



Dade Chapter

TILLANDSIA

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

APRIL 2018

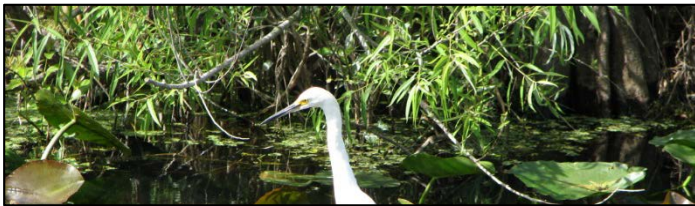
MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, April 24, 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!**

**“Birds, Plants and the Everglades:
A Dynamic Love Story”
- Raul Urgelles**

This talk is about the relationship between bird and plant communities in the Everglades, particularly those of Everglades National Park. Raul is a biologist at Everglades National Park and also well-known to South Florida birders.



Dade Chapter Calendar

April 2018

- 21 (Sat.): Chapter workday – Everglades National Park ♦
- 21 (Sat.): Field trip - Hugh Taylor Birch State Park
- 22 (Sun.): Earth Day at Pinecrest Gardens (chapter table) ♦
- 24 (Tue.): Chapter meeting at Pinecrest Gardens

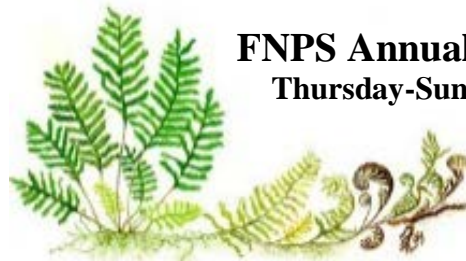
May 2018

- 12 (Sat.): Tour Trinity Pineland with EEL – FNPS is invited
- 22 (Tue.): Chapter meeting at Pinecrest Gardens
- Annual Chapter Meeting and election of board

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

♦ Please volunteer!

FNPS Annual Conference
Thursday-Sunday, May 17-20
in Miami



See p. 2-3

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.

Now would be a great time for new people to become more involved in shaping the chapter!

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!**

FIELD TRIPS

• **Saturday, April 21 2018. Dining Out with Scott: In Search of Edible Plants.** (Broward & Dade trip organized by the Broward Chapter.) This trip will be led by Scott Bryan, the Broward April 11 speaker. Not all edibles are delicious, and you might learn which are enjoyable to dine on or are merely survival food. Bring a lunch, if you like – you will probably still be hungry.

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

• **May:** Register for the FNPS Annual Conference and **attend one or two of the 23 excellent field trips and six workshops planned on May 17 or 20.** See www.fnps.org/conference/2018 You may register for a Thursday or Sunday trip with each program day registration (Friday or Saturday).

• **May 12:** The EEL program invites you to visit **Trinity Pineland** (See p. 2)

Visit Trinity Pineland with the EEL Program Saturday, May 12, 2018.

Joy Klein, the Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) site manager, will lead neighbors on a tour and invites FNPS members to come along. This 10-acre pine rockland contains sandy pockets (somewhat unusual in Miami-Dade) and a dense stand of Dade County pines which survived Hurricane Andrew in 1992. The site was purchased by the state with Conservation and Recreation Land (CARL) funding in 1991 and is managed by the Miami-Dade County EEL program. Restoration and a January burn have allowed wildflowers to flourish. You can walk easily through open areas and avoid rocky areas as you wish. Bring water and sun protection. Closed shoes and long pants recommended (in case of poison ivy or poisonwood).

DADE CHAPTER and FNPS NEWS

Chapter Workday, Everglades National Park, Ernest F. Coe Visitor Center, Saturday, April 21, 2018, 9 a.m. - noon

Continue spring maintenance of our landscape. Cold water is provided; bring snacks to share if you wish. Gloves and hand tools are available, but you may prefer your own. **New helpers and friends are encouraged to come.** Contact Patty (305-878-5705, pharespl@gmail.com) if you have questions about the workday.

Afterward, visit the Everglades – it's FREE to everyone on April 21, the start of National Park Week.



Annual Earth Day Festival at Pinecrest Gardens.

