



**January
2023**

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January 9, 2023



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Photos by Bob Peterson



Conradina NEWS

Conradina Chapter Meeting Monday, January 9, 2023

5:30 - 6:00 pm socialization, Meeting will begin at 6:00pm.

Wearing of masks is recommended!

Melbourne Library Meeting Room 540 E Fee Avenue Melbourne, FL 32901

Our Speaker: Keith Donald

Keith lives in Melbourne and is President of Steadytown, his family's private [foundation](#) focused on expanding affordable housing, addressing homelessness, and environmental stewardship. From 2018-Present, Keith has helped create Heritage Park at Crane Creek, a large non-profit affordable housing development



and habitat restoration project located near Crane Creek Sanctuary in South Melbourne. Over 10,000 native individual plants across 150 unique species have been installed at Heritage Park since May of 2021.

Keith serves on the Board of Brevard Health Alliance and is a lifetime FNPS member and FANN member.

Find him on [I Naturalist](#) @ kpdonald

Refreshments will be served. If you wish to bring something, contact Carol Hebert @ carol.hebert@gmail.com

Carol's Corner: Wishes for a Berry Happy New Year!

By Carol Hebert

I want to highlight one of the best native plants that looks beautiful with berries!

The birds have started to migrate out of the freezing cold north and there are several birds that only want berries to eat for energy for their trip.

Here in the south we have a great variety of plants that have berries in the fall and winter months. Holly trees (*Ilex cassine*), Gallberry (*Ilex glabra*), Sea Grape (*Coccoloba uvifera*), Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*), Wax Myrtle (*Myrica cerifera*) and Simpson Stopper (*Myrianthes fragrans*) just to name a few. Some birds will even like nuts and their favorite ones are the oak trees (*Quercus spp.*).

Wild Coffee (*Psychotria nervosa*) is the plant that I am highlighting and it has beautifully shiny indented leaves, cute little white flowers and bunches of red berries.

Wild Coffee likes to be in a bit of shade and once established it is usually easy to grow. I'm sure you have the right spot in your garden for Wild Coffee.

Plant native!



Upcoming Events & Meetings

Date	Event
Sunday Jan 8, 2023	Mulching and planting at the West Melbourne Post Office, 9 am to 2 pm
Monday Jan 9, 2023	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. 6pm at Melbourne library on Fee Ave
Wednesday Jan 11	Annual meeting of the Brevard County Delegation to the Florida Legislature
Saturday Jan 21, 2023	The Vero Beach 4th Transforming Landscapes for a Sustainable Future at The Emerson Center 1590 27th Ave, Vero Beach FL 32960
Wednesday Jan 28	Moonlight Stroll in Erna Nixon Park 6pm to 10pm
Monday Feb 13, 2023	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. 6pm at Melbourne library on Fee Ave
Friday Feb 17, 2023	Invasive plant removal at Turkey Creek Sanctuary, 9 am to 3 pm. Bring lunch.
Sunday Feb 26, 2023	Invasive plant removal at Erna Nixon Park, 9am to 12pm. Bring lunch if you stay longer.
Saturday Mar 4, 2023	Melbourne Botanical Fest, 8 am to 5 pm on East New Haven Ave, Melbourne FL 32901
Monday Mar 13, 2023	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. 6pm at Melbourne library on Fee Ave
Saturday Mar 25, 2023	Invasive plant removal at Erna Nixon Park, 9am to 12pm. Bring lunch if you stay longer.
Saturday Apr 1, 2023	Moonlight Stroll in Erna Nixon Park 6pm to 10pm
Monday Apr 10, 2023	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. 6pm at Melbourne library on Fee Ave
Saturday, Apr 22, 2023	Earth Day! Stay tuned for upcoming events in the works

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
4C's Nursery		321-586-0019	Native plants, landscape design & installation
Change of Greenery	Brendan Healy	321-536-0655	Native and edible plants, landscape design, installation & maintenance
Florida Wildflowers			Purchase seeds and plants online
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
Rockledge Gardens	General Information	321-636-7662	Expanding native plant selection
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: 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.

West Melbourne Post Office Planting and Mulching

West Melbourne Post Office Planting and Mulching

Jan. 8, 2023

From 9 am – 2 pm

The West Melbourne Post Office is one of the largest native landscaping projects Conradina has tackled and is in need of refresh. Funded by Keep Brevard Beautiful in 2018-2019 and designed by Maple Street Natives, 8 tons of white lava rock were removed and over 100 native plants installed. The West Melbourne Post Office has the most traffic of any local Post Office and is a great opportunity to educate the public about how good native plants can look.

Our tasks on Jan. 8 will be:

- Planting 20 plants provided by Conradina
- Weeding the long side beds that contain beautiful well established native plants
- Laying cardboard and mulching the long side beds



Please bring:

- Clean cardboard with all plastic taping and labels removed. Cardboard is a great natural weed barrier that will gradually decompose into organic matter.
- Cardboard cutter/razor knife
- Weeding tools
- Work gloves, water, snacks and lunch
- Please wear closed toes shoes

Supervised children are welcome and this is a great opportunity for teens needing community service hours! No experience needed! For questions, please contact janehiggins2016@gmail.com

We also need volunteers to bring water and hand water the plants installed everyday for the first month when there isn't rain. Please contact Jane if you're able to do this and days you're available between Jan. 9 and Feb. 9.

Thank you!

