



Dade Chapter

TILLANDSIA

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

MARCH 2018

MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, March 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 pm., merchandise sales before and after the program. The plant raffle follows the program. Contributions of **raffle items** and **refreshments** are always greatly appreciated. **Please label your raffle plant donations!**

Medicinal Plants and Folk Healing Traditions of South Florida

Julia Onnie-Hay, Herbalist, Bless Botanicals

In South Florida, there are plants growing all around us that - according to evidence-based science - lower blood sugar, are antimalarial, boost the immune system, kill cancer cells and support liver health. Many of these medicinal plants have strong traditions of use by folks from Latin America and the Caribbean, who recognize them from their tropical bioregions. You will be introduced to seven medicinal plants growing abundantly in South Florida through photos, stories and olfactory exploration. Come ready to explore the connection between traditional healing modalities and environmental stewardship activation.

Julia Onnie-Hay is an herbalist focused on celebrating folk healing traditions of the tropics. She began her plant studies as a child in the Turks & Caicos Islands and continued her studies in Ghana, Jamaica, the Peruvian Amazon and Hawai'i before settling down in South Florida. She earned a Family Herbalist certification from the Florida School of Holistic Living and is also a certified flower essence practitioner, permaculture designer and yoga teacher.

Since starting her herbal practice, Bless Botanicals, in 2012, Julia has become a regular teacher at the Florida Herbal Conference. In 2017, Julia graduated 30 students from her Magic City Herbalist certification course. Considering her herbal practice community service and environmental activism, Julia works professionally for nonprofit organizations including Girl Scouts and the Alliance for a Healthier Generation. She earned a B.A. in cultural anthropology from New College and a certificate in nonprofit management from Duke University.

Calendar

March 2018

17 (Sat.): Field trip - Miramar Pineland (South Broward)
23 (Fri.): Setup for Native Plant Day ♦
24 (Sat.): NATIVE PLANT DAY - A.D. Barnes Park ♦
27 (Tue.): Chapter meeting at Pinecrest Gardens
31 (Sat.): Field trip - Navy Wells Pineland (South Dade)

April 2018

7 (Sat.): Miami River Day (chapter table) ♦
22 (Sun.): Earthday at Pinecrest Gardens (chapter table) ♦
24 (Tue.): Chapter meeting at Pinecrest Gardens

May 17-20, 2018 - FNPS Annual Conference in Miami ♦

♦ Please volunteer!

FIELD TRIPS

If the weather is very bad, call to confirm. Field trips are for the study of plants and enjoyment of nature by FNPS members and guests. Collecting is not permitted; children are welcome.

• Saturday, March 17, 2018. Miramar Pineland.

(Trip organized by the Broward Chapter) Wildflower walk with Chuck McCartney through a 157-acre natural area which includes Slash Pine forest, grassy meadow, and wetland with interesting plants along the shoreline. \$1.50/person entrance. coontie.fnpschapters.org/index.php?id=calendar.

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

• Saturday, March 31, 2018. Navy Wells Pineland Preserve.

This 239-acre pine rockland was originally used as the wellfield for the Navy base in Key West and is still used as the drinking water supply wellfield for the Florida Keys. We will walk through a recently prescribe-burned area. We expect to see a nice diversity of wildflowers and other plants that spring up after a burn, or just spring up in the spring! This Miami-Dade EEL preserve is critical habitat for the endangered Bartram's hairstreak butterfly. We hope to have some attendees at Native Plant Day join us.

Leader: Gwen Burzycki, (Miami-Dade Co. EEL program & FNPS member).

Bring: water and sun protection; wear long pants and sleeves, sturdy closed shoes. Walking will be short distances on an off-trail, sometimes on rocky or uneven ground.

Lost? Call Patty (305-878-5705)

NATIVE PLANT DAY

Saturday, March 24

See page 2



MAKE NATIVE PLANT DAY THE BEST EVER

As a chapter member, please help us make the day a big success! **First**, please spread information about the event to family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, club-mates. **Also:**

- **Donate raffle items and plants for the chapter sale.** We sell plants (in addition to our usual merchandise) to raise funds for the chapter. We also hold a raffle of some of the best and most rare plant specimens you'll find, and also gardening or nature-related items, gift certificates, etc. Please groom your plants now.

Contact Amy if you need to drop them off in advance or so we can be prepared for your donations.

- **Distribute stacks of postcards.** Pick some up (contact Amy) for your grocery store, doctor's office, library, local business or other well-trafficked area (with permission, of course).

- **Forward announcements by email and social media** to your friends, clubs.

- **Help set up on Friday, March 23.** Setting up the raffle and other stations, as well as moving tables and hanging signs are some of the easy yet essential things you can do Friday afternoon. Contact Amy.

- **Display plants or items.** Share the best of your natives and show the public why they should use more in their yards. Contact Patty.

- **Help at Native Plant Day.** On March 24 we will need about 40 volunteers to make the event happen. If you can give us part of your morning or afternoon, you'll still have plenty of time to enjoy the event. **Please contact Gita if you, your family members, or young people you know might be able to give us some of their time.**

Contact information:

Amy Leonard: [305-458-0969](tel:305-458-0969), aleonar74@yahoo.com

Patty Phares: [305-255-6404](tel:305-255-6404), pharespl@gmail.com

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

Thank you for your help in making this year's Native Plant Day exceptional!

Native Plant Day

Saturday, March 24, 2018 - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

A.D. Barnes Park Natural Area
3401 SW 72 Avenue, Miami
(Bird Road & SW 72 Ave.)

Co-sponsored by:

The Dade Chapter FNPS & Miami Dade County Parks

Enjoy a free day of learning and fun for all ages.

Rain or shine!

- Programs and nature walks
- Book, merchandise and plant sales by the Dade Chapter
 - Plant sales by nursery vendors (cash/check)
 - Hands-on take-home projects
 - Plant Clinic
- Exhibits by environmental organizations
- Raffles
 - Explore the park's natural areas
 - Special: kids-only plant sale!
- Food and drinks available for purchase

Learn about native plants, natural areas, landscaping, water conservation, butterflies, seeds, wildflowers, woodturning and lots more.

Rain Barrel Workshop by Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (\$40, **pre-register** at <http://tinyurl.com/NPD2018RainBarrel>)

Contact the Dade Chapter if you need additional information.

The schedule will be posted dade.fnpschapters.org when final.

DADE CHAPTER and FNPS NEWS

Volunteer for April events. *Please volunteer to help at the chapter table a couple hours.* No special skills are needed, just a friendly attitude. **You'll have fun.**

- **Saturday, April 7, 2018: 22nd Annual Miami River Day** presented by the Miami River Commission at Lummus Park, 250 NW North River Drive, 1 PM – 6 PM. This free festival celebrates the history and culture of Miami's working river. There will be other organizations, environmental education, food, activities and entertainment to enjoy. Contact Amy (aleonar74@yahoo.com, 305-458-0969)

- **Sunday, April 22: Earth Day at Pinecrest Gardens.** More details next month. **Save the date** or contact Gita (786-877-7168, gita.ramsay@gmail.com).

Welcome new members! Rudolf Pecjak, True Tree Service

Support FNPS Conservation Grants and honor DCFNPS founders and constant supporters, Joyce and Don Gann.

The grants support applied native-plant conservation projects in Florida and are up to \$5,000. The projects promote the preservation, conservation, or restoration of rare or imperiled native plant taxa and rare or imperiled native plant communities.

We have sponsored awards since 2013 with your help.

Awards are announced at the Annual Conference in May.

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).

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 has been adding up!*

NOTICE OF ANNUAL CHAPTER MEETING and ELECTION

May 22, 2018, 7:30 p.m. at Pinecrest Gardens

Call for Nominations: Chapter board member nominations are being accepted through April 30. Elections for the Dade Chapter Board positions of president, vice-president, and up to three directors at large (all for two-year terms) will be held at the May 22 chapter meeting. A slate will be presented by the nominating committee at the meeting.

Please contact Amy Leonard (aleonar74@yahoo.com, 305-458-0969) if you are interested in serving on the board or have someone to suggest.

The main qualifications are enthusiasm and a desire to see the chapter thrive.

You don't have to be a botanist - a variety of skills are always needed on the board!

FNPS ANNUAL CONFERENCE



May 17-20, 2018 in Miami
at the Miccosukee Resort
www.fnps.org/conference/2018

Registration is open!

See the *great* offerings for **field trips** (Thursday and Sunday) and **workshops** (Thursday). Get your pick while space remains!

There will also be **dinner socials** Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights at the resort to mingle with your fellow native tree-huggers (purchase the dinner with registration or on site).

A **schedule of speakers** (Friday and Saturday) will be added, but many are already listed under the Speakers section.

Please contact conference.fnps@gmail.com about the following. *Everything you do will help our chapter attract new members and support FNPS and its mission.*

- **Before you register, ask about volunteer opportunities.** Receive some/all **free registration** when you help some during or before the event.
- **Be or suggest a sponsor.** There are packages for \$50 to \$5000. (By April 13 to be included in the printed conference program; otherwise logos will be on the FNPS website)
- **Be or suggest vendors/exhibitors.**
- Round up or suggest **silent auction items.** Gift certificates for businesses or services, gift baskets, special books, art/crafts, outdoor/garden/nature items. **They don't have to be native plant related.** *Be creative!*

WHAT OUR FRIENDS ARE DOING

(How you can help and enjoy native plants and natural areas.)

Dade Native Plant Workshop: *Note time: 5 p.m.* MDC Kendall Campus Landscape Technology Center, third Tuesdays. www.nativeplantworkshop.com or contact Steve Woodmansee at steve@pronative.com. Bring at least three cuttings, which need not pertain to the topic. **All levels welcome.** **Mar. 20 topic: Vines & Lianas.** There are 164 species of vines reported for Miami-Dade County

FIU Biology Department's informal and entertaining lunchtime seminars, alternate Wednesdays, noon-1 p.m., WC 130. Schedule: faculty.fiu.edu/~kopturs/planttalk17.html. For reminders, contact Dr. Suzanne Koptur (kopturs@fiu.edu). **Mar. 28: Nico Sebesta – "Ferns, fire, nectaries"**

Environmentally Endangered Lands Program Volunteer Workdays. Help to protect and restore Miami-Dade's natural areas. www.miamidade.gov/environment/endangered-lands-volunteer.asp or 305-372-6611 for info and to register. **Apr. 7: County Line Scrub Preserve, NE 215 St. east of San Simeon Way (invasive plant removal)**

National Park Week – April 21 (the first day) is a **free entrance day** at Everglades National Park.

Broward Chapter FNPS. coontie.fnpschapters.org/. Meets at Secret Woods, 2701 W. SR 84, Dania Beach. **March 14, 2018, 7 p.m.: Meeting. "Wildflowers in Broward" - Chuck McCartney.** (See the March 17 field trip announcement in this newsletter.)

30th Annual John C. Gifford Arboretum Lecture Thursday, April 5, 2018 - 7 p.m.

University of Miami, Cox Science Center, room 145

Drs. Douglas E. Soltis and Pamela S. Soltis
Distinguished Professors, University of Florida
"Building and Exploring the Tree of Life - Mobilizing and Integrating Big Data in Analyses of Biodiversity"

See www.bio.miami.edu/arboretum/ or 305-284-1302 for more information and directions. **Free.**

Are you inadvertently providing habitat for mosquitoes?

See this article in *Entomology Today* (tip provided by Sandy Koi)
entomologytoday.org/2018/02/23/flower-pots-in-southwestern-u-s-a-common-breeding-site-for-aedes-aegypti-mosquitoes/

Members in the Field

What are our members doing for native plants on the job or as volunteers? Please let the editor know.

[The following article first appeared in the March 2003 Tillandsia.]

WILD DILLY

Manilkara jaimiqui subsp. *emarginata*

by Roger Hammer

One of my favorite native trees of southern Florida is Wild Dilly. Wild trees always exude grand character, with their gnarled trunk, compact canopy, and dull-green oblong leaves. There are usually fruit present and these resemble round, scurfy, brown ornaments tucked among the leaves. When a tree is in flower, the clusters of greenish brown blossoms exude an odd, sweet odor that attracts honeybees.



It is rather unfortunate that Wild Dilly isn't cultivated. [Editor's note: it is available at some nurseries now.] Nurserymen claim that it grows too slowly but slow growth can be an attribute in some cases and, as the old saying goes, "good things are worth waiting for."

Wild Dilly is a native relative of the more widely known Sapodilla (*Manilkara zapota*). Like the Sapodilla, the fruit of Wild Dilly are edible when fully ripe and somewhat resemble the flavor of a pear mixed with brown sugar. The white latex extracted from the bark of trees in this genus is harvested for the production of chicle, a principal ingredient in chewing gum. Pick an unripe fruit of either Sapodilla or Wild Dilly, let the milky latex form a small puddle in the palm of your hand, stir it with a finger and, *voila*, you have chicle. Now try to figure out

how to get the gooey stuff off your palm!

The genus name, *Manilkara*, is taken from *manyl-kara*, a vernacular name from the Malabar region of southern India for another member of the genus. The species name is from *jai-mi-ki*, the Taino Indian word for the tree, meaning "Water Crab Spirit," and the subspecies name, *emarginata*, refers to the notched leaf tip (emarginate).

Getting back to the Taino Indians, it is interesting that many books refer to them as an extinct, aboriginal people from the Greater Antilles. While working on the manuscript for an upcoming book, *Florida Keys Wildflowers*, I was having difficulty with the name derivation for *jaimiqui*, and a friend, Dick Wunderlin, suggested that it might possibly be of Indian origin. While surfing the net, I ran across a website for the Taino Indian Tribal Affairs, which started with the headline, "We Are Not Extinct!" I emailed Principal Chief Cacique Pedro Guanikeyu Torres of the Jatibonicu Taino People in Puerto Rico and it was he who enlightened me about the origin of the word *jaimiqui*. And he even began his reply in the Taino language by wishing me, Tau Ah Taigüey Guaitiao, "Hello and Good Day Friend."

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: Lydia Cuni, Janeen Feiger, Hernan Martinez, Ted Shafer, Jennifer Stine, Vivian Waddell

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/>
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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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Did you receive your *Sabal Minor* newsletter by email from FNPS the first week of March?

(March – April 2018 | Volume 20, Number 2)

The *Sabal Minor* is sent only by email to every member who has an email address on their membership record. If you did not receive the email, please contact FNPS at info@fnps.org to verify your email address.

You can also find the *Sabal Minor* in a pdf file at <http://fnps.org/resources/sabalminor>