



Dade Chapter

TILLANDSIA

Newsletter of the Dade Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society, Inc.
- For Miami-Dade County and the Florida Keys -

APRIL 2014

MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, April 22, 2014, 7:30 p.m.
Pinecrest Gardens, 11000 SW 57 Ave. (Red Road)
Free and open to the public

Refreshments begin at 7:15 pm. Merchandise sales are before and after the program (cash, checks and credit cards). The plant raffle follows the program. **Please label your raffle plant donations** with the plant name.

"The Fiery Flora of the Lake Wales Ridge" - Julia Gehring

This presentation will focus on the flora of the Florida scrub and its response to prescribed fire. We will take a general look at how to conserve rare, endemic plants in the face of fire suppression and habitat loss. Then, we will take a closer look at how the Florida Rosemary Scrub at Archbold Biological Station has responded to differing fire management regimes and changes in climate over the last 35 years.



Julia Gehring is a PhD Candidate in Dr. Suzanne Koptur's Lab at Florida International University. Her dissertation aims to examine the long-term dynamics of plants and insects communities of the pine rocklands in response to habitat fragmentation, fire management, and urbanization. She has worked in Florida as a plant ecologist for four years, which included an internship at Archbold Biological Station. Previously, she worked with the National Park Service as a botanist at Lake Mead National Recreation Area and Death Valley National Park on their Inventory and Mapping Projects and with the Toledo Zoo as a conservation biologist on their Karner Blue Butterfly Reintroduction Project. She received her B.S. at Brown University in Rhode Island. She has been a

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

Apr. 5 (Sat.): Chapter workday, Everglades National Park
(date changed from Apr.19)

Apr. 12-13 (Sat.-Sun.): Chapter display, FTBG Butterfly Festival – *volunteers needed*

Apr. 22 (Tue.): Meeting at Pinecrest Garden

Apr. 26 (Sat.): Field trip (Glancy's pineland, 4:30 p.m.)

May 15-18: FNPS Annual Conference, Ft. Myers--register now

May 25 (Sun.): Field trip (County Line Scrub & other sites)

May 27 (Tue.): Meeting at Pinecrest Garden

member of the FNPS Highlands and Palm Beach County chapters before moving to Miami-Dade earlier this year.

May 27 program: "A 38-Year Study in Pine Rockland Restoration and Maintenance" - Terry and Barbara Glancy

UPCOMING FIELD TRIP

If the weather is very bad, call Patty at 305-255-6404 to confirm. Field trips are for the study of plants and enjoyment of nature by FNPS members and their guests. Collecting is not permitted. Children are welcome.

Time, address and directions are in the newsletter mailed to members. Please join to enjoy all the activities of the chapter!

● **Saturday, April 26, 4:30 p.m.: Pine Ridge Sanctuary -- pineland of Terry and Barbara Glancy (Homestead).** Areas of this 15 acre privately-owned and managed pineland have had prescribed burning twice in the past two years (the latest in November), so it is especially nice now and wildflowers should be plentiful. We will also see a pond and small hammock planting near their house. Pine Ridge Sanctuary was awarded the Landowner of the Year for the state in 1997 and 2012 by the FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and is the only property ever to have received the award twice.

We visited two years ago but there's always something different and interesting to see. Miami Blue NABA members are invited, and we will try to supplement the Glancy's moth and butterfly survey. It will be a great introduction to the Glancy's May presentation on their 38 years of pineland restoration.

Difficulty: Easy. Wide unpaved paths through the woods.
Lost/late? Try Patty's cell (305-878-5705, use that day only)
Note: Bring your own drinks. The port-o-let at the Glancys' nursery will be available. Those interested might go out to dinner afterward.

- **Sunday, May 25: County Line Scrub & Dolphin Center**

NOTICE OF ANNUAL CHAPTER MEETING AND ELECTION

May 27, 2014, 7:30 p.m. at Pinecrest Gardens

Call for Nominations: Chapter board member nominations are being accepted through April 30. Elections for the Miami-Dade Chapter Board positions of President, Vice-President, and three Directors at Large (all for two-year terms) will be held at the May chapter meeting.

