SOCIETY BUSINESS
Craig Huegel has agreed to serve on the FNPS Board of Directors as chairman of its Education Committee, and was confirmed by action of the board at its November meeting.

Margaret Hames, former Education/Legislative chair, received the “Conservationist of the Year” award from Florida Audubon Society at its annual convention in November for her work on Audubon’s Turkey Creek Sanctuary in Brevard County.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR
Editor:
Congratulations to Craig Huegel and The Palmetto for the fine article on Bumelias. I hope we see more articles on these kinds of subjects. Mr. Huegel neglected to mention Bumelia thomei Cronquist, a rare and interesting tall shrub found in a few seasonally flooded depressions in southern Georgia and in Jackson County, Florida.

I was glad he made references to mature fruit size, as I believe that this character, not always available to taxonomists, may be useful. Based on my observations I would rank the Florida species in order of decreasing fruit size as follows: Bumelia calastrina, B. rufotomentosa, B. lycoides, B. anomala, B. thomei, B. tenax, B. lanuginosa, B. reclinata.

One other taxonomic question Mr. Huegel alluded to involves two things called Bumelia tenax. I believe that South Carolina is the type locality for this species, and the slender, branched, small trees found on the coast of South Carolina and Georgia differ markedly from the highly variable “Bumelia tenax” of the central Florida scrub.

One other note of interest is that Steve Riefler has successfully grafted a number of bumelias and may be willing to share some of his findings. Robert B. McCartney

Woodlanders, Aiken, S.C.

[Steve Riefler says he has successfully grafted B. anomala, B. rufotomentosa and a spineless B. tenax on B. reclinata roots in containers. He would be happy to talk to anyone about it. Write him at 3840 Janie Court, Orlando 32822, or call him at 407/277-4175. Ed.]

BOOK REVIEWS
These books may be ordered through the Subtropical Trader, pages 22 and 23.


Dr. Taylor’s book is organized by flower color, making it easy for the amateur to use as a field guide. It even has color-coding on the top of its pages for opening the book right to the color of the flower at hand. The introductory text about Florida’s wildflowers, use of names, where to look, and how to identify is readable and informative. Each page depicts two flowers, each with its own color photo and description. Most of the 574 photos, some of plants never before published, include enough leaves to help in identification. My only complaint is that the index is in a type size that is smaller than teensy-weensy! Should you buy this instead of Florida Wild Flowers and Roadside Plants by Ritchie Bell? No, you should have them both. While some of the photos are of the same flowers, each book has many that the other does not, and the reference and guide use is different.


Here is the complete reference for Southern gardeners who want to attract butterflies to their home. It covers butterfly lifestyles, feeding habits, flying habits, and types of caterpillars and their enemies. With more than 200 color photos, this gardening book has chapters on seed and plant sources, landscape plants, butterfly photography, and much more. You’ll find how easy it is to cultivate these “flowers of the air”. In addition to describing more than 50 butterflies in detail, there are sections on larval food plants and nectar food plants. Even though it covers from Texas to Tennessee to Florida, it lists many of our Florida native plants.