



The Lily Pad

The Pine Lily Chapter of the Florida
Native Plant Society



FNPS Mission: The purpose of the Florida Native Plant Society is to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida

May 2010



NOTE SPECIAL DATE FOR MEETING. May 13th, one week early so as to not conflict with FNPS Conference in Tallahassee

Message from Mark Johnson, Pine Lily President

It probably goes without saying that we need [] all members to show up for our annual meeting to help us select our officers and make other decisions about the direction of the chapter.

Proposed slate of officers that will be presented at the May 13th meeting:

President:	Jenny Welch
1st Vice President:	Mark Johnson
2nd Vice President:	
Secretary:	Danny Husband (continuing)
Treasurer:	Cindy Meketa (continuing)
Chapter Rep:	Chris Matson

If you know of someone else (even yourself) who could help in a leadership role, competition for the above positions would be welcome. Nominations will be taken from the floor.

FYI, The following have volunteered to continue in the following roles at the discretion of the elected President.

Membership:	Sue Parent
Publicity/Newsletter:	Loret Thatcher

New Lily Pad Editor

by Loret Thatcher

Claudia Canty has stepped down as editor of *The Lily Pad*. Claudia did an outstanding job over the past year and a half and should be commended for her outstanding feature articles and the endless wealth of information regarding native plants and invasives she provided to us during her tenure. Thanks Claudia, on behalf of all the members and potential members, for your time and efforts. I know I learned a lot!

I have taken on the task of editor (with considerable help from Claudia) beginning with this issue. I'll be keeping the majority of the features already found and will hopefully come up with new ideas to keep our newsletter fresh and educational. You'll see a few changes in the issues to come as I get used to preparing a monthly newsletter. Please bear with me as initially the formatting may be a little rough as I transition to my software.

The first new feature I'd like to include is a Book Review section, *Read it or Skip it*, so if you have a book related to Florida native plants or ecology in general, please write up a review (good or bad) and submit it to me for consideration in future issues. This is YOUR newsletter. Feel free to recommend features that you'd like to see and I'll take it up with the Pine Lily Board. I'd also like to incorporate member submitted articles about native plant experiences and pictures of gardens in Osceola County. I will publish deadlines and submission criteria in a future issue. At the current time, the email address for the Lily Pad will remain the same: thelilypad_fnps@hotmail.com You can always contact me via telephone as well: 407-892-4547. I look forward to this opportunity and constructive feedback is always welcome.

Plants Survived 2010's Big Freeze



FNPS is collecting data to find out how the native plants in your landscape survived the freezes this Winter. Please assist FNPS to compile data about the recent weather conditions and the response of native species used in your residential and/or commercial landscape and in any nearby natural areas **you visit by using the attached form and sending in your response to the email indicated on the form.**

As a reminder, you should not immediately prune or remove any plants (native or not) that have been damaged by a cold snap. Wait for several weeks or a month, as many of them will send out new growth from stems where leaves have been damaged. Some severely damaged plants may regenerate from rootstock. Thank you for your participation.



Special thanks goes out to Kattya Graham, Gayle Chisholm and Sarah Chisholm for stepping up to help cover the information table at the Dark Sky Festival. These gals are not members but saw our request in an email and willingly volunteered to help us out and they did a GREAT JOB. Jenny Welch, Loret Thatcher, Susan Parent, Chris Matson and Kim Duffy also provided their expertise at recent public events. Get in on the action. Let Jenny know your availability in the future.

* * *

Read It: *Mirage: Florida and the Vanishing Water of the Eastern U.S.* by Cynthia Barnett (recommended by Loret).

“Mirage combines environmental history and investigative journalism to tell how one of the wettest places in the world has come to face water shortages. It explains key water issues, from economics to politics, in a clear, lively style. Its ultimate message is one of hope for the future. Mirage was this year’s Gold medal winner for best nonfiction in the Florida Book Awards. Publisher’s Weekly called it ‘vital reading for citizens and policymakers as global concerns over water scarcity grow.’ Resources at: www.CynthiaBarnett.net”. Learn more at: Florida's Eden Water Awareness Campaign (<http://www.floridaseden.org/mirage/>)

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From the Head Office: According to FNPS Lobbyist, Sue Mullins, the Florida Forever Land Acquisition Program was indeed funded in the state budget at \$15 million. It is well short of the \$300 million that should have been budgeted but there is relief that this program is still intact.



2011 FNPS CONFERENCE PLANNING MEETING

Starting in June meetings will take place monthly. If you would like to volunteer and have an active role in planning the 2011 FNPS Conference, there are still positions available. Pine Lily Chapter Member Jenny Welch is chair of the 2011 conference. Don't miss the opportunity to help organize this significant event.

For more info, please contact Jenny mwelch@cfl.rr.com and/or attend next meeting,

Saturday, June 5, 2010 (10am - Noon).

