



THE PAWPAW PRESS

Newsletter of the Pawpaw Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society: August 2022

July field trip: Boat tour on the St. John's River

Our river trip was a great time! Thank you to Warren for lining up Blue Heron River Tour for our annual midsummer water trip. We saw lots of wildlife and got some fabulous photos. Captain Josh did an outstanding job getting us up close to the unique fauna and flora which abound on this section of the St. John's River. We had 32 friends and Pawpaw members join us on this midsummer river excursion. The short shower didn't even dampen our spirits! The wildflowers seen in Amy's photos were the the red Scarlet Rosemallow (*Hibiscus coccineus*); pink Swamp Rosemallow (*Hibiscus grandiflorus*); and orange-colored Trumpet Creeper (*Campsis radicans*). And you'll find a selection of Amy's gorgeous wildlife photos in The Observatory section, page 3 of this issue.

-- Sonya Guidry



PAWPAW CHAPTER FNPS WELCOMES YOU!

- **Our meetings:** second Monday of the month, 7-8:30 pm. August meeting is on the 8th at Piggotte Community Center, 504 Big Tree Rd, South Daytona.
- **Our Facebook page:** <https://www.facebook.com/PawpawChapter>
- **Our website:** <http://pawpaw.fnpschapters.org>

Park of Honor workday

Thank heavens for a little rain since last month's work day. Everything was looking fresh and green. But the best thing about this work day was the arrival of fresh helping hands!! Sugar Mill Garden volunteers Hamilton and Torie popped in today to help us do some serious Fiddlewood pruning! Both of our new helpers are in school as well as hold down work-from-home jobs, but boy are we glad that they also love working with Florida native plants! -- *Sonya Guidry*



Two open chairmanships

Would you like to help promote native plants? Pawpaw Chapter needs to fill two chairmanships. Both of the people who currently hold these positions are here to help with instructions. Even if you're not an expert in these areas, it is a chance to learn.

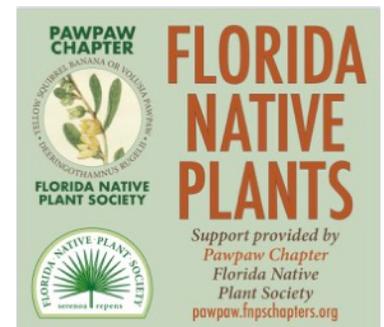
The first opening is audiovisual. This individual handles our Zoom and PowerPoint at meetings. We have a computer for this position.

The second opening is membership chair. This individual handles the computer record-keeping with FNPS and welcomes new guests. (If you want more detailed information about the responsibilities, a written description of this job is available.)

We try to give each chairperson freedom to make the position fit their strengths. Please email me at scanderson1946@yahoo.com if you would like to consider serving in either of these positions. -- *Susan Anderson*

"Sign" your good intentions to your neighbors

Neighbors may question your yard, or even consider your plants to be (gasp!) weeds! Now you can let them know you have a reason for your plants, with a sign promoting the Florida Native Plant Society and our local chapter, Pawpaw. Signs will be available at our meetings for \$20. Please bring a check, cash, or credit card to the meeting to get yours soon. Keep on encouraging natives and enjoying the many benefits they bring! -- *Sande Habali*



Upcoming events

Thursday August 11: Ormond Environmental Discovery Center native garden workday, 8am

Saturday August 13: Pawpaw Chapter Plant Swap, Ormond Central Park, 9am

Monday August 15: Park of Honor native garden workday, 9am

--> For details about the events visit our website <http://pawpaw.fnpschapters.org>

The Observatory



Top: The wildlife on the St. John's River field trip kept Amy Spies busy with her camera!

Bottom left (by Leslie Nixon): "I was out with my camera chasing a Monarch around the rosinweed and caught a bob-tailed lizard (non-native) along with it. If you just point and shoot enough, you can get some fun pics."

Bottom right (by Carol Hawkins): Echo moth caterpillar on coontie plant. Carol learned that this caterpillar is a bit of an icon in certain areas of Florida -- in particular the Stetson University campus, where they are popularly known as "Hatter-pillars" (a reference to the school mascot).

