

www.fnps.org/chapters/suncoast

The Suncoast Grapevine

Newsletter of the Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc.



Volume 25 Number 7

JULY 2008

July 16, 2008

7:00 pm

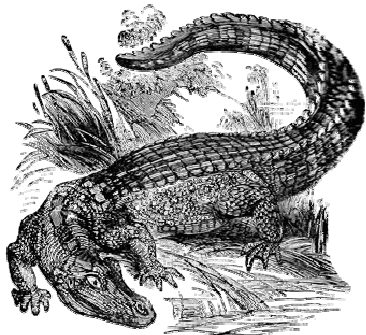
Hillsborough Extension Office

Preserving Old Florida

Presented by Jeff Klinkenberg

The annual joint meeting of the Suncoast Native Plant Society, Tampa Audubon, and Tampa Sierra Club will be held July 16, 2008 at 7:00 pm at the Hillsborough Extension Office, 5339 CR 579, Seffner. The presentation will be preceded by a potluck dinner, so bring a dish to share.

The speaker for the evening will be Jeff Klinkenberg. Jeff is truly a voice of natural Florida and is one of Florida's best known and most talented nature writers. Jeff has several books out including *Seasons of Real Florida*, *Dispatches from the Land of Flowers*, and *Pilgrim in the Land of Alligators: More Stories about Real Florida*. Jeff writes about all things Florida and integrates Florida's history, environment, culture, and people into compelling and memorable stories about the real and vanishing Florida. Jeff is also well known as the "Real Florida" columnist for the *St. Petersburg Times*, has served as the Writer in Residence for the



Florida Studies Program at USF St. Pete, and has received the distinction of being a "Road Scholar" with the Florida Humanities Council.

Please join us for an evening of great stories, fascinating essays, and memories and recollections of all things Florida as Jeff Klinkenberg shares with us his amazing array of tales and experiences gathered over years of exploring the backwoods, back roads, and backwaters of the Sunshine State.

Submitted by Mary Miller



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

SUNCOAST CALENDAR

To submit information to the Calendar, email Mary Miller: limpkin1945@verizon.net

Programs for 2008

- ♣ **January 16—Jennifer Roberts:**
Hillsborough County Invasive Species Task Force
- ♣ **February 20—Laurel Schiller:**
Landscaping With Natives
- ♣ **March 19—Rob Northrop:**
Forest Sustainability: Tampa Bay Watershed
- ♣ **April 16—Mary Miller:**
Bluebirds and Boxes
- ♣ **May 21—Phil Compton:**
Restoring the Hillsborough River With Native Plants
- ♣ **June 18—Sylvia Durrell:**
Dealing With Florida's Drought
- ♣ **July 16—Jeff Klinkenberg:**
Preserving Old Florida
- ♣ **August 20—Elston Chavarria:**
Florida and Central America: The Ecological Connection
- ♣ **September 17—Shirley Denton:**
The Zen of Native Plant Photography
- ♣ **October 15—Terry Zinn:**
Florida Wildflowers
- ♣ **November 19—Miki Renner:**
Relevance of Native Plants to Smart Growth and Low Impact Development
- December—No meeting.**

Field Trips and Events

July 26-27—Fakahatchee Strand.

In addition to viewing ghost orchids in bloom in Fakahatchee Strand, spend one day at Corkscrew Swamp. This will be an overnight trip and is limited to 15 participants. If you are interested in going, please call Shirley Denton at (813) 986-6485.

August 24 – Alderman Ford County Park. A moderate 2 mile hike to see floodplain and xeric habitats. Details to be announced.

September 20 – Photography Workshop. Practice your photography skills in an area where native wildflowers are in full bloom. Details to be announced.

October 11 – 12 – Fall Plant Festival, USF
Botanical Gardens. SNPS will sell native plants. To volunteer, call Sally Sun at (813) 935-1312.

A note about field trips: These trips are planned long in advance. Please call the trip coordinator to confirm the date, time, and location. Trips are free unless otherwise noted.

The Ghost Orchid

Did you know?

- ☼ The Ghost Orchid gets its common name because it has no leaves—only roots—and appears to be floating in the air when spotted.
- ☼ It was the subject of Susan Orlean's novel, The Orchid Thief, though she has never seen one bloom.
- ☼ Ghost orchids illegally removed from the wild rarely bloom. The orchid is a protected species and it is illegal in both state and federal laws to collect it from the wild.
- ☼ It's native to Southwest Florida and Cuba.
- ☼ Host trees include the pop ash, pond apple and bald cypress, maple and oak.
- ☼ It blooms May through August, with the heaviest blooms in July. Typically there are one to two blooms per plant, though there can be as many as ten.
- ☼ Flowers are white to creamy green colored and usually 4 1/2" to 5" in size.

Hotels near Corkscrew Swamp offer a special ghost orchid rate.
http://www.corkscrew.audubon.org/Wildlife/ghostorch_hotels.pdf

Information taken from <http://www.corkscrew.audubon.org/>.

Photos to the right: Roger Hammer, Brian Schuster

Monthly Plant Auction

Thank you, June Donors!

Remember, July is a joint meeting with the Audubon and Sierra Clubs. Now is the time to pot up something special for the auction!

Each guest will receive a complimentary package of *Coreopsis leavenworthii* seeds to plant at home. Also, if you've been planting this summer and have some extra containers, please save them and share them with our frequent donors.

MEMBERSHIP

New

Barbara Keen, Lithia

Renewed

Rob DeGraff, Plant City

Dan Duerr, Odessa

Linda and Cliff Fairbanks, Tampa

Margaret Funk, Seffner

Bev Griffiths, Riverview

Marilyn Lewis, Tampa

Fred Spriggs and Sally Sun, Tampa

Eddie Wall, Tampa

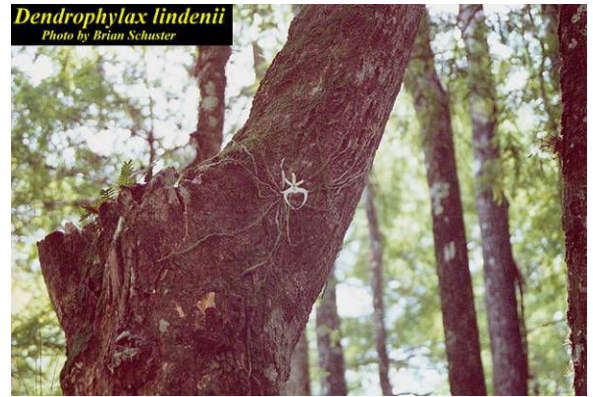
Betty Wargo, Tampa



Dendrophylax lindenii
Photo by Brian Schuster



Dendrophylax lindenii
Photo and © by Roger Hammer
Wildflowers of the Everglades



Dendrophylax lindenii
Photo by Brian Schuster

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 Florida Native Plant Society and a subscription to their monthly newsletter *The Suncoast Grapevine*. Contact the membership chair, Harriett Wright, at 908-9398.

New Member Renewal

Name _____

Business name or organization _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Home phone _____ Email _____

Check pertinent category:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Member/Gift \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Not-for-profit organization \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/Renewal \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business or corporate \$125 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full time student \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library subscription \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Donor \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family or household \$50 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$75 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life \$1,000 | |

Make check payable to **FNPS.**

Detach and mail to:

**Suncoast Chapter of
Florida Native Plant Society, Inc
P.O. Box 1158
Seffner, FL 33583-1158**

Activities & Committee Chairs

Field Trips

Shirley Denton 986-6485

Publications

Dick Wunderlin 977-6484

George Kish 920-0853

Librarian

Vikki Sinclair 989-2896

Membership

Harriett Wright 908-9398

Newsletter Editor

Shawna Everidge 757-9289

Mike Fite, Assistant 977-0892

Programs and Publicity

Mary Miller 960-8132

Outreach

Troy Springer 967-4538

Book Sales

Sally Sun 935-1312

USF Plant Sale

Sally Sun 935-1312

USF Botanical Garden Liaison

Kim Hutton 974-2329

Chapter Representative

James Wheeler 571-5865



Newsletter Submissions

Deadline for the next issue:

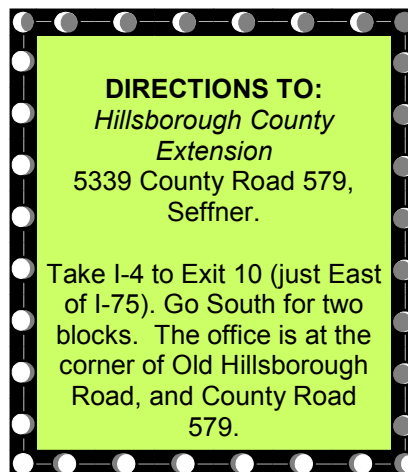
AUG 1

Please send articles and original artwork for The Suncoast Grapevine to **Shawna Everidge**, by the **deadline** of this month. Text should be in MS

Word; graphics should be in a standard graphic format (.jpg, .bmp, .gif). Previously published artwork should be accompanied by a letter of permission from the original publisher.

Email...

severidge@plantcitygov.com



Meeting Locations

Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc. meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the **Hillsborough Extension office in Seffner.**

SNPS Web Address:

www.fnps.org/chapters/suncoast



Officers & Board of Directors

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Harriett Wright 908-9398

Vice-president

Mary Miller 960-8132

Secretary

Margo Funk 654-5611

Treasurer

John Miller 960-8132

Board Members

Mary Miller

Harriett Wright

Margo Funk

John Miller

James Wheeler

Troy Springer

Shirley Denton

The SNPS BOD meets regularly.

Call Harriett Wright for exact locations.



Suncoast Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 1158
Seffner, FL 33583-1158

Club logo:
"Beach Sunflower"
Helianthus debilis

Please deliver to: