



An Email Newsletter!



### **Pawpaw Chapter of FNPS**



### **Is Your Home Ocean Friendly?**

Our August 11<sup>th</sup> speaker was Ryan Mahler - Executive Committee Chair of the Volusia/Flagler Surfrider Foundation. He gave us many helpful suggestions to make sure we have Ocean Friendly Gardens. He brings his program to Florida from California. All people living along our beautiful coasts must do what we can to keep our waters clean. We already do our part with native plants, but now we need to consider other ways to keep pollutants away from the oceans and protect the life underwater. For more information :

<http://volusiaflagler.surfrider.org>

<http://www.facebook.com/vfsurfrider>

<http://www.oceanfriendlygardens.org>

Our Rodney Dangerfield (Plant that gets no respect) this month was the Saw Palmetto , *Serenoa repens*, offered by Mark Wheeler.

Does this plant look familiar? It does because it is the emblem for the Florida Native Plant Society!



Why would this be a plant that “gets no respect?” Anyone who has worked with its saw-like edges knows the answer to that one! But in reality it has many benefits! *Saw palmetto is also great for wildlife. Not only is it a host plant for the larvae of the palmetto skipper and monk butterflies, many birds and other wildlife feed on the reddish-black fruits that ripen from August to November. Practitioners of alternative medicine maintain that the fruit can help treat urinary tract infections and increase prostate health.* (University of Florida Extension)

### **WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH FNPS AT THE STATE LEVEL?**

Marvette, Sande, Sonya, and Danny Young went to the Board/Council of Chapters meeting at Fort McCoy on August 16, 2014. Marvette gave a presentation about our commitments to host the FNPS Conference in 2016. The Board learned about our contracts for a venue, dates, and how anxious the Pawpaw Chapter is to get started. However, we cannot proceed just yet until a committee reviews her report further. Sonya participated in a group working on a project known as Gardening 101. There was a discussion about FNPS producing pamphlets to help gardeners choose the right plant materials for their area. Danny is very involved in Land Management activities at the State level. Sande was there as an outside observer. FNPS is urging all members to access the FNPS website more and more. There is a great deal of information on the main website available without a password.

## Are You Enjoying all the Butterflies, Birds, and Other Critters in Your Yard? Consider a FNPS Landscape Award

Check out some of the other past winners at the FNPS website. <http://www.fnps.org/what-we-do/landscaping> So, if you have at least 75% natives, no FLEPPC Category I or II plants (no invasives) and a minimum of a 2-year grow-in period, you are eligible to enter for this award. Also, be on the lookout for businesses and schools, which may also be eligible for the contest. We would love to have a representation of winners to show our guests in 2016! But, we need to enter by the 2015 conference to do that.

Remember the Boston Tea Party?

After all that tea got dumped into the harbor, the colonists had to have something to drink. So, they turned to *Monarda didyma*, which is a cousin to our native *Monarda punctata*. The Oswego Indians of New York showed the colonists how to make tea from drying the leaves. According to Green Deane (July, 2013) Bee balm is the natural source of the antiseptic thymol, the main active ingredient in commercial mouthwash formulas. So, enjoy the leaves in your water while you sit back and watch the bees enjoy this plant of many names! (Such as spotted horsemint, bee balm, or Indian nettle).



## **Pawpaw goes to the Ocean Center for the Volusia County Home and Garden Show on the weekend of August 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

We were well represented with members sharing native plant information, selling books and tickets for our upcoming garden tour, as well as letting folks know about the Florida Native Plant Society.



Left picture includes Mary Jo Mercier, Jane Coon, Sande Habali, talking with Lee Kimball. Right picture shows Carolyn Kiel, Dot Backes, and Carolyn West.

Also thanks to volunteers Mark Wheeler, Bill Kiel, Sonya Guidry, Ellen Nielsen, Tom Colvin, and Kim Johnson for giving up part of their weekend to help out.

### **Pawpaw Members Treated to a Pre Native Landscape Tour**

On August 30 several members took a tour of the 5 landscapes offered in the upcoming October 25 Fall Landscape tour. The group worked out details such as traffic flow and parking.

