



PINE LILY CHAPTER  
FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

August 2010  
Volume 4, Issue 8



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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**Publicity/Newsletter:**

Loret.....[PineLilyFNPS@aol.com](mailto:PineLilyFNPS@aol.com)

**Meeting is Thursday  
August 19<sup>th</sup> 6:30 p.m.**

at the Church

### New/Renewing Members

Petra Royston (N)	Richard Diener (R)
Thomas and Martha Farabee (R)	Ray Robida and Eleanor Foerste (R)
James R. and Leslie Futral (R)	Caroline Foust (R)
Larry Rosen (R)	Robert Mindick (R)
	Jenny Welch (R)

Thank you for your continued support!

# The Lily Pad

## PL President Named to LCAB

On July 12, 2010 Pine Lily President Jenny Welch was appointed to The Land Conservation Advisory Board by the Osceola Board of County Commissioners. The LCAB is comprised of nine members from the community representing such areas as agriculture, business, education, the environment, government, civic organizations and the cities of Kissimmee and St. Cloud. Jenny will serve in the environmental area until December 31, 2012.

The purpose of LCAB is to select and recommend for purchase environmentally significant lands to protect water resources, wildlife habitat, public green space and natural areas for resource-based recreation. We all know Jenny’s commitment to the environment and Osceola County is lucky have her as a part of this important decision making process.

☆☆☆

## August Program

The August program will be an entertaining and educational DVD movie presentation on “Biodiversity in Suburbia”, by Douglas W. Tallamy, PhD. Tallamy explains the failure of exotic landscapes in providing for a sustainable future and offers insights about why and how

native plant species are critical to bringing about biological balance for a healthy environment. If you would like to learn more from Dr. Tallamy, you can read his book, “Bringing Nature Home”.

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## A Message from Jenny

I know it is hot out there but I hope everyone is able to get out and enjoy some of our wonderful native plants and especially our native wildflowers that are in bloom. Just a few I have seen recently are the bright red blooms of standing cypress and scarlet hibiscus, the delicate pink of swamp rosemallow, the delicate beauty of the ghost orchid, the white blossoms of my rouge plant, the violet blooms of the spiderwort, the pollinator-attracting snow square-stem with its snowy white flowers. I could go on and on. There is so much beauty now so get out there and enjoy them. Just be sure to take care in the heat and drink plenty of water.

The Florida Wildflower Foundation (FWF) contacted me and asked me if I would be interested in helping out with their Seeds for Schools Program. Of course I said yes. The two schools in Osceola County

*continued on page 3*

“A garden is only as rich and beautiful as the integral health of the system; pollinators are essential to the system—make your home their home.”

—Derry MacBride, National Affairs and Legislation Chairwoman,  
Garden Club of America

# Good Bug or Bad Bug

by Loret

I found *Leptoglossus phyllopus* a.k.a. Leaf-footed Bugs (LFB) on my beautyberry. So my question was, are they beneficial in some way or pests? My theory on insects is that there are no bad native bugs since most are on the birdy smorgasbord. Time to do some research.



© 2010 Loret

Nine species of *Leptoglossus* have been recorded from Florida. They are a widespread and conspicuous minor pest of many kinds of crops, including fruits, vegetables, grains, nuts

and ornamentals. It has been reported as a major pest in citrus groves, where its feeding on ripening fruit causes premature color break and fruit drop. Serious infestations do not occur commonly, but a large proportion of the crop may be lost when they do. So, if you grow citrus, they are pests.

Pecan is one of the other crops attacked as are potato, tomato, sunflower, bean, cowpea, eggplant, bell pepper, okra, cucurbits, grain sorghum, blueberry, blackberry, plum, peach, lychee, pomegranate, loquat, pear, apple, persimmon, oat, and to a lesser extent rye, wheat, barley, and soybean.

Some of the ornamentals attacked include beargrass, hibiscus, crape myrtle, ligustrum, ixora, gladiolus, Gerbera daisy, and rose. Wild hosts include thistle, jimsonweed, goldenrod, and elderberry. *L. phyllopus* is a multivoltine species. Adults have been taken all months of the year in the Deep South, but populations attain peak numbers during the warmer months. Additional life history information is needed to better understand this bug.



