



Apr 2020

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

Photos by Bob Peterson



Conradina NEWS

Conradina Chapter Meeting

Monday, April 13, 2020 CANCELED

Conradina Chapter FNPS April monthly meeting has been cancelled due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

All Brevard County Libraries are closed until April 15, 2020. As updates occur we will keep everyone informed.

Please keep an eye on our website <http://conradina.fnpschapters.org/> for future news and info. You may even enjoy past newsletters.

We re-scheduled our April 2020 speaker - Jennifer Mitchell with the St. John's River Water Management District for February 8th 2021. She will talk about "Native Plants" that are important and needed for the SJRWM team to utilize and promote.

We are encouraging everyone to endure this time and stay healthy. Please remember to:

Do:

- Wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds, with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub
- Cover your nose and mouth with a disposable tissue or flexed elbow when you cough or sneeze
- Avoid close contact (1 meter or 3 feet) with people who are unwell
- Stay home and self-isolate from others in the household if you feel unwell

Don't:

- Touch your eyes, nose, or mouth if your hands are not clean

One of the best things to do is gardening! Spruce up your native plant garden! Thin out some native plants and pot them up for giveaways at the next monthly meeting. Take an early morning or a late afternoon walk or bike ride and look roadside as to what is growing or in bloom during this time of year. Read through your native plant books and make a list of what you would like to add to your garden. Plant Native!

Next Chapter Meeting

May 11, 2020

Carol's Corner: The Little Things In Life

By Carol Hebert

Currently we are all going through a situation that we have not experienced before. Personally I like to enjoy the little things in life. The Corkystem Passionflower (*Passiflora suberosa*) has a very small flower as shown in the picture. It blooms all year long and sneaks up in different places in your garden. *Passiflora* is Latin for "passion flower" and relates to the crucifixion of Jesus. *Suberosa* mean "corky". Corkystem passionflower (or passionvine) produces small black plum-shaped fruit. The mature fruit's jellylike, seed-crammed interior is edible and somewhat sweet like other passionfruits. It's main characteristic is that it hosts several butterflies such as Gulf Fritillary (*Agraulis vanillae*) and Zebra Longwing (*Heliconius charithonia*). Of course it gets the common name from the "corkystem" that develops at the older part of the stem that does support it as it grows up from the ground and clings to a plant, tree or fence (see picture). I have even seen it in the wild like ground cover. Despite the vine's small proportions, it's an especially hardy species, thriving on well-drained, sandy soil or limestone in tropical and semitropical lowlands throughout the Americas, where it's native but ironically it's become a serious invasive weed in many hot parts of Eurasia and Africa.

Interesting details but still enjoy the little things in life.

Plant native!



Native Plant Nurseries and Service Providers

Hey everybody! 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.

Company / Web link	Name / email	Telephone	Comments
Maple Street Natives / NatScape LLC Native Landscapes	Sharon / Brent Dolan Drew Dolan	321-729-6857 321-223-6147	Native plants Landscape design, installation, consultation and Tree Service
Go Native Landscaping	Nichole Perma	321-795-3111	Native landscape design, installation, consultation and maintenance
Native Butterfly Flowers, LLC	Tim / Anna	321-626-7386	Native plants and landscape design
Change of Greenery	Brendan Healy	321-536-0655	Lagoon friendly landscape designs and installations
Florida Native Wildflowers			Purchase seeds on-line

Ask about gift certificates! Happy gardening.

What happens to those plants that we raffle off at out meetings?

Recently Sharon Dolan received the following letter from one of our past winners! They may be small now, but look how the bike shrinks as they grow!

“I clutched my raffle ticket with anticipation on Monday’s meeting. I’ve been pretty lucky winning things. I’m usually not the first, so my choice may be limited. Three times now I’ve been able to select a tree. I thought you might want to see how the trees I’ve won are doing. I put my old lady bike next to them to give you an idea of the tree size.

The new tree that I won (picture to right) is a Sand Pine. It has some growing to do!

Some of the older trees: (below left) is a Live Oak, (below right) is a Longleaf Pine. You also gave away some pines a few years ago. We took three and this is the only surviving pine of that group.”

Plant native!



Upcoming Events & Meetings

2020	
<u>Monday Apr 13, 2020</u>	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. CANCELED
April 18, 2020	POSTPONED KBB's 3rd Annual LFL Plant Sale. Keep Brevard Beautiful 3rd annual plant sale at Co-coa Riverfront Part from 8 am to 2 pm.
April 25, 2020	POSTPONED Coastal Garden Fair and Earth Day Celebration. Held in Sattelite Beach at the David R Schechter Community Center 1089 S Patrick Dr., from 9 am to 2 pm.
<u>Monday May 11, 2020</u>	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. ‘Non-native plants to remove from your native plant garden’ by Carey Minter with the Exotic Pest Plant Council (EPPEC). Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.
May 14-17, 2020	POSTPONED 40th Annual FNPS Conference New Date: May 13-16, 2021 at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville Florida.
Sunday June 14, 2020	Conradina Board meeting (11:00) and Member Potluck Brunch (Noon) Socialize and share food. A boardwalk tour of Erna Nixon Park after brunch.
Hyperlinks go to Conradina web calendar. You can share the calendar events with your calendar by clicking on then and selecting Share and the calendar type.	

Help Recycle & Reuse Nursery Pots

Members participating in providing native plants for the plant drawing for our monthly meetings are in need of small pots (1 gal or less). Please bring your extra pots to the meeting, we will collect and distribute. Please rinse pots before bringing to the Library. All members are encouraged

- to bring native plants to share and
- to bring empty pots to pass along

Thanks!



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Conradina Chapter

Florida Native Plant Society

www.conradina.fnpschapters.org

Florida Native Plant Society

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Chapter News

Hello Native Plant Lovers!

Our Garden Tour Date Is Set: October 17th, 2020!

Our Annual Garden Tour will be Saturday, October 17th and we're seeking homeowners who would like to showcase their garden! For the last ten years, our Conradina Garden Tour has been a terrific opportunity for those curious about native plants and landscaping as well as native plant enthusiasts to view examples of gardens in our local area. Since South Brevard covers a diverse area (mainland with dry plains or wet soil to beachside, HOAs and non-HOAs), if you're interested in volunteering your home garden, please email Jo Sarmiento (jo_sarmiento@hotmail.com) and Carol Hebert (carol.hebert@gmail.com) with your home address, a picture of your garden and any highlights you'd like to share with us about your garden (i.e. how old your garden is, why you planted native). We ask that you contact us by April 30th to facilitate planning and promotion of this event.

Thank you and Go Native!

Volunteer from Downtown Botanical Festival

On Saturday March 7th Conradina Chapter FNPS participated in the Downtown Botanical Festival at the 1900 Building in Downtown Melbourne. It was a good turn out of people interested in native plant! We sold native plants provided by Maple Street Natives and Natscapes. Thank you to our wonderful and helpful volunteers! Not all in picture - Sharon Dolan, Drew Dolan, Cammie Donaldson, Dave Zeitz, Karen Moser, Martha Steuart, Carl Winebarger, Carol Hebert, Jenna Smith, Marilyn Peio, Jane Pearce, Sara Morrison, Elizabeth Malle, Steve Cook and Christine Bamberger.

Thanks for your efforts in educating the public at this event.

