



**June
2018**

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

Photos by Bob Peterson



Conradina NEWS

Conradina Chapter Potluck

Sunday, June 11, 2017

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11 a.m.: Board Meeting (Members Welcome)

Noon: Potluck Lunch

Location: Erna Nixon Park, 1200 Evans Rd, West Melbourne, FL 32904

Be kind to the environment by bringing your own dishes, drinking cups, eating utensils, and napkins as well as a dish to share. Conradina will provide the drinks.

This is our time to relax, celebrate our accomplishments, and get to know one another.

We will have a guided tour of the park following lunch led by Carol Hebert, a former ranger at the park.



Next Chapter Meeting

September 10, 2018



Enjoy the summer as the newsletter takes a break and we'll be putting another together for September. Please feel free to forward articles to janehiggins2016@gmail.com for publication.

Plant native!

Let's save the Bromeliads

Let's save the bromeliads!

The bromeliads of the Enchanted Forest, specifically the Giant Airplant (*Tillandsia utriculata*), are under attack by an exotic pest, the Mexican bromeliad weevil. Dr. Teresa Cooper of UF has been studying the problem for years and is conducting research at several locations including the Enchanted Forest.

The Space Coast Chapter of the Florida Master Naturalists has offered to help her by organizing volunteers. In particular, we are looking for people who are interested in raising young Giant Airplants in their homes so that Dr. Cooper can later collect seeds.

If you are interested, please send an email to Deb Heystek at dheystek@bellsouth.net.

Then in late June you will be invited to an orientation session led by Dr. Cooper. For more information on the problem, check out Dr. Cooper's website <http://www.savebromeliads.com/saving-florida-s-bromeliads>.

Mark Prynosi

President

Space Coast Chapter – FMNP



Carol's Corner: Sunshine Mimosa



Pretty In Pink

A yard full of pretty pink flowers! Sunshine Mimosa (*Mimosa strigillosa*) is such a treat to have in full bloom in an open area. It blooms from spring into summer and likes moist areas but once established it is drought tolerant. It is a popular groundcover because it spreads rapidly by its rhizomes, which are underground stems that shoots out lateral roots.



The flowers are mostly of interest to bees and butterflies use them occasionally. They do not grow well in shady areas. Also use some borders or sidewalks to contain it to an area. It is the best for an open part of your yard that seems to want to grow nothing! It's also a favorite for kids to see the leaves close up as they are touched. Plant Native!

Conradina Native Plant Tour

Conradina Native Plant Tour Is Coming Up!

Mark your calendars! Conradina Chapter of FNPS will be hosting our 9th annual "Landscaping with Native Plants Tour". The tour will take place on Saturday October 13, 2017. Be sure to come observe and explore some wonderful native plant landscapes at a variety of locations. Often there are full sun beach side locations and partial shade mainland landscapes. The tour is a fabulous look at what homeowners have done by using native plants in different situations. The best part is how it always suggests new ideas and new appreciation for native plants. This year we are especially excited to include our two Keep Brevard Beautiful grant locations: Ballard Park and the West Melbourne Post Office!

Be sure to take notes on the garden tour so you can come by and stock up on native plants!

We will let you know when tickets are available to be purchased online to this wonderful event and please think about volunteering at one of the locations to help out.



Dear Conradina,

I wanted to talk about an amazing program I coordinate at Keep Brevard Beautiful, it is called the "Lagoon Friendly Lawns" program. This program not only reduces nutrient pollution to our precious lagoon, but also encourages homeowners to plant native to support our local wildlife!

The program is completely FREE and you receive a beautiful sign to put in your yard (handmade by me, with love!) showing you are helping your local environment!

There are 3 different levels, Bronze, Silver, and Gold! You can start small and grow from there.

Here is the link to our brochure, showing the criteria for each level: <http://keepbrevardbeautiful.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/LFL-Brochure.pdf>

Here is the link to our application: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1qob0BcnYp2wsqr8XJAI17cp3iJarmrBfExQoEfitQs/edit>

How to join: 3 simple steps... Fill out the application, submit photos to me or schedule a site visit, then receive your sign!

We also do MONTHLY RAFFLES, it is a very fun way to show how much we appreciate our participants! Each month I send out a monthly challenge, you must answer the challenge which will give you 1 ticket in the raffle, then tune in on the last day of the month via Facebook live to see the drawing! This month we are giving away a water fountain for your yard and a Hori Hori knife for gardening, as well as auctioning off 4 native plants for a donation of your choice!

RIGHT NOW in the month of May if you refer a friend/neighbor to the program you will get 10 ADDITIONAL tickets in the raffle plus a FREE native plant!

We are also doing LFL video tours and so many other awesome things!

Please reach out to me with any questions, my number at the office is 321-631-0501 ext. 212 and my email is kaylynpalmerkbb@gmail.com

Thank you for all you do!

Kaylyn Palmer, Programs Coordinator

Check out our new facebook page!!

<https://m.facebook.com/Conradina-Chapter-of-the-Florida-Native-Plant-Society-145145836178284/>

Other very interesting websites you might be interested in:

Marine Resource Council April Newsletter: <https://conta.cc/2IZGSgv>

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Conradina Chapter

Florida Native Plant Society

www.conradina.fnpschapters.org

Florida Native Plant Society

Chapter News

KBB Grants Finished!

BIG thank you to everyone involved with the Keep Brevard Beautiful grants! It is such a wonderful way to highlight native plants! Look for both of these public areas on our yard tour in October.



Ballard Park

West Melbourne Post Office

Check out our new facebook page!!

<https://m.facebook.com/Conradina-Chapter-of-the-Florida-Native-Plant-Society-145145836178284/>

Upcoming Events & Meetings

2018	
Sun., June 10	Conradina Chapter potluck. Erna Nixon Park 11:00 am
Mon., Sept. 10	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.
Mon., Oct. 8	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.