



# THE PAWPAW PRESS

Newsletter of the Pawpaw Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

## JANUARY MEETING

### Inspiration for planting, and a spur to planning

Pawpaw's first meeting of 2015 was greeted by an unusual winter rainstorm, but this did not stop members from getting together to talk about their favorite subject: plants! A DVD entitled *Successful Gardens Inspired by Nature* stimulated a discussion about native plant communities and what is going on in our gardens now.

The second part of the meeting featured Marvette Bagwell's presentation about Pawpaw hosting the 2016 Florida Native Plant Society



conference in Daytona Beach. A theme will need to be voted on by the end of January, so committees can start meeting and

planning.

Marvette has created a web site just for FNPS members to get on board and find the right com-

mittee(s) for us. So, go to [conference.fullmoon-natives.com](http://conference.fullmoon-natives.com) to see where your talents can be utilized! —Sande Habali



(Stefan Bloodworth/Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center)

## PLANT OF THE MONTH

### Florida anise, *Illicium floridanum* (alba)

The Plant of the Month was presented by Sande Habali. Florida anise is found naturally in the Florida panhandle. The other anise is *I. parviflorum*, or yellow anise. It is found naturally in Central Florida. Both plants are easily recognized by their anise-smelling leaves. Both like moist soil and partial shade and make good hiding areas for birds and other wildlife. The flowers of Florida anise are usually red, with the alba variety being white. Both types are considered poisonous.

## UPCOMING EVENTS: FEBRUARY

9

Pawpaw Meeting: Our Best Native Vines and Groundcovers and the Butterflies they Attract

14

Field trip to Moses Creek. Contact Sonya Guidry: [guidry.sonya@gmail.com](mailto:guidry.sonya@gmail.com)

# Activities? We have lots of them!

## **FEBRUARY 7 AND 28** **Park of Honor** **Work Days**

Come to the Park of Honor in South Daytona for a Weeding Party between 9:00 am and noon. Spend an hour or more. This is also a good opportunity for young folks needing service hours to fulfill their obligations.

**Contact person:** Stephen: 386-233-4017.

**Directions to the park:** Head north on James Street, which runs next to the Piggotte Center on Big Tree Road. Travel two blocks, then turn left onto Olive Street. Proceed on Olive until it ends. You will arrive at Park of Honor. Our native plant section is on the right.

## **FEBRUARY 9** **Pawpaw Chapter** **Meeting**

“Our Best Native Vines and Groundcovers and the Butterflies they Attract” will be presented by the FNPS Chapter Representative from Lake



Beautyberry Chapter, Jon Pospisil.

Jon grew up in Miami, where non-native tropicals were so easy to grow that he thought he had a green thumb. After being away from Florida for a number of years, he returned in the late '80s and found that he actually had a black thumb. After several years of frustration he went to the county agent in Seminole County (where he lives) and was given some information about native plants.

He liked the idea but not the plants themselves when he saw them in

landscapes, so he set aside his interest. Then friends in Lake County told him about the Florida Native Plant Society. He promptly joined and thus began learning about the many natives that make attractive landscape plants.

Jon has served as the Lake Beautyberry FNPS chapter rep for the past five years and about a year ago started a landscape design business emphasizing native plants.

## **FEBRUARY 14** **Field Trip to** **Moses Creek**

Moses Creek, a tributary of the Matanzas River, is one the last few undeveloped tidal creeks and estuaries in southeast St Johns County. The purchase of Moses Creek Conservation Area in 1994 served to protect the water resources, ecology and wildlife habitat surrounding Moses Creek.

Our two hour walk will take us through

flatwoods and scrub to reach a canopied trail as it meanders along the bluff overlooking Moses Creek. Note that this walk will be moderately difficult due to the uneven ground and length of the walk.

**Carpool:** Depart 8:30 AM from Publix (near Wendy's), Williamson & Granada, Ormond

**Trailhead:** 9:30 AM at Moses Creek Conservation Area's EAST Entrance, SR-206

**Contact person:** Sonya Guidry E-mail: guidry.sonya@gmail.com Cell: 386-690-1797

## **MARCH AND APRIL** **Future Events**

March 9th meeting: Native Orchids, presented by Mike Parsons

March 14th field trip: Hontoon Island, DeLand

April 11th Master Gardeners Faire: contact Sande Habali if you are able to volunteer that day

April 13th meeting: “On This Day: A Year in Photos,” presented by Paul Rebmann

April 18th field trip: TBA

April 23rd Earth Day Celebration: Ormond Beach City Hall Plaza, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

## **MAY 28-31** **FNPS Annual** **Conference**

Challenger Learning Center, Tallahassee

## **In Memorium**

The Pawpaw Chapter wishes to express condolences to the families of Scott and Fran Burdick for the recent loss of Scott's father, Gerald (Dec 29); as well as to their daughter, Lynette Good, for the loss of her husband, Mark, (Jan 9) after his long battle with cancer. We are indebted to Scott, Fran, and Lynette for their long combined years of service to this chapter as past presidents and long-term treasurer (Fran). Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Scott, Fran, Lynette, Hunter and Hayden.



### FIELD TRIP

## Dunns Creek State Park

Twelve Pawpaw Chapter members and friends bundled up to brave a chilly January morning to take a much anticipated guided tour of Dunns Creek State Park. This guided tour—headed by biologist Jason DePue in his rough-and-tumble work truck—was not for the faint of heart as it traversed deep sandy ruts, up hill and down, round a fallen tree, and through several surprisingly deep creeks to deliver us to Dunn’s Creek choicest sites.

In my book, Dunn’s Creek State Park, with its varied terrain and habitats, rivals Goldhead Branch State Park for its special treasures. Its 6,000-plus acres harbor high sandhill vistas, acres of newly restored scrub, rare seeps, tree-shaded ravines, pine flatwoods,

hammocks, as well as the scenic beauty of Dunns Creek itself.

In addition to the endangered gopher tortoise, this park also hosts a puzzling population of a rare False Rosemary (*Conradina cignaflora*), which is similar to, but genetically different from, the also rare *Conradina etonia* found west of the St Johns River.

Another highlight of the trip was the opportunity to observe a prescribed burn, a sight that would generally be off-limits to most visitors.

After the tour, eight of us stopped back by Crescent City to have a leisurely lunch at Three Bananas located right on Crescent Lake. Several of us can recommend their crispy Jumping Fish Sandwich!

—Text and photos  
by Sonya Guidry

