



Dade Chapter

TILLANDSIA

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

FEBRUARY 2016

MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, February 23, 2016, 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. Contributions of **raffle items** and **refreshments** are always greatly appreciated.

Florida Ethnobotany:

Uses of Plants by Early Settlers in Southern Florida
Dr. Bradley Bennett, Florida International University

Dr. Bennett is a professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at FIU. He earned degrees from Bucknell University, Florida Atlantic University, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and then was a postdoctoral fellow and research associate at the New York Botanical Garden's Institute of Economic Botany. His main research focus is Neotropical ethnobotany and ethnopharmacology. Dr. Bennett and his graduate students work in more than a dozen countries besides the U.S. His book *Ethnobotany of the Shuar of Amazonian Ecuador* won the 2006



Mary W. Klinger Book Award from the Society for Economic Botany. [Photo: Dr. Bennett canoeing]

- **March 22:** "Seagrasses of South Florida, Their Importance, and the Influence of Urbanization" - Jennifer Sweatman, PhD Candidate, FIU
- **April 26:** "Coastal Habitat Restoration" - Gary Milano, Miami-Dade County biologist (retired)

Inside this issue:

- **Native Plant Day** – *pot up plants and volunteer to help now!*
- **Remembering Gwladys Scott**
- **Events and volunteer needs**
- **What Our Friends Are Doing** – *more events and activities*

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

FEBRUARY

- 13 (Sat.):** Chapter workday – Everglades Nat. Park *
- 20 (Sat.):** Homestead Eco Fair – *rescheduled* *
Community Day at Chapman Field *
- 23 (Tue.):** Meeting at Pinecrest Gardens

MARCH

- 5 (Sat.):** Arboretum cleanup – Bill Sadowski Park *
- 6 (Sun.):** Field trip – ENP cypress dome
- 18 (Fri.):** Setup for Native Plant Day *
- 19 (Sat.):** **NATIVE PLANT DAY ***
- 22 (Tue.):** Meeting at Pinecrest Gardens

* *Please Volunteer – see announcements for details*

FIELD TRIP

If the weather is very bad call to confirm (Patty, 305-255-6404). Field trips are for the study of plants and enjoyment of nature by FNPS members and their guests. Collecting is not permitted. Time, address and directions are in the newsletter mailed to members. Please join to enjoy all the activities of the chapter!

Sunday, March 6, 2016: Everglades National Park cypress dome. We will walk (or *slog*) to a dome with deep water, large trees and a beautiful array of plants.

- **Bring:** Water, sun protection. A walking stick might be helpful for some. (Bug protection just in case – hopefully not needed.) (You might like a change of shoes and pants as well.)
- **Wear:** Sturdy shoes & long pants that can get muddy and wet.
- **Deep water precautions:** In the dome it could be knee to thigh deep, and you can fall in. **Zip lock bags for electronics advised.**
- **Difficulty:** Moderate/difficult. Walking on open prairie - no tall sawgrass but pinnacle rock and holes require careful walking. Leg-sucking mud in the dome.
- **Late?** Try Patty's cell (305-878-5705) but reception is poor in the park. Find us ½ mile west of the Pa-hay-okee turnoff.
- **Leader:** **Dave King**, FNPS member and retired park ranger. Dave first came to ENP in 1979 as a seasonal naturalist at Shark Valley, and continued in various locations in ENP, Biscayne NP, Shenandoah NP and others from Minnesota to Alaska before serving as the Florida Bay District Ranger from 1989-2010.
Bring a picnic lunch if you would like. Those up for more outdoor enjoyment might visit some other location (easy) after

lunch.

REMEMBERING GWLADY

Gwladys Eliot Scott – “Gwladys” to us – passed away unexpectedly on January 28. She had been an active member of the Dade Chapter since 1982. She coordinated yard visits since 2003 and volunteered in a host of other capacities through the years. We visited the Natural Forest Community of Gwladys and Gene many times, including for last July’s meeting. South Florida nature has lost a great friend, as have we all.

Please contribute your memories or photos of Gwladys for a tribute in the March newsletter. Send to Patty Phares (pharespl@gmail.com, 305-255-6404) by February 20.

You are invited to celebrate her life at an informal gathering on February 7, 1-5 p.m., with her family and friends from FNPS, DERM, Unitarian Universalists and Friends Meeting. Please contact Patty for information (see above).

EVENTS

Please help represent DCFNPS – or plan to attend and enjoy these free public events. You can tend our table a while or offer display plants or other items.

• **Community Day at the Agricultural Research Service - Subtropical Horticulture Research Station (Chapman Field) Saturday, February 20, 2016, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

13601 Old Cutler Rd, Miami (entrance off Deering Bay Dr.) **“Planes, Plants, Pests and People”.** See how agricultural research and experiments are done. Programs on the property’s aviation history, David Fairchild’s plant explorations, and plant genetics programs at SHRS. Plant and food vendors, educational displays and activities, trolley tours.

Help FNPS: Mary Rose jdrose6@bellsouth.net, 305-378-0382

• **2016 Homestead Eco-Fair. Saturday, February 20, 2016 (date change), noon - 4 p.m.** Losner Park (104 N. Krome Ave. Homestead, FL 33030). Displays by DCFNPS and other groups, entertainment and vendors.

Help FNPS: Patty 305-255-6404, pharespl@gmail.com

CHAPTER WORKDAYS

Contact Patty Phares for more information (305-255-6404, pharespl@gmail.com) or 305-878-5705 (cell, the morning of the workday). We’d love to have new helpers!

• **Everglades National Park. February 13. 9 a.m. - noon.** Coe Visitor Center.

• **Bill Sadowski Park. March 6. 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.** 17555 SW 79 Avenue, Palmetto Bay, 33157 (1/2 mile west of Old Cutler Road on SW 176 St.)

We will do light cleanup and pruning in the arboretum and tag some trees to **prepare for Native Plant Day.** Please bring hand clippers, loppers and gloves if you have them.

21st NATIVE PLANT DAY

Saturday, March 19, 2016

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Bill Sadowski Park at Old Cutler Hammock
17555 SW 79 Avenue, Palmetto Bay, 33157
(1/2 mile west of Old Cutler Road on SW 176 St.)**

FREE and open to the public

Co-sponsored by:

**The Dade Chapter Florida Native Plant Society
& Miami Dade County Parks**

Our annual public outreach and education day will have activities for all ages: walks, programs, displays, plants and merchandise for sale, raffles and more. Bring your family and friends to enjoy this free day of fun and learning with us! Explore the hammock full of ferns, forested wetland restoration and arboretum as well as the exhibits at Native Plant Day. The schedule will be available in late February on our website.

How can you help?

- **Raffle and sale donations.** We sell donated plants to raise funds for the chapter, and raffle some of the best or rarest. *Start grooming your plants now.* Nature related items such as art, gift certificates, books, etc., are also nice raffle items. **Contact Amy Leonard to arrange advance drop off,** and so we can plan for the raffle selection. We would like to have an especially fantastic selection!
- **Loan display plants or items.** Butterfly larvae, host/nectar plants, other interesting plants and items. Contact Amy Leonard or Patty Phares.
- **Stick labels on postcards Tuesday, February 23.** RSVP to Amy Leonard. **Meet at 6 p.m. before our chapter meeting.**
- **Suggest a speaker or offer to conduct a walk.** Contact Ted Shaffer.
- **Distribute stacks of postcards.** Place them at your grocery store, doctor’s office, library, school, or other well-trafficked area - available at the Feb. 23 meeting. Contact Amy Leonard to arrange to get some if you can’t attend the meeting.
- **Help set up on Friday March 18.** We need help to set up the raffle and other stations, move tables and hang signs the afternoon before NPD. Contact Amy Leonard.
- **Help contact volunteers and help at Native Plant Day!** We will need about 45 volunteers to make the day of the event happen. Give your time in the morning or afternoon and *still* have plenty of time to enjoy the event. Please contact Gita Ramsay if **you, your family, or some young people you know might be able to help.**

Contact Information:

Amy Leonard: 305-458-0969, aleonar74@yahoo.com

Ted Shaffer: ted.shaffer@bellsouth.net

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

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

- Amy Leonard

DADE CHAPTER and FNPS NEWS

Did you leave a serving spoon (long-handled, silver-colored) at the holiday party on January 2? Please contact Joyce Gann (786-423-1881, joycedongann@vzw.blackberry.net)

Support conservation of Florida's native plants with a donation to the chapter's "Gann Conservation Fund".

This fund supports the FNPS Conservation Grants and honors DCFNPS founders, Joyce and Don Gann. Please donate at a meeting, mail a check to DCFNPS at the chapter address (note "Gann Conservation Fund" in the memo line), or contact Susan Walcutt (walcutts@bellsouth.net, 305-297-7757).

FNPS Awards and Grants – deadlines March 4, 2016

See <http://fnps.org/participate/awards> for more information. Conservation Grants, Research Grants and Landscape Awards. *Please share the word about this great program and encourage others to apply (including non-FNPS members). Your own landscape may be a great advertisement for natives!*

WHAT OUR FRIENDS ARE DOING

Broward Chapter FNPS. See <http://coontie.fnpschapters.org/>. Meetings are at Secret Woods, 2701 W. SR 84, Dania Beach.

- **Feb. 10, 7 p.m.: Chapter meeting.** Diana Guidry will present on changes to Broward's natural landscape in the past 100 years.
- **Feb. 13: Field trip,** Yamato Scrub (Boca Raton) led by Jimmy Lange

Dade Native Plant Workshop. MDC Kendall Campus Landscape Technology Center. 3rd Tuesdays at 7 p.m. See <http://nativeplantworkshop.ning.com> or contact Steve Woodmansee at steve@pronative.com. Bring at least three cuttings (especially in flower/fruit), which need not pertain to the topic. **Feb. 16 topic:** Myrtaceae or Stopper family

Friends of the Gifford Arboretum, University of Miami.

- **Mar. 2, 7 p.m.** "Insights into the Use of Botanical Medicines in Modern Patient Care" - Jeffrey S. Block, M.D.
- Location:** Cox Science Center, Room 166. See <http://www.bio.miami.edu/arboretum> > visits or 305-284-1302.

Environmentally Endangered Lands Volunteer Workdays.

Please pre-register at EEL@Miamiidade.gov; 305-372-6611. <http://www.miamidade.gov/environment/endangered-lands.asp>

- **Feb. 6:** Hattie Bauer Hammock 26715 SW 157 Ave
- **Feb. 27:** Deering Estate North Addition – 16701 SW 72 Ave

The 25th Annual Lecture Series: *The Delicate Balance of Nature 2016.* Wednesdays, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m., John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park, MM 102.5 Oceanside Overseas Hwy. Gate opens 7 p.m. Free, seating limited. Call 305-451-9570.

- **Feb. 10:** Vultures: Nature's clean-up crew
- **Feb. 17:** How intelligent outdoor lighting can protect the environment
- **Feb. 24:** The survival of quality fishing: Are marine reserves a good idea?

"Flora and Fauna of the Florida Keys", Feb. 6 – Apr. 23, 2016 (except holiday weekends)

This FIU course will be taught by biologist Jim Duquesnel almost entirely as **10 Saturday morning field trips**. Most classes will have a theme (plant identification skills, protecting endangered species, climate change, island biogeography, ethics of wildlife observation, etc.) and some will feature a guest environmental professional. *There may be options to make up missed classes during a later semester.* See <https://seas.fiu.edu/students/opportunities/2016/ff-flkeys-course/>

Tropical Audubon Society. 5530 Sunset Dr., Miami, FL, 33143. 305-667-7337. <http://www.tropicalaudubon.org>. Search the calendar for events, including:

- **Feb. 20-21: Native plant sale**
 - **Feb. 27: Conservation Concert – Solar Dogs**
- Proceeds of these events support the extensive conservation and environmental education activities of TAS.

DADE CHAPTER FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

President: Kurt Birchenough (kbirc001@fiu.edu, 202-905-3921)
Vice President: Amy Leonard (aleonar74@yahoo.com, 305-458-0969)
Secretary: Gita Ramsay (gita.ramsay@gmail.com, 786-877-7168)
Treasurer: Susan Walcutt (walcutts@bellsouth.net, 305-297-7757)
At Large: Devon Powell, Surey Rios, Ted Shafer, Jennifer Stine
Eric von Wettberg, Vivian Waddell
Past President: Buck Reilly (buck@habify.com, 786-291-4824)

Refreshment coordinators: Cheryl & Ben Morgan (ckmorg@bellsouth.net)
Membership: Patty Phares (pharespl@gmail.com, 305-255-6404)

General chapter information: 305-985-3677 (new number)
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/dadefnps>
Twitter and Instagram: @dcfnps or Dade Native Plants
DCFNPS Website: <http://dade.fnpschapters.org/>
DCFNPS e-mail: dadefnps@gmail.com
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Webmaster: Haniel Pulido (dadefnpsweb@gmail.com)

TILLANDSIA

Editor: Patty Phares (pharespl@gmail.com, 305-255-6404)
Staff needed – coedit, layout, content. Please contact the editor.

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
FNPS Website: <http://www.fnps.org>
FNPS blog: <http://www.fnpsblog.org>
FNPS is on Facebook and Twitter: FNPSonline
Dade Chapter – FNPS Council of Chapters: vacant – contact the president
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