

The Suncoast Grapevine

Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc.



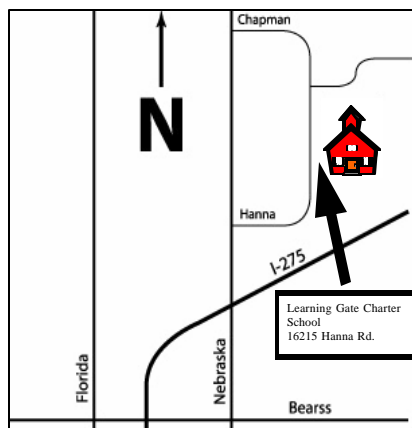
Volume 21 Number 3

MARCH 2004

March 18 Meeting (at the Learning Gate Charter School)

EARTH ETIQUETTE
By James Mendenhall

As a park naturalist, James Mendenhall frequently observes well-meaning but uninformed actions that take a toll on natural communities. The offenses are committed not only by casual park visitors, but also often by those who love nature the most, such as Audubon members out looking at birds, and native plant enthusiasts out “botanizing.” At our March 17th meeting James will present some strategies to make our presence in the natural world less offensive and more positive for all concerned. What James calls “Earth Etiquette” is a responsible relationship with nature that promotes the well-being and safety of the environment, and of ourselves on our forays into the wild. It encompasses good manners in wild places, and also good citizenship in the day to day choices we make that can have a real effect on nature and the environment.



Originally from Indiana, J.D. Mendenhall came to Florida 30 years ago, and has been with the Florida DEP for more than ten years. Currently he is a Park Naturalist with the Recreation and Parks Division, assigned to Crystal River Preserve State Park as Educational Coordinator. He and his wife, both certified Master Naturalist Instructors, designed and teach two courses: an eight part series for those new to the state desiring an introduction to Florida’s unique environment, and a similar youth program that includes lab and field work.

- - - Contributed by Harriett Wright

Message from the President

Education Committee Chair, Betty Wargo, has organized a marvelous Natural History Workshop to be held at the Learning Gate Charter School from March 25-27, 2004. Take a look at the great program elsewhere in this newsletter and please consider attending the workshop. Betty has graciously invited Suncoast members to attend the evening presentations. On Thursday March 25 at 8:00 pm, Chuck McCartney will present "A Look at the Aster Family"; on Friday March 26 at 7:30 pm, Carl Weekley will present "Ecosystem, Plants and Animals of the Lake Wales Ridge"; and on Saturday March 27 at 7:30 pm, Dr. Walter K. Taylor will present "Our Precious Heritage." Don't miss these entertaining speakers.

If you plan to attend the evening presentations, please RSVP by e-mail to betty@learninggate.org so she can provide seating for everyone. NO CHILDREN PLEASE.

On February 26, I had the pleasure of being interviewed by Gayle Murphy at HCC's radio station, Hawk radio at 1520 AM. Gayle hosts a live call-in broadcast to discuss environmental issues every Thursday from 1 to 2 pm. If you can't pick up the AM signal, you can listen to streaming audio at www.hawkradio.com. We talked about plant conservation and the importance of preserving Florida's native plant communities along with providing advice to a few callers about adding native plants to their landscapes.

NEED VOLUNTEERS

The USF Botanical Gardens Spring Plant Sale takes place April 10 and 11. A sign-up sheet will be passed around at the March monthly chapter meeting. If you are unable to make the meeting and wish to help, please call **Sally Sun at 935-1312**. We need volunteers for set-up Friday morning, April 9; and to work the sale Saturday, April 10, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sunday, April 11, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

We hope to have enough volunteers so that no one has to work more than once.

We appreciate your participation!

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.

