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The Suncoast Grapevine

Newsletter of the Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc.



Volume 20 Number 1

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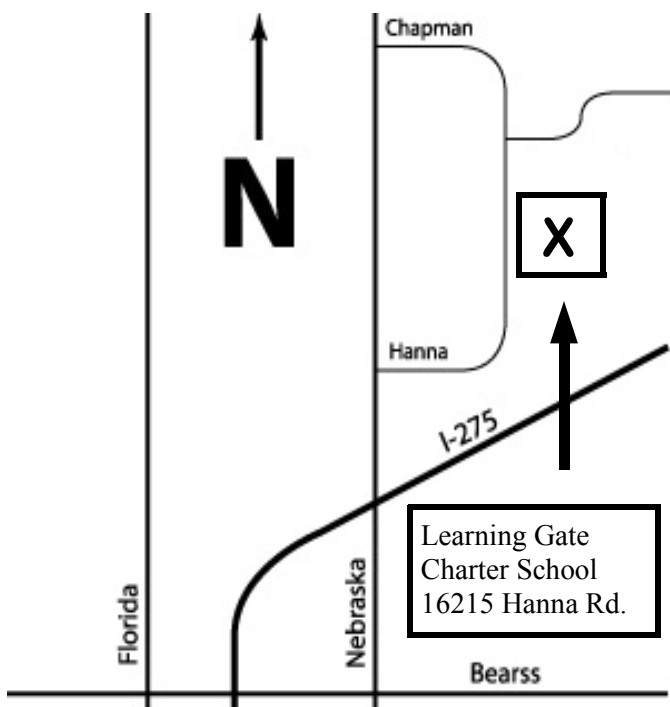
January 15 Meeting (at the new Learning Gate Charter School)

CITYgreen: Assessing the Dollar Value of Trees in Human Habitats

By Ameé Bailey

Urban forests provide enormous environmental benefits by reducing air pollution, slowing stormwater runoff, and helping to conserve energy, yet city planners grappling with regulatory requirements for air and water quality tend

to be totally unaware of the connection between their problems and the widespread removal of trees in urban and suburban settings. Proponents of urban trees have not been able to make a convincing case that urban forests are indispensable rather than merely ornamental, for the simple reason that the tools have been lacking to translate the benefits we intuitively grasp into a fiscal bottom line.



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Message from the President

I am looking forward to a very successful 2003. Please welcome Cliff Brown to the Board and a few changes in committee chairs: Betty Wargo, Education Chair; Dick Wunderlin, Publications Chair; and Ameen Bailey, Chapter Representative.

We have an exciting year planned and I hope you will be an active participant in as many activities as your schedule will allow. First and foremost are the USF Botanical Garden Plant Festivals-these are our major fund-raising events. We plan to have more plant ID workshops, better plant raffles, expanded outreach to groups, events, and gardening centers, continued great field trips and interesting programs, a weekend FNPS workshop, and more.

As always, the success of any organization depends on the commitment and enthusiasm of its members. Please help make 2003 the best year ever for our chapter.

Happy New Year!!

George Kish

CITYgreen: Assessing the Dollar Value of Trees in Human Habitats (continued)

Enter CITYgreen, a software package that represents a collaboration of federal, state, and private interests. Skilled professionals can employ it to answer the questions: What is all this shade and greenery really worth? Can trees really help cities save money? Ameen Bailey, who has had considerable experience with the CITYgreen software, will explain its workings and use. Ameen, a third generation Floridian, is currently a Graduate Research Associate at USF. After receiving a BS in Environmental Science, she went on to earn a graduate certificate in Geographic Information Systems and Environmental Science and Policy at USF. She is working toward a MS in Environmental Science and Policy, assisted by grants from USDA and NSF. She was Ranchland Coordinator for the Life in our Landscapes grant, and performed the lake assessments for the Hillsborough County Lake Atlas.

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 _____ 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

Jan 15 Regular Meeting of Suncoast Chapter at the Learning Gate Charter School, 16215 Hanna Road, in Lutz at 7 pm.

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:

Jan 16 Roses, 10 am

Jan 16 Butterfly Gardening, 10 am

Jan 17 How to Grow Citrus to Include Diseases and insects, 7 pm

Jan 18 Compost Happens, 9 am

Jan 21 Citrus, 7 pm

Feb 1 Compost Happens/Landscape Design Game, 8 am to Noon.

Feb 4 Florida Friendly Landscape/Xeriscape, 7 pm

Feb 10 Roses, 7:30 pm

Feb 11 Spices & Herbs, 7 pm

Feb 11 Secrets & Shortcuts of Master Gardeners, 7 pm

Feb 13 Backyard Wildlife Habitat, 10 am

Feb 18 Landscape Pitfalls 7 pm

Jan 18 Camellia Show, beginning 9 am, through Jan 19th at the Harry P. Leu Gardens. 1920 N. Forest Ave, Orlando, FL., 407-246-2620.

Jan 19 Flamingo Fling, 10-4, Sunken Gardens, 1825 4th St. N, St. Petersburg

Jan 25 Lakeland Camellia Society Show & Sale, 1-5 pm at the Charles T. Thrift Student Center, Florida Southern College, Lakeland. 863-688-0916.

Workshops at the USF Botanical Gardens: fee and pre-registration required; 813-974-2329 to sign up.

Feb 1 Rain Barrel, 10 am

Feb 1 & 8 Botanical Papermaking, 10 am

Feb 15 Book Binding Workshop, 10 am -1 pm

Feb 8, 15, 22, Mar 1, 8, 15 (Six) Orchid Workshops 10 am

Mar 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Apr 5 Art in the Garden Illustration Class

Feb 1 Wildlife Wetland Nature Tour at the Florida Botanical Gardens, Largo. Pre-register: 727-582-2673.

Feb 1 Dune Restoration-help plant Sea Oats at Fred Howard Park. Contact Pam Trass at 727-943-4081

for more information.

Feb 1 from 1-5 pm and **Feb 2** from 10 am - 5 pm, Venice Area Orchid Society Show and Sale, at Venice Community Center, 326 S. Nokomis Ave, 941-497-7901.

Feb 1-2 from 9 am-4 pm Gardenfest, Under the Oaks, Riverside Park, Vero Beach 772-231-4669.

Feb 4, 8 am - 6 pm ECO-JOURNEY: Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary in Naples presented by Bok Tower; Fee, 863-676-1408

Feb 11 Tuesday 10 am. Chinsegut Historical Tour. Meet at Chinsegut Nature Center for a history session then we car pool to the Chinsegut Hill Manor House for a historical tour in Brooksville. 352-754-6722

Feb 19 - Mar 25 Jeff Ripple, Photographer "Fakahatchee Natural and Cultural Landscapes," on display at Selby Gardens in Sarasota; Fee; 941-366-5731, ext. 221

Feb 28 noon until 7 pm. & **Mar 1** from 10 am to 5 pm, Tampa African Violet Society show & sale, Farm Bureau, 100 South Mulrennan Road, Valrico, FL, 813-251-1581

Mar 2-10. FNPS Costa Rica Exploration. For more information, visit website: www.fnps.org/stored_web_pages/2003fnpscr302.pdf.

May 8-11 23rd Annual Conference of the Florida Native Plant Society. Theme: SYMBIOSIS; THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIPS, Hosted by the Coccoloba Chapter.

Sierra Club Outings-contact Hadrian Alegarbes for information at 813-866-1938.

Jan 25 Green Fleets Training Conference

Feb 1 Mediation for Activists

Feb 1 Dead River/Dairy Farm Hike

Feb 15 Green Candidates Urban Hike

Feb 15 Violet Cury Preserve Hike

Feb 22 Trout Creek Off-Road Bike Trip

Calendar prepared by Shirley Brown

Welcome New and Renewing Members

New : Melody Burke
Dana Carver
Diane Stevens

Renewing: Mike Fite
William Hand
Susan Johnston
Diane Lane
Jan & Jeff Means
Fred & Barbara Mulholland
Polly Ryan
Mary Serina
Jean & Bud Skoien
Joseph Sumner
Robert & Cindy Upcavage
David Zapanick

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

Election of the 2003 Board of Directors

The membership of the Suncoast Native Plant Society elected the following six Board of Directors for 2003 at the November 20, 2002 meeting:

Ameé Bailey	George Kish
Fred Spriggs	Betty Wargo
Harriett Wright	Richard Wunderlin

The new Board of Directors met during the last week in November and elected the following officers for 2003:

Chair:	George Kish
Vice-chairs:	Richard Wunderlin and Harriett Wright
Secretary:	Ameé Bailey
Treasurer:	Fred Spriggs

The new Board also appointed Cliff Brown as the seventh member of the Board of Directors.

Planting Project at Learning Gate Charter School

Saturday, January 18, 2003 at 9 am

The Learning Gate Charter School is having a planting day on January 18, 2003 beginning at 9 am. Please plan to come out to help plant 200 native trees and shrubs. Bring your favorite garden tool and join other SNPS members to help beautify our meeting location. Call Betty Wargo for information at 237-1509. Map to the school is on page 1.

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.

Tree Potting Project

Saturday, January 18, 2003 at 10 am

Volunteers are needed to assist Tampa Bay Reforestation and Environmental Effort (TREE) with a tree potting project. The project will involve the potting of seedlings to be used in environmental restoration projects for 2003 and 2004 and will take place at the TREE nursery just north of Eureka Springs Park. Seedlings will include Slash Pine, Chapman Oak, Myrtle Oak, Hercules Club and Devil's Walking Stick. A portion of the pine trees will be used in the Town N Country Greenways planting next fall.

No experience is needed. Bring gloves. Please RSVP and for more information, call Rick Strickland at (813) 920-0757. We hope for your participation in this worthwhile service project.

Directions to the nursery: From Tampa, take Interstate 4 to US 301. Head north on US 301 to the first traffic light (Sligh Avenue). Turn right (east) onto Sligh Avenue and take it past the dairy to the south. Turn right (south) at Maple Lane. Maple Lane will turn automatically into Eureka Springs Road, heading east and crossing the Tampa By-Pass Canal. Stay on Eureka Springs Road several blocks - it will automatically veer northward. Go past Sligh Avenue and take it past the entry road to Vandenberg Airport to the first driveway located on the left hand side (west) of the road (6220 -- enter onto the private drive and not the Park service road).

PLANT PROFILE

Common name: Pennyroyal
Botanical name: *Piloblephis rigida* (W. Bartram ex Bentham) Rafinesque
Family: Lamiaceae or Labiatae (Mint)
Type of plant: Sprawling groundcover
Size: 2 feet (h) by 2 feet (w).

Leaves: Numerous, needlelike, entire.
Flower: Purplish, silky terminal heads; 2-lipped, lower lip has dark dots.
Flowering time: January to June.
Fruit: Four nutlets.
Stem: Upper stem hairy; lower stem woody.
Habitat: Sandhills, scrub, and flatwoods.
Distribution: Throughout Florida, except the Keys.
Hardiness zones: 8 - 11.
Landscape use: Groundcover, nectar plant in butterfly garden.

Cultivation:

Soil: Sandy, well drained, slightly acid.
Light: Full sun.
Water: Drought tolerant once established.

Propagation: From seed (slow) or stem cuttings (fast).
Availability: Some native plant nurseries.

References:

Bowman, Sheryl, Debbie Butts, Betsy Davis, John Marsh, Ann Nord, and Carl Strohmenger, 1997, *The Right Plants for Dry Places – Native Plant Landscaping in Central Florida*: Great Outdoors Publishing Co., St. Petersburg, Florida, 112 p.

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

Information compiled by George Kish (with assistance from Matt Kish)
Photograph by Shirley Denton, ISB Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants



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.

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

Ameé Bailey 662-5954

Board Members

Ameé Bailey 662-5954

Cliff Brown 988-3211

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

Richard Wunderlin 977-6484

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

Betty Wargo 237-1509

Book Sales

Sally Sun 935-1312

USF Plant Sale

Sally Sun 935-1312

Newsletter Submissions

Deadline for the next issue:

January 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

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.

Stamp

Please deliver to: