



The Rhexia

Paynes Prairie Chapter
Florida Native Plant Society
October 2011

Fall Native Plant Sale
October 7, members only
4:30-6:30 PM
October 8, general public
8:30 - 12:30 PM
Morningside Nature
Center
3540 E University Ave.
Gainesville , FL 32641

**Monthly Chapter
Meeting and Field Trip
Information**

**Chapter Meeting,
October 18, 2011
Barton Wilder
Master Naturalist Program
See page 4**

**Field Trip
October 22, 2011
Native Landscape
In the City
See page 5**

**“We Are the Land Manager’s of Our Yards!”
Joni Ellis, VP Paynes Prairie Chapter**

Craig Huegel was our September speaker and the above quote resonated with me. We can’t control the world, but we can influence our corner of it. We should love what we see everyday when we look out the window to our yards. Many people have come to accept the typical yard with lots of grass, foundation plantings and two trees. We can change the paradigm. We can inspire neighbors and friends by modeling a native landscape. Or we can help them with gifts of native plants. For example, I provided a flat of beach sunflowers as a house warming gift to my sister-in-law recently. A perfect fit for her St. Augustine Beach yard.

This issue of the Rhexia highlights some of the native plant vendors that will be at the semi-annual native plant sale October 7th (for members only) and October 8th for the general public. There will be music on Saturday and Terranova will be selling delicious food you won’t want to miss. Keep this list to refer to these vendors between sales as new needs arise. We also have a few native landscape businesses that can help with the planning and installation if you are inclined to hire out the work.

As Craig suggested in his talk, you can provide habitat for wildlife by planting at all levels of your yard. Ground covers will replace grass and can provide nectar for bees and butterflies. Shrubs will pro-

vide low cover for some birds and trees will provide taller shelter for other species of birds, as well as some shade for us. Put a large rock in a sunny area with some water nearby for lizards who eat bugs for us. Remember to plant the right plants for your soil type. Now would be a good time to get a soil sample tested at the extension service if you do not know your soil.

It is important to put the right plant in the right place. So, please, stop by our table and ask for a consultant to help you with your choices. Know what part of town you live in, if your soil tends to be dry or moist, how much sun does an area get on an average day. These will help the consultant know what might work best in your yard.

Some choices that Craig suggested for winter forage included: hollies, beauty berry (a few go a long way), wild coffee (will need several to make a difference), and viburnums.

The publication “Planting a Refuge for Wildlife” is available online at: <http://myfwc.com/viewing/adventures/what-to-do/in-your-backyard/refuge/>

Let your inner land manager go wild, plant a refuge for wildlife in your yard!

Introduction to our Native Plant Nursery People

You should receive this issue of the Rhexia just before our Fall Plant Sale on October 7 & 8. We want to use this issue to introduce our vendors.

These are the hard working people who make it possible for us to acquire native plants that are not generally available anywhere else.

Whether we are landscaping for butterflies, birds and other wildlife or just want a low maintenance yard, the fall plant sale is where we can get the plants we need and want.

We will be introducing our vendors through their responses to six questions we posed to them.

1. When did you start your plant nursery?
2. Do you grow only natives? Do you group your natives according to plant communities?
3. What got you into this business?
4. What is the favorite native you grow?
5. Is there a native that you would like to grow?
6. What plants do you plan to bring to the Fall Sale?

At the time of publication we were not able to contact the following vendors. They will be at the sale. Hopefully we will pick up on formally introducing them in future issues.

Breezy Oaks Nursery

Ecosystem Research Corp

Falling Creek Nursery

Sasabrill Nursery

Tropic Traditions Nurseries

Save The Date

Spring Native Plant Sale

March 30 and 31, 2012

Piney Woods Farm **Sandy Rogers**

Sandy started her nursery five years ago.

In addition to natives, she grows tropicals which are butterfly and hummingbird attractors.

What motivated Sandy to start her nursery was her desire to offer butterfly and hummingbird plants to the public.

Her favorite natives she grows are *Ruellia carolinensis* and *Glandularia tampensis*.

A native that Sandy would like to grow is Swamp Milkweed, *Asclepias perennis*.

The plants that she will bring to the sale are *Glandularia tampensis*, *Helianthus debilis*, *Hamelia patens*, *Ruellia carolinensis*, *Asclepias tuberosa*, *Passiflora incarnata*, *Salvia coccinea*.

Sampling of plants available from Piney Woods Farm



Wild Petunia
Ruellia carolinensis

Tampa Verbena
*Glandularia
tampensis*



Firebush
Hamelia patens

Micanopy Wildflowers Claudia Larsen

Claudia began collecting seeds about 18 years ago and that amazingly evolved into a small backyard nursery that produces over 7000 plants a year.

Claudia grows 99% natives whose seed has been collected from North Central Florida or received from friends. The plants range over different habitats. They are not necessarily grouped by plant communities. Many of the plants adapt well to different conditions in home landscapes. Recommendations are made based on the availability of light and soil conditions.

Claudia “blames” a founding member of our chapter, Joe Durando, and many FNPS friends for encouraging her to start her business. She also fell in love with the great diversity of wildflowers growing around her home in Micanopy. She wanted to promote their survival by using plant production methods.

Claudia could not specify a favorite plant— she loves whatever is blooming.

There are a lot of special plants that do not adapt to potted culture such as Catesby lily and all the lupines. They are beautiful and we must enjoy them in their natural habitats.

List of plants that she will bring to sale:
Columbine, poppy mallow, lanceleaf coreopsis, elephants foot, liatris penstemon, blackeye susan, false petunia, stokes aster, blue rattlesnakemaster, mist flower, browneye susan, gaillardia, twin flower, melantera, dotted horsemint, beach goldenrod and muhly grass.



Lanceleaf
Coreopsis
Coreopsis lanceolata



Poppy Mallow
Callirhoe papaver



Liatris
Liatris chapmani

Holden Pond Eileen Ressler

Eileen started Holden Pond in 1996.

They grow only coonties, *Zamia pumila*, Palatka Giant variety, our native cycad for native plant sale. But the nursery has a large collection of sagos, *Cycas revoluta*. Eileen advises her customers that coonties grow in non-salty ecosystems and do very well in full sun but can also grow in shade.

Eileen gives credit to her son, David, for getting her and husband Fred into growing coonties. David her son, has worked for Ornamental Plants and Trees in Hawthorne FL, where he learned all about xeriscaping and native plants.

Originally from up North, Eileen was amazed when she first saw the coontie. It is her favorite native. It is a beautiful plant. A flour was made from its roots and used as a staple food for Florida Indians. It is very hardy in any weather and requires minimum care and watering.

Eileen loves the coralbean or Cherokee bean *Erythrina herbacea*, and the Beauty Berry *Calli-carpa americana*.

They will have 1, 2 and 3 gallon coonties available at plant sale.

Wildflowers of Florida, Inc. Terry Zinn

In business since 1996, Terry grows mostly natives except for *Coreopsis basalis* and *Phlox drummondii*. He sells natives by their ecotype and ecosystem.

He got into business when someone from UF noticed the flowers growing in his driveway.

A favorite for Terry is Sand Squares. He would like to grow lupines.

Terry belongs to a co-op and he says the species he will bring are on the Co-op website www.floridawildflowers.com.
Ed note: Terry makes native seeds available at our plant sale.

Fall 2011 Calendar of Events

Please check the Paynes Prairie chapter page at www.FNPS.org for most current information and directions to field trips. All 2011 meetings will be held at the United Church of Gainesville, 1624 NW 5th Ave, Gainesville, 7:00-8:30pm. The plant ID workshop prior to the meeting begins at 6:15

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| October 18 | Meeting: Barton Wilder
Master Naturalist Program |
| October 22 | Field Trip: Marc & Maria Minno
Home, 600 NW 35 Terrace
Gainesville, FL 32607 |
| November 15 | Meeting: Jaret Daniels
Pollinators & Their Relationship
To Native Plants |
| November 19 | Field Trip: Watermelon Pond |

Solar Energy Tour

Meet Sunday, October 23, 11:00-12:30 PM at Bo Diddley Plaza. See solar contractors, energy professionals, and sustainability groups and pick up your maps for self guided tours of solar open houses. Our own Joni Ellis's home is on tour.

Chiappini Farm Native Nursery Marilyn & David Chiappini

Marilyn and David have been in business since 1984. They grow only natives. They give advice to customers about the conditions the plants need to grow regarding light, moisture and soil conditions. But since plants are adaptable when they get special care a wetland plant can survive in someone's yard even if it is not especially swampy.

While the Chiappinis were farming for a living, their oldest son, Michael, as part of a Future Farmers project started growing and propagating plants and it caught on with the rest of the family. David's grandfather had a nursery so it was in the family's blood.

They did not start out as exclusively natives but saw a need that was not being met, so they switched to only natives. This business started growing too big to operate from their home so they moved it to the 30 acres where had a farm. They have been seeing the demand for natives continue to grow.

Marilyn picked the Rusty Lyonia as her favorite plant. A native she would like to grow is the tar flower, *Bejaria racemosa*.



Tarflower



Rusty Lyonia

The Chiappini's will be bringing 40 to 50 species to plant sale. To name a few, Corkwood, a Triloba Paw-Paw, different native azaleas and a witch hazel tree.

Farnsworth Farms Nursery Steve Farnsworth

Steve started his nursery in 1981. He is not strictly native; he grows cycad and palms and plants that interest him. Because of shady moist conditions at the nursery he grows native plants primarily from hammock and moist ecosystems. Most natives from dry ecosystems do poorly at the nursery. Steve always tries to match appropriate native plants to customers growing conditions.

Steve started growing native plants for himself and began to sell the extras and found he could make money doing this. He has gone from plants being a hobby to a full time business and back to a hobby again.

His favorite plant is a parsley haw.

Steve provided a long list he plants to bring to sale, so stop by and see what is available.



Notestein Native Nursery Jim Notestein

Jim has been offering primarily native plants since 1975. He actually took over the side business from Otis Breddan who wanted to retire. At the time Jim and Emily were vendors at a downtown farmers' market. Jim acquired a large inventory of trees, shrubs, groundcover and wildflowers from a nurseryman that was also growing plants for the City of Gainesville.

Currently Jim is growing about 100 different species of Florida plants. He is always experimenting with new plants so he can offer unique varieties to the public.

As often happens, original plans change. Jim said he came to UF to become an astronaut but switched to plant grower; his great grandfather was a nurseryman. The grandfather, John Benton Notestein worked in Manatee County and was a contemporary of Thomas Edison. He provided Thomas Edison with some bamboo for a project.

Jim promises a broad variety of plants. A sampling of three that will be available are the Common Yarrow, *Achillea millefolium*, String Lily, *Crinum americanum*, Scarlet Rosemallow, *Hibiscus coccineus*.



Yarrow



String Lilly



Scarlet rosemallow

Hart Nursery Greg & Linda Hart

Greg started the nursery in 1976. He focuses on natives and has from the beginning. He has always been concerned about maintaining wildlife habitat. Linda got into the nursery business a little later and enjoys dabbling with exotics, like roses.

Greg said he started his nursery when he found himself growing plants to put on his property.

The Harts will bring shrubs, vines, wildflowers, trees and palms to the fall plant sale.

They will also have available Greg's favorite plant, native azaleas



October Field Trip Saturday October 22, 2011

A visit to the home of Marc and Maria Minno and to nearby park Loblolly Woods afterwards. Marc and Maria have replaced all turf with native species. Come see how interesting and dramatic this presentation can be.

Meet at 9:00 AM at their home located at 600 NW 35 Terrace, Gainesville, 32607.

Trip leader is Robert Freese. If you need help with directions call 386-972-4489



Merrill Wilcox Nursery

Merrill Wilcox nursery has been growing cold hardy palms since 1970. Some are native, others are not.

They want to offer customers plants that will survive some of North Florida's serious cold spells. The Scrub Palmetto, *Sabal etonia*, and the Needle Palm, *Rhapidophyllum hystrix*, are a couple of the cold hardy varieties that will be available.



Paynes Prairie Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

See our Web page at: www.fnps.org



The purpose of the Florida Native Plant

Society is the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

The Rhexia is published monthly

September - November and January - May.

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Election Time is Near and We Need You! Call for Nominees for Paynes Prairie Chapter Board

Are you interested in volunteering a little extra time with our chapter? Here is your chance! The Paynes Prairie Chapter will hold elections for President, Vice President, and Treasurer at our November program meeting.

If you, or someone you know, are interested in serving as an officer on the chapter board, please contact Jennifer Staiger (jsstaig@gmail.com) or Claudia Larsen (micanopywildflowers@yahoo.com) by October 20. If you would like to know more about the responsibilities of the different offices, please contact Jennifer.

The board meets four times a year (in January, May, August, and November) to discuss speakers and field trips, financial contributions and sponsorships, the Native Plant Sale, and other issues. We welcome new people and new ideas, so even if you aren't able to serve as an officer, please consider coming to a board meeting to let us know what you think.

We hope you will join us as we continue to serve our community by promoting the conservation of native plants and natural communities.

Next BOD meeting is Monday, Nov. 8, 5:30 PM at UF Horticulture Department Greenhouses.

Natural Treasures Heather Blake

Heather started Natural Treasures in 1998.

She grows both natives and non-natives. The non-natives she has in her nursery are not invasives and are plants that attract wildlife to the garden. She spends time with her customers discussing their planting conditions and will advise what plant varieties are suitable.

The reason Heather got into this business is because of her love of nature and outdoor activities. She personally enjoys attracting wildlife and conserving natural resources by using native plants. Her favorite plant is the Darrow Blueberry, *Vaccinium darrowii*



A native Heather would like to grow is the swamp milkweed. She said she will be bringing all the plants that will fit in her trailer for the sale.

Plant ID workshop for September 2011 By Paul Cohen

Species	Common Name	Family	Status
<i>Acalypha gracilens</i>	Slender Threeseed Mercury	Euphorbiaceae	Native
<i>Ilex ambigua</i>	Carolina Holly	Aquifoliaceae	Native
<i>Oenothera biennis</i>	Common Eveningprimrose	Onagraceae	Native
<i>Paederia foetida</i>	Skunkvine	Rubiaceae	Non-native
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Virginia Creeper	Vitaceae	Native
<i>Paspalum sataceum</i>	Thin Paspalum	Poaceae	Native
<i>Quercus laurifolia</i>	Laurel Oak	Fagaceae	Native
<i>Sericocarpus tortifolius</i>	Whitetop Aster, Dixie Aster	Asteraceae	Native
<i>Talinum paniculatum</i>	Jewels-of-Opar	Portulacaceae	Non-native

I wish to extend a special thanks to all participants. The workshop is educational and is not intended as a plant ID service. Nomenclature adapted from "Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants" (<http://www.florida.plantatlas.usf.edu/>).




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Advertisements are now being accepted for the Rhexia newsletter! If you would like to support the Paynes Prairie chapter please send a business card size ad in .jpg, .tiff, or Powerpoint formats only to Goldie Schwartz at Rhexia@gmail.com. The ads cost \$100 and run from September through May 2011.

Have You Blogged Lately?

Remember to visit the new Florida Native Plant Society blog at <http://fnpsblog.blogspot.com/>

Urgent: Send Us Your Email!

We need your support in completing the switch from sending a printed newsletter to sending it by e-mail. Your direct benefits include: allowing more resources for activities and education, and the ability to view the newsletter photos in full color instead of black and white. And for the chapter, we save dollars we can use to promote the use of native plants. Please show your support by signing up to receive the newsletter by e-mail. Just send an e-mail to Goldie Schwartz at afn49@mindspring.com with "Put me on the e-mail list" in the subject line. That's all it takes! Thanks!

Florida Native Plant Society
Paynes Prairie Chapter
Post Office Box 12908
Gainesville, FL 32604

Next Meeting

Tuesday, October 18

7:00 p.m.

(Plant ID Workshop at 6:15)

United Church of Gainesville

1624 NW 5th Ave.

FNPS Paynes Prairie Chapter Meetings
are held the 3rd Tuesday of the month
September - November and January - May
7:00 p.m., The United Church of Gainesville
1624 NW 5th Ave., Gainesville
Plant ID workshops precede each meeting
and start at 6:15 p.m.

Rhexia Article Submissions Please!
Submit unformatted word documents
only. Submit pictures as separate jpg, tiff, or pdf
files. Send all article submissions to:
rhexia@gmail.com
Submission deadline
date for the November
2011 newsletter is
October 25, 2011

Florida Native Plant Society Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Total: ____ Check Enclosed: ____ Please charge my credit card ____

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| ◇ Student (full-time) | \$15 |

Please mail completed form to: Florida Native Plant Society, P.O. Box 278, Melbourne, FL 32802-0278

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.