



# the Tarpaper

The Tarflower Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

Volume XX • September 2013



## SEPTEMBER 3 PROGRAM

### **Ethnobotany of the DeLand Ridge: An historic look at the interaction of plants and people in Volusia County** presented by Drs. Karen Cole and Cynthia Bennington

Ethnobotany is defined in World Book Encyclopedia as “the systematic study of the relationships between plants and people. It is not simply the study of the human ‘use’ of plants; rather, ethnobotany locates plants within their cultural context in particular societies, and situates peoples within their ecological contexts.” This includes the use of plants for food, clothing, currency, ritual, medicine, dye, construction, cosmetics and a lot more.

At Volusia County’s Stetson University, the Gillespie Museum educates visitors about Florida’s historic longleaf pine ecosystem and extends the native Florida landscape on the grounds of the university. Drs. Cole and Bennington will describe the ways in which the plants native to the sandhills of the DeLand Ridge have been important to humans, providing a historical and ecological context for understanding the impacts of humans on a disappearing ecosystem.

Dr. Karen Cole is the Director of the Gillespie Museum at Stetson where the Volusia Sandhill Ecosystem Restoration Project has been underway for the past 3 years. Project co-director, Dr. Cynthia Bennington is chair of Stetson’s biology department.



## SEPTEMBER 14 FIELD TRIP

### **Warea tract of Seminole State Forest**



Mike Martin of the Florida Forestry Service will lead us on a hike through the scrub to see the endangered *Warea amplexifolia*. This rare beauty only occurs in central Florida so don’t miss this opportunity to see it in bloom! *Liatris* and other scrub flowers should be on display as well.

This is the southern tract of Seminole State Forest, located in Lake County. We will meet at 8:30a.m. at the Walgreens’ parking lot at the corner of Stoneybrook West Parkway and CR

545 (Avalon Road). (This is also your last bathroom option as there are no facilities where we are going!) From there we will caravan to the tract. If you have a four-wheel drive vehicle, please consider driving it as we will be traveling off-road and may need extra vehicles.

Download a site map and/or plant list, visit <http://tarflower.fnpschapters.org/index.php?id=seminole-state-forest-warea-tract>.

## Three Tarflower developments you should know about

by Pete Dunkelberg

It would be easy to lose track of the big things amidst all the other announcements, so here’s the condensed version.

- **Tarflower Meetings:** We will meet at Leu Gardens for another year, at a much higher annual cost. This has already been voted on. Last fall Leu Gardens announced that the cost of membership for those who meet in the Camellia Room would increase from \$500 to \$1500 per year. Well, the Gardens has expenses too and they are struggling. We tried to find a good place to meet at closer to \$500. No luck; most suitable venues were going to be much higher cost as well. We are still considering our future home, but we will stay at Leu through September 2014.
- **Master Gardeners Plant Sale:** We are joining a plant sale on September 21, along with Master Gardeners, Pine lily Chapter and others. This is the sale for which you are encouraged to bring potted plants you have raised and you have until the day of the September meeting to let the board know what and how many plants you would like to donate. See details on page 2.
- **Backyard Biodiversity Day:** This event to be held on October 26 at Mead Garden is very special because it is our own invention. It includes a big native plant sale, guided hikes, vendors and speakers on all things related to native biodiversity. Other organizations such as Orange Audubon will set up tables and participate, but Tarflower is putting it on. There are expenses for us, but an overall profit is expected. It is not essential to make a profit this time though. This event is designed by us to get out the message of native plants and reasons to plant them. It is a proper use of our profits from other plant sales. See details on page 2.

## SEPTEMBER 1 WORKDAY AT MEAD GARDEN

### **Bringing a little Sandhill back to the City! We’re finally starting to plant—Come help!**

On Sunday, September 1, we will meet at 9a.m. at Mead Garden to install plants in the southwest part of the Garden (south of the large picnic pavilion). Under the existing mature longleaf pines, we will be planting about 160 plants including turkey oaks (yea!), plums, palmetto, lopsided Indiangrass, green eyes, blazing star (*Liatris* spp.), *Yucca filamentosa*, split-beard bluestem, and a lot of gopher apple. Most plants are 1 gallon, so they are easily planted (although you might want to bring something to kneel on). The trees and shrubs are 7 and 15 gallon (bring a strong shovel; but there are only 9 of these).

