



TILLANDSIA

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

JANUARY 2022

MONTHLY MEETING (ONLINE)

Tuesday, January 25, 2022, 7:30 p.m.

Free and open to all

• **Zoom:** Register with the link below any time *before 7 pm the night of the meeting*. You will receive a confirmation email with information to join the meeting. **Save your personal link in the confirmation email to join by Zoom.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZAscuyqjMjHdTr0llyVRWQ4ocQ7vx-x2Ie>

(This registration link is also at dade.fnpschapters.org/events/).

• **YouTube:** www.youtube.com/channel/UCmassuC5-OsAX2KsRYQ6X5A (**No registration**; view only, no chat)

Please join early to allow for addressing access issues.

Need help? Email DadeFNPS@gmail.com, text 305-985-3677

“The Nature Under Our Noses; Bound by Beauty – Connecting People with the Beauty, Importance and Diversity of Nature” – Gwen Burzycki

Bound by Beauty is an educational non-profit organization dedicated to transform how we interact with nature and with neighbors to create more beautiful, resilient and sustainable communities, using butterflies as the catalyst for change. Whether it's a nature safari to encourage children to look closely at what's already in their yards and swales, a foster garden program to shift butterfly caterpillars from yards with overpopulations to yards that want and need them, or a group chat to share observations, Bound by Beauty focuses on engaging neighbor-to-neighbor interactions and conversations about sustainable landscaping. This presentation will present an overview of some of the successful educational programs we have been using to engage neighbors, schoolchildren, and even municipalities to notice and begin supporting more pollinator-friendly and sustainable landscaping practices, including our most recent efforts to establish low/no maintenance butterfly circles in public spaces to showcase Steve Woodmansee's list of butterfly-attracting lawn weeds and their effectiveness at attracting/supporting pollinators. [See DCFNPS Feb. 22 program.]

Gwen Burzycki is a fashion-conscious member of DCFNPS who has served the chapter in several capacities, her favorite of which has been presenting programs at Native Plant Day. She is also an enthusiastic gardener with an environmental focus and recently documented over 100 species of native plants in her yard, along with many species of birds, butterflies and other native and beneficial insects that have never been counted because they won't sit still long enough to allow documentation. Her

Calendar

<https://dade.fnpschapters.org/events/>

- Jan. 25 (Tues.): Chapter meeting (online)
- Jan. 30 (Sun.): Field trip – Bill Baggs Cape Florida. St. Park
- Feb. TBA (Sat.): Chapter ENP workday – see announcement
- Feb. 22 (Tue.): Chapter meeting (in person)
- Mar. 4 (Fri.): FNPS Grants and Awards deadline
- Mar. 26-27: Native Plant Field Day
- May 19-22: FNPS 41st Annual Conference

Other events of interest

- Jan. 17: Free entrance, Everglades Nat. Park (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)
- Jan. 18: • Dade Native Plant Workshop (in-person)
• Florida Keys Native Plant Workshop (online)
- Ongoing: EEL workdays – see announcements

Announcements and articles inside this issue

- ♦ January field trip ♦ Native Plant Field Day
- ♦ Restoring a little piece of the Richmond Pine Rockland
- ♦ Remembering Wes Jurgens - and pennyroyal
- Plus more news and things to do



professional life as a wetland ecologist and botanist working in land conservation and restoration has taken a hiatus while she recovers from the stress of filing paperwork for retirement. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Bound by Beauty organization which is the subject of her presentation.

Upcoming and past programs:

- **February 22:** “Butterfly Gardening 2.0” - Steven Woodmansee. Overlooked butterfly gardening concepts; atypical host plants. *(In-person at Pinecrest Gardens outdoor Banyan Bowl. The plant raffle will be back at last! Start now to prep your extras to share.)*
- **March 22:** “Water Issues in Our Landscapes, Gardens, and Parks” - Dalton Goolsby, UF/IFAS Extension - Miami-Dade Co.



• **April 26:** Program on the Miami Blue butterfly (virtual) - Sarah Steele Cabrera, Graduate Research Assistant, Univ. of Florida.

• **Past presentations:** Watch November's interesting program on "Restoration of spoil lands in Biscayne National Park" by Dr. Amanda Bourque (plus many more before that) on the DCFNPS [YouTube channel](#) (or at DadeFNPS.org, click links to YouTube).

