



Florida Native Plant Society

Pine Lily Chapter

News & Notes
April 2020

Plant Profile – Starry Rosin Flower

Native Groundcover: *Silphium asteriscus*

- Herbaceous perennial that readily self-seeds and is propagated by rhizome cuttings as well.
- Sprouts several 2'-5' foot inflorescence stems. Plant is 1'-2' in width.
- Showy flowers; Dormant in the winter months.
- Drought tolerant; prefers sand / loam soils with a pH range of 5.1 to 7.6
- Many pollinators including bees and butterflies.



Native Plant Nursery

[Green Isle Gardens Native Plant Nursery](#)

11303 FL-33
Groveland, FL 34736
(352) 396-6831

Next Chapter Meeting
April 23, 2020; 6:30PM

**In-Person meetings are changed
to online meetings until further notice**

Join the meeting, just click this link
at 6:30P on Thursday
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/589828429>

Speaker: Dana Sussmann, Urban Forester

Everything You Wanted to Know About Small Native Trees

Ms. Sussmann will discuss 15 small native trees of Osceola County. In addition to learning about the traits of the trees, Dana will teach the proper planting and pruning techniques for optimum tree health and hurricane resistance.

Dana is the County's Urban Forester and has been providing educational resources for 20 years.

For more information, contact Karina Veaudry at (321) 388-4781.



Silphium asteriscus

Happy 50th Earth Day!

50 years of awareness and actions to save the Earth and pay homage to clean-up and conservation efforts across the world.



EARTH DAY GOES DIGITAL WITH 24 HOURS OF ACTION

The internet gives us more power than ever to act. At the top of every hour for the next 24 hours of Earth Day, visit <https://www.earthday.org/>: the official Earth Day website to find a new, meaningful action to make a better planet.

Volunteer Highlights

Thank you to **Carolyn Chalifoux** for her tenure as Field Trip coordinator and publicity organizer.

Kathleen Blanco has been doing a great job getting our events and field trips on the Eventbrite event planning website.

Kudos to **Mike Jochum** and **Taylor Figueroa** for taking on additional website update duties on top of other workloads.



Split Oak Forest Update

By Valerie Anderson, Policy Committee Chair

We won a huge victory in conservation on Earth Day - the Charter Amendment to protect Split Oak Forest passed its first reading in the Orange County Charter Review Committee! We had twenty-three speakers in support of the amendment and none opposed. The meeting and public comments were online via WebEx. You can watch the meeting replay on Orange TV here:

<http://netapps.ocfl.net/Mod/meetings/3>.

The Amendment passed 10-4 with one abstention. Pine Lily Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society and Friends of Split Oak have been working on this issue for over two years and we are happy to finally see some progress.



Hiking in Central Florida

By Krista Stump, University of Florida Natural Resources Extension Agent – Osceola County

An outline of where to hike and precautions to take during COVID-19 is available in a presentation by Krista Stump.

- Keep a safe distance of at least 6 feet and follow CDC guidelines.
- Wash your hands before you go and bring hand sanitizer.
- Announce your presence to allow fellow hikers to make distance when passing.
- Be courteous and give other hikers plenty of space when they pass you as well.
- Avoid busy times or popular locations to minimize your contact with others.
- Stay at home if you're feeling ill or have been in contact with someone with COVID-19.
- Follow local restrictions, curfews and movement restrictions. Parks may be closed.

To see the full PDF presentation, call (321)388-4781

Virtual FNPS Membership Annual Meeting

With the cancelation of the in-person annual conference, FNPS will be holding the Annual Members' meeting virtually during the first week of June. All members will be sent an invitation with a code to be used for online voting during the meeting. We will be voting on the following slate of officers:

President: Bonnie Basham (currently President Elect)

Director at Large: Mark Kateli (Cuplet Fern Chapter)

Director at Large: Andrea Naccarato (Naples Chapter)

Upcoming Meetings / Presentations

🌱 **Thursday, May 28: Online Chapter Meeting 6:30P**
Native Florida Fungi and Outdoor Cultivation & Gardening – Jonathan Martin

🌱 **June: Email invitation coming for FNPS Annual Member Meeting**

🌱 **Thursday, June 25: Online Chapter Meeting 6:30P**
Backyard Composting – IFAS Extension Agent

NOTE: Field Trips have been canceled until September. Beginning in September we will resume field trips using the (6) foot physical distancing rules. More information coming in the next several months for field trip locations.

How Many Insects Does It Take to Raise a Family of Song Birds?

By Loret Thatcher and Karina Veaudry

Here's a good reason to stop planting exotic plant species and start planting native plants: You will be a part of the movement to save bird, butterfly and other pollinators from extinction.

Birds, butterflies and other pollinators only feed and nest on those plants native to a region.

It's hard to get an exact number because of the various sizes of insects so most species are listed with a percent of body weight.

This article has the research data for the actual number of insects on tree swallows (TRES) from the bluebird website. <http://www.sialis.org/tres.htm>

Diet: During breeding season, TRES feed on flying insects. They may travel 20 miles or more to forage. According to veteran birder Dick Tuttle (NABS Bluebird Journal, Winter 2006-2007)

- Each adult Tree Swallow will consume about 2,000 insects per day during an average 45 day nesting period.
- The parents also catch and feed their brood (of 4-7 nestlings) about 6,000 insects per day during an average 20 days spent inside the nestbox.
- This adds up to an estimated 300,000 insects per TRES nesting family:
 - 180,000 insects for the nesting pair (2,000/day/adult x 45 days)
 - +120,000 for their nestlings (6,000 insects per brood x 20 days)
- "Since 90% of their hunting takes place below 39 feet, TRES can make a real dent in insect populations that pester humans."

How he calculated it can be found in *Bluebird* Vol. 29, No. 1; Winter 2007

<http://www.nabluebirdsociety.org/PDF/Sialia%20Bluebird%20Journals/29.1.pdf>

Actual page 19, pdf page 6 (photo of relevant information attached) NBS stands for "Nest Box Grids"

40th Annual FNPS Conference Has Been Rescheduled to Next Year

A Note from the
FNPS Conference Committee

In keeping with the recommendations by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to limit the spread of Covid-19, our Annual Conference has been rescheduled. We were able to reserve new dates with both the University of North Florida conference venue and the Embassy Suites Hotel in Jacksonville. The hotel rooms will be the same price.

The dates for the rescheduled 40th Conference are
May 13-16, 2021

We will not be able to “roll over” the conference registrations for either the conference or the hotel, so we will do the following:

- Cancel all hotel reservations in bulk (you will not need to call and cancel your reservation).
- Cancel all conference registrations and issue refunds.
- If you paid with a credit card, your card will be credited; if you paid with a check, we will issue a refund check and mail it to the address you provided with your conference registration.

Since this will still be our 40th Conference, we will keep the same theme: “40 Years of Celebrating Native Florida” as well as the field trips and hopefully many of the same speakers.

From all of us on the Conference Committee – stay safe and take care of yourselves! We hope to see you at the conference next year.

2020 Legislative Briefing

A Report from Gene Kelly,
FNPS Policy Committee Chair

The following report provides a snapshot of the current 2020 Florida Legislative Session. It was prepared prior to the session to identify bills of greatest relevance to the mission of the Florida Native Plant Society as of early January 2020, and to provide a preliminary analysis of whether they merit support by FNPS.

The reviews begin on page 2. The position FNPS takes on any of the bills listed is subject to change based on how they may be amended during the course of the session. There may be other bills not currently listed that we may determine are relevant to our mission.

For additional and updated information, please visit <https://www.fnps.org/what-we-do/policy> to search for more recent reports and dispatches from Tallahassee during the January – March Session.

Read the full report here:

https://fnps.org/assets/userfiles/files/2020%20Pre-Session%20Legislative%20Briefing_Final_ForPostingOnWebpage.pdf



Calydorea caelestina
(Bartrams Ixia)

Photo by Craig Huegel

FNPS Sends Letter to Governor DeSantis Regarding “Clean Waterways” Senate Bill 712

The Florida Native Plant Society has made a statement that the Senate Bill 712 is only a “first step” in repairing water quality and that much more needs to be accomplished.

An excerpt from the letter:

The Florida Native Plant Society was heartened by the early commitment from DeSantis to tackle Florida’s pressing water quality issues. Harmful algal blooms, degraded springs and unending outbreaks of red tide are undeniable symptoms of chronic declines in our water quality. While Senate Bill 712 makes important steps towards addressing these declines and their associated environmental and economic impacts, it falls far short of what is needed to actually restore our waters. We believe it is vitally important that you recognize and openly acknowledge the existence of these shortcomings if you sign Senate Bill 712 into law.

Read the full letter here:

https://fnps.org/assets/userfiles/files/Policy/Governor%20DeSantis_SB712_JustTheFirstStep_04152020.pdf



Florida Native Plant Society Mission

Promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

For information on FNPS activities in Central Florida and beyond, check out the [FNPS blog](#).

Volunteer Positions Needed

- Education Committee Chair
- Field Trip Committee Chair
- Membership Director
- Newsletter Editor

Pine Lily Chapter Leadership Team

- Karina Veaudry – President
- President Elect - VACANT
- Christi Kapp – Secretary
- Sandra Johnson – Treasurer and Publicity Coordinator
- Taylor Figueroa – Chapter Representative and Membership Coordinator
- Valerie Anderson – Policy & Legislation Committee
- Sandy Webb – Conservation Committee Chair
- Eleanor Foerste – Education & Outreach Coordinator
- Laura Bennett-Kimble – Director at Large

Support Pine Lily Through AmazonSmile

Please consider choosing **Florida Native Plant Society Pine Lily Chapter Inc** as your charity when placing Amazon orders through [AmazonSmile](#). Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the Pine Lily Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society.

Thank You!

Let’s keep in touch!

Click the icons below to visit Pine Lily Chapter Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages



Pine Lily Chapter Website:
www.pinelily.fnpschapters.org

The [Pine Lily Chapter](#) of the Florida Native Plant Society serves all communities in Osceola County