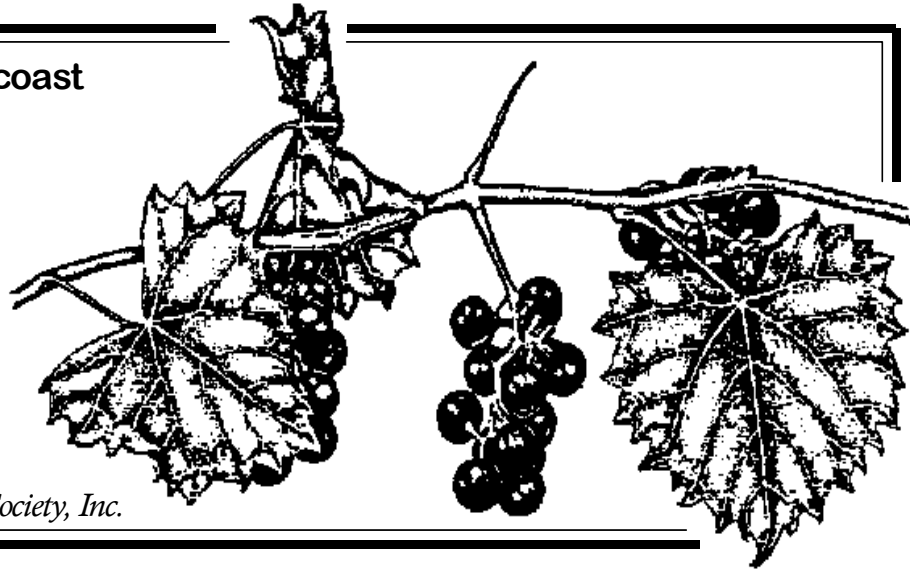


www.fnps.org/chapters/suncoast

The Suncoast Grapevine

Newsletter of the Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc.



Volume 20 Number 3

March 2003

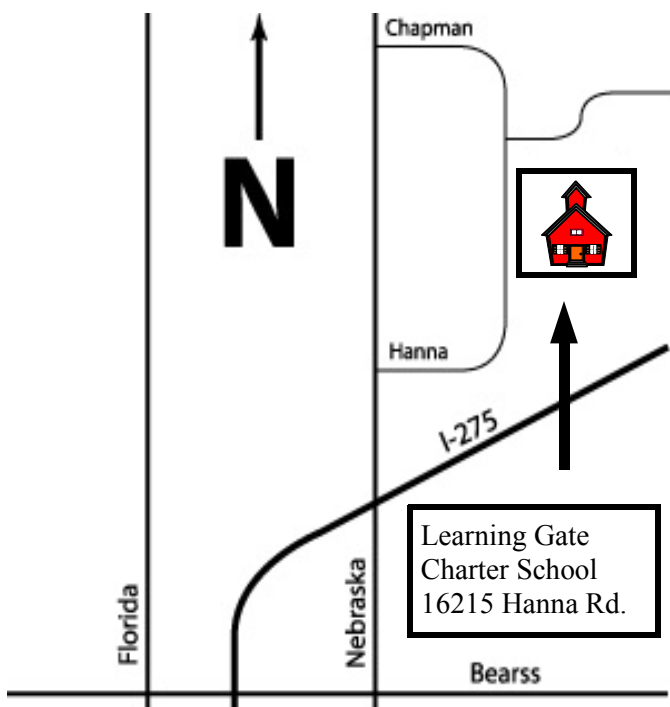
March 19 Meeting (at the new Learning Gate Charter School)

Tampa Bay Land Conservation Issues

By William Lorenzen

The natural beauty of West Central Florida defines the Tampa Bay area. Over the last decades, the pace of development has accelerated significantly. Today our region is experiencing growing pains associated with challenges to our natural resources.

William Lorenzen, executive director of the Tampa Bay Conservancy, will be addressing the March meeting of the Native Plant Society regarding various conservation tools associated with the conservation land trust. William is also past president of the Riverview Civic Association and has been involved in various environmental and community initiatives.



The Tampa Bay Conservancy is a regional land trust dedicated to protecting the region's natural, (Cont. on page 2)

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Message from the President

On March 12, I had the pleasure of listening to Suncoast chapter member Ardell O'Neal give a talk to the Sierra Club about using native plants in the landscape. Ardell did a great job of describing xeriscaping principles and the importance of native plants in landscape design.

Ardell, Harriett Wright, and I brought native plant seedlings and each member of the audience had the opportunity to take home at least one, small native plant. The audience response was great and many people asked questions about native plants. The audience's enthusiasm and interest in native plants was quite remarkable.

The continued success of our Society depends upon our ability to reach out to groups who share our interests, but also to reach out to groups who are unaware of the value of native plants and native plant communities. If you see opportunities for outreach, please make a commitment to teach others about the FNPS mission.

There are a three great outreach opportunities - the USF Spring Plant Festival on April 12-13, the Earth Day Celebration at Lowry Park on April 19, and Your Native Plant Questions Answered at Kirby's Nursery in Seffner on April 26-27. If you can help at any of these events, please let us know.

George Kish

Land Conservation (cont. from page 1)

agricultural and scenic heritage in Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, and Pinellas counties. A land trusts is a non-profit organization designed to help landowners and communities preserve natural and agricultural land. There are more than 1,200 land trusts nationwide. Local and regional land trusts have preserved more than 6.2 million acres nationwide for today and future generations.

-- Contributed by Harriett Wright



Drawing of *Passiflora incarnata* by Suncoast member **Susan Johnston**

Florida Native Plant Society Membership Application

Membership in the Florida Native Plant Society enables you to receive their wonderful quarterly magazine The Palmetto. Joining the FNPS also entitles you to membership privileges in the Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc. and a subscription to their monthly newsletter *The Suncoast Grapevine*. Contact the membership chair, George Kish at (813) 920-0853.

Detach and mail to: Suncoast Native Plant Society, P.O. Box 82893, Tampa, FL 33682-2893

Name _____

Business name
or organization _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Home telephone _____ Work
telephone _____ telephone _____

E-mail and/or FAX _____

New Member

Renewal

Check pertinent category:

Individual \$25

Full time student \$15

Library subscription \$15

Family or household \$30

Contributing \$40

Donor \$250

Not-for-profit

organization \$50

Business or

corporate \$100

Supporting \$100

Make check payable to **FNPS**.

Suncoast Calendar

Mar 19 Regular Meeting of Suncoast Chapter at the Learning Gate Charter School, 16215 Hanna Road, in Lutz. 7 PM

SNPS 2003 FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE All are scheduled for 9:00 am. Steve Dickman, 813-936-7268 for more information. Trails are rated moderate unless noted. Dates subject to change.

Mar 22 Hike Cypress Creek Nature Preserve

Apr 01 Hike Bullfrog Creek Scrub Upland Mitigation Park

Jun 21 Hike Alderman's Ford Addition Trail (Difficult)

Feb 19 - Mar 25 Jeff Ripple, Photographer
"Fakahatchee Natural and Cultural Landscapes," on display at Selby Gardens in Sarasota; Fee; 941-366-5731.

Mar 23 Birding at Shell Key. The St. Petersburg Audubon Society will meet 9:30 am at Merry Pier, 801 Pass-A-Grille Way, St. Pete Beach. \$1 for parking pass. Monique Abrams, 894-3256 & Joyce King, leaders. All birders welcome!

Mar 29 Volunteer Invasive Plant Removal Event,
Riverhills Park Addition ELAPP Site in Temple Terrace. (See article for more information)

Apr 5-6 The Herpetology Conference at the Sheraton Hotel in Gainesville, FL 352-392-1721 or flmnh.ufl.edu/natsci/herpetology/afhc.htm.

Apr 8 Focusing on Birds: Developing a Conservation Education at an Inner-City Nature Park, Oak Hall, Environmental Studies Area, 2900 31st Street S, St. Petersburg 727-893-7326; sponsored by Friends of Boyd Hill Nature Park.

Apr 12-13 USF Botanical Garden Spring Plant Festival. Call 813-974-2329 for information.

Apr 12-13 Sarasota Bromeliad Society Show & Sale at Marie Selby Gardens, Sarasota, 941-366-5731, ext. 259.

Apr 16 Regular Meeting of Suncoast Chapter at the Learning Gate Charter School, 16215 Hanna Road, in Lutz. 7 PM

Apr 19 Earth Day Celebration at Lowry Park. Contact Rheda Weeks at 813-234-5009.

Apr 19 - Jun 2 Epcot International Flower and Garden Festival; FNGA has a 1500 sq.ft. outdoor display that you may want to see.

Apr 25 - 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Apr 26 - 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Florida's Ancient Islands - Fifth Annual Earth Day Celebration interactive exhibits presented by local conservation agencies at Bok Sanctuary, Lake Wales, 863-676-1408, ext. 51.

May 8-11 23rd Annual Conference of the Florida Native Plant Society. Theme: SYMBIOSIS; THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIPS; Hosted by the Coccoloba Chapter. Visit www.fnps.org for information.

May 21 Regular Meeting of Suncoast Chapter at the Learning Gate Charter School, 16215 Hanna Road, in Lutz. 7 PM

Programs & Events at the FNPS Pinellas Chapter:
(Moccasin Lake Nature Park, 2750 Park Trail, Clearwater; 727-544-7341)

Apr 02 Butterflies 7:30 PM

Apr 19 Spring Plant Sale 9 AM to 3 PM

May 07 Forensic Botany

Hillsborough County Master Gardener Plant Clinics. Call 813-744-5519 x144 for information about locations or visit the website: hillsborough.extension.ufl.edu/calendar.htm. Upcoming clinics:

Mar 20 Poisonous Plants 10 AM

Apr 01 Get-Away Gardens 7 PM

Apr 05 Compost Happens 8 AM

Apr 05 Landscape Design Game 9 AM

Apr 08 Roses 7 PM

Apr 08 Basic Orchids and Potting 7 PM

Apr 10 Butterfly Gardening 10 AM

Apr 10 Tropical Fruit 10 AM

Apr 14 Vermiculture 7:30 PM

Apr 15 Florida Perennials 7 PM

Apr 17 Propagation 10 AM

Sierra Club Outings:

Mar 29 Paddle and Hike at Caladesi Island. Contact Hadrian Alegarbes for details at 813-866-1938 or sierraoutingstampa@yahoo.com.

Apr 05 Day Hike at Arbuckle State Forest, Rudy Scheffer, 727-726-9275.

**Welcome New and Renewing
Members**

- New :** Annette Lee Bezanilla
Kristie Gianopulos
- Renewing:** Mitch Almon
Kathy Beck
Joel Cleveland
Steve Dickman and Ann Delaney
Patti Girard
Janet Kaufmann
Ken Kwo
Bob Scheible
James Stephen

Thank you for your continued support
for the Suncoast chapter of the
Florida Native Plant Society!!

Suncoast Chapter Program for 2003

By Harriett Wright

- Mar 19** Tampa Bay Land Conservation Issues by William Lorenzen
- Apr 16** Using Native Plants in Landscapes by Richard Baily
- May 21** Show Us Your Garden by Suncoast members
- Jun 18** Florida's Forests by Alan Mayberry
- Jul 16** The History and Ecology of the Hillsborough River by Joe Murphy (combined meeting with Sierra Club and Florida Audubon)
- Aug 20** Florida's Black Bears by Syd Taylor
- Sep 17** Making Wet Spots Look Good by Craig Watson
- Oct 15** Does Compost Just Happen? by Ardell O'Neal
- Nov 19** TBA

Invasive Plant Removal Event

Saturday March 29, 2003 from 9 AM to noon.
Riverhills Park Addition ELAPP Site
in Temple Terrace

Help rid this beautiful Hillsborough Riverfront preserve of non-native invasive plants. Free lunch! Bring gloves and shovels. Wear long-sleeves and pants. Meet at Riverhills Park, east of 56th St., north of the river. Call Debbie Butts for more information: at 813-672-7876. Sponsored by the Hillsborough County Invasive Plant Task Force, Wildlife Fellowship, and the City of Temple Terrace.

FNPS Eco-Action Alert

If you would like to be informed of calls for action on a wide variety of Florida and national environmentally sensitive subjects, consider subscribing to the Eco-Action Alert List. Individuals act on their own, NOT in the name of FNPS. If you would like to subscribe to the Eco-Action Alert, please send an email to info@fnps.org.

Suncoast Chapter Budget for 2003

	2002	2002	2003
INCOME	Budget	Actual	Budget
Membership	1,000	957	1,000
Book Sales/ plant raffles	865	1,208	850
Event Sales	2,100	3,075	2,000
Royalties	450	480	400
Reserve	1,175	0	900
Total	5,600	5,720	5,150
	2002	2002	2003
EXPENSES	Budget	Actual	Budget
Admin.	400	313	400
Newsletter	2,100	1,777	2,200
Book Purch.	400	1021	400
Programs	600	572	600
Grants	1,200	600	900
Publications	0	0	0
Field Trips	100	0	0
Education	200	0	200
Donations	250	0	250
Library	200	59	200
Misc.	250	9	0
Total	5,600	5,206	5,150

PLANT PROFILE

Common name: Rain lily, zephyr lily, atamasco lily

Botanical name: Three native species in Florida: *Zephyranthes atamasca*, *Z. atamasca* var. *treatiae*, *Z. simpsonii*

Family: Amaryllidaceae

Plant habit: Perennial herb

Size: Flowering stalk app. 6-10 inches

Leaves: Grasslike, app. double the length of the flowering stalk

Flower: Six-parted, white, sometimes pink-tinged flower, solitary and terminal on each stalk.

Fruit: A 3-lobed capsule

Flowering time: Spring to early summer



Distinguishing features: The three native species differ in the lengths of style and stigma, the amount of spread of the sepals and the width of the leaves

Habitat: Moist flatwoods, floodplain forests and roadsides

Distribution: *Z. atamasca*: W,N,C; *Z. atamasca* var. *treatiae*: N,C; *Z. simpsonii*: C,S

Hardiness zones: Hardy in naturally occurring areas

Landscape use: Borders, massed, potted, accent

Light: Full sun to light shade.

Propagation: By seed, bulb division

Comments: Listed as threatened in this state

Water: Dry to moist. Drought tolerant once established

Availability: Some native plant nurseries

References:

Osorio, Rufino, 2001, **A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants:** University Press of Florida, Gainesville Florida, pp. 133.

Small, John Kunkel, 1933, **Manual of the Southeastern Flora:** Hafner Publishing Company, New York, N.Y., pp. 1027-1028.

Taylor, Walter Kingsley, 1998, **Florida Wildflowers In Their Natural Communities:** University Press of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, pp. 247.

Wunderlin, R.P. and Hansen, B.F., 2002, **Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants** (<http://plantatlas.usf.edu/>) [S.M. Landry and K.N. Campbell (application development), Florida Center for Community Design and Research] Institute for Systematic Botany, University of South Florida, Tampa.

Information compiled by Carmel vanHoek

Photograph by Shirley Denton, ISB Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants



The Florida Native Plant Society was organized in 1980 to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida. For more information about the Florida Native Plant Society, please visit our web site: www.fnps.org.

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Ameé Bailey 662-5954

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Harriett Wright 908-9398

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Lucy Hoyt 960-3178

Education

Betty Wargo 237-1509

Book Sales

Sally Sun 935-1312

USF Plant Sale

Sally Sun 935-1312

Conference

Ameé Bailey 662-5954

Newsletter Submissions

Deadline for the next issue:

March 25

Please send articles and original artwork for The Suncoast Grapevine to the editor, George Kish, by the **deadline** of each month (earlier, please, if not typed). Text should be in MS Word; graphics should be in a standard graphic format. Previously published artwork should be accompanied by a letter of permission from the original publisher.

Mail:..... SNPS, Inc.
P.O. Box 82893
Tampa, FL 33682-2893

Email:...gkish@tampabay.rr.com

SNPS Address

Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 82893
Tampa, FL 33682-2893



Meeting Location

Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc. meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the **Learning Gate Charter School, 16215 Hanna Road, Lutz.**

SNPS Web Address

www.fnps.org/chapters/suncoast

Grapevine Subscription

You may subscribe to the Suncoast Grapevine (not including membership in the SNPS or the FNPS) for \$10 per year. Contact George Kish at 920-0853.

Stamp

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