



Sabal minor

A bi-monthly newsletter for the members of the Florida Native Plant Society

NOVEMBER 2022 – JANUARY 2023 | VOLUME 24, NUMBER 3

Message from the Executive Director <i>Lynda Davis</i>	2
Message from the President – October: A Month of Education Mark Kateli.....	2
Carolina Grass-of-Parnassus <i>Lilly Anderson-Messec</i>	4
Native Plant Month 2022 Report <i>Bonnie Basham, Secretary and Past President</i>	5
Call for Research Track Papers & Poster Presentations – Annual Conference <i>Paul Schmalzer, PhD</i>	6
Recent research published based on FNPS-funded grants.....	6
2023 Call for Grant Applications: Research, Conservation, Dan Austin, and Cornelia McNamara.....	6
Duke Energy awards Cuplet Fern \$11,000 for West Volusia <i>Chelsea LeNoble, PhD</i>	7
One-of-a-Kind Cuplet Fern seed & sapling swap in Sanford <i>Cali Adams</i>	8
Lukas Nursery and Cuplet Fern enter into an educational partnership <i>Mark Kateli</i>	9
Poeppig's Rosemallow (<i>Hibiscus poeppigii</i>) <i>Laurie Brooks</i>	9
Tide for a Cause: Go Native! Hernando Chapter collaboration with Tidal Brewing Company.....	10
Suzanne Marie Valencia, 1934-2022.....	11
Theodore 'Ted' Paul Lundgren, 1943-2022.....	11
Weona Cleveland, 1925-2022.....	12

Do you enjoy getting the *Sabal minor* by email? Did you know we also offer *The Palmetto* by email, as well? [Email us](#) to switch over to save paper and to save us postage.

Chapters are encouraged to print copies of the newsletter to have on hand at their monthly meetings for members who would prefer a print version. If your chapter isn't holding in-person meetings, you may wish to print out the *Sabal minor* and mail it to your members.

Saltbush / *Baccharis glomeruliflora*
Orlando Wetlands Park, Orange County
Photo by Tarflower Chapter member Mary Keim



Message from the Executive Director | Lynda Davis



It goes without saying that navigating the impacts of Hurricane Ian has been a major undertaking for many of our members. To our Chapters and members still affected, our thoughts are still very much with you as you re-build your lives, homes, and gardens.

I find it a little overwhelming the sheer amount of dedication and work our staff, Chapters and volunteers put in every week around the State – thank you to you all!

My first Fall with FNPS has been action-packed. Whilst getting to know the inner workings of FNPS, the biggest treats have been getting out in the field to learn about some of our key programs and experience the beauty of Florida's native plants in their natural communities.

Through late summer, our volunteers, led by Valerie Anderson and Deborah Curry, worked to remove invasive natal grass surrounding the federally listed Blushing Scrub Balm (*Dicerandra modesta*), a rare mint species in Polk County.

In September our team met partners at our Warea Area in Marion County, to plan our activities for the coming year and to see the Clasp Warea (*Warea amplexifolia*), a critically endangered plant species, in bloom. We even saw Florida Sand Skink (*Plestiodon reynoldsi*) tracks, who make themselves at home amongst the Clasp Warea.

Also in September, board member, Mac Camacho-Viera worked with Boggy Creek Airboat Adventures to design and plant a native butterfly garden. Their many visitors will now get the opportunity learn about the benefits of native plants. Boggy Creek Airboat Adventures also kindly made a donation to FNPS – thank you to them and to Mac!

October was Native Plant month and I know many of you are sporting your new Native Plant Month t-shirts, a project kindly led by the Cuplet Fern Chapter. This was a great way to raise money for the society and to spread the word about native plants. (t-shirts are still available by following [this link](#))

This is the time of year when Lilly (our Director of North Florida Programs) starts ramping up Florida Torreya (*Torreya taxifolia*) surveying. Working with Atlanta Botanical Garden, landowners, and student volunteers, Lilly is out in the field each week seeking out new trees for labeling, monitoring, and collecting cuttings. We've been so encouraged by the enthusiasm of the landowners. Look out for updates from Lilly on our social media.

You will be hearing plenty from us over the coming weeks as we start our BIG ANNUAL FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN. Please support the amazing work happening every day across the state, by encouraging your friends and family to give and get involved. Every penny counts!



