



THE NATURE COASTLINE

Nature Coast Chapter meetings, field trips, and activities are open to FNPS members and the public alike. Monthly meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at St. Marks Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall located at 7922 State Road 52 in Hudson(34667). (One mile west of Little Road on the south side of SR 52 next to St. Michael's Catholic Church). Parking for the Fellowship Hall is at the rear of the property.

Executive Committee meetings will be held the 4th Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the New Port Richey Library, 5939 Main St. in New Port Richey, 34652. Meetings are open to all members; ask at the circulation desk for room location.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Sept. 1st: Program at Hudson Library at 6: 30 p.m. Peggy Gretchen will do a presentation "Native Plants for Florida Gardeners"

Sept. 8th Meeting: Elaine Fortier, owner of Fortier Specialty Nursery, will present "Native Plants for Migrating Butterflies" She wants us to understand the importance of having native plants that help support a variety of pollinators who are essential to the maintenance of a healthy ecosystem.

Join us for this interesting program, light refreshments and native plant drawing! Florida Wildflower plants previously ordered by members will be distributed.

Sept. 12th Field Trip: **Saturday from 9am-12 Noon - Hiking a Florida Sandhill in Hudson** - see page 3 for details.

Sept. 26th Nature Coast Chapter Fall Native Plant Sale: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Founders Day Celebration in Sims Park, downtown New Port Richey. Our booth will be located by the West Pasco Historical Society. Books and Wildflower seeds will also be sold; free literature available.

Oct. 13th Meeting: "**Fall Wildflowers**" presentation by **Sid Taylor**, Resident Park Naturalist at Tillis Hill Equestrian Camp in the Withlacoochee State Forest. She has a B.S. in Botany and lives in the sandhills of Brooksville. She has photo archives (1930's-60's) and does oral history presentations in Citrus County. The program is an introduction to the plant families of each of the wildflower specimens. We will learn species names and how these describe the plant morphology. Come learn more about the many beautiful fall wildflowers that could grace your yard!

Oct. 18th Field Trip: **Sunday at 10 a.m. A Fall Wildflower Walk at Weeki Wachi Preserve** - see page 3 for details.

OFFICERS

President: Elaine Fortier
727-863-0552
fort.elmar@yahoo.com
Vice President: Julie Wert
352-683-1363
aripekajule@verizon.net
Secretary: Jan Howie
727-848-7689
janicehowie@aol.com
Treasurer: Peggy Gretchen
Government Affairs Coordinator
813-991-4812
herculesmpg@earthlink.net
Chapter Representative:
Susan Vaughn 727-863-0531
vaughn_s@firn.edu

CHAIRS/ FACILITATORS

Newsletter & Program Coordinator:
Mary Horan 727-849-2335
horansmo@earthlink.net

Publicity Co-chairs:

Paul Francois
underthemilkyway@verizon.net
Sandra Vanno 727-376-7663
svanno@tampabay.rr.com
Raffle:
Anne Johnson 352-518-0545
annjohnson.eotrf@gmail.com
Historian: koerner@verizon.net
Shirley Koerner 727-848-8000
Refreshments: Pat Kelly
352-588-0266
patriciaak02@earthlink.net
Refreshment Assistant: Naomi Love
269-719-0006
naomii_gene@yahoo.com
Field Trips: gorgon_o@yahoo.com
Gorgon O'Connor 727-934-6195
Books: Sharon Holding 727-843-9771
sharholdi@cs.com
Membership: Doris Bareiss
wildcoffee@earthlink.net
727-842-3133



