



# THE PAWPAW PRESS

Newsletter of the Pawpaw Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society: August 2016

## PARTING THOUGHTS

# Heeding the call of new adventure

So I'm assuming that everyone has now heard the news that I've stepped down as the Pawpaw president. In addition, effective October 1st, 2016, Full Moon Natives will be closing the nursery. Why? Quite simply Marvette and I are ready for our next adventure in life. We are going to be relocating to the east coast of North Carolina to develop our homestead for the future. Although we have loved the fellowship and great people we've met through FNPS, it's time for us to move on.

I've been involved with the Pawpaw chapter from 2002 and have seen it grow and mature into the wonderful group of people that exists within the chapter today. We have so many activities, projects and field trips compared to a lot of the other chapters, and we're making an impact on the environ-

mental footprint of Volusia and Flagler counties.

Our chapter has organized two highly successful FNPS conferences and has a wonderful demonstration garden that's the talk of the town. It's really hard to leave a great group of people but we have a new adventure that awaits us!

So what happens to Full Moon Natives? It's avail-

able for sale to an environmentally conscious individual who would like to start up a nursery of their own. I'm willing to sell the name, client and contact list, inventory and infrastructure to someone that is interested. Just give me a call at 386-212-9923 to discuss further.

Marvette and I are really excited about the next adventure in our life but

rest assured we'll miss all of our good friends from throughout the years in the native plant business. We wish all of you the very best in your future endeavors. God bless to everyone.

—Kevin

*The chapter is so thankful for all you and Marvette have done, Kevin! You will be greatly missed.*

## CHASING PLANTS BEFORE A HURRICANE



Pawpaw members had some very successful botanical sleuthing at Canaveral National Seashore the day before Hermine made landfall, finding the endangered Curtiss' hoarypea, coastal indigo, beach spiderlily and silver-leafed croton. Check out our Facebook page for pics of all the plants: <https://www.facebook.com/PawpawChapter/posts/1082990235119280>

## UPCOMING EVENTS: SEPTEMBER

**12** Pawpaw meeting: Erin Miceli on the use of native plants at the Central Florida Zoo

**10** Field trip to Tiger Bay State Forest. Contact Kathy Crawford, [krcrawford46@yahoo.com](mailto:krcrawford46@yahoo.com)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

# Mark your calendar

**SEPTEMBER 10** Field trip to Tiger Bay State Forest with ecobuggy included. Contact Kathy Crawford for more information: [krcrawford46@yahoo.com](mailto:krcrawford46@yahoo.com)

**SEPTEMBER 12** Pawpaw chapter meeting, 7 p.m. Piggotte Center, 504 Big Tree Road, South Daytona. Erin Miceli, horticultural manager of the Central Florida Zoo and Botanical Gardens in Sanford, will give a presentation on the role of native plants at the zoo and garden.

**SEPTEMBER 17** Natural History Festival, Museum of Arts and Sciences, Daytona Beach, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Contact Paul Rebmann at [wildflpaul@earthlink.net](mailto:wildflpaul@earthlink.net) if you can volunteer for this.

**SEPTEMBER 23–24** Wildflower symposium sponsored by the Florida Wildflower Foundation at Silver Springs.

**OCTOBER 10** Chapter meeting, 7 p.m. Piggotte Center, 504 Big Tree Road, South Daytona.

**OCTOBER 22** 5th Annual Tomoka Fest, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Ormond Beach. Volunteers needed. Please contact Sande at [Sadehab@aol.com](mailto:Sadehab@aol.com)

## PLANTS OF THE MONTH

# Underutilized, adaptable elderberry

Don Spence presented Danny Young's Powerpoint program on Elderberry, *Sambucus nigra* subsp. *canadensis*, at July's Pawpaw meeting. Don feels this is a plant that may be overlooked by the average gardener as a weed, but once it blooms its real beauty comes out.

It is often found in the wild growing near wet, disturbed, shrubby areas. However, Pawpaw members have found success



growing this plant in drier areas, in containers, and even beachside! This plant is found throughout Florida and most of the Unit-

ed States. The plant is well-known because the flowers and fruit are edible. The fruits are made into jellies, syrup and wine. The petals may be eaten raw or put into

teas. But, stay away from the leaves because they are poisonous!

—Sande Habali/Photo by Shirley Denton/FNPS

# ...and always attractive anise

Yellow anise is a member of the family *Illiciaceae*—one other member of the family, commonly known as red anise (*Illicium floridanum*) is often used in native Florida landscaping, and another member of the family, native to Southeast Asia and China, produces the spice, star anise. (However, the family members that are Florida natives are poi-

sonous.)

Yellow anise once grew wild in Florida and the southern part of Georgia, but now it is found only in five counties in Central Florida. It is, however, widely available from nurseries. Yellow anise can grow to be up to 20 feet tall and will spread out up to 15 feet. The shrub does well in moist acid soil and partial shade

but can tolerate sunlight. However, it is not very salt-tolerant.

It is widely used in landscaping because it grows fairly fast, is almost pest-free, and has attractive shiny green leaves that release a spicy fragrance when they are crushed. The small yellow flowers are not conspicuous—*Illicium parviflorum* is not a showy plant, but it makes a great background for a border featuring layers of shrubs.

... Annihilating all that's made,

To a green thought in a green shade.

If these lines from Andrew Marvell's poem *The Garden* appeal to you, so will yellow anise.

—Ellen Nielsen/ Photo by Shirley Denton /FNPS





#### AUGUST FIELD TRIP

# Hot days, cool plants

At the chapter's annual summer plant swap, Pawpaw members learned about plants from those who grow them—us! We met under the cool of the Hammock Lane pavilion of Central Park in Ormond Beach to swap plants and stories. Then we were treated to a personal tour of the newly opened Central Park Environmental Discovery Center, where we met Lorene Hannah, who shared her passion for bees.

—Story and photos by  
Sande Habali

