

The Lily Pad

September 2011
Volume 5, Issue 8



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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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Jenny Welch.....mwelch@cfl.rr.com

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Sandy Webb..... slwebbzeit@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Kaity Storer email pending

Chapter Rep:

..... Apply now

Membership:

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Publicity/Newsletter:

Loret..... PinelilyFNPS@aol.com

FNPS Seeks Executive Director

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. Applications will be accepted by the Society's Vice President for Administration, via email to: vpadmin@fnps.org. Submit your resume and cover letter of no more than 7 total pages no later than October 5, 2011. Position starts January 2012.

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September Meeting

Cheryl Peterson will be our speaker this month. She will discuss the Bok Tower Rare Plant Collection. Join us on Thursday, September 15th at 6:30p.

August followup

by Loret

Dr. Jaret Daniels gave an outstanding presentation on the relationship of pollinators to native plants, outlining which plants will perform best for various pollinators. It drew our largest crowd of 2011. He had his book "Wildflowers of Florida Field Guide" (Adventure Publications) available for purchase and signed copies. If you haven't already seen this great book containing over 200 color plant photographs, organized by flower color, be sure to pick up a copy.

Barbara Schuman spoke briefly to make us aware of the possibility of the Osceola County Library System being privatized.

As always, Susan Parent brought some seedlings for the door prize and delicious cookies. Jenny Welch also provided a plant for the door prize drawing.

Bloom Watch: The Pine Lily Blooms in Late September.



Photo © Jenny Welch

**Meeting is Thursday
September 15th 6:30 p.m.**

First United Methodist Church
101 W. Dakin Avenue, Kissimmee

New/Renewing Members

Richard Diener	R
James R and Leslie Futral	R
Mark and Amy Johnson	R
Carolyn and Patrick Lamond	R
Larry Rosen	R
Lenny Shelp	R
Jenny Welch	R

From the Home Office

FNPS member volunteers needed to reach as many people as possible at the Landscape Show at the Orange County Convention Center. Various shifts on Thursday, September 29th – Saturday, October 1st

Contact Kariena Veaudry, executivedirector@fnps.org (321) 388-4781 with your availability.

"I would feel more optimistic about a bright future for man if he spent less time proving that he can outwit Nature and more time tasting her sweetness and respecting her seniority."

— E. B. White (1899 - 1985)

A Message from our President

by Jenny Welch



Every month I attend the business partner meeting with the Osceola County School district. Each month the meeting is held in a different location. One month it is held at a school in the county. The next month it is held in a local business partners location. This has allowed me to meet and see different schools as well as different businesses. From these meetings the following has happened or begun to happen:

Kids Closet: We have developed a working relationship with Home Depot and the school district. Landscaping was done on several days beginning September 1 with plants donated by Home Depot. We will use as many native plants as possible. Open House is scheduled for Sept. 14 from 4pm – 7 pm with local business partner restaurants serving food and drinks.

New Beginnings School: We have just started landscaping their grounds with a donation of used tires donated from Jeff Clay Tires. The used tires are to be filled with dirt, planted with flowers, and arranged around the reading tree for the students to use as benches. More used tires will be used as raised flower beds. A hedge will be planted around the perimeter as a living fence. We have a donation of dirt but are working on obtaining a truck to haul it to the school. After the dirt is at the school we will begin planting. We obtained a donation of 2 large planters for either side of the entry door. This donation came from Big Lots. We are looking for donations of non-wood picnic tables and chairs for teachers and students to be able to eat outside. We are looking for donations for raised beds for the vegetable gardens. We will be working at New Beginnings every Wednesday. I cannot put into words the excitement of the students and teachers at New Beginnings after just this first day of work. Kattya Graham and I did not feel as though we did much this first day and yet the students and teachers were excited beyond anything Kattya and I could have expected! The reward at this school is definitely going to be seeing the reaction of the students and teachers.

