



THE PAWPAW PRESS

Newsletter of the Pawpaw Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society: September 2021

Calling all candidates: Pawpaw needs you!

October is Florida Native Plant Month but it is also the time when the Pawpaw Chapter starts to think about its officers for the new year. Katie Tripp has had to step down as president and while Vice President Samantha West has graciously agreed to take over presidential duties through the end of year, her workload does not make it possible for her to continue in an officer's position next year.

That means the chapter will be in search of candidates for its top two positions. If you would like to step up, or have an idea of someone you think would be a good fit for either position, please let the nominating committee know by sending an email to pawpaw@fnps.org.

As the chapter has grown to 150 members, we are lucky to have a lot of new faces, and the potential for new energy and new ideas. We would love to have you get more involved.

Wildflowers get a chance to grow on SR40

Thanks to the initiative of Peter Sigmann, the Florida Department of Transportation has agreed to designate a wildflower area on both sides of SR 40 west of Ormond Beach from Breakaway Lane to Rima Ridge Road. FDOT, under the direction of Mark Keane, maintenance project manager, will put up wildflower signs in



November and Ormond

Beach will mow from the edge of the pavement to the right-of-way only once a year, in December.

This decision means the chapter will continue to "adopt" this section of the highway and conduct quarterly cleanups. The sighting of a pine lily during the September cleanup sparked our imaginations about what might grow when given the chance.—*Photos by Sonya Guidry*



Learn about Florida's asters with Craig Huegel

Everyone longs for the day when we can return to having in-person meetings and enjoy the excellent company of fellow native plant people, but one of the benefits of Zoom meetings is that it makes it possible to have speakers we could not otherwise have.

This month is a prime example. We will have a program, “Our Abundant Asters,” by Craig Huegel. Craig’s is one of the most well-known names in FNPS circles, his having been an active member for 25 years, during which time he has written multiple books on native plants and wildlife, including this spring’s “The Nature of Plants: An Introduction to How Plants Work.”

He is delivering the program as part of a special meeting of the Tarflower Chapter, but Pawpaw has paid an honorarium to have the meeting recorded so it is available to our members. We look forward to “seeing” everyone on Oct. 11 for what it is certain to be a most informative program.

Native Plant Month has strong Pawpaw presence

Florida Native Plant Month has gotten off to a busy start for the chapter, with the Hometown News interviewing Doug Hunt for an article that appeared on Oct. 1 under the headline, “Native plants bring beauty and health to landscapes”: <https://bit.ly/3B9Gyr7>. The same day, Lindley’s Nursery and Garden Center started running a series of daily videos highlighting native gardens in our area featuring interviews with Karen Walter, Dave Anderson, and Doug. They will run throughout the month. Things kicked off with Karen at the Marine Discovery Center: <https://bit.ly/3BgxnFe>.



Native plant sale needs more helping hands

Don’t forget that the chapter will host a native plant sale on Saturday, Oct. 23, from 9 am to 1 pm at the Piggotte Center, 504 Big Tree Road, South Daytona. Karen Walter can still use more volunteers, even if you are only available for a short time. She especially needs extra hands to set up in the morning. Email her at karenlw72@gmail.com. If you have already volunteered, look for an email from Karen confirming your participation.

If you are contributing plants, please bring them to the Piggotte Center on Friday, Oct. 22, between 11 am and 1 pm. Plants will be inspected at 1:30 pm. Please have all plants labeled with their common name and scientific name. And thanks to everyone for your plant and seed contributions.

Pine lily search finds few

Pawpaw members ventured deep into Longleaf Pine Preserve via ecobuggy to do a second-year monitoring of the small population of pine lily



(*Lilium catesbaei*) plants we rescued from SR 44 in New Smyrna Beach in 2019. Unfortunately, most of the wooden stakes were down and of the 13 small red flags, only two plants showed evidence of a lily leaf.

We knew from the outset that pine lily relocation would be difficult as this slow-growing species is very picky about its sun/shade and hydric environmental conditions. Craig Huegel says it may take as long as five years for the small corms to gain enough energy to send up a flower stalk. By this measure, finding any flowering pine lily in Florida’s wet flatwoods and savannahs is almost a miracle in itself.—*Story and photos by Sonya Guidry*

Show your support with an FNPS license plate

Support the cause you believe in and pre-order your Florida Native Plant Society license plate today. Proceeds benefit the mission of FNPS to promote preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida. FNPS needs to sell 3,000 plates to have the state/DMV start producing the plate. For more information, see <https://www.fnps.org/news/society-news/florida-native-license-plate>



Right-of-way project seeks seed donations

Former FNPS President Karina A. Veaudry, a landscape architect, is working on a project with Cherry Lake Tree Farm to plant a 400' long by 50' wide native plant area along a road right-of-way to demonstrate what it would look like and to teach the benefits of native plants to cities, counties, and developers. She is looking for seeds of:

- *Asclepias tuberosa*, butterfly milkweed
- *Scutellaria integrifolia*, helmet skullcap
- *Chrysopsis mariana*, Maryland goldenaster
- *Solidago odora var. chapmanii*, Chapman's goldenrod

If you have any of these seeds to contribute, Karen Walter will warehouse the seeds and send them all together. Email Karen at karenlw72@gmail.com to work out the details of exchange.

Mark your calendar for programs, field trips

October 11, Meeting, via Zoom, with recorded presentation by Craig Huegel (see above)

October 16, Field trip, Lake Beresford, DeLand; contact Warren Reynolds: warrenreynolds70@gmail.com

October 18: Park of Honor work day, 9 a.m., Olive Street, South Daytona

November 8: Meeting, via Zoom: Paul Rebmann on beetles and native plants

November 15: Park of Honor work day, 9 a.m., Olive Street, South Daytona

November 20, Field trip, Gamble Rogers State Park, Flagler Beach; contact Warren: warrenreynolds70@gmail.com

December 4 Field trip, Sugar Mill Ruins, Port Orange; contact Warren: warrenreynolds70@gmail.com

December 20: Park of Honor work day, 9 a.m., Olive Street, South Daytona

The Observatory

Leslie Nixon was lucky to capture the visit of a clearwing hummingbird moth to her beach verbena. Doug Hunt has been wowed by the profusion of blooms on marlberries (last month's plant of the month). Share your delights and discoveries by emailing Doug at shalehill@gmail.com.

