



THE PAWPAW PRESS

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

What's in store for the new year

Chapter meetings and speakers

- Jan. 13: Dr. Emily Kraus of the FDACS Division of Plant Industry on air potato biological controls
Feb. 10: Stacey Matrazzo of the Florida Wildflower Foundation on edible natives
March 9: Jeffrey Kneisley of DeLeon Springs State Park on its native plant garden
April 13: Valerie Anderson, FNPS communications coordinator, on the FNPS mission
May 11: Linda Wilinski, Florida nature photographer
June 8: Nash Turley, UCF ecologist, on Lawn to Wildflowers
July 13: Jenny Nazak, sustainability educator, on Soil 101
Aug. 10: Linda Walters of UCF on Tomoka State Park restoration
Sept. 14: Danny Young of Young Bear Environmental on a homeowner waterfront restoration
Oct. 12: Don Spence of Bethune-Cookman University on Volusia County's ecosystems
Nov. 9: TBA
Dec. 14: auction and celebration

Field trips for 2020

- Jan. 18: Lake Woodfuff National Wildlife Refuge, DeLeon Springs
Feb. 22: Lyonia Environmental Center, Deltona
March 14: DeLeon Springs State Park, DeLeon Springs
April 18: Mala Compa Trail, Palm Coast
May 9: Hickory Bluff Preserve, Osteen
June 13: Haw Creek Preserve State Park, Seville
July 19: Black Point Wildlife Drive, Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge
Aug. 22: Ormond Central Park, Ormond Beach, annual plant swap
Sept. 19: Pine Lily eco-buggy tour at Longleaf Pine Preserve, New Smyrna Beach
October: Doris Leeper Preserve, Martin Dairy Road, New Smyrna Beach
Nov. 21: Lake Monroe Conservation Area, Reed Ellis Road
Dec. 5: Lake Harney Wildlife Area, Geneva
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A festive finale to Pawpaw's year

Our December meeting was an interesting change from our usual meeting format. This special holiday gathering featured scrumptious potluck entrees and fabulous desserts. After everyone was sufficiently satiated, a short business meeting was held in which chapter officers were voted on. Paul Rebmann agreed to be chapter president for another year. Leslie Nixon agreed to another term as vice president and program chair. Karen Walter agreed to another term as treasurer. We welcome Rob Bird in the secretary position.

Then the fun really started. Paul Rebmann and Don Spence took the role of emcees for our annual plant auction. Members contributed plants, homemade jams and jellies made from native plants, and even a set of coveted Paul Rebmann note cards. The chapter



contributed plants purchased from Green Isle Gardens Nursery. Rousing rounds of bidding netted the chapter a very successful fundraiser. The chapter was happy and the many bidders went home brimming with lovely new plants. A win-win and happy holiday for all.—*Story and photos by Karen Walter*

Conservation Committee issues alert on Volusia Forever

The Volusia Forever land acquisition and ECHO programs for which Volusia County residents voted to tax themselves in 2000 will expire in 2021. To get these conservation and education programs extended another 20 years they need to be put on the 2020 election ballot. With time running out, the Environmental Council of Volusia-Flagler took on the challenge. They formed a task force under Melissa Lammers' leadership and worked overtime with a number of environmental and civic organization volunteers to set up a strategic plan for the simplest solution: Urge the Volusia County Council to put these issues on the ballot for the citizens of Volusia to choose in the 2020 election.

At the Dec 30 task force meeting it was determined that they only had a narrow window of time to contact County Council members individually, before they met together on Jan. 9. The Pawpaw Chapter's Conservation Committee sent the Pawpaw Board of Directors and "Environmental Alert" sign-up members a request asking them to contact their county councilmen before that date, urging them to put Volusia Forever and ECHO funding programs on the 2020 ballot. Hopefully, by the January Pawpaw meeting we should know if these efforts fell on favorable ears. If the matter is indeed placed on the ballot, our task will continue as we inform our friends, neighbors and the public about the intrinsic value of the Volusia Forever and ECHO programs.—*Sonya Guidry*

For more information on Volusia Forever: <https://www.volusia.org/services/growth-and-resource-management/planning-and-development/land-acquisition/volusia-forever.shtml>

For more information on Volusia County's ECHO grants: <https://www.volusia.org/services/community-services/echo/>



Trash and treasures

Members of the Pawpaw Chapter spent the third and sixth days of Christmas picking up 15 bags of trash from our stretch of SR40 in Ormond Beach, but were rewarded with an abundance of wildflowers in bloom.

Need a nametag? Last call!

Our 2020 name tag order will be placed after the January meeting. This way name tags should be here by the February meeting. If you are a new member or didn't get a name tag last order and would like one, please put your name on the name tag sign-up sheet. Or you can contact Karen Walter by text at 570-350-5574 or email at karenlw72@gmail.com.

New members do not automatically get name tags, so please be sure to put your name on the list if you would like one. First name tags are free, but if you are replacing a name tag there will be a \$10 charge.

Keep garden looking good

Our portion of the Park of Honor on Olive Street in South Daytona gives the chapter a great opportunity to showcase natives for the public. Help us keep it looking its best by joining in a work day on the Monday after a chapter meeting at 9 a.m. The next one will be on Jan. 20. We'd love to see some new faces there.

Keep up with the chapter online at facebook.com/pawpawchapter/