



the Tarpaper

The Tarflower Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

Volume XXIV • March 2012



MARCH 6 PROGRAM: Wildflower Propagation for Home Gardeners by Claudia Larsen

It's easy and fun to start your own wildflowers using seeds, division and cuttings. Claudia Larsen's presentation will describe the seed collection, cleaning and planting process that she uses at her Micanopy Wildflowers Nursery where she grows over 70 species of Florida natives.



Through years of trial and error of collecting seed, growing plants using simple horticultural production practices, and taking cues from Mother Nature, Claudia has learned a lot — and she will share what she's learned with you.



Claudia Larsen is recently retired from the University of Florida Environmental Horticulture Department where she was a Senior Biological Scientist. She has a long love for native plants and has been active in the Paynes Prairie FNPS chapter for over 25 years. Her wildflower nursery

has grown from a part-time hobby to a small wholesale nursery that provides plants for state and local parks, local native plant sales and various restoration projects in north central Florida.

MAR 10 FIELD TRIP:

Colbert-Cameron Mitigation Bank



Located in the southeastern portion of Volusia County, the Colbert-Cameron Mitigation Bank (CCMB) is a 2500-acre site that features forested wetlands, prairies, cypress domes and a unique inland salt marsh area. There are some very interesting salt flats on the eastern side of CCMB that will be pretty cool to

investigate. Other features include a rookery, several active eagle's nests, and the headwaters of Cabbage Slough. Tom Odom will be our tour guide for this field trip.

We will meet Tom at 9am on Morgan Alderman Rd, approximately 1 mile north of SR46. From Orlando/Winter Park, take SR426 (Aloma Ave) heading east toward Oviedo until you get to SR46. There is a light and a convenience store at that intersection in Geneva. Take a right on SR46 and continue over the river until you see dense pine forest ahead on the left. The turnoff for Morgan Alderman will be on the left just where the pines begin.

For those who want to carpool, meet at the Burger King at Alafaya Trail and Hwy 50 at 8am. We will depart no later than 8:15am. It will take about 40 minutes to get from Burger King to Morgan Alderman Road.

Bring a lunch as we will eat at a picnic site within CCMB. Bring sunscreen, binoculars, insect repellent, and water for short hikes before and after lunch.

For more information on CCMB, visit http://www.mitigationmarketing.com/colbert_cameron_mb.html. Aerials of the site are available on the [Tarflower web page](#).

Thank you to Tom Odom, President of Mitigation Resources, LLC, for taking time to show us the property.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

APR 2 Walter Taylor: "Wild Flowers"

MAY 1 Christy LeDuc, Entomologist:
"Insects — Beyond Caterpillars, Ants and Dragonflies"

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

APR 14 Green Isle Gardens Native
Plant Nursery

MAY 12 Econ Farm

**Registration NOW OPEN for
2012 FNPS Annual Conference —
Preserving the Natural Heart of Florida**



Get to know the flora of the Natural Heart of Florida and help celebrate the preservation of our irreplaceable landscapes at the 32nd Annual FNPS Conference in Plant City, hosted by the Hernando and Suncoast chapters. They've got an exciting conference planned this year. Check out some of the highlights:

- Keynote speakers Jeff Klinkenberg, author and *St. Pete Times* staff writer; Doug Tallamy, author of *Bringing Nature Home, How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants*; and Hillary Swain, Executive Director and Senior Research Biologist at Archbold Biological Station;
- Diverse field trips to some of Florida's must-see attractions that highlight the different strategies for preserving the natural heart of Florida — including a few that explore Florida's hydrologic heart, the Green Swamp;
- fun and eclectic socials including A Night in the Garden at GiGi's and a closing banquet at Crystal Springs;
- and as always, plenty of shopping for native plants, arts, crafts, books and much more!

Conference registration is now open and available online! Visit the conference website (www.fnps.org/conference) for a schedule and to learn more about programs, field trips and social events. Remember: field trips fill quickly, so don't delay if you have your heart set on a particular trip.

This year's conference is budget-friendly! The Conference Committee has snagged a great hotel price of just \$77.28 at the Red Rose Inn in Plant City. **Plus there is no increase in conference fees.**

For questions, contact us at info@fnps.org or 321-271-6702. **Register today at www.fnps.org/conference!**

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAR 3 Tarflower Plant Rescue

This month's plant rescue will be at the Pine Ridge site. Please bring pots, shovels and water for the plants (rain water, if you can). Bring a hat, sunscreen, water for yourself. Rescued plants will go into the restoration areas at Oakland Nature Preserve, or your yard. Please contact Jackie Rolly at y.y.rolly@att.net, if you plan on attending so we don't leave anyone behind or if there is a change in plans (maybe it will rain).

When: Saturday, Mar 3, 8:30am

Where: Meet at the Walgreens parking lot at the intersection of Tilden Road and SR 535. We'll caravan from there.

If you plan on coming, please contact Jackie Rolly at j.y.rolly@att.net or 407-620-6963 so we don't leave anyone behind or if there is a change in plans or it rains.

MAR 8-9 Urban Forestry Institute

The Urban Forestry Institute is a hands-on training workshop for individuals involved in community or municipal urban forestry management—especially beneficial for tree advocates, tree board members, Tree City USA applicants, urban forestry managers, community volunteers, landscape architects, planners, consultants, citizens and governmental employees in all sizes of communities throughout the state.

When: Thursday, Mar 8 and Friday, Mar 9, 8:30am

Where: University of Central Florida in Orlando

Cost: \$125.00 per person

CEUs are available from ISA, SAF, FENGLA, and LIAF.

Visit <http://www.fufc.org/> for more information and to register.

MAR 24 Wildflower & Garden Festival

This FREE, family-friendly event features wildflower and gardening presentations, as well as hands-on workshops on composting, raised-bed gardening, Florida-friendly landscaping, natural pest control and more. There will also be a Kids' Art Zone and live entertainment.

When: Saturday, Mar 24, 9am to 3pm

Where: West Indiana Avenue in historic downtown Deland, FL

Cost: FREE admission and parking

For more information, visit www.floridawildflowerfestival.com.

APR 16-19 Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society & FLEPPC 2012 Spring Conference

This year's conference theme is "Invasion of the Habitat Snatchers: Wildlife Invades" and will include symposium, plenary session, technical sessions, poster session, vendor expo, beast feast, concert, socials, banquet dinner, awards ceremony, workshops and field trips. The joint conference provides an excellent opportunity for students and professionals working on wildlife research, management, and invasive species control in Florida to present results of recent studies, discuss works in progress, and share ideas.

When: Apr 16-19

Where: Ocala Hilton, 3600 SW 36th Ave, Ocala, FL

For more information, visit <http://www.fltws.org/STD2012SpringConference.php>.

A Field Trip in Three Acts by Pete Dunkelberg

We met at the Burger King on East Colonial and carpooled to the coast. Our first stop was the Visitors' Center on Merritt Island. There are interesting plants out in front of the building—from *Baccharis* to *Tillandsia*. Behind the building, there is a freshwater marsh lined with lots of native plants including firebush, milkweed and giant leather ferns. They will also loan you very good binoculars the better to see wildlife with.



Black Point Wildlife Drive
(Photo by Phyllis Gray)

Soon we were on our way to Black Point Wildlife Drive, a several mile drive through prime birding territory. The shore birds, diving birds and wading birds steal the show; but if you pay attention, there are, of course, plants everywhere you look. We saw birds from avocets to willets, from coots to Northern pintails to blue-winged teal to reddish egrets. And there were plants from white blooming thistles to white mangroves, from goldenrod to Christmasberry to pineland pimpernel to Florida privet.



white thistle flower
(Photo by Phyllis Gray)

Each car in our group moved along Black Point Wildlife Drive with many stops, and then we got together again at The Enchanted Forest for our picnic lunch. After lunch we were treated to a guided tour through several plant communities by park naturalist Joe Swingle. At this near-coastal preserve, you can walk from scrub through mesic hammock to areas damp enough for strap fern in just minutes. I especially noticed the thornier plants: hog plum, Hercules' club and sweet acacia, so called for its scent when in full bloom. If you ever bump into it, you will discover the reason for its botanical name, *Acacia tortuosa*.



Northern pintail
(Photo by Phyllis Gray)

One of the things I like about field trips is the opportunity to meet new plants and learn about them from knowledgeable Tarflower members. I had never seen Florida privet in bloom before and



Kay Hudson talks to our guide, Joe Swingle; Fred Hunter in background (Photo by Pete Dunkelberg)

didn't recognize it, and I had somehow missed sweet acacia entirely. Fortunately, Catherine was there to answer my questions. The trip was excellently planned and organized by Kay Hudson, and a very good time was had by all.



our group at the Enchanted Forest
(Photo by Joe Swingle)



Acacia tortuosa
(Photo by Pete Dunkelberg)

Wildflower, butterfly & bird app premieres

Nature-lovers now have a free Florida field-guide app that makes it easy to identify the state's common wildflowers, butterflies and birds. The new app, which keys to the Great Florida Birding and Wildlife Trail, is available for the iPhone and iPod Touch. A version for Androids and iPads is expected to be launched soon.



The Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida-IFAS, and Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission developed the app with a \$40,000 grant provided by the Florida Wildflower Foundation with funds from the State Wildflower license plate. Florida Museum Associates also supported the project.

To download this exciting app, visit <http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/nature-viewing-along-great/id492774850?ls=1&mt=8>.

FNPS 2012 Endowment Grant Research Awards & Conservation Grant Awards

FNPS maintains an Endowment Research Grant program to fund research on native plants. The grants are \$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 is March 2, 2012. Awards will be announced at the 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.

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, March 6 at 7pm**. See you there!

Executive Committee — The next board meeting will be **Tuesday, March 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 April 2012 issue is March 18.**

TARFLOWER CHAPTER NEEDS YOU!

The Tarflower chapter is seeking the following volunteers:

Field Trip Coordinator will select locations for and coordinate monthly field trips, make necessary arrangements (e.g. site access, background information, transportation to and/or around the site, etc.) He/she will attend chapter meetings to announce field trips, provide info on upcoming trips to the *Tarpaper* editor and attend chapter board meetings to discuss upcoming field trips.

Vice President In Charge of Events will coordinate events where Tarflower would have a booth/display and may sell chapter items or provide educational information to the public or other group. He/she will arrange for volunteers, obtain necessary materials, assist with (or arrange for) on-site set-up, coordinate with venues and respond to requests for chapter participation. He/she will also attend chapter meetings to announce events and provide info about events for the *Tarpaper*.

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

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

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