We hope to be finished by mid-day; however, you should plan to bring water and a snack, as well as gloves, trowel, big hat, and a watering can with a spout, if you have one (so we won’t have to fight over the hose). There is a hose bib nearby, so there is good access to water.

For more information, please contact Catherine Bowman ([garberia08@gmail.com](mailto:garberia08@gmail.com) or 407-637-5883) or any member of the Tarflower Board (listed on page 4 of *The Tarpaper*).

## Report upland snake sightings!

Florida Fish & Wildlife Services are now collecting sightings of three upland snake species: Florida pine, short-tailed, and Southern hognose snake. This project is to determine the current distribution and status of these species, all of which have been petitioned for federal listing. They are primarily interested in observations from 2000 to present. They will also be conducting road surveys and drift-fence surveys in areas without recent observations. Report sightings online at <https://public.myfwc.com/fwri/rareSnakes/>. The website includes photos for identification, and maps showing recent and historical sightings of each species, so you can see how significant your observations are. If you have questions, please contact Kevin Enge (352-334-4209) or Anna Farmer (352-334-4220).

## Final prep for Master Gardener Plant Sale Participation

We heard from several of you that you are growing and potting plants for this sale. Reminder: **You need to update/put your numbers and plant names in our shared file (if you have not already done so).** Check out the list on Google Drive ("FNPS Tarflower"/FNPS Tarflower shared" or go directly to <http://bit.ly/140Ue6I>) to see who is contributing what species and sizes so that you can add more or pot up some different species.

**In order to be prepared with plants labeled, priced, and ready to set out on the day of the sale, we must know by the day of the September 3 Tarflower meeting how many of what sizes and species you would like to donate.** If you are not posting on the Drive site, you can email or call Catherine Bowman (407.637.5883 or [garberia08@gmail.com](mailto:garberia08@gmail.com)) or Amanda Martin with your list.

The week before the sale, we ask that you get your plants to one of a few holding locations (again, contact Catherine if you need help with this) so that we can gather them all up in a truck for transport to the Orange County Cooperative Extension Service Office on South Conway Rd. Look for a volunteer sign up sheet to be routed at the September meeting. We will need helpers to load and unload plants, write up name and price labels and put them in all the pots, plus we'll need a group of enthusiastic plant and book sellers on the day of the event.

A sign-up sheet will be circulated at the September meeting for those who are able to volunteer on the day of the event.

As you all know now, our Leu Gardens membership cost increased significantly this year, so we need to step up our plant sales in the future in order to remain financially able to adjust to these kinds of changes while using our chapter funds to further the Society's mission. Let's make our first member-grown plant sale a good one!

## UPCOMING EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### SEP 21 ORANGE COUNTY MASTER GARDENER FALL PLANT & GARDEN FESTIVAL

Tarflower Chapter will be selling native plants at this event. Volunteers are needed! See full article in this issue for details.

When: Saturday, September 21, 9a.m.–4p.m.

Where: UF/IFAS Orange County Extension Office  
6021 South Conway Road, Orlando, FL 32812

For more information about the event, visit <http://orange.ifas.ufl.edu/mg/index.html>.

### SEP 27–28 FLORIDA WILDFLOWER SYMPOSIUM

Join the Florida Wildflower Foundation for two days of fun and learning about Florida's native ecosystems and their inhabitants through field trips, workshops, presentations and more!

When: Friday, September 27 & Saturday, September 28

Where: Enchanted Forest Sanctuary  
444 Columbia Blvd., Titusville, FL 32780

Florida Wildflower Foundation Members receive event discounts. Visit <http://flawildflowers.org/events/2013WildflowerSymp.html> for full schedule and to register.

### OCT 12 FALL BIOBLITZ!

Fall BioBlitz at Wekiva Springs State Park, Seminole State Forest, and Rock Springs Run State Park. Details to come. If you are interested in leading a group, contact Tina Richards at [tina.richards@ucf.edu](mailto:tina.richards@ucf.edu).

