



Tillandsia

Newsletter of the Dade Chapter Florida Native Plant Society
*Promoting the preservation, conservation, and restoration
of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.*

JANUARY 2024

Chapter Calendar

See <https://dade.fnpschapters.org/events/> for Dade and Broward Chapter activities

Jan. 20: Field trip: Tamiami Complex Addition

Jan. 23: DCFNPS meeting: “Foraging Florida” - Roger Hammer

Feb. 27: DCFNPS meeting: “Wild Florida: *An Animal Odyssey*” - Kirsten Hines

Mar. 1: Deadline to apply for FNPS science and conservation grants and awards

CHAPTER MEETING

Tuesday, January 23, 2024, 7:30 PM

Pinecrest Gardens, 11000 SW 57 Ave. (Red Road), Miami

Free and open to all

“Foraging Florida: Finding, Identifying, and Preparing Edible and Medicinal Wild Foods in Florida” – Roger Hammer presents on his newest book

Paleo-Indians lived more than 14,000 years ago in the land we now call Florida, and later came tribes of indigenous people known as the Ais, Calusa, Mayaimi, Tequesta, Timucua, and others. Still later came the Miccosukee and Seminole. These people were hunter-fisher-gatherers who lived off of nature’s bounty. Today, foraging wild fruits, grains, and other edible plant parts has become a popular pastime for outdoor enthusiasts throughout the country, but Florida in particular is a forager’s paradise due to its wealth of tropical and temperate native plants. This program highlights edible and medicinal native and naturalized wild plants found throughout Florida, from the western Panhandle to the Florida Keys.



Roger Hammer is a professional naturalist and was the manager of Castellow Hammock Nature Center for Miami-Dade County Parks for 30 years. He received the first Marjory Stoneman Douglas Award presented by the Dade Chapter FNPS in 1982, and numerous other awards from FNPS and other organizations, and well as an honorary Doctor of Science degree from Florida International University. Roger’s first passion with the flora of Florida was finding and photographing Florida’s native orchids, and during his travels he discovered two species of native orchids in Florida not previously known to occur in the state. In 1979 he discovered a population of atala butterflies, listed in 1965 as presumed extinct. He is the author of countless articles, and also numerous books on Florida nature (www.rogerlhammer.com/index.html) **which he will be selling at the meeting (cash/check)**. Roger is a longtime member of FNPS and lives in Homestead, Florida with his wife, Michelle.

- **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 label each plant with at least the common name on paper, tape or stake** (more info welcome).
- **Online viewing: Live-streamed and recorded on YouTube.** www.youtube.com/channel/UCmassuC5-OsAX2KsRYQ6X5A
You will see only the computer-based portions of the meeting. Chat will be enabled.
- **Past presentations, including November’s** “The Germination Experiment: Uncovering the Secrets of *Tetrazygia bicolor* Through Statistical Analysis” - Presented by AP Statistics students at Jose Marti MAST 6-12 Academy. Use the **YouTube** link above or from DadeFNPS.org. **Click Videos** or **Live** for available recordings.
- **Questions?** Email DadeFNPS@gmail.com, text 305-985-3677

February 27, 2024, program: “WILD FLORIDA: *An Animal Odyssey*” – Photographer and writer **Kirsten Hines** shares photographs, insights and personal stories of discovery from her newest book.

FIELD TRIP
Tamiami Pineland Addition
January 20, 2024

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

This conservation land was acquired by the Miami-Dade County Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) program. It consists of 8 acres of pine rockland and marl prairie habitat. This location is undergoing a large-scale restoration effort in early 2024 to expand the footprint of the natural area; a large portion of the site currently occupied mostly by Brazilian pepper and exotic grasses will be scraped and replanted with native vegetation. Expect to see flowering native asters such as Eastern silver aster (*Symphyotrichum dumosum*) and Scale-leaf aster (*Symphyotrichum adnatum*) and many other native grasses and wildflowers. In addition, several rare species occur here including Coker's Beach Creeper (*Ernodea cokeri*), Pineland Poinsettia (*Euphorbia pinetorum*), Pineland lantana (*Lantana depressa*), Man in the Ground (*Ipomoea microdactyla*), and Marl Prairie Ladies Tresses (*Spiranthes torta*).

Leaders: Noah Frade (Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden), Tiffany Melvin (EEL)

Bring/wear: Sun protection, sturdy shoes, plenty of drinking water. Binoculars and a walking stick could prove useful to some.

Difficulty: Easy to moderate. Uneven ground, short distance.

Note: No restrooms on site. Pets are not allowed on our field trips.



26th ANNUAL NATIVE PLANT DAY
Saturday, March 16, 2024, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A. D. (Doug) Barnes Park (3401 SW 72nd Ave.)

Sponsored by The Dade Chapter Florida Native Plant Society & Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces



We can't do it without lots of help from our members and friends, so please read on! More details will be coming soon.

This is a full day of programs, nature walks, educational tables by organizations and agencies, plant and merchandise sales, raffles, activities for all ages, plenty of networking and socializing, and just enjoying nature in the park.

- **Please save time to volunteer for a shift at the event or for setup the day before.**
- **Plan to donate native plants and other items** for sales, raffles, children's activities, prizes, or just to give away.
Native plants: Pot up volunteers or prepare plants in 4" to 3-gallon pots. **Please start prepping your plants now so they are well-established in two months.** Wildflowers and other small species and shrubs are especially desirable. If you need pots or have questions, please contact us. We can arrange to pick up if you can't deliver.
Set aside other raffle items related to native plants, nature, gardening (books, useful or decorative items)
Save seeds of SE Florida native species you think would be of interest to others. We can divide seeds up into small packets to give away. *(Let us know what you have or bring them to a meeting.)*
- **Donate past copies of the Palmetto magazine to offer to visitors.** Bring on the day, or to a meeting or field trip before the date (no other magazines, please!).
- **Spread the word** to friends, family, colleagues. General information is on our events calendar <https://dade.fnpschapters.org/events/>, more to follow.
- **Suggest presenters, organizations to set up display tables, youth groups to volunteer, a food vendor** (not food trucks).
- **Questions or input?** Contact us at DadeFNPS@gmail.com or 305-985-3677, or Brian Diaz at briandiaz1210@gmail.com

DADE CHAPTER and FNPS NEWS

Welcome new members! Miami-Dade: Kristin Hufsey, Robert Newburger, Nicholas Matsumoto, Cristina Lingvay (student member), Manuel Marcial, Dorothy Parker, Justine Deresz. **Keys:** Deanne Hopp. Thank you to Carrie Cleland and Sandra Nojaim rejoining as Life members.

Give Miami Day 2023 wrap-up. Thanks to the generosity of 38 chapter members and friends, DCFNPS received \$2996 from donations, and the Miami Foundation made bonus matches to give us a final total of \$5,029. This annual giving event in November not only provides a convenient way for supporters to donate online, but it also provides us extra funds raised by the Miami Foundation. **We are very grateful to all who made this happen!** These funds will help us continue to present Native Plant Day, to launch a new online plant store (coming soon, stay tuned), and to further our education and outreach in new ways. We also support the annual FNPS Conservation grants for applied native plant conservation projects in Florida. Since 2013 we have contributed \$16,500 to honor the memory of founders Joyce and Don Gann.

FNPS 2024 science/conservation awards/grants: See www.fnps.org ('What We Do/Awards and Grants') for Endowment Grant Research Awards, Conservation Grant Awards, the Dan Austin Award for Ethnobotany, and the Cornelia McNamara Grant. **The application deadline is March 1, 2024. Conservation Grant applications** must first be selected by a chapter (each chapter can sponsor one), so spread the word to those engaging in native plant conservation activities. Contact DadeFNPS@gmail.com for information on applying for chapter sponsorship. You must still fill the application form from FNPS.

FNPS 2023 Annual Fund Drive runs through January. Please see <https://www.fnps.org/support/donate> to support these worthy activities by FNPS:

- Fund more native plant research and conservation programs.
- Develop more educational resources and outreach programs.
- Advocate further for the protection of native plant habitats and biodiversity.
- Collaborate with more organizations and agencies.
- Strengthen our network of chapters, members, volunteers, and partners across the state.

OTHER EVENTS, NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jan. 15: Free Entrance Day at National Parks including Everglades and Dry Tortugas (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)

Jan. 16: Dade Native Plant Workshop at 5 p.m., see <https://nativeplantworkshop.ning.com/> for details. **Topic:** Hammock grasses and sedges. These are generally shade loving species. Old hands and new learners are encouraged to come.

Jan. 16: Florida Keys Native Plant Workshop (virtual meeting), 5:30 p.m. For info, email FKNPW@outlook.com. The FKNPW is looking for volunteer presenters for 2024. If you would like to present on plants native to the Florida Keys, please email Jim at james.duquesnel@fiu.edu or call Jim at 305-304-4445 with any ideas. Presenting is a great way to learn!

Jan. 19: Pinewood Cemetery invasive plant removal. Visit <http://coralgables.com/kcgb> to learn more and to register to help at this historic site in Coral Gables.