Sunday, April 22, 2018, noon- 4 p.m. FREE.

Please volunteer to help at the Dade Chapter table a couple hours. No special skills are needed, just a friendly attitude. You'll have fun – really! Talk with visitors about native plants and FNPS, invite them to join. Please contact Susan Walcutt (walcutts@bellsouth.net, 305-297-7757). "Green" vendors, workshops, food demos, environmental activities, wildlife shows, kids' activities & more. Farmers Market all day. Parking at Christ the King Church, Palmetto Senior High and Pinecrest Elementary, free shuttle service. pinecrestgardens.org/entertainment/events-festivals/earth-day

Welcome new members! Richard Acosta, Frankie Berti, Andrea Clement, Nicholas Hernandez (student), Roberta Lovett

Members in the Field

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

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!*

Florida Native Plant Society 38th Annual Conference: "Renewal"

May 17-20, 2018 (Thurs.-Sun.)

at the Miccosukee Resort
(500 S.W. 177 Ave, Miami)

www.fnps.org/conference/2018

Everyone is invited to register!

- An abundance of timely presentations (Friday & Saturday).
- Two days of amazing field trips (Thursday & Sunday) – some are already filled so register soon!
- Thursday workshops on edibles, rare plants, conservation & more! Also Fertilization (CEU credits available)
- Saturday workshop: "Step-by-Step to a Florida Native Yard" (See below)
- Learn about: ♦ Cutting-edge science ♦ Current issues
 - ♦ Conservation ♦ Restoration ♦ Citizen Science
 - ♦ Climate-wise landscaping
- A special research track for High School students to present their research. See www.fairchildgarden.org/biotech
- Advocacy opportunities • Native plant & other vendors
- Info tables • Silent Auction • Socials

See the website for
Schedule, Speakers, Workshops & Field trips

Register for one or both program days.
Each program day attendance allows registration for one Thursday field trip/workshop or Sunday trip.

On a budget or just want to help FNPS?

Contact conference.fnps@gmail.com
for volunteer opportunities and free registration!

Also featuring:

Special Landscape Workshop:
"Step-by-Step to a Florida Native Yard"
Transform your yard into
an authentic Florida landscape
Saturday, May 19, 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

The workshop is free to Saturday conference attendees.
Or you can attend this workshop only for \$50.
Please share the word with friends and neighbors.

See www.fnps.org/conference/2018 > Workshops

Participants will learn:

- Why native plants are important
- How to analyze a landscape to make better decisions on selecting and arranging plants and other landscape features
- How to sequester more rainwater for more resilient landscapes and to protect nearby waterways
- Why and how to break out of the poison cycle, especially used in lawns
- The pros and cons of transforming to a native landscape in stages vs. all at once
- Ways to work with neighbors and HOAs so a yard filled with natives is considered progress in supporting birds and pollinators.
- There will also be a 1/2 hour tour of the native plant sale!

The \$50 fee includes a complimentary FNPS membership (or extension of current membership), and a free native plant.

Afterward, you are invited to attend
the final presentation of the day:
Craig Heugel speaking on "Sex in The Garden"

Support FNPS and the Conference with Your “Treasures”, Ideas and Networking

Donate silent auction items.

The silent auction at the FNPS Conference raises funds to support the FNPS conservation and education efforts. Your donated items don't even need to be native plant related!

Ideas: New or used. Anything handmade; non-perishable jams, honey, etc.; garden items (decorative or useful); native plants; outdoor equipment; books (natural history, garden, environment, etc.); artwork or crafts; jewelry (especially nature-themed); notecards; anything bird or butterfly-oriented; children's nature activity items...

You can let the coordinator assemble baskets of various small donations if you prefer (she has plenty of baskets).

Please do not use plastic wrap for any items, especially gift baskets (it just winds up in the landfill).

Please let Jenny Welch (fnaturegirl@outlook.com) know what you are donating or if you have questions.

If you can't deliver your items at the beginning of the conference, contact Patty Phares (pharespl@gmail.com, 305-255-6404) to arrange getting them there.

Suggest or be a sponsor, vendor or exhibitor.

See fnps.org/conference/sponsors or contact conference.fnps@gmail.com. Even you can be a sponsor!

