



Dade Chapter

TILLANDSIA

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

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2018

MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, November 27, 2018, 7:30 p.m.
Pinecrest Gardens, 11000 SW 57 Ave. (Red Road), Miami
Free and open to the public

Refreshments begin at 7:15 p.m., merchandise sales before and after the program. The raffle follows the program. Contributions of **raffle items** (native plants, books, etc.) and **refreshments** are greatly appreciated. **Please label your raffle plant donations.**

Get a head start on holiday shopping! Our merchandise table has **new books and other merchandise** which make great gifts!

Peering Through the Sawgrass:

30 years of chasing history and trends in my Everglades
– Cesar Becerra

In 1997 the Miami Herald called Cesar Becerra an “Everglades Evangelist.” Little did he or the Herald know he was at the very beginning of a long journey. His zest for the human history of the park, the ecosystem and the bigger phenomenon of the grey areas that encompass a seemingly simple landscape has led him to believe in one clear fact: The Everglades are complicated and beautiful mess.

Come hear Cesar’s stories, many which have chosen him to bear witness to. Over 30 years he has traversed the glades by foot, canoe, kayak, helicopter, small planes, automobile, swamp buggy, airboat - or in the bowels of many an institution’s archives. He has interviewed dozens of pioneers and now actively protects the rarest of documents under the auspices of the special collections department of FIU library.

No matter how far he is away on his travels through all 50 United States, the Everglades are conveniently portable in his mind and thoughts and on occasions show up in his dreams. He will cover a host of topics that include the characters of the glades, little known moments that could have destroyed it all, and hidden gems that he shares with the many kids he leads each year.

Give Miami Day – November 15, 2018

Please support the outreach activities and conservation efforts of the Dade Chapter FNPS.

givemiamiday.org/

DCFNPS will receive an additional bonus from the Miami Foundation on donations of \$25 or more!

Calendar

November 2018

9-11 (Fri.-Sun.): Fairchild Fall Garden Festival/Ramble
15 (Thur.): Give Miami Day – please support DCFNPS!
25 (Sun): Field trip – Big Cypress
27 (Tue.): Chapter meeting at Pinecrest Gardens. 7:30 pm

December 2018

15 (Sat.): Chapter workday at Everglades Nat. Park. 9 am
29 (Sat): Field trip – destination TBA – suggestions welcome!

2019 – Save the date!

Jan. 20 (Sun.): Four-Organization Potluck Picnic
Mar. 23 (Sat): Native Plant Day

No meeting or Tillandsia newsletter in December
(email announcements only)

Other activities of interest:

Nov. 10: Broward field trip
Nov. 14: Broward Chapter FNPS meeting
Nov. 14, 28: FIU Biology lunchtime seminars
Nov. 20, Dec 18: Dade Native Plant Workshop
Dec. 1 (1st Saturdays): Workdays at Kenwoods
Dec. 8: Environmentally Endangered Lands workday

FIELD TRIPS

As always, Dade and Broward FNPS chapters join forces.

● **Saturday, Nov. 10, 2018. Broward Chapter walks in Jonathan Dickinson St. Park.** <http://broward.fnpschapters.org/>

● **Sunday, Nov. 25, 2018. Big Cypress**

We will walk a trail in the Turner River Unit south of I-75 near Mile Marker 70 (www.nps.gov/bicy/planyourvisit/i-75-mm-70.htm). We have not been there before and don’t know what the conditions will be. We do know that this area burned earlier this year, and there is a good mix of habitats, so the flora should be interesting now. Expect to walk less than a mile and then back, botanizing as we go, **possibly wading in water – or maybe in mud or maybe on dry land.** Just consider it an adventure! (Note: No restrooms or potable water available.)

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

Difficulty: Moderate.

Bring/wear: Water, long pants/sleeves, shoes and pants that can get wet or muddy, sun protection, insect repellent (just on case).

A walking stick (broom handle will do) is advised for slogging if there is water. Also bring lunch if you'd like to picnic afterward with the group.

Lunch: Drive east to the Collier County Rest Area at MM-63 where we can picnic (restrooms, vending machines, etc.). (<https://www.nps.gov/bicy/planyourvisit/i-75-mm-63.htm>)

Lost? Try Patty (305-878-5705) or Richard (954-661-6289) if cell reception allows.

• **Saturday, December 29, 2018. TBA. *Where would you like to go?*** Contact Patty (pharespl@gmail.com, 305-255-6404). We're still celebrating the holidays, so let's celebrate with a walk. There is no official Dade Chapter newsletter in December, but we will send an email with details in mid-December. If you do not see the email, please contact Patty.

Why donate to the Dade Chapter on Give Miami Day?

November 15, 2018 - beginning at 12:00 a.m.

<https://givemiamiday.org/>

Give Miami Day is a community-wide day of online giving. What is special is that the Miami Foundation and partners make a bonus gift for donations of \$25 to \$10,000!

Dear DCFNPS Members and Friends:

Our board and volunteers give many hundreds of hours every year to keep our organization running with as little expense as possible. You also generously donate supplies, plants, refreshments, transportation costs and more. (*Thanks, everyone!*)

But the chapter still needs funds for meeting and other operating expenses, various governmental fees, printing, postage, display materials, equipment rentals for Native Plant Day, and support of conservation activities.

Our goal is to have income from membership dues, plant and merchandise sales, raffles and other donations cover our regular expenses, *and hopefully do more!*

This is a challenge for a small organization, but your extra donation on Give Miami Day will go far to help us provide:

- ◆ **A free Native Plant Day** reaching hundreds of people who learn a lot about native plants and take a lot of them home;
- ◆ **Monthly meetings** with great speakers and raffle plants, merchandise and opportunities to meet other native plant lovers;
- ◆ **Field trips, yard visits, workdays, newsletter, website, social events** and collaborating with other organizations;
- ◆ **Opportunities to volunteer** in meaningful projects;
- ◆ **Educational tables** at the Fairchild Fall Garden Festival/Ramble, Homestead Eco Fair, Pinecrest Earth Day, Miami Shores Green Day and other community or school events;
- ◆ **Support for conservation activities**, including FNPS conservation grants, Florida Forever, and The Institute for Regional Conservation's Natives For Your Neighborhood (see our logo now at regionalconservation.org/beta/nfyn/default.asp).

Gratefully yours,

Kurt Birchenough, President, Dade Chapter FNPS

DADE CHAPTER and FNPS NEWS

Welcome new members! Maria Elena Garcia, Ana Guzman, Jonathan Sherry

Chapter workday, Everglades National Park Saturday, December 15, 2018, 9 a.m.-noon

Please help us enhance the entrance to ENP with restoration and maintenance of the native habitat at the **Ernest F. Coe Visitor Center**, begun in 2001. Contact Patty (305-878-5705, pharespl@gmail.com) with questions or if the weather is very questionable. We will be pruning and weeding. **Small hand tools and gloves** are provided, or bring your own.

Prepare for sun, long sleeves and pants are best. We provide cold water; bring snacks to share if you care to. Volunteers have free ENP admission afterwards. **Bring family, friends, students (earn community service hours)!**

NATIVE PLANT DAY – March 23, 2019, at Bill Sadowski Park and Nature Center in the heart of South Miami-Dade! We're gearing up for plant sales, nature walks, educational displays and some of the best talks to introduce the public to native plants.

We need your help now to make this a success.

• **If you have ideas** for presenters, non-profits, or vendors for food or merchandise who may want to participate, or suggestions to make this an informative and fun event, please let us know at dadefnps@gmail.com or contact Amy Leonard, the Native Plant Day coordinator at 305-458-0969.

• **We need plants!** Please start preparing now to have plants large enough and looking good to donate to the chapter's sale and raffle. Dig up volunteers, plant seeds, repot, or do whatever needs to be done a few months in advance.

• **As always, save the date and plan to volunteer** and share our signature outreach event with your friends and family!

Broward Chapter FNPS. coontie.fnpschapters.org/. Meets at Secret Woods, 2701 W. SR 84, Dania Beach.

• **November 14, 2018, 7 p.m.: Meeting.** "A Butterfly Picks Its Poison" - Sandy Koi (This will be about atalas and coontie.)

Sabal Minor (bi-monthly newsletter from FNPS) Nov.- Dec. 2018, Volume 20, Number 6 is now in your email inbox or at fnps.org/assets/pdf/sabalminor/issue_6_november_december.pdf

The 11th Four-Organization Potluck Picnic – Sunday, January 20, 2019, 12:30 – 3:30 at A.D. Barnes Park. *Save the date* for this fun gathering (a little less-than-annual now) for DCFNPS, TREEmendous Miami, Miami Blue NABA and Tropical Audubon Society. This time our chapter is making the arrangements. More details will follow in January.

Support the Dade Chapter FNPS by using Amazon Smile!

Register for Amazon Smile and then always start at smile.amazon.com. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases. *Every little bit adds up!*

WHAT OUR FRIENDS ARE DOING:

More opportunities to learn about, enjoy and help native plants and natural areas.

Dade Native Plant Workshop: MDC Kendall Campus Landscape Technology Center, third Tuesdays, 5 pm. www.nativeplantworkshop.com or contact Steve Woodmansee at steve@pronative.com. Bring at least three cuttings or pots, which need not pertain to the topic. **All levels are welcome!**

- **Nov. 20:** Nightshade Family (Solanaceae)
- **Dec. 18:** Passionflower family (Passifloraceae) & **holiday party!** - feel free to bring a little treat to munch while we enjoy the plant conversation ... or maybe munch on what is discussed?

Everglades National Park Free Entrance Day: November 11, 2018, Veterans Day. What better time to visit the park?

FIU Biology Department's informal and entertaining lunchtime seminars, some Wednesdays, noon-1 pm, WC 130. Schedule: <http://faculty.fiu.edu/~kopturs/planttalk18.html>

For reminders, contact Dr. Suzanne Koptur (kopturs@fiu.edu).

- **Nov. 14:** Georgia Tasker (TBA)
- **Nov. 28:** *David Fairchild: the motion pictures* - Javier Francisco Ortega

Kenwoods Outdoor Learning Center (KOLC) - Hammock workdays, December 1 and first Saturdays, through April, 9 a.m. – noon. Science increasingly concludes that being out in the woods for a couple hours is healthy for all ages, and KOLC can help you out! Water, gloves and some tools are provided, or bring your own. Students can earn community service hours. **DCFNPS has had a relationship with KOLC since it was created in 1986.** In 1996 KOLC earned the FNPS "Design With Natives" award in the Schoolyard category.

Address: Kenwood K-8 Center, 9300 SW 79 Ave., Miami. The KOLC is the forest toward the north end of the campus.

Contact: Henry Block (miamiblocks@bellsouth.net, 786-877-4509) or Karen Picciano (picciano@bellsouth.net, 305-510-4177) for more info, or just show up!

Environmentally Endangered Lands Program Volunteer Workday. Dec. 8, 9 a.m. - noon: Hattie Bauer Hammock Preserve (Invasive plant removal). Help Miami-Dade's natural areas. More info and register [here](#) for 12/8, or 305-372-6611, eel@miamidade.gov. *FNPS members to work alongside and talk with younger volunteers are appreciated!* Ask Tiffany Melvin for more information if needed.

Gifford Arboretum Annual Picnic, Univ. of Miami. Dec. 1 OR Dec. 8, 2018 – Please contact Steve Pearson at 305-284-1302 or sdpearson@bio.miami.edu for the final decision and details about the tour and picnic lunch. Everyone is invited! (And it's a great opportunity to see plants from all over the world, including many Florida natives.)

"Flora and Fauna of the Florida Keys" continuing education course, Jan. 19 – Mar. 30, 2019. FIU's Center for Coastal Oceans Research offers the sixth semester of this great course taught by **Jim Duquesnel**. The course consists of ten half-day field trips on Saturday mornings, scattered along the length of the Florida Keys archipelago. It is an introduction to natural communities, plants and animals of the Florida Keys, and how nature is responding to our presence. The cost is \$299.



Registration will be at <https://ccor.fiu.edu/education-and-outreach/courses/index.html>. This website may not be updated until closer to the date, but if you would like more information, please contact Jim (james.duquesnel@fiu.edu or 305/304-4445). **Photo by Jim Duquesnel: Great Southern White butterfly sipping nectar from a Spanish needle blossom**

The Florida Wildflower Foundation announces that the State Wildflower license plate has a new look!

The new design features two species of *Coreopsis*, Florida's state wildflower, and a vivid butterfly, increasing awareness of the vital pollinator/wildflower connection. Since going on sale in 2000, the State Wildflower plate has raised more than \$4.2 million for Florida's native wildflowers and plants, providing funds for education, planting and research projects throughout the state. <https://flawildflowers.org/new-plate-design/>



DADE CHAPTER FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

President: Kurt Birchenough (kbirc001@fiu.edu, 202-905-3921)

Vice President: Brian Diaz

Secretary: Gita Ramsay (gita.ramsay@gmail.com, 786-877-7168)

Treasurer: Susan Walcutt (walcutts@bellsouth.net, 305-297-7757)

At Large: Janeen Feiger, Amy Leonard, Jeanne Rothchild, Jennifer Stine, Vivian Waddell, Ian Wogan

Dade Chapter – FNPS Council of Chapters: vacant

Refreshment coordinators: Cheryl & Ben Morgan (ckmorg@bellsouth.net)

General chapter information: 305-985-3677

DCFNPS website & social media: <http://dade.fnpschapters.org/>

DCFNPS e-mail: dadefnps@gmail.com

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TILLANDSIA

Editor: Patty Phares (pharespl@gmail.com, 305-255-6404)

Please contact the editor if you would like to join the Tillandsia staff!

Articles, announcements and news items are invited for *Tillandsia* from Dade and Keys members. **Advertising rates** from \$12 per month.

FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

FNPS office: info@fnps.org, 321-271-6702

FNPS website, blog, social media: <http://www.fnps.org>

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