



January
2017

Preserving, Conserving, and Restoring the Real Florida Since 1980.



Photos by Bob Peterson

Conradina NEWS

Conradina Chapter Meeting: Monday, January 9, 2017

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

The Thin Green Line: Conserving Biodiversity on the Barrier Island

Speaker: Raymond Mojica

Raymond Mojica Jr. has been the South Beach Region Land Management Superintendent for the Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) Program since April of 1999. His area of responsibility is the nearly 400 acres of land that the EEL program manages within the Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge including an oversight role in the development and management of the Barrier Island Sanctuary Management & Education Center.

His focus has included the development of 5.5 miles of passive recreational trails, the removal of invasive exotic plants, collaboration with local educational institutions and researchers, and utilizing advanced photographic methods to monitor wildlife and management efforts.



Prior to joining the EEL program, he held positions as the Science Coordinator / Assistant Dive Safety Officer at the Caribbean Marine Research Center in the Bahamas, as a salt marsh restoration coordinator within the Canaveral National Seashore, and as a fisheries researcher in the Bahamas studying the early life history of Nassau grouper and bonefish. Raymond holds a M.S. in Marine Biology from Florida Tech and a B.S. in Marine Science from Southampton College.

Next Chapter Meeting
February 13, 2017
*History of the South
Beaches of Brevard County*
Barbara Arthur

Book Review

Wildlife in Your Garden: Planting and Landscaping to Create a Backyard Sanctuary

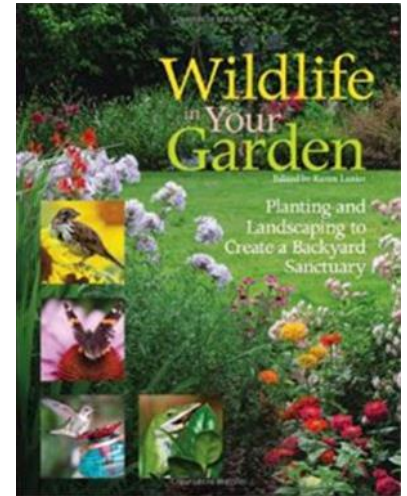
Edited By Karen Lanier

This book would be especially good for people new to gardening and native plants. While not specific to Florida or the Southeast, there is great information in here regarding why native plants are important and encouraging nature. Chapters are on Insects, Reptiles and Amphibians, Birds (2 chapters), and Mammals (you can ignore the section on bears for a while). It is a compilation of articles from various sources and experts with a great emphasis on not using pesticides and the impact of neonics. I especially enjoy the following quote:

‘Consider this insight from Nelson Mandela: “If you want to make peace with your enemy, you have to work with your enemy. Then he becomes your partner.” Many bugs, creepy-crawlies, and slimy slitherers can be your garden partners, if you allow them to be.’

There is only one copy of this book available in the Brevard Public library system at the moment, but I’ve returned it so it’s all yours. Retail price is \$19.95. I give this book 4 stars out of 4. Enjoy!

Reviewed by Jane Higgins.



Carol's Corner: Winter Delights!

By Carol Hebert

Happy New Year! Now is the time to make a goal to add more native plants to your landscape. This is also a great time of year to observe birds, butterflies, bees and more enjoying your native landscape. I have a Beautyberry bush in my backyard that has Zebra Longwing butterflies (*Heliconius charithonia*) all over it! Like 4-6 at one time! The surprise is that they are not attracted to the Beautyberry, but they are laying eggs on the Corkystem Passionflower (*Passiflora suberosa*) that is climbing up the Beautyberry. What a treat!

The plant I am highlighting is not a showy evergreen shrub. It has inconspicuous flowers and bears fruit in late summer and early winter. Female plants bear small, dry fruit with a waxy coating. These waxy berries are not something we will go to eat but it attracts a large number of birds. In my yard Catbirds and Cardinals love it. As the Yellow-rumped warbler migrates through this area, it is all over this plant! It loves that dry, waxy fruit! The plant adapts to wet and dry, is hardy to cold weather, and is salt tolerant. These berries were melted down by native Americans to make candles.

Do I have you in suspense? This is Wax Myrtle (*Myrica cerifera*). Some books still call it Bayberry. Great as a hedge, bird attractor and, by the way, very low maintenance. Plant native!



Photo by Carol Hebert

Upcoming Events & Meetings

	Check out the January events at Sam's House: www.facebook.com/samshousepineisland .
January 7 7—10 p.m.	Moonlight Stroll. Erna Nixon Park. 1200 Evans Road, West Melbourne. See page 5 for more information.
January 9 5:30/6 p.m.	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. Ray Mojica from the Barrier Island Center. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.
January 20 10 a.m.	City of Melbourne celebrates Arbor Day. Lipscomb Park. See page 4 for more information.
January 15 9 a.m.—12 p.m.	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 and see page 5 for a link to the volunteer application form to fill out prior to the workday. 1518 Port Malabar Blvd. NE, Palm Bay 32905
February 13 5:30/6 p.m.	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. <i>History of the South Beaches of Brevard County</i> presented by Barbara Arthur. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.
March 4 8 a.m.—4 p.m.	Downtown Melbourne Botanical Festival. Downtown Melbourne. Volunteers needed to staff the Conradina booth!
March 13 5:30/6 p.m.	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. <i>Indian River Lagoon Update</i> presented by Dr. Duane DeFreese. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.
March 18 9 a.m.—2 p.m.	Satellite Beach Coastal Garden Fair. David R. Schechter Community Center, 1089 S. Patrick Drive, Satellite Beach. See below for information.
April 10 5:30/6 p.m.	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. <i>Florida Sandhills</i> presented by Walter Taylor. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.
May 8 5:30/6 p.m.	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. <i>Drive By Botany Or Nature As Seen From a Moving Vehicle</i> presented by Dr. Jay Barnhart. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.
June 11 11 a.m./Noon	Conradina Chapter FNPS Board Meeting (11 a.m.). Potluck to follow for general membership (noon). Erna Nixon Park.



Saturday, March 4, 2017 ● 8 a.m.—4 p.m.

Melbourne Main Street is very excited to announce that they will be taking over hosting the Botanical Fest from Florida Institute of Technology. Melbourne Main Street is a non-profit organization that works to implement revitalization efforts in Downtown Melbourne.

Location: In the parking lot of the 1900 Building, Downtown Melbourne

Conradina will have two booths there, and we need volunteers—you! Look for the sign-up sheet at our January meeting.

Volunteers Needed!

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.

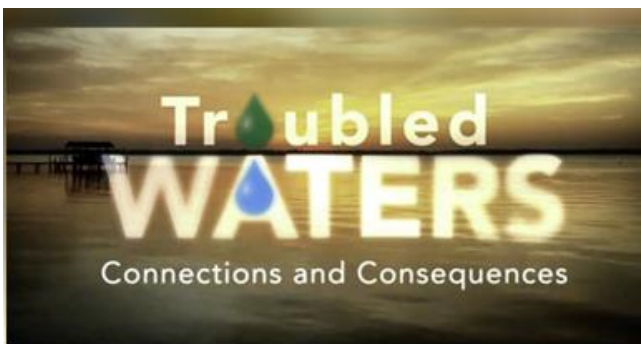
There will be a Lagoon Friendly Lawns educational workshop, a plant sale, and a whole host of great gardening vendors to help you get started on your next Lagoon Friendly landscaping project.

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

Volunteers Needed!

Documentary Viewing and Panel Discussion

Troubled Waters: Connections and Consequences



Despite their importance, Florida's waterways are suffering from significant pollution problems such as fertilizer runoff, poorly treated municipal and industrial wastewater, and failing septic tanks. Combined with the impacts from a rapidly growing population, we have a potential recipe for disaster.

This event is being hosted by the Florida Institute of Technology Indian River Lagoon Research Institute. This documentary video, *Troubled Waters*, was funded by St. Johns Riverkeeper and produced by Ray Hays and PRC Digital Media.

The documentary will be shown (48 minutes in length) and then be followed by a panel discussion that will address steps that we can take to protect Florida's waters. Invited panelists include the following:

- Lisa Rinaman, St Johns Riverkeeper
- Robert Weaver, Ph.D., Indian River Lagoon Research Institute
- Mel Martin, Brevard Indian River Lagoon Coalition
- Richard Baker, Ph.D., Pelican Island Audubon Society

This event is free and open to the public. Please register to help us manage the capacity of this auditorium. If you have questions or suggestions, call Vince Lamb at (321) 258-5168.

DATE AND TIME:

Friday, January 13, 2017

6:30 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

LOCATION:

Gleason Performing Arts Center

Florida Institute of Technology

150 W. University Boulevard, Melbourne, FL 32901

NOTE: Former Governor and Senator Bob Graham is featured in this documentary expressing his views on Florida's waters. He will be visiting Brevard County on Saturday, January 14, 2017, to speak at a Timely Topics luncheon hosted by the League of Women Voters of the Space Coast. This luncheon is also available as an EventBrite.com event.

City of Melbourne Celebrates Arbor Day

The Arbor Day Festival will take place at Lipscomb Park on January 20, 2017, at 10 a.m. This is an event where they give away (mostly) native plants and encourage tree planting.

Carol Hebert will do a short presentation to highlight native plants and will present a donation of a Florida Red Cedar provided by Maple Street Natives. Please come to this event to encourage planting trees!



Save the Date!

The Florida Native Plant Society
2017 Conference

“CONNECTIONS: Above and Below”

May 18-21, 2017
Central Florida

www.fnps.org/conference/2017

Workday at Turkey Creek Sanctuary, January 15, 2017

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, January 15, 2017

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

Work Duties: We will be removing downed trees and branches which is 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.



Erna Nixon Park: Moonlight Stroll, January 7, 2017



Time: Saturday, January 7, 7 p.m.—10 p.m.

Location: 1200 Evans Rd, West Melbourne

This semi-annual event is sponsored by Brevard County Parks & Recreation. Parking will be available at Melbourne Square Mall, Pole #4, on the west side of JC Penney. Patrons will be shuttled to and from the park. Admission is \$4 per person (cash only). Children under 3 will be admitted free. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

The [Brevard Astronomical Society](#) will be there with telescopes for stargazing and sky watching. The

moon should be at 75 percent illumination and directly overhead at about 8:20 p.m.

Musical entertainment will be provided by Sharon Osuna, Kyle Hebert, Seyba Diouf, Tina Eno, and Chris Kahl, and food will be available for purchase. For more information call [Erna Nixon Park](#) at (321) 952-4525.



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Conradina Chapter

Florida Native Plant Society

www.conradina.fnpschapters.org

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Chapter News

Malabar Field Trip, November 27, 2016

We had great weather for the Malabar Scrub field trip. We saw Candyroot (*Polygala nana*), Yellow Batchelor's Button (*Polygala rugelii*), Coastal Yellowtops (*Flaveria linearis*), Dog Fennel (*Eupatorium capillifolium*), Hypericum reductum, Gopher Apple (*Licania michauxii*) and even a few White Waterlily (*Nymphaea odorata*) in bloom at the end of our walk. Jane, Lisa, Carol, and Rob had a great time!



Lisa (L) and Jane (R)

Photo by Carol Hebert

Ocean Reef Beach Festival, December 3 2016

The 5th Ocean Reef Beach Festival was a lot of fun! We all promoted native plants, and it was great to hear people that knew about native plants! We even heard people say that they knew where Maple Street Natives nursery is and knew Sharon and



L-R: Dave, Martha, Karen, Rob, and Lisa

Photo by Carol Hebert

Brent. We did sell a nice amount of native plants and handed out lots of business cards. It was very refreshing and a wonderful event.

Be sure to pencil it in for next year because there is so much to do and see at this event. There are crafts, food, artwork, other environmental groups, live music, and events for the children.

Thanks to Sharon, Drew, Martha, Lisa, Rob, Dave, Karen, Suzanne, Jane, Bo, and Carol for staffing the Conradina booth.