



Rhexia

Paynes Prairie Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society
January 2003

New Meeting Place, New Meeting Day Kanapaha Botanical Gardens - 2nd Tuesdays

Beginning Tuesday, January 14, 2003 we will be meeting at Summer House at Kanapaha Gardens, 4700 SW 58 Drive (off SE Archer Road about 1 mile east of the I-75 overpass).

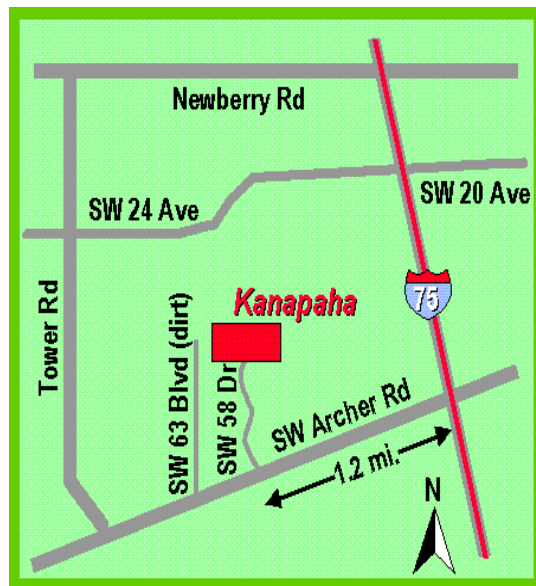
Summer House is a beautiful addition to Kanapaha Gardens. Garden director Don Goodman and his assistant Barbara Bennett have invited Gainesville botanical groups to share it as a meeting place. Our usual meeting day of second Thursdays was not available however, so we are changing to the **second Tuesday of each month**.

The Matheson Historical Center has been very generous in letting us meet

downtown, but our membership attendance has outgrown the building and parking area.

We will continue to use the Matheson Center for small planning meetings and special events. We will also continue to support their efforts in establishing garden space behind the center.

Thanks to the Matheson staff and directors for sharing their beautiful facility for our past meetings. We hope all of you will continue to support the Alachua County Historical Society and plan to visit the Matheson Center's changing exhibits year-round.



(Map courtesy of the University of Florida Astronomy Club)

Calling all Volunteers! The 4th Annual Great Air Potato Round Up

The Fourth Annual Great Air Potato Round Up is Saturday, February 1, 2003, from 9am-1pm. The event is part of Invasive Plant Awareness Week sponsored by *G.E.A.R.* (Gainesville's Ecosystems At Risk) and several area businesses and organizations.

Last year 800 volunteers collected seven tons of air potatoes and other invasive plants from 21 nature park and creek connection sites. The event is modeled after popular litter clean-up efforts with the distinction that participants will be picking up tubers of the invasive plant air potato (*Dioscorea bulbifera*) from local nature parks instead of trash.

This year's event will be expanded

to include local neighborhoods and businesses. Participants will receive a FREE T-shirt for their efforts. Following the round up, a celebration festival will be held with food, live entertainment, guest speakers, and a drawing for great prizes. In addition, prizes will be awarded for largest and



the most unusual potato.

Invasive plants pose a serious threat to Florida's natural communities. The Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council estimates that more natural areas are lost to invasive plants than to development. *G.E.A.R.* is fighting for the survival of Gainesville's natural areas and needs the commitment of individuals and organizations such as the Florida Native Plant Society to succeed. A few hours of your time on one day of the year can have a significant impact.

Don't be a couch potato! Contact Nature Operations for more information and to pre-register your group. Phone: 334-2231 or email: palmerml@ci.gainesville.fl.us Web-site: www.natureoperations.org

From the Editor:

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and are looking forward to a healthy, prosperous, and productive new year.

Our campaign to save money on newsletter expenses is working! I'm happy to report that 42 of you have signed up to receive the Rhexia via email, saving the Chapter about \$35 this month.

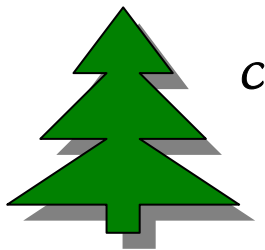
Why not give it a try? See what the Rhexia looks like in color! All you have to do is send Goldie an email at afn49@mindspring.com and ask her to add your name to the list.

If you decide you don't like it, Goldie, Alice, and I will be glad to switch you back to the hard copy list.

Thanks for the encouragement you've given me as your new Editor. I'm looking forward to finding new and interesting ways to spread the word about FNPS goals, activities and accomplishments. Join the team by sharing your ideas, articles, and artwork.

Hope to hear from you soon -

Karen



Caring for Creation Corner

by Peggy Lantz

Did you know each ton of paper recycled and reused saves:

- 17 trees
- 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space
- 7,100 gallons of fresh water, and
- 4,100 kilowatt hours of energy

What can you do?

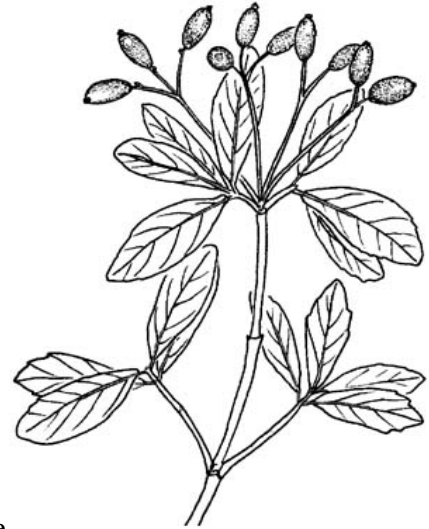
- Buy recycled paper for your computer and copier
- Ask your printer to use recycled paper for your printing project
- Recycle your newspapers, telephone books, office paper, junk mail, cardboard, and paste board
- Sign up for the email version of the Rhexia!

Program Notes: Tuesday, January 14, 2003, 7:30pm Native Shrubs for Cultivation in Central Florida Speaker: Dr. David Hall

Dr. Hall is the former curator of the University of Florida Herbarium and currently runs his own consulting agency that specializes in preservation and mitigation surveys and plant identification seminars for environmental specialists.

His talk will focus on particularly attractive shrubs that can be planted in our region. He will talk about local habitats for which the plants are best suited, identification features and particular attributes such as colorful flowers or attractive foliage.

Please join us for a very informative talk!



Walter's Viburnum (*Viburnum obovatum*)
Courtesy of Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection
<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/wetlands/delineation/illustr/vibovo.htm>

Plant Identification Workshop – before the meeting at 6pm

What: The Plant ID Workshop is a Paynes Prairie Chapter forum to teach plant identification using plant keys and taxonomic information in an informal setting. It is not necessary to bring plant samples in; there are always lots of new plants for everyone to learn. If you do decide to bring a plant to share and identify, please bring leaves still attached to a stem or branch, flowers and fruit if possible.

Who: Everyone's invited. Typically there are beginners and amateur botanists.

Why: The workshop is not a plant ID service. We encourage and help beginners learn the process and tools of plant ID. There are generally plenty of books available for participants, but you may bring books you prefer to use.

If you do bring plant material, please bring a newspaper or something to contain a potential cleanup problem.

January Field Trip - Dudley Farm Ardisia Removal Saturday, January 18, 2003, 9am - Noon; Farm tour: Noon - 1pm

Dudley Farm State Park is a beautiful turn of the century farm. It contains original farmhouse and outbuildings used by the Dudley Family and it is being preserved by the park system as a working farm.

Some of the farm property has been invaded by exotic pest plants and the Native Plant Society and other civic groups have helped eradicate those for the last 3 years.

We have almost succeeded in entirely removing the coral ardisia from the sinkhole area and hope to put an end to it this January. The work is easy—pulling up small plants and removing berries from the site.

Wear work clothes, gloves and shoes. Bring your favorite digging tool and clipper if possible. Bring water and your lunch and we will tour the farm with those who wish to stay after noon.

Directions from Oaks Mall area: From I-75 overpass go west 7 miles on Highway 26 (Newberry Rd.) toward Newberry. At the intersection of Highway 26 and SR 241 you are 1 mile from Dudley Farm. Look for the green sign "Newberry City Limits" and turn right on the road which leads to farm. Look for a Dudley Farm sign. (If you see Canterbury Horse Farm you've gone too far.)

Questions or rain cancellation: Call Claudia (352) 466-3880 before 8am.

Field Trip Report: Ichetucknee Springs State Park

Saturday November 16, 2002

By Erick D. Smith

Ten hardy souls met at the headspring of the Ichetucknee River for a leisurely walk through mesic hardwood and upland pine forests. The beautiful Florida Maple (*Acer saccharum subsp. floridanum*) was ubiquitous near the spring run with large specimens as well as lots of small ones in the understory.

In addition, Red Bay (*Persea borbonia var. borbonia*), Dogwoods (*Cornus florida*, & *C. asperfolia*), 'Hearts a Bustin' (*Euonymus americanus*) and Gum Bumelia (*Sideroxylon lanuginosum*) caught our attention. As the path turned away from the river we passed several large open phosphate quarries. These have been abandoned for many years and are revegetating nicely.

We rose slightly in elevation as we approached the sandhill area and the Mockernut Hickory (*Carya tomentosa*) greeted us with its golden brown and yellow fall colors. There was a clear demarcation between the invading hardwoods and the intact sandhill system.

The State Park Biologists have an active burning program and are gradually extending and restoring the sandhill area. The herbaceous and annual groundcover species immediately became the focus of our attention. Scaleleaf Aster (*Aster adnatus*), Nailworts (*Paronychia sp.*), and the lovely Piney Woods Dropseed (*Sporobolus junceus*) were identified and appreciated by all. Small Chinkapins (*Castanea pumila*) growing in the trail were just coming into bloom with a slender white spike of flowers.

At this point, the fact that all of us had brought our raincoats did not deter the rain gods from letting loose. The leisurely pace picked up a bit as we looped back towards the river. And then as it really opened up into a frog choker, all thoughts of a picnic lunch at the headspring dispersed as quickly as we did when we reached the parking area.

FNPS Annual Conference in May Awards Application Deadlines in March

Start planning now to attend the 23rd Annual Conference of the Florida Native Plant Society May 8-11, 2003 in Ft. Meyers. The conference, Symbiosis; The Power of Partnerships is being hosted by the Coccoloba Chapter. For more information, go to the FNPS website at www.fnps.org.

At the annual conference, The Florida Native Plant Society presents the Palmetto Award to distinguished members for their work for native plants and FNPS. If you would like to nominate a chapter or member or mentor for one of FNPS's awards, contact Kim Zarillo at KearthwalkZ@aol.com.



FNPS also honors winners in the Design With Natives 2003 Landscape Awards Program for the best native plant landscapes. First and second-place winners will receive a complimentary two-day conference registration.

If you have a home or business site landscaped primarily with native plants, you can apply for one of the landscape awards. The deadline for applications is March 10, 2003. The application and information can be found on the FNPS website.

Natives	Aquifoliaceae	<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	Yaupon
	Asteraceae	<i>Bidens laevis</i>	Burrmarigold
		<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada Goldenrod
		<i>Acmella oppositifolia</i>	Oppositeleaf spotflower
		<i>Aster elliotii</i>	Elliott's Aster
		<i>Ageratina jucunda</i>	Hammock Snakeroot
		<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>	Groundsel Tree
		<i>Pityopsis sp.</i>	Goldenaster, Silkgrass
	Bignoniaceae	<i>Bignonia Capreolata</i>	Crossvine
	Celastraceae	<i>Euonymus americanus</i>	American Strawberrybush
	Clusiaceae	<i>Hypericum hypericoides</i>	St. Andrew's Cross
	Ericaceae	<i>Agarista populifolia</i>	Florida Hobblebush
	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Chamaesyce hypericifolia</i>	Graceful Sandmat
	Hamamelidaceae	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	American Witchhazel
	Juglandaceae	<i>Carya illinoensis</i>	Pecan
	Oleaceae	<i>Ximenia americana</i>	Tallow wood, Hog Plum
	Poaceae	<i>Setaria parviflora</i>	Knotroot Foxtail
	Ranunculaceae	<i>Clematis virginiana</i>	Virginsbower
Rosaceae	<i>Prunus caroliniana</i>	Carolina Laurelcherry	
Scrophulariaceae	<i>Agalinis sp.</i>	False Foxglove	
Solanaceae	<i>Physalis sp.</i>	Groundcherry	
Theaceae	<i>Gordonia lasianthus</i>	Loblolly Bay	
Vitaceae	<i>Ampelopsis arborea</i>	Peppervine	
Exotics	Convolvulaceae	<i>Merremia dissecta</i>	Noyau Vine
	Poaceae	<i>Rhynchelytrum repens</i>	Rose Natalgrass
	Verbenaceae	<i>Stachytarpheta mutabilis</i>	Coral Porter Weed
	Fabaceae	<i>Delonix regia</i>	Royal Poinciana

Combined November & December Plant ID Workshop Report

By Paul Cohen

Setaria parviflora (Knotrootfoxtail) is listed as a major food source for the Mourning Dove, Bobwhite Quail, Redwing Blackbird, Bobolink, Painted Bunting, Eastern Meadowlark, and several Sparrows by A. Martin, H. Zim, and A. L. Nelson in *American Wildlife and Plants: A Guide to Wildlife Food Habits*, Dover Publications, New York, 1951.

Nomenclature based on *Guide to Vascular Plants of Florida* by Richard P. Wunderlin, University Press of Florida, 1998.

ID workshops are held prior to each monthly meeting at 6pm.

Special thanks to all those who participated in the workshop.

Florida Native Plant Society
 Paynes Prairie Chapter
 Post Office Box 110670
 Gainesville, FL 32611

**A Happy
 New
 Year!**

2003 Winter/Spring Schedule

Meetings: *Beginning in January, meetings will be held on second Tuesdays at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens.*

Kanapaha Botanical Gardens: Tuesdays, 7:30 pm

January 14, 2003 Native Shrubs for Central FL Dr. David Hall
 February 11, 2003 Celebrating Bluebirds Karen Ahlers
 March 11, 2003 April 8, 2003 May 13, 2003

Field Trips:

Jan. 18, 2003 Ardisia Removal - Historic Dudley Farm
 Feb. 15, 2003 Orange Creek Restoration Area
 March 16, 2003 Suwanee River Azaleas

Events:

February 1, 2003 4th Annual Great Air Potato Roundup
 March 1, 2003 Animal Fair FL Museum of Natural History
 March 10, 2003 Deadline for Native Landscape Awards
 March 29-30, 2003 Kanapaha Spring Festival
 April 11-12, 2003 Spring Native Plant Sale - Morningside
 May 8-11, 2003 FNPS Annual Conference, Ft. Myers

**Paynes Prairie Chapter
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The *Rhexia* is published by the Paynes Prairie Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society. The purpose of the Florida Native Plant Society is the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

See our website at www.fnps.org.

Florida Native Plant Society Membership Form

Name: _____ Check pertinent category:

Address: _____ Individual \$25

City, State, Zip: _____ County: _____ Family or Household \$30

Phone: _____ e-mail: _____ Contributing \$40

Business Name: _____ Not-for-profit Org. \$50

TOTAL : _____ Check enclosed: _____ Please charge my credit card: _____ Business or Corporate \$100

(VISA/MasterCard Only): Card Type and #: _____ Supporting \$100

Exp. Date: _____ Name on credit card: _____ Donor \$250

Library \$15

Student (full-time) \$15

Please mail completed form to: Florida Native Plant Society, P.O. Box 690278, Vero Beach, FL 32969-0278