



# the Tarpaper

The Tarflower Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society



Volume: XVX September 2008 ISSUE

## **SEPTEMBER MEETING - Green Potluck Picnic**

The potluck picnic will begin at 6:30 PM, September 2. Join your fellow members for fabulous food and fun. We will have Plant Jeopardy including beginners and advanced Plant ID contests! The chapter will provide beverages and meat trays. Please bring: (1) Food to share (2) Your own plate, cup, utensils and napkin. (This is the 'green' part!)

Please R.S.V.P. to Julie Becker, email: [jlbecker@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jlbecker@cfl.rr.com). Include in the R.S.V.P what you plan to bring. We need a head count for tables, drinks, etc. Also, if you can come early to help set-up or stay late to clean-up, let us know.

## **Osceola's FNPS September Meeting**

Linda Young, Director of the Clean Water Network of Florida, who has been leading the fight to protect Florida's rivers, lakes, springs, wetlands and estuaries since 1994, will be speaking at Osceola's Florida Native Plant Society meeting (Pine Lily Chapter), at 6:30 PM, on September 18, 2008, at First United Methodist Church in Kissimmee (in Fellowship Hall). The facility is at 101 W. Dakin Avenue and Church Street. The Clean Water Network of Florida is a coalition of almost 200 groups and many thousands of individuals that are committed to full implementation and enforcement and strengthening of the Clean Water Act and other safeguards for our water resources. Since Linda is from Tallahassee, folks in Central Florida may not have heard her presentations. Let's support our neighbor chapters and plan on attending to hear this presentation.

## **Upcoming Programs:**

**October 7:** Dr. Al Miller on Mosses and Liverworts

**November 4:** Elizabeth Stephens on her FNPS grant project.

**December 2:** Vendors and Holiday Snacks?????

## **SEPTEMBER FIELD TRIP: Genius Reserve**

*John Cento*

The September 13, 2008 Tarflower field trip to Winter Park's Genius Reserve will delight both landscapers and botanists alike as the Reserve is about protecting and restoring the cultural aesthetic of "Old Florida." Recent program speaker Dr. Bruce Stephenson will guide chapter members on how the Genius Reserve will serve as a living model of sustainability, bridging the gap between civilization and the natural environment. To learn more about the preserve, please use the following internet link for plant lists, history, and a refresher on the goals of the Reserve: <http://www.rollins.edu/olin/archives/Genius/>. Please feel free to call John Cento at (407) 913-2417 for upcoming details.

We will meet at 9:00 am on Genius Drive near the gate. Below are directions to the meeting site:

**From I-4** take FL-426 E. / Fairbanks Av. headed EAST toward downtown Winter Park. Cross intersection of Fairbanks and 17-92 and continue past intersection of Park Av. and Rollins College to Cortland Av. ~ 2.90 mi.

Turn RIGHT onto Cortland Av. ~ 0.10 mi.

Turn LEFT onto Osceola Av. ~ 0.10 mi.

Turn RIGHT onto Genius Dr. ~ 0.20 mi.; continue through entrance to *Windsong* subdivision.

Look for entrance gate to reserve on RIGHT just past Windsong Residents Club, 301 Genius Dr.

**Parking instructions:** Park along Genius Dr. (but please not on the grass); car pool if feasible.

## **Volunteers Needed to Pull Air Potato**

**Vines!!!** *Nancy Rodlun*

Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 am- 12:00 pm at Trimble Park, 5802 Trimble Park Rd, Mt. Dora 32757 volunteers are needed to pull air potato vines. The air potato plant is an invasive plant taking over this park. If we are able to remove the vines before they spread by the end of the summer we can help solve this problem. *Please join the Watershed Action Volunteers for this project. Respond to Brett Cogswell, [wavorange@sjrwmd.com](mailto:wavorange@sjrwmd.com) or 407-836-1430 if you are interested in participating!*

**FIELD TRIP TO LAKE APOPKA RESTORATION AREA** *Pete Dunkelberg.*

About 17 of us met on the north shore of Lake Apopka early Saturday morning. Our guide was Jim Patterson of the St Johns River Water Management District. Jim explained what we would do, then led us through all the major areas, stopping our caravan every so often to explain another area. In order to get all the way around the big lake and see all the major areas, we spent much of our time driving slowly along various dikes rather than exploring on foot.

As you recall from our August meeting, the soil around the lake, and through runoff the lake itself, had been loaded with fertilizer and pesticides for agricultural purposes until people became so unhappy with the condition of the lake that the land was bought

the field-covering species was lavender flowered, and native I think.



*Ipomoea alba*

Invasive non-native plants are not called invasive for nothing. They are thriving on this former agricultural land in great numbers and considerable variety, including cogon grass, *Imperata cylindrica*, Johnson grass, *Sorghum halepense*, taro or elephant ear, *Colocasia*



Jim Peterson Introducing the Field Trip

by the state for cleanup. One of the ways of reducing pesticide availability is to turn the soil with massive plows that bury the surface layer two feet deep and bring the deep soil to the top. After this is done, what plants if any come up? Does a diverse natural community spring up? Not quite. The surprising result is a field covered with either native pigweed, *Amaranthus australis*, growing three meters tall, or else a field covered with a trailing morning glory, *Ipomoea sp.*, Although moonflower, *Ipomoea alba*, was blooming along some of the banks, Jim told us that



*Kosteletzkya pentacarpos*



*Colocasia esculenta*

*esculenta*, castor bean, *Ricinus communis*, and *Hydrilla verticillata*. Removing them or even preventing them from taking over large areas is a daunting task.

Nevertheless, the Lake Apopka cleanup has already been quite successful. The lake water itself is substantially improved. Before exiting through a canal that ultimately goes to the St Johns River, the water winds through canals and drops even more of its chemical content, finally exiting in a very pure state. Around the exit canal the ecosystem looks much more natural than in the other areas we saw, with pickerel weed and duck potato quite common and rather normal looking terrestrial vegetation as well.

# Horticulture

## Why Major in Restoration Horticulture?

This track provides horticulture-based training in core courses and prepares students to apply this knowledge to the establishment, management and protection of plant communities.

Students will be proficient in many aspects of applied plant science, including native/rare plant propagation, ex situ plant conservation, weed control, nursery production of native plants, and planting design and specification.

This program prepares students for careers in state government (DEP, DOT, Water Management Districts), federal government (Department of the Interior) and private industry (environmental consulting firms, native plant nurseries, etc.), and graduate school.



## Coursework Includes:

- Botany
- Ecology and Management
- Ecosystem Restoration
- Plant Establishment
- Plant Physiology and Pathology
- Plant Propagation
- Soil and Water Science

## Careers Include:

- Consultant
- Horticulturist
- Native Plant Grower
- Natural Areas Manager
- Project Manager
- Resource Manager

## Potential Employers:

- D.E.P. / D.O.T.
- Department of the Interior
- Environmental Consulting Firms
- Native Plant Nurseries
- State Governments
- Water Management Districts

### Contact Information:

Dr. Carrie Reinhardt Adams: 352.392.1831 x 223  
Dr. Michael E. Kane: 352.392.1831 x 205  
<http://hort.ifas.ufl.edu>

## Local Native Nurseries

### Biosphere Consulting Inc

(407) 656-8277  
14908 Tilden Rd 11490  
Winter Garden, FL 34787

### B B Brown's Gardens

(352) 429-5566  
Montevista Rd 1333  
Clermont, FL 34711

### Green Images

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

\$25 Individual/Gift  
\$35 Renewing Individual  
\$40 Family/Household  
\$50 Contributing/ Non-Profit  
\$125 Business/Corporate  
\$100 Supporter  
\$250 Donor  
\$1000 Life  
\$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 September 2** at 6:30 P.M. 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.

**Tarpaper Online!** A current issue of the tarpaper is always available at <http://winterparkhoney.com/images/tarpaper.pdf>. The tarpaper can also be viewed on line by accessing the state web site through FNPS.org. Click on Chapters -> Tarflower and follow the instructions to the tarpaper!



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