Lilly and I in a field of Clasp Warea in the Warea Area, Ocklawaha



FNPS Boardmember Mac Camacho-Viera at the garden grand opening 9/22.

Message from the President – October: A Month of Education | Mark Kateli



Firstly, I would like to extend a hearty congratulations to all chapters that celebrated October Florida Native Plant Month with local proclamations recognizing the value of native plants to our well-being and economy! Pinellas, Passionflower, Lake Beautyberry, Sarracenia, and more- we absolutely love that you celebrated this month with your local elected officials. Thank you!

Speaking of local, October has been a month filled with educational outreaches; and I have relished each of them for their unique experiences. Being outdoors and engaging with the public is a soul-satisfying experience and reinforces my purpose and place within the Florida Native Plant Society leadership. Here's a little bit about two of my recent experiences.

Earlier this month I was invited to give a private tour of the UCF Arboretum as Cuplet Fern Chapter President for students at the Industrial and Organizational (I/O) PhD program courtesy of Dr. Chelsea LeNoble. We measured saw palmetto age, discussed wire grass as a keystone species, fire regimen, and even saw the endemic *Sporobolus osceolensis*. This particular grass was recently described and found right in the heart of Central Florida, receiving much attention and fanfare. Read more about it from Steve Orzell and Edwin Bridges by clicking [here](#). View a video of this experience by clicking [here](#).

I look forward to widening FNPS's collaboration with PhD students that wish to research us from an organizational and cultural perspective. As many of you reading this know, FNPS is unique among nonprofits that showcase palpable local influence through volunteers on a remarkably consistent basis. Entities like my local chapter, Cuplet Fern, are now imbued with a multi-generational torrent of people- where retirees enjoy their time gardening and in-person programs, while the younger cohort focuses on pressing concerns of our time- climate resiliency and environmental sustainability using natives. Together we form a broad coalition of what I've coined as the "Everything-Florida-Native-Plants" ideology anchored by our mission, no matter what stage in life you're in. Collaboration is something I love, and what I attract almost as a gravitational pull. These days, my gaze and focus directs towards **mentorship** of the next group of new Florida native plant lovers.

Later on in the month, I had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Deborah Socci of Seminole State College (SSC) about their seed library program. This meeting resulted in them increasing the seed options to be provided in their seed library beyond herbs and vegetables and into native grasses and wildflowers. QR codes now available on [FNPS.org/plants](https://fnps.org/plants) for each species streamlined this project. The seed bank venture is relevant to the FNPS mission because our pollinators rely on a buffet of plants that bloom at different times of the year; some human food crops, like squash and blueberries, support specialist native bees. It is my personal belief that the current movement to plant residential "food forests" *must incorporate* a matrix of native plants to assist with fruit production. I want to particularly thank Karli Mair from SSC for this fruitful experience.



Mark with Dr. Chelsea LeNoble's Industrial and Organizational Psychology PhD Program students at the University of Central Florida's Arboretum. Here, the group is learning how to taxonomically key oak tree species by closely inspecting specific leaf characteristics.



While measuring saw palmetto (*Serenoa repens*) age with students, Chelsea stumbled upon a grass that Mark guessed was the newly described *Sporobolus osceolensis*. This was later confirmed by Edwin Bridges. A beautiful happenstance that made the conservation message of the tour profound.



Lastly, I'm blown away by the positive response our supporters have showered the [Native Plant Month t-shirt campaign](#) with. I cannot thank Denika Robbins and Valerie Anderson enough. They elevated my initiative for broad, national appeal in Florida style. Though I had wished for more, many of our readers will be pleased to hear we raised **\$4,000** for our esteemed nonprofit. The campaign not only infused our supporters with fresh FNPS apparel, but also environmentally-friendly options such as organic cotton and recycled polyester made shirts in factories using at least 30% renewable energy. It is my hope that this presidency is just the beginning of a stronger eco-conscious message for an organization so enthralled in the support of natural Florida.



Dr. Deborah Socci from Seminole State College learning how to harvest (and look for) the miniscule seeds of Elliott's lovegrass (*Eragrostis elliottii*) at Seminole IFAS' Native Plant Idea Garden.

For my readers and followers, I urge you to employ the “sweetwater approach”- where the water runs sweet, the entire forest will respond. **Be the oasis** that creates a space for a person's ‘ah-ha moment’ with Florida native plants- you will see the seeds of our humble cause flourish before your very eyes: my mentorship advice for you. Until next time.

Carolina Grass-of-Parnassus | Lilly Anderson-Messec



Carolina Grass-of-Parnassus, *Parnassia caroliniana*, is a rare perennial found in just Franklin and Liberty counties in the Florida panhandle. This species also occurs in North and South Carolina but nowhere else. This disjunct distribution pattern is seen in many rare plant and animal species that are endemic to only these two areas-including the *Carex lutea* recently found in Apalachicola National Forest in 2021.

Parnassia caroliniana is found in the ecotone between open wet prairies and the slightly higher and drier pine Flatwoods. The only other *Parnassia* species found in Florida is the Bigleaf Grass-of-Parnassus, *Parnassia grandifolia*, which has a broader range and is generally more common, though still rare. It's typically found growing downslope of *P. caroliniana* in the wet savannas with *Sarracenia* & *Pinguicula* species

These pristine white flowers are hermaphroditic-meaning that both male (stamens) and female (stigma) structures occur together in one flower. Each flower bears five



fertile stamens and five sets of three-pronged infertile stamens called staminodes. The stigma is positioned in the center above the white, rounded ovary. Having both reproductive structures on the same flower, however, increases the chance of self-fertilization, which is not ideal; inbreeding decreases genetic diversity and, therefore, resilience in a population. These flowers have therefore evolved different tactics to avoid self-fertilization, one of which is the spatial separation of the fertile parts (herkogamy).

Parnassia uses a unique type of herkogamy. When the flowers open, the stamens are bent inward over the pistil. They then reposition themselves one at a time, unfurling and releasing the pale yellow pollen away from the pistil. Once all the stamens have unfolded and the pollen has dehisced, the female phase begins. The pistil then matures to receive pollen; deposited unintentionally by visiting bees and flies who have recently visited a plant in the male phase and have been dusted with pollen while foraging for nectar. It's so interesting that plants rely on a third party to complete their reproductive process!

Native Plant Month 2022 Report | *Bonnie Basham, Secretary and Past President*



October was chosen Florida Native Plant Month because that is when many of Florida's showiest native plants are blooming at the same time.

Tee and Tote Campaign

President Mark Kateli coordinated the design and production of a limited-edition Florida Native Plant Month tee and tote design which raised \$3,887 for the Society. We promoted the tees starting in the end of September and throughout October and sold a total of 323 tees and 30 totes.

Proclamations

Congratulations to six FNPS Chapters who worked with their local elected officials to write and execute Resolutions in honor of Florida native plants. Sarracenia Chapter procured a Proclamation of Florida Native Plant Month from the Wakulla County Commission on October 3. Sarracenia board member Lynn Artz gave a fantastic 10 minute presentation on the importance of native plants prior to the proclamation's approval.

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners proclaimed October 2022 as Florida Native Plant Month to recognize the beauty and ecosystem value of native plants as well as the volunteer work done by the Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS) to benefit the citizens and environment of Lake County.

Commissioner Sean Parks presented the proclamation to representatives of the two Lake County FNPS Chapters at the October 24th BCC meeting. The Lake Beautyberry Chapter serves the northern part of the County while the Passionflower (PF) Chapter serves the southern part. Both chapters work to preserve, conserve and restore the native plants and native plant communities of our County and State.

The Villages Chapter relied on the advice of Lake Beautyberry Chapter's Pat Burgos to navigate the unfamiliar territory of Sumter County government. Sue Egloff sent a cover letter to the County Administrator with a draft proclamation and was notified the next day that their proclamation had been approved and they were presented with the Proclamation on September 20th.

In the Western Panhandle, our Longleaf Pine Chapter pursued Escambia County's first-ever Florida Native Plant Month proclamation. It was a complicated process but Kimberly Bremner, President, was encouraged by their success and in 2023 is going to go for proclamations from Santa Rosa and Okaloosa Counties.



Wakulla County Commissioners with Sarracenia Chapter members at the October 3 board meeting



Lake County Commissioner Sean Parks with Lake Beautyberry and Passionflower Chapter leadership

Dunedin City Commissioner Jeff Gow presented FNPS Pinellas Chapter member Craig Wilson with a Florida Native Plant Month Proclamation on October 18. Following the Proclamation, the City recognized the hard work and dedication of Pinellas Chapter members by presenting the FNPS awards received by Rebecca Wellborn, Michelle Birnbaum, Nichole Mattheus (Silver Palmettos), and the Pinellas Chapter (Outstanding Chapter of the Year 2022).

