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Photos by Bob Peterson



# Conradina NEWS

April 2016

## Conradina Chapter Meeting: April 11, 2016

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

### Flora and Fauna of the Southern Appalachians: Blue Ridge Beauty

#### Speaker: William Haddad

Bill has always been interested in the outdoors—coming from a family that had a cabin in the Pocono Mountains in Pennsylvania—and being an active fisherman and hiker. However, his interest increased when he discovered birding in the 1980s and then nature photography when he later retired. Bill then built a cabin in the mountains in North Carolina where he spends approximately six months a year.



He finds the Southern Appalachians especially interesting because of the great diversity of wild plants and animals.

Bill retired from appellate law for the State of Florida and is active with the Audubon Society and enjoys birding reading, hiking, tennis, and nature photography.



Photos by  
William  
Haddad



## Upcoming Events & Meetings

APRIL 7 6:30 P.M.	<b>Think Global / Act Local, Part 1: Florida Local.</b> Part 1 of a 2-part program celebrating Earth Day. Hosted by Space Coast Progressive Alliance. Electric car show starts at 5:30 p.m. Front Street Civic Center. See <a href="#">page 3</a> for more information.
April 10 10 A.M.	<b>Conradina Chapter field trip to Saint Sebastian River Preserve State Park: <i>Following the Turpentine Trail.</i></b> Led by Tracey Wright, Park Ranger. See <a href="#">page 3</a> for more information.
April 11	<b>Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. <i>Appalachian Wildflowers on the Blue Ridge Mountains</i></b> by Bill Haddad. Bill has explored the Blue Ridge Mountains in Tennessee for many years. He has fabulous pictures and stories to share with the audience. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.
May 9	<b>Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. <i>The Fungus Among Us</i></b> by Dr. Jay Barnhart. Jay will tell us about the fascinating details of the mushrooms and other forms of fungus here in Florida. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.
May 19	<b>Think Global / Act Local, Part 2: Planet Earth.</b> Part 2 of a 2-part program celebrating Earth Day. Hosted by Space Coast Progressive Alliance.

## Carol's Corner: Lupine in Bloom!

By Carol Hebert

We had an enjoyable walk at Turkey Creek Sanctuary, and we saw wonderful plants. There was Conradina grandiflora in bloom—the plant our chapter is named after. Blueberry (*Vaccinium myrsintes*) and Deerberry (*Vaccinium stamineum*) were also wonderfully in bloom. We took a walk on a boardwalk done by a Scout recently to see huge Giant Leather Ferns. Toward the end of our walk, we enjoyed the sight of many bunches of Lupine (*Lupinus diffusus*). They were drop dead beautiful! It was a fun field trip so think about joining us on future field trips.

Plant native!

*Lupine (Lupinus diffusus)*

Photo by Carol Hebert





**THINK GLOBAL | ACT LOCAL**  
**PART 1: FLORIDA LOCAL**

- **Florida Report** by Cris Costello
- **Indian River Lagoon** by Dr. Leesa Souto
- **Florida Fracking** by Richard Silvestri
- **Solar Florida** by Dr. James Fenton

**6:30PM THURS. APRIL 7, 2016**

SCPA 1st Thursday Program celebrating Earth Day

## Think Global / Act Local, Part 1: Florida Local

Thursday, April 7 ■ 6:30 p.m.

Electric Car Show starts at 5:30 p.m.

Hosted by Space Coast Progressive Alliance

Location: Front Street Civic Center, 2205 Front Street  
Melbourne, FL 32901

Free and open to the public. Donations graciously accepted.

A 2-part program celebrating Earth Day:

- **Think Global Act Local, Part 1: Florida Local**
- Think Global Act Local, Part 2: Planet Earth, on May 19

### Florida Local Environment Reports:

#### Florida

by **Cris Costello**, Sierra Club Florida,  
Senior Organizing Representative

- Wins and losses at the Florida legislative session

#### Florida Fracking

by **Richard Silvestri**, Vice President,  
Treasure Coast Progressive Alliance

- Florida Fracking status, where we must go and how we get there

#### Indian River Lagoon

by **Dr. Leesa Souto**, Executive Director, Marine Resources Council

- Septic Tank Studies and the coming Lagoon Report Card

#### Solar Energy

by **Dr. James M. Fenton**, Director of UCF Florida Solar Energy Center

- Solar energy prospects in Florida

**Plus short updates** on Citizens Combating Climate Change, Brevard Indian River Lagoon Coalition and more.

## Field Trips

### Saint Sebastian River Preserve State Park: Following the Turpentine Trail

Sunday, April 10 ■ 10 A.M.

Led by Tracey Wright, Park Ranger. This is a hay ride and limited to 20 participants. Please contact Suzanne Valencia at [suzmvalencia@gmail.com](mailto:suzmvalencia@gmail.com) or (321) 984-0604 to sign up. Meet at the Visitor Center (just inside the gate off of Babcock Street) at 10 A.M. The trip will last about 2—2 1/2 hours and will take us along the Yellow Trail where we will stop and study a few turpentine trees as well as some Red-cockaded Woodpecker trees and other native plants. Tracey will have a short version of her turpentine presentation set up in the Visitor Center as well for those who are interested in learning more.

Wear sturdy hiking shoes or tennis shoes and comfortable clothing. Bring water, snacks, insect repellent, sunscreen, binoculars, and a hat.

### Maritime Hammock Sanctuary Hike

Saturday, May 14 ■ 9 a.m.—11 a.m.

Led by John Boltz, Conradina Chapter. The hike is approximately two miles in length. This property of the Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program is approximately 150 acres and has habitats ranging from the ocean to the lagoon and includes coastal strand, maritime hammock, hydric hammock, and mangrove forest.

Meet at the north trailhead located 300 feet north of the entrance to Mark's Landing on the west side of A1A. The physical address is 6200 S. Highway A1A (there is no indication of street number). Take U.S. 192 east to Highway A1A and go south 10.1 miles.

Wear hiking or tennis shoes, consider repellent and sunscreen, and bring water as it may be warm in places outside the shade of the hammock.

## Officers and Directors

### President

Suzanne Valencia

### Vice President

Carol Hebert

### Secretary

Jane Higgins

### Treasurer

Kathryn Merry

### Chapter Representative

Martha Steuart

### Board of Directors At Large

Jim Baldwin

John Boltz

Sharon Dolan

Cammie Donaldson

Vince Lamb

Karen Melcher

Bo Platt

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### Membership Chair

Linda Mongioi

### Webmaster

Paulie Campbell

### Newsletter Editor

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## Chapter News

- Thank you to our volunteers for the Viera Wetland Festival. The day started off with clear weather and the afternoon did give us rain. It was a fun event! Thank you to Sharon Dolan, Suzanne Valencia, Marc and Debbie Grenier, Laura Blackmon, Pete Rogers, Karen Moser, and Carol Hebert. Total volunteer hours: 28.
- Conradina Chapter partnered with the Tar Flower, Pine Lily, and Cuplet Fern Chapters and with the Florida Association of Natives Nurseries (FANN) to sponsor the 4th annual Central Florida Native Plant Sale on March 31, April 1 and 2. This event was held at the Osceola Heritage Center in Kissimmee in conjunction with FANN's trade show. Not only was this a very successful fund raiser for all the groups but it is also great fun to interact and work with members from other Chapters. Our thanks to Sharon and Brent Dolan, Carol Hebert, Martha Steuart, Jane Higgins, Jim Baldwin, John Boltz, Trevor Nimmons, and Kathryn Merry for their wonderful help.

### A warm welcome to our newest members!

- Lisa Bryan
- Anne Crowley
- Marcia Day
- Jessie Hewett
- Karen Regan
- Ryan Zimmer