A slate will be presented by the nominating committee at the May membership meeting. Please contact Amy Leonard (305-458-0969, aleonar74@yahoo.com) if you are interested or have someone to suggest.

The main qualifications are enthusiasm and a desire to see the chapter thrive. *You don't have to be a botanist - a variety of skills is always needed on the board.*

EARTH DAY AND BUTTERFLY CELEBRATIONS

Please **volunteer to staff the DCFNPS table** at these April events, or come to enjoy - or *both*.

- **April 5, 2014: Native Plant Day: An Earth Day Event, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park.** The entrance fee is waived for event attendees. The park is at MM 102.5. For more information: 305-451-1202 or <http://www.floridastateparks.org/pennekamp/events.cfm>. Activities include a native plant giveaway, programs about native drought and salt-tolerant plants, plant identification, nature walks, children's activities and more.

- **April 12-13, 2014: Butterfly Days, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden.** This event is included in the **Spring Garden Festival and Plant Sale**, in conjunction with the Miami Blue Chapter of the North Am. Butterfly Association. See www.fairchildgarden.org/Events/ for details. Programs and displays are in the Science Village. **Saturday:** Georgia Tasker (*South Florida Gardening*), Roger Hammer (*Attracting Butterflies to Coastal Garden*), Jaret Daniels (*Coastal Butterflies and Their Habitats*), Martin Feather (*Wings of the Tropics at Fairchild*). **Sunday:** Marc Minno (*Conservation of Coastal Butterflies in Southern Florida and Cuba*), Hank Poor (*Macrophotography at Its Finest*), Jaret Daniels (*Efforts to Help Protect Our Charismatic Microfauna*), Mark Deering (*How to Shoot Bugs - Natural Photography in the Field*). **Please contact Patty Phares (305-255-6404,**

pphares@mindspring.com) to help tend the table or to provide caterpillars, chrysalises, ova and native larval hosts or nectar sources to display.

- **April 27, 2014: Pinecrest Garden's Annual Earth Day Festival, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.** Free. Wildlife and plant presentations and exhibits, green and eco-friendly workshops presented by the CLEO Institute, vendors, entertainment, garden tours, food, farmers market and more. See <http://www.pinecrest-fl.gov/index.aspx?page=324> for more info and locations of overflow parking (with a shuttle). **Please contact Gita Ramsay (786-877-7168, gita.ramsay@gmail.com) to join board members to talk with visitors at our display table and help sell native plants.**

Celebration of Life for Elane Nuehring Saturday, April 19, 1–4 p.m.



A gathering will be held at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden in the Visitor Center ballroom to celebrate Elane's life (see *Tillandsia*, March 2014).

There will be beverages, light food, and from 3 to 4 p.m., a time for shared comments. You are invited to bring finger foods. (Fairchild membership is not needed to attend.)

Above: Elane Nuehring on a nature stroll at Lucky Hammock. Photo courtesy of Becky Smith.

DADE CHAPTER AND FNPS NEWS

Welcome new members. Daniel Azan-Rodriguez (FIU graduate student), Sara Edelman (FIU graduate student), Heather Grimes and Mara Kunitz, Lloyd Wruble, all in Miami-Dade. Thank you to all who joined, renewed and rejoined recently – your support of FNPS is greatly appreciated.

Everglades National Park DCFNPS workday, April 5, 9 a.m. - noon. This time we will assist the park staff with major pruning around the visitor center as well as the usual weeding. A jug of cold water will be provided; bring snacks to share if you care to. Gloves and hand tools are available. Contact Patty 305-255-6404, pphares@mindspring.com if you have questions (305-878-5705 cell, for the morning of the workday only).

FNPS is announcing the vote to approve bylaws changes as recommended by your state Board of Directors. FNPS will send all members with an email address on record a message linking them to the online vote. This message will be sent on April 12, 2014. **The online voting period will end at 12:00 a.m. on April 20, 2014.** (The deadline to request a mail-in ballot was announced in the last *Sabal Minor* and is already past). Mail-in ballots must be post dated by April 19, 2014. The Council of Chapters will count the mail-in ballots. Only one vote may be cast per membership level. From <http://www.forum.fnps.org/index.php/topic.903.0.html>, you can download the proposed bylaw revisions. This will not be the last round of needed revisions in future years, rather, the first substantive set of changes to address the Society's strategic plan.
Steve Woodmansee, FNPS President

FNPS 34th ANNUAL CONFERENCE May 15-18, 2013

Florida Gulf Coast University in Ft. Myers

Exciting programming and dynamic speakers on Friday and Saturday, fantastic field trips on Thursday and Sunday, affordable and fun socials, convenient on-campus housing option (or an affordable hotel), huge plant sale, exhibitors and vendors, scientific poster session, nature trail. See speaker **Dr. James C. Cahill**, in the PBS show [What Plants Talk About](#). Details at <http://fnps.org/conference/2014>.



Register before April 14 for reduced rates. For questions about the conference itself, contact Marlene Rodak (239-273-8945, rodakma@msn.com), or about registration contact FNPS (321-271-6702, info@fnps.org)

NATIVE PLANT DAY WRAPUP

Thank you for a fantastic day! On March 22 we held Native Plant Day at Elaine Gordon Enchanted Forest Park in North Miami and greeted over 425 visitors who were eager to enjoy the sunny day (with just a few raindrops to dodge late in the day) while learning about why we continue to grow and conserve Florida's native plants. Programs and walks were exceptionally well attended (a peak of 46 at Linda Evans' excellent butterfly talk), and there was a lot of buzz about the well stocked raffle tables. As always, our vendors had a beautiful selection of native plants that went to many new homes, and numerous other organizations brought great displays and lots of information to share.

Special thanks to Ted Shaffer for arranging programs and walks; to Vivian Waddell for coordinating the other organizations who participated and for getting the word out to the media; to Gita Ramsay for scheduling volunteers and greeting our guests at the welcome tent; to Susan Walcutt and the Wheeler family for juggling the chapter sales; to Patty Phares for another gorgeous

display at our chapter tent; to Surey Rios for unbridled enthusiasm at the Hands On tent; to super volunteers, without whom we couldn't have had such a fantastic day; to raffle donors; and to the many, many more of you who helped in big ways and small.

It takes at least fifty chapter volunteers to make the event happen each year, and **plans are already underway for next year.** **If you are able to get involved or have suggestions for next year,** please let us know at dadefnps@gmail.com or call Amy Leonard, NPD Coordinator, at 305-458-0969. We're looking forward to being somewhere centrally located in Miami-Dade County in 2015. See you there next March!

Amy Leonard

OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

Broward Native Plant Society. www.npsbroward.org
April 9, meeting at 7 p.m., Secret Woods, 2701 W. SR 84, Dania Beach. **Scott Bryan: "Plant Pollinators"**. See the website for field trips and other activities.

Dade Native Plant Workshop. MDC Kendall Campus Landscape Technology Center. 3rd Tuesdays at 7 p.m. See <http://nativeplantworkshop.ning.com> or contact Steve at steve@pronative.com. Bring at least three plants (especially flowering/fruitlet), even if they do not pertain to the topic. Beginners and old hands are all encouraged to come. Free. Join on the website (free) to receive an email reminder and to post plant photos for identification or discussion.
April 15 topic: Spring wildflowers.

Environmentally Endangered Lands Program Volunteer Workdays. Help make a difference in protecting our natural areas at preserves all over Miami. Learn about native habitats and earn student community service hours. Please register at EEL@Miamiidade.gov or call 305-372-6611. Info and calendar: <http://www.miamidade.gov/environment/endangered-lands-volunteer.asp>

- 4/12 – Black Creek Forest Preserve, SW 112 Ave south of 211 St. (planting)
- 4/18 – Goulds Pineland Preserve, SW 120 Ave south of 244 St. (clean-up)
- 4/26 – Baynanza clean-up 305-372-6784

The Native Plant Show - Wholesale trade show for landscape professionals, Thursday-Friday, April 10-11, 2014, Osceola Heritage Park, Kissimmee (Central FL). 40 Florida native plant growers from across the state; allied green goods/services; 8 hours of continuing education for landscape architects, designers, installers and arborists. More info & registration: www.NativePlantShow.com.

Friends of the Gifford Arboretum. For info on activities and Music in the Arboretum: www.bio.miami.edu/arboretum or 305-284-1302. For directions click on 'Visits'.
April 26, 2014 – Cactus and Succulent Symposium. Co-sponsored by the South Florida Cactus and Succulent Society

and the Gifford Arboretum.

● **9 a.m.: Tour of the Arboretum's cactus and succulent plants** - Juan Espinosa-Almodovar
Cox Science Center Room 217:

● **10 a.m.: "Cultivation of Cacti and Succulents - Have it your way!"** - Corine Ferre

● **11 a.m.: "The Native Cacti and Succulents of Florida"** – Roger Hammer

Tropical Audubon Society. For more info on TAS activities and a host of conservation issues to learn about and act on, see www.tropicalaudubon.org or call 305-667-7337. Doc Thomas House, 5530 Sunset Dr., Miami, 33143.

Annual TAS WingDing & Silent Auction, Sunday, April 27 4-8 p.m. Celebrate another year of conservation in South Florida! Mingle with local conservation heroes and enjoy great food, Bird Bar libations, live music and inspiring conservation content. The program begins at 5 p.m. **Michael Grunwald**, award-winning journalist and author of *The Swamp*, will be the keynote speaker. TAS will also honor our community's Environmental Rock Stars! Everyone is welcome. See <http://www.tropicalaudubon.org/> for more details.

Pine rockland restoration at East Ridge.

The restoration of a pine rockland at East Ridge Retirement Community in Cutler Bay recently made the news. See the March 24 Miami Herald article by Ana Veciana-Suarez at <http://www.miamiherald.com/2014/03/24/4016634/east-ridge-retiree-pushes-for.html>.

The restoration area is three acres of an eight-acre wooded area. The work is being conducted by Sarah Martin of the Institute for Regional Conservation (a Not-for Profit member of FNPS) through the IRC's Pine Rockland Initiative, which is funded by grants from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The article describes the efforts of East Ridge resident Nancy Fehr to bring this project to the community's town council and obtain their approval and seed money. Also a supporter of the project is East Ridge resident and DCFNPS member Marge Brown. Congratulations and thanks to them all.

THE INSTITUTE FOR REGIONAL CONSERVATION

Celebrating 30 Years in 2014!

Please help celebrate this milestone by participating in IRC events and activities planned especially for its 30th anniversary. See <http://regionalconservation.org/ircs/30th.asp> to see events as they are scheduled, to like the IRC on Facebook, or to join their email list to receive updates. Below is a tentative list of activities. The photography contest is already in progress. The IRC is a member of FNPS and an ongoing supporter of Dade Chapter activities, especially through Natives For Your Neighborhood.

Check the website, Facebook or your inbox for updates as more details are released for all of the following:

● **IRC Photography Contest:**

Submit photos that showcase South Florida's diversity and beauty! Show off your favorite photos, help IRC build the capacity of our databases, and win great prizes.

Registration is now open. See the link for rules, registration form, and release. Photos can fall into one of the following categories: Rare Species, Habitat, In Habitat, Botanical Garden, Natives for Your Neighborhood, Wildlife Interactions, Diagnostic, and Youth. See the rules for more information about each category. Submissions are due June 1st. Details about prizes and the awards ceremony will be announced soon.

● **Field Trips:**

Join IRC staff and friends on educational trips to locations not often seen. Enjoy the benefit of our expert knowledge about the ecosystems and the species found there.

● **30th Anniversary Party:**

Come celebrate 30 years with IRC. Hear our experts speak, get a chance to see our photo contest finalists (and bid in our silent auction to take a framed photo home with you), enjoy drinks and hors d'oeuvres, and show your support of IRC's mission.

● **Workshops:**

IRC biologists and other experts will come together to discuss important issues in our field.

BOOK REVIEW

Native Florida Plants for Drought- and Salt-Tolerant Landscaping

By Richard Wunderlin and George R. Kish
Paperback, 151 pages
Pineapple Press, Inc., 2013
\$16.95

Reviewed by Chuck McCartney

Veteran University of South Florida botanist Richard Wunderlin and U.S. Geological Survey hydrologist George Kish have teamed up to produce a handy-dandy little book for native plant enthusiasts and gardeners interested in creating native landscapes in dry inland areas or coastal locations in the Florida Peninsula from Levy, Marion and Volusia counties southward.