### **Native Plant Landscape Tour, October 25, 2014**

Tour 5 homes in the Ormond Beach Area on Saturday, October 25. The cost of the ticket is only \$5.00 each. The tickets come in the form of a booklet, filled with helpful information. This beautiful keepsake was made available to us through the efforts of Carolyn West, Misty Mercier, and Stephen Bieniek. Special thanks go to Copytronics for the printing! Tickets are available now at the Pawpaw

meetings or on the day of the tour at Full Moon Native Plants in Port Orange, while supplies last.

As a reminder to all participants: Remember to bring water! There are plenty of good restaurants in the area in which to take a break between sessions. Some suggestions include TG Fridays, Genovese Italian Cafe, or Peach Valley. They are located in the shopping center at the corner of US 40 and A1A. Also, there is the Riverview Grill on US 1, right on the Tomoka River. Be sure to ask a Pawpaw member for other suggestions and/or directions.

## **September 8 Agenda at the Piggotte Center**

9-8-14 Agenda

Plant of the Month will be featured before the meeting, with a plant drawing. Tickets: \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Refreshments will be served. Books are available for check-out for members. Plant of the Month: Snowy Squarestem, Mike Duggins

Agenda for Business Meeting September 8, 2014 Piggotte Center, South Daytona

Refreshments: Dot Backes, Carolyn Kiel, Ellen Nielsen

### **Old Business**

1. Minutes (Gail Duggins) were delivered by emails. Any amendments or adjustments?
2. Treasure's report (Carol Hawkins) delivered by email
3. Membership (Barbara Kieran )
4. Refreshments : Thanks to Jane Coons for helping with refreshments until Kimberly's return.
5. Publicity/ Social Media (Carla, Paul, Stephen, David Anderson (*What's Blooming Now?*) Email Newsletter with thanks to Mindy Mercier.
6. Education/Conservation for Flagler and Volusia (Duggins, Mark, Carolyn)
7. Book Cart : Ellen Nielsen any new additions?
8. Previous Field Trips and Other Activities :
  - ❖ Board/Council of Chapters in Fort McCoy-Sonya
  - ❖ Home and Garden Show the weekend of August 22-Sande

Thanks go to Sonya Guidry for helping with the set-up, take-down and clean-up. Also, thanks to Full Moon Natives for the loan of a professional Event Carpet. We were well represented at the event thanks to Mary Jo Mercier, Mark Wheeler, Jane Coon, Dot Backes, Bill and Carolyn Kiel, Tom Colvin, Carolyn West, Kim Johnson, and Ellen Nielsen. Also, thanks to Jerry the Black Soldier Fly guy for representing us as a speaker. He spoke all 3 days.

❖ August 30 Home Preview Tour—Sonya

9. Landscape Tour and “Keepsake Booklets”- Thanks go to Carolyn West, Stephen Bieniek, Misty Mercier, and of course Copytronics for the free printing. Also, to Sonya for organizing this and getting it going.

10. Park of Honor- Carla

### **New Business**

1. Upcoming Speakers (Carla) October 13. 2014

2. Upcoming Field Trips and Events: Be sure to sign up

**September 20** paddle trip from JB's Fish Camp-Paul Rebmann

**September 20** Sugar Mill Gardens is having a Fall Festival—Do we have any volunteers to sell tickets that day?

**October 25.** Landscape Tour (Sonya)

**October Activities** other events are available. Sonya to report.

**November 8** Gillespie Museum Tour and Plant ID in Deland Sonya

**December 6** Dot Backes Trip to Sanford Zoo

**2016 Conference** Marvette

Refreshments for next month??

Anything else?



Saturday, October 25' 2014 –Ormond Beach Area:

**GARDENING WITH  
FLORIDA NATIVE  
PLANTS  
LANDSCAPE TOUR**



Seaside Gardens 9-12p Hammock Gardens 1-3p

**Tickets \$5 for full day of events**

Available at Pawpaw Chapter Meetings 904-863-5943

and on the day of the event at:

Full Moon Natives & Herbs – Port Orange (386)212-9923

or contact:



[www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org)

[www.facebook.com/pawpawchapter](http://www.facebook.com/pawpawchapter)

[PawpawChapter.Online@gmail.com](mailto:PawpawChapter.Online@gmail.com)