



the Tarflower

The Tarflower Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

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• December 2011



DECEMBER 6 PROGRAM: Dr. Jack Stout presents **Why Are Some Plants Rare?**

Jack Stout was brought up in central West Virginia where life on a farm, hunting and fishing set him on a course to study natural history and ecology. He completed degrees in Oregon, Virginia and Washington before taking a job with Florida Technological University. He taught in the Biology Department for 35 years and retired in late 2007. Jack has guided over 50 graduate students to complete their Masters degrees and currently has one Masters student; he is also co-chair of a doctoral student in Conservation Biology. Upon arriving in Florida, he immediately became engaged in ecological studies of scrub plants and animals and the environmental impact of the Space Shuttle program at the Kennedy Space Center. He studied plant communities and small mammal populations on Merritt Island and Cape Canaveral for seven years. He and his students have done multiple-year studies of plants such as clasping warea, scrub lupine, pigeon wing, scrub bluestem and the pigmy fringe tree. Jack has monitored populations of scrub lupine for 20 years. He joined the Florida Native Plant Society in the second year of its existence.



clasping warea (Warea amplexifolia)

On December 6, Dr. Jack Stout will look at plant rarity as a life history feature and review the literature for examples worldwide. Florida has many examples of rare plants and each example has a somewhat unique set of circumstances to explain the condition; in some cases, we have no idea what is going on. Legal protection will also be discussed.

Important Notes About our December Meeting!

The Tarflower Board has been working diligently all year to come up with our first ever annual budget. **The 2012 budget is posted on the Tarflower webpage for your review.** We hope this will give us all a better idea of what funds are coming and going; in addition, it will allow us to get your approval on our regular expenditures without having to ask you for a separate vote on items that recur each year. **Please come out and vote!**

If you have been growing native plants and have some to share, please bring them to the December meeting to add to the drawing. Many thanks to Green Images and Mike Mingea for so graciously donating plants and time for our monthly drawings and to those of you who regularly bring plants to share that you have propagated or salvaged. Let's end the year with a really big drawing!

We will also have **all our books, hand lenses and chapter logo pencils for sale**, as well as **special prices on remaining T-shirts.**

TARFLOWER CHAPTER NEEDS YOU!

The Tarflower chapter is seeking the following volunteers:

Field Trip Coordinator—Responsibilities include:

- selecting locations for chapter field trips and coordinating with land managers to arrange for a leader, or lead trips him or herself;
- coordinating with appropriate individuals regarding best times to go to each location;
- collecting any required fees from participants when applicable;
- making necessary arrangements (or enlisting help of other members) for all aspects of field trips including site access, background information, transportation to and/or around the site, etc.;
- providing and making sure liability waivers are signed by field trip participants;
- attending chapter meetings to announce field trips and provide write-ups on upcoming trips to the *Tarflower* editor;
- attending chapter board meetings to discuss planned and upcoming field trips

Vice President In Charge of Events—This individual would coordinate events where Tarflower would have a booth/table/display and may sell items such as plants, books, shirts or provide educational information to the public or a particular group. Events include the annual Leu Gardens plant sale in March, the Orlando Wetlands Park Festival in February, Wekiva River Fest and Oakland Heritage Festival. Responsibilities include:

- arranging for volunteers and/or attend the event him/her self;
- coordinating with Frank Winzig and/or others to obtain the necessary display and educational material for the event and assisting with (or arranging for) on-site set-up;
- coordinating with venues regarding fees and event protocol;
- responding to requests for the chapter to participate in various events and providing information for consideration to the chapter board;
- attending chapter meetings to announce events and board meetings to discuss events;
- writing notices or summary articles about events (or arranging for other volunteers to do this) for the *Tarflower*

If you are interested in volunteering for either position, or if you have questions about either position, please contact Catherine Bowman at garberia08@gmail.com or see her at a meeting.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

JAN 3 Eleonor Foerste: "Tips for Identifying Central Florida's Oaks and Pines"

FEB 7 Shirley Denton: "Exploring the Best of the Best of Florida's Uplands"

FLORIDA WILDFLOWER FOUNDATION AWARDS \$10,000 GRANT TO SUPPORT USF PLANT ATLAS WEBSITE

The Florida Wildflower Foundation has awarded a \$10,000 grant to support the continued development of the University of South Florida's Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants website (www.florida.plantatlas.usf.edu). The Atlas provides information on the distribution of plants within the state. It also serves as a resource for the *Guide to Vascular Plants of Florida* (Wunderlin, 1998; Wunderlin and Hansen, 2003, 2011) and other outstanding botanical references.

"The funding will make it possible to add herbarium specimen data and further improve the Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants website," said Dr. Richard Wunderlin of the Institute for Systematic Botany. "With accurate, scientifically documented, county-by-county distribution maps and photographs of all native plants in Florida, the Atlas is a great resource for everyone from research scientists to native plant enthusiasts."

