

www.suncoastnps.org

The Suncoast Grapevine

Newsletter of the Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc.



Volume 26 Number 3

MARCH 2009

Coastal Conservation Association

Hillsborough County Extension Service

March 18, 2009 at 7pm

Presented by Don Roberts and Robert Fischer



Donald Roberts and Robert Fischer will present the Coastal Conservation Association (CCA), a non-profit organization, encompassing coastal state chapters spanning the Gulf of Mexico, Atlantic and Pacific coasts. The program will provide a brief history of CCA, how it began in Florida as the Florida Conservation Association, and what has taken place with the organization over the past 25 years. CCA has grown from 3 states, Texas, Louisiana and Florida to 17 states from Maine to Texas and the most recent additions are Oregon and Washington State in the Pacific Northwest. The goal of CCA is to preserve, promote and enhance the present and future availability of marine sources for the general public.

Don Roberts was recently elected as President of the Florida Chapter. He is a 10 year volunteer with the organization and has held several positions in the Tampa Chapter from Banquet Chairman to Chapter President. Robert Fischer has been a volunteer with CCA for the past 20 years and has held many positions on the state and chapter level. Both men are recreational anglers that love to fish and are committed to doing their part to make sure that our children and grandchildren can experience the enjoyment of time spent on the water catching fish.

-Submitted by Bob Upcavage



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

Overnight Trip Announcement

Apalachicola National Forest

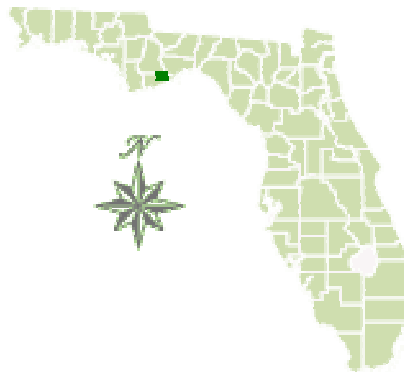
Friday, April 24 - Sunday, April 26

Stay at **OCHLOCKONEE RIVER** State Park on Friday and Saturday night. Plan to visit **Apalachicola National Forest** (Sumatra area) on Saturday and **Tate's Hell** on Sunday morning. At this time of year, the savannas should be dry, but we should have blooming pitcher plants and a wide variety of other species that we don't see here in the Tampa area. Sunday's trip will take us to a dwarf cypress swamp in Tate's Hell State Forest and/or on a short walk through well managed North Florida flatwoods at the state park.

Booking a site at the park is on your own (www.reserveamerica.com). Booking early is advisable.

Motels are not prevalent in this area. The best bet is Carrabelle (The Old Carrabelle Hotel - <http://www.oldercarrabellehotel.com>, The Moorings at Carrabelle, - www.mooringsatcarrabelle.com, Georgian Motel - www.1800motels.com).

Plan on short walks through savannas, bring food and water for a full day of exploring on Saturday and Sunday morning. RSVP to Shirley Denton (ecotypes@myrapidsys.com).—Submitted by Shirley Denton, photos below courtesy park websites





Field Trip!

Selby Botanical Gardens

Saturday, March 21, 10:00 am at the site, 9:00 am to carpool from Tampa

We'll visit the greenhouses and visit a local restaurant for lunch before heading back to Tampa!

More details will be announced at the next meeting, or contact Shirley Denton at ecotypes@myrapidsys.com.

photos, courtesy Marie Selby Botanical Gardens website

We'd like to thank **Jenny James** and **Allen Burdett** for helping us with technical difficulty during last month's meeting. Also, thanks to our plant donors who keep our monthly plant auctions going—**Juliet Rynear**, **James Wheeler**, **Fred Mulholland**, and others involved, I apologize for not having the complete list! We'd also like to extend our appreciation to **Barbara Fite** for providing refreshments.



SUNCOAST CALENDAR

To submit information to the Calendar, email Bob Upcavage: eco@upcavage.cnc.net

Programs for 2009

- ♣ **January 21—George Kish:**
Plant Phenology and Climate Change
- ♣ **February 17—Juliet Rynear:**
The Rare Plant Conservation Program at Bok Towers
- ♣ **March 18—Don Roberts:**
The Coastal Conservation Association
- ♣ **April 15—TBA**
- ♣ **May 20—TBA**
- ♣ **June 17—Craig Huegel:**
Designing a Landscape for Wildlife
- ♣ **July 15—Karina Veaudry:**
The Status of Conservation in Florida



Spring Plant Sale

Volunteers Needed!

