



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 2015

MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, November 24, 2015, 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!

"Butterfly Obsession" - Linda Evans

What South Florida habitats and plants are critical to our native butterflies? What makes them important for particular butterflies? How does this relate to your garden? This presentation will explain how butterflies function, what they need and why they are important – a program sure to inform both the gardener and nature lover.

Linda Evans has been obsessed with butterflies for decades. She is the president of the Miami Blue Chapter of the North



American Butterfly Association (NABA), and a 39-year volunteer at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, where she is the Honorary Butterfly Garden Curator and a butterfly walking tour guide.

• **January 26, 2016: "Using Natives Creatively"** - Ian Simpkins, Chief Horticulturist, Vizcaya Museum and Gardens

FIELD TRIPS: November and December

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!

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

November

13-15 (Fri.-Sun.): **The Ramble** at FTBG
24 (Tue.): **Meeting** at Pinecrest Gardens
29 (Sun.): **Field trip** – Loop Road, Big Cypress

December

12 (Sat.): **Chapter workday** – Everglades Nat. Park
19 (Sat.): **Field trip** – Bear Cut, Key Biscayne

January

2 (Sat.): **Annual Nature Lovers' Holiday Party**
26 (Tue.): **Meeting** at Pinecrest Gardens
Field trip TBA

There is no *Tillandsia* or meeting in December.

• Sunday, November 29, 2015:

Loop Road (Big Cypress National Preserve).

Wrap up this weekend being thankful for and in nature. We will drive along the east end with a good road surface, stopping at pinelands and perhaps other habitats. We expect to be dry, but there may be opportunities for wet feet (which you can skip).

Bring/wear: Water, sun protection, long pants, closed shoes that can get wet (if you want), bug spray (just in case), lunch to picnic afterward. A walking stick might help off trails.

Difficulty: Easy (if you stay near the road) or Moderate. May be off trails; open, sunny; possible wet feet. Short distances.

Late/lost? Try Patty's cell, 305-878-5705 (no guarantees!)

• Saturday, December 19, 2015:

Bear Cut Preserve, Crandon Park (Key Biscayne).

Explore and botanize coastal habitats, including beach dune, coastal strand, and hammock. The preserve offers some of the best examples of intact coastline remaining in southeast Florida and is home to several rare plant species, three of which are endemic to South Florida, most others being tropical species toward the northern limit of their range. **Jimmy Lange, a field botanist at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden**, will discuss the flora and the work his group does with rare coastal species.

Cost: Crandon parking \$7, Causeway \$1.75 (Sun Pass or Toll-by-Plate). **Share rides, split the cost:** Contact Patty 305-255-6404 **by December 16** for meetup places to the north and south.

Bring: Water, sun protection, lunch if you want to picnic later.

Difficulty: Easy. Sandy paths, sun and shade.

Late/lost? Try Patty's cell, 305-878-5705.

DADE CHAPTER NEWS

Fall Garden Festival and Ramble at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Nov. 13-15, 2015. You can still loan potted plants, butterfly larvae (or chrysalises, eggs) or plant-related items for the chapter display table. Contact Amy Leonard (aleonar74@yahoo.com, 305-458-0969).
Or stop by to help at the table any time.

Holiday shopping with DCFNPS

BOOKS, YARD PLAQUES, GARDEN GLOVES, SHIRTS, DECORATIVE & USEFUL ITEMS

Visit the **merchandise table** at our November meeting.

GIFT MEMBERSHIP

Support native plants, habitats and wildlife while introducing your friends to FNPS.

<http://www.fnps.org>, info@fnps.org, 321-271-6702

PLANTS AND MORE!

Learn where to buy native plants at

<http://dade.fnpschapters.org/nativeplants>.

Support native plant nurseries and other plant sales.

The November-December 2015 *Sabal minor* is available: http://fnps.org/assets/pdf/sabalminor/sabalminor17_6_2015.pdf. If you did not receive an email notice or print copy (no email on file), contact FNPS at info@fnps.org or 321-271-6702. See information about submission for conservation and research grants, landscape awards, and scientific papers for the annual conference – as well as lots of other FNPS news.

Annual four-organization picnic – not this year. The picnic will be rescheduled from December to winter or spring to avoid the busy holiday season. **We welcome your ideas for a location to resume in 2016 or 2017.** Contact Patty Phares (pharespl@gmail.com, 305-255-6404).

Everglades National Park workday, Saturday, December 12, 2015, 9 a.m. - noon. We'll do our final maintenance before the winter tourists come. A jug of cold water will be provided; bring snacks to share if you care to. Gloves and hand tools are available but you may prefer your own. Everyone in your car gets into ENP free after the workday. **Questions?** Contact Patty Phares (pharespl@gmail.com, 305-255-6404), or 305-878-5705 (cell) the morning of the workday.

Native Plant Day 2016 – March 19 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.

If you have ideas for presenters, non-profits, or vendors for food or merchandise who may want to participate, or suggestions to make this our best event ever, contact Amy Leonard (aleonar74@yahoo.com, 305-458-0969).

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

Thank you and adieu to Greg Ballinger and Diane Otis. Greg created our website and served as Webmaster for many years. Diane served on the board and was a frequent volunteer, also for many years. We wish them the best in their new home!

WHAT OUR FRIENDS ARE DOING

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

- **Nov. 11, 2015, 7 p.m.: Chapter meeting.** "The Dances between Insects and Native Plants" – Dr. Bill Kern.

- **Nov. 14, 2015, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.: Go Native Plant Sale.** Quiet Waters Park, 401 S Powerline Rd, Deerfield Beach

- **Dec. 9, 2015, 7 p.m.: Chapter meeting.** "Secrets of the Secret Woods" - Molly Taylor.

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), need not pertain to the topic.

- **Nov. 17, 2015: Florida endemic plants native to Dade County.** Florida endemic species are exclusive to the state and found nowhere else in the world.

- **Dec. 15, 2015: Festive Plants** -- native plants which you might use during the holidays. It is also our **annual holiday party**, so please bring in a beverage or a dish.

Friends of the Gifford Arboretum, University of Miami.

- **Nov. 4, 2015, 7 p.m. "Sea Level Rise and Changes in Coastal Vegetation in Southern Florida"** - Dr. Don DeAngelis, UM. Cox Science Center, **Room 213**, near the arboretum. <http://www.bio.miami.edu/arboretum> > visits or 305-284-1302. Park free, Purple Lot, south end of arboretum.

- **Dec. 5, 2015- Annual Gifford Arboretum Picnic.** **10 a.m.** - Tour featuring the new catalog and signage with QR codes. **11:30 a.m.** – Lunch (feel free to bring a dish). **After lunch** – Tour of the palmetum with palm experts Dr. Scott Zona and Mr. Lenny Goldstein.

Art Exhibits at Florida International University.

<https://thefrost.fiu.edu/exhibitions/index.html>

- "Weird, Wild, and Wonderful" - The Second New York Botanical Garden Triennial Exhibition Curated by the American Society of Botanical Artists, through January 2016.

- "There Are No Other Everglades in the World" – Jim Couper

Tropical Audubon Society. 5530 Sunset Drive, Miami, FL 33143. <http://www.tropicalaudubon.org/> or 305-667-7337.

Native Plant Sale, Nov. 7-8, 2015. Also (Saturday only): Rain Barrel Workshop and "Brunch with Babe".

Environmentally Endangered Lands Program Volunteer Workday.

Pre-register at EEL@Miamiidade.gov, 305-372-6611. See <http://www.miamidade.gov/environment/endangered-lands.asp>

Nov. 7, 2015: Tree Island Park, SW 147 Ave. & 10 St. (bird walk & clean-up)

The following article on the *Florida butterfly orchid* is reprinted with permission from the Newsletter from *The Institute for Regional Conservation*, September, 2015.

Visit <http://www.regionalconservation.org/> to learn about the IRC's work, use their online resources, or join the newsletter email list.

IRC IN THE FIELD by Craig van der Heiden, CEO

Recently while working in Key Largo we happened to come across large areas of coastal berm, while on a search and destroy mission to exterminate exotic plant species. The coastal berm consists of storm debris with sand and shell substrate and the canopy was dominated by buttonwood and mangroves. The buttonwood and some mangroves were festooned with masses of Florida butterfly orchid, *Encyclia tampensis*.



The definition of the orchid genus name comes from the Greek verb Encyclia meaning "encircle", with reference to the lateral lobes of the labellum surrounding the column. In this species, the labellum looks like the wings of a butterfly hence the common name butterfly orchid. The species name



"tampensis" means of Tampa, refers to the location (Tampa Bay) where it was found and collected for the first time in 1847.

This particular orchid is wide spread growing in the wild from Orlando through Tampa and south to the Florida Keys and can also be found as native to the Bahamas. The species occurs in a wide variety of habitats growing as an epiphyte on the trunks and branches of trees and shrubs in the humid forests and swampy areas as well as in the dry forests up to about 100 m of altitude. The orchid does not tolerate long term flooding by brackish or salt water but does grow near salt water in areas where it is protected from direct salt spray as in the area where we found them growing in the coastal berm. They have a wide tolerance for light and can grow in areas with full sun or canopy shade.



The Florida butterfly orchids we found were in full bloom and a spectacular sight.

ANNUAL NATURE LOVERS' HOLIDAY PARTY

January 2, 2016 – 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Home of Don & Joyce Gann in Redland

☀ Update your calendar now, put a sticky note on the wall
... there may be no last-minute reminder. ☀

Come one, come all:

**FNPS members, parks personnel, friends from Audubon,
and all the tree-huggers you can round up!**

This party begun by Mary Ann Hollingsworth Ogden Bolla, has been held for more than forty years, with husband, Mark, assisting after they married, and continues in her memory, supported by her daughter Lauren Ogden, with Don and Joyce's daughters Marilyn Baggett and Debbie West assisting.

Come as early as 5 p.m. to walk on a path through two acres of hardwood hammock transformed from what was agricultural land before Hurricane Andrew. Or come whenever ... stay until you're weary.

You'll be welcomed at one of Miami architect Alfred Browning Parker's 1960s houses, built in a hardwood hammock with only one major tree removed, designed to blend into the natural area, and to be cool without air conditioning.

The Ganns will provide their traditional homemade turkey soup and beverages, and you'll cover the table with your scrumptious dishes.

Wear your walking shoes and bring a flashlight. You may drive in through the south gate to drop off food and passengers, then park on the street.

Please RSVP and get directions

Phone/text: 786-423-1881 (Joyce); 786-423-0883 (Don)

**Email: joycedongann@vzw.blackberry.net (Joyce)
donjoycegann@outlook.com (Don)**

FIELD TRIP REPORTS IN PICTURES

**Hole-In-The-Donut, Everglades National Park,
September 27, 2015**



Solidago stricta
Wand goldenrod



Sabatia stellaris
Rose-of-Plymouth

Photos by Richard Brownscombe, Broward chapter FNPS

**Larry and Penny Thompson Park Pineland
October 17, 2015**

Four months after widespread arson fires, the pineland was open and beautiful in the parts that burned. Flowers and butterflies were plentiful. (You can still go see for yourself!)



Liatris gracilis - Slender Blazingstar or Slender Gayfeather
Purple and white color forms were found side-by-side



Ipomoea microdactyla (Man-in-the-ground)
Numerous bright red plants were in raging bloom.

Photos by Chuck McCartney

(Any lack of resolution is the fault of the editor,
not the photographer!)

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
Mailing address: Dade Chapter FNPS, 6619 South Dixie Hwy, #181,
 Miami FL 33143-7919
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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**Please contribute announcements, news
and articles to Tillandsia!
Or send your feedback and suggestions.
Contact the editor.
Or send letters to the chapter mail box.**



Ceraunus blue butterfly in flight.
A ghost?

Photo by Hank Poor, Miami Blue NABA