Copyrighted by the Suncoast Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society in the Tampa Bay area and published by the Pineapple Press in Sarasota, this inexpensive paperbound volume includes descriptions and photographs for 70 native plants suitable for the habitats described in the book's title.

Introductory material discusses why it's important to use native plants in the landscape and such practical matters as how to plant, establish and maintain the specimens in your garden, among other topics.

The core of the book is divided into three sections, dealing with trees, shrubs and, finally, groundcovers, vines and wildflowers. The discussion of each species includes common name, botanical name, plant family, plant communities where it grows,

mature size, growth habit, growth rate, a description of the species, landscape and wildlife uses, light requirements, soil requirements, propagation methods, and notes providing other interesting information about the species and, where appropriate, related species. Each species also is illustrated with at least one color photograph, often more. These come from a variety of photographers, so quality varies, although most are excellent.

Because of the large north-to-south geographic area covered by the book, a few of the entries are not appropriate for growing in extreme southern Florida -- for instance, American Holly (*Ilex opaca*), Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*), and Sparkleberry (*Vaccinium arboreum*) -- but most of the other species can be grown in Broward and/or Miami-Dade County.

The back of the book features such extras as a quick reference guide summarizing information about the species covered, a list of other native species to consider, a list of resources to learn about native plants as well as a bibliography for further reference. There is also a brief discussion of the ecosystems covered by the book, plus a separate index for both plant common names and botanical names.

This helpful little book should prove invaluable to beginning native plant gardeners, and old hands at this kind of landscaping might just learn a thing or two as well.

[Chuck McCartney is a former editor of the American Orchid Society's AOS Bulletin and the Awards Quarterly and was a copy editor with The Miami Herald's Broward Edition, before retiring in 2009. He has written extensively about wildflowers and orchids for numerous publications. He is a member of FNPS.]

**Photos from the
DCFNPS Field Trip, February 15, 2014
Lower Matecumbe Key cactus barren
Photos by Chuck McCartney**

***Hibiscus poeppigii*, Poeppig's rosemallow**



This perennial herb in the mallow or hibiscus family (Malvaceae) is found in South Florida, Cuba, Jamaica, Mexico and Guatemala. It is listed as Endangered by the state of Florida. In the Monroe County Keys it is found in coastal rock barrens. On the mainland, it is found in Long Pine Key in Everglades National Park and the Loop Road area of Big Cypress National Preserve.

It grows to about 1-4 feet and may form small masses. It prefers full sun to light shade and well-drained soils with some organic content, but it will grow in nutrient poor soils. It tolerates short periods of drought once established. The showy red flowers are about 3/4" long and may appear all year. Ants feed on the flower nectar.

***Cienfuegosia yucatanensis*, Yucatan flymallow**



Another little Florida endangered mallow!

Information from Natives For Your Neighborhood. The Institute for Regional Conservation, Delray Beach and Miami.
<http://www.regionalconservation.org>.

DADE CHAPTER FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

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Treasurer: Susan Walcutt (walcutts@bellsouth.net)
At Large: Amida Frey, Amy Leonard, Surey Rios, Eric von Wettberg, Vivian Waddell
Past President: Ted Shaffer
Refreshment coordinators: Cheryl & Ben Morgan (ckmorg@bellsouth.net)
Membership: Patty Phares (pphares@mindspring.com, 305-255-6404)

General chapter information: 786-340-7914
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TILLANDSIA

Interim Editor: Patty Phares (pphares@mindspring.com, 305-255-6404)
Assistant editor: vacant

Articles, announcements and news items are invited for *Tillandsia* from Dade and Keys members. Please submit items for consideration by the 15th of each month. Advertising rates from \$12 per month.

FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

FNPS office: info@fnps.org, 321-271-6702
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FNPS blog: www.fnpsblog.org
FNPS is on Facebook and Twitter: FNPSonline
Dade Chapter rep. to FNPS: vacant

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