Horizon Middle School: At the business partner meeting yesterday I was asked about another project. The district built a concrete pad for the school buses that park at Horizon Middle School. Some of the residents that live next to Horizon Middle School do not like the looks of this concrete pad and would like to see a screen planted to shield their view. This area is sandy soil, dry, and has a power line right above it. I will be giving ideas to the district for what to plant here.

Westside School: Westside has a vegetable garden built that has grass growing in it. I also showed them some great areas that would be easy to plant some butterfly plants that would not be difficult to maintain yet would allow the students to interact with flowers, plants, and butterflies everyday while playing on the playground. They also have some dead trees that I suggested some alternate native trees to replace them with. We will be meeting again.

Pirates Cove Miniature Golf: When I first started going to these meetings I met Priscilla with Pirates Cove and mentioned that if they ever needed plant advice just ask. I also mentioned that if they redid some of their plantings that they could advertise to birders/butterfly lovers. They could get families who want both fun and birds. Anyway, that was long ago and I thought nothing more of it until yesterday when she came up to me. She said they spend so much money replacing plants that die, replacing annuals, and she has given my name to her boss and wants me to come out look around and give them ideas of what to plant that will bloom most of the year, will attract butterflies, birds, etc.

Sunrise Elementary School: Sunrise has asked for help planting their retention pond with wetland plants.

Highlands Elementary School: We still have a few wetland plants to go into their littoral zone pond. We still have to transplant their butterfly garden back to the school from the move to make way for construction. Seeds For Schools- We still have to get their wildflower garden planted.

YMCA: The YMCA in Kissimmee is enlarging and I asked at the business partner meeting about the plants they would be planting and if we could get some native plants planted. I have been put in contact with the person in charge of the building and we are in discussions now.

Legoland: Legoland will be opening Oct. 15. They have plans to start student programs for robotics. I am still talking to them about starting student programs for landscape and landscape architecture.

So, these business partner meetings are about working together whether it is a business or a school.

Upcoming

October - Peggy Lantz
Subject: Edible Natives (note changed from Nov.)

November - I. Jack Stout
Subject: Lake McLeod Tract of Lake Wales Ridge National Wildlife Refuge; Tales of the Scrub Lupine

December - No meeting, Happy Holidays!

FWF Symposium October 15th

You're invited to join the Florida Wildflower Foundation Oct. 15 at Wekiwa Springs State Park's Youth Camp for a day of education and fun. This year's event features morning presentations and hands-on afternoon workshops on such topics as nature photography, landscaping with wildflowers, propagation for home wildflower walk with the ever-popular Walter K. Taylor, plant and seed sale, door prizes and silent auction.

Each participant will choose one afternoon workshop. Space is limited - purchase your ticket early to ensure your workshop choice.

Cost is \$20 for FWF members and \$30 for non-members. Visit <http://flawildflowers.org/> for further details and to register or join.

Fundraising

This month we will have a special drawing for a one gallon coral honeysuckle vine. You get two chances for a \$1.00 donation. Our regular free door plant drawings will also be taking place. Feel free to bring any native plants you wish to contribute.

Species Spotlight

PARTRIDGE PEA (*Chamaecrista fasciculata*)



Photo © 2010 Loret

Annual erect legume plant that reaches a height of 1 to 3 feet. Readily self seeds. Leaves are sensitive and will close up when touched, much like mimosa.

This plant grows on a wide range of soils that are slightly acid to moderately alkaline. However, it grows best on moderately lime, well drained soils. Planting should be conducted when soil moisture is high.

Bloom Season: Mainly Mid-Summer to Mid-Fall

sources: Florida Wildflowers Growers Coop & USDA

Wildlife benefits: host plant for the Cloudless sulphur butterfly, nectar for bees, food for bobwhite quail, doves and deer.

Light Exposure: Full sun to high pine shade

The plant can be used to control erosion.

Germination: Seeds have a water impermeable seed coat. Scarify seeds to maximize germination. Sow seeds the same day they are scarified.

Seeds are available via the web from the Florida Wildflowers Growers Cooperative: <http://www.floridawildflowers.com>

Caution: **can be toxic to cattle.**

Save the Date

Saturday, September 17, 2011

9:30 am

Sierra Club Central Florida Hike

Lake Kissimmee State Park

Meet at 9:30am on SR 535 at McDonalds just north of I-4 to carpool. Hike 7 miles total. YOU MUST RSVP by contacting: Rodney Posey after 5:00pm at 321-436-2349 or rposey1@cfl.rr.com. \$6.00 park fee.

Friday, September 23, 2011

5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Flicks on the Bricks.

Toho Square, downtown Kissimmee

Kissimmee Main Street is hosting a Food Truck Event & and free Movie

“Ratatouille”. Food “prices usually are fairly reasonable”.

Saturday, October 1, 2011

1:00pm - 5:00 pm

Everglades Headwaters Proposal Public Hearing

Exhibition Building - Hall A
Osceola Heritage Park

<http://www.fws.gov/southeast/evergladesheadwaters/>

Saturday, October 15, 2011

8:00am - 6:00 pm

Boktoberfest & Plant Sale

Bok Tower Gardens
1151 Tower Blvd. Lake Wales, FL

Free parking/admission. Multiple Vendors, Pinewood Estate Tours, Children and Family Activities, Live Entertainment, Info: 863.676.1408 <http://boktoberfest.com>

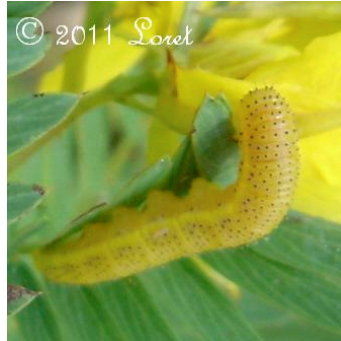
Volunteers Needed
 Harmony Fall Carnival
Oct. 14th, 15th or 16th
 New Beginnings School
 Wednesdays
 Kissimmee Pots
 Maintenance ongoing
 contact Jenny Welch

Historical Gardens Landscaping
 1st and 3rd Sunday each month
 9:30a – 12:30p
 contact Kattya Graham
 407 396 8644 or
 kattya@osceolahistory.org

Before and After – Cloudless Sulphur

(*Phoebis sennae*)

A Florida native larval host for this species is Partridge Pea (*Chamaecrista fasciculata*). Caterpillars are green while they are eating green leaves but turn yellow if they eat the flowers themselves. Larval hosts include other plants in the *Chamaecrista/Cassia* or *Senna* genus.



Open House Celebration

Come tour the new **Kids Closet** and join us as we honor volunteer, Nancy Gemskie.

September 14, 2011
 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
 Tour and refreshments

2310 New Beginnings Road, Kissimmee
 (across from Osceola County Jail off Simpson Road)

407-870-4855 www.foundationosceola.org

Extension Services

We have been invited to join the Master Gardeners on their **field trip to The Natives plant nursery** in Davenport. September 21st. Contact Jenny Welch if interested and she will arrange carpool or directions and provide time info.

Florida Master Naturalist Program – Uplands

Monday, November 7, - December 12, 2011 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
 Forever Florida & other locations throughout Osceola County
 Register online at <http://masternaturalist.org>; Fee \$225

Florida Native Plant Society Membership Application

Membership in the Florida Native Plant Society enables you to receive their wonderful quarterly magazine The Palmetto. Joining the FNPS also entitles you to membership privileges in the Pine Lily Chapter of the FNPS and a subscription to their monthly newsletter *The Lily Pad*.

Check pertinent category:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Not-for-profit organization \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full time student \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business or corporate \$125 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library subscription \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Donor \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family or household \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$75 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life \$1000 |

Name _____

Business name or organization _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Home phone _____ Work phone _____

Make check payable to: FNPS
Detach and mail to:
**Pine Lily Chapter of
 Florida Native Plant Society
 P.O. Box 278
 Melbourne, FL 32902-0278**

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