Nymphs  
© 2010 Loret

Source: [http://entomology.ifas.ufl.edu/creatures/orn/leaffooted\\_bug.htm](http://entomology.ifas.ufl.edu/creatures/orn/leaffooted_bug.htm)

LFBs are controlled by application of insecticides, cultural practices and by hand picking-my method of choice. I've never run into a problem with them moving onto my citrus. I didn't find any on my spring tomato or pepper plants, so from an integrated pest management standpoint, I think they

are sticking to the natives and leaving my "cash crops" alone.

I've only found them on one beautyberry and my larger beautyberry-which isn't very far away-does not have any nor does my Meyer Lemon which is full of fruit. I sadly lost a wild thistle in the spring and now I have these guys as my primary suspects.

There were quite a few nymphs on a Sunday, but by Tuesday they were all gone...I suspect into the tummy of some happy lizard, bird or perhaps a jumping spider or two. I recently read that a gentleman in the Bayou released jumping spiders and noticed immediate lessening of the numbers of the LFBs. I have an abundance of jumping spiders and I have seen them often in that area. Overall the plant with the pests seems relatively unaffected from an aesthetic standpoint. Nature is keeping the balance at my place.

## Florida Native Plant Partnership

### Native Residential Landscapes Sought for TV

Do you have or know of a beautiful residential, all or predominantly native landscape worthy of showing off to fellow Floridians?

In partnership with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), the Association of Florida Native Nurseries (AFNN) is launching the *Plant Real Florida* statewide media campaign promoting the use of Florida native plants in residential landscaping.

AFNN is looking for primarily Central and South Florida residential landscapes that feature moderately upscale homes with landscapes that at a glance, "read" native (i.e., no visually dominant exotics and preferably no, minimal, or easily minimized turf).

Please send suggestions, questions or comments by August 30 to AFNN Executive Director Cammie Donaldson at [info@afnn.org](mailto:info@afnn.org) or telephone her at (321) 917-1960.

## Fund Raising

We need to come up with some fund raising ideas. We should be able to apply for a grant to help towards purchase of a digital projector, but we need matching funds. Please contact any member of the board with your ideas.

*continued from page 1*

that received grants are Flora Ridge Elementary and Celebration School. In September each school will receive a garden sign and \$50 worth of wildflower seeds.

FWF will forward my contact information to the teachers. The schools will need help with initial garden preparation and someone to check and keep things watered on school breaks and holidays. Then the real fun will begin next spring when plants emerge and the garden can be used for educational purposes. Spring gardens will probably need weeding too.

If funds remain available from the sales of Wildflower License plates FWF would like to open the grant period each May for more schools to apply. They are also working to create a page on their website for teachers and students to enjoy learning about wildflowers.

This is an important project that will instill enthusiasm for nature into the children and hopefully shape future Florida Native Plant Society members. When the time comes I hope you will heed the call and join me by volunteering some time.

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## Help Wanted

### Citizen Scientist

For many years, concerned Floridians have been reporting **Cuban Treefrog** sightings to Dr. Steve Johnson at the University of Florida, and many are now euthanizing these invasive treefrogs. Cuban Treefrogs are common in suburban Florida, where they have become a huge nuisance to humans

## Species Spotlight

### **Ipomopsis rubra**

*by Loret*



Photo: © Jenny Welch

Standing cypress or Spanish Larkspur is a member of the Polemoniaceae (Phlox family). Of the approximately twenty species of *Ipomopsis* found in the U.S., this is the only one known in Florida. (source: Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants, UF IFAS).

It has a medium water use, does well in sun or part shade and is adaptable to dry, sandy or rocky soils. It benefits wildlife by attracting hummingbirds.

source: Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center , Austin TX; [www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org)

Standing cypress is stunningly beautiful and easy to cultivate in garden settings. Showy, red, tubular flowers, widely flaring at the rim, are marked with orange or yellowish spots inside. Flowers are arranged in a thick spike, opening from the tip of the stem downward. When the bloom stalk is through blooming, you can prune it off to allow replacement stalk to grow and flower. The stiff, unbranched stem is 2-4 ft., but can reach 6 ft.

Propagation by seed in fall. Be sure the seeds are in good contact with the soil by lightly raking the seed into loose topsoil. Since it is a biennial, it is recommended that you plant two consecutive years in order to produce flowering stalks each year. After flowering ceases, allow seeds to completely mature before moving for reseeding or collecting seed to plant in a new area. The first year of growth will produce a ferny rosette, followed by a flower spike the second year. When the spike has bloomed out, cut it off, and new spikes will be formed.

and are having harmful impacts on our native treefrog species. As a result, more Floridians are now becoming informed and taking action to help manage these frogs in their neighborhoods. We believe that these efforts can make a difference by helping to reduce Cuban Treefrog populations and slow their spread into new areas. Removing Cuban Treefrogs may also help native treefrogs to survive in suburban areas -- some people report that they have seen native treefrogs after they

started to capture and humanely euthanize the invaders. We are asking these Floridians who are already removing and euthanizing Cuban treefrogs to participate in a Citizen Scientist project by taking the time to report their efforts.

Download the form and learn the procedures on how to participate at [http://ufwildlife.ifas.ufl.edu/citizen\\_sci.shtml](http://ufwildlife.ifas.ufl.edu/citizen_sci.shtml)

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# Business Card Ads Welcome Here

The Lily Pad is now accepting business card ads. Contact Loret via email or call (407) 433-4483 for more information and rates.

Encourage your favorite businesses to place their ads with us. As always, thank you for your support.

## From the Home Office

### Member Survey

If you did NOT attend this year's conference (and we've tried to narrow the recipients list appropriately), we'd like to know why.

Please help us out by taking a few minutes to answer a quick 4-question survey:  
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JN7GS3>

## 2011 Conference

Have you considered what roll you can play in the May 2011 Conference? The theme is PATIOS, PRESERVES AND PUBLIC SPACES: MAKING CONNECTIONS. Email or call Jenny Welch with your volunteer availability and get your **SPONSOR** ideas (name of business, contact telephone number or email) to the committee as soon as possible.

### Volunteers Needed

Discover Osceola ...September 16  
Pioneer Day:.....November 13  
Kissimmee Pots  
Maintenance .....ongoing  
contact Jenny Welch

## Osceola Land Purchase Process

by Loret

With Jenny's recent naming to the LCAB, I decided to see what this Board is all about. The Board oversees the Environmental Lands Conservation Program which was created to acquire and manage environmentally significant lands with a voter-endorsed ad valorem funding source. This property tax enables the program to issue bonds for the purchase of land for water resource protection, wildlife habitat, public green space and resource-based passive recreation. It helps to preserve the natural beauty of the county and to ensure that there will be natural lands and water resources for future generations

To begin acquiring and protecting natural lands and water resources, the process starts with a Site Nomination Form, which is available from the Environmental Lands Coordinator or you can download the form on the Internet.

<http://www.osceola.org/index.cfm?IsFuses=Department/Conservation/16796>

Here is the step by step of the Land Purchase Process

1. Site Nominations – the property owner chooses to pursue selling the land or development rights. Site data is gathered and nomination application is completed. The application is then submitted to the Environmental Lands Coordinator.
2. Staff Review – a preliminary screening and site assessment review is completed by the County staff for accuracy and completeness of the application.
3. LCAB Ranking – the completed application is presented to the Land Conservation Advisory Board for ranking using the Land Eligibility and Acquisition Criteria.
4. Public Hearing – through one of the monthly BOCC meetings is held to receive any public input, comments or questions.
5. Acquisition List – if the property is consistent with the goals of the LCAB, the site is placed on one of two acquisition lists: the "Active Acquisition List" if the site is to be actively pursued for purchase or the "Target List" if the active acquisition process has not begun.
6. Board of County Commissioners Approval – both acquisition lists are presented to the BOCC for approval.
7. Acquisition Process – begins with appraisals and negotiations by County staff.
8. Approval by the BOCC to sign a contract to purchase property.
9. Acquisition and Development of Management Plan.

source: <http://conservation.osceola.org>

## July Follow-up

Dick Diener gave a fascinating program on the Spurge family at the July meeting. His photos of the microscopic flowers are outstanding as was his explanation of this quite diverse family. He fielded numerous questions and opened the eyes of many members to this often-overlooked native plant family. If you missed it, you really should look into what makes these tiny flowers so special. There were several plants for door prizes and Susan Parent provided delicious brownies.

## Community

The Chapter has taken on the task of planting and maintaining the flowerpots located in downtown for the City of Kissimmee. It will involve a gradual changeover to native and Florida Friendly plants. Jenny Welch with the help of Sandie Mulrooney has already begun the process. It is the perfect opportunity to be involved with providing proper habitat in the midst of urbanization. Contact Jenny to volunteer some hours towards this high profile project.

## Save the Date

**Tuesdays, Aug 17th – Nov 16<sup>th</sup>**  
8 am – 5 pm

Master Gardener Volunteer Training  
Extension Services,  
Osceola Heritage Park  
1921 Kissimmee Valley Lane

Great Gardener Training will be coming in January 2011.

Call Eva Pabon for details and registration for both of these programs at 321-697-3000

**Saturday, September 25, 2010**  
9am – 4 pm

FWF 2010 Wildflower Symposium and Plant Sale  
Florida Federation of Garden Clubs  
1400 S. Denning Drive, Winter Park

The Florida Wildflower Foundation will host presentations on flowering native shrubs for landscapes, butterfly and pollinator plants, using wildflowers in landscapes, and wildflower advocacy. Symposium admission is free for FWF members and \$5 for non-members. Box lunches are available for \$5. Lunches must be ordered by Sept. 18 when

registering online; they will not be sold during the event. Space is limited! register online by visiting [www.floridawildflowerfoundation.org](http://www.floridawildflowerfoundation.org).

**Fri. & Sat., October 29 & 30, 2010**  
9 am – 2 pm

Master Gardener Fall Plant Sale  
Osceola Heritage Park

## Field Trips

**Tuesday, September 28, 2010**

Arnold's Butterfly Haven  
<http://www.arnoldsbutterflyhaven.com/>  
14895 NW 30th Terrace  
Okeechobee, FL 34972

8AM Meet to Carpool from Kissimmee (Contact Jenny) or from Holopaw (contact Loret)

**Saturday October 21, 2010**

Field trip to DWP with Tarflower/Beautyberry details TBA

Upcoming: **January 2011**

Field trip to a native plant nursery to celebrate Florida Arbor Day. Details coming soon!

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### 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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

#### 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"/> Business or corporate \$125      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library subscription \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Donor \$250                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family or household \$50  | <input type="checkbox"/> Life \$1000                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$75         |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting \$100          |   |

**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**

## Citizen Scientist Cuban Treefrog Survey



*Tell us who you are, and where you captured the treefrogs (and humanely euthanized the Cuban Treefrogs) you are reporting:*

Observer Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Observation Site Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to: Monica McGarrity, University of Florida, 1200 N. Park Rd., Plant City, FL 33563; Fax: (813) 707-7399; Email: monicaem@ufl.edu**

*Fill out a separate line on the table below for each frog you captured or euthanized. **Please provide a photo of each frog listed** – the photo is a bit like a specimen, since it helps to prove the accuracy of the data you collect. If you send digital photos, be sure to give each JPEG file a unique name. For a full description of how to collect the data, visit [http://ufwildlife.ifas.ufl.edu/citizen\\_scientist.shtml](http://ufwildlife.ifas.ufl.edu/citizen_scientist.shtml). The first row below shows an example.*

Frog #	Date Captured	Treefrog Species <i>If Cuban Treefrog, please indicate if euthanized (y/n)</i>	Captured How? Where? <i>By hand, PVC pipe, under porch light, window frame, in potted plant, etc.</i>	Measured? How long? <i>Measure nose to rear, preferably in millimeters</i>	Frog Sex <i>Nuptial pads? Eggs? See the website</i>
<i>Example</i>	<i>1 Jan 2010</i>	<i>Cuban Treefrog - Y</i>	<i>Hand captured on sliding door frame</i>	<i>55 mm</i>	<i>No nuptials, has eggs</i>
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					

*Write any additional notes on the back of this sheet or in email – have you seen snakes eating Cuban Treefrogs? frogs hiding in unusual places?*