chapter of the FNPS
- Merchandising FNPS will now have merchandise available for sale as a fundraiser. Greg Krolczyk has volunteered his time to collect, photograph and manage the online purchasing system. Items can be donated or sold to FNPS and FNPS will apply a mark up price. If Chapters would like to sell their chapter merchandise on the site, 75% goes to chapter and 25% kept for FNPS general fund.
- FNPS Budget FNPS Treasurer, Daphne Lambright, was given a standing ovation by the Board to congratulate her on the completion of a disciplined budget and fiscal management procedures to assist FNPS in the budget deficit.



In order to reduce the budget deficit the ExCom recommended budget cuts:

- 1.Reduced committee budgets
- 2.Government lobbyist - \$5,000
- 3.All Research & conservation grants except the one funded by our endowment (+/- \$800)
- 4.Landscape awards – reduced budget.

Even with the aforementioned budget cuts, FNPS is still projecting a \$19,000 deficit.

- **Suncoast chapter grant challenge** – Because FNPS cannot afford to fund the FNPS conservation grants this next year, the Suncoast Chapter is donating \$800 towards funding a conservation grant and they are challenging other chapters to match their donation.
- **Chapter Donation** - The Nature Coast Chapter has donated \$350.00 towards a conference scholarship and a conference sponsorship.
- **FNPS Annual Report** – Sue Dingwell, FNPS Communications Chair, and Marjorie Shropshire, *Palmetto* Editor, are working with Chapters and Officers to produce a professional Annual Report. This document will aid with fundraising efforts and provide chapters with a listing of FNPS successes and projects over the last year.
- **FNPS Handbook Revisions** - The FNPS Handbook revisions are completed and in Wiki format. It is available at: [fnpshandbook.wikispaces.com](http://fnpshandbook.wikispaces.com)

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## BCC Students Volunteer at the Viera Garden

Rita Karpie, Conradina FNPS Board Member and Brevard Community College Professor, arranged for biology students to volunteer at this garden. Scott Herber, BCC faculty member, coordinated the efforts of more than forty students who worked at the garden on November 9th and 10th. They spread a truckload of mulch and removed weeds.



Thanks to Kari Ruder, Martha Steuart, Courtenay Hayes and Robert Wicker for volunteering to supervise the efforts of the students. Thanks to Raleigh Berry, Brevard County NRMO, for obtaining the mulch and visiting to meet the students. Many thanks to Scott



and the students for the help.

No volunteer workdays are planned in December due to the Holidays. The Sheriff's work crew will be present on a Sunday, so the garden will not be neglected. Volunteer work sessions will resume in January.

## Upcoming Events

Dec. 4	Cruickshank Sanctuary Field Trip with Paul Schmalzer, Ph.D., 9 a.m.
Dec. 4	<i>Music in the Forest</i> , Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Dec. 11	Holiday Party at Lagoon House, Partnership for a Sustainable Future, 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Dec. 13	Conradina Monthly Meeting at Melbourne Fee Ave. Library, 6 p.m.
Jan. 10	Conradina Chapter FNPS Meeting, Melbourne Fee Ave. Library, 6 p.m.
Jan. 26-31	Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival, Titusville
May 19-22	Florida Native Plant Society State Conference, Maitland, Visit <a href="http://www.fnps.org">www.fnps.org</a>