Jan. 19: It's Florida Arbor Day! The Florida Federation of Garden Clubs is collaborating with the Miami-Dade County EEL program in **planting 200 native trees at West Matheson Hammock Park**. Community participation is welcome. Please register with the EEL workday through the link to EEL below. This is one of numerous plantings of 100 (or more) trees on this date by FF Garden Clubs around the state.

Jan. 15, 19, 26: Miami-Dade Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) program hosts workdays for a variety of tasks (and fun/educational components) at Larry and Penny Thompson Park, Matheson Hammock, and Deering Estate North. See www.miamidade.gov/environment/endangered-lands-volunteer.asp.

Events at John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park (MM 102.5 Oceanside)

- **Native Plant Day 2024:** Saturday, January 27, 9:00 a.m. - noon (Heavy rain date: Feb. 10). Native plant giveaway for Keys residents, talks, walks, butterfly garden tours! See www.floridastateparks.org/index.php/events/native-plant-day-2
- **Delicate Balance of Nature lecture series on Wednesday evenings in February and March** will feature many marine topics, but also monarch butterflies, ecological principles in gardening, and Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden's conservation work in the Keys. See <https://www.floridastateparks.org/events/delicate-balance-nature-lecture-series-4>

Miami Blue Chapter, North American Butterfly Association. See <https://miamiblue.org/> for details):

- **"Each one, teach one: butterfly gardens of new beginnings – tips, tricks!"** Join an immersive experience to dive into the world of non-traditional butterfly-attracting plants and discover where to find them. Guided by the wisdom of the African proverb, "Each one, teach one," the Miami Blue NABA community invites you to an interactive presentation that not only imparts knowledge but also empowers you to enhance your community. (In February- date, time, location TBA. In-person and Zoom options.)
- **Jan. 21 (1 p.m.): "All A Flutter" art opening** at Biscayne National Park where Dennis Olle (NABA) and Tiffany Moore (Zoo Miami) will present on the Rare and Endangered Butterflies of South Florida and growing endangered butterflies at Zoo Miami.

Miami Beach Botanical Garden will have a new "native pollinator pathway". Volunteers are needed.

The MBBG was awarded a grant from the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust to establish a native pollinator pathway. Select beds will be redesigned with native pollinator plants to enhance the aesthetics of high-visibility areas and provide additional resources for native wildlife. **This project will also serve to demonstrate how native plants can be used to create beautiful landscapes in South Florida yards.** Garden volunteers will have an opportunity to help staff prepare garden beds, plant an array of species, and maintain the pathway throughout the year. MBBG hopes to use this opportunity to establish some wild sourced plants adding more value to their living collection and allowing them to get more involved in local ex situ conservation efforts. **If you are interested in becoming a volunteer for this project**, please contact riki@mbgarden.org.

FIELD TRIP TO THE FAKAHATCHEE STRAND STATE PRESERVE

A beautiful morning in the swamp on December 9, 2023, led by Russ Clusman

Photos by Riki Bonnema (RB), Mary Rose (MR) and Jennifer Stine (JS)



- Top:** (1) Slough sloggers (JS) (2) *Habenaria floribunda*, Toothpetal false reinorchid (RB)
- Middle:** (3) Barred owl (JS) (4) *Prosthechea cochleata*, Clamshell orchid (JS)
(5) Freshwater sponge (RB) (6) *Asplenium serratum*, Wild birdnest fern (spores) (RB)
- Bottom:** (7) *Ophioglossum palmatum*, Hand fern (MR) (8) Interesting lichen? (RB)
(9) *Epidendrum anceps*, Dingy-flowered star orchid (JS)

Help ensure that you're in the loop!

Move **DadeFNPS@gmail.com** and **@FNPS.org** email out of junk/spam/promotions and into your inbox, and **add those senders to your email contacts.**

Think you are missing email (from FNPS or Dade)? Let us know!

Dade Chapter Florida Native Plant Society - For Miami-Dade and the Florida Keys

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President: Brian Diaz **Vice-President:** Steve Woodmansee **Secretary:** Lydia Cuni **Treasurer:** Susan Walcutt

At Large: Joey Basna, Riki Bonnema, Gwen Burzycki, Charlie Reverte, Jeanne Rothchild, Jennifer Stine

FNPS Council of Chapters representative: Lydia Cuni

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***Tillandsia* Newsletter**

Please contact the editor if you might 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 communication: info@fnps.org, 321-271-6702, <http://www.fnps.org>

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Did you miss a *Tillandsia* newsletter? See past newsletters at dade.fnpschapters.org/ > Newsletters and articles

FNPS *Palmetto* magazines: See [here](#) (not all available)

FNPS *Sabal minor* newsletters: <https://www.fnps.org/home> under [resources](#)