

www.fnps.org/chapters/suncoast

The Suncoast Grapevine



Newsletter of the Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc.

Volume 19 Number 1

January 2002

January 16 Meeting

ENDANGERED PLANTS OF FLORIDA

by Nancy Coile

The settlers and their descendants who found a paradise in Florida have managed over the years to alter it considerably. As their numbers increased, the numbers of many of the animals and plants that were here before them have suffered a corresponding decline. Today, by the reckoning of the Endangered Plant Advisory Council of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, 536 species of plants are considered, in varying degrees, to be potential candidates for extinction.

Our speaker for January, Nancy Coile of the FDACS, which, through its Rule 5B-40, provides for the listing and ranking of endangered plant species in Florida, will explain the process by which plants are listed and ranked according to the degree of their endangerment. She will show us slides picturing many of these now rare plants, and will bring free copies for us of the 2000 "Notes on Florida's Endangered and Threatened Plants."

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Deadline for newsletter submissions is January 25, 2002

Message from the Chair

By now you should have received the program for the 22nd annual conference of the FNPS in the mail. The conference will be held at the Ramada Inn North in Tallahassee from Thursday through Sunday, March 21-24, 2002.

The theme of the conference is Native Plants in Native Places: Botanical Treasures Off the Garden Path and the Magnolia Chapter has assembled an outstanding program of field trips, workshops, and presentations. Field trips will take place on Thursday and Sunday; presentations and offsite workshops will be on Friday and Saturday.

A discount for early registration is available until February 15. The discount registration fee for the full, 4-day conference is \$75.00; a 2-day registration is available for \$45.00.

George Kish

Suncoast Chapter Program for 2002

By Harriett Wright and Dick Wunderlin

Jan 16 Endangered Florida Plants by Nancy Coile

Feb 20 Backyard Expeditions – Insects, Flowers, and More by Carlos de la Rosa

Mar 20 Principles of landscaping with native plants by Bill and Nancy Bissett

Apr 17 Building a Backyard Bog Garden by Chelsie Vandaveer
(meeting will be held at the Learning Gate School on North Boulevard)

May 15 Native Plants of the Everglades by Roger Hammer

Jun 19 Journeys on Florida's Rivers by Gene Cleversey

Jul 17 Project GreenHouse – Sustainable Living in Florida by Brian Marc Schatz

Aug 21 Project Planning Using Natural Landscaping by David Connor

Sep 18 Plant communities in Florida by Bobby Hattaway

Oct 16 Come Into My Parlor – Spiders of Florida by Francia Smith

Nov 20 Using Plants to Clean Up Hazardous Waste by George Kish

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 address given below

Name _____

Business name
or organization _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Home phone _____ Work phone _____

E-mail and/or FAX _____

New Member

Renewal

Check pertinent category:

Individual \$25

Not-for-profit

Full time student \$15

organization \$50

Library subscription \$15

Business or

Family or household \$30

corporate \$100

Contributing \$40

Supporting \$100

Donor \$250

Suncoast Native Plant Society

P.O. Box 82893 Tampa, FL 33682-2893

Make check payable to **FNPS**.

Suncoast Calendar

January 15, 7 p.m. Florida's Salamanders by Paul Moler. Chinsegut Nature Center, Brooksville. Call 352-754-6722 for information.

January 16, 7 p.m. Endangered Florida Plants by Nancy Coile. Suncoast chapter monthly meeting at the USF Westside Conference Center.

January 17 2002 Florida Cattlemen's Institute and Allied Trade Show at the Kissimmee Valley Agricultural Center. For information contact the Osceola County Extension Office at 407-846-4181.

January 19 Dead River field trip. Contact Steve Dickman (813-936-7268) for details or sign up at the January 16 meeting.

January 19, 2 p.m. Butterfly Gardens for Your Backyard, Schoolyard, and Patio by Nicole Gonzalez at Audubon Resource Center at Lettuce Lake Park. Call 813-983-0258 for information.

January 26, 10 a.m. Sharpen Your Tools by Bill Herbert. USF Botanical Garden. Call 813-974-2329 for information.

February 5, 7 p.m. Florida Panthers by Chris Beldon. Chinsegut Nature Center, Brooksville. Call 352-754-6722 for information.

February 16, 10 a.m. Prune Your Crape Myrtle by David Whitley. USF Botanical Garden. Call 813-974-2329 for information.

February 16, 2 p.m. Xeriscape Basics 101 by the Southwest Florida Water Management District. at Audubon Resource Center at Lettuce Lake Park. Call 813-983-0258 for information.

February 20 7 p.m. Backyard Expeditions: Insects, Flowers, and More by Carlos de la Rosa. Suncoast chapter monthly meeting at the USF Westside Conference Center.

February 22 Tree and Landscape Short Course. Call Hillsborough County Extension at 813-744-5519.

February 22-23 Tampa Spring Expo 2002 at the Florida State Fairgrounds. Call Tampa Bay Wholesale Growers at 813-655-1914 or visit the web site www.tbwg.org for information.

March 21-24 22nd Annual Conference of the Florida Native Plant Society in Tallahassee at the Ramada Inn North. Conference theme is Native Plants in Native Places: Botanical Treasures Off the Garden Path. Call 561-462-0000 or email conference@fnps.org for information.

Every Saturday at 9 a.m. Brooker Creek Preserve Nature Hike. Reservation required. Call 727-943-4003 for information or reservation.

Every Sunday at 1:30 p.m. Buggy Tours at the Disney Wilderness Preserve . September through June. Call Kate Caldwell at 407-935-0002 for information.

Hillsborough County Master Gardener Plant Clinics. Call 813-744-5519 x 145 for information about topics, location, and dates or visit their website: hillsborough.extension.ufl.edu/calendar.htm.

Hillsborough County Cooperative Extension Service Rain Barrel and Water Wise Workshops. Jan 26, Feb 9, Feb 23, or Mar 9. Call 813-744-5519 to make a reservation.

Meet the 2002 Board of Directors of the Suncoast Native Plant Society

Ken Albritton is a fourth generation native Floridian (both sides of the family) and a chemist for the City of Tampa. Ken was Vice-Chair and Programs Chair of the SNPS for the last 3 years. Ken maintains a native plant landscape with over 150 species of Florida native plants (more than 12 are endangered species). Ken's landscape was the subject of a Tampa Tribune article in August 1998. Ken has written articles for the chapter newsletter and the Palmetto and he is a major force behind plant sales conducted by our chapter.

Ameé Bailey is a third generation Floridian. She earned a B.S. degree in Environmental Science from St. Leo College and is working on her M.S. degree in Environmental Science and Policy from the University of South Florida. Ameé performed lake assessments and data management and developed the web interface for the Hillsborough County Lake Atlas. She served as Ranchland Coordinator for the Life in Our Landscapes Grant program. Ameé bought her house in 1999 and has been methodically converting the yard to a native landscape (a slow process).

George Kish is a transplant to Florida from New Jersey and a hydrologist with the U.S. Geological Survey. While an undergraduate student (20+ years ago), he spent much time in the New Jersey Pinelands identifying plants and in Philadelphia's Fairmount Park cataloging canopy and understory trees and shrubs. George earned a B.S. degree in Biology from Drexel University and an M.S. degree in Environmental Science from Rutgers University. He has been the chapter secretary and serves as the chapter newsletter editor. He is also the SNPS representative to the Southwest Florida Water Management District's Green Industry Advisory Committee.

Fred Spriggs is past Chair of the chapter and has served as Treasurer or on the Board of Directors since 1994. He joined the SNPS, following wife, Sally Sun's lead, in 1993. Fred is a transplant to Florida from Michigan and he has been in the insurance business since 1977. Fred is a seriously competitive sailboat racer and an amateur cabinet-maker. Fred assists Sally Sun during the Spring and Fall plant festivals at the USF Botanical Garden. Fred and Sally have a yard landscape that is nearly all

native and they have received county recognition by being awarded a waterwise award.

Betty Wargo is a Tampa native and is retired from the Central Bank of Tampa. She has been a member of the SNPS for many years; in 1998 Betty received the Green Palmetto Award for Service from the FNPS. Betty has also been involved with the Tampa Audubon Society for many years and she is the Chair of Audubon Adventures (environmental education program for grades 3-6). Betty is the Finance Officer for the Learning Gate Community School (Hillsborough County Charter School). Betty likes to dabble in photography and she is working on a project through The Nature Conservancy at the Avon Park Air Force Range with Carmel Van Hoek. Many of Betty's excellent photographs of native Florida plants appear on the USF Institute for Systematic Botany web site. Betty has 3 children and 6 grandchildren and she enjoys sharing time with them in the natural areas around us.

Harriett Wright is a Tampa native, a fifth generation Floridian, and a retired high school librarian. In the early 1960's, she moved to New Jersey, where her interest in native plants blossomed with "plant rescues" in areas near her home where developers were clearing land. In 1997, when she was about to retire from her job and return to Tampa, Harriett stumbled upon the SNPS on the Internet and joined about a year before she actually moved back to Tampa. Harriett learned native plants through Dr. Wunderlin's field courses.

Dr. Richard Wunderlin is a professor of Botany at USF and one of the founding members of the SNPS. He is an internationally respected expert on the botany of Florida and is the author of several authoritative books on Florida plants. Dr. Wunderlin is currently conducting ongoing research on the flora of Florida (nearly 4,000 species) including the preparation of a comprehensive seven volume flora, a distribution atlas, and a synoptic identification guide. He is the Director of the USF Institute of Systemic Botany and is the co-author (with Dr. Bruce Hansen) of a comprehensive online database, *the Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants*.

PLANT PROFILE

Common name: Longleaf pine

Botanical name: *Pinus palustris* Mill.

Family: Pinaceae (Pine)

Type of plant: Tall, straight, taprooted, evergreen tree with wide, relatively flat crown; seedlings resemble clumps of grass.

Size: 120 ft. (H) by 35 ft. (W) at maturity.

Leaves: Evergreen needles, from 6 to 17 inches long, in clusters of 3. New needle growth resembles creamy white candles.

Flower: Deep rose-purple flowers turning to silver-white.

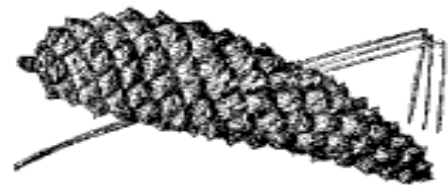
Male flowers grow in short, dense clusters; female flowers are inconspicuous.

Flowering time: Early spring before new needles appear.

Habitat/distribution: Sandhills and pine flatwoods; zones 8-9.

Landscape use: Specimen tree or for wildlife habitat.

Wildlife benefit: Seeds are food source for birds; crown provides cover and good platform for nesting birds.



**Botanical drawing from Florida
Division of Forestry**

Cultivation:

Soil: Sandy, well-drained, acid

Water: Dry to moist. Drought-tolerant once established.

Availability: Most native plant nurseries.

Comments: Grass stage is a period of slow growth while long tap root develops; it may last 3 to 10 years. After grass stage, the trunk develops and growth is rapid. Wood from this tree is known as yellow pine or southern pine and was highly sought for building construction because of its hardness and durability. Vast forests of longleaf pine once stood in Florida, but because of extensive logging and harvesting for turpentine, these trees have been replaced by other pine species.

Light: Full sun.

Propagation: By seed sown in bare, sandy soil.

References:

Bowman, Sheryl, Debbie Butts, Betsy Davis, John Marsh, Ann Nord, and Carl Strohmenger, 1997, *The Right Plants for Dry Places – Native Plant Landscaping in Central Florida*: Great Outdoors Publishing Co., St. Petersburg, Florida, 112 p.

Huegel, Craig N., 1995, *Florida Plants for Wildlife*, Florida Native Plant Society, Orlando, Florida, 118 p.

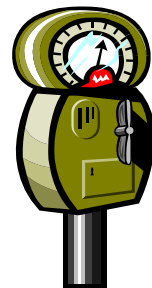
Osorio, Rufino, 2001, *A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants*, University Press of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, 345 p.

Florida Division of Forestry, 1997, *Forest Trees of Florida*, Florida Division of Forestry, Tallahassee, Florida, published online at http://www.fl-dof.com/Pubs/trees_of_florida/index.html.

Information compiled by George Kish

USF Parking Permit Required for Chapter Meetings

Parking permits are required - USF security is enforcing parking rules. Parking permits are \$2.00 and may be purchased at the main entrance to USF or at permit machines located along the west side of the School of Public Health Building. Permit machines require dollar bills or coins.



Directory

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Harriett Wright 908-9398

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Ameé Bailey 662-5954

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Fred Spriggs 935-1312

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Historian

Pat McDowell 949-4648

Librarian

Vikki Sinclair 989-2896

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Newsletter editor

George Kish 920-0853

Plant Table

To be announced

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Richard Wunderlin 977-6484

Harriett Wright 908-9398

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To be announced

Refreshments

Lucy Hoyt 960-3178

Education

Betsy Davis 973-8524

Book Sales

Ken Albritton 985-3372

Newsletter Submissions

Deadline for the next issue:

January 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

Meeting Location

Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc. meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Westside Conference Center, first floor, located on the USF campus at Banyan & Cypress. Entrance is at the north end of the building.

SNPS Address

The main address for communication is:

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

Any correspondence sent to this address will be forwarded to the appropriate officer or committee member.

The SNPS web address is:

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

Please deliver to: