



TILLANDSIA

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

APRIL 2023

MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, April 25, 2023, 7:30 PM

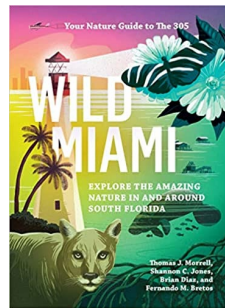
Pinecrest Gardens, 11000 SW 57 Ave. (Red Road), Miami
Free and open to all!

*Wild Miami: Explore the Amazing Nature
in and Around South Florida*

- a new book about Miami's amazing ecology
by Thomas Morrell, Shannon Jones, Brian Diaz,
and Fernando Bretos

The first three authors will join us to talk about the book and its making. (You will recognize Brian as DCFNPS president.)

Miami is a bustling city with a vibrant nightlife, but if you know where to look, its wildlife is just as wild. *Wild Miami* reveals the amazing ecology of this tropical metropolis. Equal parts natural history, field guide, and trip planner, *Wild Miami* has something for everyone. This handy yet extensive guide profiles over 300 local species, from beautiful flowers and towering palm trees to manatees and green treefrogs, spotted sunfish, and great blue herons. Included are 25 "field trip" sites that encourage readers to explore the natural wonders on trails, beaches, public parks, and in their own backyards. Finally, local conservation issues and organizations are highlighted throughout, guiding readers to make positive environmental impacts.



Wild Miami is available online and at most local bookstores. Feel free to bring a copy to be signed.

- **Come early or stay late** to socialize and browse the merchandise and raffle. The raffle follows the program.
- **Thank you for your raffle contributions** (native plants, plant-related books, etc.)! **Please (please!) label each plant with at least the common name on paper or tape** (more info is welcome).
- **Online viewing: Live-streamed and recorded on YouTube.** www.youtube.com/channel/UCmassuC5-OsAX2KsRYQ6X5A
Note: You will see only the computer-based portions of the meeting (on-screen announcements and presentation), not the raffle and other input from the room. **Chat will be enabled.**
- **Questions?** Email DadeFNPS@gmail.com, text 305-985-3677
- **May 23:** "Cutler Slough Rehydration Project on Tree Species Within the Deering Estate Natural Areas" - Katherine Castrillon, MS Student in Environmental Studies, Florida International Univ.

Calendar

<https://dade.fnpschapters.org/events/>

Apr. 25 (Tue.): Monthly meeting
 Apr. 22(Sat.): Chapter workday, Everglades National Park
 Apr. 28-30: FNPS Annual Conference (virtual)-register now
 May (various dates): FNPS Conf. field trips - register now
 May 20 (Sat.): Yard visit in Pinecrest - save the date
 May 23 (Tue.): Monthly meeting with Annual Meeting
 May 27 (Sat.): Field trip-Larry & Penny Thompson pineland

Other events of interest

Apr. 18: Native Plant Workshops in [Dade](#) and the Keys
 Apr. 18: Coastal habitat workday, Haulover Park
 Apr. 22: Free entrance at Everglades National Park
 (First day of [National Park Week](#))
 Apr. 26: FTBG evening [lecture](#) by NatureServe Chief Botanist
 Apr. 26: Delicate Balance of Nature [talk](#) (Key Largo & virtual)
 Apr. 28-30: iNaturalist City Nature challenge ([EEL workdays](#))

Also in this issue

- ◆ FNPS 42nd Annual Conference
 - ◆ Sharing Natives with Neighbors on a Walk and Talk
- by David Reese
 - ◆ Award to George Gann with Grant for Richmond Pine Rocklands Restoration
 - ◆ Remembering Dr. David Lee
- Plus more news, announcements, things to do*

• **Past presentations:** Use the **YouTube** link above or from DadeFNPS.org. **Click Videos** or **Live** for available recordings, including the February program "Florida's Endemic Plants" with Roger Hammer.



DADE CHAPTER and FNPS NEWS



DCFNPS board nominations: Is it time for you to step up?
 Directors to be elected at our May 23 Annual Members Meeting include **secretary, treasurer and several directors at large, all for 2-year terms.** Nominate yourself or someone else (with their permission). *To submit nominations or for more information, please contact the chapter at DadeFNPS@gmail.com as soon as possible.* The nominating committee will present a slate (expected to be elected as a group.)
 Botanical expertise is not required. **Members with enthusiasm for native plants and skills or determination to help the chapter thrive are encouraged to consider serving on the board.** It's a rewarding way to promote the mission of FNPS.

Welcome new members! Elisa Algorta-Junghahn, Cheryl Oswald, Samantha Walsdorf, Ken and Kim Fairman (Life membership), Eric Lampert

DCFNPS Everglades National Park workday, April 22. 9 AM – noon (and every other month). Help with our native landscape maintenance at the Ernest F. Coe Visitor Center, the first habitat many visitors encounter up close in the park. Non-members and students can help, too! **New volunteers:** Please contact Patty (pharespl@gmail.com) for more details. The work is not difficult (weeding, pruning, cleanup).

Native Plant Day 2023. Thank you to all who helped make our annual public event on March 25 at Enchanted Forest Elaine Gordon Park in North Miami a success! The efforts by North Miami Parks Department staff, chapter board members, volunteers, donors of raffle/sale plants, participating organizations, speakers, walk leaders, and vendors were very well-received.



Thanks also to those of you who attended, invited your friends, or promoted the event, and to Mother Nature for the shady site and pleasant weather. It feels great to be back after missing three years! See you next year in central Miami-Dade.

(Photo by Lydia Cuni)

Yard visit in Pinecrest, May 20, 2023, 9:30-11:30. *Save the date* for this informative tour! Details in the *May Tillandsia*. DCFNPS members (and a guest) are invited. This is a free activity, but space is limited and **registration is required**. This garden contains a large variety of mature trees and shrubs, so you will see what they look like after 20+ years in the ground.

***Sabal minor*.** The March-April issue of the state FNPS bimonthly newsletter was sent by email on April 7. You can also see it at <https://www.fnps.org/resources/sabalminor>.

If you did not receive *Sabal minor* and are not receiving other email from FNPS (e.g., FNPS conference notices), check with the FNPS office (info@fnps.org or 321-271-6702) to see if your email address is correct. Remember to add “info@fnps.org” (also communications, president, executivedirector@fnps.org) to your contacts list to help ensure receipt of email. Also check your spam/junk folder and move FNPS email to your inbox.

Plants in the FNPS Conference logo by Kara Driscoll (opposite column)

Wormvine orchid (*Vanilla barbellata*)
Gholson's gayfeather (*Liatriis gholsonii*)
Manyflowered grasspink (*Calopogon multiflorus*)
Pitcher plants (*Sarracenia* sp.: *S. flava*, *S. rosea*, *S. psittacina*)
Hand fern (*Ophioglossum palmatum* or *Cheiroglossa palmata*)
Nightblooming waterlily (*Nymphaea jamesoniana*)



April 28-30, 2023 – Register now!
www.fnps.org/conference/2023

Game Night on April 28, **presentations** April 29-30 (all virtual).

In-person Field Days - spaces are limited so book soon.

For more information or to register for field trips:

• **Naples Field Days**

May 6 - Walk the Dr. Robert Gore III Preserve Trail, plus presentation & tour of Dr. Gore's home. \$50 (w/ br. & lunch)

May 7 - Either hike or make a pine basket at Collier-Seminole State Park. \$40 (includes breakfast)

<https://www.fnps.org/conference/naples-field-days>

• **Sanford Field Days – May 19-21**

<https://www.fnps.org/conference/sanford-field-days>

• **Tallahassee Field Days – May 13-14**

<https://www.fnps.org/conference/tallahassee-field-days>

Check out the complete conference agenda, speakers, special [Palmetto](#) magazine, merchandise, sponsorship opportunities.

MORE THINGS TO DO

Dade Native Plant Workshop - at the MDC Kendall Campus. nativeplantworkshop.ning.com/. A free public workshop every 3rd Tuesday, led by Steve Woodmansee. Novices and experts alike are welcome! **Apr.18, 5 PM. Topic: "Plants with basal rosettes"**. Learn about this topic on George Roger's [blog article](#) on Sneezeweed (*Helenium pinnatifidum*).

Florida Keys Native Plant Workshop (virtual meeting).
Apr. 18, 5:30 PM: For more info, email FKNPW@outlook.com.

Help enhance coastal habitat at Haulover Park, Miami Beach.
April 18, 2023, at 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. May 16 and later dates will be probably be added.

Frost Museum's Museum Volunteers for the Environment (MUVE) program is excited to work alongside Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Miami Beach Botanical Garden, and Miami-Dade County's Natural Area Management Division (NAM) to care for our critical coastal habitats through nature-based volunteerism. This month they will manage hardwood encroachment in the dune habitat by pruning and removing sea grapes and coco plum trees as they outcompete critical dune species. **You must register in advance.** For more info: Riki Bonnema, riki@mbgarden.org (tell her you're from FNPS).

The Delicate Balance of Nature Lecture Series at John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park. In-person and on Zoom. See <https://pennekampparkfriends.org/events>.

Apr. 26: "Plants of the Florida Keys: Native or Non-Native?"

“The Race Against Plant Extinction: The Current State of Knowledge and Florida’s Unique Position” - Wesley M. Knapp, Chief Botanist, NatureServe. Lecture hosted by Fairchild’s Conservation Team, **April 26, 6:30 at FTBG.** See <http://fairchildgarden.org/extinction/> for info and tickets.

Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) participates in iNaturalist City Nature Challenge. April 28-30 at Zoo Miami, Rockdale Pineland and Trinity Pineland. Find out more and register [here](#).

NEWS

Award to George Gann with Grant for Richmond Pine Rocklands Restoration

George Gann, founder and Executive Director of the Institute for Regional Conservation (IRC), has been designated a [National Geographic Explorer](#) and was awarded the inaugural National Geographic Photo Ark Species Impact Initiative grant. **This \$350,000 grant will be used to fund the ecological restoration of habitat for two federally endangered insects in the Richmond Pine Rocklands of Miami-Dade County.** The focal species, Miami tiger beetle and Bartram’s scrub-hairstreak butterfly are endemic to the pine rocklands ecosystem of southern Florida. IRC will lead the two-year project in collaboration with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Coast Guard, Zoo Miami, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, and other partners.

“On behalf of our many partners, I am deeply honored that the restoration of pine rocklands has been chosen for the inaugural Species Impact Initiative grant,” Gann said. “The number of rare species in this ecosystem is staggering and the National Geographic Photo Ark will help us communicate that science-based restoration is imperative. For many species we are past the tipping point and must restore to conserve.”

Pine rocklands comprise a globally imperiled ecosystem that exists only in southern Florida and parts of the Bahamas. They are home to 11 federally listed animals and 16 federally listed plants, and dozens more state listed and regionally rare species. In urban Miami-Dade County, pine rocklands have all but disappeared outside of Everglades National Park with less than 2% remaining.

Read more at www.regionalconservation.org/index.html

The IRC is a Non-profit member of FNPS in the Dade Chapter. Congratulations and thank you to George!

Remembering Dr. David Lee

Dr. David Lee, Emeritus Professor at Florida International University, passed away on December 13, 2022. While not a longtime member of FNPS, Dr. Lee’s roles at FIU influenced the education at FIU and careers of many of our members. He was the first botanist in the Department of Biological Sciences (1980); teacher across Biology, Landscape, Architecture, and Liberal studies programs; first chair of the Department of Environmental Studies and later Chair of the Department of Biological Sciences. He was also the impetus behind a memorandum of understanding between Fairchild Tropical Garden and FIU that combined the strength of both institutions.

In addition to many scientific publications, Dr. Lee also wrote “Wayside Trees of Tropical Florida: A Guide to the Native and Exotic Trees and Palms of Miami and Tropical South Florida” (2011, coauthored with Stacy West) and presented on this to DCFNPS.

You are invited to a gathering on **April 24 at 10 AM-noon** in Coconut Grove to remember David with friends and colleagues. Please contact Suzanne Koptur (kopturs@fiu.edu) for more information and to RSVP.

Paid advertising

▶ **The nursery is on the market!** ◀



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including coontie, peperomia, Boston fern. Call for more info.

SHARING PINE ROCKLAND NATIVES WITH NEIGHBORS ON A “WALK AND TALK”

By David Reese

Don’t you wish your love of native plants was a neighborhood thing? One group of native plant fans is actively trying to make that happen! On December 3, 2022, several homeowners in Miami’s Shenandoah neighborhood hosted a native plant walk and talk, inviting the neighborhood by posting the event on Nextdoor Shenandoah and Eventbrite.



Mauricio talking about the flora in his yard