FIELD TRIP

Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park
Sunday, January 30, 2022

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

Park Biologist Elizabeth Golden will guide us through some of the last natural dunes left in Miami-Dade, with many plants you don't often see. There are also butterflies, bees, birds, manatees and other wildlife – **worth bringing binoculars**. Later we might visit other areas on our own.

Park admission: \$4 single-occupant vehicle, \$8 per vehicle for 2-8 people. Also Rickenbacker Cswy toll (Sunpass/toll-by-plate).

Bring/wear: **Closed shoes** (to protect from stinging plants (e.g. [Tread Softly](#), *Cnidioscolus stimulosus*), sun protection, water.

Difficulty: Moderate, walking ~ ½ mile on sand of beach/dunes.

Lunch: Some might try lunch at one of the park's open air restaurants, or bring lunch and find a place to picnic.

More info on the park and the lighthouse:

<https://www.floridastateparks.org/parks-and-trails/bill-baggs-cape-florida-state-park>

Notes: Restrooms available. Field trips are for the study of plants and enjoyment of nature - collecting is not permitted.

Children are welcome with a parent. **Pets are not allowed.**

COVID safety: As always, even in the open air, please take appropriate precautions when gathering in groups or if inside.

NATIVE PLANT FIELD DAY - March 26-27, 2022

Two days of field trips to unique habitats and gardens in Southeast Florida featuring native plants.

There may also be opportunities to learn about topics like pruning and horticulture. Most trips will be easy, up to 3 hours. All will be **free** (except for any park entrance and parking fees) and **open to the public**.



If you have suggestions for places or leaders, please contact chapter president Brian Diaz (briandiaz1210@gmail.com).

Stay tuned for trip and registration information by early March, by email and on the [chapter calendar](#). **Let your friends know!**

Photo from last year's Field Day: Dove Creek/Windley Key trip with Jim Duquesnel, March 2021 - by Mary Rankin Jackson.

DADE CHAPTER and FNPS NEWS

Welcome new members! Carlos Calatayud and Pamela Clark Ph.D., James Poling and Monique Betancourt, Warren Sharpp

We are now sending newsletters and announcements by Mailchimp. Please add DadeFNPS@gmail.com to your contacts list to help keep these emails out of your spam folder.

Give Miami Day. Many thanks to all the supporters of the Dade Chapter during the November 2021 event. We received a total of \$1,438.36 from 27 donors (\$1383 in donations plus GMD bonus), which goes a long way to fund our 2022 donation in honor of Joyce and Don Gann to the FNPS Conservation Grant Awards.

You can still contribute to our "Gann Fund" by sending a check to DCFNPS at the chapter mailing address.

Also, thank you for supporting DCFNPS through Amazon Smile. A donation of .5% of your Amazon Smile purchase goes to the non-profit of your choice. We usually receive a quarterly deposit of \$30 to \$40. - Susan Walcutt, Treasurer, DCFNPS

DCFNPS Everglades National Park workdays. Help with our habitat restoration/landscape maintenance at the **Ernest F. Coe Visitor Center**. **New volunteers:** please contact Patty (pharespl@gmail.com) for details and advance paperwork for ENP. **Next workday: February (TBA) 9 a.m. -noon.**

DCFNPS is collaborating with the Connect To Protect Network (CTPN) at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden for projects relevant to pine rocklands. For notices of future CTPN+DCFNPS pineland project volunteer opportunities, contact ConnectToProtect@FairchildGarden.org. Tell the CTPN leader Daniela Champney you are with DCFNPS.

The Broward Chapter FNPS meets in person at Secret Woods Nature Center on second Wednesdays. See broward.fnpschapters.org/. Broward and Dade Chapter activities (as well as FNPS events) appear on both online [calendars](#).

Look for the January-February 2022 *Sabal minor* FNPS newsletter (Volume 24, Number 1) in your email soon or at <https://www.fnps.org/resources/sabalminor>
If you are not receiving email from the state FNPS, be sure to check your spam/junk folder, move those emails to your inbox, and add these senders to your contacts: info@fnps.org, communications@fnps.org, executivedirector@fnps.org.

FNPS awards and grants. Application deadlines are **March 4, 2022** (don't be confused by "04-03-2022" on the FNPS website). See <https://www.fnps.org/what-we-do/awards> for details (and send questions to info@fnps.org) for information.