The USF Botanical Gardens Spring Plant Sale takes place **April 11 and 12**. 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 10**; and to work the sale Saturday, **April 11**, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sunday, **April 12**, 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!

-Submitted by Sally Sun

PLANT PROFILE

Common name: Inkberry, beachberry

Botanical name: *Scaevola plumieri* (L.) Vahl

Family: Goodeniaceae (Goodenia)

Zone: 10-11

Plant Habit: Perennial, succulent shrub

Habitat: Beach dune, coastal strand

Size: 5 ft. x 6 ft.

Leaves: Alternate, evergreen, obovate, glossy to 6 inches long clustered near the branch tips

Bloom: White to pinkish, tubular flowers, split down one side and fan-shaped; 1 inch long in leaf axils

Flowering time: April to November

Fruit: black, egg-shaped, 2-seeded, drupe about 1/2 inch long

Distribution: Pinellas and Brevard counties and south along coast

Growing conditions

Light: Full sun

Water: Drought and salt-water tolerant

Soil: Sandy, wide pH range

Propagation: Seeds, cuttings

Motility: Underground stems near parent plant

Maintenance: None

Availability: Native nurseries

Comments: Excellent dune stabilizer and ground cover; drupes are food source for wildlife; threatened species in Florida; similar in appearance to the exotic, beach naupaka (*S. taccada*), but beach naupaka bears white fruits

References:

Haehle, Robert G., and Joan Brookwell, 2004, *Native Florida Plants, Revised Edition*: Taylor Trade Publishing Company, Lanham, Maryland, 400 p.

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

Wunderlin, R.P. and B.F. Hansen, 2003, *Guide to Vascular Plants of Florida*, second edition, University Press of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, 787 p.

Wunderlin, R.P. and B.F. Hansen, 2007, *Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants*: University of South Florida, Institute of Systematic Botany (<http://plantatlas.usf.edu/>)

Information compiled by George Kish, photos by Rob Curtis and Shirley Denton



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 SNPS also entitles you to membership privileges in the Suncoast Native Plant Society and a subscription to their monthly newsletter *The Suncoast Grapevine*. Contact the membership chair, Shirley Denton, at 986-6485.

New Member Renewal

Name _____

Business name or organization _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Home phone _____ Email _____

Check pertinent category:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Member/Gift \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Not-for-profit organization \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/Renewal \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business or corporate \$125 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full time student \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library subscription \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Donor \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family or household \$50 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$75 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life \$1,000 | |

Make check payable to **SNPS.**

Detach and mail to:

**Suncoast Native Plant Society,
Inc**

P.O. Box 1158

Seffner, FL 33583-1158

Activities & Committee Chairs

Field Trips

Shirley Denton 986-6485

Publications

Dick Wunderlin 977-6484

George Kish 920-0853

Librarian

Vikki Sinclair 989-2896

Membership

Shirley Denton 986-6485

Newsletter Editor

Shawna Everidge 757-9289

Mike Fite, Assistant 977-0892

Programs and Publicity

Bob Upcavage

Outreach

Troy Springer 967-4538

USF Plant Sale

Sally Sun 935-1312

USF Botanical Garden Liaison

Kim Hutton 974-2329

Chapter Representative

Kristina Herz

Webmaster

Shirley Denton 986-6485

Conservation

Ron Chicone



Newsletter Submissions

Deadline for the next issue:

APR 2

Please send articles and original artwork for The Suncoast Grapevine to **Shawna Everidge**, by the **deadline** of this month. Text should be in MS

Word; graphics should be in a standard graphic format (.jpg, .bmp, .gif). Previously published artwork should be accompanied by a letter of permission from the original publisher.

Email...

severidge@plantcitygov.com

DIRECTIONS TO:

Hillsborough County
Extension
5339 County Road 579,
Seffner.

Take I-4 to Exit 10 (just East of I-75). Go South for two blocks. The office is at the corner of Old Hillsborough Road, and County Road 579.

Meeting Locations

Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc. meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the **Hillsborough Extension office in Seffner.**

SNPS Web Address:

www.fnps.org/chapters/suncoast



Officers & Board of Directors

President

Troy Springer

Vice-president

Bob Upcavage

Secretary

Kristina Herz

Treasurer

Daphne Lambright

Board Members

Shirley Denton

Ron Chicone

The SNPS BOD meets regularly at a variety of locations. If you are interested in attending a BOD meeting, please check the location at a monthly membership meeting or call Troy Springer at 813-967-4538.

Suncoast Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 1158
Seffner, FL 33583-1158

Please deliver to: