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Photos by Bob Peterson



February 2016

Conradina NEWS

Conradina Chapter Meeting: February 8, 2016

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

'Managing' Sea Level Rise in Florida As Our World Warms Past 2°C

Speaker: Dr. Randall Parkinson

Dr. Parkinson will begin the presentation by describing the effects of sea level rise along the coast of Florida under conditions of rising temperature. Next, Dr. Parkinson will discuss how best to manage this risk using regional associations of local government. Finally, he will describe what adaptation actions (i.e., protect and defend, managed withdrawal) are required to successfully mitigate sea level rise.



Dr. Randall Parkinson is a coastal geologist who has been active in the science of sea level rise and coastal zone management for three decades. He was the lead investigator on an EPA-funded project designed to quantify the vulnerability of the City of Satellite Beach to future sea level rise. This project is now recognized as the first of its kind in the state of Florida. Dr. Parkinson has lived in Melbourne, Florida, since 1987, and a member of Brevard County's Environmentally Endangered Lands Selection and Management Committee for 24 years. As an environmental consultant, he continues to promote the resilience of natural lands in an ever-expanding urban landscape.

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Next Chapter Meeting

March 14, 2016

Dendrochronology

Speaker: Jean Hoffman

Upcoming Events & Meetings

February 8	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. <i>Managing Sea Level Rise in Florida As Our World Warms by 2°C</i> presented by Dr. Randall Parkinson. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.
February 13 10 A.M.—4 P.M.	Merritt Island Pioneer Day. For information, see page 3.
February 14	Conradina Chapter field trip to Cruickshank Sanctuary. Cancelled.
March 5 8 A.M.—4 P.M.	Florida Institute of Technology's 10th Annual Botanical Fest Plant and Garden Sale. Crawford Green, FIT Campus, 150 W. University Boulevard, Melbourne. Volunteers needed to staff Conradina Chapter booth.
March 14	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. <i>Dendrochronology</i> by Jean Hoffman. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting. Note change in venue back to our usual location.
March 19 9 A.M.—2 P.M.	Viera Wetlands Festival. Volunteers needed to staff Conradina Chapter booth.

Carol's Corner: Autumn Colors

By Carol Hebert

Fall is almost over and there are still a few autumn colors there to enjoy. Red Maple (*Acer rebrum*) is showing its display of how wonderfully its leaves change color and contribute to the soil. There are several other leaves changing color and falling such as the deep red of Virginia Creeper and the yellow leaves of the Grape vines (*Vitis sp.*) and the American Elm (*Ulmus americana*). I have already seen the Laurel Oaks showering their leaves! This is the best time to leave all those leaves in your yard to enrich the soil. Since Melbourne is about four inches above the average rain fall, spring is on it's way. Plant native!



Photo by Carol Hebert

Merritt Island Pioneer Day

A celebration of the early settlers of Merritt Island is planned **February 13** for Pioneer Day—an event held at two locations that features history, art, music and fun for nature lovers.

The event is a partnership between Sams House at the Pine Island Conservation Area and St. Luke's Episcopal Church, located on a narrow winding stretch of North Tropical Trail just north of the barge canal on North Merritt Island.

Events take place from **10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** with a wide variety of activities. Most will be free of charge. Complete information can be found by visiting www.pioneerday.com and www.facebook.com/pioneerdaymerrittisland. Parking is available at both locations with a suggested donation of \$1 per car. There is also free shuttle service every 20 minutes between the two locations.

Summary of Events at the Sams House, 6195 North Tropical Trail Merritt Island:

- Living history demonstrations and educational exhibits
- Local products and arts and crafts
- Historic house and cabin tours provided by Environmentally Endangered Lands program staff and volunteers in period costumes
- Display of Sams family artifacts and toys on loan from the Brevard Museum of History and Natural Science
- Florida folk music performed by Chris Kahl, the Celery City String Band, D. Scott Taylor and Laura Clark
- Children's pioneer games and nature crafts
- Foods for purchase including barbecue, hot dogs, corn on the cob, kettle korn and more

Summary of Events at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 5555 North Tropical Trail Merritt Island:

- Ongoing self-guided historic chapel and cemetery tours
- Display of artifacts from the Brevard Museum of History and Natural Science, home of the FHS Archaeological Institute
- Policicchio Groves. Growing oranges on North Merritt Island since 1920
- 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.: Ais, Timucuan, and Seminoles—Their Lives and Culture presented by Jim Sawgrass
- 12 p.m.: Homemade soups (\$5)
- 12 p.m.: Lessons from Windover: A Glimpse Into Ancient Florida, Dr. Rachel Went, writer/archaeologist
- 1 p.m.: Trail of Tears—A brief history of the forced relocation of the Cherokee Nation in 1838-39. Johnny Kee will sing *Amazing Grace* in Cherokee, a song that was sung many times along the Trail of Tears.
- 1 - 4 p.m.: Cemetery tours with Molly Thomas, Historic Preservation go Cemeteries
- 3 p.m.: Windover: Past Present and Future with Patrisha Meyers, Director, Brevard Museum of History and Natural Science and the Florida Historical Society Archaeological Institute.
- 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.: Fish Fry Dinner (advanced ticket sales at 321-452-5260)

Pioneer Day
February 13, 2016
www.mipioneerday.com

St. Luke's
Episcopal Church
5555 N Tropical Trail
Merritt Island



Sams House
at Pine Island
6195 N Tropical Trail
Merritt Island





**Sams House -
Pioneer Day**

For all ages!



Pioneer Day Celebrates Merritt Island History
www.mipioneerday.com
www.facebook.com/pioneerdaymerrittisland

Free shuttle every 20 minutes between locations

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Chapter News

Conradina Chapter donated a one-year single person membership to the 19th Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival silent auction. It was our second year to do this donation. This year it was presented along with a Wild Coffee plant planted in a ceramic Great Horned Owl planter and sitting in a nice basket. The bonus was a DVD of Margret Hames touring and highlighting native plants in the Malabar Scrub EELS location in Palm Bay, FL. A current edition of *The Palmetto* newsletter was also included. We heard it was bid on many times, and we look forward to learning the name of our new member!

A warm welcome to our newest members!

- Gail Meredith
- Judy Ying

Malabar Field Trip Recap

Sunday, January 17, was a sunny and windy day and we enjoyed a field trip to Malabar Scrub Sanctuary on Malabar Road in Palm Bay. Melbourne had experienced about 4 inches in rain the prior week and there were no puddles in the high areas of the scrub. Jane, Rena, and I took the red trail east through the most recently burned area of the park. John joined us at the end of the trail. The lyonias, wax myrtle, saw palmetto, and wildflowers looked wonderful as they rebounded from the black soil. As we came across low elevations areas, we also saw *Sabatia grandiflora* and *Hypericum* sp. in bloom. It was a real treat to see about 8-10 ground orchids in bloom! They are Spider Orchids (*Habenaria odontopetala*). Hope you will join us on

our next field trip!

*Text and Photos by
Carol Hebert*



(L) Jane and (R) Rena



Spider Orchid