Board and Committee Reports

Message from the President:

I’ve been involved with the Native Plant society for over (20) years and served as the Executive Director from 2006 to 2012. I’m a native plant landscape architect and give presentations on the importance of native plants to community groups, government agencies and schools. My vision for the chapter is to:

- Increase awareness of conservation issues within the community
- Increase awareness of the importance of native plants in schools
- Develop programming and events that provide native plant resources to the community
- Increase membership
- Provide resources to chapter members

I want to acknowledge and thank Mark Johnson, Jenny Welch, Susan Parent, Sandy Webb, Eleanor Foerste and all the others who dedicated their time and efforts to the chapter over the years. I’m excited to be here and look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Sincerely,

Karina Veaudry, President
Florida Native Plant Society
Pine Lily Chapter

Upcoming April 27th Meeting Highlights

March 2017 Election results:

Karina Veaudry - President
Jacquie Dombovy – Vice President Field Trips and Programs
Kathleen Devitt – Secretary/Newsletter Editor
Sandy Webb – Treasurer
Susan Parent – Membership Coordinator
Elliott Miller – Chapter Representative

NEW Pine Lily Chapter Meeting Location and Date!

To facilitate having food at meetings and increasing membership, the Florida Native Plant Society Pine Lily Chapter will now meet at the KUA Board Room.

Every 4th Thursday of the Month – 6:00PM
Kissimmee Utility Authority Building
1701 W. Carroll Street Kissimmee, FL

Our next meeting is Thursday, April 27th
6:00PM to 6:30PM – Social and Refreshments
6:30PM to 8:30PM – Chapter Meeting:

- Presentation of (10) Native Plants of the Month
- Guest Speaker – Stephanie Gaspar, Native and Invasive Plants of Lake Tohopekaliga
- Native Plant Gardening Tips
Focus on Native Plants in Central Florida

Pine Lily (Lilium catesbaei)
Erect, with a leafy stalk to 2 feet or more. Flowers are erect and solitary. Tepals are reddish orange with yellow bases and dots of purplish-brown. Plant flowers from July-Oct. Leaves are alternate and sessile. It is found in wet pinewood flats and savannas, and is found throughout Central Florida.

Reticulate Pawpaw (Asimina reticulata)
Woody, deciduous shrub up to 4.5 feet tall. Leaves are leathery and elliptical to oblong and alternate. Flowers are nodding and creamy white with six petals. The inner 3 petals have a purplish base. It produces a ripe yellow green berry, which is edible. The plant flowers from January to July, in pine flatwoods and sandhills. It is found throughout Central Florida.

Blue-eyed Grass (Sisyrinchium angustifolium)
Grass like herb to 20 inches tall. Leaves resemble blades of grass, shorter than or equal to flower stems. Flowers bluish-purple and star shaped. Flower stalk swollen below perianth. Flowers Jan-Jun & Sept-Nov. Found in grassy fields, marshes and pine flatwoods throughout Central Florida.

Silk Grass (Pityopsis graminifolia)
Perennial grass-like herb with silvery, silky stems to 3 ft. tall. Leaves alternate, mostly basal, veins parallel. Flowers throughout the year with yellow disk and ray florets. Found in upland mixed forests, pine flatwoods and scrubs throughout Central Florida.
**Gallberry (Ilex glabra)**
Perennial evergreen woody shrub to 6 feet tall or more. Leaves alternate and broaden upward. Margin near apices usually toothed. Male and female flowers on separate plants. Flowers are white, with male in clusters and female usually solitary, each flower with 6 petals. Flowering time March-June. Mature fruit is a smooth black drupe. Found in wet to mesic pine flatwoods, thickets, and sinks, throughout Central Florida.

**Sensitive Brier (Mimosa quadrivalvis)**
Perennial herbaceous plant with prickly stems. Leaves are alternate, compound and close when touched. There are many flowers, sessile, arranged in a pink globose head. Flowers year round and is found in pine flatwoods, sandhills and mixed forests throughout Central Florida.

**Orange Milkwort (Polygala lutea)**
Glabrous stem to 2.5 feet or more. Leaves are smooth and alternate. Lower leaves are larger, with widest at or near base. Flowers are orange and in a compact thimble shaped cluster. Flowering time throughout the year. Found in moist pine flatwoods and moist ruderal sites throughout Central Florida.

**Dahoon Holly (Ilex cassine)**
Dahoon holly is a small tree that has a narrow growth habit of upward pointing branches that grows to a height of up to 30 ft (9.1 m). Found in bay swamps and other wetlands. It is evergreen with glossy dark green leaves that are simple with smooth edges with just a few small sharp teeth and a sharp bristle at the tip. Small white flowers appear in spring & in the winter, female trees are covered with bright red or yellow drupe.
Sweet Bay (Persea borbonia)

Evergreen, aromatic, large shrub or tree, to 60 ft. tall. Leaves alternate, glossy green above, greyish below, ends often tapered. Flowers yellowish green, clustered in leaf axils or terminal; perianth bell shaped, with 6 tepals. Drupe dark blue or black. Flowers Apr.- Oct & Dec- Feb. Found in oak scrubs and upland mixed forest throughout Central Florida.

Red Bud (Cercis canadensis)

Deciduous wide spreading tree to 25 ft. tall. Bark smooth, leaves alternate, petioled. Blades thin, dull green & broarsly heart shaped. Margins entire. Flowers clustered, usually on previous years bark before or as leaves emerge. Flowers from Jan-mar. Found in Upland harwood forests in select counties of Central Florida.

Glossary:

Alternate: Not opposite, but appearing on one side of an axis and then the other

Blade: Extended part of a leaf or other organ

Drupe: a fleshy fruit usually with 1 pit surrounded by a hard covering

Glabrous: Smooth or lacking hairs

Herbaceous: Non-woody plant

Margin: outer edge of a leaf or leaflet

Perianth: Collectively, the petals and sepals

Sessile: Lacking a stalk, petiole, or peduncle