Florida Wildflower Foundation board chairman Terry Zinn said, "The Florida Wildflower Foundation is excited to be able to support the important work being done for Florida's wildflowers and native plants through this excellent resource."

The grant was made possible by donations received through Florida State Wildflower license plate sales. Since 2000, the plate has provided more than \$2.6 million for native wildflower research, planting and education projects statewide.



The Florida Wildflower Foundation is a non-profit organization based in Maitland, Florida. To learn more about its work, visit www.flawildflowers.org.

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

Please note: There will be no field trip in December.

The Tarflower Chapter is currently seeking a Field Trip Coordinator. If you are interested, please contact Catherine Bowman at garberia08@gmail.com or see her at a meeting.

HELP THE FLORIDA WILDLIFE CORRIDOR EXPEDITION

On Jan 17, 2012, a small team of conservationists will embark on a 100 day, 1000 mile trek from the Everglades to Georgia's Okefenokee. Their mission is to raise awareness for the important opportunity to protect and connect a corridor of natural lands, water bodies and working ranches and farms throughout interior Florida.

Please share the Florida Wildlife Corridor cause with friends and please make a donation to support their campaign. Each \$25 donated will sponsor a mile of the expedition. To learn more, visit [Facebook.com/FloridaWildlifeCorridor](https://www.facebook.com/FloridaWildlifeCorridor) and FloridaWildlifeCorridor.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec 3 – PLANT RESCUE AT PINE RIDGE

Tarflower members will be at the Pine Ridge rescue site on Saturday, Dec 3. We will meet at the Walgreens at the intersection of Tilden Road and SR 535 at 8:30am. Please bring shovel, water for you and the plants if you can, insect repellent, sunscreen, hat and closed toe shoes. If you plan on attending, please let us know by emailing j.y.rolly@att.net so we don't leave you behind and so we can notify you if there is a change in plans.

Dec 3-4 – OAKLAND COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

Support the Oakland Nature Preserve by coming out to the Oakland Community Garage Sale. Browse a selection of antiques, collectibles and junkie. Find unique gifts and make your Christmas shopping!



When: Saturday, Dec 3
from 9am to 4pm
Sunday, Dec 4
from 10am to 3pm

Where: the corner of Tubb St
and Oakland Ave in Oakland

This event is sponsored by the Town of Oakland to benefit the Oakland Nature Preserve. If you are interested in having a booth at the sale, please call 407-905-0054.

Dec 7, 9, 13 – SCRUB LUPINE PLANTINGS

If you are interested in volunteering to help plant Scrub Lupine seedlings, please contact Juliet Rynear, Rare Plant Specialist, Bok Tower Gardens Rare Plant Conservation Program at 863-676-1408, ext. 2241 or via email at jrynear@boktower.org.

Dec 7 – Mackay Gardens & Lakeside Preserve
900 Mackay Blvd., Lake Alfred, Polk County
Wednesday, Dec 7 at 9am

Dec 9 – Tibet-Butler Preserve
8777 SR 535, Windermere, Orange County
Friday, Dec 9 at 9am

Dec 13 – Bill Frederick Park at Turkey Lake
3401 S. Hiwassee Rd, Orlando, Orange County
Tuesday, Dec 13 at 9am

Dec 10 – GUIDED HIKE AT ONP

Get out and take a guided tour through the Oakland Nature Preserve with trained specialist, Shane Overstreet, follow the boardwalk out to the shore of Lake Apopka and explore the upland trails. Free to the public. Oakland Nature Preserve, 747 Machete Trail, Oakland. For more information, call 407-905-0054. Hike begins at 2pm.

CHRISTMAS IN NOVEMBER

photos and text by Pete Dunkelberg

Our November field trip had two parts, both in Christmas and each a good trip in its own right. In the morning, we gathered at Savage Christmas Creek Preserve for Part 1. It was a fine morning for a leisurely walk with wildflowers all along the way. We started where it was dry enough for blue curls (*Trichostema spp.*) and went gradually to an area wet enough for pitcher plants (*Sarracenia minor*). Along the way, we saw *Liatris*, *Carphephorus*, *Palafoxia* and the now rare (but unlisted so far) catbells (*Baptisia perfoliata*). The roundish clasping leaves of this species look as if the stem grew right through them. The plant was already turning brown for the winter, but it was still easy to see and photograph those clasping leaves. Of course there was goldenrod (*Solidago spp.*) blooming and a field of flattop goldenrod (*Euthamia tenuifolia*) and a couple species of *Hypericum*. Some of the *Liatris* and *Carphephorus* had finished blooming, but there was still plenty to appeal to us and to some butterflies. After a very pleasant morning, we went to nearby Orlando Wetlands Park for lunch and Part 2.

