



Pawpaw Chapter

Serving Volusia and Flagler Counties

First Quarter 2007

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President's Message

I am honored that the Pawpaw Chapter has entrusted me with the office of President and will strive to live up to your confidence in leading our vibrant organization through the year. The past years have seen a growth in both membership and in the activities of the chapter, culminating with hosting the state FNPS conference last year. Everyone involved in all chapter activities should be commended for helping promote the goals of the organization.

Even with this success, many of our members are less active than others. While meeting and field trip attendance ranges from good to great, there are many faces we never see and a small fraction of the total membership attend most events. This is not endemic to our chapter, it is a situation that most similar organizations have. That is not to say that we have to accept it, however. I welcome any ideas to improve the participation of Pawpaw members in all our activities.

Spring is our busiest time of year, and I am encouraged by the response so far of volunteers for our upcoming events. I also want to thank all of the other chapter officers and chairs for their work supporting the chapter.

Finally, if you have not been receiving the e-mails of meeting and other chapter announcements, send me your current e-mail address. (Mine is below).

Paul Rebmann
wildfipaul@earthlink.net

Wild Orchids: Then and Now

Of the 118 species and varieties of wild orchids found in Florida, nearly half have been documented from northeastern Florida. Although habitats have changed greatly over the past century, most of these species can still easily be found in the wild. Those that have 'disappeared' from the northeastern counties may still occur but rely on watchful and well-educated eyes to search for them.

Paul Martin Brown and Stan Folsom will be the speakers at a Pawpaw and Lyonia joint-chapter program on April 10. That evening, the talk will focus on both the present and those species of the past and equip native

plant enthusiast to be able to go out and search for some of these 'lost' species. The program begins at 7:00 p.m. in the Agricultural Center auditorium at the Volusia County Fairgrounds in Deland. Stan and Paul will have copies of their books for sale as well as prints of Stan's native orchid paintings.

Brief Biography

Paul Martin Brown is a research associate at the Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Fort Worth, and University of Florida Herbarium at the Florida Museum of Natural History in Gainesville, Florida. He received his MS from the University of

Massachusetts-Dartmouth and is the founder of the North American Native Orchid Alliance and the editor of the North American Native Orchid Journal.

Stan Folsom is a retired art teacher and botanical illustrator who received his undergraduate degree at the Massachusetts College of Art and Master of Fine Arts and Ph.D. at The Pennsylvania State University. His primary medium is watercolor and his work is represented in several permanent collections including the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston.

Pawpaw Press Archives

Read articles about our past field trips, speakers and events at <http://pawpaw.fnpschapters.org>



Season's Pick: Walter's Viburnum (*Viburnum obovatum*)

Late winter in Central Florida, profuse clusters of white flowers cover Walter's Viburnum (*V. obovatum*), making some plants appear to be covered with snow.

Walters' viburnum is a neat, semi-evergreen to deciduous large shrub or small tree. It has a broad, spreading, densely twiggy crown, and rough dark reddish brown bark, with dense, small, opposite dark green foliage. It can range from 6 feet reportedly up to 30 feet tall, but is often closer to 15 feet tall, with a spread of 6-12 feet.

The individually small white flowers are mildly fragrant, and borne in conspicuous, delicately showy, flat-topped clusters for a brief period, from late winter to early spring, before the leaves are fully developed.

The fruit is an edible, somewhat flattened, ellipsoid drupe ¼" long, slowly changing from green, to pink, then to red, burgundy, purplish blue, and then finally purplish black, in late summer to early autumn.

In the wild, Walter's viburnum is more common in wet areas such as flatwoods, streambanks, swamp margins, and coastal hammocks, but is also found in dry uplands underlain by limestone. It is found through most of north and central Florida, from about Washington County eastward and southward to about Hendry County. Companion plants include red buckeye, pipestem, hearts-a-burstin, Simpson's stopper, buttonbush, eastern gamagrass, Dahoon holly, winged elm, maples, sugarberry, Atlantic white cedar, swamp dogwood and highbush blueberry (*V. corymbosum*).

Walter's viburnum prefers moist to wet, sandy, acid, fertile soils, but is extremely adaptable in cultivation. It will tolerate drier conditions if watered frequently for at least 6 months to a year after planting. It blooms more

profusely in full sun, but will also grow in shade. It is hardy in Florida from zones 8A-10A, remaining evergreen in the south, but has low salt tolerance. It is slow growing, with a lifespan probably exceeding 50 years, and can be propagated by seed (slow!), cuttings or suckers.

This plant is useful as a large, unpruned, natural screen, at the edges of naturalistic landscapes or along a fence, but it may also be pruned to produce a more compact hedge or even topiary. It is very good as a specimen shrub or small shade tree, or in a mixed shrub bed (for instance with wax myrtle), and is excellent for difficult areas such as road and powerline rights-of-way. Specimens receiving unobstructed light all around assume a naturally rounded shape.

Best Features: Profuse clusters of pure white flowers February-March provide nectar for butterflies and other pollinators. Dense foliage and summer fruit provide excellent nesting, cover and food sources for a variety of birds and other small wildlife. Versatility in formal and informal landscapes; with no maintenance required in informal gardens.



Walter's viburnum's one flaw is its tendency to sucker. To prevent formation of a thicket, remove the lower limbs on young plants to allow easy access to the base of the plant for periodic removal of subterranean suckers.

Various cultivars are now available, including:

V. obovatum 'Mrs. Schiller's Delight' – a dense twiggy dwarf selection, especially suited to formal hedging. It tends to be ball shaped, growing up to 4 feet, but often shorter. It flowers most of the year, but heaviest in the spring. This is forming low drought tolerant thickets under my front windows.

V. obovatum 'Densa' - Grows up to 4-5 feet high and makes a great replacement for the widely used exotic Indian Hawthorn. I recently purchased one to include in the border to my butterfly garden.

Contributed by Sharon Rich

Photo by: Paul Rebmann
wildflphoto.com

Lyonia Chapter Seeks Officers

Ray's and Carlton's time has come and they will be leaving as President and Vice-President this coming June 2007, after serving for three years. Are you ready to serve as an officer for Lyonia Chapter beginning in 2007? You do not have to be a plant expert - just willing to work with our group on projects and monthly meetings.

We have some nominees for President (David Schroeder) and maybe Vice President. Gerri Bauer has agreed to be our new Publicity Chair and will use her media contacts to spread the news of our meetings, programs, and field trips. But we are still looking for someone to sit as Secretary for the Chapter to record our monthly minutes for 2007-2008. Any volunteers? The following Chair positions are needed as well: Chapter Website Chair, Refreshments Chair, and Programs Chair. New officers will begin in June of 2007.

If anyone is interested, please contact Ray at sjarrett1@cfl.rr.com.

1st Annual Central FL Wildflower Festival

**Saturday, March 31, 2007 at the Volusia County Agricultural Extension
3100 E. New York Ave, DeLand, SR 44 (just east of I-4)**

SPEAKERS

8:00 - 8:50 a.m.

Growing Wildflowers for Fun and Profit

Dana Venrick, *Volusia County Extension Horticulture Agent.*

Learn step by step how to grow wildflowers in-ground or in containers and how to best use them for beautiful displays in the right places in the landscape.

9:00 - 9:50 a.m.

Stetson University Native Plant Initiative

Dave Rigsby, *Grounds Manager of Stetson University*

Learn how Stetson has transitioned to a beautiful native plant and wildflower landscape.

10:00 - 10:50 a.m.

Native Wildflower Seed Production

Dr. Jeff Norcini, *Horticulture Professor with the North Florida Research and Education Center*
Learn how to cultivate wildflowers in the field or on landscape fabric to produce and harvest seeds for profitable retail or wholesale sales.

11:00 - 11:50 a.m.

Taylor's Wildflower Adventures Traveling through Florida

Dr. Walter Taylor, *Professor Emeritus, University of Central Florida,*

Learn how nature and wildflowers offer beautiful sights, surprises, and stories all around Florida.

AFTERNOON FIELD TRIPS

Register for the following trips by calling the Ag. Center Daytona: 257-6012, NSB: 423-3368

1:00 p.m.

Lyonia Preserve Scrub Walk

2150 Eustace Ave. (Next to the Deltona Library) This is a Volusia County Environmentally Endangered Lands property. See protected plant and wildlife species including the scrub jay, indigo snake, and gopher tortoise in their natural Florida scrub habitat. Endemic plants found at Lyonia include scrub holly (*Ilex opaca* var *arenicola*), silk bay (*Persea humilis*), the threatened garberia (*Garberia heterophylla*) and the endangered Curtiss' milkweed (*Asclepias curtissii*).

1:00 p.m.

Longleaf Preserve Eco Buggy Ride

Old Sawmill Rd., 3 mi. east of the Ag.Center on S.R. 44 (left side), DeLand. Ride the Eco Buggy through this new county property for a close-up look at Florida scrub being managed for the threatened scrub jay, and see native scrub and flatwoods wildflowers and carnivorous plants in their natural habitats.

2:00 p.m.

J.R. Newbold Wildflower Farm

610 Old Hwy. 17, Crescent City. See beautifully cultivated fields of wildflowers on landscape fabric being grown for the harvest and sale of wildflower seeds.

 <p>Full Moon Natives</p>	<p>Conserve Water Plant Natives</p>
<p>1 mile west of I-95/Dunlawton 1737 Fern Park Drive, PO</p>	<p>www.FullMoonNatives.com Mon-Wed by appointment Thur-Fri 10am-5pm Saturday 8am-4pm 386.212.9923</p>



Join us!

We meet on the 3rd
Tuesday of each
month
6:30 pm
Sica Hall
1065 Daytona Ave
Holly Hill



For more information call
386..441.4962
or
386.235.0404

Visit our web site
www.fnps.org

27th Annual Florida Native Plant Conference "Conservation Cures by Yards and Miles" hosted by Paynes Prairie FNPS Chapter

Hilton University of Florida Conference Hotel, Gainesville FL

We will highlight Florida conservation successes and challenges and provide an educational forum for people interested in preserving unique parts of Florida

High profile keynote speakers for plenary sessions on Friday and Saturday

Concurrent sessions both days with:

- ❖ Current scientific research by university personnel and environmental professionals
- ❖ Homeowner track on using native plants in yards and local community landscapes
- ❖ Conservation track discussing successes and challenges of saving Florida natural areas.

Speakers will include members of: the Division of Plant Industry, US Forest Service, Florida DEP Bureau, Florida Trust for Public Land, Alachua Conservation Trust, Water Management Districts and professors from University of Central Florida, Florida State and University of Florida.

Other notable conference activities:

- ❖ Field trips to 15-20 locations highlighting native trees, shrubs and wildflowers led by botanists and local plant specialists.
- ❖ Native plant sale providing locally grown trees, shrubs and wildflowers throughout the event. We estimate 5-8 nurseries participating whose sales will add hundreds of new native plants to home landscapes!
- ❖ 30-40 Educational exhibit tables are provided for community groups and educators to display their environmental projects
- ❖ Workshops on advanced plant identification and biology with ceu certification available for horticulture professionals
- ❖ Friday Book Signing Social with local environmental authors and Saturday Awards Dinner



Paynes Prairie Chapter

P.O. Box 250516
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