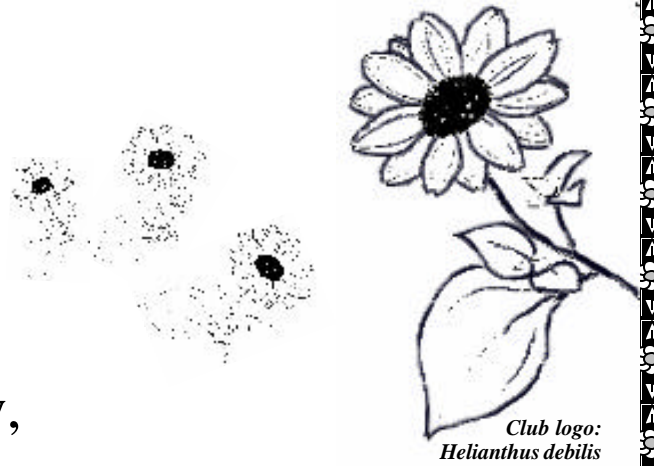


www.fnps.org/chapters/suncoast

# The Suncoast

Suncoast Native Plant Society,



Club logo:  
*Helianthus debilis*

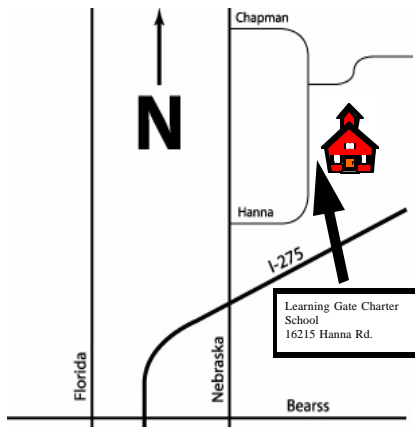
Volume 21 Number 1

JANUARY 2004

## January 21 Meeting (at the Learning Gate Charter School)

### TALKING WITH THE ANIMALS: HOW TO COMMUNICATE WITH WILDLIFE By Bill Thomas

Through many years of observing and photographing the world's wildlife, Bill Thomas has become so expert a tracker that he can approach his subjects for close-up photographs without the need for powerful zoom lenses. He has taught himself to move silently through his quarries' domain, and has honed his senses of sight, hearing, and smell. Having paid close attention to the ways in which animals communicate, not only with their own kind, but also with other species, he has developed a rapport with many species of wild animals. He has also studied plant communication and the ways in which plants respond to their environment.. His techniques and experiences are documented in *Talking With the Animals: How to communicate with Wildlife*, one of his many published books, some of which will be available for purchase at the meeting. Through his slide presentation, we will be privileged to enter the wild kingdom that he has learned to inhabit.



A native of Glendale, Kentucky, Bill earned a degree in English at Western Kentucky University. He has worked as a staff writer for United Press International, as travel editor of the Cincinnati Enquirer, and has worked for numerous national magazines and periodicals, traveling back and forth across the continent, exploring backwoods and byways and photographing the wild creatures that are part of a disappearing legacy. In later years he has focused on education, with seminars, workshops, and photo safaris. He now calls a remote woodland in northern Florida home, but also maintains, as a wildlife sanctuary, the farm in Kentucky that was homesteaded by his great grandfather.

- - - Contributed by Harriett Wright .

## **Message from the President**

In the December 2003 issue of the newsletter, there was an article about a tree-potting project scheduled for Saturday, January 17, 2004 at 10 AM near Eureka Springs Park by The Tampa [Bay] Reforestation and Environmental Effort (TREE). TREE was started by several members of the Suncoast chapter many years ago and TREE has and continued to perform tremendous reforestation work in our area. If you would like to get an idea of the enormous contribution TREE has made to reforestation, please visit their website at: <http://home.tampabay.rr.com/wmoriaty/treeinc.html>. Suncoast members, Bob Scheible and Will Moriarty, coordinate the event and they need our help. The project will only last 2 to 3 hours and the more volunteers the merrier ? what could be more fun than repotting seedling so they can grow into strong trees (actually, we do repotting all the time in our own gardens). Please join TREE on January 17 and play a part in reforesting our area.

**George Kish**

## **Electronic Newsletter?**

Because of concerns over cost and our desire to use less paper, the Board is considering distributing the newsletter by e-mail to members who prefer an electronic version to a paper version.

