



the Tarpaper

The Tarflower Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society



Volume: XXVII February 2010 ISSUE

FEBRUARY 2 PROGRAM: Bird Migration

Tarflower Chapter is joining with Orange Audubon Society to present "Bird Migration" by specialist Paul Lehman. Paul Lehman is one of the country's most knowledgeable and traveled birders.

He was editor of *Birding* magazine for nine years and has been an editor or consultant for several field guides. He has recently compiled *A Birders Guide to Metropolitan Areas*. He has studied the effects of weather and geography on migrant and vagrant birds. Recently he has become a tour guide for WINGS, a U.S. bird tour company.

Paul points out, birders need to know not only where are the best places to look for migrants and at what times particular species are most likely to occur, but they need to have a basic understanding of weather and how it impacts bird migration on a daily, weekly and seasonal basis.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

March TBA

April Craig Huegel

PLANT RESCUE Jackie Rolly

A rescue is scheduled for Saturday, 20 February 2010 at the Orlando International Airport. Meet at 08:30 AM at the 7/11 parking lot at the SW corner of SR 15 (Narcoossee Road) and SR 528 (Beachline). We will then caravan to the rescue site(s). We are looking for wetland and marginal plants, i.e., pickerel weed, etc., to assist the Lawton Chiles School in Oviedo with the restoration of their environmental studies area (a wetland). Please bring a shovel, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, pots, and water for yourself. Let me know if you are attending so we don't leave anyone behind and if we have to reschedule - j.y.rolly@att.net or 407-620-6963.

FEBRUARY FIELD TRIP: Pristine Property in Paisley - Saturday, February 13th.

John Cento

Tarflower chapter member Fred Hunter has preserved his weekend getaway near the Ocala National Forest for decades. He has invited us to his sand pine forest parcel to help him discover the botanical jewels within. On Saturday, February 13th, we will meet at his cottage on 27120 County Road 42 near Paisley at 10:00 am. We will take a lakeside hike of about 1 1/2 miles at a leisurely Southern style pace. Bring a lunch as Fred has a suitable spot for a picnic after botanizing.

Paisley is a small forest community in Northeast Lake County. A helpful hint to find his ranchette: it's a little more than three miles east of the Paisley post office or about eight miles west of the Saint Johns River near DeLand.

If you have any questions about this month's field trip, please contact John Cento at jcentocpa@hotmail.com or (407) 913-2417.

GROWING GREEN

Nature's Bounty, a free community education event, sponsored by the Winter Park Garden club will take place Saturday, February 6, 2010 from 9-1 at Mead Garden, 1300 S Denning Drive, Winter Park. The schedule of events is listed below.

9:30 Growing Your Photography Skills. Floral and garden photography taught by Claudia Wickham, Professional Photographer.

10:30 Growing Green and Blue. Low maintenance water conserving yards with Tera Watkins, Florida Water Star Specialist, St. Johns River Water Management District.

11:30 Greening Your Own Piece of the Planet. Eco Friendly Landscaping Ideas by Ed Fosgate, Landscape Architect, Artist & Owner of Landscapes Orlando.

Items For Sale at Event: Plants, Botanical prints and stationery, worm products.

Refreshments provided, Plant Clinic with Master Gardeners, Door Prizes.

Call 407-644-5770 for more information.

NATIONAL ENDANGERED SPECIES DAY

The third Friday of May has been designate by Congress as National Endangered Species Day. This year it will occur on 21 May 2010. Since we all are interested in the preservation, conservation and protection of Endangered Plants in Florida, FNPS members. Below is "10 Easy Things You Can Do at Home to Protect Endangered Species" and it includes web sites for more information.

10 Easy things you can do at home to protect endangered species

1. Learn about endangered species in your area.

Teach your friends and family about the wonderful wildlife, birds, fish and plants that live near you. The first step to protecting endangered species is learning about how interesting and important they are. Our natural world provides us with many indispensable services including clean air and water, food and medicinal sources, commercial, aesthetic and recreational benefits.

Check out our endangered species pages at www.stopextinction.org/endangeredspecies. For more information about endangered species, visit endangered.fws.gov

2. Visit a national wildlife refuge, park or other open space,

These protected lands provide habitat to many native wildlife, birds, fish and plants. Scientists tell us the best way to protect endangered species is to protect the places where they live. Get involved by volunteering at your local nature center or wildlife refuge. Go wildlife or bird watching in nearby parks. Wildlife related recreation creates millions of jobs and supports local businesses. To find a wildlife refuge near you, visit www.fws.gov/refuges/ To find a park near you, visit www.nps.gov To find a zoo near you, visit www.aza.org

3. Make your home wildlife friendly.

Secure garbage in shelters or cans with locking lids, feed pets indoors and lock pet doors at night to avoid attracting wild animals into your home. Reduce your use of water in your home and garden so that animals that live in or near water can have a better chance of survival. Disinfect bird baths often to avoid disease transmission. Place decals on windows to deter bird collisions. Millions of birds die every year because of collisions with windows. You can help reduce the number of collisions simply by placing decals on the windows in your home and office. For more information on what you can do, check out these tips from the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

4. Provide habitat for wildlife by planting native vegetation in your yard. Native plants provide food and shelter for native wildlife. Attracting native insects like bees and butterflies can help pollinate your plants. The spread of non-native species has greatly impacted native populations around the world. Invasive species compete with native species for resources and habitat. They can even prey on native species directly, forcing native species towards extinction. For more information about native plants, visit <http://www.plantsocieties.org>

5. Minimize use of herbicides and pesticides. Herbicides and pesticides may keep yards looking nice but they are in fact hazardous pollutants that affect wildlife at many levels. Many herbicides and pesticides take a long time to degrade and build up in the soils or throughout the food chain. Predators such as hawks, owls and coyotes can be harmed if they eat poisoned animals. Some groups of animals such as amphibians are particularly vulnerable to these chemical pollutants and suffer greatly as a result of the high levels of herbicides and pesticides in their habitat.

For alternatives to pesticides, visit <http://www.beyondpesticides.org>.

6. Slow down when driving. Many animals live in developed areas and this means they must navigate a landscape full of human hazards. One of the biggest obstacles to wildlife living in developed areas is roads. Roads divide habitat and present a constant hazard to any animal attempting to cross from one side to the other. So when you're out and about, slow down and keep an eye out for wildlife.

7. Recycle and buy sustainable products. Buy recycled paper, sustainable products like bamboo and Forest Stewardship Council wood products to protect forest species. Never buy furniture made from wood from rainforests. Recycle your cell phones, because a mineral used in cell phones and other electronics is mined in gorilla habitat. Minimize your use of palm oil because forests where tigers live are being cut down to plant palm plantations.

8. Never purchase products made from threatened or endangered species. Overseas trips can be exciting and fun, and everyone wants a souvenir. But sometimes the souvenirs are made from species nearing extinction. Avoid supporting the market in illegal wildlife including: tortoise-shell, ivory, coral. Also, be careful of products including fur from tigers, polar bears, sea otters and other endangered wildlife, crocodile skin, live monkeys or apes, most live birds including parrots, macaws, cockatoos and finches, some live snakes, turtles and lizards, some orchids, cacti and cycads, medicinal products made from rhinos, tiger or Asiatic black bear.

9. Report any harassment or shooting of threatened and endangered species. Harassing wildlife is cruel and illegal. Shooting, trapping, or forcing a threatened or endangered animal into captivity is also illegal and can lead to their extinction. Don't participate in this activity, and report it as soon as you see it to your local state or federal wildlife enforcement office. You can find a list of state wildlife departments at <http://www.fws.gov/offices/statelinks.html>

10. Protect wildlife habitat. Perhaps the greatest threat that faces many species is the widespread destruction of habitat. Scientists tell us the best way to protect endangered species is to protect the special places where they live. Wildlife must have places to find food, shelter and raise their young. Logging, oil and gas drilling, over-grazing and development all result habitat destruction. Endangered species habitat should be protected and these impacts minimized.

By protecting habitat, entire communities of animals and plants can be protected together. Parks, wildlife refuges, and other open space should be protected near your community. Open space also provides us with great places to visit and enjoy. Support wildlife habitat and open space protection in your community. When you are buying a house, consider your impact on wildlife habitat.

CARR CABIN WALK *Lavon Silvernell*

On **Saturday, January 30 at 9am**, Ray Ashton, US Forest Service Archeologist, and Lavon Silvernell, Trout Lake Naturalist will lead a walk into the past.

There is something which stirs the imagination about walking in the footsteps of an individual who shaped history. The little dilapidated cabin in the Ocala woods and the 46 acres which surround it provide such an opportunity.

This cabin was built to allow the family of Archie Carr, "the man who saved sea turtles", to enjoy the recreation the Forest afforded. It will be fitting that we return to enjoy a different form of recreation: learning about the past and enjoying the natural beauty of the place.

This activity will begin at 9:00am at Trout Lake Nature Center with a viewing of the Bellville film (15 minutes) on Archie Carr and the cabin too. Immediately following we will travel to the forest site; the road and trails at this site are still primitive. This archeological treasure is not yet open to the public, and can only be visited during special guided tours. The Carr Cabin walk in the forest will end at 11:30.

If walkers like we can stop at the Quarterdeck a local eatery for a quick lunch. After lunch we will travel to the Umatilla Historical Museum before its

closing at 2:00pm. This museum, housed in the old schoolhouse, covers many aspects of Umatilla history from citrus to hunting.

There is no fee for this activity (lunch and museum fee on your own), but pre-registration is required CALL 352-357-7536 or 352-223-4761 to reserve a space, or for more information.

FLORIDA WILDFLOWER FOUNDATION NEEDS YOUR HELP *Jackie Rolly*

In 2009, the Florida Wildflower Foundation completed spring, summer and fall surveys of the five-county St. Johns to the Sea Loop trail (Putnam, Volusia, Brevard, Flagler and St. Johns counties), which will soon become the state's first Wildflower Trail.

In 2010, the Foundation is planning to survey other wildflower-profuse areas in the Panhandle and in North, Central and South Florida. The surveys will identify areas of showy native wildflowers in order to document species and suggest management practices. This research also will help us promote Florida's native wildflowers as economic and intrinsic community assets.

First, though, we need your assistance in finding wildflower-profuse sites and identifying survey routes.

Here's what to do:

1. Send the approximate locations of any showy stands of **roadside** or **trailside** (paved bike or foot path) native wildflowers you've seen in Florida during spring, summer and/or fall.
2. Include the scientific name of the plant species if you know it (the common name is fine). If you don't know it, describe the flowering plants' characteristics (i.e., color, height, growth habit, etc.).
3. Include the road's name, as well as a nearby intersection or another landmark that will help us locate the site.
4. Include the region (as defined by the attached map) and the city and/or county in which the site occurs.
5. Mention the approximate date of the sighting. If the date is unknown, please include the season.
6. Describe the habitat in general terms (i.e., wet ditch, sand dune, pine forest, etc.).
7. If you know of **public lands** (state, national, city and county parks; water management district holdings, etc.) that have great native wildflower displays, please share their names, locations, species seen and the dates of blooming.
8. If your garden or civic club has **planted roadside or trailside native wildflowers**, please send the planting's location and species list.
9. Submit digital photos of your sighting if you have them.

Email your information to wildflower.research@gmail.com by Dec. 1. We look forward to hearing from you. **Please forward this to anyone who can help.** Thanks!

**FLORIDA COOPERATIVE
AGRICULTURAL PEST SURVEY FOR
MILE-A-MINUTE, *Mikania micrantha*
Kunth, in Miami-Dade Co.**

Andrew Derksen and Wayne Dixon



Fig. 1. A population of *Mikania micrantha* found in the Redlands agricultural production area.

Mikania micrantha Kunth (Fig. 1), mile-a-minute, is a fast growing vine on both the Federal and Florida state noxious weed lists (USDA-APHIS-PPQ 2006; FDACS-DPI 2006). It thrives in warm and humid environments, and has been observed to grow almost half a meter per week under optimal conditions. While native to Central and South America, its global range expanded to cover Southeast Asia and the Pacific during the 1940s when it was used as camouflage for airfields. As a rapidly growing climbing vine, it can smother and overwhelm other small plants and even large trees. Left uncontrolled, it can cover abandoned disturbed areas in only a few months, and then spill over into agricultural areas. It has been documented as a pest in banana, cacao, coconut, oil palm, rubber and rice plantations (Waterhouse and Mitchell 1998). Mile-a-minute is one of the top one hundred global invasive pests.

Mikania micrantha is a perennial vine with flowers present approximately two weeks late in the calendar year (Zhang *et al.* 2004). Seeds are dispersed by wind a month after bloom, but the plant can also reproduce vegetatively, with roots emerging at each stem node.

It can be difficult for specialists to identify and, upon casual examination, may be confused with *Mikania scandens* (L.) Willd., a close relative and native Florida plant. The heart-shaped leaves of *Mikania micrantha* are in opposite pairs along the main stem, with small, dense clusters of white flowers

(Csurhes and Edwards 1998). It grows in disturbed areas, will exhibit rampant growth and has pale green or yellow-green leaves to further distinguish it from two other *Mikania* spp. On the other hand, *Mikania scandens* will be found growing mostly in moist natural areas; will exhibit restrained growth and has medium green leaves and pinkish flowers. The second native species, *Mikania cordifolia*, should not present identification problems due to its hairy leaves and large flower head (Dr. Richard Weaver, personal communication).

**GOVERNOR CRIST ANNOUNCES
BUDGET** Jackie Rolly

Great news! Governor Crist is expected to announce today that his recommended budget for July 2010-June 2011 will include funding for Florida Forever; the level of funding he will recommend is not yet known. Legislative committees are discussing Florida Forever funding, but it will be another tough year with up to a \$3 billion shortfall.



This photo is of mostly everyone who attended the first meeting of the new FNPS Seminole County Chapter, Cuplet Fern.

**THE PLIGHT OF THE EUROPEAN
HONEY BEE** Jean Vasicek

Although the news media has turned its attention to other topics, don't be fooled, the plight of the European honeybee continues. I recently attended the National Beekeepers Conference held in Orlando, Fl this year. Beekeepers continue to dig mass graves for their dead laborers. The largest beekeeper in the U.S., owner of 70,000 beehives, lost an unprecedented 40,000 beehives.

One of the main causes of the huge losses in the honeybee population is due to the rising payouts for

pollination coupled with the decrease in honey prices. Beekeepers simply cannot sustain themselves by selling honey. They have turned to reaping the benefits of pollinating crops as a source of income. Bees forced to pollinate typically produce little or no honey. Chinese imports have driven the price of honey so low that the U.S. honey producer cannot, and will not compete. So, U.S. beekeepers are focusing on pollinating crops instead of making honey.

At the conference, I sat in on a lecture given by U.S. Customs. Since most of the honey consumed in the U.S. is imported, Customs is faced with a difficult task trying to prevent 'fake' honey from entering our country. As a consumer, you can help by saying 'no' to cheap honey imitations. If the honey price seems too low to be true, don't buy it. It probably isn't honey. So, leave it on the shelf. Get to know your local beekeeper, and buy your honey from them. For more information about honey, its health benefits, etc., check out www.WinterParkHoney.com. or go to the National Honey Board website, www.NHB.org. And, don't forget, plant red maples to supplement the honeybees' winter appetite.

2010 ELECTIONS

The Nominating Committee of the Tarflower Chapter is looking for candidates to fill the Tarflower Board positions listed below. Request members review the duties of the various Officers and provide recommended names and contacts to fill these positions. The Nominating Committee will contact the candidates to ensure their availability to fill the position. Please provide your recommendations to Jackie Rolly j.y.rolly@att.net, (407-620-6963), or to Carolina Lane at carolina@mindspring.com, or see us at the February meeting. Voting on the slate of nominees will be at the May Annual Meeting. Although some of the people currently serving on the Board may opt to continue serving, we wish to provide this opportunity for others to serve.

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.

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 nomination 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.

Nominee _____

Nominee _____

1st Vice-President (Programs)

- 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

Nominee _____

Nominee _____

2nd Vice-President (Events)

- 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.

Nominee _____

Nominee _____

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.

Nominee _____

Nominee _____

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.

Nominee _____

Nominee _____

Note: The immediate past President shall be the FNPS State Chapter Director and as such shall also be an automatic member of the Executive Committee of this corporation.
State Chapter Director.

RECEIVE THE TARPAPER ON LINE! To Receive the Tarpaper on line, please use the following link to joint the fnps_tarpaper yahoo group, 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 February 2 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!

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