



Rhexia mariana ©Darel Hess 2bnthewild.com

Fall Plant Sale

By Lisa Jelks

Barring any hurricanes, this Fall's Friends of Nature Parks/Florida Native Plant Society Native Plant Sale will be held September 16 and 17 at Morningside Nature Park, 3540 E. University Ave. While Hurricanes Frances and Ivan put a halt to our sale last Fall, if we all keep our fingers crossed perhaps we'll have better luck this season. Expect to see many blooming fall flowers on colorful display. Friday, September 16 is for FNPS and Friends of Nature Parks members only (you may renew your membership or join on-site). The sale begins at 4:30 p.m. and ends at 6:30. The popular Park-a-Plant will be operating to make shopping easy and convenient. On Saturday the sale opens to the public at 8:30 a.m. and goes until 1:00 p.m. Remember to bring cash and checks, no credit or debit cards accepted. A lunch concession booth will be serving up tasty grub, and the folks at Morningside will provide a guided butterfly nature walk through the gardens. Our local native plant nurseries will be selling their best plants at great prices you won't want to miss! In addition the University Press of Florida will again be selling a variety of gardening and outdoor Florida books. It takes many volunteers to pull off such a large event (ours is the largest native plant sale in the state), so if you have an hour or two, please sign up to volunteer. We need people to work the cashier tables both days (calculators provided), and FNPS members to staff our information booth. The sale also features the most phenomenal of plant raffles you will ever encounter. Bring a friend for extra fun! To volunteer, sign up at the general meeting or call Lisa Jelks at 373-3028.

The Rhexia

Paynes Prairie Chapter
Florida Native Plant Society
September 2005

Who was Carl Miles?

By Brian Quinn

In association with our dedication of the Carl Miles Memorial Garden on October 1, I would like to introduce Carl to those of you who never met him, and refresh the memories of those who did. Carl died on October 1, 2000 of complications caused by non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, a cancer in his brain and other parts of his central nervous system. On the fifth anniversary of his death, we honor a good man by dedicating a living, breathing, native garden that, hopefully, will outlast anyone who reads this article.

Carl was born in Berwyn, IL, on January 9, 1951, and moved to Lake Worth, FL in 1959 at the tender age of 8. He grew up playing basketball, surfing, fishing, and working in the garden with his father. In 1969, Carl moved to Gainesville to pursue a degree in chemistry and to gain an education encompassing a larger scope. While studying for his bachelor's degree, Carl took a long sabbatical, traveling to Europe, the Middle East, and Nepal. This trip broadened his horizons, probably more than any other life experience. He told me many stories about people in Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq that illustrated their humanity and culture. Upon his return from that long journey, Carl went back to UF to finish a BS degree in Chemistry in 1976, an MS degree in Environmental Engineering Sciences in 1979, and a PhD also in Environmental Engineering Sciences in 1983.

Somewhere along the way, Carl met a fine, young local girl who was washing dishes in his laboratory, decided to ask her out, and Ms. Crystal Clarke became Mrs. Crystal Clarke Miles in December of 1975. They moved to the now-defunct Windmeadows Trailer Park behind Butler Plaza, and Carl went to work for UF as a scientist. Carl primarily worked on pesticide chemistry as a UF researcher before accepting a job

as an Assistant Professor at the University of Hawaii in 1987. While in Hawaii, Carl continued to work on pesticide chemistry and natural organic matter issues. In 1991 he returned to south Florida to help care for his ailing mother. This was when I first met Carl, at a contract laboratory sweatshop, where we soon became friends. Those were our salad days when we fished and explored the abating wilderness of south Florida with a childlike wonder. After a few years, Carl moved on to the South Florida Water Management District to study pesticide and mercury contamination, and I moved to Gainesville to further my education. It was during this period that Carl became enamored with the sustainability and low maintenance of using native plants for landscaping.

Carl and Crystal (and we can't forget their little dog Pepper) soon tired of the traffic and fast-paced lifestyle of south Florida, and moved back to Gainesville. He connected quickly with old contacts and was soon studying mercury uptake in algae. He and I were again working in the same laboratory, much to the

(Continued on page 3)

Membership Participation

By Brian Quinn

We have some great news to report about the Paynes Prairie chapter. We are, by far, the largest chapter in the Florida Native Plant Society with over 400 members. This bodes well for our area of Florida, and shows that we have a populace that cares about our natural environment. I would like to congratulate each and every one of you who extends monetary support to our chapter and the society at large, but I must now ask you for something more.

(Continued on page 3)

Paynes Prairie Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

The *Rhexia* is published monthly September - November and January - May 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.

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Program Notes for Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Plant Identification Workshop: 6:30-7:30pm

Dr. Jerry Butler: "Caterpillars of Florida"

Jerry Butler is professor emeritus of entomology at the University of Florida. Although he describes himself as a veterinary or medical entomologist, he has a great passion for butterflies and photography. Jerry is second author of the recently published *Florida Butterfly Caterpillars and Their Host Plants* and is responsible for many of the photographs in the book. Look forward to colorful and informative presentation on the secret lives of butterflies. His new book, which is co-authored by Marc Minno and Donald Hall, will be on sale at the Fall Native Plant Sale. Refreshments and plant raffle will follow the talk.

September 24 Field Trip - High Springs Butterfly Garden

FNPS members are invited to visit the butterfly garden of Kathy Malone in High Springs (about 30 minutes north of Gainesville). Kathy is a project coordinator for Project Butterfly Wings at the Florida Museum of Natural History and she has installed a large garden at her house this spring. She has chosen host and nectar plants that attract butterflies and has recorded 40 species in her garden. Besides checking out the plants you can bring a lawnchair to sit and see which butterflies visit.

Open House from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 24 at Kathy Malone's. Take I-75 to High Springs/Alachua Exit, 399. Go about six miles west on US 441. Take a left in downtown High Springs onto US 27. Go three miles. Take a left onto NW 142 Ave. Go one mile on the dirt road. Take a left into Springstead at NW 232 St. Third house on left, 14572 NW 232 St. If lost, call (561) 312-9978--Kathy's

Redroot and Butteflies

By Marc C. Minno, St. Johns River Water Management District

Redroot (*Lachnanthes caroliniana*) is a strange and interesting plant. The redroot grows in wet soils, especially in flatwoods that have been disturbed from logging, along roadsides, or where the pigs have been rooting in wetlands. The orange pigment in the roots has an affinity for oxygen and helps the plant to grow in soils that are oxygen poor. The leaves look a lot like those of irises, but the flowers are completely different. The flower buds are woolly and whitish, in clusters at the tip of a long stalk ranging from two to three feet high. The flowers are small and yellow with parts of three – stamens, petals, and sepals. The orange-colored roots have been used as a dye and the plant has been used as a medicine. On a web site for natural remedies (www.nature1.org), I found the following notes:

The root,' says Millspaugh, 'was esteemed an invigorating tonic by the American aborigines, especially by the Seminole tribe, who use it, it is said, to cause brilliancy and fluency of speech. A tincture of the root has been recommended in typhus and typhoid fevers, pneumonia, severe forms of brain disease,' rheumatic wry-neck and laryngeal cough.'

The drug is employed for various nervous disorders. A homoeopathic tincture is prepared from the whole fresh plant, while flowering.

