



the Tarpaper

The Tarflower Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society



Volume: XXIX April 2007 ISSUE

APRIL PROGRAM: Butterflies and Their Host Plants

Marc Minno

Marc Minno, author and biologist with the St. John's Water Management District, will discuss butterflies and their host plants. He will also discuss how to attract butterflies by planting a butterfly garden. See you Tuesday, April 3, 2007 at 7 PM. Come early for refreshments and socializing with other native plant enthusiasts.

Dr. Minno received a Bachelor's degree in entomology from Purdue University, a Master's in entomology from the University of California at Davis, and a Ph.D. in zoology from the University of Florida. He works as a Senior Regulatory Scientist for the St. Johns River Water Management District in Palatka. Dr. Minno has written or co-authored many scientific and popular articles on butterflies and moths as well as the following books of local interest, Butterflies of the Florida Keys (Scientific Publishers, 1993), Florida Butterfly Gardening (University Press of Florida, 1999), Butterflies through Binoculars: Florida (Oxford University Press, 2001), and Florida Butterfly Caterpillars and Their Host Plants (University Press of Florida, 2005).



Marc and Maria Minno

APRIL FIELD TRIP: Wiregrass Prairie Preserve in Volusia County Mike Dinardo

For our April field trip, 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's 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.

Bring lunch, water, sunscreen, insect repellent, and footwear that can go through mesic flatwoods. We will meet at 8:30 a.m. at the southwest intersection of SR 44 and SR 415 and proceed approximately 5-miles south to our destination. Here is a website that contains the management plan, habitat communities and photos:
http://sjr.state.fl.us/programs/operations/land_mgmt/plans/pdfs/2003_Wiregrass_Prairie_Preserve.pdf

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Jackie Sward

Plant Rescue is scheduled for 14 April at the Orlando International Airport (OIA). Please meet at the Park and Ride at SR 15, Narcoosee Road and the Beachline, SR 528, at 8:30 AM. Bring pots, shovels, water for the plants. Also, bring a hat, sunscreen, bug repellent, and water for yourself. We may go back to the same spot as January or we may find a new area. If you plan on attending, please let Jackie Rolly know, at j.y.rolly@att.net, or cell phone (407) 620-6963.

Help us preserve Florida's natural history!

In cooperation with the Arboretum, the UCF Libraries seeks to collect materials documenting Florida's nursery, plant, citrus and horticulture industries, as well as the natural environment of Florida. Special Collections and University Archives welcomes the donation of business records, photographs, audio, film and other media that will enhance and expand our existing collections. The materials will be available to anyone wishing to learn more about Florida's natural history.

By placing records into the archives, donors take an important step toward preserving the materials and memories they contain. Reference services are provided for donors while they are in the archivists' care. By donating your family, organization or business records to an archival repository, you will assure that its history and heritage will be part of your community's
See "Events" page 2.

Events continued from page 1.
collective memory forever.

We encourage people to donate their old books on Florida ecology, botany and plant exploration, taxonomy, herbariums and specimens, horticulture, regional botany, and the development of the nursery industry — and even such ephemera as old nursery bills and inventory lists that might be regarded a “worthless” ole boxes of paper.

For more information, call Special Collections and University Archives at 407-823-2576 or e-mail speccoll@mail.ucf.edu.

March 10, 2007 Field trip to Fort Drum

Marsh Pete Dunkelberg

We got off to a cool early start to meet at Fort Drum on Highway 60 east of the turnpike at 9 a.m. As you recall from Caroline Read's presentation, Fort Drum is a large complex area. It's not an open state park; to get in you need permission and you need to know the combinations for a series of locks. We all piled in to Caroline's large four wheel drive truck, most of us in the back, and we were off.

Our first stop was to walk a power line road and a bordering marsh. There had been so little rain that we walked right through what should have a marshy area with dry feet. Indeed most of the area we explored all day was bone dry. We saw *Cyperus ligularis* (coastal sedge), *Polygala setacea*, *Nyssa sylvatica* (swamp tupelo), *Tillandsia balbisiana*, *Hyptis alata* (musky mint), *Bidens mitis*, *Micranthemum*, which looked like little more than a moss, *Rubus argutus* (saw toothed



Tillandsia balbisiana

blackberry), *Coreopsis leavenworthii*, *Viola lanceolata* and goldfoot and shoestring ferns to name a few.

Next we went through pine flatwoods. Barred owls were heard, zebra swallowtails and the pots of a potter wasp seen. Pawpaws were frequent and in bloom. We stopped by a dry creek bed. The embankment on one side has quite a few burrows known to be inhabited by indigo snakes, but we didn't see them...the snakes, I

mean. The area was thick with *Tillandsias*, including *setacea*, *fasciculata* and *balbisiana*. *T. balbisiana* is an attractive but uncommon air plant that I had not seen before. Its base is bulbous, the leaves are channeled, and the floral scape is longer than in other *Tillandsias* I've seen except for *T. utriculata*.

For lunch we drove a short way and followed a boardwalk through a dry cypress dome. We came to a very pleasant live oak and sabal palm hammock with benches in the center. In wetter years it must be an island. Here we ate and talked of our adventures and made new friends; several members of other FNPS chapters, knowing a good trip when they saw one, had joined us for the day. Back on the boardwalk we examined a terrestrial orchid of which all that remained was a stalk nearly 50 cm high with two fruits and a couple very long but long dead leaves. We concluded it must be *Eulophia alta* (wild coco).



Jungle Crossing

After lunch we drove to an area where the creek had a wide and still damp flood plain. We pushed our way through the lush undergrowth to the dry creek bed. We followed the creek bed some ways, then walked on the far side, and finally decided to cross back when we came to water. Plants included two species of *Psychotria*, *Sagittaria* (one of the small species), *Rumex verticillatus* (swamp dock), *Justicia ovata*, and lots of

See “March Field Trip” Page 3.



Pawpaw

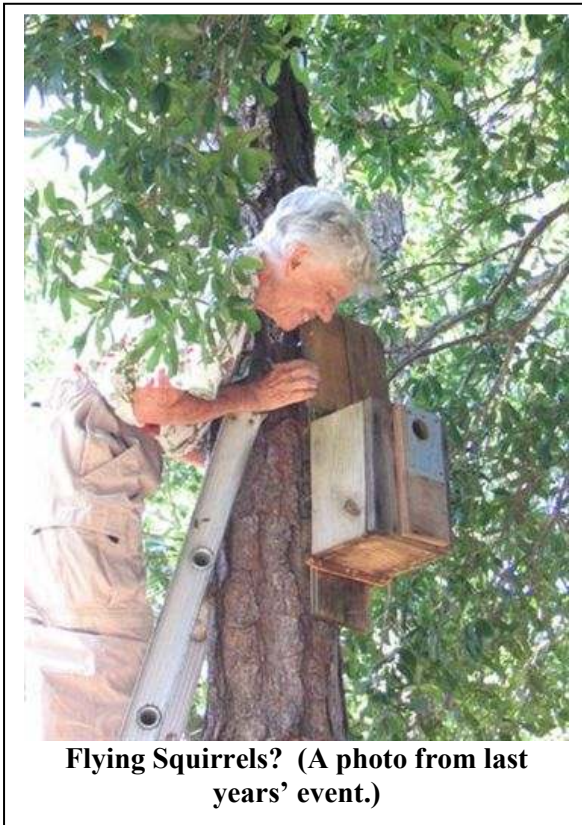
March Field Trip *continued from page 2.*

Blechnum serrulatum (swamp fern) with its characteristic parallel rows of sori.

After we bushwhacked back to the truck, climbing over fallen trees and stopping to smell the pawpaws when we reached higher ground, it was time to return to the Fort Drum entrance. To cap the day we spotted a rare short tailed hawk soaring high overhead. Don't you wish you were there?

PARADE OF GARDENS *Liz Block*

We have a very exciting opportunity to spread the word about native plant landscaping – and we need your help! Our Chapter's very first Native Plant Landscape Parade of Gardens is happening on May 12, between 9 am and 3 pm. Last year, several environmental groups partnered to do a similar tour in Sarasota County, and they had over 700 visitors!



Flying Squirrels? (A photo from last years' event.)

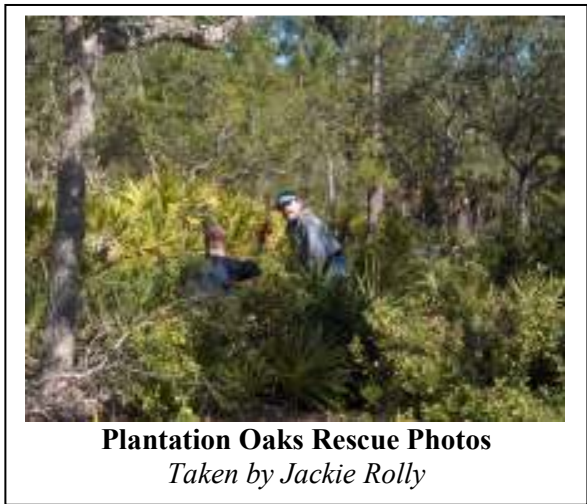
The plan for the event is to have ticket sales (a mere \$5.00 per carload), displays, and handouts at a location central to most of the garden locations. Participants will receive a brochure that includes a list of addresses and brief garden descriptions, and several tour options with detailed driving instructions. The participants can then choose their route and drive at their own pace. We hope that this approach will spread out traffic so no stop is overwhelmed with parking problems. At each stop, the gardener and one or two additional volunteers

will provide information and answer questions. We are having tee shirts printed so that the gardener and volunteers are easily identified at every stop.

How can you help with this great educational event?

- Right now, we have eight gardeners that have volunteered their yards. Do you have an area of your yard with native plants? Please volunteer! The participants need to see the small, simple, just barely started yards to not be intimidated. If you feel hesitant about your level of knowledge, you can partner with a volunteer that knows more.
- Help out in a yard, or help out selling tickets and handing out brochures. Even if you only have an hour, that will give another volunteer a chance to grab some lunch.
- Help distribute flyers, or brainstorm other ways to get the word out. Do you have a media contact? Belong to a garden club? Have friends you can email about the event?

We will be sending around a signup sheet at the April meeting, or call Liz at 407-963-6344.



Plantation Oaks Rescue Photos
Taken by Jackie Rolly



Plantation Oaks Rescue Photos
Taken by Jackie Rolly

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

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, April 3** 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.



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