As we entered the Wetlands Park, Wheeler Rd. was lined with blooming Elliott's aster (*Symphyotrichum elliottii*), seaside goldenrod (*Solidago sempervirens*), bur-marigold (*Bidens laevis*) and Florida tickseed (*Coreopsis floridana*). After our picnic lunch, we enjoyed a hayride around the extensive berms that separate the ponds of this special wetland. There we saw the species that were blooming on Wheeler Rd. and as well as duck potato (*Sagittaria spp.*), alligator flag (*Thalia geniculata*), saltbush or groundsel tree (*Baccharis halimifolia*) and climbing hempvine (*Mikania scandens*). Julie made a list of plants, blooming or not, which will be merged with other lists of plants found there. Meanwhile, I took pictures of various plants. These pictures and many more taken by wetlands volunteers and other Tarflower members along with a combined plant list may become part of an educational display that we will prepare for the wetlands park. All in all it was a productive field trip and a fine day to be out in nature.



field trip participants group photo



leaves of catbells (*Baptisia perfoliata*)



pitcher plants (*Sarracenia minor*)



Elliott's aster (*Symphyotrichum elliottii*)



Florida tickseed (*Coreopsis floridana*)



bur-marigold (*Bidens laevis*)

FNPS 2012 ENDOWMENT GRANT RESEARCH AWARDS & CONSERVATION GRANT AWARDS

The Florida Native Plant Society maintains an Endowment Research Grant program for the purpose of funding research on native plants. These are grants of \$1500 or less, awarded for a 1-year period and intended to support research that forwards the FNPS mission "to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida."

FNPS Conservation Grants support applied native plant conservation projects in Florida. These are grants of \$1500 or less, awarded for a 1-year period. Examples of projects that this grant supports are on-the-ground native plant community restoration, land acquisition and habitat enhancement. To qualify for a Conservation Grant, the proposed project must be sponsored by an FNPS Chapter.

Application guidelines and details are on the FNPS website (www.fnps.org) under 'Awards and Grants.' Application deadline for the 2012 Awards is March 2, 2012. Awards will be announced at the May 2012 Annual Conference in Plant City. Awardees do not have to be present at the Conference to receive award. Questions regarding grant programs should be sent to info@fnps.org.

CALL FOR RESEARCH PAPERS & POSTER PRESENTATIONS FOR 2012 FNPS CONFERENCE

The FNPS annual conference will be held at the John R. Trinkle Center, Hillsborough Community College Plant City Campus, Plant City, Florida on May 17-20, 2012. The Research Track will include presented papers on Friday, May 18 and Saturday, May 19. Posters will be on display on Friday and Saturday and the poster session will be on Saturday afternoon.

Researchers are invited to submit abstracts on research related to native plants and plant communities of Florida including preservation, conservation and restoration. Presentations are 20 minutes in total length (15 min. presentation, 5 min. questions).

Abstracts of not more than 200 words should be submitted as a Word file by email to Paul A. Schmalzer (paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov) by February 1, 2011. Include title, affiliation and address and indicate whether you will be presenting a paper or poster.

SOCIETY NEWS

Chapter Meetings — Chapter meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at **HARRY P. LEU GARDENS** (1920 N. Forest Ave., Orlando. For directions, call 407-246-2620, option 1). The next meeting is **Tuesday, December 6 at 7pm**. See you there!

Executive Committee — The next board meeting will be **Tuesday, December 13, 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*!

Contribute to The Tarpaper! — Send your articles, event listings, photos and suggestions to Stacey Matrazzo, Editor, at stacey@impactpress.com. (Please do not reduce or compress photos before sending; a size of 3x4 at 300dpi is preferred.) **The submission deadline for the January 2012 issue is December 19.**

HOLIDAY SHOPPING THAT HELPS FNPS!

As we approach the holidays, many of us will be shopping online for gifts. **Goodshop.com** is a **free and easy** way to make the same purchases you'd make anyway and also raise funds for the Florida Native Plant Society.

GoodShop.com works with more than 2,500 stores (including Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, eBay, Macy's, Barnes & Noble, Apple, PetSmart etc...). Every time you purchase something using GoodShop.com, a percentage will be donated to FNPS!



Make sure you select or enter "Florida Native Plant Society – Melbourne" in the "Favorite Cause" field. Then simply choose the online store you want and start shopping!

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visit www.goodsearch.com
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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.

\$35	Individual
\$50	Family/Household
\$15	Full-time Student
\$15	Library
\$50	Non-Profit
\$75	Contributing
\$100	Supporting
\$125	Business/Corporate
\$250	Donor
\$1000	Life



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