We encourage other chapters to contact their local elected officials and ask them to sponsor a similar proclamation next fall in your county. Sample proclamations, tips, graphics and sample press releases are available on the FNPS Google Drive [here](#).



Commissioner Jeff Bergosh with Longleaf Pine Chapter President Kimberly Bremner and member Clare Davis

Call for Research Track Papers & Poster Presentations – Annual Conference | **Paul Schmalzer, PhD**



The Florida Native Plant Society 2023 Annual Conference will be held as a virtual meeting, April 29 and 30, 2023. The Research Track of the Conference will include presented papers and a virtual poster session using the Whova platform on April 29th from 12:40-1pm. Students are welcome, but not required to present live during this time or upload a pre-recorded presentation. Poster presentations will be uploaded to the Whova site at least one week prior to the meeting (April 22, 2023).

Researchers are invited to submit abstracts on research related to native plants and plant communities of Florida including preservation, conservation, and restoration. Presentations are planned to be 20 minutes in total length (15 min. presentation, 5 min. questions).

Abstracts of not more than 200 words should be submitted as a MS Word file by email to Paul A. Schmalzer paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov by January 15, 2023. Include title, affiliation, and address. Indicate whether you will be presenting a paper or poster. Details on preparing and uploading a virtual poster will be provided when the abstract is accepted.

Recent research published based on FNPS-funded grants

Daniel Revillini received a research grant in 2020. He and his co-authors have a recent journal publication from this work.

Revillini, D., A.S. David, E.S. Menges, K.N. Main, M.E. Afkhami, and C.A. Searcy. 2021. Microbiome-mediated response to pulse fire disturbance outweighs the effects of fire legacy on plant performance. *New Phytologist* doi:10.1111/nph.17689.

Andrea Appleton received a research grant in 2020. She and co-author John Schenk have two recent journal publications from this work. Dr. Schenk received an earlier grant (2014) for work on the genus *Paronychia*.

Appleton, A.D. and J.J. Schenk. 2021. Evolution and development of staminodes in *Paronychia* (Caryophyllaceae). *International Journal of Plant Sciences* 182: 377-388.

Schenk, J.J. and A. D. Appleton. 2021. Phylogenetic, biogeographical, and morphological diversity of the *Paronychia chartacea* (Caryophyllaceae) clade from the Coastal Plain Floristic Province of North America. *Brittonia* 73(4): 383-392.

2023 Call for Grant Applications: Research, Conservation, Dan Austin, and Cornelia McNamara

The Florida Native Plant Society maintains an **Endowment Research Grant** program for the purpose of funding research on native plants. These are small grants (\$2500 or less), awarded for a 1-year period, and intended to support research that forwards the mission of the Florida Native Plant Society which is "to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida."

FNPS **Conservation Grants** support applied native plant conservation projects in Florida. These grants (\$5000 or less) are awarded for a 1-year period. These projects promote the preservation, conservation, or restoration of rare or imperiled native plant taxa and rare or imperiled native plant communities. To qualify for a Conservation Grant, the proposed project must be sponsored by an FNPS Chapter.

The **Dan Austin Award for Ethnobotany** will provide up to \$1500 to graduate or undergraduate students who are studying Florida ethnobotany – i.e., the study of the relationship between peoples or cultures with plants native to Florida or Florida ecosystems. These can be current uses or historic uses.

The Florida Native Plant Society has established a **Cornelia McNamara Grant** program for the purpose of funding applied research on native plants and habitats, particularly those that are rare or imperiled. These are small grants (\$1500 or less), awarded for a 1-year period, and intended to support research that will yield data to inform the management for or restoration of native species and habitats.

Application guidelines and details are on the FNPS Web site (www.fnps.org), click on ‘What We Do/Awards and Grants’. Questions regarding the grant programs should be sent to info@fnps.org.

Application deadline for the 2023 Awards is March 3, 2023. Awards will be announced at the April 2023 Annual Conference. Awardees do not have to be present at the Conference to receive award.

Conradina Chapter holds 13th Annual Landscaping with Florida Natives Tour

On October 15th our Conradina Chapter of South Brevard County held it's 15th Annual Landscaping with Florida Natives Tour. The chapter set up a gorgeous independent website for the tour -: brevardlandscapetour.org with funding from the Community Foundation for Brevard, printed a glossy flier, and sold tickets for the tour on Eventbrite. Conradina sold >350 tickets for the tour!

Nine properties were featured on the tour and were profiled ahead of time on the website in a listing with professional photos and filterable based on 26 criteria. Conradina garnered eight sponsors for the tour, displaying their cards based on their three sponsorship tiers. The website also included prior landscaping tours, other resources, a link to their chapter website, and an application to be on the 2023 tour.

“Thank you all for the lovely tour weekend! It was amazing and your hard work was seen - even down to the Panera lunch! So thankful for all of you!” - Rebecca Heidenerich

Five Tour Goals

1. Provide Brevard County residents with the opportunity to see landscapes containing 70% or more Florida native plants or transitioning to a Florida native landscape.
2. Illustrate that healthy, attractive landscapes can flourish without the use of chemicals.
3. Motivate residents to try landscaping with native plants.
4. Encourage other landscapers to use natural landscaping techniques in their own landscapes by providing the opportunity to visit a variety of interesting and visually appealing pesticide-free landscapes.
5. Inspire other landscapers to provide wildlife habitat in their home landscapes.



Only a portion of the many volunteers who made the tour possible are pictured above.

Duke Energy awards Cuplet Fern \$11,000 for West Volusia | Chelsea LeNoble, PhD



Duke Energy has awarded Cuplet Fern a nature grant of \$11,000 for the inception of a brand new conservation and education program line at Lyonia Environmental Center. The grant allows Cuplet Fern to expand upon an ongoing plant rescue focused on the conservation of imperiled scrub and sandhill plant species facing development. This occasion marks the first time that Cuplet Fern has secured external funding to support the FNPS mission.

Cuplet Fern concentrated on the rescue of a bald rosemary (*Ceratiola ericoides*) sandhill plant community earlier this year. Rescued species of note include scrub blue curls (*Trichostema suffrutescens* syn. *T. dichotomum*), jeweled blue eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium xerophyllum* [G3]), and nodding pinweed (*Lechea cernua* [G3; LT]). This effort resulted in well over 3000 pots rescued, many of which contain multiple plant species and specimens. The final installation of rescued plants that will occur at the recipient site adjacent to the Lyonia Environmental Center will also increase species biodiversity for the local Scrub Jay habitat. Previous recipient sites included our partners at Seminole Leisure Services and St. Johns River Water Management District. [Local media coverage over the Geneva Wilderness Area planting can be found here.](#)



Cali Adams standing behind the rows of rescue plants staged at the Geneva Wilderness Area recipient site the day before the [planting event this past spring](#). The Duke Energy Foundation nature grant allows Cuplet Fern to expand this effort to the West Volusia area and strengthen the partnership with the Lyonia Environmental Center in service of the FNPS mission

The Duke Energy Foundation funding will allow Cuplet Fern to further involve the community in plant rescue efforts. The conservation and education program consists of a planting day with Duke Energy volunteers, a bioblitz event focused on evaluating the success of the rescued plant transplanting, and a mini conference that includes guest speakers and activities designed to teach community members about the importance of Florida native plant rescue efforts. [Press release](#).

One-of-a-Kind Cuplet Fern seed & sapling swap in Sanford | Cali Adams



We are always coming up with new ideas to get our members involved and excited to be a part of our chapter, and to invite the public to consider joining our chapter so they can participate with us! Earlier this year, I had the idea to host a plant swap event; I recalled my experience from a previous plant swap with another group of gardeners a few years ago, and I wanted to recreate the fun we had and share it with our members!

The turnout was a wonderful start for this kind of event, 17 people joined us on Sunday, October 16th at the Seminole County IFAS Extension Office in Sanford, FL; the same location where we hold our in-person member meetings.

We asked for members to donate \$5 for a ticket so we could recoup some costs, and we asked everyone to try to bring a few plants to contribute to the swap. We also provided plants, so that we could provide extras in case anyone did not have something to bring. Our goal was that everyone who came, left with new plants to add to their yards to increase the native plant diversity and plantings in our service area.

Many attendees brought lots of seeds, rooted cuttings, seedlings, and divided plants that they collected from their own gardens. We filled up almost every table with plants for everyone to walk around, chat, and share plants, seeds, and get garden advice.

There were many kinds of plants that aren't usually found at our regular plant sales or common at native nurseries, since we have quite a few members with a knack for collecting special plant specimens or have property from which they collect naturally occurring plants.

It was a lovely time, and was a good learning experience for us to continue to bring this kind of event back again in the future! The end result was satisfying, watching all of the attendees leave with loads of new plants and knowing that we are capable of always finding impactful ways of further accomplishing our mission to increase the native plant diversity for Seminole and West Volusia counties.

Lukas Nursery and Cuplet Fern enter into an educational partnership | *Mark Kateli*



Lukas Nursery, a 4th-generation nursery in our direct service region, contacted us earlier this year for native plant advice and educational collaboration. They also recently became Florida Association of Native Nurseries (FANN) partners, reinvigorating their interest and commitment to selling Florida native plants. Lukas is a testament to making inroads with businesses that want to embrace Florida native plants slowly.

Cuplet Fern is encouraging Lukas to offer more native plants- currently their selection hovers around 80 different species. As their business boasts a butterfly encounter, they are keen on the plant-pollinator message which is the gateway to more native selections at their establishment.

The partnership entails educational experiences and literature for buyers as Cuplet Fern has a direct stake in the progression and development of budding native plant enthusiasts and native plant communities for our locale. We are elated to nurture Florida native plant education at Lukas, because it is mutualistic with [our vision statement](#).



For our burgeoning partnership, Caleb Lukas, their CFO had to say this: "We are excited to begin this journey with our friends at the Cuplet Fern Chapter and the whole FL Native Plant Community. As one of Florida's premier Nursery destinations, we look forward to showcasing and promoting our vast selection of FL Native Plants to the greater Central Florida community. We greatly appreciate your support and partnership as we seek to promote FL Native plants in the landscape."

Poeppig's Rosemallow (*Hibiscus poeppigii*) | *Laurie Brooks*



This lovely hibiscus with its little pendent red flowers is a state-listed endangered species. Also called Fairy Hibiscus this is the flower on the Garden Club of the Upper Keys seventieth anniversary banner and will be featured prominently in its Garden Walk 2023 materials. Photographer artist Louise Lindsey who has been taking wild flower pictures for the GCUK has fallen in love with its highly photogenic flowers and her pictures of this beauty were taken on the GCUK property!. This is a plant of coastal rock barrens and hammocks and occurs in four of our state parks in the keys – Pennekamp, Windley, Lignumvitae and Long Key. There are differing reports on its salt tolerance. All accounts agree that it does not like to be inundated with salt water but accounts differ when it comes to salt wind tolerance. The one in my yard seems to be fairly tolerant of breezes off Largo Sound.

Hibiscus poeppigii is a member of the Mallow family which includes such economically important plants as cotton, cocoa, cola and okra along with many landscape regulars like Rose of Sharon and Basswood. According to Roger Hammer in his *Wildflowers of the Florida Keys*, hibiscus is an ancient Greek name for mallows. Roger also tells us that "Hummingbirds eat the pollen and conduct aerial acrobatics to access the floral nectar from the pendent flowers." It grows readily from seed but is mostly planted as a curiosity as some find the fine hairs on the leaves to be irritating.

When you find our Fairy Hibiscus in a botanical reference work you will see it listed as *Hibiscus poeppigii* (Spreng.) Garcke. Have you ever wondered what all that refers to? We know where the two parts of the Linnean binomial (Genus species) name come from. Hibiscus means mallow and poeppigii refers to the German botanist Eduard



Poeppig's Rosemallow (Hibiscus poeppigii) blooming in the keys. Photo by jasiminalinkutifolia CC BY-NC 4.0

Friedrich Poeppig (1798-1868) who sent specimens of this plant from Cuba to fellow botanists in the United States and Germany. But what of Spreng. And Garcke? This is a tale of three Germans!

The type specimen first used to describe a new species is called the holotype. I first encountered a holotype when I learned that the T. Rex in the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh is in fact the holotype T. Rex. All other specimens are compared to this one. Andrew Carnegie wanted it and purchased it from the American Museum of Natural History. Another German botanist, Kurt Joachim Sprengel wrote the first description in 1826 of our Fairy Hibiscus likely from a specimen he would have received from Poeppig's Cuban expedition of 1824-1826. But this specimen which would have been a holotype has apparently been lost. Sprengel may have thought his specimen to be closely related to the Turk's Cap another mallow with pendent flowers and named it *Achania poeppigii*. Sprengel is usually abbreviated Spreng. In botanical publications and *Achania* has since been renamed *Malvaviscus*.

Enter a third German. In 1850 Christian August Garcke described the Fairy Hibiscus as a true member of the genus *Hibiscus* and that is why you now see it listed as *Hibiscus poeppigii* (Spreng.) Garcke. Both Sprengel and Poeppig studied medicine as well as botany and all three Germans lived during the Romantic period in the middle of the Industrial Revolution. They were contemporaries of or overlapped in time with Joseph Banks, Charles Darwin and Alexander von Humboldt. This was an exciting time for the natural sciences and Poeppig is renowned for his explorations in Peru, Chile and the Amazon basin. When he returned to Germany in 1832 he had collected more than 17,000 dried plants and published three volumes describing 31 new genera and 477 new species! Roger Hammer tells us that Poeppig has had an orchid, a monkey, a snake and a toad named in his honor. A great book on this period is Andrea Wulf's *The Invention of Nature*, Alexander von Humboldt's *New World*.

In a final note, an original specimen of a Fairy Hibiscus collected by Poeppig in Cuba in 1824 still exists in the herbarium of the Missouri Botanical Garden. This is the second largest herbarium in the United States behind the one housed at the New York Botanical Garden. This specimen is called a Lectotype as Poeppig did not publish it as a type. The Missouri Botanical Garden was founded in 1859 by Henry Shaw (1800-1889) a contemporary of the three Germans who having made his fortune retired at 40 to pursue his interest in Botany. It is never too late to begin!

Tide for a Cause: Go Native! Hernando Chapter collaboration with Tidal Brewing Company

Hernando Chapter partnered with Tidal Brewing Company, a craft brewery in Spring Hill, and Roots Creative Co., a media company to formulate, brand, and launch a limited-edition purple American Lager called "Liatris Lager" in honor of our native fall-blooming wildflower, the Gayfeather or *Liatris* sp. The October 1st release of this 5.2% 20 IBU beer marks the fourth release in the Tides for a Cause series of special releases that celebrate the conservation properties protected by the Hernando County Environmentally Sensitive Lands program.



Hernando Chapter leaders and members attended the launch party and were on hand to share information about Hernando County's fabulous native flora. The brewery set up a [page on their website](#) for the "Liatris Lager", celebrating their partnership with Hernando Chapter FNPS, showcasing beautiful photos of various blazing star species, a pitch about the benefits of Florida native plants, and a link to the Chapter's website and contact info for the chapter.



Hernando Chapter's Tide for a Cause, Go Native! event featured Liatris Lager, lots of literature, and native plants on display

Suzanne Marie Valencia, 1934-2022



Suzanne Valencia, 88, of West Melbourne passed on August 31 in her home surrounded by her four daughters. She was born in Appleton, Wisconsin and moved to Florida in 1970 with her daughters. She served on the Conradina Chapter board for eight years and was a member of FNPS for 22 years, she was a registered nurse and was passionate about human rights, the environment, and conservation.

She led exciting Sierra Club outings both locally and nationally. Most recently she was stepping up to write award applications for outstanding chapter members to be recognized with Mentor and Green and Silver Palmetto Awards. Conradina Chapter held their first-ever Conradina Board Appreciation Dinner on October 1st, honoring Suzanne posthumously alongside other board members Carole Hebert, Martha Steuart, Vince Lamb, Sharon Dolan, and Brent Dolan. Conradina Chapter plans to continue the tradition in the future.

Her gorgeous home and native-landscaped yard was a staple on the Keep Brevard Beautiful garden tour.

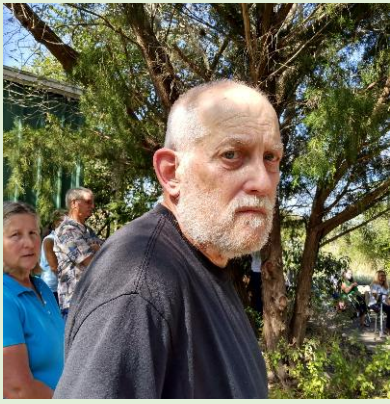
"I met Suzanne in the early 90's when she went back to school to get her nursing degree while raising four daughters as a single mother." -Cammie Donaldson

"It's amazing to me how some people age, some people give up but other people, like her, see that they can do other stuff and they just jump in and do that." - Jane Higgins

Theodore 'Ted' Paul Lundgren, 1943-2022

Ted, as he was known to his friends, passed at home in Cape Coral after Hurricane Ian. He worked at All Native Garden Center in Fort Myers and maintained native landscapes throughout Southeast Florida. He was a member of the Florida Native Plant Society for twenty-two years.

"Ted worked tirelessly here at All Native. He was always ready with a smile and off he went to conquer the next task at hand. Ted missed his wife, MaryBeth and spoke of her often. With his wife's passing, Ted filled his days with All Native, volunteering with the CCPD, and doting over his beloved cat, Morgan. Ted will be missed by so many of us here, and elsewhere." - Becky Ames, Cocoloba Chapter



"Ted was a really special man. Although I didn't know him when he was involved with the Coccoloba Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society many years ago, I met him through All Native Garden Center.

There is an amazing back story to this one, a miracle in fact, but we'll save that for another time. For now, let's start with how several years ago, John Sibley, owner of All Native Garden Center in Fort Myers, desperately needed a crew chief for his maintenance team. At the same time, Ted was in a bad place having just lost his beloved wife, Mary Beth. So, when John offered the job, Ted leaped. That meant Ted and crew would stop at my house every month to care for my yard. I finally met the man whose name I'd often heard.

Over the years, I got to know him. I would also see his crew in Bonita Springs working on the native medians on Imperial Parkway. I'd beep, wave and or whistle cat calls at them.

Ted and crew also installed a few pond plantings for our wetplan.org group. While working, Ted would explain to visitors how important native plants are. We managed to catch some video footage, too.

This is about Ted and not me, but I want to say that the best thing about Florida Native Plant Society is not plants, pollinators or wildlife. It is about the people we meet and the friends we make. I am so thankful for the opportunity to know Ted Lundgren.

PS--> I really wanted to create a whole advertising campaign around "Why is Ted so sad?" (Ted's comment about the pic was, "I always look that way!") and the answer is because you don't have enough native plants in your yard. Ha." - Marlene Rodak, President, Coccoloba Chapter

Weona Cleveland, 1925-2022



Author, journalist, and ten-year FNPS member Weona Cleveland died October 6th. Cleveland was Brevard County's honorary county historian and a Melbourne Times and FLORIDA TODAY reporter and columnist for over thirty years.

She's the author of [*Mosquito Soup*](#), a collection of her best articles about pioneer life in East Central Florida.

"I don't remember how I met her but it was surely in the early 90s at the latest, and I do remember two things - one, she gave me rain lilies from her yard (which turned out to be the non-native) and she also gave me turpentine pots with butterfly orchids (*Encyclia tampensis*). This was early in my native plant journey and I was completely fascinated with both the pots, exposing me to the history of turpentine industry and longleaf pine systems, and with the orchids, of course." -Cammie Donaldson

"Weona was an inspiration to us all at the Conradina Chapter. She wrote several articles for the Today newspaper promoting native plants and always checked to make sure we grew the plant at Maple Street Natives. Other nurseries wondered why we were the only ones mentioned. Natives were not popular. When Weona wrote a full page article about our nursery in 1991 titled "A Dream on Maple Street" we had the privilege to become friends. We will be forever grateful to her." -Sharon & Brent Dolan

"I had the privilege and delight to know Weona. I always loved her great write ups of history. She would interview people and they would reveal incredible actual facts and details of the life they had. Even as I read her "Crossroad Towns Remembered" there were always fascinating details of people and families that lived right here in Brevard County. She was so talented at bringing up the details of each person's life at that date and time and how they dealt with their life. I also knew Weona because of her love and appreciation of native plants. I would visit her house and we would go out to her yard and see the growth of her coonties and wild coffee. She also had a nice size Butterfly Orchid and on one visit gave it to me. I was honored to accept it and just recently had 123 blooms this past July. What a great memory and honor to have known Weona Cleveland. -Carol Hebert

Weona was born in Moreland, Georgia and moved to Brevard in 1961.