



# 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

## April 2010



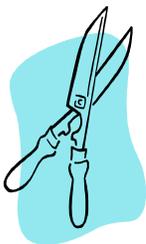
Ginny Stibolt, author of *Sustainable Gardening for Florida* will be presenting about **Sustainable Gardening for Florida: Rain Gardens on April 15th**. A naturalist with a master's degree in botany, Ginny moved from Maryland to Green Cove Springs in northern Florida. Her book is a must-have reference for Florida's gardeners, landscapers, and property managers and an action book filled with doable projects and methods designed to benefit Florida's ecosystems. Ginny will talk about how gardeners in Florida can use sustainable practices to reduce their ecological impact and will detail rain gardens, bioswales and bog gardens.



### 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 filling out a form and sending in your response to the email indicated on the form (download the form at [www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org)).

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.



In your yard, prune shrubs to contain their size, especially cut off any freeze-damaged limbs or branches, back to live wood. Beautyberry and Firebush can be pruned severely to keep them more compact. Use a horticultural oil and soap on Coontie if there are scale insects and black sooty mold.

## Yaupon Holly: a tough shrub bursting with Florida history



*Ilex vomitoria*  
Photo by Dan Tenaglia

Yaupon Holly (*Ilex vomitoria*) is an immensely adaptable plant and a native of Florida and the Southeastern United States. It thrives in almost any condition in our landscapes. An evergreen, it thrives in a variety of conditions, but only the female plants produce bright red berries. It can grow from 15 to 25 feet tall and about as wide. It will fit into a parking lot island or sidewalk planter as well as manicured or naturalistic residential landscapes. Yaupon will tolerate sandy or clay soils and full sun to shade. It doesn't mind wet sites, and is very drought tolerant. Even sea salt doesn't seem to bother it.

You can find yaupon hollies with a weeping form, a very vertical habit, and varieties to create a nice, manicured hedge. There are even some that produce yellow berries.

Yaupon holly gets its interesting botanical name, *Ilex vomitoria*, from its association with ritual purification ceremonies performed by Native American tribes in the Southeast. The shrub was used to brew a caffeine-loaded drink, known as the black drink. Men preparing for purification drank this in large

quantities to induce vomiting and begin the process of purging and purification.

When European botanists first described yaupon, they applied the name *Ilex*, meaning holly, and *vomitoria*, for its digestive effect. Yaupon holly also has a connection to a very famous Floridian. To understand it, here's a quick lesson in Creek vocabulary. The Creek (or Muscogee) word for the black drink is **asi**, pronounced **ah-see**. During the purification ceremonies, there was a lot of singing and yelling; the Creek word for that is **yahola**, pronounced **yah-o-lah**. The man singing during the ceremony was called the "black drink singer" or **asi-yahola** in Creek. Asi-yahola was corrupted into English as Osceola. The great Seminole War chief's name meant "the black drink singer" in his native language.

If you're looking for a tough shrub to fill a difficult spot in your landscape, check out yaupon holly. Not only will you have one tough shrub, you'll have one with deep Florida roots.

Source: [www.2tbo.com](http://www.2tbo.com)

## 2011 FNPS CONFERENCE PLANNING MEETING



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 co-chair of the 2011 conference. Don't miss the opportunity to help organizing this significant event.

For more info, please contact Jenny [mwelch@cfl.rr.com](mailto:mwelch@cfl.rr.com) and/or attend next meeting, **Saturday May 1, 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



**Do you have problems with plants getting scorched by the sun and dying in certain spots in your yard (specially the ones facing West)?**

Try planting some sandcord grass (*Spartina bakerii*), silver palmettos *Serenoa repens* 'Silver'), pineland lantana (*Lantana depressa*) and Yaupon holly (*Ilex vomitoria*) in those problematic spots and see what these native toughies are capable of!



**WE NEED YOUR HELP**

Able bodied personnel needed to cover the information table during our upcoming events. You don't have to do the entire day or event, even 2 or 3 hours will help. We are trying to get our organization's name VISIBLE within the community so it is important to cover as many open county events as possible. Don't leave it up to the other guy, education is EVERYONE's responsibility and is vital to helping maintain and improve the future of Florida's ecosystems. You don't have to know anything off the top of your head, we have reference materials to help out should any questions arise and Jenny always has great displays to attract attention. Requirements: (1) ready smile and (2) willingness to participate. Email your availability to [mwelch@cfl.rr.com](mailto:mwelch@cfl.rr.com)

**Saturday, April 17:** Earth Day at Shingle Creek Park 9 am- noon

**Saturday, April 17:** Harmony Dark Sky Festival 6pm-11pm or any part thereof

**Thursday, April 29:** Lakeview Elem. School Nature Night 5pm- 7:30pm

## Mark's Remarks

As you know, May is our annual meeting when we vote in a new slate of officers. I want to thank your current board members for the great energy they have shared to keep our local Florida Native Plant Society chapter functioning. We should especially applaud the board members who have been carrying out duties beyond their specific job description. It is clear to me that our board sees a great value in having a FNPS presence and voice in our local community. We hope you do too.

You can help assure that the chapter continues to have a presence and to educate the community by being a board member for the coming year, starting in June. Positions and primary duties for your consideration include:

### **President:**

- A. Preside at all general membership and board meetings.
- B. Be an ex-officio member of committees.

### **1st Vice-President:**

- A. Chair the Program Committee.

### **2nd Vice-President:**

- A. Chair the Events Committee.

### **Secretary:**

- A. Record, maintain and report minutes of the Executive Committee, Board and General meetings to the Executive Committee on a monthly basis.
- B. Be custodian of all corporate records except financial.
- C. Prepare correspondence

### **Treasurer:**

- A. Keep, maintain, and report correct accounts of financial transactions monthly with copies to the secretary for inclusion in the minutes.
- B. Chair the Budget Committee.

### **State Chapter Representative:**

- A. Attend quarterly State Board meetings representing and voting for Pine Lily Chapter interest.

If you are willing to serve, you will not be alone. Current board members are glad to mentor you as you get adjusted to your duties. The only requirement to be part of our leadership team is to hold membership in FNPS and be willing to attend monthly board meetings and regular meetings. You don't believe you can commit to be perfect? No problem; we only ask that you do the best you can. For, now, we have positions open with no-one nominated. So, please contact me or another board member and let us know of your willingness to serve your community through the Pine Lily Chapter, FNPS.

# Save the date

## Earth Day at Shingle Creek Park

Saturday, April 17 – 9am to Noon

Join Osceola County and the City of Kissimmee as they host the first Earth Day run/canoe event on the County's scenic and historic Babb Property and Shingle Creek waterway. For more info go to [www.osceola.org](http://www.osceola.org)

**The Babb property, on the north end of the park, is off Babb Road, west of Kissimmee. To get to Babb Road, turn onto Old Vineland Road from U.S. Highway 192. Babb Road intersects Old Vineland Road from the north.**

**The Steffee Landing, where Shingle Creek flows under Highway 192, is at 4266 W. Vine St. in Kissimmee.**

## 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Dark Sky Festival at Harmony

Saturday, April 17 (6pm – 11pm)

Learn about the marvels of astronomy and the importance of protecting dark skies, not only for astronomy purposes, but also the value of darkness for wildlife. The evening will include discussions, education, cosmic Kids Zone, stargazing opportunities, nocturnal animals, mobile planetarium, food and street performers. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets and chairs for lawn use in the amphitheatre area. Loret Thatcher, publicity chair of the Pine Lily chapter of the FNPS will be manning a booth at the festival.

For more info visit [www.darkskyfestival.com](http://www.darkskyfestival.com)

**3500 Harmony Square Drive - West Harmony, FL**

## Native Plant Sale

Saturday, April 24 – 9am to 3pm

The Natives Inc. is celebrating 28 years of growing, sowing, potting, planting, specking and seeding Florida native plants. Celebrate The Natives Inc. Spring Saturday Retail day! A wonderful new crop of wildflowers will be available for sale

along with a wide variety of trees and shrubs. For more info visit [www.thenatives.net](http://www.thenatives.net) or contact by email [natives@gate.net](mailto:natives@gate.net) or phone 863-422-6664.

**929 J. B. Carter Road Davenport, FL 33837**

# 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>



## Kissimmee Valley Audubon Society

### The hidden beauty of plants

Tuesday, April 27 - 6:45pm

Kissimmee Utility Authority Building

On the average birding walk, you pass by hundreds of plants. Sure, there are usually some pretty flowers to see, but do you know that you are constantly passing plants that are bizarre and beautiful under the right magnification? Dick Diener, one of our most knowledgeable local plant experts (and FNPS Pine Lily chapter member), will be talking about these interesting, beautiful and beneficial plants that we are missing while out birding, hiking and enjoying nature. Come see what you are missing!

**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!**

## Lakeview Elementary School Nature Night

Thursday, April 29 - 5pm to 7:30pm

2900 5<sup>th</sup> Street, St. Cloud, FL (407)891-3220

## Very special events going on throughout April in Florida

Indigo buntings, Mississippi kites, eastern kingbirds, grosbeaks, warblers, tanagers, orioles and thrushes begin returning to North America. Wood storks in north Florida begin courtship and nesting. Florida sandhill crane chicks become old enough to begin foraging in open habitat. Watch your speed! - Manatees are dispersing around Florida's coastal waterways. Seasonal manatee speed zones change in Florida's waterways.



You can raise money for FNPS with a click when you use the Internet search engine **GoodSearch.com**. From [GoodSearch.com](http://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 and 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](mailto:mjohnson@ecotonelanddesign.com)

Don't forget our Next Meeting is on April 15<sup>th</sup> 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 of our

*The Board of Directors, Committee Chairmen, and Contacts*

**President:** Mark Johnson  
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 Loret Thatcher  
[pinelilyfnps@aol.com](mailto:pinelilyfnps@aol.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*.

New Member       Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Business name or organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Check pertinent category**

- Individual \$25
- Full time student \$15
- Library subscription \$15
- Family or household \$30
- Contributing \$40
- Supporting \$250
- Not-for-profit organization \$50
- Business or corporate \$100
- Donor \$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**