



# THE PAWPAW PRESS

Newsletter of the Pawpaw Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society: February 2019

## Cancellation creates opportunity to learn about scrub

The February program was a last-minute change due to a sudden illness of the scheduled speaker. Instead attendees watched *The Florida Scrub—Islands in Time*, an episode from the series *Expeditions with Patrick McMillan*, produced by the Clemson University Cooperative Extension in partnership with South Carolina Public Television. In this program Patrick explores the Florida scrub, one of the most unique and endangered habitats in North America. He takes a close-up look at some of the unique plants and animals that inhabit scrub and presents a geologic history that sheds light on how this habitat developed. This show originally aired on PBS in 2014. This program was originally suggested and links provided by Pawpaw member Renate Calero.

Annie Otto has rescheduled her program on the Tomoka Marsh Aquatic Preserve for the September meeting.—*Paul Rebmann*

## A partnership that is for the birds, in the best way

The Pawpaw Chapter is pleased to be working with Halifax Audubon to showcase how essential native plants are if you want birds to be a part of your landscape. At the local edition of the Audubon Society's annual Great Backyard Bird Count on Feb. 16 at the Ormond Beach Environmental Discovery Center, we shared a table with local "birders" to highlight the work Audubon is doing to promote the use of native trees and plants to encourage birds to our landscapes.

In addition to this event, we support Audubon by featuring some of the plants that can be found locally on Audubon's website as our Plant of the Month. Each month we learn about a different plant from a list we call "Flowering Favorites for our Feathered Friends."—*Sande Habali*



## Ponce Inlet gets a head start on Earth Day celebrations

Ponce Inlet's annual Ponce Preserves the Planet festival was held on March 2 at Ponce Preserve Park. There were plenty of vendors, crafts for kids, and free plants to give away from the city. Sharing Florida Native Plant Society information that day were Robert and Janet Cavuoti, Sande Habali, Amelia Evans, and Rose Pysh.

Ponce Preserve is a lovely place to visit. Just two days before the event Warren Reynolds and Sande Habali led a group of Ponce Inlet residents through the river to sea preserve with an

eye out for invasive plants. Amy Zengotita, cultural services manager for Ponce Inlet and organizer of the walk, told us of Ponce Inlet's dedication to getting rid of invasive plants in the city, especially Brazilian pepper. They are so committed to this goal that they will come to a homeowner's property at their request and properly remove the plant at no cost to the homeowner. They ask everyone to keep an eye out for these pest plants throughout city properties and report them when they are found. We commend the city of Ponce Inlet for taking on this task. —*Sande Habali*

## Blooms in winter? Yes!

Recent temperatures have reminded us that it's still winter, but that doesn't there aren't still natives in bloom. Stop by the Park of Honor and you will see:

Walter's viburnum  
Scorpion tail  
Dune sunflower  
Porterweed  
Tropical sage  
Mist flower  
Maritime verbena  
Firebush  
Spiderwort

*Some of the dedicated Friends of the Park of Honor at last month's work day.*



Better yet, join us for our monthly workday at the park. The next one will be Monday, March 18.—*Sonya Guidry*

## Upcoming events:

- March 11 (Mon.): Pawpaw Chapter meeting with Nick Giannola of Green Isle Gardens on pruning natives  
March 16 (Sat.): Plant ID walk along the St. Joe Walkway on the intracoastal waterway in Palm Coast Leader: Warren Reynolds  
March 18 (Mon): Park of Honor workday, Olive Street, South Daytona  
March 23rd (Sat.): DeLand Wildflower Festival
- April 6 (Sat.): Master Gardeners' Fair, DeLand  
April 8 (Mon.): Pawpaw Chapter meeting with David Schroeder from Evolving Landscapes in DeLand. He will speak on landscaping with native plants.  
April 12-13 (Fri-Sat): Florida Wildflower Foundation annual conference, Gainesville. For details: FlaWildflowers.org/symposium.  
April 13 (Sat): Lagoonacy, Marine Discovery Center, New Smyrna Beach, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
April 15 (Mon.): Park of Honor workday, Olive Street, South Daytona  
April 18 (Thurs.): Picnic on the Plaza for Earth Day, Ormond Beach  
April 27 (Sat.): Water Festival in Deland 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For details: volusiawater.org
- May 4 (Sat) and May 11 (Sat): Rugel's Roundup Citizen Science Project: Danny Young  
May 13 (Mon.): Pawpaw Chapter meeting with Paul Rebmann on Volusia wildflowers  
May 16-19 (Thur-Sun) FNPS annual Conference in Crystal River. For details: fnps.org/conference/2019  
May 20 (Mon.): Park of Honor workday, Olive Street, South Daytona

**Keep up with chapter events on our Facebook page: [facebook.com/pawpawchapter/](https://facebook.com/pawpawchapter/)**