Conradina Chapter Meeting:
Monday, February 13, 2017

5:30 P.M. Refreshments ☑ 6:00 P.M. Meeting
Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library

History of the South Beaches of Brevard County
Speaker: Barbara Arthur

If you’ve made the drive down A1A from Melbourne Beach to Sebastian Inlet, you’ve likely seen Honest John’s Fish Camp—one of Brevard’s best known and most historical landmarks. The Fish Camp has evolved over the years from the Smith family’s pioneer homestead to a fishing mecca. Now, while it remains famous for its fishing, it’s becoming known as an ecotourism attraction. Visitors can rent or launch kayaks and boats and enjoy viewing the area’s manatees, waterfowl, dolphins, and the variety of other flora and fauna that make the lagoon area their home.

Back in 1887, brothers Robert T. Smith and Charley Smith had an 159-acre plantation featuring raising vegetables at the mouth of Mullett Creek. They built a two-story Florida Cracker heart-pine house on coquina pilings in 1899. The house still stands.

Our February speaker, Barbara Arthur, is the granddaughter of Robert Smith and the daughter of “Honest John” Smith. Barbara’s well known not only for her continuing stewardship of her family’s land but also for her advocacy for protecting and preserving our environment. Barbara is a well-known local historian and is also a world champion fisherwoman. She holds eight International Game Fish Association (IGFA) world records, including one for a mammoth 12-pound, 2-ounce sea trout.

Long before air-conditioning, paved roads to the inlet, and mosquito control, Barbara and her family lived the pioneer life here in South Brevard. We welcome Barbara to give us a bit of insight into her family’s history and early life in the south beaches area.
Support Conradina Chapter

How can you help Conradina Chapter raise money? Use your shopping and searching to help us, please!

1. Shop on AmazonSmile and pick us to donate 0.5% of your purchase: https://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-3251333

2. Shop on GoodShop with their amazing coupons and pick us: Conradina Florida Native Plant Society - Brevard County

3. Use GoodSearch for your search engine and pick us to donate $.01 for each search: Conradina Florida Native Plant Society - Brevard County

About GoodShop and GoodSearch

It all adds up.
Thank you!

Carol’s Corner: What is a Privet?
By Carol Hebert

There are some native plants that just hide behind the curtain of other plants that are in vibrant bloom. They are like the Oak tree (Quercus sp.) that gets overlooked. Oak trees support so much wildlife! David Tallamy is an expert who often talks about “the important ecological roles of the plants in our landscapes, emphasize the ecological, educational, physical, and emotional benefits of designing landscapes with these roles in mind.” I do recommend his book, Bringing Nature Home. He says 534 butterfly and moths use oak trees for their survival.

There are other plants that get overlooked because they don’t have a vibrant flower or shape. The one I am highlighting is the Florida Privet (Forestiera segregata). They are evergreen and great as a hedge. Birds love to hide or nest in them. Currently, is has fruit on it during this time of year and why? It could be because migrating birds are coming through in addition to common birds that need some food. American Robins and Cedar Waxwing are passing through and only eat fruit. The sad part of the story is since they only eat fruit, what else is producing fruit this time of year? A plant that is producing a big amount of fruit is the Brazilian Pepper (Schinus terebinthfolius). Birds need to survive so they are not spreading Brazilian Peppers seeds on purpose.

So the point of this story is plant only native plants!

Photo by Carol Hebert

www.conradina.fnpschapters.org
## Upcoming Events & Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>February</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>13 Feb 5:30/6 p.m.</td>
<td>Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. <em>History of the South Beaches of Brevard County</em> presented by Barbara Arthur. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 Feb 9 a.m.—12 p.m.</td>
<td>Florida Friendly Landscaping Seminar. Satellite Beach High School - Auditorium, 300 Scorpion Court, Satellite Beach. See page 4 for information. Volunteers needed to staff the Conradina booth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Feb 9 a.m.—12 p.m.</td>
<td>Workday at Turkey Creek Sanctuary. Please come join us to maintain this beautiful property in need of our help. Tools and lunch will be provided. RSVP to Tracey Wright at (321) 676-6690. See page 4 for a link to the volunteer application. 1518 Port Malabar Blvd. NE, Palm Bay 32905</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 March 8 a.m.—4 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Melbourne Botanical Festival. Downtown Melbourne. See below for information. Volunteers needed to staff the Conradina booth.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 March 5:30/6 p.m.</td>
<td>Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. <em>Indian River Lagoon Update</em> presented by Dr. Duane DeFreese. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 March 9 a.m.—2 p.m.</td>
<td>Satellite Beach Coastal Garden Fair. David R. Schechter Community Center, 1089 S. Patrick Drive, Satellite Beach. See below for information. Volunteers needed to staff the Conradina booth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 April 5:30/6 p.m.</td>
<td>Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. <em>Florida Sandhills</em> presented by Walter Taylor. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 May 5:30/6 p.m.</td>
<td>Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. <em>Drive By Botany Or Nature As Seen From a Moving Vehicle</em> presented by Dr. Jay Barnhart. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 June 11 a.m./Noon</td>
<td>Conradina Chapter FNPS Board Meeting (11 a.m.). Potluck to follow for general membership (noon). Erna Nixon Park.</td>
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### Upcoming Keep Brevard Beautiful Event:
**Satellite Beach Coastal Garden Fair**

**Saturday, March 18, 2017 • 9 a.m.—2 p.m.**

Come out to the Satellite Beach Coastal Garden Fair at the David R. Schechter Community Center in Satellite Beach on March 18 from 9 a.m.—2 p.m. and swing by the Lagoon Friendly Lawns booth to get all the details on our new program that promotes positive changes in lawn care and landscaping practices to reduce nutrient pollution in the Indian River Lagoon.

There will be a Lagoon Friendly Lawns educational workshop, a plant sale, and a whole host of great gardening vendors to help you get started on your next Lagoon Friendly landscaping project.

Conradina will be there with two booths, and we need volunteers to help out! Look for the sign-up sheet at our January meeting.

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[Support EELS](https://www.conradina.fnpschapters.org)
Florida-Friendly Landscaping Seminar, February 18

Come join us for the 2017 Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Seminar where there will be four presentations plus vendors! The following talks are scheduled:

9:00—9:45 a.m.
Palm Care 101
Linda Seals, UF/IFAS Extension Brevard

9:45—10:30 a.m.
Beautiful and Beneficial Native Plants for Your Lagoon Friendly Lawn
Bill DeLuccia, an Indialantic resident who received the first Lagoon Friendly Lawn sign from Keep Brevard Beautiful

10:45—11:30 a.m.
What’s Ailing the Indian River Lagoon?... and What You Can Do to Help Heal It
Kathy Hill, Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program

11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.
Grow Your Own Delicious Food—No Matter Where You Live!
Sally Scalera, UF/IFAS Extension Brevard

12:30—1 p.m.
Door prizes and plant sale

Date and Time
Saturday, February 18, 2017
9:00 a.m.—1 p.m.

Location
Satellite Beach High School - Auditorium
300 Scorpion Court
Satellite Beach, FL 32937

The event is free and please register in advance on Eventbrite.

Volunteers needed for the Conradina booth!

Workday at Turkey Creek Sanctuary, February 19

Please come join us to maintain this beautiful property in need of our help. As part of the Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) program and the East Florida section of the Great Florida Birding Trail, Turkey Creek Sanctuary is 130 acres of wonder, biodiversity, and natural resources. We need you!

Time: 9 a.m.—12 p.m., Sunday, February 19, 2017

Location: Turkey Creek Sanctuary, 1518 Port Malabar Blvd. NE, Palm Bay, FL 32905

Work Duties: We will be removing downed trees and branches that are fuel to unplanned fires.

What to Bring: Work gloves, sunscreen, and drinking water! Tools and lunch will be provided.

How to Get Ready: Print and fill out the volunteer application at www.palmbayflorida.org/home/showdocument?id=1984 along with a copy of your driver’s license or other photo ID. The application and ID must be submitted prior to the workday.

Please RSVP to Tracey Wright, TCS Park Ranger, at (321) 676-6690.
February 2017 - History Month

Join us as we explore the history of Merritt Island!

Pioneer Day

Saturday, February 11th, 10 am to 4pm
Join us for the 6th Annual Pioneer Day! Celebrating the history and nature of Merritt Island on “Pioneer Day” is an annual event in partnership with St. Luke’s Episcopal Church and the Pine Island Preservation Society.

Go back through history and enjoy presentations, exhibitors, vendors and more!

This family friendly event is free, with a $1 suggested donation for parking, which is available both at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church and the Sams House.

If you are interested in learning more about Pioneer day, visit “Pioneer Day Merritt Island” on Facebook or visit www.mipioneerday.com!

Trash to Treasures

Sunday, February 5th, 10 am to noon
Kids! The Sams House needs your help! Trash and other long forgotten items can sometimes litter our Sanctuary. Work with volunteers and staff to clean up the Sams House Conservation Area, and turn trash into treasure! Once done, kids will turn in trash, and choose an item from the Sams House Trading Post!

Family Hike to Pine Island

Saturday, February 25th, 10 am to noon
Join staff on a hike up to Pine Island, and learn about our diverse wildlife and ecosystems, on a trip through nature! Travel on the Garnet trail requires closed toe shoes, insect repellant, and sun protection.

Sams House and Cabin Tours

Thursday & Saturday at 3:00 pm and by appointment. Tour the inside of Brevard County’s oldest standing home (1875) and the adjacent 1888 Florida Vernacular-style home and learn about the Sams Family.
Chapter News

Arbor Day, Lipscomb Park, Melbourne, January 20

It was a beautiful day for tree planting at Lipscomb Park and a great day for Stone Middle School to assist and all take home a small tree to start in their own yard to bring birds and wildlife. The City of Melbourne handed out many native Live Oak trees, Southern magnolias, Bald Cypress, Flatwoods Plum trees, and several other varieties. Mayor Kathy Meehan pronounced January 20 as Arbor Day for the City of Melbourne with an official proclamation. This year marks the 28th year that the city has earned the “Tree City USA” certification from the Arbor Day Foundation. Our own Carol Hebert was a featured speaker on native plants! Maple Street Natives donated the lovely red cedar tree as one of the trees being planted by the students. Thank you, Maple Street Natives! Why don’t all towns do this? See if you can get your town on board using the Arbor Day link provided.

Turkey Creek Sanctuary Work Day, January 15

A great crew of FNPS members came out to help Turkey Creek Sanctuary clear downed trees and branches from the Hurricane Matthew storm. We took out six trailer loads of debris! However, there is still a lot more to be cleared. There will never be a prescribed burn at Turkey Creek Sanctuary due to the population community so close by. That is why it is necessary to remove the “fuel” to try to prevent an accidental fire. Please join us on the next workday of Sunday, February 19, from 9 a.m. to noon. Also be sure to fill out and turn in your volunteer application form along with a copy of your driver’s license on a weekday prior to the work day. See page 4 for more information.