



PINE LILY CHAPTER
FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

May/June 2011
Volume 5, Issue 5



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.

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Loret.....PinelilyFNPS@aol.com

**Meeting is Thursday
June 16th 6:30 p.m.**

First United Methodist Church
101 W. Dakin Avenue, Kissimmee

**Why not invite a friend to join
our Chapter?**

The Lily Pad

Proclamation accepted by Pine Lily President

The Osceola County Board of County Commissioners proclaimed April 18-24, 2011 as *EARTH WEEK IN OSCEOLA COUNTY*. The BOCC chose Jenny Welch as President of Pine Lily Chapter of FNPS to accept this honor.

June Meeting

Our speaker this month will be **Liz Block**, Water Conservation Coordinator at Toho Water. Liz will discuss **Ecological concepts for Developing Your Native Garden**. Join us on Thursday, June 16th at 6:30p.



Commissioner Michael Harford reading *Earth Week in Osceola County* Proclamation which was accepted by Pine Lily FNPS President Jenny Welch

Chapter receives donation

The Pine Lily Chapter recently received a donation of \$1,500.00 from **Kohl's Department Stores** thanks to the work that Pine Lily Chapter President **Jenny Welch** does with the Osceola County School System on behalf of our chapter. This generous donation will help in furthering our abilities to provide education for the children and other residents as related to the importance of preservation, conservation and restoration of native plant communities within Osceola County. Be sure to shop Kohl's so they can continue to provide for "Green" non-profits such as us.

"Florida's environment really is its economy."

— Paul Johnson, a lobbyist for Reef Relief.

Plant Rescue: Hoagland Blvd.

by Loret

Pine Lily had its very first plant rescue on Sunday, May 15th and again on May 29th. Our county has several road projects on tap, and thanks to our tenacious President, Jenny Welch, who has hounded the “powers that be” for years to let someone salvage the native plants that will be paved over, the county has finally agreed.

Jenny helped to set a meeting with the road managers. She, along with Dick Diener and I did a walkthrough with a Construction Manager to determine what was worth rescuing and what our limitations were as far as access to the site.

While there were no endangered plants found, there was the state-threatened Leafless Beaked Orchid (*Sacoila lanceolata*). In addition, there was Button Rattlesnakemaster aka Snakeroot (*Eryngium yuccifolium*); Gopher Apple (*Licania michauxii*) various St. John’s Wort (*Hypericum* spp.), Skullcap (*Scutellaria* spp.) and many others which would benefit a garden or natural area somewhere. We were given two weeks, and although we had the conference during that time, we were grateful for any time...just to get the ball rolling.



Kattya, Loret, Sandy Webb and Jenny Welch (missing Dick Diener) at the first plant rescue on Hoagland Blvd.
Photo © Kattya Graham

The first Sunday, despite early morning thunderstorms, four of us arrived (although I was very late), shovels, garden gloves and pots in hand, Jenny with her wagon and garden cart (she was smart...she brought a seat). We dug...and dug...and dug some more. Our ID expert Dick, stopped by

on his way to church and told us the names of some plants we were not sure of. There were various wildflowers, including thistle, false dandelion, some blue stem and other bunch grasses, rushes, and numerous others. We dug a couple for ourselves, but most were sent to Jenny’s yard to be placed in other county areas where they will benefit the masses with their beauty.

I wasn’t around for week two, but again, Kattya, Jenny and Sandy rescued more plants.

A special thanks also goes to Mike Welch who, as always, stopped by to see if we needed anything. And thanks to Osceola County Public Works. It was great to see this important rescue happen and hopefully you’ll give us future opportunities and continued support.

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Thanks to Our Conference Volunteers

Thanks to Pine Lily Chapter volunteers who helped plan and worked at the 2011 Conference which we co-hosted with Tarflower, Lake Beautyberry and Cuplet Fern Chapters: Jenny Welch (Chairperson), Mark Johnson (Presenter), Sandy Webb (Lunch Coordinator/Volunteer), Kattya Graham (Lunch Coordinator/Entertainment/Volunteer), Eleanor Foeste (Field Trip Guide) Greg Gologowski (Vendor Co-Chair) Dick Diener (Volunteer) and Loret (Publicity Chairperson/Field Trip Guide). The Conference was a huge success for the parent organization because of the efforts of these people as well as their counterparts in the other chapters. The 2012 conference will be held in Plant City.

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Elections

Because of the conference there was no May meeting and therefore no nominations of Officers for the coming year. The following have offered to continue in their current roles: Jenny Welch, President; Mark Johnson VP/Programs. We need a Treasurer and a Secretary so please volunteer or suggest names of those who might serve. Currently we have Kaity Welch Storer nominated for Treasurer. Sue Parent (Membership) and Loret (Publicity/Newsletter) are willing to continue in their current roles at the discretion of the FY 2011/12 President.

Upcoming

July - Stacia Hedrick
Subject: Aquatic Plants

August - Jaret Daniels
Subject: tba

September - Cheryl Peterson
of Bok Tower
Subject: Rare Plant Collection

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Community Input Survey

The University of Florida/IFAS is about to embark on their strategic plan development which is being called Shaping Solutions for Florida's Future. Florida Extension strives to improve the quality of life for people like you through education. In the coming decade, decisions will be made by Florida Extension that influence you and your community.

If you would like to offer your input, please visit the survey input Website (https://ufaecd.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_5zsTd3yLMDDKDDC) as a way to give your opinions on issues that may impact these decisions. The focus of this survey is your own community – where you live, shop, work and play. This effort is one that provides everyone in the community an opportunity to share with us the areas that we should focus on to assist residents and businesses.

The survey runs through August 19, 2011.

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Ed. note: Due to my involvement with the conference, there was no May issue of the Lily Pad.

Species Spotlight

Stokesia laevis (Stokes' aster)



Photo © 2010 Loret

Stokes' aster is a herbaceous perennial with 6-8 inch evergreen petiolate (stalked) basal leaves. In late spring it sprouts several erect stems with smaller, clasping leaves which stand about 1-2 foot tall, each bearing 1-4 flowerheads 3-4 inches across. They can be blue, lavender, pink or white. Flowering goes on for several weeks.

It is a member of the Asteraceae/Compositae (aster/daisy) Family.

This plant needs acidic soil, full sun for maximum bloom, plenty of moisture, but light well-drained soil. It is imperative that the soil be dry during the winter. Don't add lime.

Use Stokes' aster at the front of perennial borders. Promptly pinch off spent flowerheads to encourage more flowering.

Hardiness: USDA Zones 5 - 10.

source: *Floridata.com*

Save the Date

Monday June 20th
5:30 pm
Osceola Board of County Commissioners Meeting

The subject of a variance for a new airboat launch site on Lake Toho that will affect the nesting location of snail kites is slated to be voted on.

Wednesday, June 22, 2011
1:30 pm
DCA Growth Management Workshop

Fantasy of Flight, Orlampa Conference Center
1400 Broadway Boulevard, SE,
Polk City

This is a **public meeting** to inform citizens about changes in Florida's growth management programs

Registration requested. Email publicaffairs@dca.state.fl.us
Details:
http://fl.audubonaction.org/site/MessagerViewer?em_id=13442.0

Thursday, June 23, 2011
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Water Gardens
Veterans Memorial Library
810 13th Street Saint Cloud
Registration is required. Please call 312-697-3000. Water gardens can be as small as a coffee can or as large as your backyard. Add the sound of water to your outdoor area with a water garden to fit the area you have. Learn the basic concepts of water gardening, including plant selection and design.

Volunteers Needed

Pioneer Village Summer Camp
contact Kattya for dates/time
Kissimmee Pots
Maintenance ongoing
contact Jenny Welch

Before and After – Polyphemus Moth

(*Antheraea polyphemus*)

A silk moth. Host Plants: oak (*Quercus spp.*), willow (*Salix spp.*), maple (*Acer spp.*), birch (*Betula spp*) and others. In my garden it chose Southern Bayberry a.k.a. Wax Myrtle (*Myrica cerifera*).



© Loret



© Loret

What's Blooming

Sambucus nigra L. subsp. canadensis (AMERICAN ELDER; ELDERBERRY); *Lythrum alatum* (WINGED LOOSESTRIFE); *Mikania scandens* (CLIMBING HEMPWEED) *Eupatorium spp.* (THOROUGHWORT); *Gaura angustifolia* (SOUTHERN BEEBLOSSOM); *Bacopa monnieri* (HERB-OF-GRACE); *Sabatia grandiflora* (LARGEFLOWER ROSEGENTIAN)

BUSINESS CARD ADS ACCEPTED

Target environmentally conscious people
for only \$15.00 a month.

Contact Loret via email or call (407) 433-4483 for more
information.

Volunteer Spotlight:

May: Education in the Park and The Baby Owl Shower (Kattya, Sandy Webb, Jenny, Loret, Larry Rosen, Kaity and Jason Storer, 2 interns from Osceola High School and Mike Welch volunteered.

Hoagland Plant Rescue: See article on page 2.

June: Plant rescue at Highland Elementary School (Jenny, Sandy, Kattya volunteered)

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*.

Check pertinent category:

- Individual \$35
- Full time student \$15
- Library subscription \$15
- Family or household \$50
- Contributing \$75
- Supporting \$100
- Not-for-profit organization \$50
- Business or corporate \$125
- Donor \$250
- Life \$1000

Name _____

Business name or organization _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Home phone _____ Work phone _____

*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*

The Florida Native Plant Society is registered as a 501(C)3 non-profit organization.