### OCT 26 BACKYARD BIODIVERSITY DAY

Tarflower Chapter will host its first Backyard Biodiversity Day at Mead Garden to celebrate Central Florida's native flora and fauna!

When: Saturday, October 26

Where: Mead Botanical Garden  
1300 S. Denning Dr., Winter Park, FL 32789

See article in this issue for details. If you would like to get involved, please contact Catherine Bowman at [garberia08@gmail.com](mailto:garberia08@gmail.com).

## Congratulations, Julie Becker!

Congratulations to Tarflower member and Chapter Rep Julie Becker on being honored as the very first FNPS Chapter Council Coordinator in the newly formed state-wide governance structure. After the two day strategic planning sessions, Julie "took the bull by the horns" and called an impromptu brief meeting to start the 38 member council with organization and efficiency. There were many comments on the comfort level of being in such good hands. **Thank you, Julie, for your dedication to the Society's continued success and future governance.**

## In Memoriam: Dick Deuerling

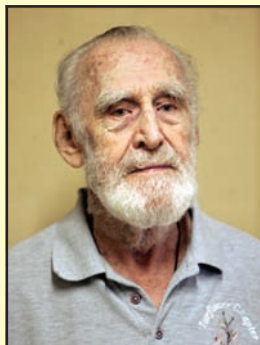
by Peggy Lantz, Palmetto Editor 1981–1995

Our friend and wild foods guru has died—July 18, 2013. He was 92 years old. A service was held to honor his memory at Orlando Lutheran Towers on July 27 with four generations of his family in attendance, as well as many Scouts from Troop 76 and many Tarflower Chapter members.

The article to the right is from the Spring 1989 issue of *The Palmetto* and introduces

Dick and his new column, "Native Wild Foods," that would appear in the FNPS magazine. The first Native Wild Food written up was "The Elderberry."

This introduction and article were followed by 16 more over the next four years. Then they were gathered together into a small 72-page illustrated book, officially presented at the 1993 FNPS Conference at Grenelefe Resort and Conference Center in Haines City. The book has been reprinted multiple times, and is now available from Finney Company in Minnesota ([feedback@finneyco.com](mailto:feedback@finneyco.com)) and always from me.



## Wild Food Specialist

Every Florida Native Plant Society chapter needs somebody like Dick Deuerling with the ongoing enthusiasm and knowledge that keeps a chapter alive and growing.

Every month, Dick is on the program of the Tarflower Chapter in Central Florida, sharing his expertise, showing wild plants he has brought to the meeting, and providing refreshments in the form of teas, jellies, and syrups made from wild native plants.

Dick—brown from the sun, be-whiskered, and often wearing red suspenders—is a self-taught naturalist. He says he has been interested in plants since he could crawl, and has been eating wild foods for 50 years. He grew up in Pennsylvania, and still owns a farm there, but has lived in Orlando for 30 years—since he came to visit a brother and decided to stay.

Teaching came naturally, too, so Dick has shared his information and experiences with many. He has taught survival to Scout troops, and is proud that, of all the Boy Scouts that went on a cross-Florida survival tramp (carrying no food with them) with the late Ross Allen years ago, the Scout that Dick helped teach was the only one who gained weight on the 153-mile, thirteen-day hike.

Dick has given wild food programs to practically every garden club in Central Florida, including addressing 400 garden clubbers at their convention at a large Orlando hotel. He's shared his pleasure in wild foods with children in public schools and with botany students at the University of Central Florida and Stetson. One group of youngsters at the Orlando Science Center were served a porridge of Jerusalem artichokes and sandspurs—although they were not told what it was until after they had tried it and agreed that it was good!

His schedule includes a TV broadcast with a display of edible native plants, a program for a school science club, and a presentation for the Seminole County Cooperative Extension Service. He is "retired", but very busy.

Dick will share some of his wild food expertise in a series of articles in *The Palmetto*.

## LMR: Indian Lake State Forest by Amanda Martin

Participating in a land management review (LMR) took me out of my residential landscaper shoes and into the world of public land management. Public land management starts with large acre tracts of land pieced together, connecting corridors that can sustain populations of native and indigenous species while also being hospitable to human recreational activities. The Indian Lake State Forest LMR was carried out as a car tour with 22 stops. Along for the ride were state forest rangers; representatives from DEP, St Johns Water Management District, and Fish and Wildlife Service; and some fellow FNPS members.



The burn history of each tract

was identified and referenced as one of the most important processes for true restoration of the land: There had been two in 2008, two in 2009, 12 in 2010, 17 in 2011, six in 2012, and eight so far this year. Burning every one to three years is necessary because regrowth is very rapid. It takes an average of three to five burn rotations to get the land back into maintainable conditions.

Our stop in the mesic flatwoods brought us into a portion of the forest that had not seen fire for over 50 years. The management team was able to bring in a pine-logging outfit to cut out timber in a way that was most useful to both parties. There is still some thinning that needs to be done in this area before it can burn, but \$60,000 in revenue from unwanted pines will go a long way to supporting the entire forest.

The lands being managed included old pasturelands. Acres of grass seem easy

visited the head of the trail and drove a portion of the route, taking us through uplands habitats spotted with sinkholes.

Burning is one of the major tools for restoration, so smoke management and proximity to residential areas create a complicated blend of necessity and diplomacy. The foresters spoke positively of the community around Ocala, and Silver Springs specifically, for being understanding and accepting of the management practices needed in the surrounding areas.

There is a lot of work still to do on these lands to bring them back to a pristine condition for water quality and wildlife habitat. Equal efforts are being made to make this land useful and enjoyable to the surrounding citizens as well. I look forward to participating in a future review, or perhaps a Saturday field trip once a few trails open.

to care for when the objective is to keep them clear. As these lands lay dormant for one, two and three years, the seed banks they held down are now free to grow and the result is less than desirable. Active mowing takes place on newly acquired land until it can be ready for burning. In areas with thick Bahia, they allow a sod company to come in and harvest strips of sod. This brings in revenue, but also creates open sand areas for planting or scalping. Next, pine trees get replanted over the area and the restoration process begins.

Throughout these open prairies are large tracts of oak hammocks. The management team thoughtfully connected as many of these hammocks together for a future 13+ mile equestrian trail. We

## Backyard Biodiversity Day update!

The planning for Tarflower Chapter's first ever Backyard Biodiversity Day is well underway with many participating vendors, speakers, hike leaders and others already confirmed:

### Presentations

- Invasive Plants and How They Destroy Natural and Backyard Habitats (Jennifer Elliott, CISMA)
- Landscaping for Wildlife (Mary Keim and Randy Snyder)
- Native Pollinators (Taryn Evans)
- The Importance of Biodiversity (Author Bill Belleville)
- The Birds of Mead Garden (Renee Thomas)

### Vendors & Exhibitors

- Florida Wildflower Foundation
- Mead Botanical Garden
- Seminole County Environmental Lands
- Orange Audubon
- Evolving Landscapes Design, Installation & Maintenance
- Winter Park Garden Club
- NFC Landscape Design Build
- Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council
- Birdhouses by Richard Poole
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Cuplet Fern Chapter Florida Native Plant Society

### Interpretive hikes

- Birding with Orange Audubon
- Edible Plants of Mead Garden
- Herpetology Hike
- Native and Invasive Plant Hike
- Insect Interpretive Hike
- Family Bird Presentation and Hike

### Plus...

- Native plant & wildflower seed sale
- Reptile and amphibian display
- Authors' book signings
- Food trucks

**Stay tuned for further updates! To get involved, contact Catherine Bowman at 407-637-5883 or [garberia08@gmail.com](mailto:garberia08@gmail.com)**

## Call them silphiums by Pete Dunkelberg

We have established a nice garden of *Silphium asteriscus* at Mead Garden in front of Mead's community garden where people raise vegetables. When people ask what they are, I tell them silphiums. Very few people know the old "common" names anymore except folks like us who use plant books. Common names are just not common anymore. Most of the common names of native plants would mean nothing to me if I hadn't seen them in books.

When the genus of a plant makes a nice word it's not uncommon to make it into a common name. Just uncapitalize and unitalicize the word and you've got it. We all know hibiscus and magnolia, and there are lots more examples from asparagus to zinnias. How many can you think of? You can look up the old common name for *Silphium asteriscus* but it doesn't sound nice as attractive as these plants are to both humans and pollinators. Let's call them silphiums.



**Tarflower 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, September 3 at 7pm. See you there!

**Tarflower website** <http://tarflower.fnpschapters.org/>

**The Tarpaper online** Current and past issues of *The Tarpaper* can be viewed online by accessing the Newsletters tab of the chapter website at <http://tarflower.fnpschapters.org/>.

**Contribute to The Tarpaper** Send your articles, event listings, photos and suggestions to Stacey Matrazzo, Editor, at [stacey@impactpress.com](mailto: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 October 2013 issue is September 12.**

**Tarflower Chapter Executive Committee meetings** The next board meeting will be Tuesday, September 10, 2013 at 6pm. For more information, contact Amanda Martin. Members are welcome.

#### **Tarflower Chapter Executive Committee members**

**President** Amanda Martin ([ajm.fnps@gmail.com](mailto:ajm.fnps@gmail.com))

**Vice President, Programs** Kay Hudson (407-432-2364; [Kay@americanbuilders.com](mailto:Kay@americanbuilders.com))

**Vice President, Events** Jim Erwin (407-454-3882; [jim.erwin@wellsfargo.com](mailto:jim.erwin@wellsfargo.com))

**Secretary** Jackie Rolly (407-359-4963; [j.y.rolly@att.net](mailto:j.y.rolly@att.net))

**Treasurer** Mirtas (Mark) Kateli ([mirtas@gmail.com](mailto:mirtas@gmail.com))

**Chapter Representative** Julie Becker ([jlbecker@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jlbecker@cfl.rr.com))

**Field trips** Tina Richards ([ktina.richards@gmail.com](mailto:ktina.richards@gmail.com))

**Membership** Phyllis Gray (407-253-5462; [Phyllis.Gray@amec.com](mailto:Phyllis.Gray@amec.com))

**Plant rescue** Marge Holt (407-679-6759)

**Publicity** Jackie Sward (407-647-5233; [jackrabbit31@hotmail.com](mailto:jackrabbit31@hotmail.com))

**Conservation** Carolina Lane ([carolina@mindspring.com](mailto:carolina@mindspring.com))

**Landscape** Brent McCallister ([mccallisterfamily@hotmail.com](mailto:mccallisterfamily@hotmail.com))

**The Tarpaper Editor** Stacey Matrazzo ([stacey@impactpress.com](mailto:stacey@impactpress.com))

**The Tarpaper Mailing** Chuck Roux (407-851-8889; [clroux@bellsouth.net](mailto:clroux@bellsouth.net))

#### **UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

SEP 3 – Ethnobotany of the DeLand Ridge (see page 1 for more information)

OCT 1 – Florida’s Naval Stores presented by Marty Hale

NOV 5 – TBD

DEC 2 – TBD\*

#### **\*Important: December meeting date change**

Due to our previously considered change in meeting venues, we lost our December 3 spot and are **moving the meeting to Monday, December 2**. All other meetings will be held as usual on the first Tuesday of each month unless otherwise noted.

#### **UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS**

SEP 14 – Warea tract of Seminole State Forest (see page 1 for more information)

OCT 12 – Wekiva Springs BioBlitz

#### **RECORDING FAMILY/HOUSEHOLD AND OTHER GROUP MEMBERSHIPS**

With Family/Household and higher level memberships, it is now possible for FNPS to record multiple names, phone numbers, email addresses and other information for the multiple members in a single household or at a single organization (everyone must be at the same physical address). So if you know of husbands, wives, partners and colleagues that we should be tracking, let us know and we’ll do it. You can see this information using the online Chapter Membership Tools.

#### **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](http://www.fnps.org)**

or call 321-271-6702.

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\$15	Library
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\$75	Contributing
\$100	Supporting
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\$1000	Life



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