



the Tarpaper

The Tarflower Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society



Volume: XXIX March 2007 ISSUE

MARCH PROGRAM: Florida Master Naturalist Program

Teresa Watkins

Teresa Watkins will be talking about the Florida Master Naturalist Program. This program's mission is to promote awareness, understanding and respect of Florida's natural world among Florida's citizens and visitors.

FMNP instructors, who teach students in the program about Florida's environment using science-based information and interpretive techniques, prepare students to share their knowledge with others to accomplish this mission.

Teresa Watkins, University of Florida Yards & Neighborhoods' multi-county coordinator and recognized leader on water conservation principles in "environmentally-friendly" landscapes, also enjoys gardening in her own backyard. Watkins teaches educational and motivating workshops to Florida homeowners on creating and maintaining "Florida-friendly" yards that are attractive and almost carefree with "earth-smart" practices. Over 18,000 Central Florida homeowners have learned from her landscaping programs in the last seven years.

Her professional background ranges from working with clients, private nurseries, commercial retail garden centers, and homeowner associations, as well as assisting city and county public and private water suppliers on Florida-friendly standards with their water conservation and storm water pollution education efforts for homeowners. A Master Gardener and Master Naturalist instructor, landscape consultant and National Garden Writers Associate, Teresa also provides down to earth advice in her "Gardening with Soul" articles. National business publications, Internet websites, and gardening magazines have quoted Teresa's articles and philosophy of "ecologically-aware" gardening.



MARCH 10th FIELD TRIP: Ft. Drum Marsh Conservation Area Mike Dinardo

Over 20,000 acres of conservation lands in Indian River County will be the destination for our March trip. We have gotten authorization to take our group into areas that are not typically open to the public, so this will be a long but rewarding day of exploring habitats off the beaten path. As we need to determine how many vehicles we will need for getting around the site, we need to know as early as possible how many people are planning to attend.

Please let Mike Dinardo (our new Field Trip Coordinator) or Catherine Read know if you will be attending and if you can bring/drive a 4-wheel drive vehicle. Bring lunch, water, sunscreen, insect repellent, footwear that can go around the dry prairies as well as into the mucky swamp along Ft. Drum Creek. Also, if you have a GPS unit, you might want to bring it along in case we find listed plants that we can document for the St. Johns River Water Management District – a portion of our tour will focus on the wet prairies where we hope to find terrestrial orchids and insectivorous plants such as butterworts.

We will meet at 9:00 a.m. at the main public entrance at the northwest corner of the site, on S. R. 60. Here is the website to check out Ft. Drum. http://sjr.state.fl.us/programs/outreach/pubs/recguide/s03_fort_drum_marsh_CA.html

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Daniela DeBiase, Jackie Sward

Saturday, March 24 & Sunday, March 25 – Annual Plant Sale at Harry P. Leu Garden Don't miss this opportunity to help out at the Leu Garden plant sale. This is our big fund raiser for the year where we raise most of the money for our operating expenses. It's also an opportunity to help Orlando get with the program and plant more natives. Mark Godts will be setting up on Friday, March 23rd at around 2:00pm. Sales begin at 8:00am on Saturday. And these early shoppers are serious! So we could use some volunteers early on Saturday. The sale ends by 5:00pm on both days. See "Events" page 2.

Events continued from page 1.

Sunday is a little more laid back. The sale begins at 9:00am. By 3:00pm on Sunday afternoon we can sell our plants at half price (Mark's famous 2for1). If you'd like to help out at any time for this event, call me at 407 423 3554 or e-mail me at evybaby@juno.com.

March 27, 7PM - Michael Grunwald will speak.

Michael Grunwald, author of *The Swamp: The Everglades, Florida, and The Politics of Paradise*, will speak at Leu Gardens in the Camellia Room. The event is sponsored by Orange Audubon Society, Central Florida Chapter of the Sierra Club, the Nature Conservancy and the Florida Humanities Council. The Everglades was once reviled as a liquid wasteland, and Americans dreamed of draining it. Now it is revered as a national treasure and Americans have launched the largest environmental project in history to try to save it. The Swamp is the stunning story of the destruction and possible resurrection of the Everglades, the saga of man's abuse of nature in southern Florida and his unprecedented efforts to make amends. The talk is free and open to the public.

Thursday, April 19 – Sunday, April 22 – Florida Native Plant Society's 27th Annual Conference

Conservation Cures: by the Yard and Mile. The Paynes Prairie Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society is delighted to host the 27th Annual Conference in Gainesville, Florida. The 2007 conference theme explores how installing native landscapes in urban areas and conserving natural areas across the state enhance our lives and protect this rare and unique flora and fauna, Florida. Notice the annual conference comes to us a little early this year. Registration has already begun. A form can be downloaded by going to http://www.fnps.org/pages/programs/programpg_no_pi.c.php?keyword=Conference Hope to see you there!

February 10, 2007 Field trip to Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge Mike Dinardo

Those of you who attended our February field trip were blessed with some of the best climate Florida has to offer. This trip was a mix of both botanizing and bird watching as we explored coastal marsh and scrub of Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge. The field trip began at the coastal marshes along the scenic Blackpoint Wildlife Drive. As we caravanned through the marsh, periodic stops were made to point out migratory and resident birds such as the greater yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*), tree swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*), and great egrets (*Ardea alba*). We were fortunate enough to have bird enthusiast Eugene Stoccardo with us to help identify and provide interesting and helpful facts on the birds we encountered on the refuge. For example, did you know that the turkey vulture

(*Cathartes aura*) can be distinguished from the black vulture (*Coragyps atratus*) from a great distance based upon the in-flight positioning of the wings (positioned



Chuck, Catherine, and Pete on the Black Point Wilderness Drive

above their backs, called dihedral)? Numerous migratory ducks were observed at the open water portions of the marsh that included the northern shoveler (*Anas clypeata*), northern pintail (*Anas acuta*) and the blue-winged teal (*Anas discors*). Several roseate spoonbills (*Ajaia ajaja*) were also observed foraging in close proximity to the roadbed. The observed plant life along the drive ranged from the monotypic stands of sand-cordgrass (*Spartina bakeri*),



Roseate Spoonbill in the open marsh.

sawgrass (*Cladium jamaicense*), and needle rush (*Juncus roemerianus*) to the ruderal roadside thistle (*Cirsium horridulum*) and Flattop goldenrod (*Flaveria linearis*). Noteworthy plants that were observed in flower included marsh gentian (*Eustoma exaltatum*) and southern beeblossom (*Gaura angustifolia*).

The coastal Scrub Ridge trail began with the observation of Florida Indian plantain (*Arnoglossum*

floridanum) before we left the parking area. As we proceeded down the trail the plant species observed included Elliott's milkpea (*Gallactia elliottii*), yellow milkwort (*Polygala rugelii*), and small butterwort (*Pinguicula pumila*). The scrub trail also provided an opportunity for many to observe the Florida scrub-jay (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*) up close as the refuge birds are about as curious a bunch as you will find.

See "Species List" page 5.

Wekiva RIVERFEST 2007 Mike Martin

10:00a.m.-4:00p.m. Mar. 10, Wekiwa Springs State Park, 1800 Wekiwa Springs Road, Longwood. Activities include

hikes, pontoon boat rides, children's crafts, authors, artists', biologists' demo's, music, food, environmental exhibits, and fun! Free. 407-647-7487.

Vote For Choice "A" on

MYREGION.ORG Terry Godts

Choice "A" is the right one if you care to participate in an online survey about growth, sponsored by myregion.org, a developer-backed visioning group.

But be careful. It is clear from the survey that myregion.org supporters want you to vote for Choice "C." That's an awful choice - but you must read the fine print and do some calculating to come to that conclusion.

Choice "A" is the only one of the four offered that truly preserves the open space that most Central Floridians desire. The other choices have some neat aspects, but they all would result in the same old urban sprawl that is ruining the quality of life people moved here for. Here's the lowdown on each option:

"Trend 2050" This is the current development trend in Central Florida where urban sprawl continues with no changes. Needless to say, there should be very few votes for this option. It assumes that no more conservation lands will be protected, and only 61 miles of passenger rail will be built.

Choice "A" Some 51 percent of the region's land would be preserved. Development would be clustered in existing urban zones. There would be 272 miles of passenger rail built.

Choice "B" seeks to protect less open space - 47 percent - but also proposes many new highways that would cut through large expanses of rural Central Florida. In reality, it would be difficult to prevent urban sprawl from following these new roads. Land preservation efforts would have to compete with land speculators, and we'd still get subdivisions in rural areas. Some 282 miles of passenger rail are proposed.

Choice "C," nicknamed the "Transit Corridor" scenario, shows the least amount of land being

developed, but it fails to provide money to preserve undeveloped land. How can that work? This would pit those who want to preserve land against those mass transit backers for public dollars. Choice "C" proposes preserving 42 percent of the region's lands but provides no funding to do so. The myregion.org group seems to think that rural lands won't be developed if "transit corridors" are created. This is a pipe dream.

Choice "A" is the best of the three alternatives. The air quality, water consumption and commute times of A, B and C are about even. Economically, Choice "C" lists 12 percent higher economic benefit, but it seems to benefit mostly the development community with \$40 billion in new roads and rail to open new land to development.

That leaves the issue of open space. Can you imagine 100 years from now how thankful people would be if this generation chose to preserve 51 percent of Central Florida's land forever? That's the biggest reason to cast a ballot for Choice "A."

Annual Conference Shirley Denton

The Paynes Prairie Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society will be your host for the 27th Annual Conference in Gainesville, Florida. The 2007 conference theme, Conservation Cures, by the Yard and Mile, explores how installing native landscapes in urban areas and conserving natural areas across the state enhance our lives and protect Florida's rare and unique flora and fauna. This should be a great conference. Let's all go, have fun, and learn a lot!

registration form:

www.fnps.org/committees/conference/pdfs/FNPSConf2007a_dvregformv1.pdf

conference program:

www.fnps.org/committees/conference/pdfs/FNPSconference2007.pdf

conference website:

www.fnps.org/committees/conference/conferencehome.htm

accommodations:

www.fnps.org/committees/conference/Accommodations.htm

Armadillo Barriers Kathy Andrews

If you have armadillo burrows in your yard, especially under a fence, here is a humane way to handle them. Measure the depth of the burrow, and mark existing utility lines. Get enough ½" rebar to hammer in the ground every six inches across the burrow. Hammer the rebar into the ground every six inches, leaving a little above ground in case you want to remove it later. For extra reinforcement (if desired), place a board against the rebar. Then fill hole with rocks and dirt. You have a humane barrier.

**REQUEST FOR OFFICER
NOMINATIONS
FOR THE TARFLOWER CHAPTER**

The Tarflower Chapter is required by the Bylaws to nominate officers, hold elections, and vote on the officer position by the Annual Meeting in May of each year. Below are the descriptions of each of the offices – request each member provide one or more nominations for each of the positions. These forms can be submitted to a member of the Nominating Committee (Jackie Rolly, Gregg Walker or Phyllis Gray), at the March meeting or by submitting the nomination in the mail to:

Ms. J. Rolly
622 West Palm Valley Drive
Oviedo, FL 32765

Nominations can be submitted via email as well to:

J.Y.Rolly@att.net

Nominations should be received no later than 15 March 2006 so that a slate can be included in the April newsletter and presented at the April Meeting. Voting will take place at the May meeting. Nominations will be accepted from the floor at any time.

The Officers of this corporation shall consist of a President, a 1st Vice-President for Programs, a 2nd Vice-President for Events, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. Officers may be elected for a period of one (1) year. Only members in good standing may be officers of this corporation. Officers shall automatically be members of the Executive Committee. Officers shall serve without compensation except reimbursement for actual expenses incurred or to be incurred.

The immediate past President of this corporation, Catherine Read, shall be the FNPS State Chapter Director and as such shall also be an automatic member of the Executive Committee of this corporation. In the event of failure, refusal, or inability of the immediate past President to serve, the president shall appoint a substitute director, with Executive Committee experience, from the membership of the corporation. In the event Catherine Read continues as President, Rick Ehle shall continue as the FNPS State Chapter Director.

President.

- A. Preside at all general membership meetings
- B. Appoint committees for special tasks as required
- C. Be an ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating committee.
- D. Sign all documents, contracts, etc.
- E. Conduct monthly Board Meetings.
- F. Attend annual State Conference, or if unable, appoint a representative from the Executive Committee.

NOMINATIONS:

1st Vice-President.

- A. Exercise the functions of the President during the absence or disability of the President.
- B. Chair the Program Committee.
- C. Act as an aide to the President.

NOMINATIONS:

2nd Vice-President.

- A. Exercise the functions of the President during the absence or disability of the President and 1st Vice-President.
- B. Chair the Events Committee.
- C. Act as an aide to the President

NOMINATIONS:

Secretary.

- A. Record, maintain and report minutes of the Executive Committee, Board and General meetings to the Executive Committee on a monthly basis.
- B. Provide a summary of all of the meetings monthly to the editor of The Tarpaper.
- C. Be custodian of all corporate records except financial. The Treasurer's report is to be included in the minutes
- D. Prepare correspondence.

NOMINATIONS:

Treasurer.

- A. Keep, maintain, and report correct accounts of financial transactions monthly with copies to the secretary for inclusion in the minutes.
- B. Chair the Budget Committee.
- C. Be the custodian of all monies of the corporation.
- D. Sign all checks as directed by the Executive Committee with bills initialed by the President.

NOMINATIONS:

FNPS State Chapter Director – Rick Ehle

- A. Attend quarterly State Board meetings representing and voting for Tarflower Chapter's Interest.
- B. Report quarterly meetings and annual conference to Executive Committee.
- C. Act as an advisor to the Executive Committee.

Black Point Wildlife Drive Species List

Plants	Birds
Giant leather fern <i>Achrostichum danaeifolium</i>	Roseate spoonbill <i>Ajaia ajaja</i>
Black mangrove <i>Avicennia germinans</i>	Northern pintail <i>Anas acuta</i>
Saltwater falsewillow <i>Baccharis angustifolia</i>	Northern shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i>
Spanish needles <i>Bidens alba</i>	Blue-winged teal <i>Anas discors</i>
Hackberry <i>Celtis laevigata</i>	Mottled duck <i>Anas fulvigula</i>
Purple thistle <i>Cirsium horridulum</i>	Great egret <i>Ardea alba</i>
Sawgrass <i>Cladium jamaicense</i>	Great blue heron <i>Ardea herodias</i>
Lateflowering thoroughwort <i>Eupatorium serotinum</i>	Ring-billed duck <i>Aythya collaris</i>
Marshgentian <i>Eustoma exaltatum</i>	Greater scaup <i>Aythya marila</i>
Hurricane grass <i>Fimbristylis castanea</i>	Red-tailed hawk <i>Buteo lineatus</i>
Flattop goldenrod <i>Flaveria linearis</i>	Least sandpiper <i>Calidris minutilla</i>
Southern beeblossom <i>Gaura angustifolia</i>	Turkey vulture <i>Cathartes aura</i>
Dune sunflower <i>Helianthus debilis</i>	Belted kingfisher <i>Ceryle alcyon</i>
Dahoon holly <i>Ilex cassine</i>	Northern harrier <i>Circus cyaneus</i>
Needle rush <i>Juncus romerianus</i>	Northern flicker <i>Colaptes auratus</i>
White mangrove <i>Laguncularia racemosa</i>	Vlack vulture <i>Coragyps atratus</i>
Christmas berry <i>Lycium carolinianum</i>	Yellow-rumped warbler <i>Dendroica coronata</i>
White sweet clover <i>Melilotus alba</i>	Snowy egret <i>Egretta thula</i>
Corkystem passionflower <i>Passiflora suberosa</i>	Tri-colored egret <i>Egretta tricolor</i>
Paintedleaf <i>Poinsettia cyathiphora</i>	White ibis <i>Eudocimus alba</i>
Cabbage palm <i>Sabal palmetto</i>	American coot <i>Fulica americana</i>
Coastal plain willow <i>Salix caroliniana</i>	Red-bellied woodpecker <i>Melanerpes carolinus</i>
Fan petals or teaweed <i>Sida rhombifolia</i>	Woodstork <i>Mycteria americana</i>
Seaside goldenrod <i>Solidago sempervirens</i>	Glossy ibis <i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>
Sand cordgrass <i>Spartina bakeri</i>	Pied-billed grebe <i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>
Shield fern <i>Thelypteris kunthii</i>	American avocet <i>Recurvirostra americana</i>
Poison ivy <i>Toxicodendron radicans</i>	Tree swallow <i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>
Cowpea <i>Vigna luteola</i>	Carolina wren <i>Thryothorus ludovicianus</i>
	Greater yellowlegs <i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>
	American robin <i>Turdus americanus</i>

Scrub Ridge Trail

Plants	Birds
Chalky bluestem <i>Andropogon glomeratus glaucopsis</i>	Florida scrub jay <i>Aphelocoma coerulescens</i>
Wiregrass <i>Aristida stricta beyrichiana</i>	Northern cardinal <i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>
Florida Indian plantain <i>Arnoglossum floridanum</i>	Gray catbird <i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>
Tarflower <i>Bejaria racemosa</i>	Eastern towhee <i>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</i>
Vanillaleaf <i>Carphephorus odoratus</i>	
Partridge pea <i>Chamaecrista fascicularis</i>	
Fireweed <i>Erechtites hieracifolia</i>	
Slender flattop goldenrod <i>Euthamia caroliniana</i>	
Elliott's milkpea <i>Gallactia elliotii</i>	Plants (cont)
Toothpetal false reinorchid <i>Habenaria floribunda</i>	Muscadine grape <i>Vitis rotundifolia</i>
Rockrose <i>Helianthemum corymbosum</i>	Hog plum <i>Ximenia americana</i>
Gallberry <i>Ilex glabra</i>	Adam's needle <i>Yucca filamentosa</i>
Rusty lyonia <i>Lyonia ferruginea</i>	
Coastalplain staggerbush <i>Lyonia fruticosa</i>	
Shiny lyonia <i>Lyonia lucida</i>	
Wax myrtle <i>Myrica cerifera</i>	
Small butterwort <i>Pinguicula pumila</i>	
Slash pine <i>Pinus elliotii</i>	
Grassleaf golden aster <i>Pityopsis graminifolia</i>	
Sweetscent <i>Pluchea odorata</i>	
Candyroot <i>Polygala nana</i>	
Yellow milkwort <i>Polygala rugelii</i>	
Bracken fern <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	
Chapman's oak <i>Quercus chapmanii</i>	
Sand live oak <i>Quercus geminata</i>	
Dwarf live oak <i>Quercus minima</i>	
Myrtle oak <i>Quercus myrtifolia</i>	
Cabbage palm <i>Sabal palmetto</i>	
Sugarcane plumegrass <i>Saccharum giganteum</i>	
Tall nutrush <i>Scleria triglomerata</i>	
Helmet skullcap <i>Scutellaria integrifolia</i>	
Saw palmetto <i>Serenoa repens</i>	
Chapman's goldenrod <i>Solidago odora chapmanii</i>	
Shiny blueberry <i>Vaccinium myrsinites</i>	

What's Blooming in Wekiwa

Take a journey to different areas within the park to explore, identify, and discuss what's in bloom. Led by a volunteer, this program is fun for all ages, regardless of your knowledge of plants! Participants should be capable of walking two miles unassisted. Please be sure to wear appropriate footwear and clothing. Sunblock, insect repellent, and refreshments are also suggested. Pets are prohibited. Pre-registration is required and participation is limited to 15 people. To register please call Jessica at (407) 884-2006.

WHEN: 3rd Saturday of the month from 9am to 11am

COST: Included in park \$5 fee

WHERE: Wekiwa Spring State Park, 1800 Wekiwa Circle, Apopka, FL 32712

April Field Event

In April, we will be exploring "old Florida" at the Wiregrass Prairie Preserve in Volusia County. This 1,400-acre site which is jointly owned by St. John River Water Management District and Volusia County, consists of a mosaic of wet and dry flatwoods as well as hardwood swamp. This habitat will give us a glimpse of what the majority of Florida looked like 500 years ago before fires were stomped out and extensive logging occurred.

Receive Tarpaper on Line! If you wish to receive the *Tarpaper* on line please send your email address to fnps@WinterParkHoney.com. All future changes/corrections to email addresses should be sent to this address also.

Local Native Nurseries

Biosphere Consulting Inc

(407) 656-8277
14908 Tilden Rd
Winter Garden, FL 34787

B B Brown's Gardens

(352) 429-5566
11490 Montevista Rd
Clermont, FL 34711

Green Images

(407) 568-1333
1333 Taylor Creed Rd
Christmas, FL

\$25 Individual/Gift
\$30 Renewing Individual
\$40 Family/Household
\$50 Contributing/ Non-Profit
\$100 Business
\$100 Supporter
\$15 Full-time Student
\$15 Library or School

Make Checks Payable to:
FNPS
Florida Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 278
Melbourne, FL 32902-0278
Phone: 321-271-6702

SOCIETY NEWS:

Chapter Meetings

Chapter meetings are held the first Tuesday each month at **HARRY P. LEU GARDENS**, (1920 N. Forest Avenue, Orlando). The next meeting is **Tuesday, March 6** at 7:00 P.M. Refreshments 6:30. See you there! (For directions, call 407-246-2620 option 1)

Executive Committee

The next board meeting will be TBD. For more information contact Catherine Read. Members are welcome to attend.



Tarflower Chapter
Florida Native Plant Society
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