So far, only seven members indicated an interest in receiving the newsletter by e-mail. Please help us save a few trees. If you are interested in receiving the newsletter by e-mail, please contact: [gkish@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:gkish@tampabay.rr.com).

### **NOTE: from our program chair.**

We will be meeting on March 17, not the 24th as indicated in the list of programs in last month's Grapevine. Please note the change.

Editor

## **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.

## **PLANT PROFILE**

**Common name:** Woolly Sunbonnets; Pineland Daisy

**Botanical name:** *Chaptalia tomentosa* Vent.

**Family:** Asteraceae (Aster Family)

**Plant Habit:** Herbaceous perennial

**Size:** Flower stems are 8-12 inches tall

**Leaves:** Dark green, 4-12 inches long, in basal rosettes; the occasional upturned leaf revealing woolly-white undersides.

**Inflorescence:** Solitary head on a leafless stalk

**Flowers:** Flower heads up to 1 inch across; ray flowers white, often with pink to purple tinged backs; disc flowers cream and 2-lipped. The flowers nod at night and straighten to follow the sun during the day.

**Fruit:** Bristle-topped achenes

**Flowering time:** Late winter to late spring

**Habitat:** Low pinelands

**Distribution:** Throughout the state and into North Carolina and Texas

**Light:** Full sun to light shade

**Soil:** Moist soil

**Propagation:** By seed and division; it slowly self-sows, forming a mat-like ground cover.

**Maintenance:** Keep free from competition of larger plants

**Availability:** Several native plant nurseries.

**Wildlife:** Not known

**Comments:** *Chaptalia* honors the French statesman J.A.C. Chaptal (1756-1831); *tomentosa* refers to the woolly leaf undersides.



### **References:**

Baker, Mary Francis, 1938, **Florida Wild Flowers:** The Macmillan Company, New York, N.Y. p.232.

Hammer, Roger L., 2002, **Everglades Wildflowers:** The Globe Pequot Press, Guilford, Ct., p.175

Osorio, Rufino, 2001, **A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants:** University Press of Florida, Gainesville, Florida. p.90.

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.302.

**Information compiled by Carmel vanHoek**

**Photograph by Dennis Girard**



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).

# Suncoast Calendar

## REGULAR MEETINGS OF SUNCOAST NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY at the Learning Gate Charter

School, 16215 Hanna Road, in Lutz. 7 PM  
JAN 21 FEB 18 MAR 17 APR 21

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  
**Feb 4**—Permaculture by Ken Benway. Learn about a natural balanced ecosystem.

## SIERRA CLUB OUTING

**Jan 11** Sunday, guided tour of Violet Cury Preserve at 10:00 am.. Call Shirley Brown, 977-0454, for more information.

## TAMPA AUDUBON FIELD TRIPS

They meet 7 times a year on Saturdays at Lettuce Leaf Park off Fletcher. Call 983-0258.

**Jan 17** Travels in Cuba

## BROWARD AUDUBON

**Jan 17-19** Everglades Birdfest. Call 954-776-5585.

## LOWRY PARK ZOO

**Jan 18**—\$2 Conservation Day at the Zoo Visit 1,600 animals and help Florida conservations projects from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm.

## SPONSOR UNKNOWN

**Jan 18**—Sunday Mid-Morning Hike

Brooker Creek Headwaters ... the largest remaining contiguous nature preserve in northwest Hillsborough Co. and home of the hooded pitcher plant. One-n-a-half to two hour hike through diverse habitats on 1200 acres between Dale Mabry and Gunn Hwy. Children and pets-on-leash welcome. Leader: Rikter 813-263-4734

## HISTORIC BOK SANCTUARY

**Jan 24**—Historic Landscapes of Florida lecture at 1:30 pm. Call 863.676.1408, ext. 16

HILLS CO. MASTER GARDNER PROGRAMS. 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).

**Jan 12** – Good Bugs/Bad Bugs, Ardell O’Neal: 7:30 pm.

**Jan 13** – Daylilies, George Roberts: 7 p.m.

**Jan 13** – Bonsai, Debbie McClauray: 7 p.m.

**Jan 15** – Tools, Leon Perry: 10 a.m.

**Jan 20** – High Color/Low Maintenance Gardening, Pat O’Shea: 7 p.m.

**Jan 21**– Simple Backyard Bouquets, Adrienne DeNisco: 10 a.m.

**Jan 24** - Landscape Design Workshop, Marina Pryce: 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**Feb 3** – Herbs, Loretta Clements: 7 p.m.

**Feb 7** - Compost Happens Workshop & WaterWise Workshop, Lisa Strange & Dawn Barton: 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. CH/ 10:15 a.m. Pre-registration is required, (813) 744-5519 X142 or X146.

**Feb 9** – Propagation, Eileen Hart: 7:30 p.m

NOTE: Mark your calendars now for the Great Backyard Bird Count on Feb 13-16, 2004. Last year over 4.2 million birds were counted. Go on-line at [www.birdsource.com/gbbc/toc\\_page.html](http://www.birdsource.com/gbbc/toc_page.html) for more information.

SEVERAL SPACES ARE STILL AVAILABLE

LAND MANAGEMENT FOR GOPHER TORTOISES AND OTHER PROTECTED WORKSHOP  
JANUARY 16, 2004

Taught By Ray and Pat Ashton

THIS ONE-DAY COURSE IS DESIGNED FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE MANAGING PRIVATE OR PUBLIC LANDS, PLANNING MITIGATION SITES (ON AND OFF DEVELOPMENT SITES), AGENCY PERSONNEL, AND INDIVIDUALS WHO WANT TO LEARN ABOUT MANAGING GOPHER TORTOISES AND BIODIVERSITY IN COMBINATION WITH OTHER LAND MANAGEMENT GOALS.

The Land Manager's Workshop is a full day course being offered at the Ashton Biological Preserve Field Station. It is designed to provide practical information to landowners, protected area managers, game and forest land managers, ranchers, and those who have some land and want to be sure they are taking into account, gopher tortoise needs as they do other things with their land. As with all of our courses, this one will be practical and hands on. We encourage people to bring copies of their land management and monitoring plans for us to share and work with in class. Registrants will receive an outline which they can use to help prepare a management and monitoring program or to facilitate discussions with the group. This course is designed as a follow-up to the 3-Day Mitigation and Management Workshop but that workshop is not a prerequisite for attending this one day program.

Topics will include:

- The Process of Developing a Plan Based on Tortoise Natural History and Requirements;
- The Purpose(s) of the Managed Area (Setting Goals);
- Evaluation of the Site (Should a site be used for mitigation or selected for purchase?);
- Developing a plan for protection, habitat evaluation, changing habitat to establish carrying capacity and maintaining it for years to come;
- Creating a long-term, dynamic management plan;
- Creating and sustaining long term monitoring to measure management goals;
- Human use of mitigation sites;
- Relocation, yes or no? If so, how?;
- Establishing long term funding to cover costs and who is responsible.

Participation will be limited to 12 people. Adults only please. The price is \$75 for nonmembers (2004 current) or \$50 for current members. Course begins at 9:30 am and finishes around 4:30 pm. Sandwich fixings and drinks will be available for a light lunch. Participants will receive materials and if the Ashton's Life History of the Gopher Tortoise is out, autographed discounted copies will be available. A certification of participation will be provided for those who complete the course.

Registration Form

Note: Registration and payment can be made from our web site  
Ashtonbiodiversity.org

Other dates for this course and others are also listed on the web site.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_, City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ (print clearly)

Ashton Biodiversity Research and Preservation Institute, Inc.  
14260 W. Newberry Rd. #331  
Newberry, Florida 32669  
Phone: 352-495-7449 Fax: 352-495-7433  
Tortfarm2@aol.com www.ashtonbiodiversity.org

Enclose a check for \$50 (for members) or \$75 for non-members. Single membership is \$25.00. (make check out to ABRPI)

Send ASAP to: Ashton Biodiversity Research & Preservation Institute, 14260 W. Newberry Rd.  
#331, Newberry, FL 32669

## 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

### Programs

Harriett Wright 908-9398

### Publicity

Ameé Bailey 662-5954

### 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:**

**February 2**

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

### 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.

## Officers & Board of Directors

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Harriett Wright 908-9398

### Secretary

Ameé Bailey 662-5954

### Treasurer

Fred Spriggs 935-1312

### Chapter Representative

Ameé Bailey 662-5954

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Steve Dickman 936-7268

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Bob Scheible 626-6815

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Tampa, FL 33682-2893**

**Stamp**



**Please deliver to:**