



Conradina NEWS

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[Native Butterfly Flowers](#)



September 2026

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Next Chapter Meeting

September 14, 2026

Conradina Chapter Meeting Monday, September 14, 2026 at 5:30 PM

Meet us at the First Church of the Nazarene
2745 S Babcock Street, Melbourne FL 32901

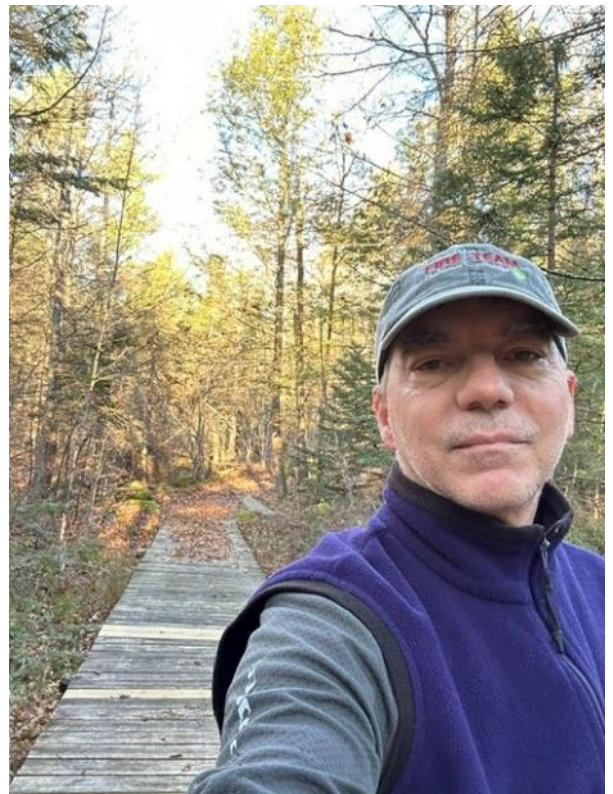
Environmentally Endangered Lands Program (EEL)

Originally from Vermont, Mike attended Unity College in Maine and Lyndon State College in Vermont receiving a Bachelor's Degree in Outdoor Recreation and Environmental Education.

Following a 15-year career in wilderness high adventure programming for at-risk youth, Mike moved to Brevard County in 1997 and began working with the (EEL) Program in 1998 overseeing volunteer efforts and trail development.

In 2004, he became the Program Manager and oversees all aspects of the program including land acquisition, land management, passive recreation and environmental education.

Mike spends his free time kayaking and has a particular Interest In traditional Greenland-style paddling techniques.



www.Conradina.FNPSCChapter.org



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

Important Parking Notice

When attending Conradina Chapter meetings, please be aware that the Nazarene Church has leased a portion of its parking lot to the Florida Institute of Technology (FIT) for the next two semesters while FIT's new parking lot is under construction.

To help maintain a positive relationship with our hosts and their tenants, please follow these parking guidelines:

- **Park in spaces marked with white lines whenever possible.**
- **Please leave the orange-lined spaces available for FIT students and staff.**
- **Handicap parking spaces remain available for those displaying the proper permit or tag.**

If the white-lined spaces become full, additional parking is available in the **orange-lined spaces on the north end of the property, behind the Pastor's house.**

We appreciate your cooperation and consideration as we share the parking facilities during this temporary arrangement. Thank you for helping ensure that parking remains orderly and accessible for everyone.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Landscaping with Florida Natives Tour



Just TWO Months Away!

We are seeking enthusiastic volunteers to help support our upcoming 17th annual Landscape Tour and 1st Conservation Fair, both occurring on Sunday November 8th. Volunteers can assist with guiding attendees during the landscape tour, supporting educational activities, and keeping the event organized. No specialized experience is required—just a willingness to help, work with others, and contribute.

If you are interested in volunteering, please email tour@conradinaFNPS.org. Your time and support will help make the landscape tour and conservation fair a successful and engaging experience for everyone!

Artist of the Month

The Conradina Chapter of
FNPS 17th Annual Native
Gardens Tour
is proud to present our
“Artist of the Month”

June Long-Schuman



June Long-Schuman, *Birds at Ballard Park*, acrylic on canvas, 16"x 20".



June Long-Schuman, *Florida Scrub*,
watercolor, 5"x5".



June Long-Schuman, *Malabar Sanctuary Trail*, acrylic on canvas,
6"x9".

June Long-Schuman works primarily in acrylics and recently watercolor, and loves Plein Air painting. Nature offers a wealth of beauty and has its own special energy that inspires her to capture it on canvas. She always strive to capture the light, color and feeling of the place. As an artist, her goal is to share the joy of what she sees and feels with others and help to make the world a brighter place.

June has shown her work in numerous juried shows such as the 2026 Splash! Of Watercolor Art Show (Azan Shrine Temple, Melbourne FL), 2025 Cape to Cosmos Exhibition and Installation (Cape Center in Cape Canaveral FL), 2024 Art Works Eau Gallie Outdoor Show (Melbourne FL), 2024 North Brevard Art League “Spring Art Show” (Holiday Inn, Titusville FL) and the 2022 “Life on the Lagoon” Show (Eau Gallery, Melbourne FL).

She is a member of the Brevard Cultural Alliance (Art in Public Places) and Brevard Watercolor Society.

Further information on June’s work can be found at (www.junelongschuman.com) or:

Instagram Junelongschumanart (<https://www.instagram.com/junelongschumanart>)

Facebook June Long-Schuman Art (<https://www.facebook.com/june.longschuman>)

Carol's Corner: It sure Is hot outside!

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer. It is hard to do gardening when the temperature is reaching 107 degrees! However, the plants don't seem to mind.

My Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) plants are doing wonderfully. They sure enjoying the afternoon rain.

Red Sage (*Salvia coccinea*) never stops blooming. I do confess that I still grow Indian Blanket Flower (*Gaillardia pulchella*) and it looks wonderful and yes – the butterflies love them.

My Fiddlewood (*Citharexylum spinosum*) (picture) came back after the cold weather very well. It blooms for months and the little draping white flowers smell delicious! Bees and a variety of flying bugs are so happy to visit the Fiddlewood.

I have a neighbor that has a wonderful display of Alligator Lily (*Hymenocallis palmeri*) in her front yard and it looks fantastic! It explodes with white flowers!

She has combined it with a big amount of Rain Lily (*Zephyranthes atamasca*). I love the Rain Lily in my front yard to see when it explodes after a rain.

Plant native!

Carol Hebert



Upcoming Events

Date	Event
	General Meetings are held at Melbourne First Church of the Nazarene. 2745 S. Babcock Street, Melbourne FL, 32901
First Tuesday of every month at 12pm	MRC's Lagoon at Noon Seminars are held at the Ted Moorhead Lagoon House with limited seating OR via Zoom. Registration is required. https://lovetheirl.org/events/
Monday, Sept 14, 5:30	General Meeting, Speaker Mike Knight, Topic Action the EEL program is taking for the lands that were purchased and maintained by the EEL program .
Saturday, Oct 3 from 10am to 5pm	The Ocean Reef Beach Festival at Pelican Beach Park, 1495 N. Hwy A1A , Satellite Beach, FL 32937 . Attendance is FREE
Sunday, Oct 4 from 10am to 4pm	Lagoon Family Fun Day, Goode Park, Palm Bay This city park will be alive with family fun activities, food, music, and stories of the Lagoon. www.HelpTheLagoon.org
Saturday, Oct 10 from 9am	Join the Flotilla, Cocoa Beach Pavilion, Cocoa Beach Big Fun. Big Message. Join old friends and new – kayaks, canoes and SUPs as we spell out V-O-T-E-Y-E-S-! www.FriendsOfTheThousandIslands.org
Monday, Oct 12 5:30	General Meeting, Speaker Craig Huegel, Topic Effects of Native Plants on the Environment
Saturday, Oct 17 from 9am to 2pm	The 2026 Indian River Lagoon Fest at 2210 Front Street, Melbourne FL
Sunday, Nov 8	The 17th Annual Landscaping with Florida Natives Tour
Monday, Nov 9 5:30	General Mtg, Speaker: Mark Prynosi of the Fl Master Naturalist Program. Topic: Dune-to-Lagoon: Plant Communities of a Barrier Island
Sunday, Nov 15 9:30am to 11:30am	Guided hike through the Doc Ehrhart Sanctuary, an EEL property in South Melbourne Beach, with Mark Prynosi from the FL Master Naturalist Program.

See Conradina web page for additional events: <https://conradina.fnpschapters.org/events/>

Native Plant Nurseries and Service Providers

Have you planned on, or have you already started planting new native plants in your garden and yard? Have you had trouble finding the native plants and wildflowers you want? Well here are a few links to help you locate what you are looking for. Please call or check websites for hours, services and plant availability.

Company / Web link	Name / email	Telephone	Comments
Change of Greenery	Brendan Healy	321-536-0655	Native and edible plants, landscape design, installation & maintenance
Four C's Nursery		321-729-0351	Native plants, landscape design & installation
Florida Native Wildflowers	Sharon Dolan		Purchase pots, seeds and Florida Native Plants online
Go Native Landscaping	Nichole Perma	321-795-3111	Native landscape design, installation, consultation and maintenance
			
Newsletter Sponsor			
	Tim / Anna	321-626-7386	Native plants and landscape design
Rockledge Gardens	General Information	321-636-7662	Expanding native plant selection
Fox & Fern Native Landscapes	Alyssa Sferrazza and Cedar Smith https://foxandfern natives.com/ ,	321-474-6334	Planting with Purpose.
Rosemallow Farms	Tim & Ivoriann Wooley	321-236-1741	Native and Florida-friendly plants for sale to the public
Wild Wet N Wacky	Kiela Frank	321-417-2218	Expanding native plant selection

Additional local sources of plants and services may be found at our FANN partner site at www.PlantRealFlorida.org

Shopping elsewhere? Please always ask for Florida native plants – especially when you see none on the shelf. Popular demand drives availability and can change our community for the better.

Brevard Discovery Garden Self-Guided Tour



Brevard Discovery Garden

NEW!

SELF-GUIDED TOUR

Explore Brevard
Discovery Garden
≡ At Your Own Pace. ≡



Follow the numbered tour stops and discover sustainable gardening ideas, pollinator habitats, native plants, and more.



WEDNESDAYS &
FRIDAYS
9:00 – 11:00 AM



UF/IFAS Brevard
County Extension Office
3695 Lake Drive
Cocoa, FL 32926



FREE ADMISSION

All are welcome!



The Ocean Reef Beach Festival

Ocean Reef Beach Festival

October 3 @ 10:00 am - 5:00 pm



Event : Ocean Reef Beach Festival

Date : October 3, 2026

Location : Pelican Beach Park, 1495 N. Hwy A1A , Satellite Beach, FL 32937

Time : 10am – 5pm

Attendance/Cost : Free

Support by attending this one-of-a-kind community event that brings together environmental organizations, local artists, live music, food and family activities set against the stunning Pelican Beach Park oceanfront backdrop. This vibrant one day festival plans to feature more than 100 vendors throughout the clubhouse, parking area and the greenspace of the park itself.

Attendees will have the unique opportunity to meet, learn from and engage directly with partner groups who protect, preserve and regulate the natural environment we all live and play in.

Event Highlights:

Marine education provided by federal, state, educational, and non-profit organizations

Local and beyond arts and crafts vendors

Live music

Food vendors

Craft beer

Hands on activities for children

Parking is limited so attendees are encouraged to carpool, walk, bike or use alternative transportation if possible.

For more info : <https://www.facebook.com/ORBfest>

Instagram: [ocean_reef_beach_festival](#)

Facebook: [Ocean Reef Beach Festival](#)

The 2026 Indian River Lagoon Fest

JOIN US FOR THE
2026 Indian River
**Lagoon
Fest**
9 AM-2 PM

FRONT STREET PARK
2210 FRONT ST. MELBOURNE, FL

SAVE THE DATE!

SATURDAY | OCTOBER 17



City of
Melbourne
The Harbor City



Florida Master Naturalist Program Scholarship

Florida Master Naturalist Program Scholarship

Scholarship applications to cover the cost of one module of the Florida Master Naturalist Program (FMNP) are due by 11/1/2026 to be used in 2027. Scholarship applicants must:

1. Be a Conradina chapter member. (Applicants may become chapter members at the time of application.)
2. Reside in Brevard County
3. Submit a recommendation letter and a 250-word or less essay describing:
 - a. Why you want to participate in the FMNP?
 - b. Your expectations of the FMNP.
 - c. How you plan to use the knowledge gained to benefit the Conradina Chapter.
1. Applicants must agree to fulfill one of the following commitments within 6 months of completion of the FMNP module:
 - a. Choose and guide a FNPS field trip.
 - b. Present the FMNP project at a general Conradina FNPS meeting.
 - c. Submit three short articles for the Conradina Chapter newsletter related to the FMNP project.

The Conradina scholarship committee will review, evaluate and notify the applicants of the results by 12/1/2026. Maximum scholarship award is \$350 for the year 2027. To apply, email the completed Scholarship Application Form, the essay and the letter of recommendation to Joann Gulliver pgulliver@cfl.rr.com and Richard Blackford svslowdancing@hotmail.com.

Follow link on the Conradina FNPS chapter website to find the application form: <https://conradina.fnpschapters.org/fmnp-scholarship/>

News from your Chapter Representative

Beth Blackford, 321-622-2633-m, Beth@ConradinaFNPS.org

First up – a quick word about political action! Two critical issues will appear on your November 3rd ballot.

- Please take a moment to read why FNPS urges a “**NO**” vote on Amendment 3, the Homestead Tax Exemptions, Property Assessments, and Spending Restrictions Amendment [here](#).
- Your “**YES**” vote to *renew* the Save Our Indian River Lagoon (SOIRL) half-cent sales tax will ensure continued funding for another 10 years of successful clean-up projects.

Florida Native Plant Steward Program Some of us are still in summer school, giving this new 7-module program a test-run. Designed for beginners, we’ve nevertheless learned tons of fascinating new stuff about biomes, habitats, & native plants. The next convening date will be in 2027, & you’ll find information at [FNPS.org/Educational Resources](http://FNPS.org/EducationalResources) soon.

The FNPS Landscape Certification Program expects to launch before new year, possibly as early as November. Certification from Florida’s leading native plant organization will be powerful protection from overzealous homeowners’ associations. Plus the yard signs are pretty cool! More information coming soon.

General Membership Meeting Actions It was held on Saturday, July 18, 2026 at 10:00am via Zoom, and in addition to [bylaws revisions](#), new officers, and various reports, a new mission statement was announced. OF NOTE: our own Treasurer Mary Murphy & friends put forth a new “Option 4” during debate, and with a few tweaks, it was adopted by the FNPS Board of Directors as the Society’s new mission statement:

The mission of the Florida Native Plant Society is to conserve, preserve, and restore Florida’s native plants and their habitats through science-based education, research, advocacy, horticulture, landscaping, and engaged participation by our members and communities.

Sustainably yours, Beth

Get Involved with Your Local Sustainability Advisory Board!

You can get involved by either being on a Board or attending the meetings to voice your opinion and get involved with local events.

Some cities call it an Environmental Board and some use the term Sustainability – whatever it's called, there's an opportunity for native plants and landscapes to preserve our native wildlife. Please check out the listing below or send your city information to us at ConradinachapterFNPS@gmail.com to include on the list.

Indialantic: Call the Town Hall at 321-723-2242 prior to the meeting to make ensure there is a quorum and the meeting is still a Go.

Palm Bay: Check out the Palm Bay website for agenda information and to make sure the meeting is still a Go. (palmbayflorida.org)

City	Meeting Time & Place	Website
Indialantic	5:30pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month in Council Chambers, Indialantic Town Hall	Boards & Committees The Town of Indialantic Florida Official WebSite
Indian Harbour Beach	7 pm on 3rd Wednesday of the month in City Hall Council Chambers 2055 S Patrick Drive	Tree Preservation Board https://indianharbourbeach.org/
Melbourne	2 pm on 3rd Friday of the month in City Hall Council Chamber	Beautification & Energy Efficiency Board City of Melbourne, FL (melbourneflorida.org)
Melbourne Beach	Melbourne Beach Environmental Advisory Board - Home Facebook	Sustainability Melbourne Beach FL https://www.melbournebeachfl.org/sustainability
Rockledge	6 pm on 2nd Thursday - February, June, and Oct. in Council Chamber at City Hall	The Rockledge Environmental Enhancement Board Rockledge, FL - Official Website (cityofrockledge.org)
Palm Bay	6 pm on 4th Wednesday of the month in Council Chambers, Palm Bay City Hall	Sustainability Advisory Board City of Palm Bay, FL (palmbayflorida.org)
Satellite Beach	6 pm on 4th Wednesday of the month in Council Chambers	Satellite Beach, FL
www.Conradina.FNPSCchapter.org		

Church of Nazarene Food Forest & Native Garden Project

Church of Nazarene and Conradina Chapter FNPS Food Forest & Native Garden Project – Phase 2

The Food Forest is looking great – check it out!

Rain barrels are getting installed!

Thanks for all your help to make this project successful!



Officers and Directors

President

Sara Morrison 2026-2028

Secretary

Christine Ryba 2026-2028

Treasurer

Mary Murphy .. 2025-2027

Chapter Representative

Beth Blackford 2026-2028

Board of Directors At Large

Anastasia Doshna 2026-2028

Richard Blackford 2026-2028

Martha Steuart 2026-2028

Christine Bamberger 2026-2028

Terry LaPlant 2026-2028

Luke Blanchard 2025-2027

Joann Gulliver 2025-2027

Lynda Geracu 2026-2028

Carl Winebarger 2026-2028

Marilyn Peio 2026-2028

Saumya Vanderwyst 2026-2028

Past President

Lynda Greraci 2024-2026

Membership Coordinator

Joann Gulliver

Newsletter Editor

Marilyn Peio

Volunteer Coordinator

Christine Bamberger

Webmaster Jamie Snider

Conradina Chapter Florida

Native Plant Society

www.conradina.fnpschapters.org

[YouTube](#) - Conradina Chapter
FNPS

Florida Native Plant Society

www.fnps.org

Chapter Board and News

The Florida Native Plant Society is registered as a charitable organization in Florida (Reg No. CH3021). A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free (800-435-7352) within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state. EIN: 59-3251333 Donors should consult their financial or tax advisors to understand the full tax implications of their donations.

CALLING ALL GARDENERS...

One of the awesome things that happens at Conradina meetings, besides the informative programs, tasty treats, and catching up with likeminded friends every month, is the opportunity to take home a new native plant. I have been a Conradina member since 2012 and these plants have made a large contribution to our native yard. Did you know that Conradina gives away a lot of plants? Like, 70 - 80 a month at our meetings and another 350 during the annual Landscaping with Natives tour. Every plant is produced by a small group of Conradina volunteers.

If your thumb is even the slightest shade of green, we could use your help in propagating new stock and caring for existing plants. If you are new to this, there's no better way to learn about Florida's native plants than by growing them. We will provide pots, dirt, seeds or cuttings, and lots of encouragement. Contact Richard at Plants@ConradinaFNPS.org or talk to Luke, Joann, or me when you pick up your freebie at the next meeting. If you have pots just sitting in your yard, we need them to grow more plants, not mosquitos!!!