MARCH 25-27, 2004
Florida Natural History Weekend
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday

2:00pm- Check in rooms and Heron Hall will be open. Come in, settle in and visit.
 6:30pm- Dinner
 7:45pm- Introduction to the weekend, coffee and tea available
 8:00pm- Chuck McCartney: **A Look at the Aster Family**

Friday

7:00am -Breakfast
 8:00am -Alafia Banks with Ann & Rich Paul
MUST LEAVE AT 8:00 SHARP
 11:30am-Swim, nature walk, bird watch.
 1:00pm -Lunch
 2:00pm -Chuck McCartney "Epiphytes" **OR** Rob Heath, Field trip to Cypress Creek
 6:00pm- Dinner
 7:30pm- Carl Weekley, Archbold Biological Station, "Ecosystems, Plants and Animals of the Lake Wales Ridge"

HOTEL
ACCOMODATIONS

Quality Inn
 400 E. Bearss Ave.
 813.961.1000
 Mention the school name & conf# 100848 for \$49 rate

Saturday

8:00 am -Breakfast
 9:00 am -Steve Dickman, field trip to a local scrub habitat **OR** Peggy Lantz author Young Naturalist Guide to Florida and The Florida Water Story "Wild Edibles"
 12:30 pm-Lunch
 1:30 pm -Marc Minno, field trip to Starkey Wilderness "Butterflies" **OR** Bird Watch with Betty Wargo at Lettuce Lake Park
 6:00 pm -Dinner
 7:00 pm -Dr. Walter Taylor "Our Precious Heritage"
 8:30 pm -Book Sales and Autographing
 9:00 pm -Dale Crider "Chlorophyll Green" Music-Music-Music

Sunday

8:00am-Breakfast
 9:00am-Depart

PACKING LIST:

Your own personal and distinctive coffee cup	Comfortable shoes (spare ones in case you get wet)
Warm clothes and jacket for outdoor campfire	Rain parka
Long pants	Sleeping attire
Hat and sunscreen	Water bottle
Insect repellent (No DEET please)	Swim suit (pool available)
Binoculars	Toiletries (soap, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, towel-showers available).

Learning Gate Community School 16215 Hanna Road, Lutz, FL 33549; For directions:

See map on cover sheet of this Grapevine. School phone # 813-948-4190. Betty's cell phone is 813-230-4432

NAME _____ PHONE _____ ARRIVAL DATE _____

ADDRESS _____ EMAIL _____

Will you be:

? CAMPING ? STAYING IN A CLASSROOM ? MOTEL ? OTHER ? VEGE MEAL ? REG MEAL

EMERGENCY CONTACT: Name _____ Phone(s): _____

Choose one in each row:

? Chuck McCartney "Epiphytes" **OR** ? Rob Heath, Field trip to Cypress Creek (Friday)

? Steve Dickman, field trip **OR** ? Peggy Lantz "Wild Edibles" (Saturday .AM)

SNPS IS INVITED TO EVENING EVENTS DURING NATURAL HISTORY WEEKEND.

Betty Wargo would like to invite the Suncoast Chapter members to come for the evening speakers sessions. Please email Betty at betty@learninggate.org if you can attend so that she can set up enough chairs at the Learning Gate Community School.

Thursday Mar 25 at 8:00 pm Chuck McCartney, [A Look at the Aster Family](#)
Friday Mar 26 at 7:30 pm Carl Weekley,
[Ecosystem, Plants and Animals of the Lake Wales Ridge.](#)
Saturday Mar 27 at 7:30 pm, Dr. Walter K. Taylor, [Our Precious Heritage.](#)

NO CHILDREN PLEASE

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.

PLANT PROFILE

Common name: Pine-Hyacinth

Botanical name: *Clematis baldwinii* Torrey & Gray

Family: Ranunculaceae (buttercup family)

Plant Habit: Herbaceous perennial

Size: Stems 1-2 feet tall.

Leaves: Opposite and variable, from elliptic to pinnately divided long, linear lobes.

Inflorescence: Solitary at the ends of stems well above the leaves.

Flowers: Consist of 4 pale lavender to purple, bell-shaped sepals with crimped ends reflexing upwards. The flowers lack petals

Fruit: Long-plumed achenes.

Habitat: Moist pineland.

Flowering time: Throughout the year from spring to fall.

Distribution: Endemic to the Florida peninsula.

Light: Full sun to light shade.

Soil: Semi-dry to moist soil with good drainage..

Propagation: Cuttings, division; seeds germinate very slowly.

Maintenance: Removal of old stems. The plants may benefit from a bit of lime added to the soil.

Availability: Several native plant nurseries.

Wildlife: Not known.

Related Species: Although there are many plants given the common name of hyacinth, the true hyacinth is a bulbous plant. Pine hyacinth is related to larkspur and columbine.



References:

Osorio, Rufino, 2001, **A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants**, University Press of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, pp.90-91.

Taylor, Walter Kingsley, 1998, **Florida Wildflowers In Their Natural Communities**, University Press of Florida, p101.

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, p302.

Information compiled by Carmel vanHoek

Photograph by Roger L. 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
FEB 18 MAR 17 APR 21 May 19

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
APR 7 "Sex in the Garden" Roger Hammer, author and naturalist, will explain how to encourage lots of blooming and fruiting in the landscape.

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 FIELD TRIPS
They meet 7 times a year on Saturdays at Lettuce Leaf Park off Fletcher. Call 983-0258.
APR 17 "Bald Eagles, Sky Masters" by Lynda White, Audubon's Center for Birds of Prey.

ST. PETERSBURG AUDUBON Call 582-2461 or website, stpeteaudubon.org/main.htm
MAR 16 "Frogs: Our Environmental Barometers"

LOWRY PARK ZOO
This year's Karamu will be held Saturday, April 3, 2004 in the Lowry Park Zoo's Saunder's Pavilion. Phone (813) 935-8552, ext. 239, for details. By invitation only.

HISTORIC BOK SANCTUARY
March 1 - April 30
Nature's Places of Spiritual Sanctuary:
Black and White Landscape Photography by Clyde Butcher who was honored by the state of Florida with the highest award the state can give a private citizen: *The Artist Hall of Fame Award*.

HILLS CO. MASTER GARDNER PROGRAMS.
Call 813-744-5519 x144 for information about locations or website: hillsborough.extension.ufl.edu/calendar.htm.
MAR 13 – Compost Happens, Rain Barrel & Water Wise Workshops
MAR 16 – Shade Gardens
MAR 17 – Flowering Shrubs
MAR 18 – Begonias
MAR 20 and 30 - Landscape Design
APR 6 & 8 – Butterfly Gardening
APR 8 – Perennials
APR 8 – Backyard Bouquets
APR 12 – Invasive Species
APR 13 – Native Plants
APR 13 – Exterior Gardening Design

CHINSEGUT NATURE CENTER (352)754-6722
or website: [/floridaconservation.org/chinsegut/schedule.html](http://floridaconservation.org/chinsegut/schedule.html)
MAR 16 Black Bears by Elina Garrison. 7:00 pm.

USF BOTANICAL GARDEN 974-2329
MAR 13 Hand Made Paper Workshop 10 am - 3 pm.
Registration fee required.
MAR 21 Nature Walk in the Botanical Gardens 9 am - 10:30 am. Small fee required
MAR 27 Organic Gardening 10 am - 11:15 am.
Small fee required.
MAR 27 Volunteer Orientation - 10 am - 11:15 am

THE EDITOR HAS HELP

Thanks goes to Mike Fite for volunteering to assist the editor with the mailing of the Grapevine.

MEETING PLACE POLL

We're in the process of conducting a poll to see how our members feel about the possibility of moving to a more centrally located meeting place. If you haven't given your opinion yet, please email your answers to the following questions to Harriett Wright, harriett@ix.netcom.com, or phone Harriett or George or another board member. (See phone numbers on the back page.)

- 1) Are you satisfied with the location of our current meeting place or would you prefer one that is more centrally located?
- 2) If you do not now come to meetings, is it because the meeting place is too far away, or for some other reason (i.e. time constraints)?
- 3) Would you be likely to come to meetings more often if our meeting place were more centrally located?
- 4) If you do come to meetings now, would we be likely to lose your attendance if we move?
- 5) Do you feel that having a more centrally located meeting place would justify a budget expenditure to pay for it, if necessary?
- 6) Can you make a suggestion or recommendation for a new meeting place?
- 7) Would you be willing to serve on a committee to select a new location?

The Deadline for this survey is March 22! Why wait, do it today!

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 977-0829

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:

April 5

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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Bob Scheible 626-6815
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Harriett Wright 908-9398

Stamp



Please deliver to: