



Florida Native Plant Society

Pine Lily Chapter

News & Notes
October 2018

Special Event! Pine Lily Blitzteam Hike Saturday, Oct. 27

Pine Lily Chapter is co-fielding a team of plant enthusiasts to seek out and document native species in Split Oak Forest Wildlife and Environmental Area.

Part of a [Fall BioBlitz](#) set for Oct. 26–28, the hike is Pine Lily Chapter's October field trip. It's a great learning opportunity for anyone interested in native plants. Never heard of a BioBlitz? It is an event that focuses on finding and identifying as many species as possible over a short period of time.

Meet at 8 a.m. for our two-hour [Blitzteam](#) hike and 11 a.m. for a 45-minute family-friendly Kids Blitzteam hike. Admission is free, but please register on our [Chapter Eventbrite page](#), so we know how many attendees will participate.

Species will be recorded in the Split Oak [iNaturalist project](#), which is now the top Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission project in the state by number of observations!

Interested in learning more about Split Oak Forest? Visit [Friends of Split Oak Forest](#) or contact [Valerie Anderson](#) at (386) 852-2539.



Oct. 25 Chapter Meeting: Native Plant Propagation



Want to learn how to grow native plants from seeds? Check out this month's meeting with Pine Lily Chapter Conservation Chair Sandy Webb. She will discuss seed collecting and preparation for planting. Please join us! 6:30–8:30 p.m. at Kissimmee Utility Authority Building, 1701 W. Carroll St., Kissimmee, FL. Call (321) 388-4781 for more information.



Last month's speaker

In September, Pine Lily Chapter Policy & Legislation Committee Chair Valerie Anderson, at left with Chapter President Karina Veaudry-Hindle, reviewed the current conservation initiatives in Osceola County in great detail. She also provided information on how to

voice your opinion to decision-makers to convey that preservation is important. Valerie is president of Anderson Geospatial, an ecology and GIS company.

Upcoming Events

- Oct. 25: Chapter Meeting — Native Plant Propagation
- Oct. 27: Pine Lily Plant Nerds Blitzteam Hike
- Nov. 3: Native plant sale at Great Outdoors Day, St. Cloud
- Nov. 17: Field trip — Lake Lizzie Preserve North Loop
- No November or December chapter meeting due to the holidays.
- Dec. 15: Field trip — Details pending.

For additional event information, check out our Facebook [events page](#).

Lake Lizzie Preserve North Loop Field Trip

Join us the morning of Nov. 17 for an exploration of [Lake Lizzie Conservation Area](#)'s rare plants. Several unique and important species, such as gopher tortoises, sandhill cranes, osprey, limpkins and wood storks, have been observed at this special place. Listed plant species, such as slender club moss, hooded pitcher plant, sand holly, cinnamon fern and the big yellow milkwort, are also found on here. Additional event details are on the Pine Lily Chapter Facebook [events page](#). Please register at this [Eventbrite page](#) so we know who plans to attend. Hope to see you there!



Above: Pine Lily Chapter Conservation Chair Sandy Webb.

Chapter Mapping Osceola County

In October, the Pine Lily Chapter Board of Directors began the process of outlining the Critical Areas of Conservation throughout Osceola County. This mapping information, after the vetting process, will be used to advocate for the preservation of these areas of conservation, natural resources and wildlife corridors. This effort is in support of the FNPS mission.



Native Plant Sale!

Saturday, Nov. 3, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., stop by and see us at the Great Outdoor Days event at St. Cloud Lakefront Park near the marina. Select the right native plants for your yard, including trees, shrubs, vines and wildflowers that support birds and butterflies.

Plenty of Polygala!

The beautiful Polygala, often described as drumhead or milkwort, was on the agenda for the last chapter meeting. Here's a quick rundown of some of the plants featured. Many of the species prefer moist soil. However, *Polygala rugelii*, endemic to Florida, has been found in sand pine scrub, and *Polygala ramosa* appears to be drought-tolerant.



Polygala cruciate



Polygala lutea



Polygala rugelii



Polygala ramosa



Polygala setacea



Polygala nana

Let's keep in touch!





**Gardening For Life, Part 3:
Parks Are Not Enough**
A book excerpt from Douglas Tallamy,
entomology researcher and educator

I am often asked why the habitats we have preserved within our park system are not enough to save most species from extinction.

Years of research by evolutionary biologists have shown that the area required to sustain biodiversity is pretty much the same as the area required to generate it in the first place. The consequence of this simple relationship is profound.

Since we have taken 95% of the U.S. from nature, we can expect to lose 95% of the species that once lived here unless we learn how to share our living, working, and agricultural spaces with biodiversity.

95% of all plants and animals! Now there is a statistic that puts climate-change predictions of extinction to shame. And studies of habitat islands with known histories, such as Barro Colorado Island in the Panama Canal and Ashdown Forest in England, have so far shown these predictions to be accurate. Species are lost at the same proportion with which a habitat is reduced in size.

The good news is that extinction takes a while, so if we start sharing our landscapes with other living things, we should be able to save much of the biodiversity that still exists.

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](#).

Pine Lily Chapter Board and Committee Chairs

-  Karina Veaudry-Hindle – President
-  Laura Bennett-Kimble – Vice President
-  Tayler Figueroa – Chapter Representative
-  Valerie Anderson – Policy and Legislation Committee Chair
-  Sandy Webb – Conservation Committee Chair
-  Eleanor Foerste – Education/Outreach Coordinator
-  Jenny Welch – Native Plant Festival Coordinator
-  VACANCIES – Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Coordinator *

* Interested in serving in one of these roles? Contact Karina at (321) 388-4781.

Newsletter Editor: Laura Bennett-Kimble

Advocating for Nature: Bull Creek Wildlife Management Area

By Valerie Anderson, September Pine Lily Chapter Policy & Legislation Committee Chair

Every so often, the state or federal agency that manages a piece of public land has to update its management plan. The Florida Native Plant Society has a goal of sending a representative to each of these meetings, some of which are two-day affairs. We call our participation in this process a “land management review,” since we are reviewing how the land is being managed.

Bull Creek Wildlife Management Area is a huge conservation area managed by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC) primarily for flood control and hunting. And it has valuable native plant communities. I represented Pine Lily at the Management Advisory Group meeting and three of our members advocated for native plants at the Public Hearing.

Pine Lily has not yet inventoried the native plants of Bull Creek, nor have we attended any prior land management reviews. Without specific knowledge of the rare plants on Bull Creek, I concentrated my comments on the need to manage the land with frequent fire and plan ahead for increased traffic on Highway 192 as development of the North Ranch Sector Plan moves forward.

I argued for including Lake X and Split Oak Forest within FWC’s optimal conservation planning boundary. I also argued that FWC, Friends of Bull Creek and Pine Lily Chapter need to immediately begin advocating for an upland wildlife crossing at or near Crabgrass Creek, as that is the only contiguous area north of Highway 192 that will be spared from Deseret’s development.

We will keep you posted on this important work for the protection of the natural areas of Osceola County.

