



September
2017

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



Photos by Bob Peterson

Conradina NEWS

Conradina Chapter Meeting Monday, September 11, 2017

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

Wildflowers in Landscape Speaker: Stacey Matrazzo

Are you landscaping with Florida's native wildflowers? More people are discovering the pleasure that comes from growing native wildflowers—from their simple beauty to enjoying the butterflies, birds, and other wildlife they draw. Many of our state's native plants adapt well to home or commercial landscapes and create wildlife corridors and habitat gardens with "real Florida" style. By using wildflowers in your landscape, you'll help to support Florida's pollinators, conserve water through reduced irrigation, protect water and air quality, and supply wildlife habitat. The Florida Wildflower Foundation's *Wildflowers, Naturally!* landscape recognition program celebrates landscapes throughout the state that have areas dedicated to the native wildflowers, flowering shrubs, and trees that sustain wildlife and pollinators. Learn about the program including its requirements, how to apply, and how applications are reviewed. You'll also be inspired by images of landscapes that have already qualified.



Stacey Matrazzo has worked for the Florida Wildflower Foundation since 2008 and joined them full time as their program manager in 2015. She is an environmental educator with a bachelor's degree in environmental studies and a master's in liberal studies, both from Rollins College where she is also an adjunct professor. She is a certified Florida Master Naturalist and an active member of the Florida Native Plant Society as the editor of the Sabal minor newsletter. Stacey is a native Floridian who spends much of her free time kayaking, hiking, birding, and photographing Florida's amazing natural environments.

Next Chapter Meeting

October 9, 2017

Native Plants: Their Functions and Care

by Sally Scalera

Movie Review

Plants Behaving Badly – The Intriguing Behavior of Extraordinary Plants

To start with, I obviously love plants. Plants are so diverse, beautiful, useful, incredibly needed, and can be delicious. I almost forgot but, of course, we need plants to provide us with oxygen to breathe. I enjoy working at the Melbourne Library; and walking by the DVD Stellar Seller section, this movie caught my eye. *Plants Behaving Badly* sounded like an intriguing title. I read what it was about and had to check it out. It is a PBS documentary led by wonderful narrator David Attenborough. His British accent always helps lead you into the story about each plant.

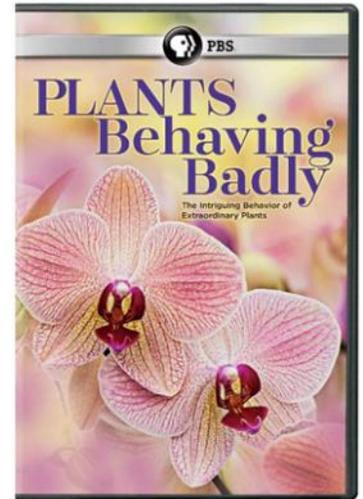
It has two one-hour shows. The first is named *Carnivorous Plants*. It showed a crazy and diverse amount of plants that lure in and trap insects in a variety of ways. From the Venus Fly Trap to Sundew (*Drosera sp.*) and also includes the variety of Pitcher Plants in the Everglades. It highlighted the largest one in the world, the giant Montane Pitcher Plant (*Nepenthes rajah*).

The second hour is *Orchids*. Wow—it was so fascinating showing how diverse orchids are! They trick insects, bees, moths, and bats into fertilizing the plant in such a variety of ways. It also shows the incredible diversity of each species of orchid and the different shape of the flowers to attract their pollinators. They also highlighted the Ghost Orchid in the Everglades. The photography was amazing and so close up to see how far down a moth or bat has to stretch their proboscis down the blooms “throat” to get pollen. I was entranced and also educated.

I loved how in both parts of the show Florida was mentioned and highlighted by the diversity of our state. I hope we all appreciate that aspect of our state.

Use your library card to rent this show for free and learn some new aspects about nature. Enjoy!

Submitted by Carol Hebert



Carol's Corner: Florida's State Tree

By Carol Hebert

Hope everyone is enjoying the season of summer. Even though it feels hot as beans outside, the state tree sure loves it. Sabal palmetto is blooming now, some have finished, and some are starting to develop fruit. Nature is so in sync with the seasons that happen it seems amazing. Our state tree is also called Sabal Palm, Cabbage Palm, and Swamp Cabbage. As the fruit develops, there are birds starting to migrate southward. As they pass through Florida and stay here for a while, the Sabal Palm attracts them with their fruit to spread. American Robins and Cedar Waxwing are a few of the birds that travel in flocks and love fruit. It is incredibly sad how Brazilian Pepper also develops fruit in the fall as the birds fly through. You may also know the Native Americans in southeast America also used the core of the Cabbage Palm as a source of food. You may also find it on grocery store shelves as the heart of the palm.



Sabal Palmetto

Photo by Carol Hebert

Sabal palmetto grows slow and steady. It is a reward in so many ways. It likes full sun to partial shade and once established barely a need to irrigate. The picture shows the best of the tree. No scalping it back to the core! I love that it was chosen as our state tree. Plant natives!

Florida Wildflower Symposium

September 22-23, 2017

Orange County UF/IFAS Extension, Orlando

The Florida Wildflower Symposium is the Florida Wildflower Foundation's signature annual event. It's the only educational gathering of its kind—focusing exclusively on Florida's native wildflowers and the wildlife that depends on them.

The ninth annual symposium will offer field trips to local natural areas, hands-on workshops, and educational presentations by experts on planting and growing native wildflowers, creating habitat for pollinators, and much more. You won't want to miss this fun and informative event.

For more information and to register, please go to <http://flawildflowers.org/events/2017-wildflower-symposium.html>.

Exhibitors 🌸 **Field Trips** 🌸
Workshops 🌸
Presentations 🌸 **Native Plant Sale**



Conradina Native Plant Tour

Mark your calendars! Conradina Chapter of FNPS will be hosting its 8th annual **Landscaping With Native Plants Tour**. The tour will take place on Saturday, October 14, 2017, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The cost is \$7 per person. Booklets will be available the first week in September. Call Maple Street Native nursery at (321) 729-6857 for more information. Booklets will also be available online on Eventbrite.

Be sure to come observe and explore some wonderful native plant landscapes at a variety of locations. Beachside there is a home and a public park. On the mainland, there are two homes in Lockmar in NE Palm Bay, two homes in NW Palm Bay, and one near Lake Washington Road. 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.

There will also be an information session at the Maple Street Natives nursery on the morning of the tour. See you at the **Landscaping With Native Plants Tour** fun event!



Upcoming Events & Meetings

	Sams House at Pine Island Conservation Area. For a list of events: Sams House September Events .
	Barrier Island Center. For the event calendar: BIC Events .
Sept. 11 5:30/6 p.m.	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. <i>Wildflowers in Landscape</i> presented by Stacey Matrazzo, Florida Wildflower Foundation. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.
Sept. 17 9 a.m.—Noon	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 below for information and a link to the volunteer application. 1518 Port Malabar Blvd. NE, Palm Bay 32905
Sept. 22-23	Florida Wildflower Symposium. Exhibitors, field trips, workshops, presentations, and native plant sale. See page 3 for information.
Oct. 9 5:30/6 p.m.	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. <i>Native Plants: Their Functions and Care</i> presented by Sally Scalera, UF/IFAS Horticulture Agent. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.
Oct. 14 10 a.m.—4 p.m.	Landscaping With Native Plants Tour. 8th Annual Landscaping With Native Plants tour. Six wonderful homes and a public park ready to be toured showing off native plants in their landscape! We will need volunteers! See page 3 for information.
Nov. 13 5:30/6 p.m.	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. <i>Using Native Plants Instead of Invasive or Potentially-Invasive Non-Natives</i> presented by Dr. Sandy Wilson, University of Florida. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.
Dec. 11 5:30/6 p.m.	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. Create a Wreath With Native Plant Cuttings. Martha Steuart and helpers provide a wonderful amount of native plant cuttings for decorating a wreath to take home and display in your home for the holidays. Wreaths made from native grape vines are provided or bring your own. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.

Workday at Turkey Creek Sanctuary, September 17

Please 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/Date: 9 a.m.—12 p.m., Sunday, September 17, 2017

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

Work Duties: We will be working on restoring an area.

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

How to Get Ready:

1. Print and fill out the volunteer application at www.palmbayflorida.org/home/showdocument?id=1984 and submit it along with a copy of your driver's license or other photo ID. The application and ID **must** be submitted before the Thursday prior to the workday. If you submitted an application for a previous workday, you don't need to submit one again.
2. Please RSVP to Tracey Wright, TCS Park Ranger, at (321) 676-6690.



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Conradina Chapter

Florida Native Plant Society

www.conradina.fnpschapters.org

Florida Native Plant Society

www.fnps.org



Chapter News

A Tribute To Helga Lamb and John Boltz

Recently, we lost two wonderful people. Helga Lamb was a very caring person and a strong point in her family. The Conradina Chapter mainly knows her as the loving wife of Vince Lamb. She was a wonderful person and supported all the valuable environmental issues Vince is active in.

John Boltz was a gentle, friendly person and an incredibly knowledgeable native plant expert. He was a board member for Conradina for several years. He also was a valuable volunteer at Barrier Island Nature Center performing wonderful, knowledgeable tours of the park. He was a caring husband to his wife Pat.

Both will be dearly missed. Our love, prayers, and support goes out to their families.

Make a Difference

Help Those Affected by Hurricane Harvey

The best ways to help victims of Hurricane Harvey

Give to charities that are in a position to help

With Hurricane Harvey devastating parts of Texas, you may be thinking about donating money, food, clothing, or other items to help victims of the storm.

But how do you pick a charity?

One approach is to use a charity watchdog. These groups evaluate charities on many factors, including how much donated money is used for their charitable programs as opposed to fundraising and general expenses. [Read more.](#)

From [Consumer Reports](#)