

The Suncoast Grapevine

Newsletter of the Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc.



Volume 19 Number 11

November 2002

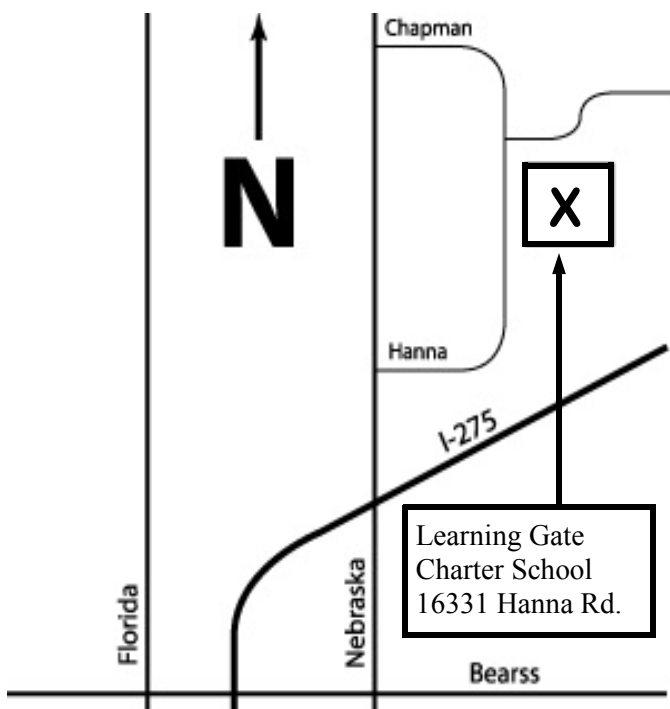
November 20 Meeting

(at the new Learning Gate Charter School)

SITTING LIGHTLY ON THE LAND: How we develop human habitat, and possibilities for doing it better

By William Bissett

Bill's idea of the proper path for development is from the ground (that is, the ecosystem) up. He not only believes in "Construction without Destruction" of native ecosystems, but also has been instrumental, through seventeen years as the principal landscape architect of his own firm, in putting his ideas into practice throughout Central Florida. Large scale developers like Disney and the D.O.T. are now using native plant species that Bill has promoted and have adopted his emphasis on the use of environmentally functional landscapes over purely decorative but non-functional ones. His successful design projects for IMC-Agrico, Mobil, Audubon Society, and Bok Tower Gardens have been acknowledged by state awards. (see page 2)



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Message from the President

This past year has been a rewarding experience for me as your chapter president. I am grateful to all of the hard-working members of our chapter who contributed time and energy to the success of the chapter. I am also grateful to have worked with such a great Board of Directors and great group of committee chairs. Thank you for your continued support of our chapter.

George Kish

FNPS Eco-Action Alert

If you would like to be informed of calls for action on a wide variety of Florida and national environmentally sensitive subjects, consider subscribing to the Eco-Action Alert List. Individuals act on their own, NOT in the name of FNPS. If you would like to subscribe to the Eco-Action Alert, please send an email to info@fnps.org.

Sitting Lightly on the Land (continued from page 1).

Bill and his wife Nancy and other family members own and operate the Natives, a wonderful native plant nursery in Davenport, Polk County.

Like Bill, Nancy is an articulate advocate for native landscaping issues. Nancy is a pioneer in the direct seeding of large restoration projects in Florida. We timed our invitation to the Bissetts poorly, as this is the season when Nancy is extremely busy harvesting and preparing seeds: as a result she may not be able to accompany him.

In his presentation Bill will talk about how habitat for humans can be created while preserving or recreating habitat for indigenous species of plants and animals. He will present alternatives to the "status quo" of Florida unfriendly development and outline the principles of environmental landscaping.

- Contributed by Harriett Wright

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 Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc. and a subscription to their monthly newsletter *The Suncoast Grapevine*. Contact the membership chair, George Kish at (813) 920-0853.

Detach and mail to: Suncoast Native Plant Society, P.O. Box 82893, Tampa, FL 33682-2893

Name _____

Business name
or organization _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Home telephone _____ Work telephone _____

E-mail and/or FAX _____

New Member

Renewal

Check pertinent category:

Individual \$25

Not-for-profit

Full time student \$15

organization \$50

Library subscription \$15

Business or

Family or household \$30

corporate \$100

Contributing \$40

Supporting \$100

Donor \$250

Make check payable to **FNPS**.

Suncoast Calendar

November 20, 7 p.m. Principles of Landscaping with Native Plants by Bill and Nancy Bissett. Suncoast chapter monthly meeting at the Learning Gate Charter School, 16331 Hanna Road, Lutz.

No Suncoast chapter meeting in December.

December 4 Annual Joint Meeting of the **Pinellas chapter**, FNPS and the St. Petersburg Audubon Society at the Pinellas County Cooperative Extension Service, 12175 125th Street N, Largo. Call 727-544-7341 for information.

December 6 - 7 Selby Gardens by Candlelight, the festive Sixth Annual kick-off to the Sarasota holiday season, lights up the holidays at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens from 5 to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Call 941-366-5731, ext. 241 for information.

December 6 - 7 Second Annual Great Southern Tree Conference (GSTC) in Gainesville, FL - at the Doubletree Hotel and Conference Center University of Florida and the GSTC Demonstration site. Contact FNGA at 800-375-3642 for information.

December 7-8 Lutz Arts Festival (Lake Park 17302 N. Dale Mabry). **Susan Johnston**, artist and Suncoast chapter member, will be displaying native plant art for sale.

December 10 Florida Ducks at the Chinsegut Nature Center, 23212 Lake Lindsey Rd. (Rt. 476) Brooksville. Call 352-754-6722 for information.

January 31 Deadline for proposal submission to the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council for research grants/scholarships for students conducting studies related to invasive exotic plant management in Florida. Visit the FEPPC web site: www.fleppc.org for information.

Hillsborough County Master Gardener Plant Clinics. Call 813-744-5519 x144 for information about locations or visit the website: hillsborough.extension.ufl.edu/calendar.htm. Upcoming clinics:

Nov. 16 Compost happens/water wise workshops
Nov. 19 Orchids
Nov. 20 Cottage gardening
Nov. 21 Tropical fruits
Dec. 9 Bonsai
Dec. 9-12 Nursery IPM scout training
Dec. 14 Compost happens

Note: Events in bold are presented by the SNPS.



The Florida Native Plant Society was organized in 1980 to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

The Plant Raffle Is Back!

Last month's plant raffle was a huge success. Please bring your extra plants (natives only) to donate at the next meeting. For each plant you donate, please attach a small tag with the scientific name, common name, and the growing conditions

Annual Committee Reports Are Due

According to the SNPS By-Laws, annual reports from each committee chair are to be submitted to the Board. Please prepare a short summary of the activities of your committee for the year and bring it to the November meeting or email it to gkish@tampabay.rr.com before the November meeting.

Retail Suppliers of Florida Native Plants Pamphlet

The Association of Florida Native Nurseries (AFNN) has recently published a 16-page, full-color pamphlet with information on native plants, including lists of commercially available trees, shrubs, and wildflowers and their range and habitat value; encouraging briefs on bird, butterfly, and pond gardening; a reference list for books and websites, and a guide to the retail native nurseries operating statewide. Pick up your copy of Retail Suppliers of Florida Native Plants at the November meeting.

Election of the 2003 Board of Directors

The nominating committee of the Suncoast Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society submits the following 6 candidates for the position of Board of Directors for 2003.

Ameé Bailey
Betty Wargo

George Kish
Harriett Wright

Fred Spriggs
Richard Wunderlin

One additional Board member is needed to complete the required 7-member Board for 2003. Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the November 20 membership meeting. The members present will then vote on the slate of candidates to select the 2003 Board.

Welcome New and Renewing Members

New : Ethan Freid
T.H. Hutchinson
Joanne Kitchen

Renewing: Dawn Barton
Margaret Belcher
Cara Campbell
Burns and Cathy Creighton
Thana Quinn Ellis/Glenn Ellis
Sheila Gobes/Jeff Ryan
David Gordon/Vivienne Handy
Robert Lyvers
Lois McLane
Margaret Mitchell
Jane Pugh
Timothy Stedem
Douglas and Mary Ann Stein
Dianne Stevens
Betty Wargo
Bitha Wodrich
Paul Zmoda

Thank you for your continued support for the Suncoast chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society!!

PLANT PROFILE

Common name: Coastal-plain palafox
Botanical name: *Palafox integrifolia* (Nuttall) Torrey & A. Gray
Family: Asteraceae or Compositae (Aster)
Type of plant: Upright semi-woody perennial
Size: 3 feet (h) by 2 feet (w).

Leaves: Alternate, entire, hairy, linear to lanceolate, lower leaves linear.
Flower: Pink-whitish florets with purple anthers; ray florets lacking; flowers arranged in terminal branching corymbs.
Flowering time: September to November.
Fruit: Achene.
Stem: Upper stem hairy; lower stem woody.
Habitat/distribution: Sandhills, scrub, and coastal hammocks; zones 9 - 10.
Landscape use: Mass planting in wildflower garden.



Cultivation:
Soil: Sandy, well drained.
Light: Full sun.
Water: Drought tolerant.
Propagation: By seed.
Availability: Some native plant nurseries.

Comments: Dr. Wunderlin reports three species in Florida. *P. texana* var. *ambigua* is native to Texas and Mexico; *P. feayi* is an inhabitant of sandhills and scrub, typically growing taller (up to 9 feet) than *P. integrifolia*. Both *P. integrifolia* and *P. feayi* are endemic to Florida.

References:

Haehle, Robert G., and Joan Brookwell, 1999, *Native Florida Plants*: Gulf Publishing Company, Houston, Texas, 360 p.

Taylor, Walter Kingsley, 1998, *Florida Wildflowers in Their Natural Communities*: University Press of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, 370 p.

Wunderlin, Richard P., 1998, *Guide to the Vascular Plants of Florida*: University Press of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, 806 p.

Information compiled by George Kish
Photograph by Glenn Fleming, ISB Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants

Directory

Officers & Board of Directors

Chair

George Kish 920-0853

Vice-chair

Richard Wunderlin 977-6484

Harriett Wright 908-9398

Secretary

Ameé Bailey 662-5954

Treasurer

Fred Spriggs 935-1312

Chapter Representative

Richard Wunderlin 977-6484

Board Members

Ken Albritton 985-3372

Ameé Bailey 662-5954

George Kish 920-0853

Fred Spriggs 935-1312

Betty Wargo 237-1509

Harriett Wright 908-9398

Richard Wunderlin 977-6484

Activities & Committee Chairs

Field trips

Steve Dickman 936-7268

Publications

Betsy Davis 973-8524

Librarian

Vikki Sinclair 989-2896

Membership

George Kish 920-0853

Newsletter editor

George Kish 920-0853

Programs

Richard Wunderlin 977-6484

Harriett Wright 908-9398

Publicity

Harriett Wright 908-9398

Refreshments

Lucy Hoyt 960-3178

Education

Betsy Davis 973-8524

Book Sales

Sally Sun 935-1312

USF Plant Sale

Sally Sun 935-1312

Newsletter Submissions

Deadline for the next issue:

November 25

Please send articles and original artwork for The Suncoast Grapevine to the editor, George Kish, by the **deadline** of each month (earlier, please, if not typed). Text should be in MS Word; graphics should be in a standard graphic format. Previously published artwork should be accompanied by a letter of permission from the original publisher.

Mail:..... SNPS, Inc.
P.O. Box 82893
Tampa, FL 33682-2893

Email:...gkish@tampabay.rr.com

Meeting Location

Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc. meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the **Learning Gate Charter School, 16331 Hanna Road, Lutz.**



SNPS Address

The main address for communication is:

Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 82893
Tampa, FL 33682-2893

Any correspondence sent to this address will be forwarded to the appropriate officer or committee member.

The SNPS web address is:

www.fnps.org/chapters/suncoast

Grapevine Subscription

You may subscribe to the Suncoast Grapevine (not including membership in the SNPS or the FNPS) for \$10 per year. Contact George Kish at 920-0853.

Stamp

Please deliver to: