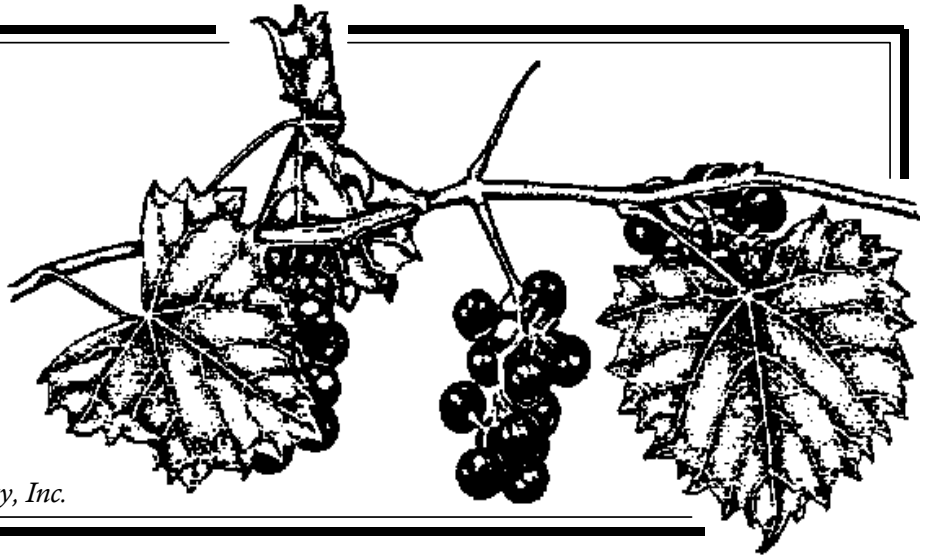


www.suncoastnps.org

The Suncoast Grapevine

Newsletter of the Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc.



Volume 26 Number 7

JULY 2009

The Status of Conservation in Florida

Presented by Karina Veaudry

Wednesday, July 15 2009 @ 7pm

Hillsborough County Extension Service

JOINT MEETING WITH THE TAMPA BAY SIERRA CLUB & TAMPA AUDUBON SOCIETY



Karina Veaudry, our Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS) Executive Director for the past two years, grew up in Central Florida and as an avid hiker and volunteer, has experienced many of Florida's natural areas. She has been involved with the FNPS for the past 19 years.

Karina's profession for the past 22 years has been Landscape Architecture, specializing in promoting the use of native plants, tree preservation during construction, ecosystem preservation, and landscape ordinance writing and conservation policy writing for municipal comprehensive plans.

As a volunteer, she has been an interpretive guide, wetlands monitor, native plant seed collector, wildlife monitor and has completed outreach programs regarding Florida's ecosystems, water conservation, native plant landscape design, and land acquisition programs.

- Submitted by Bob Upcavage

POTLUCK! Set up at 6:30pm, dinner & program start at 7pm. SNPS Members are encouraged to bring free plants for our guests at this meeting! Rare or nursery quality plants may be reserved for the plant raffle.



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



Chrysopsis floridana (Florida goldenaster) finds a home in Manatee County

Over a thousand Federally Endangered *Chrysopsis floridana* (Florida goldenaster) have a new home in the white sand of Southwest Florida, and the Suncoast Native Plant Society (SNPS) was there to help. On June 9, 2009 at sunrise a caravan of trucks loaded with Florida goldenaster left Bok Tower Gardens (BTG) bound for the Little Manatee River Southfork Tract (Cordell), a Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) owned site located in Manatee County. The event marked the culmination of an effort started in 2007 by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and BTG's Rare Plant Conservation Program to create a self sustaining and genetically diverse introduced population of this federally and state endangered species in Manatee County.



SNPS was represented by Bob Upcavage, Debbi Butts, and Ron Chicone, who worked side by side with nearly 30 other volunteers and natural resource professionals to plant the 1,047 Florida goldenasters by hauling containers, digging holes, covering roots, and watering the plants. These plants joined an additional 414 plants planted in the summer of 2008 and completed the genetic representation of 14 wild populations.



Contact SNPS members Ron Chicone (rchicone@yahoo.com), Bob Upcavage (eco@upcavage.cnc.net), or Daphne Lambright (daphne.lambright@verizon.net) for information about the next opportunity to help with a native plant and plant community preservation, conservation, or restoration project.

—Ron Chicone

Shirley Denton, 2009 Silver Palmetto Award Winner

Gene Kelly, the FNPS President, awarded Shirley Denton a Silver Palmetto Award in recognition of her outstanding service to FNPS.

During the past year, Shirley has focused on making the FNPS website a more effective tool through inclusion of the online membership renewal and donation systems, and the design of the conference webpage. Currently, she is assisting with the revisions to the FNPS membership database. She also served on the chapter grants committee and led the Nomination Committee.

—Daphne Lambright





George Kish, 2009 Green Palmetto Award Winner

George R. Kish will receive the FNPS Green Palmetto Award at our July 15th joint SNPS/Audubon/Sierra Club potluck and meeting. Please join us as we recognize George for his outstanding dedication and support to the Suncoast Native Plant Society and the Florida Native Plant Society.

Since 1999, George has been an active Florida Native Plant Society and Suncoast Chapter member. He was the *Grapevine* newsletter editor from 2000 to 2002, and still provides plant profiles for the newsletter today. He has been a member of the Suncoast Chapter Board of Directors in several positions. In 2000, he was elected SNPS Secretary, and was later elected President from 2002 to 2005. George is currently a member of Southwest Florida Water Management District's Green Industry Advisory Committee, representing the Florida Native Plant Society since 2000.

George Kish earned his M.S. degree in Environmental Science from Rutgers University, and a B.S. degree in Biological Sciences from Drexel University. He is currently a doctoral candidate at the University of South Florida and his doctoral dissertation will emphasize the relation between plant phenology and climate.

Through the years, George has been a dedicated supporter of native plants, plant communities, and the goals of FNPS. George Kish regularly gives talks to FNPS chapters, non-profit groups, and community development organizations about native landscaping, native grasses, butterfly gardening, and Florida's ecosystems. He was instrumental in SNPS receiving a grant from FNPS for "Life in our Landscapes". This grant supported our outreach program to big box stores on using natives in landscaping. He is one of the authors in *The Right Plants for Dry Places*, second edition, and is one of the authors of *The Right Plants for Dry Coastal Places* (in preparation).

George Kish has inspired others to become active in native plant issues, and is one of the reasons our Suncoast Chapter has become so successful. We are proud of the leadership that George has given our chapter and of the work he has done in promoting the goals of the Florida Native Plant Society.

-Troy Springer

The following people donated plants for the auction at the June chapter meeting:

- ☉ JoAnn Hoffman
- ☉ Troy Springer
- ☉ Bob Upcavage
- ☉ James Wheeler
- ☉ Harriett Wright



And Debbie Butts provided the refreshments.

We appreciate it!



USF Botanical Gardens
Tropical Plant Fair
July 11-12th
Saturday 10-4pm
Sunday 10-3pm
12210 USF Pine Drive
\$5 admission/members free

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—Troy Springer:**
The Native Landscaping Trade
- ♣ **May 20—Cliff Brown:**
Plants for Attracting Native Hummingbirds
- ♣ **June 17—Craig Huegel:**
Designing a Landscape for Wildlife
- ♣ **July 15—Karina Veaudry:**
The Status of Conservation in Florida
- ♣ **August 19—Prem Subrahmanyam:**
Florida Orchids



NEXT FIELD TRIP:

Sunday, July 19th

Cordell Site in Manatee County

Meet at HC Extension @ 8am

Arrive at the site @ 9am



Further details TBA at the meeting, or
contact Bob Upcavage at

eco@upcavage.cnc.net.

June Fieldtrip: Pine Lily Nursery Recap

Because the summer heat is in full force, we decided to forgo the usual hike and have a buying trip at a unique Florida nursery. Pine Lily Native Nursery is in the middle of a well maintained pine flatwoods, and many of the plants available for sale are found growing naturally on the property. Proprietors Brooks and Nancy Armstrong were wonderful hosts and provided us with great plants, great knowledge, and refreshments too! They have an assortment of hard to find grasses and wildflowers, including the endemic and endangered *Chrysopsis floridana*. To my knowledge, Pine Lily is the only commercial nursery to grow this species.

We had a nice sized group, and every one of us bought more plants than we anticipated. It was quite a challenge to get all the plants back in one piece. After some buying, some of us started to explore the grounds around the nursery. Brooks, with the help of James Wheeler, had just completed a controlled burn on 3 acres of the property the week before. I was delighted to see how well the Armstrongs maintain their property in its natural condition.

The last stop was at Solomon's Castle for lunch. There, we were blessed to see the trees filled with many species of Tillandsias, as well as *Encyclia tampensis* in full bloom. Joel Jackson and Shirley Denton took lots of pictures, and we all enjoyed nice conversation at the Boat in the Moat Restaurant.



**Thank you to all those who participated
in this trip and supported fellow FNPS
members and their beautiful
nursery!**

-Troy Springer

PLANT PROFILE

Common name: Privet wild sensitive plant, privet senna

Botanical name: *Senna ligustrina* (L.) H.S.Irwin & Barneby

Family: Fabaceae (Legume)

Zone: 8B-11

Plant Habit: Upright evergreen shrub

Habitat: Moist soils at edges of hammocks

Size: 3 to 12 ft (h) and (w)

Leaves: Alternate, dark green, pinnately compound;
12-22 paired lanceolate leaflets; leaves to 12 inches long;
leaflets 2-3 inches long and less than 1 inch wide

Bloom: Bright yellow flowers with brown dots

Flowering time: Early fall to summer

Fruit: Long, brown seed pods; 4-5 inches long

Distribution: Coastal counties from mid-peninsula southward

Growing conditions

Light: Full sun to light shade

Water: Dry to moist

Soil: Average, well-drained

Propagation: Seed

Motility: Spreads easily by seed

Maintenance: Pruning to maintain shape and remove spent flowering stems

Availability: Native nurseries

Comments: Larval food source of sulphur butterflies; adult sulphurs lay eggs before the flowers open, caterpillars are bright yellow and brown and blend easily with the open yellow flowers and large brown stamens

References:

Nelson, Gil, 1996, *The Shrubs and Woody Vines of Florida*: Pineapple Press, Inc., Sarasota, Florida, 391 p.

Osorio, Rufino, 2001, *A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants*: University Press of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, 345 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 R. Kish

Photos by Shirley Denton, Gil Nelson



Senna ligustrina
Photo by 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 **FNPS**.

Detach and mail to:

FNPS

P.O. Box 278

Melbourne, FL 32902-0278

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

Vacant

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:

AUG 3

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



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:

<http://www.SuncoastNPS.org>



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: