



the Tarpaper

The Tarflower Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

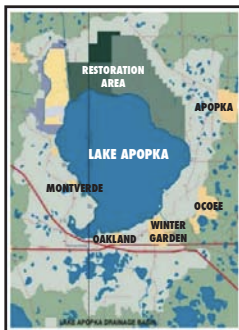
Volume XXVIII • July 2011



JULY 5 PROGRAM:

The Botanical History of Lake Apopka with Jim Thomas

A review of the botanical history of Lake Apopka indicates a series of major changes in vegetative populations which can be directly correlated with the rise and fall of this great lake. Once the most productive fishery in the southeastern U.S. with an entire industry built around fishing, a major crash occurred in the 1950s and the lake became the most polluted lake in Florida. Vegetative changes continue to occur as restoration projects are initiated. This talk will include a timeline of these events.



Jim Thomas is a fourth generation Florida native. He received a BS from Florida State University and a masters from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Additional graduate studies were completed at the University of Puerto Rico,

Yale University, University of Florida, North Carolina State University and Rutgers University.

Jim is owner and president of Biosphere Consulting, LLC in Winter Garden. The company specializes in ecologic restoration and bioscaping, working on projects from residential backyards to mitigation and lakeshore restoration and management.

He is the founder and current President of the Friends of Lake Apopka and the Oakland Nature Preserve, founder and past president of the Friends of the Wekiva and past president of Orange Audubon Society.

JULY FIELD TRIP:

Eco-Buggy Tour at Deep Creek Saturday, July 9th

by Paul Eisenbrown

The Volusia County Environmental Lands Program has many activities going on throughout the year. They also have some unique ways to accomplish them — one of which is to transport participants in a covered tram pulled behind a truck. We will explore their property while riding in the tram and making stops to check out the plants or other items of interest. While we learn about the forestry, agricultural history and plant communities of this 4,800 acre site, we'll want to keep a good plant list so they can have record of what we saw.



The buggy is limited to 25 people. Directions can be downloaded from the Tarflower page on the FNPS website or by visiting <http://www.fnps.org/chapters/tarflower/pdfs/deepcreekdirections.pdf>. For questions about this or other field trips, call Paul Eisenbrown at 407-294-3519 or e-mail him at peisenbrown@earthlink.net.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

AUGUST 2: Tia Meer presents "Sustainable Organic Gardening"

SEPTEMBER 6: Don Spence discusses "Native Trees Under Attack"

OCTOBER 4: Catherine Bowman/Marc Godts on "Native Landscaping for Dry Shade"

NOVEMBER 1: Jean Vasicek presents "The Honeybee"

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

AUGUST 13: afternoon trip to Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area to see flowering Ixia



SEPTEMBER 17-18: overnight trip to Fakahatchee Strand with Friends of the Fakahatchee We'll drive down Saturday morning and meet our biologist guide at 1pm to search for orchids and other south Florida plants. Sunday, on the way home, we will stop in Lake Placid to tour the City of Murals.



If you are going, please consider carpooling. And please start looking at motel/hotel options in or near Everglades

city for Saturday night. A good place to start is www.florida-everglades.com/stay.htm. For more info on Lake Placid's murals, visit www.htn.net/lplacid/murals/murals.htm.

THE PALMETTO IS GOING GREEN!

FNPS will soon offer members the ability to "opt out" of snail mailed paper copies of our *Palmetto* magazine and receive it via email. Not surprisingly, as we're a green group, members have started requesting this option and we are investigating the possibilities. FNPS does not plan to cease production of paper *Palmettos*, so don't jump to any conclusions. We're merely exploring ways to better serve our members and potentially, if there are cost savings, to redirect member revenue to better meet our mission. We'd love to hear from members who might prefer to receive their *Palmetto* by email. We will record your preference now so that we're ready to go as soon as we have a solution that meets our high standards for communication. If you have suggestions, comments or questions on this service, please contact info@fnps.org.

ORDER YOUR TARFLOWER POLO SHIRT TODAY!

The Tarflower chapter is now taking orders for our new Tarflower chapter polo shirts. Choose gray or black — all sizes and colors will sell for \$25 each. To avoid carrying a large inventory, we are asking those interested in purchasing a Tarflower chapter polo shirt to pre-order at the July meeting or by contacting Frank Winzig at fwinzig@gmail.com. Shirts will be delivered in August. **Order yours today!**



Tarflower Needs You!

The following are committees listed in the Tarflower Bylaws. Committee heads are appointed by the President. Please review and let anyone on the Tarflower Board know if you are interested in serving as a Committee Head or on a Committee. (Some Committee Heads are shown below if already serving.) Please consider getting involved in your chapter and keeping Tarflower an important and viable chapter. We need you!

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|----------------------|-------------------------|
| A. Conservation | H. Plant Sales and Fund |
| B. Education | Drives (Lead for Leu |
| C. Publicity (Head: | Gardens Plant Sale: |
| Jackie Sward) | Marc Godts) |
| D. Membership (Head: | I. Budget |
| Phyllis Gray) | J. Events |
| E. Programs | K. Newsletter (Editor: |
| F. Science and | Stacey Matrazzo) |
| Information | L. Communications |
| G. Landscape | |

Do you have a story you'd like to share with other Tarflower members? Is there an upcoming event you'd like to promote? Or maybe there's something you'd like us to cover in a future issue. Send your articles, events, ideas, photos and suggestions to Stacey Matrazzo, *The Tarpaper Editor*, at stacey@impactpress.com. (Please do not reduce or compress photos before sending; a size of 3x4 at 300dpi is preferred.) The deadline to submit an article, event or announcement for the August issue is July 18.

Making Walking Sticks in a Special Place

by Pete Dunkelberg



Paul demonstrates how to make a walking stick (Photo by Pete Dunkelberg)



Antonio Cento making a walking stick (Photo by Pete Dunkelberg)



Jackie Sward working on her walking stick (Photo by Paul Eisenbrown)



Rhexia blooming at Shadow Bay (Photo by Pete Dunkelberg)

We had a unique field trip in June. Paul Eisenbrown demonstrated how to make walking sticks and how to use them. It was an especially good activity for parents and their children to do together. Not a lot of parents showed up and brought their kids, but it was a good idea for those who did, and for anyone who wanted to make a walking stick. Unprocessed sticks were provided, along with sandpaper and some other tools. People had to supply their own whittling knives if they wished to whittle.

Walking sticks are used more in mountainous areas than in Florida, but three people used them on our recent night hike at Catfish Creek. They're helpful on steep or uneven terrain; and some innocent looking grassy areas can be very uneven, with the ground dropping off 18 inches between clumps of *Spartina*. Some people say that you should use a walking stick in high grass or thick bushes and thump the ground as you go. They say it makes the snakes think something big is coming and they get out of the way.

After the walking sticks were made, Paul led a walk in the rosemary bald portion of Shadow Bay Park. Shadow Bay is a very special place on the west side of Orlando. It is one of the last remnants of a once extensive area of high scrub with many now endangered plants. Shadow Bay is one of the few places where you may still see many rare and beautiful plants, including Curtiss' milkweed, Florida bonamia and the very rare scrub lupine — and of course, tarflowers — and many more.

Thanks to rapid changes in elevation, Shadow Bay also has several lakes and ponds within its modest area. If you know where to look within the park, you will see many of the colorful and interesting wildflowers that bloom where the ground is wet. There are expanses of marsh pinks (*Sabatia*), meadow beauties (*Rhexia*) and redroot (*Lachnanthes*) and even some terrestrial *Habenaria* orchids.

Shadow Bay is truly a jewel in our midst.



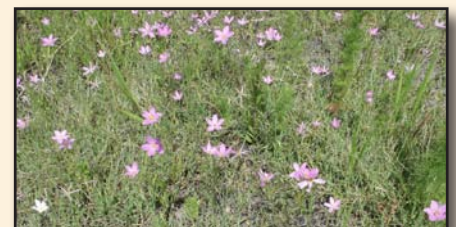
Tarflowers in bloom (Photo by Pete Dunkelberg)



Rosemary at Shadow Bay, lake in background (Photo by Pete Dunkelberg)



Habenaria repens in bloom (Photo by Pete Dunkelberg)



Sabatia blooming (Photo by Pete Dunkelberg)

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, July 5 at 7pm**. See you there!
(For directions, call 407-246-2620 option 1).

Executive Committee — The next board meeting will be **Thursday, July 14, 2011 at 6pm**. For more information, contact Catherine Bowman. Members are welcome to attend.

The Tarpaper Online! — Current and past issues of *The Tarpaper* can be viewed online by accessing the chapter website at www.fnps.org. Click on Chapters -> Tarflower and follow the instructions to *The Tarpaper!*

BECOME A MEMBER

Make checks payable to:

Florida Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 278
Melbourne, FL 32902-0278

To join online or for more information, visit www.fnps.org or call 321-271-6702.

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\$50	Family/Household
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