Location: Mactec - 4150 N. John Parkway, Orlando FL

Day of meeting phone contact: (321) 388-4781

In Bloom:



Throughout April and May: Lyreleaf Sage, *Salvia lyrata*, light blue flowers;

Tickseed, *Coreopsis* spp., and Blackeyed Susan, *Rudbeckia hirta*, yellow flowers;

Spiderwort, *Tradescantia ohioensis*, blue to purple flowers in the morning; Coral

Honeysuckle, *Lonicera sempervirens* and Cross Vine, *Bignonia caperolata*, red to yellow trumpet shaped flowers; Elderberry, *Sambucus canadensis*, showy white clusters in wetter areas; Coral

Bean, *Eyrthina herbacea*, bright red flowers; Florida Privet, *Foresteria segregata*, small yellow flowers;

Walters Viburnum, *Viburnum obavatum*, light pink buds opening to white clusters, show; Red

Cedar, *Juniperus virginiana*, small yellow clusters; Pawpaws, *Asimina obovata* and *A.*

reticulata, creamy white to greenish flowers

Species spotlight: *Opuntia humifusa* (Prickly Pear)



Eastern prickly pear is in the Cactaceae family and is naturally found on both sides of sand dunes and throughout scrub sites. As it is found in very well-drained soils, the plant is quite drought-tolerant. The fleshy stems store water.

Stems are spreading and well-branched. This plant is found in full sun. The height varies by species, ranging from one foot to three feet or more. Sepals are green and narrow.

The springtime flowers have yellow petals that attract many colorful insects. The berry is large, fleshy, obovoid (egg-shaped with narrow end at base), red to purplish and it contains many small seeds.

Birds and gopher tortoises eat the fruit and there is evidence that coastal Indians also ate prickly pear. The fruit can be processed into syrup or jelly. In Mexico, *Opuntia* is sliced and steamed as a vegetable. Cattlemen have been known to gather piles of prickly pear and burn off the spines as an emergency fodder. The plant is propagated by seed (often through bird droppings) or by burying a pad partially into the soil. There are 10 species of *Opuntia* in Florida.

Save the date

The Florida Native Plant Society's 30th Annual Conference Rooted in History: Forever Blooming

May 20-23, 2010

DoubleTree Hotel

101 S. Adams St. Tallahassee, FL

Join us in May 2010 for the FNPS 30th Anniversary!

Join us in Tallahassee when the Magnolia Chapter hosts the 2010 Annual Conference. This will be a special 30th anniversary conference that honors our Florida Native Plant Society history. Over 400 people are expected to attend the 4-day conference. Celebrate the plants, people and places of Tallahassee and the Big Bend Region.

For more info and details visit <http://www.fnps.org/pages/conference>



Tuesday, May 11, 2010

Palms in the Landscape

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Extension Services, Osceola Heritage Park

1921 Kissimmee Valley Lane, Kissimmee

Located at Bill Beck Blvd. & US 192.

Registration required. Call 321-697-3000.

Learn what palms grow in Central Florida and how to properly care for them.

Tuesday, May 25 – 6:45pm

Kissimmee Valley Audubon Society

Kissimmee Utility Authority Building

KVAS monthly meetings are held at KUA (Kissimmee Utility Authority) Building located at 1701 W. Carroll St. in Kissimmee. Free and open to the public!

Thursday, May 27th 9 am-1 pm

Pre-register by May 12, 2010.

2010 Hydrilla Field Day!

Demonstration Project on Hydrilla and Hygrophila in the Upper Kissimmee Chain of Lakes

http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/osceola/field_day2010.html

Heard around: "Unfortunately, too many people view plants as merely part of a home's decor rather than a critical part of our life support system". Association of Florida Native Nurseries "*Know your plants*" <http://www.afnn.org/docs/knowyourplants.pdf>

May 21, 2010 is National Endangered Species Day

Endangered Species Quiz (answers below)

- 1) The Endangered Species Act is one of the most successful environmental laws ever put into place, and has been credited with having saved _____% of the species it protects.
- a.) 75%
 - b.) 80%
 - c.) 99%
 - d.) 85%
- 2) True or false: there are more plants on the lists of endangered and threatened species in the United States than animals.
- a.) True
 - b.) False
- 3) How many species are listed as endangered or threatened in the United States?
- a.) about 750
 - b.) about 4,000
 - c.) about 1,300

There are more quiz questions at <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/ESDay/quiz2.html>

This Month's Program

Bridgett Tolley, Community Outreach Specialist for the South Florida Water Management District will present "*Water For Land's Sake*" a powerpoint presentation that describes the District's land management responsibilities as well as recreational opportunities available on District-managed lands in the Kissimmee valley and throughout the 16-county region.

In her role as the Community Outreach Specialist, Bridgett works with civic groups, environmental organizations, local governments and teachers and students, informing them of the importance of preserving our water resources and the role and responsibilities of the South Florida Water Management District.

Bridgett has worked for the District for more than 16 years in a variety of positions, including administration, project management and public relations. She is a graduate of the University of Central Florida and Florida Atlantic University. Bridgett is a member and past president of the Central Florida Association of Environmental Professionals and has served on the board of directors for Community Vision, a non-profit organization in Osceola County.

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| <p>1) 99%.
2) True
3) About 1,300. There are 750 listed plant species and 577 listed animals.</p> |
|---|

County Kicks Off Osceola Parkway Extension Feasibility Study

Following are excerpts from <http://www.osceola-parkway.com>

“A corridor feasibility study is being conducted to examine the potential realignment and extension of Osceola Parkway from the vicinity of its current eastern boundary at Boggy Creek Road to the Northeast Planning District. The length of the study area is approximately 10 miles.

Located approximately three miles east of East Lake Tohopekaliga and just south of the Osceola County and Seminole County line, the Northeast Planning District will ultimately provide a major center for economic development. The residential and business growth in the area will result in additional traffic on the existing roadway network.

The purpose of the Osceola Parkway extension is to provide an additional east-west travel corridor to support the increased traffic expected from future economic and residential development in the area. The study process will address the financial, engineering, environmental and social aspects of providing an additional roadway. The ultimate goal of this project is to meet the transportation needs of the people who reside, work, and travel within the project area.

We encourage you to participate in the Osceola Parkway Extension Feasibility Study and invite your questions and comments. We are also available to meet with your group or neighborhood association. If you have questions regarding this project or would like to schedule a meeting, please contact Mandy Loughran by phone at (407) 971-8850 or by e-mail at mloughran@inwoodinc.com. Written comments and questions can be faxed to (407) 971-8955 or mailed to:

Osceola Parkway Extension Feasibility Study
Public Involvement Office
Attention: Mandy Loughran
Inwood Consulting Engineers, Inc.
3000 Dovera Drive, Suite 200
Oviedo, FL 32765 ”

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Audubon
CENTER FOR BIRDS OF PREY

Join Us for Our Annual
**BABY OWL
SHOWER**

Sat, May 8th, 2010
10 am - 2 pm



Join us for a day of fun educational activities, crafts,
and baby birds to celebrate Mother's Day and Spring!

Pine Lily will have an information table at the
Baby Owl Shower!

Next Month

June will be our social. Stay tuned for details!

Admission to the Center on May 8th is **FREE** with a "Baby Gift".
Donations are used toward caring for these young, beautiful Raptors.



Suggestions for donations/Baby Gifts are: Cash for Food, King/Queen Size Bed Sheets, Recycled Paper Towels, Baby Receiving Blankets, Eco-Friendly Economy Size Laundry Detergent, Scotch-Brite Heavy Duty Sponges, Gauze Rolls/Vet Wrap, Stainless Steel Multi-Purpose Scissors, Heating Pads, Bleach, Bath Towels, Lawn Cart/Wagon, Writeable CDs, Rakes and Shovels, and Any & All Eco-Friendly Cleaning Products – Thank you!!!

The Center for Birds of Prey is located at 1101 Audubon Way Maitland, FL 32751
Contact The Center for additional info and our Official "WISH LIST": 407-644-0190
More info also avail at: www.audubonofflorida.org

You can raise money for FNPS with a click when you use the Internet search engine **GoodSearch.com**. From GoodSearch.com, just select **FNPS Melbourne** from the pull down menu and complete your Internet search. Each time you search, a penny is donated to FNPS. Please use **GoodShop.com** when purchasing office supplies, gifts and household goods. All brand name stores are a part of the GoodShop network. First select **FNPS** before you shop online; a percentage of the purchase price goes to FNPS!

We have a diverse constituency and want to make sure we are doing our best at meeting your needs. If you have ideas for program topics, speakers or field trips, please feel free to send an email to mjohnson@ecotonelanddesign.com

Don't forget our Next Meeting is on May 13th at 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Kissimmee, located at the corner of Dakin Ave. and Church St.

We are always looking for people to help make our chapter everything it can be. If you ever feel you would like to lend a helping hand please just contact any board member.

The Board of Directors, Committee Chairmen, and Contacts

President: Mark Johnson
mjohnson@ecotonelanddesign.com
Vice President: Kimberly Duffy
kduffy@stcloud.org
Treasurer: Cindy Meketa
cmcketa@netzero.net
Secretary and Field Trip: Danny Husband
dhusband@mc.org
Chapter Representative: Christina Uranowski
curanowski@aol.com
Events Coordinator: Jenny Welch
mwelch@cfl.rr.com
Membership: Sue Parent
sparent20@yahoo.com
Publicity: Loret Thatcher
pinelilyfnps@aol.com
Newsletter: Claudia Canty/Loret
thelilypad_fnps@hotmail.com

Florida Native Plant Society Membership Application

Membership in the Florida Native Plant Society enables you to receive their wonderful quarterly magazine The Palmetto. Joining the FNPS also entitles you to membership privileges in the Pine Lily Chapter of the FNPS and a subscription to their monthly newsletter *The Lily Pad*.

Name _____

Business name or organization _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Home phone _____ Work phone _____

Check pertinent category:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Not-for-profit organization \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full time student \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Business or corporate \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library subscription \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Donor \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family or household \$30 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$40 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting \$250 | |

*Make check payable to: FNPS
 Detach and mail to:
**Pine Lily Chapter of
 Florida Native Plant Society
 P.O. Box 278
 Melbourne, FL 32902-0278***

