



# Florida Native Plant Society

## Pine Lily Chapter

August 2017

### Board and Committee Reports

#### August Field Trip to Lake Lizzie

Eleanor Foerste, Pine Lily Chapter member and certified interpretive guide, will lead a casual walk to see native plants and wildflowers on the 1.5 mile Lake Lizzie Marsh Loop, part of a 1076 acre conservation area east of St. Cloud, FL. We will meet in the parking lot off Old Melbourne Highway. The trail crosses from high sand pine scrub and transitions through slash pine flatwoods and live oak hammock to the marsh at the shore of Lake Lizzie. The walk will be on boardwalks and natural trail, mostly shaded.

\*There is a solar powered composting toilet in the parking lot.

\*No potable (drinking) water onsite.

\*Wear sunscreen and bring insect repellent.

\*Long pants and closed toed shoes preferred. Long sleeve shirt to cover from sun and mosquitoes recommended. Hat and sunglasses if you wish.

\*Binoculars and camera optional.

\*Bring a reusable water bottle and snack for the trail.

\*Optional lunch gathering at nearby Meat and Fire restaurant afterwards (1925 S Narcoossee Rd, St Cloud, FL, 34771 ).

Questions? Contact Eleanor at [407-908-4379](tel:407-908-4379) or email [info@efadventures.com](mailto:info@efadventures.com)

### July 2017 Meeting Highlights

President Karina Veaudry-Hinkle was our speaker for the evening. She introduced our new Chapter Representative, Taylor Figueroa, and discussed the role of the Chapter Rep. Karina also gave a brief overview of the FNPS. She then presented ten native species of plants.

Susan Parent shared cuttings of some native plants from her garden.

#### Next Meeting Information

Every 4th Thursday of the Month  
Kissimmee Utility Authority Building  
1701 W. Carroll Street Kissimmee, FL

**Our next meeting is Thursday, August 24th**

6:00PM to 6:30PM – Social and Refreshments

6:30PM to 8:30PM – Chapter Meeting:

**Guest Speaker – Valerie Anderson “Native Plants of Split Oak Forest”**

#### Upcoming Field Trips:

**Saturday July 26th** Native Plant Identification Walk at Lake Lizzie, led by Eleanor Foerste.

The group will meet at 9AM at the Lake Lizzie Conservation Area, 6495 Old Melbourne Hwy, St. Cloud, 34771.

**Saturday, Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Split Oak Mitigation Forest, led by Valerie Anderson

**Special Note:** On Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> @7PM, Dr. Patrick Bohlen, UCF, will be speaking at the Tarflower Chapter Meeting (held at Leu Gardens). Pine Lily Chapter members are invited to attend for free.

## **Focus on Native Plants in Central Florida**

### **Bird pepper plant (*Capsicum annuum* va. *Glabriusculum*)**

This shrub, which can grow to 3 feet, is native to southern North America, including Florida. It is notable for its small red-orange chili peppers that can be hotter than habaneros peppers. While many people might find them too hot, birds are attracted to them. The shrub prefers full sun and drier soil.



### **Sunshine mimosa (*Mimosa strigillosa*)**

This perennial groundcover is a fast grower that creates a mat like appearance. It spreads via rhizomes and grows to 3 – 4 inches in height. The showy pink flowers grow on long peduncles in spring and summer. It is a larval food source for the little sulphur butterfly. It grows in full sun to high pine shade, and prefers well drained soil.



### **Pineland lantana (*Lantana depressa*)**

A woody, slow growing shrub native to Florida pine rocklands. It grows to about 1 -2 feet, and blooms in small clusters of creamy butter to yellow flowers throughout the year. It is a nectar plant for many small and mid-sized butterflies and is especially loved by skippers. It is a low maintenance plant, which prefers full sun and drier soil once established. It is drought tolerant



### **Wild Coffee (*Psychotria nervosa*)**

This evergreen shrub can grow to 6 feet. The leaves are glossy green and deeply veined, making it striking even when not in flower. It produces a greenish white flower in spring to early summer and a red to brown oval drupe. The plant prefers average to somewhat dry soil and shade to partial sun. It readily self-seeds. Birds are attracted to the fruit and butterflies to the flowers.



### **Fire bush (*Hamelia Patens*)**

This Evergreen showy shrub has cymose clusters of bright red-orange tubular flowers. These are followed by dark red berries. It will grow to 5 feet or more, but can be easily pruned to desired height. The flowers are attractive to hummingbirds and butterflies. It prefers full sun, but is shade tolerant (although you will have less flowering in shade).



### **Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*)**

This large shrub to small tree is native to Eastern North America, from Canada to Florida. It is deciduous in cold winter climates. The leaves are opposite and pinnate. In late spring through summer, it bears large corymbs of white flowers above the foliage. The dark purple fruit is produced in the fall and the ripe berry is edible. It prefers partial shade and is tolerant of variable soil conditions. It should be pruned back in winter to maintain its full form.



### **Passion Vine (*Passiflora incarnata*)**

The passion flower is a fast-growing perennial vine with climbing or trailing stem and has large, intricate flowers. It is the exclusive larval host plant for the Gulf fritillary butterfly. Leaves are alternate and palmate; flowers have five bluish-white petals. It thrives in areas with lots of available sunlight.



### **Scarlet rose mallow (*Hibiscus coccineus*)**

This hardy, native perennial grows to 6 feet or more, but will die back during a cold winter. It looks somewhat like Cannabis when not in bloom. Bloom time is June through September and the flowers are attractive to hummingbirds and butterflies. It needs a wet soil and full sun to partial shade.



**Corymb:** short, broad, more or less flat topped inflorescence, with the outer flowers opening first

**Cyme:** an inflorescence that has a series of more or less equal branches that bear the flowers

**Deciduous:** a plant that loses its leaves at the same time each year

**Drupe:** A fleshy fruit, usually with one seed surrounded by a hard covering

**Inflorescence:** arrangement of flowers on a plant; a flower cluster

**Pinnate:** feather formed; with leaflets of a compound leaf placed on either side of the rachis

**Peduncle:** Stalk of a flower cluster or a solitary flower

**Rachis:** that part of the petiole between the leaflets of a compound leaf

**Rhizome:** root like, horizontal stem, often underground

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*Don't Pull That Dandelion!*

*It's one of the first spring foods for our precious bees.*



*Let's not kill off anything that helps the bees.*



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## Board and Committee Chairs:

Karina Veaudry-Hindle - **President**

Vacant – **VP, Programming**

Kathleen Devitt – **Secretary/Newsletter**

Sandy Webb – **Treasurer**

Taylor Figueroa – **Chapter Representative**

Susan Parent – **Membership Coordinator**

Eleanor Foerste – **Education/Outreach**

**Coordinator**

Jenny Welch – **Native Plant Festival**

**Director**