Share the word!

Tell others about the conference and landscape workshop -- your friends, Nextdoor network, organizations, and colleagues. Contact patty (pharespl@gmail.com) for a flier you can email.

Everything you do will help make the conference a success, help our chapter gain new members, and support FNPS and its mission.

NATIVE PLANT DAY a BIG Success!

Thank you to all our volunteers and attendees for a fantastic day! On March 24 we held Native Plant Day at A.D. Barnes Park Natural Area in central Miami-Dade County and greeted over 600 visitors - the most in recent history. Several new members joined.

The chapter raffle and plant sale were among the best ever. A special thank you to those who donated plants, especially Joy McClafferty and Raul Moas. As always, our vendors had a beautiful selection of native plants that went to many new homes (sadly, we missed Leslie Veber who was under the weather).

Thank you to speakers, walk leaders and representatives of other organizations. Attendees learned about why we continue to grow and conserve Florida's native plants in a wide variety of programs and walks which were enthusiastically attended. Numerous organizations brought great displays and lots of information to share.

It takes at least fifty chapter volunteers to make Native Plant Day happen each year. Special thanks to Ted Shaffer for arranging programs and walks; to Vivian Waddell for coordinating the other organizations who participated and for getting the word out to the media; to Gita Ramsay for scheduling volunteers and greeting our guests at the welcome tent; to the Wheeler family for juggling the chapter merchandise sales; to Carl Barta and Raul Moas for their help with the chapter plant sales; to Patty Phares for another gorgeous and interesting display at our chapter tent; to our super volunteers, without whom we couldn't have had such a successful day; to every single raffle donor; and to the many, many more of you who helped in big ways and small.

Plans are already underway for Native Plant Day on **March 23, 2019, at Bill Sadowski Park** in South Miami-Dade. If you are able to get involved or have suggestions for next year, please let us know at dadefnps@gmail.com or call **Amy Leonard, Native Plant Day Coordinator**, at 305-458-0969. See you there next March!
Amy Leonard

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 are welcome.**
Apr. 17 topic: Rubiaceae (coffee, madder, or bedstraw family)

Miami Blue Chapter, North American Butterfly Association (www.miamiblue.org; 305-979-9623).

May 6, 2018, 1-3 p.m.: Quarterly meeting at Castellow Hammock Park, 22301 SW 162 Ave., Miami, 33170.

“Conservation, Faunal Changes, and the Exchange of Butterflies between Cuba and Florida” - Gainesville zoologist Marc Minno who specializes in the study of South Florida and Florida Keys butterflies (and native plants!). Also, Cuban naturalist **Douglas Fernandez** speaks on **“Butterflies of Cuba”**. See the website for more info and a Key Largo walk on May 5.

FIU Biology Department's informal and entertaining lunchtime seminars, noon-1 p.m., WC 130. Schedule. **For reminders**, contact Dr. Suzanne Koptur (kopturs@fiu.edu).
Apr. 25: see faculty.fiu.edu/~kopturs/planttalk17.html

Gifford Arboretum, University of Miami. www.bio.miami.edu/arboretum > visits or 305-284-1302.

May 2, 2018, 7 pm: Meeting, Cox Science Center, room 166. Dr. Brett Jestrow, Herbarium Curator at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden - “Recovering from Irma and Planting New Species at Fairchild.”

Baynanza – Miami-Dade's Biscayne Bay Cleanup Day. **April 21, 2017**, 9 a.m. – noon at various sites. In its 36th year! www.miamidade.gov/environment/baynanza.asp, 305-372-

Environmentally Endangered lands volunteer workdays.

See <http://www.miamidade.gov/environment/endangered-lands-volunteer.asp> or 305-372-6611.

May 5: Camp Matecumbe Pine Islands Preserve 13841 SW 120 St. (Native plant restoration and invasive plant removal)

The Institute for Regional Conservation Restoration

Volunteer Days. For information and to RSVP see

<http://www.regionalconservation.org/ircs/news.html>

• **Lummus Park (Miami Beach), Friday, April 20, 2018, 9 a.m. - noon**

IRC and the City of Miami Beach are restoring portions of Lummus Park, a beach-front park in South Beach. Kick off Earth Day Weekend by planting dune species and picking up trash. A second event will be held in late May.

• **George N. Avery Pineland (South Miami-Dade), Saturday, April 28, 2018, 9 a.m. - noon**

Remove invasive ferns and complete other restoration work at this pineland owned by IRC.

THE IRC'S PINE ROCKLAND INITIATIVE

by Maha Nusrat

IRC Pine Rockland Initiative Coordinator

In the past decade, Miami-Dade County residents have observed rapid declines in our pine rocklands due to lack of management and over-development. Less than 2% of Miami-Dade County's historical pine rocklands outside Everglades National Park are left. Fire-suppressed and scraped areas of pine rocklands are two types of disturbed pine rocklands. Many privately-owned pine rocklands are owned by homeowners who are eager to restore their pine rockland fragments but are challenged by the cost and physical demands. *These pine rocklands are far from doomed and can be saved with a bit of tender loving care.*

In order to prevent further degradation, The Institute for Regional Conservation (IRC) continues management activities such as baseline vegetation monitoring, invasive exotic plant removal, native hardwood removal, prescribed fire, and long-term monitoring. IRC field biologists promote and plant pine rockland species through the IRC's **Pine Rockland Initiative** to provide connectivity for associated species which depend on the natural processes that this imperiled ecosystem provides.

Some projects that the restoration team has completed this year include the IRC-owned George Avery and John Kunkel Small pinelands, and privately-owned pinelands, including Richard and Shirley Medlock pineland, where they pulled large areas of Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council (FLEPPC) Category I species and opened up areas choked with Burma reed (*Neyraudia reynaudiana*) to increase plant diversity in the understory. The **Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) program** has been working closely to help remove excess debris off the site as well.

The IRC is enlisting the community's support for a restoration day at its George Avery Pineland on April 28th, 2018. The IRC continues to demonstrate that private

stewardship and conservation partnerships may help save our truly precious pine rockland fragments within our backyards.

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/>
DCFNPS e-mail: dadefnps@gmail.com
Mail: Dade Chapter FNPS, 6619 S. Dixie Hwy, #181, Miami FL 33143-7919

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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APRIL IN SOUTH FLORIDA

Excerpts from the April 1997 *Tillandsia*

“April in the Nurseries” by Joyce Gann. [*Joyce and Don Gann owned Gann's Native Tropical Greenery Nursery, one of our area's first native nurseries. They are now retired.*]

Spicewood, *Calyptanthes pallens*. This species blooms in spring and summer with fragrant, white, insignificant flowers. It's great planted in barriers (visual and sound) and is good for birds, which use them for food and shelter. They are moderately salt tolerant, slow-growing evergreen plants of the rockland hammock habitat. Natural height ranges from 10 to 18', but it can be used as a tree or a shrub and can be sheared. It grows in medium or high light conditions, has medium nutritional needs and likes to be mulched.

“April in South Florida” - by Roger Hammer

• If you can stand the bugs, this month begins the flowering season for **black mangrove, *Avicennia germinans***. Black mangrove flowers are very fragrant and attract swarms of nectar-seeking honeybees. Check out “Robert Is Here” fruit stand on your way to Everglades National Park for jars of dark, black mangrove honey.

• **Seven-year apple, *Casasia clusifolia***, produces white, tubular, fragrant flowers in April, just in time to offer a nectar feast for hummingbirds before their journey northward. Flowers on female trees are solitary in the leaf axils while male flowers are borne in several-flowered clusters.

• **Buttonbush, *Cephalanthus occidentalis***, is one of the temperate shrubs in our flora that can be seen flowering in spring. The white, fragrant flowers are borne in rounded clusters resembling the Russian “Sputnik” satellite. An easy place to observe these attractive shrubs is along the Anhinga Trail boardwalk in Everglades National Park.

• **Bird migration** should be in full swing in April, and this is a good time to watch for a multitude of warblers feeding on

insects along the margins of hardwood hammocks. The leafy canopy of wild tamarind, *Lysiloma latisiliquum*, is a favorite foraging area for warblers, flycatchers and vireos.