



# the Tarpaper

The Tarflower Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society



Volume: XXVI December 2009 ISSUE

## **DECEMBER 1 PROGRAM: Nature Photographer Milton Heiberg**

Until moving to Central Florida, Milton Heiberg was a New York City based photographer working in Manhattan. He was educated at New York University and Cornell University with further studies at Rutgers University. Thousands of his photographs have appeared in books and magazines. His photographs have been exhibited at the International Center for Photography in New York City and The Israel Museum in Jerusalem. He has written seven books and numerous articles on photography. The most recent is *The Essentials of Nature Photography*, Tern Book Company; a complete handbook of nature photography. He currently teaches at Crealde School of Art, Winter Park and at DPA (Digital Photo Academy). He is also serving on the Board of Orange Audubon Society.

## **DECEMBER MINI BAZAAR!**

We will have vendors before the meeting to include Bird houses, Jean's Winter Park Honey – and — Our own T- shirts are here!

## **FUTURE PROGRAMS**

**January 5:** Dealing with Invasive Plants in Your Yard

**February 2:** Paul Lehman on Bird Migration; a joint program with Orange Audubon Society

## **FLORIDA FRIENDLY GARDEN**

The Florida Friendly Garden (downtown at Jackson and Rosalind Streets) will be featured in the next issue of Florida Travel Magazine as a place to see while visiting the Orlando area. It is the place to see Florida Wildflowers and features Florida Friendly Landscaping™ principles – which help to conserve natural resources.

*This garden was also on our recent Fall Tour of Gardens.*

## **DECEMBER FIELD TRIP** *Pete Dunkelberg*

Our December field trip will be on December 5. Beautyberry Chapter will be our host. The trip includes a social with Beautyberry, so bring your lunch.

PEAR Park is located at 5336 University Avenue in Leesburg, Florida 34748. The park consists of 318 acres divided into two distinct areas. The "Gateway" or front 50 acres is being developed into an active recreation area that will offer visitors ball fields, pickle ball and tennis courts, "life trail" exercise stations, playgrounds, volleyball courts, a canoe and kayak launch, dog park and access to the hiking and nature trails.

The remaining 268 acres offer a Florida Scrub-Jay and Northern Bobwhite "Quail" restoration areas, community garden, native butterfly garden, nature center and access to hiking and nature trails. The park offers pavilions and scenic overlook, grills, and lots of educational and recreational opportunities for the whole family.

Check the calendar for the times and dates of events hosted by the PEAR Association, Trout Lake Nature Center and Lake County Park Rangers.

## **FALL TOUR OF GARDENS** *Phyllis Gray*

The Tarflower Chapter's tour of native plant gardens, on October 25, was a fine day to be out in the sunshine enjoying plants and flowers. (Who would have thought it would be in the 90's that late in the year?)

Many gardeners were prepared with their tickets, water bottles and hats, as they set out to enjoy the day. Some tried to visit all the sixteen sites on the day, which resulted in a lot of driving and a quick run through each garden. This technique resulted in overall impressions of each gardener's style in a Monet-like impressionistic memory of the day.

Some guests, who were perhaps limited by time, chose to visit the gardens grouped in an area near by. Their reward was seeing a variety of ideas in close proximity. They were able to compare the results of the native plantings in the options presented by various homeowners.

Some guests were Native plant enthusiasts from nearby chapters. It was especially interesting to hear their reactions. One viewer, a Beautyberry member, had visited three sites and commented that one was a "native plant

museum”, another was “functional, and looked nice”, and the third observation concluded that new plantings need time to grow in before they are at their peak potential.



Garden 2 – *Pete Dunkelberg*

Some beginning neophyte members from one of the Brevard county chapters, were full of questions, seeking plants that would work in their garden. This, after all, was the purpose behind opening the tour to the public: the hope of furthering the practice of using more native plants in home landscaping!

Some new gardens were featured on this tour, as well as some public sites that are accessible most of the time. During our tour, there were docents to provide guidance and information. Some chose to visit the more private home gardens. Some deliberately chose homes that had been featured in previous years’ tours. This offered a perspective of development of the garden/landscape over time.

Garden sizes ranged from a compact strip or group of plantings, to portions of a 2-acre site with some left natural and augmented with planted natives and the adjoining landscaped area with natives plants grouped by water usage.

A feature of several gardens was attracting birds or butterflies. Plantings of firebush and beautyberry

offered berries, while other sites offered watering ideas for the feathered friends. One garden’s solar bird fountain spray caught my attention! Another garden offered native palmetto as a screen to conceal a shed, while another chose a dry-site palmetto species to conserve water.



Firebush – *Pete Dunkelberg*



Firebush with berries – *Pete Dunkelberg*

A new garden, all native from the start, with a professional design, illustrated the whole concept. Other gardens have been developing, replacing exotics with natives and adding plantings over time.

There were ideas galore, from groundcovers, herbs, shrubs, and trees to tempt the discerning visitors.

The hosts and helpers at each garden were gracious and contributed to the atmosphere of great bonhomie for the event.

The committee members who worked hard on this event are to be congratulated on their foresight and cooperation. Several new ideas were applauded in this year’s effort. The fabulous tour “ticket” book listing the garden locations and descriptions was a work of art. The “Palmetto” directional signs can be reused for other events as well.

*A parallel listing of plants used in the various tour gardens is in preparation. Ask for a copy at the meeting!*



Maypop – *Pete Dunkelberg*



Muhly Grass – *Pete Dunkelberg*

The four nurseries that sold tickets in advance (one even on the day of the tour!) are deserving of our appreciation and patronage.

We are still collecting comments and evaluations, so drop by the sign-in table at the December 1 meeting and add your two cents worth, to be considered for the next tour.



Stoke's Aster – *Pete Dunkelberg*

### ***2011 Conference Theme Sample***

We are among the chapters planning the 2011 FNPS Conference and would like your input on the theme of our conference. These are our working themes: Please rank in the order of your preference: A = 1; B= 2, C= 3, and make any comments. Return to the sign-in desk at the December 1 meeting, or email to [psgray@mactec.com](mailto:psgray@mactec.com) before December 1.

Patios, Preserves, and Public Spaces: Sustainable Connections

Patios, Preserves, and Public Spaces: Imagine the Connections

Patios, Preserves, and Public Spaces: Creating Corridors

Thank you from the Conference Committee:

Jenny Welch, Chairman

Phyllis Gray, Vice-Chair

**RECEIVE THE TARPAPER ON LINE!** To Receive the Tarpaper on line, please use the following link to join the fnps\_tarpaper yahoo group, [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/fnps\\_tarflower/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/fnps_tarflower/) After accessing the fnps\_tarpaper yahoo group, click on 'Join Group' and continue to follow the instructions.

### *Local Native Nurseries*

#### **Biosphere Consulting Inc**

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

#### **BB Brown's Gardens**

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

#### **Green Images**

(407) 568-1333  
Taylor Creek 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 December 1 at 7:00 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!



*Tarflower Chapter*  
*Florida Native Plant Society*  
*P.O. Box 536021*  
*Orlando, FL 32853-6021*

President – Catherine Read 407-896-5931; [cread@lotspeichandassociates.com](mailto:cread@lotspeichandassociates.com)  
Vice President (Programs) – Julie Becker; [jlbecker@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jlbecker@cfl.rr.com)  
Vice President (Events) – Pete Dunkelberg 407-894-8943; [pdunkelberg@earthlink.net](mailto:pdunkelberg@earthlink.net)  
Secretary – Jackie Rolly 407-359-4963; [j.y.rolly@att.net](mailto:j.y.rolly@att.net)  
Treasurer – Irene Lauricella 407-539-1069; [irenek921@yahoo.com](mailto:irenek921@yahoo.com)  
Field Trips – John Cento 407-913-2417; [jcentocpa@hotmail.com](mailto:jcentocpa@hotmail.com)  
Memberships – Phyllis Gray 407-253-5462 (W); [psgray@mactec.com](mailto:psgray@mactec.com)  
Director – Rick Ehle 407-349-0502  
Plant Rescue – Marge Holt 407-679-6759  
Editor – Jean Vasicek 407-363-9061; [fnps@WinterParkHoney.com](mailto:fnps@WinterParkHoney.com)  
Mailing – Chuck Roux 407-851-8889; [clroux@bellsouth.net](mailto:clroux@bellsouth.net)  
WEBSITE – <http://www.fnps.org/pages/chapters/chapterpg.php?keyword=Tarflower>