

# The Suncoast Grapevine

Newsletter of the Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc.



Volume 20 Number 3

March 2003

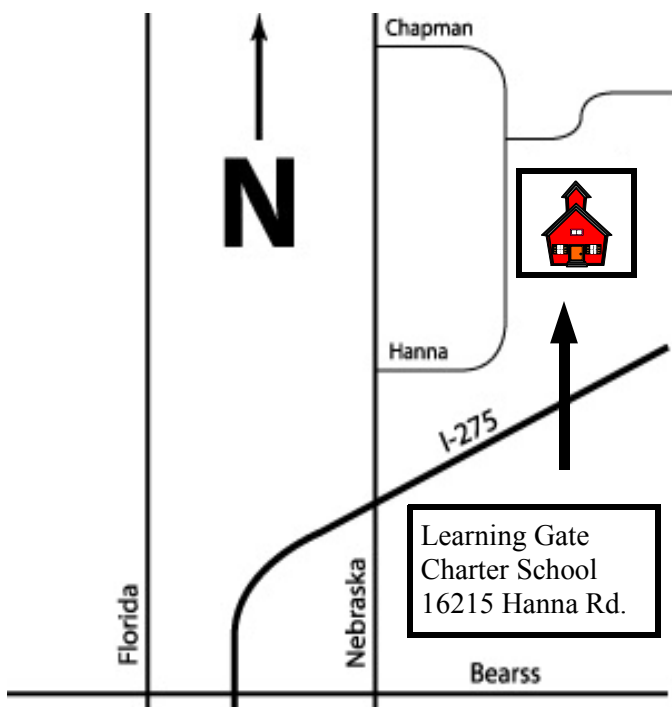
## March 19 Meeting (at the new Learning Gate Charter School)

### Tampa Bay Land Conservation Issues

By William Lorenzen

The natural beauty of West Central Florida defines the Tampa Bay area. Over the last decades, the pace of development has accelerated significantly. Today our region is experiencing growing pains associated with challenges to our natural resources.

William Lorenzen, executive director of the Tampa Bay Conservancy, will be addressing the March meeting of the Native Plant Society regarding various conservation tools associated with the conservation land trust. William is also past president of the Riverview Civic Association and has been involved in various environmental and community initiatives.



The Tampa Bay Conservancy is a regional land trust dedicated to protecting the region's natural, (Cont. on page 2)

### Highlights

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## Message from the President

On March 12, I had the pleasure of listening to Suncoast chapter member Ardell O'Neal give a talk to the Sierra Club about using native plants in the landscape. Ardell did a great job of describing xeriscaping principles and the importance of native plants in landscape design.

Ardell, Harriett Wright, and I brought native plant seedlings and each member of the audience had the opportunity to take home at least one, small native plant. The audience response was great and many people asked questions about native plants. The audience's enthusiasm and interest in native plants was quite remarkable.

The continued success of our Society depends upon our ability to reach out to groups who share our interests, but also to reach out to groups who are unaware of the value of native plants and native plant communities. If you see opportunities for outreach, please make a commitment to teach others about the FNPS mission.

There are a three great outreach opportunities - the USF Spring Plant Festival on April 12-13, the Earth Day Celebration at Lowry Park on April 19, and Your Native Plant Questions Answered at Kirby's Nursery in Seffner on April 26-27. If you can help at any of these events, please let us know.

*George Kish*

## Land Conservation (cont. from page 1)

agricultural and scenic heritage in Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, and Pinellas counties. A land trusts is a non-profit organization designed to help landowners and communities preserve natural and agricultural land. There are more than 1,200 land trusts nationwide. Local and regional land trusts have preserved more than 6.2 million acres nationwide for today and future generations.

-- Contributed by Harriett Wright



Drawing of *Passiflora incarnata* by Suncoast member **Susan Johnston**

## 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

Full time student \$15

Library subscription \$15

Family or household \$30

Contributing \$40

Donor \$250

Not-for-profit

organization \$50

Business or

corporate \$100

Supporting \$100

Make check payable to **FNPS**.

# Suncoast Calendar

**Mar 19 Regular Meeting of Suncoast Chapter at the Learning Gate Charter School, 16215 Hanna Road, in Lutz. 7 PM**

**SNPS 2003 FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE** All are scheduled for 9:00 am. Steve Dickman, 813-936-7268 for more information. Trails are rated moderate unless noted. Dates subject to change.

**Mar 22 Hike Cypress Creek Nature Preserve**

**Apr 01 Hike Bullfrog Creek Scrub Upland Mitigation Park**

**Jun 21 Hike Alderman's Ford Addition Trail (Difficult)**

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

**Mar 23 Birding at Shell Key.** The St. Petersburg Audubon Society will meet 9:30 am at Merry Pier, 801 Pass-A-Grille Way, St. Pete Beach. \$1 for parking pass. Monique Abrams, 894-3256 & Joyce King, leaders. All birders welcome!

**Mar 29 Volunteer Invasive Plant Removal Event,** Riverhills Park Addition ELAPP Site in Temple Terrace. (See article for more information)

**Apr 5-6 The Herpetology Conference** at the Sheraton Hotel in Gainesville, FL 352-392-1721 or flmnh.ufl.edu/natsci/herpetology/afhc.htm.

**Apr 8 Focusing on Birds: Developing a Conservation Education at an Inner-City Nature Park,** Oak Hall, Environmental Studies Area, 2900 31st Street S, St. Petersburg 727-893-7326; sponsored by Friends of Boyd Hill Nature Park.

**Apr 12-13 USF Botanical Garden Spring Plant Festival.** Call 813-974-2329 for information.

**Apr 12-13 Sarasota Bromeliad Society Show & Sale** at Marie Selby Gardens, Sarasota, 941-366-5731, ext. 259.

**Apr 16 Regular Meeting of Suncoast Chapter at the Learning Gate Charter School, 16215 Hanna Road, in Lutz. 7 PM**

**Apr 19 Earth Day Celebration** at Lowry Park. Contact Rheda Weeks at 813-234-5009.

**Apr 19 - Jun 2 Epcot International Flower and Garden Festival;** FNGA has a 1500 sq.ft. outdoor display that you may want to see.

**Apr 25 - 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Apr 26 - 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Florida's Ancient Islands - Fifth Annual Earth Day Celebration** interactive exhibits presented by local conservation agencies at Bok Sanctuary, Lake Wales, 863-676-1408, ext. 51.

**May 8-11 23rd Annual Conference of the Florida Native Plant Society.** Theme: SYMBIOSIS; THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIPS; Hosted by the Coccoloba Chapter. Visit [www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org) for information.

**May 21 Regular Meeting of Suncoast Chapter at the Learning Gate Charter School, 16215 Hanna Road, in Lutz. 7 PM**

**Programs & Events at the FNPS Pinellas Chapter:** (Moccasin Lake Nature Park, 2750 Park Trail, Clearwater; 727-544-7341)

**Apr 02 Butterflies** 7:30 PM

**Apr 19 Spring Plant Sale** 9 AM to 3 PM

**May 07 Forensic Botany**

**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](http://hillsborough.extension.ufl.edu/calendar.htm). Upcoming clinics:

**Mar 20 Poisonous Plants** 10 AM

**Apr 01 Get-Away Gardens** 7 PM

**Apr 05 Compost Happens** 8 AM

**Apr 05 Landscape Design Game** 9 AM

**Apr 08 Roses** 7 PM

**Apr 08 Basic Orchids and Potting** 7 PM

**Apr 10 Butterfly Gardening** 10 AM

**Apr 10 Tropical Fruit** 10 AM

**Apr 14 Vermiculture** 7:30 PM

**Apr 15 Florida Perennials** 7 PM

**Apr 17 Propagation** 10 AM

**Sierra Club Outings:**

**Mar 29 Paddle and Hike at Caladesi Island.** Contact Hadrian Alegarbes for details at 813-866-1938 or [sierraoutingstampa@yahoo.com](mailto:sierraoutingstampa@yahoo.com).

**Apr 05 Day Hike at Arbuckle State Forest,** Rudy Scheffer, 727-726-9275.

**Welcome New and Renewing  
Members**

- New :** Annette Lee Bezanilla  
Kristie Gianopulos
- Renewing:** Mitch Almon  
Kathy Beck  
Joel Cleveland  
Steve Dickman and Ann Delaney  
Patti Girard  
Janet Kaufmann  
Ken Kwo  
Bob Scheible  
James Stephen

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

**Suncoast Chapter Program for 2003**

By Harriett Wright

- Mar 19** Tampa Bay Land Conservation Issues by William Lorenzen
- Apr 16** Using Native Plants in Landscapes by Richard Baily
- May 21** Show Us Your Garden by Suncoast members
- Jun 18** Florida's Forests by Alan Mayberry
- Jul 16** The History and Ecology of the Hillsborough River by Joe Murphy (combined meeting with Sierra Club and Florida Audubon)
- Aug 20** Florida's Black Bears by Syd Taylor
- Sep 17** Making Wet Spots Look Good by Craig Watson
- Oct 15** Does Compost Just Happen? by Ardell O'Neal
- Nov 19** TBA

**Invasive Plant Removal Event**

Saturday March 29, 2003 from 9 AM to noon.  
Riverhills Park Addition ELAPP Site  
in Temple Terrace

Help rid this beautiful Hillsborough Riverfront preserve of non-native invasive plants. Free lunch! Bring gloves and shovels. Wear long-sleeves and pants. Meet at Riverhills Park, east of 56th St., north of the river. Call Debbie Butts for more information: at 813-672-7876. Sponsored by the Hillsborough County Invasive Plant Task Force, Wildlife Fellowship, and the City of Temple Terrace.

**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](mailto:info@fnps.org).

**Suncoast Chapter Budget for 2003**

	<b>2002</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Membership	1,000	957	1,000
Book Sales/ plant raffles	865	1,208	850
Event Sales	2,100	3,075	2,000
Royalties	450	480	400
Reserve	1,175	0	900
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,600</b>	<b>5,720</b>	<b>5,150</b>
	<b>2002</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Admin.	400	313	400
Newsletter	2,100	1,777	2,200
Book Purch.	400	1021	400
Programs	600	572	600
Grants	1,200	600	900
Publications	0	0	0
Field Trips	100	0	0
Education	200	0	200
Donations	250	0	250
Library	200	59	200
Misc.	250	9	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,600</b>	<b>5,206</b>	<b>5,150</b>

## PLANT PROFILE

**Common name:** Rain lily, zephyr lily, atamasco lily

**Botanical name:** Three native species in Florida: *Zephyranthes atamasca*, *Z. atamasca* var. *treatiae*, *Z. simpsonii*

**Family:** Amaryllidaceae

**Plant habit:** Perennial herb

**Size:** Flowering stalk app. 6-10 inches

**Leaves:** Grasslike, app. double the length of the flowering stalk

**Flower:** Six-parted, white, sometimes pink-tinged flower, solitary and terminal on each stalk.

**Fruit:** A 3-lobed capsule

**Flowering time:** Spring to early summer



**Distinguishing features:** The three native species differ in the lengths of style and stigma, the amount of spread of the sepals and the width of the leaves

**Habitat:** Moist flatwoods, floodplain forests and roadsides

**Distribution:** *Z. atamasca*: W,N,C; *Z. atamasca* var. *treatiae*: N,C; *Z. simpsonii*: C,S

**Hardiness zones:** Hardy in naturally occurring areas

**Landscape use:** Borders, massed, potted, accent

**Light:** Full sun to light shade.

**Propagation:** By seed, bulb division

**Comments:** Listed as threatened in this state

**Water:** Dry to moist. Drought tolerant once established

**Availability:** Some native plant nurseries

### References:

Osorio, Rufino, 2001, **A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants**: University Press of Florida, Gainesville Florida, pp. 133.

Small, John Kunkel, 1933, **Manual of the Southeastern Flora**: Hafner Publishing Company, New York, N.Y., pp. 1027-1028.

Taylor, Walter Kingsley, 1998, **Florida Wildflowers In Their Natural Communities**: University Press of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, pp. 247.

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.

**Information compiled by Carmel vanHoek**

**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. For more information about the Florida Native Plant Society, please visit our web site: [www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org).

## Directory

### Officers & Board of Directors

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George Kish 920-0853

#### *Vice-presidents*

Richard Wunderlin 977-6484

Harriett Wright 908-9398

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Ameé Bailey 662-5954

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Fred Spriggs 935-1312

#### *Chapter Representative*

Ameé Bailey 662-5954

#### *Board Members*

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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*

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#### *Publications*

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#### *Librarian*

Vikki Sinclair 989-2896

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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

#### *Conference*

Ameé Bailey 662-5954

## Newsletter Submissions

Deadline for the next issue:

**March 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](http://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:**