(Continued on page 4)

May Plant ID Report

By Dan Ward & Jennifer Staiger

Nomenclature based on: Wunderlin, R. P., and B. F. Hansen. 2004. *Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants* (<http://www.plantatlas.usf.edu/>). Institute for Systematic Botany, University of South Florida, Tampa. Plant ID workshops are held at 6:30 PM prior to each meeting. Special thanks to all those who participate.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	Status
<i>Asimina parviflora</i>	Smallflower Pawpaw	Annonaceae	Native
<i>Celtis laevigata</i>	Sugarberry	Celtidaceae	Native
<i>Chrysogonum virginianum</i>	Green-and-gold	Asteraceae	Native
<i>Dyschoriste</i> sp.	Twinflower	Acanthaceae	Native
<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>	Yellow Jessamine	Gelsemiaceae	Native
<i>Hyptis mutabilis</i>	Tropical Bushmint	Lamiaceae	Non-Native
<i>Koelreuteria elegans</i>	Golden Rain Tree	Sapindaceae	Non-Native
<i>Melilotus albus</i>	White Sweetclover	Fabaceae	Non-Native
<i>Nyssa</i> sp	Tupelo	Cornaceae	Native
<i>Sideroxylon lanuginosum</i>	Gum Bully	Sapotaceae	Native
<i>Verbena brasiliensis</i>	Brazilian Vervain	Verbenaceae	Non-Native
<i>Viola sororia</i>	Common Blue Violet	Violaceae	Native

Congratulations to FNPS Members!

Three chapter members received important awards this summer. Claudia Larsen who helped organize Paynes Prairie Chapter meetings and events for over 15 years was honored at the 2005 state conference with the Mentor Award for lifetime achievement. Claudia is currently secretary of our chapter. Member Karen Ahlers has served our chapter as newsletter editor and brought bird boxes to many Native Plant Sales. She was honored by the Florida Wildlife Federation as the 2005 Conservationist of the Year for her organization of the Rally for the Ocklawaha River and People's Restoration with the Putnam County Environmental Council. Last, but not least, Howard Jelks was awarded a Volunteer Star Award by the Gainesville Nature Center Commission for helping to organize native plant sales at Morningside Nature Center for over 10 years. Howard has gained notoriety as the "plant police" ensuring that only Florida native plants are sold at the sales.



Claudia Larsen receiving Mentor award for lifetime achievement.

Wanted: Newsletter Editor for Rhexia

If you have computer skills and would like to contribute to FNPS by being newsletter editor, please let us know! The editor does not write all articles, but is responsible for coordinating the submitted materials into the Rhexia for Jan, Feb, March, Apr, May, Sept, Oct and Nov issues. Computer software will be provided and the officers will guide you on content and format. The document is emailed to the printer for printing and labeling; and the mailing list, stamps and delivery to post office is handled by the other committee members, so the editor does not have to "do it all".

Even if you are in the least bit interested—please call Jamie Barichivich (352-375-1972) or Karen Ahlers (352-546-3560) to discuss the responsibilities. The newsletter is our primary method of communicating programs, events and educational information to our members; so we'd like to continue with the excellent publication that Karen has created.

Who was Carl Miles?

(Continued from page 1)

chagrin of our co-workers, because the jokes were bad and our raucous laughter made them even worse. He started to show me around north Florida, and after I bought a house, he introduced me to native plants. At first, I resisted and felt I needed the same azaleas that the rest of my neighbors had in their yards. The extended drought soon cured me of that and I became hooked on natives. We spent the next few years touring native nurseries, propagating native plants, and fishing in our spare time. The future seemed so bright before the fatal news. Carl was one of the most diverse people I have ever known. He played the guitar, participated in the martial arts, and read books instead of watching television. Carl was always proud to be a Gator, and he loved this town with its extensive natural areas. His passion, knowledge, honesty, and irreverence left their mark on all who knew him, and we are better people because of him. We have lost one of our own, and with this garden, which has been lovingly planted and tended by our Paynes Prairie chapter members, we would like to give to our community some of what he gave to us.

There will be a ceremony on October 1st 10 AM to dedicate the native plant garden at Veterans Park to Dr. Carl Miles. Veterans Park is located on Tower Rd at 7400 SW 41st Place. Park at main parking lot, or closer to the site at the gate further down the road. Look for the Stonehenge rocks next to the garden on the raised hillside at the rear of the park near Chapman's Pond.

Membership Participation

(Continued from page 1)

Our membership participation for community projects, such as the native plant sales that benefit our local nature parks, FNPS booths at local festivals, and our own Carl's Memorial Garden in Veteran's Park, is woeful at best. For many of these projects, as few as 4-5 people show up to volunteer their valuable time. That is less than 1% of our total chapter membership! I know that we all run our schedules to the limit, myself included. I know that many of you have great excuses like family, health issues, job issues, etc., and your time starts to become more valuable than your money. Just as with many other clubs, we have a core group of people that shows up for most service projects, and we are absolutely appreciative of every minute they give. But this core group has a limit, and we have reached it.

We now turn down festivals and other natural celebrations that ask us to staff booths to promote our tenets and try to help our local population better understand and live with their environment. We have been asked to consider hosting the state's annual FNPS conference but are balking at the idea because it takes many volunteer hours to pull off a successful meeting. The Board of Directors has come up with a great idea to install native, sustainable landscapes at Habitat for Humanity houses. However, we fear that the only way we could do this would be to partner with University of Florida student organizations because it seems we cannot get even 10% of our membership to show up at any community service project. I have heard many times from adults in our community and our chapter about how the younger generation is lazy and does not care about anything but themselves. However, these students seem to be the only resource from which we can draw when it comes to volunteer hours. We must lead by example, and show our younger generations that service to our community is one of the most important civic duties that we can undertake. We have many ongoing projects, so please give us a day or two out of your busy year to help our chapter, our society, and especially, our community.

2005 Chapter Elections

Elections for chapter officers and board members will be held at the November meeting. Pursuant to the by-laws, a nominating committee has been formed to create a slate of officers. Any chapter member may insert their name or make a suggestion for these positions to any member of the nominating committee. All nominees must be members of FNPS. The nominating committee is Jennifer Staiger (Chair) 352-375-1972 (jennifer_staiger@usgs.gov), Patti Anderson 352-392-1831 x366 (pma700@ifas.ufl.edu) and Buddy Barnard 352-466-3880. Please contact Jennifer for list of responsibilities of officers and directors. The 2005 Treasury audit will be conducted by Howard and Lisa Jelks.

Mark your Calendars!

The 2006 FNPS State Conference will be Thursday May 17 through Sunday May 21, 2006 at the Shores Resort & Spa, Daytona Beach Shores in Volusia County, courtesy of the Lyonia and Pawpaw chapters.

FNPS Landscaping Presentation now Available

The Pinellas Chapter of FNPS and St. Petersburg Audubon Society were awarded an educational grant for production of a wonderful Power Point presentation "Landscaping and Gardening with Florida Native Plants." Our chapter now has a CD copy available for public outreach if you are interested in presenting to your homeowners group, garden club, school etc. The show explains definitions for native plants and invasive plants and briefly describes major Florida habitats. The remainder of the pictures show landscaping techniques and examples. This is a really beautiful, professional 1-hour show that comes with a written narration that anyone can read as the slides are shown. You must provide your own computer and LCD projection equipment, Contact Claudia Larsen to borrow this CD at 352-846-1070

2005 Gopher Tortoise Council Meeting

Friday October 7 - Sunday October 9, 2005 - Annual Gopher Tortoise Council Meeting at Ravine Gardens State Park, Palatka, Florida. Topics include "Acquiring and Managing Private Lands for Conservation", and research presentations on gopher tortoises and their commensals. Field trips are scheduled for Sunday. http://www.gophertortoiseCouncil.org/annmtg_05.htm

LEEF's 5th Florida Natural History Workshop by Maria Minno

When? Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, October 21-23, 2005

Where? Set at beautiful Camp Crystal Lake, less than an hour northeast of Gainesville, Florida. Diverse habitats include freshwater lake, sandhill, ravine, steephead, creek, ephemeral pond, and woodland with abundant wildlife.

What? Nature-immersion education alongside some of Florida's most esteemed naturalists, including aquatic nature study and swimming in Crystal Lake. In this workshop, nature study is augmented with discussions of Deep Ecology, Despair to Empowerment Exercises, and therapies for body, mind and spirit. Healing therapies for self-care include hydrotherapy, Thai massage, energy medicine, and acupressure.

Who? This will be an ideal opportunity to socialize and network with kindred spirits! Through this workshop, amateur and professional naturalists, resource managers, environmentalists, and nature-lovers, will gather with educators who are interested in using the Florida environment as a teaching theme to share information about and appreciation for natural Florida.

Accommodations? Fresh, local, organic food is provided, cooked on-site in traditional nutritional recipes. Accommodations are communal cabins with bathrooms, and campsites are also available.

How Much? \$100 per person includes all sessions, organic meals, drinks, snacks, lodging Friday evening through Sunday breakfast, and LEEF membership.

Contact Maria at (352)375-3028 or mminno@bellsouth.net, Website: <http://leeflet.brinkster.net/>

Redroot and Butterflies

(Continued from page 2)

Doses varying from a few drops of the tincture to a drachm, cause mental exhilaration, followed by ill-humour, vertigo and headache.

In the countries where it grows, there is a legend that the Paintroot plant is fatally poisonous to white pigs, but not injurious to black ones. Darwin, on the authority of Professor I. J. Wyman, cites the strange effect on albino pigs after eating the roots of this plant. In Virginia, where it grows abundantly, Professor Wyman noticed that all the pigs in this district were black, and upon inquiring of the farmers he found that all the white pigs born in a litter were destroyed, because they could not be reared to maturity. The roots of Lachnanthes, when eaten by white pigs, caused their bones to turn to a pink colour and their hoofs to fall off, but the black pigs, it was said, could eat the same plant with impunity. Heusinger has shown that white sheep and pigs are injured by the ingestion of certain plants, while the pigmented species may eat them without harm.

I don't recommend eating any parts of this plant! Butterflies, however, are strongly attracted to the flowers for nectar. All types of butterflies from small skippers to the large swallowtails are drawn to flowering redroot. Walking through a patch of redroot in bloom is like visiting a butterfly conservatory. Redroot is in full bloom now in northern Florida.

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Next meeting
Tuesday, September. 13
7:30 pm
(Plant ID Workshop at 6:30)
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Upcoming Meetings, Field Trips, and Events

Monthly Meetings

Regular monthly meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday September - November and January - May at 7:30 pm. at the Doyle Conner Building, Division of Plant Industry, 1911 SW 34 St., Gainesville. Plant ID workshops precede each meeting at 6:30 pm.

- | | | |
|-------------------|---|------------------|
| Sep. 13 | <i>Caterpillars of Florida</i> | Dr. Jerry Butler |
| Oct. 11 | <i>Growing Wildflowers for Bulk Seed Production</i> | Terry Zinn |
| November 8 | <i>The Ichetucknee Watershed</i> | Jim Stevens |
| Dec 13 | | FNPS Social |

Field Trips

- | | | |
|---------------------|--|--------------|
| September 24 | Visit to High Springs Butterfly Garden | Kathy Malone |
|---------------------|--|--------------|
- (see page 2)

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| October 15 | Prices Scrub (Tentative) |
| Nov 12 | Ichetucknee River Canoe Trip
Sam Cole |

Events

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| Sep 16-17 | Fall Native Plant Sale
(see page 1) |
| October 1 | Carl Miles Memorial Garden Dedication
(see page 1) |
| October 7-9 | 2006 Gopher Tortoise Council Meeting
(see page 4) |
| October 21-23 | 5th Annual Florida Natural History Wkshp
(see page 4) |
| May 17-21 | 2006 FNPS State Conference
(see page 4) |

The *Rhexia* is published monthly September-November and January-May by the Paynes Prairie Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

Florida Native Plant Society Membership Form

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Student (full-time) | \$15 |

Please mail completed form to: Florida Native Plant Society, P.O. Box 278, Melbourne, FL 32902-0278

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendations by the state.