

The
**Suncoast
Grapevine**
Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc.



Volume 21 Number 5

MAY 2004

**May 19 Meeting
(at the Learning Gate Charter School)**

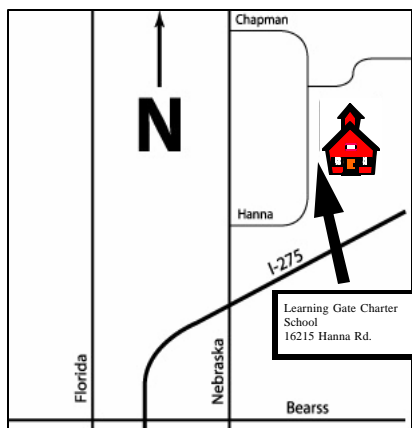
**GARDENING WITH NATIVE PLANTS: SHARING WHAT WORKS
Members Forum**

Those of us who've tried our hand at gardening with Florida's indigenous plants know that the path to success has plenty of pitfalls. Many of our natives are very picky: put them in a spot not to their liking and they have a tendency to sulk. Any number of factors can foil our best laid plans. The triumph of our successes is in direct proportion to the difficulty of the task.

Our annual May members forum gives us a chance to learn from one another. Before you come to the meeting, take a few minutes to make a list of the things that are puzzling you. Someone will be sure to have suggestions that will be helpful to you.

If you have time, buy a roll of slide film and take pictures of the most successful part of your garden. Pick a few of the best for us to pop into a slide carousel so we can all admire your achievement.

- - - Contributed by Harriett Wright



Message from the President

Our chapter participated in two important outreach activities since our last monthly meeting - Earth Day and A River Runs Through It. Both activities gave us an opportunity to talk to folks about the value of native plants in the landscape and native plant communities. I want to thank Sally Sun, Harriett Wright, and Joanne Spurlino for participating in these events.

In July, we will host a joint meeting with the Sierra Club and the Audubon Society. We are planning to have a party atmosphere for the meeting - similar to our 20th anniversary celebration last November. We need your help with planning, bringing pot luck dishes, writing some humorous jokes or skits, and bringing your extra seedlings to give away to our friends from the Sierra Club and the Audubon Society. For the July meeting, I would like to be able to offer native plants in 4-inch (or smaller) pots to our guests, while using only 1-gallon plants for the plant raffle. We will send an e-mail note within the next couple of weeks to ask how you would like to participate in the July meeting.

Don't forget our members forum at our May 19th meeting and Fred Mulholland's party on May 23rd.

George Kish



FIELD TRIP ("PARTY")

Suncoast Native Plant Society

The Mulhollands
15410 Stonecreek Lane
Tampa, FL 33613

Sunday, May 23, 2004
From 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

There are more than 160 species of native plants in the yard. An identification list will be provided that shows what and where located.

FREE "YOU-DIG" PLANTS
Bring a few small pots, we provide "Dirt & Diggers"

It's a party, mostly outdoors, rain or shine, so dress casually. There is some seating outside, but a few extra lawn chairs would help. Drinks and snacks will be provided. If you need more information call: (813) 962-7020

SEE NATIVE PLANTS IN SUBURBIA: ONE WAY TO DO IT WITHOUT A LAWN

PLANT PROFILE

Common name: Powderpuff

Botanical name: *Mimosa strigillosa* Torr. & A. Gray

Family: FABACEAE (Pea Family)

Plant Habit: A prostrate perennial

Size: Flowers stand 6-9 inches high; but the plant widely spreads by the rooting of the stems.

Leaves: The compound leaves are finely twice-divided (bipinnate) into lacy-looking, dark blue-green leaflets.

The leaflets are touch-sensitive and will completely fold the instant they are touched.

Inflorescence: Approximately one inch globose heads of tiny pink flowers, with long exserted pink stamens, each tipped with yellow pollen, arranged like a powderpuff.

Fruit: Jointed seedpods, app. one inch long.

Habitat: Open, moist ground; roadsides.

Flowering time: Spring and summer.

Distribution: Occasional throughout the state.

Light: Bright sun.

Soil: Prefers moist soil but will become established in dry, sandy soil.

Propagation: By seed or division.

Maintenance: None.

Availability: Several native plant nurseries.

Wildlife: Pollen-gathering insects.

References:

Osorio, Rufino, 2001, **A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants**,

University Press of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, p. 112

Taylor, Walter Kingsley, 1998, **Florida Wildflowers In Their Natural Communities**,

University Press of Florida, p 219.

Wunderlin, R.P. and Hansen, B.F., 2002, **Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants** (<http://plantatlas.usf.edu/>)

[S.M. Landry and K.N. Campbell (application development), Florida Center for Community Design and Research]

Institute for Systematic Botany, University of South Florida, Tampa.

Wunderlin, R.P. and Hansen, B.F., 2003, **Guide To the Vascular Plants of Florida** second edition:

University Press of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, p. 457.

Information compiled by Carmel vanHoek

Photograph by Roger Hammer



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. For more information about the Florida Native Plant Society, please visit our web site: www.fnps.org.

Suncoast Calendar

REGULAR MEETINGS OF SUNCOAST NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY at the Learning Gate Charter School, 16215 Hanna Road, in Lutz. 7 PM
MAY 19 JUN 16 JUL 21 AUG 18

SNPS 2004 FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE Field trips begin at 9:00 am. Contact Steve Dickman, 813-936-7268 for more information. Trails are rated moderate unless noted. Dates subject to change.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS at the FNPS
Pinellas Chapter: (Moccasin Lake Nature Park, 2750 Park Trail, Clearwater; 727-544-7341); Weds; 7:30 pm
JUN 2 "FLORIDA DRAGONFLIES"
JUN 5 - SAWGRASS LAKE PARK BOARDWALK/ Anderson Environmental Education Center

SIERRA CLUB (Meets second Wednesdays at Chamberlain High School) Meeting time is 7:30 pm with a new member & guest orientation at 7:00. (813) 253-3555

TAMPA AUDUBON PROGRAMS
They meet 7 times a year on Saturdays at Lettuce Leaf Park off Fletcher. Call 983-0258.
MAY 15 - "Costa Rica and Panama with Lindblad Expeditions" by Gerard "Ged" Caddick

ST. PETERSBURG AUDUBON Call 582-2461 or website, stpeteaudubon.org/main.htm
May 22 - Largo Nature Preserve, 150 S. Highland Ave. SE, Largo. Meet 8am at the Preserve. Contact Barb Zias, 521-4997.

LOWRY PARK ZOO
MAY 15 - Active Duty, Reserves, National Guards and Veterans receive **FREE** admission with valid U.S. Military I.D.

HISTORIC BOK SANCTUARY
MAY 1 - JULY 31 - "The Flora of La Florida"
Susan Trammell exhibits in two media: traditional botanical watercolor and more abstract macro photography.

HILLS CO. MASTER GARDNER PROGRAMS.
Call 813-744-5519 x144 for information about locations or website: hillsborough.extension.ufl.edu/calendar.htm.

MAY 15 - Compost Happens, Rain Barrel & Water Wise Workshops. Pre-registration required.
MAY 18 - To Tell the Truth (about plants) Panel Discussion: 7 p.m.
MAY 20 - Native Plants 10:00 am
JUN 1 - Roses, 7:00 pm
JUN 3 - Water Wise Workshop 7:00 PM
JUN 12 - Landscape Design Workshop 9 am—12 noon. Pre-registration required.

CHINSEGUT NATURE CENTER
(352)754-6722 or website: /floridaconservation.org/chinsegut/schedule.html
JUN 8 - Florida's Gators by Arnold Brunell, 7:00 pm.

USF BOTANICAL GARDEN 974-2329.
Workshops begin at 10:00 am. Small fee required.
MAY 15 - Landscaping with Tropical Plants
MAY 22 - Landscaping with Florida Native Plants
MAY 29 - Growing and Using Herbs in Florida
JUN 19 - Butterfly Gardening

Plant Raffle Guidelines By Harriett Wright

When you bring plants to the plant raffle, please sign the raffle sheet and record the number of plants you donated. Before the start of the raffle, we will offer first choice of a plant on the raffle table to our speaker, followed by plant donors in the order of the number of plants donated. After these selections have been made, we will begin the raffle.

Thank you to all the members who donated plants at the last meeting.

Welcome New and Renewing Members

<p>NEW</p> <p>Gloria Beauchamp Casey J. Beavers Dolly Cummings Lonnie D. Jones Angela Hinchey Machado Patricia R. Neemeh Rose Porter Lorraine JI. Smith Felicia & Karen West</p>	<p>Michael B. Keller George R. Kish Keith & Jan Moyer Beth Torgert/Ardell O'Neal Ann & Richard Paul Zoe Lanyon Smith Alyson Utter Eddie Wall Craig A. Watson Rene Wiesner Brown</p>
<p>REJOINED</p> <p>Mitch Almon</p>	<p>Thank you for your continued support of the Suncoast chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society!!</p>
<p>RENEWED</p> <p>Barb Bailey John & Janelle Borden Mel & Shirley Brown Shirley R. Denton John & Ginger Griffin Joel & Barbara Jackson</p>	

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.

New Member Renewal

Name _____

Business name or organization _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Home phone _____ Work phone _____

E-mail and/or FAX _____

Check pertinent category:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Not-for-profit organization \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full time student \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business or corporate \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library subscription \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family or household \$30 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$40 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donor \$250 | |

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

Activities & Committee Chairs

Field trips

Steve Dickman 936-7268
Cliff Brown 988-3211

Publications

Richard Wunderlin 977-6484

Librarian

Vikki Sinclair 989-2896

Membership

George Kish 920-0853

Newsletter editor

Shirley Brown 977-0454
Mike Fite, Assistant 977-0892

Programs

Harriett Wright 908-9398

Publicity

Ameé Bailey 863-206-3439

Refreshments

Lucy Hoyt 960-3178

Education

Betty Wargo 237-1509

Book Sales

Sally Sun 935-1312

USF Plant Sale

Sally Sun 935-1312

Conference

Ameé Bailey 863-206-3439

Newsletter Submissions

Deadline for the next issue:

June 1

Please send articles and original artwork for The Suncoast Grapevine to the editor, Shirley Brown, 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:...srbrown11@msn.com

SNPS Address

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

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, 16215 Hanna Road, Lutz.**

SNPS Web Address

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.

Officers & Board of Directors

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Vice-president

Harriett Wright 908-9398

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Fred Spriggs 935-1312

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Ameé Bailey 662-5954

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Stamp



Please deliver to: