

The Rhexia

Paynes Prairie Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society



BioBasics for Gardeners

The speaker at our April 10th meeting will be Lee Bloomcamp.

Lee handles the plant protection and biologicals business in the nursery and greenhouse markets of the southeastern US as Ornamental Territory Manager for Syngenta.

In her talk, *BioBasics for Gardeners*, Lee will illuminate us on biocontrol for our landscapes as she hits the following topics:

- ⇒ Discuss academic definitions of true biological insect and mite pest management
- ⇒ Review the history of biocontrol efforts in the U.S.
- ⇒ Look at realistic ways to supplement and enhance naturally occurring bio-control agents on our properties
- ⇒ Discuss commercially available critters and products that may fit into north Florida landscapes

Don't miss this chance to learn more on a subject we can all identify with, yard pests. More on page two.

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April's Speaker (continued from page one.)

Lee Bloomcamp holds a B.S. in Pest Management from Kansas State University, and a M.S. from the University of Florida in Medical/Veterinary Entomology. Her past experience includes 6 years as Pest Control Manager with the UF's Division of Environmental Health and Safety, supervising structural pest control and landscape pesticide applications on the UF campus and surrounding areas. She also spent several years in research positions with U.F. and the USDA in Gainesville and Ft. Lauderdale. Lee started her industry career with Bayer in 1990, and has worked for Syngenta since 1996. She currently is Ornamental Territory manager for the southeast, handling Syngenta's plant protection and biologicals business in the nursery and greenhouse markets, and resides in Gainesville, Florida.

Spring 2014 Events

April	4-5	FNPS Native Plant Sale (page 6)
	10	Chapter Meeting: Speaker, Lee Bloomcamp, Syngenta (page 1-2)
	12	Field Trip -Tour of Forage Farms (page 3)
May	8	Chapter Meeting: Speaker, Anna Prizzia, Forage Farms
	10	Field Trip-UNF's Sawmill Slough Preserve – Jacksonville (page 4)
	15-18	Annual FNPS Conference at FL Gulf Coast University, Fort Myers (page 2)

Florida Native Plant Society's 34th Annual Conference: Growing Native

May 15th through May 18th at Florida Gulf Coast University, 10501 FGCU Blvd S, Fort Myers
[Website / Map](#)

Conference details at www.FNPS.org/conference

Thursday and Sunday are field trip days.
Friday and Saturday are program days.



DEADLINE EARLY BIRD RATE APRIL 14 -- Register by this date to save \$35/day.
Discount rates apply to the Friday and Saturday Conference Program days only.

REGISTER ONLINE BY MAY 2ND

ONLINE registration ends Friday, May 2nd. After May 2nd, all registration is ONSITE.

Field trips fill fast. Do not wait to register onsite if you want to participate in field trips.

Lunches provided for online (advance) registrants only. Lunch not provided for onsite registrants.

CANCELLATIONS: \$15 fee applies. NO REFUNDS AFTER MAY 9, 2014.

ACCOMMODATIONS

STUDENT DORM HOUSING is available \$40 per bed or \$80 for a private suite (2 beds).
The dorms have common TV areas, FREE Wi-Fi and breakfast is included.
Enjoy dorm living again! Please visit, <http://fnps.org/conference/lodging> for all the details.

HOST HOTEL Is the Hilton Garden Inn Fort Myers Airport / FGCU. FNPS group rate is \$79 per night.
Must book by April 20th for discounted rate. Contact hotel directly at 239-210-7200 for reservations.
Be sure to ask for the Florida Native Plant Society group rate when booking your reservation.

Want to Make a Difference?

Florida Park Service would like to have a representative of the FNPS Paynes Prairie Chapter to serve on the Management Plan Advisory Group for Devil's Millhopper Geological State Park as they update that park's management plan. Would you consider serving with this group in order to offer a native plant perspective? It is important work and a chance to have input in the planning stages. Please let Erick Smith know if you would like to serve on this advisory group (email: Erick@kestreleco.com).

The management plan advisory group is made up of elected officials, staff from other land management agencies, the manager of the state park, representatives of environmental groups, park volunteers, adjacent landowners, and representatives of recreational user groups associated with the state park. This focus-group review of plans is found to be very beneficial to both the long-term visioning process and short term planning for state parks.

The advisory group for the Devil's Millhopper Geological State Park management plan will meet one time, for about 3 or 4 hours, on Thursday, May 1st, 9:00 AM at the Florida Park Service District 2 Office (4801 Camp Ranch Road, Gainesville, FL 32641). Two weeks before the meeting, the appointee will receive a copy of the draft management plan and an appointment letter with additional information. At the meeting, staff of the Division of Recreation and Parks will answer questions and discuss the plan and the advisory group will be asked to provide comments.

There will also be a general public workshop to discuss the draft management plan the evening before the scheduled advisory group meeting (6:30 PM (EDT) at the Millhopper Branch Alachua County Library, 3145 NW 43rd Street, Gainesville, FL 32606). The Florida Park Service would like to encourage all who are interested in the Division's management of the Devil's Millhopper to attend.

Join us for meetings of FNPS Paynes Prairie Chapter, held at 7 PM on the 2nd Thursday of each month except December, June, July, & August at The United Church of Gainesville, **Membership Form is now at our website: www.paynesprairie.fnpschapters.org**

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New *Rhexia* Editor Needed in September 2014

Dear Paynes Prairie Chapter members:

I have really enjoyed putting together the *Rhexia* newsletter these past few months, but need to concentrate on other goals in this coming year.

If you are interested in taking over as editor, contact Claudia Larsen, Goldie Schwartz, or me.

I am happy to teach what I know about this process to anyone who volunteers. Barbara Smith

Not a Member Yet? Visit our website to Join:
<http://paynesprairie.fnpschapters.org>

Link to printable FNPS Membership Application:
<http://fnps.org/assets/docs/docs/fnpsmembershipapplfeb2012.pdf>

May's speaker will be Anna Prizzia of Forage Farms



Paynes Prairie Chapter FNPS
Field Trip – Forage Farm Tour
9 AM – Saturday, April 12th



Our April field trip is to **Forage Farm**, a small working farm near Gainesville that is focused on providing sustainable, local cut flowers. In addition to the flower farm, Forage offers a community seed library program, food and gardening related workshops with a focus on seed saving, educational internships for young adults, and after school youth programs. Forage is also involved in the development of infrastructure for local food systems. There will be much to observe and to savor as we tour the vibrant and dynamic farm and gain a sense of the greater purpose that nourishes this non-profit endeavor.

Anna Prizzia, one of the co-founders, will lead an informative 45-minute tour that promises a peek at some of the exciting developments at the farm. Of special interest to native plant lovers, Forage Farms is working toward development of a native cutting garden in order to incorporate more native flowers into their bouquets. Field trip participants will see the beginnings of the native garden that our Paynes Prairie Chapter helped fund, though planting may still be incomplete. We will also walk in the area where Forage hopes to develop a native demonstration garden over time.

We have the option of staying for the 10 o'clock tour of the conservation burial ground. Since the long-term goal for the FNPS funded garden is to connect it with this cemetery, this would be a good opportunity to visualize all aspects of that future plan.

**For planning, Anna has requested a count for the tours. Please RSVP at the chapter meeting contact Claudia Larsen (email: Micanopywildflowers@yahoo.com) if you plan to attend. And let us know if you will also stay for the tour of the conservation burial ground. **



Forage is located east of Gainesville at Alachua Conservation Trust's Prairie Creek Preserve, 7204 SE County Road 234. For more about Forage, go to <http://www.foragefarm.org>. For a good map, see ACT's website: <http://alachuaconservationtrust.org>.

Directions from Gainesville: Go East on University Ave. & bear Right onto Hawthorne Road, (FL-20), (go 5.1 miles). Turn Right onto County Rd. 2082 (go 1.3 miles), Turn Right onto County Rd. 234 (go 1 mile), Turn Right into entrance. (7204 on mailbox). There is an 'Alachua Conservation Trust' sign near entrance. We will be parking in the cemetery lot. Please follow signs through the right-hand gate.

We have planned a special guided tour, led by Chuck Hubbuch, of Sawmill Slough Preserve and Florida native landscape plantings at the University of North Florida (UNF). Chuck Hubbuch is curator of the UNF's Sawmill Slough Preserve, where he is actively involved in prescribed burns and exotic pest plant removal. In 2011, he was awarded the First Coast Invasive Working Group's Dynamic Land Manager Award. He is a member of UNF's Environmental Center Board and oversees Asset Management of the Natural Assets Inventory. From 1984 to 2002, Hubbuch became Director of Plant Collections – overseeing a horticultural department, at the world-renowned Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden in Miami, Florida. During this time, Hubbuch was Fairchild's all-time leading plant collector, traveling to 25 countries outside the US to expand Fairchild's collection. From 1990 to 2004, he worked closely with sixteen gardens in eight countries, including projects with the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust, Institute of Museum and Library Services and Caribbean Botanic Garden Conservation.

Since 2005, Mr. Hubbuch has directed the design and management of landscaping, gardens and natural areas at the University of North Florida, a campus of over 1200 acres set in Jacksonville, Florida, between the St. Johns River and the Atlantic Ocean. He authored the first UNF Natural Areas Management Plan and in 2011 received the annual Gabor/UNF Foundation Award for Employee Excellence. During his impressive career, Hubbuch has organized four conferences, published over 55 articles, and offered over 100 presentations in ten countries. His leadership at UNF continues his record of horticultural expertise in the southeastern United States. Chuck Hubbuch earned his B.S. in horticulture from the University of Kentucky.

Itinerary for Saturday, May 10, 2014:

7:45 am - Meet at the Publix parking lot on 3720 NW 13th St in Gainesville. This store is at the intersection of NW 39th Ave. We'll meet at the northeast corner that borders 13th St. and will carpool to Jacksonville.

8:00 am – Leave promptly for Jacksonville (about a 2 hour drive)

10:00 am - Arrive at UNF Sawmill Slough Preserve parking lot (bathroom facility available) – This 382 acre natural area on campus was designated as a preserve in May 2006 by UNF President John Delaney. The Sawmill Slough Preserve includes the original Sawmill Slough, a wetland habitat stretching through the western portion of the campus from Central Parkway to J Turner Butler Boulevard. In addition to the wetland, small areas of drier habitat including some longleaf pine-turkey oak woodlands are found in the Preserve. Over 600 species of plants have been identified and more than 160 bird species have been observed in the preserve. Wildlife includes resident populations of deer, turkey, and fox squirrels. Bear and bobcat tracks are seen occasionally. During our walk, we will visit selected habitats including swamp, mesic forest, pine ridge habitat and a scenic man-made lake. Chuck will discuss management practices in this preserve. We will visit one or more sites of managed burns to see the effects. UNF Sawmill Slough Preserve website: http://www.unf.edu/physicalfacilities/Sawmill_Slough_Preserve.aspx

12:30 – 1:00 - Break for picnic lunch on campus (participants to bring a bag lunch).

1:00 – 2:00 pm – Tour the Florida native plantings (about 60 species) around the new LEED-certified Biology building. A protected courtyard has permitted southern species, including mahogany, gumbo-limbo, sea grape and some stopper species, to survive winter north of their usual range.

After 2:00 pm – Depart UNF campus for Gainesville (arrive about 4:00 pm) OR participate in optional meal activity below before departing for Gainesville.

3:00 pm –Optional – Eat at the famous Clark's Fish Camp located on the St. John's River. This restaurant is built on the river and has an eclectic menu with Florida specialties, an impressive display of native and exotic taxidermy specimens, and a huge freshwater tank containing native fish and an alligator. Depart for Gainesville about 4:30 pm or earlier. Clark's Fish Camp website: <http://www.clarksfishcamp.com/Contact.aspx>

Reservations are required for this field trip because space is limited to 12 persons for the UNF tour. Please contact Ellen Thoms (emthoms@dow.com or at 352-332-5682) to let Ellen know the following: 1. Number participating, 2. Can you drive or do you need a ride? 3. Do you want to eat at Clark's Fish Camp? 4. Your phone number or e-mail contact.

We need volunteers to drive for carpooling. Driving directions, UNF plant lists, and trail maps will be e-mailed to participants. Limited hardcopies of these items will be available the day of the trip.

A No Trail Field Trip; Hunting the Wild Azalea by Goldie Schwartz

It was a cool Saturday morning as about 12 of us gathered at the entrance to Etoniah Creek State Forest where Charlie Pederson gave us some background on the property. The 8,682 acres has a variety of natural communities

such as Baygall, Scrub, Flatwoods and Sandhills to name a few. The land was acquired using Preservation 2000 bond funds, in part as a wildlife corridor for the black bear and habitat for other threatened species, such as eastern indigo snake,

Sherman's fox squirrel, and gopher tortoise. Charlie informed us that there remains one scrub jay family still in residence.



While the Forest's namesake is the creek (pictured above), the land purchase was further justified because of the endangered Etoniah Rosemary, *Conradina etonia*. This plant is found in deep white-sand scrub, an area dominated by sand pine and shrubby oaks on dry soils. The Forest contains the only known population of Etoniah Rosemary found on public lands.



We were guided to a spot where we observed the endangered plant first hand. It was interesting to see this rosemary compared to the sandhill-rosemary, *Ceratiola ericoides* that I am used to seeing.

The reason Etoniah Rosemary is endangered is that distribution of the plant is apparently restricted to very limited areas of deep white-sand scrub. Habitat loss and fire suppression resulting in closure of overstory vegetation are important limiting factors.

Our wild azalea search continued by vehicle through scenic bottomland where hardwoods lined the steep, sloping creek banks and **there were no trails**. Eelgrass, *Vallisneria americana*, grew in the creek, noteworthy because it was free of any algal growth. I had recently observed eelgrass growing in Silver Springs that was covered with algae. We had the opportunity to compare two *Vaccinium* species growing side by side. The deerberry, *Vaccinium stamineum*, and the sparkleberry, *Vaccinium arboretum*.

After trekking up and down several steep inclines someone spotted a large mass of white blooms. Sure enough it was the native azalea, *Rhododendron canescens*. *Despite predictions that we would probably not find the wild azalea, our hunt was a huge success!*



Wild azalea, pictured right, grows 3-5 meters tall and flower color varies from white to pink. Blooms appear in early spring just prior to or along with the emergence of bright green new leaves. Photos this page, courtesy of Goldie Schwartz.

MORE...Here is an additional list of plants from the field trip, by Jill McGuire:

Following alongside the spoil banks of Etoniah Creek, we came across (Charlie spotted!) a huge 12' azalea, *Rhododendron canescens*, or the Pinxter Azalea. It was unusual in color, with very light, almost white flowers. At least six to eight other plants not yet blooming in the area looked like they would be the more common pink color.

Trees or large shrubs along creek were: *Ilex opaca* (American holly); *Lyonia fruiticosa* (staggerbush); *Symplocos tinctoria* (horse sugar or sweet leaf...we debated just how sweet it was); a large, blooming *Osmanthus americanus* (wild olive or devilwood); *Gordonia lasianthus* (loblolly bay); *Vaccinium myrsinites* and *V. corymbosum*; *Viburnum obovatum* (Walter); numerous small *Persea gordonia* (red bay) that had sprouted from the roots of dead large individuals.

Ground covers: *Mitchella repens* (partridge berry) and *Houstonia procumbens* (Innocence).

On the way to the Etoniah Rosemary site, we saw a beautiful *Lupinus diffusus*, the Sky-blue lupine, hanging over the edge of the road; a number more were found nearby just ready to bloom.



Florida Native Plant Society

Spring Native Plant Sale

Location: Morningside Nature Center
3540 East University Ave
Gainesville, FL

Friday, April 4th from 4:30 till 6:30 pm

Open to FNPS members only

**FNPS Members: Don't miss your opportunity to shop first!
Memberships available at the gate**

Saturday, April 5th from 8:30 am till 12:30 pm

Open to the public

THERE WILL BE:

Native Plant Vendors, galore

Live Music

Free Plant Advice

Guided Wildflower Walks

Hands-free shopping with Park-a-Plant

NOW accepting credit cards!

Proceeds help the Friends of Nature Parks

Volunteers needed- Just one or two hours Friday or Saturday (Park-a-Plant or FNPS booth) You don't have to be an expert!

Contact Lisa Jelks at jelkslg@ufl.edu.

Co-Sponsored by City of Gainesville and Friends of Nature Parks



Photo: *Sarracenia minor* (Hooded Pitcher Plant) by Lisa Jelks



Plant Identification Workshop for March 13th Meeting

Submitted by Paul Cohen

<i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	Common Yellow Woodsorrel, Creeping Woodsorrel	Oxalidaceae	Native
<i>Houstonia procumbens</i>	Innocence, Roundleaf Bluet	Rubiaceae	Native
<i>Corydalis micranthra</i> <i>subsp. Australis</i>	Smallflower Fumewort, Harlequin	Papaveraceae	Native
<i>Viburnum obovatum</i>	Walter's Viburnum, Smallleaf Viburnum	Adoxaceae	Native
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Goosegrass, Spring Cleavers, Stickywilly	Rubiaceae	Native
<i>cv Setaria viridis</i>	Green Bristelgrass, Green Foxtail, Foxtail Millet	Poaceae	Not Native
<i>cv Setaria macrosperma</i>	Coral Bristlegrass, Coral Foxtail	Poaceae	Native

Paul's Note: I wish to extend a special thanks to all participants including Rob Garren (nomenclature suggestions). 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/>). Photos below of Spring Cleavers (L) and Innocence are from this website, posted 3/2014.

Galium aparine
Photo by John Kunzer



Houstonia procumbens
Photo by Drew Shell



Next meeting of Paynes Prairie Chapter - Thursday, April 10th
at United Church of Gainesville, 1624 NW 5th AVE
Program begins 7 pm Plant ID Clinic 6:15 pm

See Page 4 -Next Field Trip – April 12th

Find us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Paynes-Prairie-Chapter-of-FNPS/124351387638422>

YARD VISITS: Join us for this activity each month as we tour each other's yards and learn about the use of native plants in our landscapes. If you would like to participate in yard visits, you must be willing to have the group tour your yard sometime. Contact Connie Caldwell to sign up: connie.caldwell@sfcollge.edu. She will add you to the list and email you dates, locations, & directions.

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Florida Native Plant Society
 Paynes Prairie Chapter
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To become a sponsor: Send your business-card sized ad in jpg format to Goldie Schwartz at afn49@mindspring.com. Ads run Jan – Nov for \$100, or monthly for \$12.50.



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