



THE PAWPAW PRESS

Newsletter of the Pawpaw Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society: July 2015

JULY MEETING

Dealing with pests without chemicals

Kevin Bagwell of Full Moon Natives presented Pawpaw Chapter's July program on suggestions for handling "pests" in the garden.

He has a list of solutions for eliminating aggravating insects or

weeds using natural products such as vinegar, garden diatomaceous earth, beneficial insects, and (perhaps Kevin's favorite method) "pick and stomp."

The owners of Full Moon, Kevin and Mar-

Kevin's vinegar herbicide

Place one gallon of undiluted white vinegar in a 1 gallon pump sprayer

Add 1-2 teaspoons of liquid dishwashing soap (plain) Shake well prior to each spraying.

Apply directly to weeds on hot sunny day.

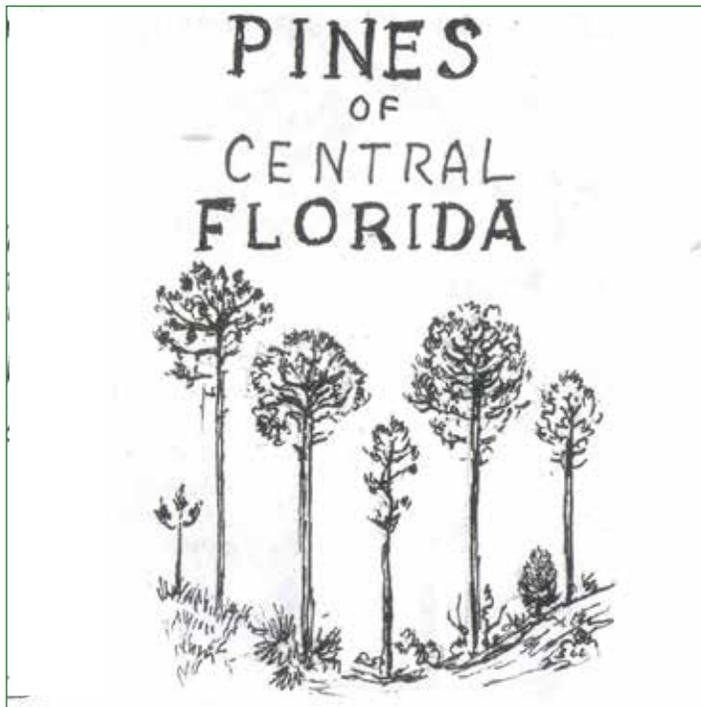
Keep spray drift from nearby desirable plants.

Multiple applications may be required.

Some recipes call for the addition of table salt—your call

vette, have come up with a variety of "recipes" to handle common Florida problems from fleas, to

snakes, to plant diseases. Visit fullmoonnatives.com for more information. — *Sande Habali*



PLANT OF THE MONTH

The sticky matter of pine identification

July's "Plant of the Month" was actually pines in general. Pawpaw member Dot Backes shared her expertise on pines.

She particularly focused on sand pines and pond pines, admitting they each looked similar in early stages. To help identify the five native pines found in Central Florida, Dot provided us

with a brochure she crafted in 2009 while participating in a Florida Master Naturalist program.

Dot utilized her artistic skills to illustrate this helpful resource and has graciously permitted it to be copied. Copies are available at chapter meetings or e-mail [Dot: fbackes@cfl.rr.com](mailto:DotBackes@cfl.rr.com)

—*Sande Habali*

UPCOMING EVENTS: AUGUST

10

Pawpaw meeting: "Native Bromeliads" with Jay Thurott

22

Plant swap and ID walk, Shell Bluff Park, Bunnell. Contact: coryi62@earthlink.net



JULY FIELD TRIPS

Cracker Creek quenches, inspires

Hot July weather did not keep 14 people from paddling the heavily shaded waters of Spruce Creek. Starting out from Port Orange's Cracker Creek canoe launch, the group was drawn upstream. They chose to move away from the sunny, open stretch of this blackwater tidal creek, which does its slow dance all the way to the ocean.

Instead, the call of overhanging trees laden with tillandsia, Spanish moss, ferns, and epiphytic orchids drew the paddlers deeper into the creek's quiet inner sanctum, moving them deeper into its mysterious swamp. Along the creek's twisting, low, muddy banks there were still a few cypress overlooked by loggers, as well as water-loving elms,

maples, and sweet gum.

Pop ash trees were dripping with clusters of winged seeds hanging out over the water. Swamp dogwood offered up purple-berried fruit. A few palms yielding to an early watery grave were sometimes actually colonized by other plants: water pimpernel, saltmarsh fleabane, and saltmarsh aster. Water hemlock, giant leather fern, white ghostlike swamp lilies, and even patches of slender woodoats were seen. Sadly we could not avoid noticing the encroaching presence of exotic wild taro (elephant ear), which has found its way into many Florida rivers.

As the paddlers found their way deeper through the twisting, narrow, tannic waterway, they were

It's a social thing...

Barbara Kieran and Peggy Yokubonus are special events and social planning wizards. They have been hard at work developing menus, venues, and surprises. At our Saturday night social we'll be showcasing one of our area gems, the Cici and Hyatt Brown Museum of Art at the Museum of Arts and Sciences in Daytona Beach.

The museum is more than a traditional art museum. It is a history museum, with the history of Florida told through works of art. The more than 2,600 paintings of Florida make this the most extensive collection of Florida art in the

world.

We've also extended the deadline for the logo contest. You now have until August 20, but that's it!

Entries can be in any media and should reflect the theme: "Native Plants are C P R for Florida Life! Conservation, Preservation, Restoration." The only requirement is that the artwork can be digitally reproduced in high resolution and is scalable. Send your entry to tc7@bellsouth.net.

Don't forget the amazing prize: a weekend getaway at the Daytona Beach Resort and Conference Center along with a restaurant dinner card.

—*Marvette Bagwell*



beset with more and more obstacles until all traffic was abruptly halted by a large fallen tree blocking further advance.

Though we didn't see them, Jill Williams of Cracker Creek spoke of manatee sightings just the previous day. We can thank sharp-eyed Marc from California for spotting the mother deer with her fawn, as they moved quietly through the shadows. All in all this shady dark-water paddle trip was a perfect way to spend a summer morning in Florida.

After an early lunch at Cracker Creek's picnic pavillion, Jill Williams switched her hat to Museum of Arts and Sciences tour guide. She took us by tractor-drawn tram over to the adjacent property for a tour of Gamble Place. (That would be the Gamble of "Proctor & Gamble," manufacturer of Ivory Soap and many other consumer products.)

The museum could not have found a better tour guide than Jill. She gave us the best Gamble Place tour and history ever! Her close proximity and connection to her own Florida roots nudged her into an ongoing deep research of the life that went on at the Gamble Place.

We toured the oldest citrus packing house left in Florida, as well as the more recent 1938 Black Forest cottage built up high on the banks of Spruce Creek, which very much resembles one from the Snow White fairy tale. It was an enchanting step back into time.

Our visitors from California and Indiana parted company that afternoon grateful for this unforgettable real Florida experience. For us locals, what a treasure is right here in our own back yard.

—*Story by Sonya Guidry/Photos by Sonya Guidry and Warren Reynolds*

In memoriam: Patty Bruda

Patty Bruda passed away on June 30th after a short illness. Although she was a respected master gardener, gave many seminars on gardening, and was loved by many, Patty is perhaps most remembered by the Pawpaw Chapter, of which she was a longtime member, for her great enthusiasm for butterfly gardening.

She presented several programs on butterfly gardening with natives for the Pawpaw Chapter and at Full Moon Native

Plant Nursery, and the community at large. By inspiring others to develop butterfly gardens she was ahead of her time promoting the need to keep the pollinators in our home landscapes, by providing both nectar and larval host plants.

Here in Volusia County, we have to thank passionate pioneers like Patty for getting home owners to entertain the possibility of replacing some of their boring sod for the diversity butterfly gardens can bring.

POLLINATOR DAY

Helping pollinators get some buzz

Pawpaw members were part of pollinator activities at Tomoka State Park in June. We were in good company with other groups also interested in pollinators and the plants they love, including the Audubon Society, the Florida Wildflower Federation, a bee keeper, and Chuck Teague with his amazing photos.

The weather was hot outside, but we were cool inside the park's air-conditioned recreation hall.

Visitors could visit various tables and kids enjoyed making clay seed balls with the Wildflower Federation and leaf stamping on small bags from Pawpaw. The bags were just the right size to

hold envelopes of donated coreopsis seeds from the Wildflower Federation.

Our own Paul Rebmann led a hike of plant enthusiasts, introducing folks to some of the native plants found in the park. In true Pawpaw style, the group took longer than expected to return! Pawpaw member Kimberly Jones reported seeing many interesting plants including *Ilex vomitoria*, sparkleberry, sand pines, indigo, coral bean and (sadly) red bays affected with laurel wilt.

We always enjoy our days at Tomoka and look forward to Tomoka Fest in October!

—Story and photos by
Sande Habali



UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual plant swap, walk

Join the Pawpaw Chapter on Aug. 22 for a plant ID walk at Shell Bluff Park, located about 15 miles west of Bunnell on SR 100.

Participants may bring two to three *native* plants to be part of an exchange or just come and learn about natives for our landscapes. Bring water and a picnic lunch. This event is free and open to the public.

Meet at Shell Bluff Park, or arrange to be part of a carpool, leaving Ormond Beach Publix parking lot on Route 40 near I-95 at 9 a.m.

Mike & Gail Duggins: (386) 439-3207 or coryi62@earthlink.net

To carpool: Sonya Guidry (386) 690-1797 or guidry.sonya@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

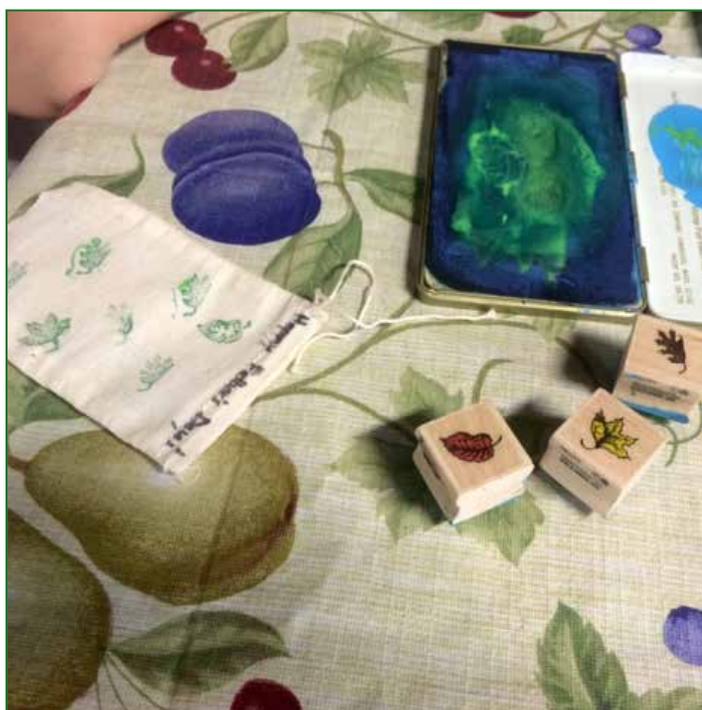
Mark your calendar

AUGUST 10 Pawpaw Chapter meeting, 7 p.m., Piggotte Center, 504 Big Tree Road, South Daytona. Native bromeliads with Jay Thurott, president of the International Bromeliad Society

AUGUST 30 Planning meeting for FNPS Conference in 2016 from 1-3. Meet at Zev Cohen's building at 300 Interchange Blvd. Contact marvetteb@cfl.rr.com

SEPTEMBER 14 Pawpaw Chapter meeting, 7 p.m., Piggotte Center, 504 Big Tree Road, South Daytona.

SEPTEMBER 26 Trail walks with Dr. Susan Carr at Clearwater Lake Recreation Area in the south end of Ocala National Forest, off State Road 42 near Paisley.



Our beginnings: a chapter takes root

A brief history of the Pawpaw Chapter as noted in a 2010 minutes report and recorded by Sonya Guidry.

The chapter's founder, Joanne Ash, was an Ormond Beach resident who ran a landscape design business, "Green and Growing," in the late 1980s and also served as the horticulturist for the gardens at The Casements.

In the fall of 1988 she attended a native plant landscape workshop at Bok Tower Gardens, presented by FNPS member Bill Partington. She returned with a burning desire to promote the use of native plants in our Florida landscapes.

In a matter of weeks, Ash advertised for folks with a like interest in native plants to meet, and then invited Partington to come and help her bring the first FNPS chapter to Volusia and Flagler counties.

The chapter members from Volusia and Flagler counties decided to honor a plant found only in Volusia County—Rugel's pawpaw (*Deeringothamnus rugelii*)—by naming our new FNPS chapter "the Volusia Pawpaw Chapter." The "Volusia" part of the name was an abbreviated way to distinguish this plant from

the eight other pawpaw species that grow in Florida, not as an intentional slight of the Flagler membership.

It wasn't until around

1992 that the Pawpaw Chapter became a 501(c) (not for profit organization) with pro bono legal assistance from Larry Marsh and the official

Pawpaw by-laws were drawn up.

Locally, the name of the chapter became known simply as the Pawpaw Chapter, dropping the "Volusia" to avoid the exclusion of our Flagler County members. Also, it should be noted that the Pawpaw Chapter was lucky to have had the office of treasurer fall into the hands of a recently retired university hospital comptroller, Don Lieb, who continued to serve the chapter from 1991–1998.

For several years, monthly meetings (open to the public), were held at The Casements' quaint little Riverbridge Gardens meeting house in Ormond. In time, the Pawpaw Chapter attendance outgrew the small building, necessitating a move to Sica Hall in Holly Hill.

The Pawpaw Chapter provided programs on native plants by presenting speakers, slide shows, and workshops. The meeting became a helpful forum for plant identification, plant exchange, and sharing of ideas. The Chapter's "book store" provided a variety of hard-to-find plant identification, native plant landscaping, butterfly gardening, etc.

A tradition of service projects

1993: Native plant section of Sugar Mill Botanical Gardens with Martin Wittbold

Spring: Tomoka Fest, educational exhibit

Everybody's Flower Show at Ocean Center, educational exhibit

1994: Everybody's Flower Show at Ocean Center, educational exhibit

1995: Install a donated red bay tree at the River Bridge Gardens site

1996: Install a native plant garden at Washington Oaks State Gardens

Restoration project at Lyonia Preserve's sandhills, planting scrub plants

Install native plant landscape along south wall of River Bridge Gardens house

Everybody's Flower Show at the Ocean Center

1997: Install native landscape outside children's library window, Ormond Beach Library

Weeding project at Dr. Norman's Pawpaw Patch in Osteen

1998: Pawpaw Chapter exhibit at Gemini Springs State Park

Pawpaw Chapter exhibit at Tomoka State Park

1999: Work party at native garden site at Washington Oaks State Garden

2002: Native plant rescue from June Lyon's residence, New Smyrna Beach

2004: Pawpaw exhibits Earth Day

Work party at Ormond Library, overgrown window garden

Exhibit, child's activity table and book sale at Sugar Mill Botanical Park

Native plant signage installation at New Smyrna's North Beach Community Park

2005: Pawpaw Chapter exhibit table, Sugar Mill Gardens

2006: Native Plant exhibit and book sale at Ocean Center, Everybody's Flower Show

Pawpaw Chapter hosts FNPS Conference in May

The list in the minutes ends here, but the activities continue...