



Dade Chapter

TILLANDSIA

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

July - August 2018

Annual Evening Garden Visit & Social Saturday, July 14, 2018.

Rain or shine! (We will have shelter from rain)
FNPS members and their guests are welcome.
(Please leave Fido at home.)

Location: Home of DCFNPS member

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

Time:

4:30 – 6:00 p.m. Come early to tour the garden and stroll to see those of nearby DCFNPS members.

(Note the start time is 4:30 not 4:00 as announced last month.)

6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Enjoy a potluck dinner, raffle and visiting with fellow native-plant lovers.

What to bring:

- ♣ Potluck dish to share (main, side, dessert, appetizer) *
- ♣ Raffle donations (**Please label plants with the name!**)
- ♣ Mosquito repellent (just in case)
- ♣ Lawn chair if convenient

*** Drinks are provided by FNPS. A small microwave (9.5" turntable) is available to reheat a dish, but please bring your dish pre-cooked. The refrigerator will take a few dishes while we tour, but please be self-sufficient with a cooler if possible.**

The member's narrow, dead-end street is lushly shaded by large trees. Her backyard overlooks a winding canal lined with greenery. In the garden, native and exotic trees and shrubs, epiphytes, and other plants of interest are mixed in simple beds that flow around the house and yard, providing an open feeling and easy access for maintenance. Not formal or fussy, it's a casual mix of natives and tropicals, providing shade but inviting in sun for understory plants. One enviable achievement is two wild limes with straight trunks, pruned up to walk under, so giant swallow-tail butterflies are happy but people aren't snared by the spines.

Across the street is the former home of another FNPS member and landscape designer before she moved away many years ago. The towering trees show how her legacy has weathered the test of time. Other neighbors also incorporate natives into their landscapes.

Dade Chapter Calendar

July 2018

- 7 (Sat.): Chapter workday** at Everglades National Park
– *New volunteers and friends are encouraged to come*
- 14 (Sat.): Evening Garden Visit & Social** in South Miami
(no meeting at Pinecrest Gardens)

September 2018

- 25 (Tue.): Chapter meeting** at Pinecrest Gardens

*No Dade Chapter activities or newsletter in August.
See this newsletter for more activities of interest
provided by other organizations.*

CHAPTER WORKDAY

Everglades National Park

Saturday, July 7, 2018

Please join us in enhancing the entrance to ENP with restoration and maintenance of the native habitat at the **Ernest F. Coe Visitor Center**, begun in 2001. Contact *Patty (305-878-5705, pharespl@gmail.com)* with questions or if the weather is questionable. (We rarely cancel!)

We will be pruning and weeding. **Small hand tools and gloves** are provided, or bring your own. **Prepare for sun and possible mosquitoes** by wearing long sleeves and pants. **Head nets (use over a wide-brimmed hat)** and **bug spray** are available if needed, but bring your own if possible. We provide cold water; bring snacks to share if you care to. Volunteers have free ENP admission afterwards.



**VOLUNTEERS
AT WORK**



Habitat restoration by the Dade Chapter
Florida Native Plant Society

fnp.org



Thanks to Jeanne Rothchild, who has created this eye-catching sign to display each time we work!

Welcome new members! Inese and Jason Bunch, Kirsten Hines and James Kushlan, Zacharian Cosner, Elaine Mills, Maureen O'Brien, Louise Reece, Alex and Ania Rodriguez, and Love the Everglades Movement, Inc.

Sabal Minor (bi-monthly newsletter from FNPS) July-August 2018, Volume 20, Number 4 is now in your email inbox or see fnps.org/resources/sabalminor.

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 adds up!*

CORRECTION



◀ This photo by Jennifer Stine in the June 2018 *Tillandsia* was misidentified (and misspelled!) by the editor as “Ceranus Blue butterfly on wild poinsettia.”

Rather, it is *Cassius* blue.

And how do we know? Mary Rose says:

Ceraunus blue has only one eye or dot on the hindwing. Cassius blue has two. As they are small you can rarely tell with the naked eye.

Ceraunus blue flies low to the ground and is a brighter blue on the inside of its wings.



Ceraunus Blues - *Photos by Mary Rose*

CAREERS IN THE NATIVE PLANT INDUSTRY

Learn about native plants and ecology. Our future needs you.

- Native plant horticulture
- Sustainable landscaping
- Environmental Restoration

This organization can help you with connections and education.

Native Plant Horticulture Foundation

www.NativePlantHort.org

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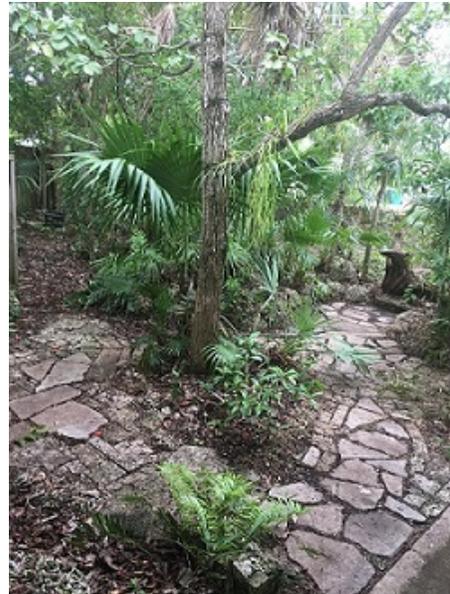
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HOME FOR SALE

In a lush tropical hammock in Cutler Bay!

The house is 3/2, ~1400 sq. ft, 75x100 lot. The yard has been transformed in 25 years from only grass to a diverse tropical hammock with a beautiful pond and mature native hammock trees and palms. Some of the most impressive are large lignum vitae, redberry



stopper, silver palm, buccaneer palm and thatch palms. Birds are plentiful. Every spring a family of painted buntings visits the pond area. The pond and yard are largely maintenance free, an almost natural system.

Asking price is \$285k but negotiable. Houses in the area are selling for \$300k. **A special discount goes to a certified FNPS**

member who intends to keep the native landscaping.

Contact Eduardo Varona at 305-299-9809 for a personal tour.

FIU class “Special topics: Food Forest”

Food forests are resilient agroforestry systems characterized by multiple canopy layers of fruit and nut trees, nitrogen-fixing woody species, shrubs, vines, herbs, and perennial and annual crops. This traditional farming method results in a self-sustaining woodland habitat that can provide food, medicinal plants, and animal fodder, as well as promote other ecosystem services. *[Edible native plants can be a part of food forests.]*

The class will review the ecological principles of food forests as sustainable agroecosystems and highlight the socioeconomic benefits of integrating forest gardening into the South Florida landscape. We will make several field trips to local food forests to survey the breadth of local systems and to engage with landowners and forest managers.

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10:00 am – 10:50 am
(Fall term beginning in August)

For more information, please contact the instructor:

Dr. Cara Rockwell (crockwel@fiu.edu)

<https://casenews.fiu.edu/index.php/2018/06/08/special-topics-food-forest-new-course/> (EVR 4394/5935)

If you are age 60+, you might attend FIU classes free!

See <https://onestop.fiu.edu/non-degree-students/senior-citizens/index.html> to learn about the **Senior Citizen Audit**.

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.**

July 17 and August 21 topics: Please check the website

Adopt-A-Tree 2018. Miami-Dade homeowners may receive two free trees per year from the county, **including some natives.** See www.miamidade.gov/environment/adopt-a-tree.asp or contact adoptatree@miamidade.gov or 311.

Check the website before the event to confirm event location, event date, and trees species available.

July 14 (Harris Field, Homestead). South Florida native trees expected to be offered include **Red Mulberry, Jamaican Capar, Bahama Strongback, and Dahoon Holly.** Follow links provided and search elsewhere to learn more about the trees offered – *do your homework in advance so you can select the right tree for the right place. Come early to get the best pick!* Another event will be **September 29** (Amelia Earhart Park).

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

August 5, 2018, 1-3 p.m.: Quarterly meeting at Castellow Hammock Park, 22301 SW 162 Ave., Miami, 33170.

"Butterflies and Beyond – a botanist's view of butterflies, moths, and their host plants in Miami-Dade County preserves" -

Jennifer Possley, Field Biologist, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden.

Come at 12:30 to butterfly in the park and enjoy refreshments.

[From *Tillandsia*, July-August 1998, with updates to plant names]

JULY AND AUGUST IN SOUTH FLORIDA

by Roger L. Hammer

• We've left Tourist Season and are now in Hurricane Season (I can't figure out which one is scariest), so this is the time to contemplate your landscape. Properly pruned trees will withstand strong winds better than most unpruned or improperly pruned trees. If you have trees that need structural pruning, do yourself and the tree a favor by hiring a trained arborist to do it for you.

• It's hot and buggy but it's still a good time to visit Everglades National Park and Big Cypress National Preserve to view the abundance of wildflowers in the open, watery prairies. In the Big Cypress look for flowering plants of **Bartram's rosegentian**, *Sabatia decandra*, with gaudy, multi-petaled, rose-pink flowers. In the Everglades, check the Taylor Slough area for flowering plants of **alligatorlily**, *Hymenocallis palmeri* (with a single



flower) and *H. tridentata* (with two or three flowers).

• One of South Florida's common orchids, the **wild coco**,

Eulophia alta, will be in flower in July and August along the main park road in Everglades National Park, making them easy to see and photograph. Plants resemble seedling palms with pleated leaves, and the flowers were

described by Dr.

Carlyle Luer as resembling a German shepherd with erect ears and panting tongue. The tall flower spikes are topped with two-toned green and reddish-purple flowers. Look for them right

along the roadside in the Long Pine Key area.



• The **ghost orchid**, *Dendrophylax lindenii*, will be in magnificent flower all throughout the month of July in the Fakahatchee Swamp in Collier County. This is my favorite Florida wildflower. A snow-white flower that resembles a leaping albino frog suspended in mid-air emerges from roots radiating outward like spokes on a wheel. This leafless orchid is one of the prized wildflowers that occurs only in southern Florida and nowhere else in the U.S. To see one in flower makes you (almost) forget about the hordes of mosquitoes, belligerent water moccasins, sweltering heat and unbearable humidity that typifies the Fakahatchee Swamp in summer.

Roger Hammer is a retired Miami-Dade County naturalist, author, photographer and native plant aficionado. He has written numerous books and wildflower identification cards for different parts of Florida. He is a long-time FNPS member and supporter and a frequent contributor to FNPS publications. Search for more of Roger's articles at fnpsblog.blogspot.com. (While you're at it, sign up to follow the FNPS blog!) His latest book, Complete Guide to Florida Wildflowers (Falcon Guides, 2018), covers over 600 wildflowers.

DADE CHAPTER FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

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TILLANDSIA

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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

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