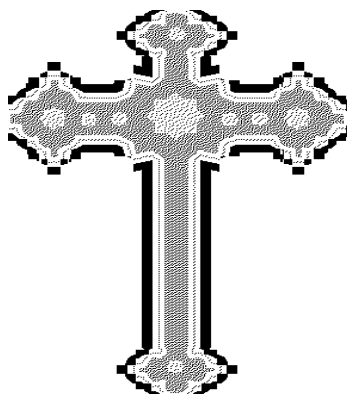
NEW MEMBERS

Teresa Dillon Teri Garrett
Dave & Karen Littlefield

RENEWED MEMBERS

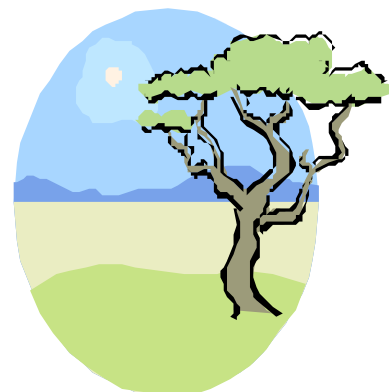
Eva Bailey Dave Barnard
Patricia Brevoort June Buffmyer
Jamie Faulconer Aleta Fisher
Peggy & Michael Gretchen
Debi & Patrick Peterson

In Memorium: Mike Kenton April 17, 1945 - July 14, 2009



Many members knew Mike personally for many years and feel his loss deeply. Others of us knew only that he owned Environmental Equities which was our major source of native plants on the west side of Pasco county. With his passing we have also lost this wonderful nursery which contained such a diversity of native plants. Many of us have plants and trees in our yards that Nancy Desmond brought to the plant raffle table at Nature Coast Chapter meetings. These will be a living memorial for Mike. At our Exec. Committee meeting on Aug. 25th, a recommendation for a chapter donation to FNPS will be made. Individual donations in Mike's name can also be mailed to FNPS, P.O. Box 278, Melbourne, FL.

On Sat. August 8th there was a celebration of Mike's life at Selby Gardens. There was a full house of both family, people Mike worked with from several counties and native plant people. Our chapter was represented by Julie Wert, Richard Stauffer, Nancy Desmond, Doris Bareiss, Elaine Fortier, Pat Kelly, and Paul Francois. Mike's sister put together a wonderful slide show of family, and places Mike loved. His wife Judy sends thanks to everyone who attended the memorial service, sent cards, flowers, and donations to FNPS and appreciates your thoughtfulness.



Field Trip Information:

NCC September 12th Field Trip: Saturday at 9 a.m. - Hiking a Florida Sandhill in Hudson by Fortier Specialty Nursery. See some of the natural life of a sandhill. Bring binoculars, field guide, and sturdy walking shoes or boots as there are no paths. Those wishing a less rugged morning can visit the nursery and sit in the shady cabana and watch the butterflies. Bring a sack lunch. Beverages and dessert will be provided.

Directions: Fortier Specialty Nursery is located at 13047 Houston Ave., Hudson 34667. **Carpooling:** Meet in the Sweetbay Parking lot behind Burger King on U.S. 19 and Moog Rd. at 8 a.m. or the former Publix parking lot behind Wendy's on the N.W. corner of U.S. 19 and SR 52 at 8:30 a.m.

NCC October 18th Field Trip: Sunday at 10 a.m. - A Fall Wildflower Walk at Weeki Wachee Preserve. Led by our chapter vice president Julie Wert who says " Fall wildflowers are some of the best in Florida. We forget after long, hot, humid summers to go see what's blooming in the fall. The summer rains have nourished the blooms so come find out what to look for at this time of the year. Meet at 10 a.m. at the Weeki Wachee Preserve entrance off of Osowaw Blvd, west of the intersection of US 19 and Spring Hill Drive. We'll be walking less than ½ mile to a scrub area and then pine flatwoods that was burned in 2006. Last year the wildflowers were really nice and should be even better this year."

Car pooling: Meet at 8:45 a.m. at the U.S.19/Moog Rd. location and 9:15 a.m. at the U.S 19/SR 52 location. (See details on other field trip.)

Other Interesting Activities:

Master Gardener Programs: For a complete calendar go to: http://pasco.ifas.ufl.edu/events_calendar.shtml

Sept. 9th-Wed. at 1 p.m.: Florida Native Wildflowers, Vines, and Groundcovers at Jasmine Lakes Community & Club Assoc. 7137 Jasmine Lakes Blvd., Port Richey, 34668
Contact: Nancy Morrel, president, (727) 815-8050 or 992-4795 or Billie Plasket by e-mail at: plas2212@yahoo.com

Oct. 3rd-Saturday 9a.m. - 1 p.m.: Master Gardeners Plant Sale at the Pasco County Fairgrounds on SR 52 in Dade City

Oct. 6th-Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.: Horticulture Therapy at the Hudson Library 8012 Library Rd., Hudson, FL 34667

Butterfly Fest: October 24-25th from 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. at the Museum of Natural History in Gainesville For more information go to: www.flmnh.ufl.edu/butterflyfest or call (352) 273-2064



Hummingbird Festival on Oct. 3rd

at Pioneer Florida Museum in Dade City

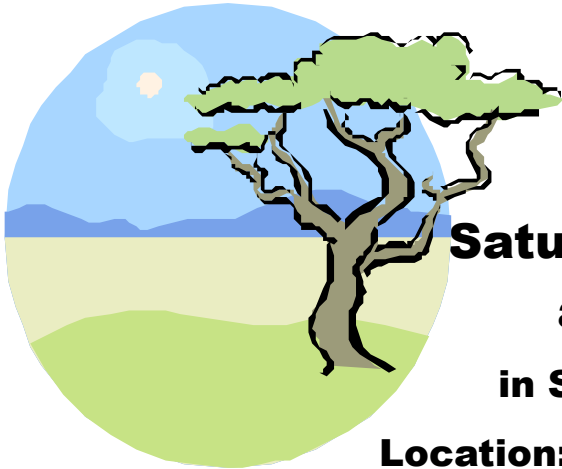
Located 1 mile NORTH of Dade City off Highway 301.

Event hours: 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Plant Sales Hummingbird Garden

Various organizations will be there with information and presentations: Swiftmud with a butterfly presentation, Bat Conservancy, Hernando Audubon, and Extension Service.

We have been asked to provide a table with information about our chapter and activities. We need one or two volunteers to help Doris Bareiss. Call her at: 727-842-3133 or e-mail her at: wildcoffee@earthlink.net



Nature Coast Chapter

Fall Native Plant Sale

Saturday, Sept. 26th - 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

at Founders Day Celebration

in Sims Park, downtown New Port Richey

Location: by West Pasco Historical Society

Staff Volunteers needed; signup sheet at September meeting

Our booth, in front of the West Pasco Historical Society, will provide educational literature besides selling native plants, books, and wildflower seeds. This has become an annual event for our chapter and provides an opportunity to add more native plants to your landscape while we are still benefitting from seasonal rains.

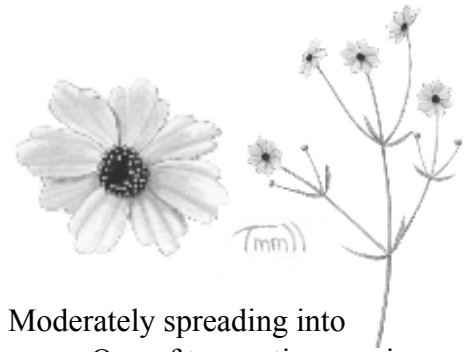
Details will be discussed at our September meeting and we encourage you to add your name to the sign up sheet of volunteers. We need people to handle the book and handouts table, help with plant pickup and return, assist with putting the plant profiles on the plants, help prospective buyers get to the "experts", write up plant sales, and assist customers by using our wagons to get purchased plants to their cars.

There will be time to browse Sims Park and enjoy the fellowship of other members. This is a really enjoyable event. If you are unable to attend the meeting and want to volunteer you can contact: Julie Wert at 727-863-1363 or by e-mail at: aripekajule@verison.net

TICKSEED

Florida's State Wildflower

by Peggy A. Gretchen
FNPS Member, Pasco
MasterGardener



Botanical Name: *Coreopsis leavenworthii*

Common Name: Leavenworth's Tickseed, Common Tickseed

Family: Asteraceae or Compositae (aster or daisy)

Type of Plant: Native erect annual or short-lived perennial wildflower. Moderately spreading into moist, sunny open areas by self-sown seed and will come back year after year. One of two native species endemic to Florida – found only in Florida and nowhere else in the world! *Coreopsis floridana* or Florida Tickseed is the other endemic tickseed. It occurs in wet flatwoods in the central panhandle, as well as in the central and southern peninsula, blooming primarily in fall and winter. **Height:** 1–3 ft. in bloom, rarely to 5 ft.

How to Identify: **Leaves:** Opposite, usually entire, narrow, lobed or unlobed, linear to oblanceolate. Stems branched above. **Flowers:** Showy, daisy-like, 1 in. heads with ray florets (8) bright yellow and toothed, disk florets (center) are dark brown. Flowering Time: Summer in N. Florida to year-round in S. Florida. Especially attractive in late spring. In cultivation, self-sown seedlings mature and flower nearly throughout the year. **Fruit:** A small, dry, hard, inconspicuous achene (one-seeded, non-splitting) with 2 short awns (spines) which resembles a tick, hence the common (if unattractive) name “tickseed”.

Habitat: Common in moist and wet pine flatwoods, roadside ditches or swales, and disturbed (ruderal) sites. **Distribution:** Nearly throughout the state of Florida. **Hardiness Zones:** 8 – 11.

Landscape Use / Wildlife Benefit: Tickseeds are attractive and useful in mixed wildflower and butterfly gardens. They provide nectar for many types of butterflies and the seeds are eaten by songbirds. Excellent for sunny, moist roadsides, swales, and medians.

Cultivation: Easy! **Soil:** Moist, sandy, acidic preferred. **Light:** Full sun best, tolerates light shade.

Water: Prefers moist conditions, but highly drought tolerant once established. **Miscellaneous:** Moderate salt tolerance. Spreads by self-sown seed. Cut back spent flowers after seeding.

Propagation: By seed collected and dried in a paper bag, or allow cultivated sites to reseed.

Availability: Commonly available in Florida native plant nurseries – see your Association of Florida Native Nurseries (AFNN) guide.

Comment: There are 13 species of *Coreopsis* native to Florida. Numerous cultivars and hybrids of non-native *Coreopsis* species are available in retail garden centers. Care should be taken to ensure use of native species! The Nature Coast Chapter, FNPS has a limited supply of Florida wildflower seeds, including tickseeds, available for purchase. Fall is the time to plant your seeds!

References:

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Nelson, Gil, *Florida's Best Native Landscape Plants*, Gainesville, FL, Univ. Press of FL, 2003.

Osorio, Rufino, *A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants*, Gainesville, FL, Univ. Press of FL, 2001.

Taylor, Walter Kingsley, *Florida Wildflowers in their Natural Communities*, Gainesville, FL, Univ. Press of FL, 1998.

Taylor, Walter Kingsley, *The Guide to Florida Wildflowers*, Dallas, TX, Taylor Pub. Co., 1992.

Trass, Pamela F., *Gardening for Florida's Butterflies*, St. Petersburg, FL, Great Outdoors Pub. Co., 1999.

Wunderlin, Richard P., *Guide to the Vascular Plants of Florida*, Gainesville, FL, Univ. Press of FL, 1998.

Florida Native Plant Society

P.O. Box 287
Melbourne, FL 32902-0278
Phone: 321-271-6702
Fax: 321-951-1941

E-mail: info@fnps.org
Web site: www.fnps.org

Karina Veaudry 321-388-4781
E-mail: executivedirector@fnps.org

Nature Coast Chapter Website
www.pasconativeplants.org

Submit newsletter articles to E-mail:
horansmo@earthlink.net
or to publication address

**NEXT NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE: Oct. 18th**

Calendar

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Oct.3rd: Hummingbird Festival - 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.- Dade City

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October 24-25th: Butterfly Fest at the Florida Museum of Natural History in Gainesville from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

“The purpose of the Florida Native Plant Society is the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.”

**Nature Coast Chapter of FNPS
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