- **Endowment Research Grants;**
- **Conservation Grants** for applied conservation projects;
- **The Dan Austin Award for Ethnobotany;**
- **The Cornelia McNamara Grant for applied research;**
- **Landscape Awards** for high quality landscapes primarily with native plants in several categories, from residential to restoration.

FNPS 41st Annual Conference, May 19-22, 2022: "Gateway to Florida's Biodiversity." Florida's premier event focusing on the preservation, conservation and restoration of our natural lands, ecosystems, and local communities. This will be **in-person** at the University of North Florida **and also broadcast as a virtual event** at a reduced cost.



MORE NEWS and THINGS TO DO

Dade Native Plant Workshop - at the MDC Kendall Campus, See nativeplantworkshop.ning.com/. All are welcome. **Join on the website** (free) to post photos for ID, share, and receive email reminders. Also follow Steve @HoboBotanist on Twitter for announcements.

Jan. 18, 5:00 PM: Apocynaceae (Dogbane family), which includes the Aclepiadaceae (Milkweeds).

Florida Keys Native Plant Workshop virtual meeting.

Jan. 18, 5:30 PM: "Outcrossing Strategies: Implications for the conservation of rare plant species in the FL Keys" - Duane and Susan Kolterman. For notifications, Zoom link, questions: FKNPW@outlook.com.

Miami-Dade Environmentally Endangered Lands workdays. www.miamidade.gov/environment/endangered-lands.asp or email eel@miamidade.gov. Registration is required.



Jan. 29: Crandon Coastal Hammock Preserve
Feb. 12: County Line Scrub

RESTORING A LITTLE PIECE OF THE RICHMOND PINE ROCKLAND

You can help!

(Adapted from the December 2021 newsletter of the IRC)

The Institute for Regional Conservation (IRC) has been working to restore a 1.5 acre parcel of the Richmond Tract, the largest contiguous fragment of pine rockland in urban Miami-Dade County, at **Robert Morgan Educational Center (RMEC)**. This parcel had been relatively unmanaged for many years, resulting in an 80% dominance of hardwoods and invasive species, with few pine rockland species remaining.

With support of staff, students, and the community, IRC's restoration efforts have focused on the control of invasive plants, and reducing the cover and height of native hardwoods that grow unchecked without periodic fire. Key pine rockland species have been allowed to recover and flourish. Pineland croton, an important host plant for the federally endangered Bartram's Hairstreak and Florida Leafwing butterflies, and Wedgelet fern, a state endangered fern, have also reappeared.

This is still a work in progress, but the improved condition of the site will be a huge asset to the community, helping to check the spread of invasive plants into nearby pinelands, and providing a positive learning opportunity for the students.

Periodic retreatments are critical to restoration success. We estimate needing four retreatments this year. The biggest threat is leadwood, which has been accumulating for years in the seed bank. RMEC contributed over \$6000 for restoration work in 2020-2021. **Contributions from the community in support of this project can help us achieve success.**

Donate at www.regionalconservation.org/ - mention "RMEC" in the comment section.

Small donations matter!

It is estimated that \$50 retreats .2 acre of exotic hardwoods, \$100 retreats .25 acre of Burma reed.

REMEMBERING WES JURGENS

Wes Jurgens is a name most Dade Chapter members are not likely to recognize, but you see one of his contributions to DCFNPS every month.

Wes passed away in October 2021 at age 92. Although he was never a member of FNPS, he was a good friend, created our **chapter logo** and contributed to the newsletter for many years.



His rough draft of an idea for a logo first appeared on the January 1983 newsletter banner. (The editors jumped the gun, I heard.)



By April the draft logo was replaced with a more refined version (**above**), which much later was enhanced with color and text in various versions.

Wes first became associated with DCFNPS through his work colleague, the late Lisa Davis Anness. Lisa was a member, working on the newsletter in the early years. In 1985 she enlisted John Pancoast to write plant articles, with beautiful illustrations by Wes, which came to be the regular feature article "One Man's Weed". It ran at least occasionally for over 10 years. Often it was about an obscure native plant noticed in the cracks of sidewalks in downtown Miami, where they worked. Wes also drew little "doo-dads" to sprinkle around.

After he retired, Wes volunteered in the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden herbarium, where Lynka Woodbury (DCFNPS member and then herbarium manager) occasionally enlisted him to again illustrate for DCFNPS. He designed two chapter t-shirts, and provided paintings for Miami Blue NABA and others. Some of his illustrations are also included in The Institute for Regional Conservation online resources.

The FTBG Volunteer Views newsletter (January 2022) said: "He was a gifted artist, skillful in botanical illustrations which have been included in many scientific publications. He was also a very talented painter."

In my mind, Wes was very quiet and modest on the surface, but actually quite complex. Perhaps that might describe his wonderful illustrations, too.

The following article from the January 1985 *Tillandsia* newsletter is the first of the collaborations by John Pancoast and Wes that later became the "One Man's Weed" series.

The article is included here as originally published. Pennyroyal is now known as *Piloblephis rigida*. We also remind readers that plant collecting must always be done with the landowner's permission, including from parks and preserves (so likely not to be allowed).

However, the main purpose here is to let you decide whether a full color, modern-day photograph would necessarily be more pleasing or informative than Wes's beautiful and illustrative drawing with its fine detail and charm!

- Patty Phares, *Tillandsia* Editor

SATUREJA RIGIDA, PENNYROYAL



A delightful plant found in Florida's pinelands is *Satureja rigida*, the pennyroyal. Even if you do not at first see the small purplish flowers on the low growing plant, you may become aware of its presence when you walk on it and release the pleasant scent contained in the leaves and stems.

A member of the mint family, pennyroyal grows in low clumps, about a foot tall and one to two feet in diameter. The stems are covered by numerous leaves that are narrowly lanceolate and less than one half inch long. The plant flowers throughout the year.

You can grow this plant in your home garden. It makes an excellent ground cover for areas with sandy soil and a moderate amount of sun. Some growers are beginning to propagate it, but it's still hard to find in nurseries. If, however, you're lucky enough to know where it is growing in the wild, why not take a few cuttings home when you take your next walk in the woods. If you grow it around your house, it will be an attractive reminder of those pleasant pineland walks.

To propagate: Take cuttings 3-6 inches in length; place in a mist bed until roots start, then transfer to small pots with a mixture of peat moss and perlite until well established. If you do not have a mist bed, then a shady, protected corner where you can maintain high moisture may do. Do not try to dig mature plants from the wild, as they may not survive.

John Pancoast
Illustration by Wes Jurgens

Florida's Arbor Day – January 21, 2022.

On the third Friday of January, Florida celebrates the state's Arbor Day, observed in Florida since 1886, one of the first in the nation.

According to the [Arbor Day Foundation](#):

In 1872, the [Nebraska] State Board of Agriculture accepted a resolution by J. Sterling Morton 'to set aside one day to plant trees, both forest and fruit.' ... More than one million trees were planted in Nebraska on the first Arbor Day.

Please plant a tree or seed – forest or fruit.

Membership and email

- **FNPS sends printed membership renewal notices (postal mail) only to members with no email address on file.** The easiest way to renew is to call FNPS at 321-271-6702!
 - **If your membership lapses**, you will receive one printed notice and monthly email reminders for up to a year until you renew.
 - **Help ensure that you see email from FNPS and the Dade Chapter:** move FNPS or DCFNPS email out of junk/spam/promotions and into your inbox, and add those sender addresses to your email contacts.
- Think you are missing email (from FNPS or Dade)? Let us know!**

Dade Chapter Florida Native Plant Society For Miami-Dade and the Florida Keys

Chapter communication: DadeFNPS@gmail.com, 305-985-3677

DCFNPS website & social media: www.DadeFNPS.org/

Mail: Dade Chapter FNPS, 6619 S. Dixie Hwy, #181, Miami FL 33143-7919

Board members (2021-2022):

President: Brian Diaz **Vice-President:** Steve Woodmansee

Secretary: Lydia Cuni **Treasurer:** Susan Walcutt

At Large: Joey Basna, Janeen Feiger, Sanna O'Sullivan,
Jeanne Rothchild, Jennifer Stine

FNPS Council of Chapters representative: Kurt Birchenough

Newsletter editor: Patty Phares

Webmaster: Haniel Pulido Jr., dadefnpsweb@gmail.com

Tillandsia Newsletter

Please contact the editor if you might 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>

© 2022 Dade Chapter Florida Native Plant Society, Inc.



Cape Florida field trip, January 2018
Photo by Jennifer Stine