Transforming Landscapes for a Sustainable Future

LEARN TO ENHANCE YOUR YARD WITH NATIVE PLANTS 4TH TRANSFORMING LANDSCAPES FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

JANUARY 21, 2023
AT THE EMERSON CENTER

1590 27TH AVENUE
VERO BEACH, FL 32960



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE



SPONSORS

Have your name or business listed here

- \$1,500
- \$1,000
- \$500
- \$250

8:00AM	Registration - Tickets \$25 includes box lunch and native plants for sale from native plant nurseries
9:00-9:50	Dr. Craig N. Huegel , Director University of South Florida Botanical Garden, <i>The Nature of Plants, How Plants Work</i>
10:00-10:50	Dr. John W. Fitzpatrick , Professor and Emeritus Director, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, NY, <i>Local Ups and Downs in Bird Populations: Recent Revelations from Deep Analysis of 'eBird' Citizen-Science Data</i>
10:50-11:20	Break
11:20-12:10PM	Dr. Grant Gilmore , President and Chief Scientist, Estuarine, Coastal and Ocean Science, Inc., <i>Your Lawn Grass versus Seagrass</i>
12:10-1:00	Lunch with Box Lunches included in the \$25 admission ticket for those attending in person.
1:00-1:50	Sean Patton , Stocking Savvy Environmental Consulting, Sarasota, FL, <i>Pond-side Living with Native Plants, Native Fish, for a Native Florida</i>
2:00-2:50	Dr. Larry Reeves , Assistant Professor, University of Florida, Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory, Vero Beach, <i>The biodiversity crisis and the importance of insects</i>
2:50-3:20	Break
3:20-4:10	Timothee Sallin , Co-CEO of IMG Enterprises, a diversified, family owned Florida agri-business, <i>How Do We Mainstream Sustainable Landscapes in FL?: Working with Master Planned Community Developers, Home Builders, Landscape Architects and Regulators to Shift from Conventional Landscapes to Sustainable Landscapes</i>
4:10-4:30	Dr. Richard Baker - Discussion and Summary

Tickets are \$25 and include lunch. To purchase and for more info, go to [4th Transforming Landscapes for a Sustainable Future Conference | January 21, 2023 - Pelican Island Audubon Society](#)



Moonlight Strolls in Erna Nixon Park

Moonlight Stroll at Erna Nixon Park

1200 Evans Road, West Melbourne, FL 32904

NO Parking at/in Erna Nixon
FREE Shuttles from Melbourne Square Mall
Handicap parking available at Park
Must check in at parking lot first

Where: 1200 Evans Rd. W. Melbourne, 32904

Parking: Melbourne Square Mall-JCPenney parking lot

When: January 28th and April 1st, 2023- 6:00PM-10:00PM

Cost: \$4 per person-Pre-registration: <https://bit.ly/ENP-Moonlight-Stroll>

Cash will be accepted at door. Join us once again for some wonderful evenings with friends and family by viewing celestial bodies in the night sky through Brevard Astronomical Society telescopes.

Listen to live music throughout the park and along the boardwalk provided by several different bands and solo artists.

You'll also be able to please your taste buds by enjoying food from gourmet food trucks. We'll also have a variety of local vendors under the pavilion for your shopping pleasure.

Dates and times are subject to change, weather permitting.

Follow us on Facebook @BrevardParks to stay up to date on all event changes.

Call 321-952-4525 with any questions.

Help Us Tackle Invasive Plants at Two Locations

Please Help Us Tackle Invasive Plants at Two Locations

Remember that awesome talk by Skip Healy last March on ‘Invasive Species in the Landscape?’ Invasive plant species crowd out the beneficial native plants and damage local wildlife. This is an on-going challenge in Florida and other tropical climates where plants rapidly multiple without cold weather to keep them in check.

Conradina has organized the following invasive plant removal projects for you to bring family and friends to lend a hand to these local beautiful habitats:

Friday, Feb. 17, 2023

Invasive plant removal at Turkey Creek Sanctuary, 9 am to 3 pm. Bring lunch.

Sunday, Feb. 26, 2023

Invasive plant removal at Erna Nixon Park, 9 am to 12 pm. Bring lunch if you'd like to work longer

Saturday, March 25, 2023

Invasive plant removal at Erna Nixon Park, 9 am to 12 pm. Bring lunch if you'd like to work longer

Please wear closed toes shoes and work gloves, bring water, snacks and lunch. Supervised children are welcome and this is a great opportunity for teens needing community service hours! No experience needed! For questions, please contact janehiggins2016@gmail.com

If those dates aren't convenient for you, both locations are open to scheduling your group!

For more information on invasive plants, please check out the following websites:

[Florida Invasive Species Council](#)

[FLIP: Florida Invasive Plants \(usf.edu\)](#)

The Downtown Melbourne Botanical Fest



**March 4, 2023 @ 8:00 am - 4:00 pm at
1900 South Harbour City Blvd.
Melbourne, FL 32901**

Visit Downtown Melbourne this spring for a FREE family-friendly event that attracts visitors from the region and features lavish landscape designs, garden sculptures, flowers and plants, trees and shrubs, unique gifts, garden-themed art, great food, and much more!

Bring your wagon and leave with new items for your yard.

Parking is available at the many City of Melbourne public parking lots including the free parking garage.

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.

Plant native!

City	Meeting Time & Place	Website
Indialantic	5:30 pm on 4th Wednesday of the month in Council Chamber	Boards & Committees The Town of Indialantic Florida Official WebSite
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

Ocean Reef Beach Festival

Conradina attended the Ocean Reef Island Festival in Satellite Beach on December 3rd

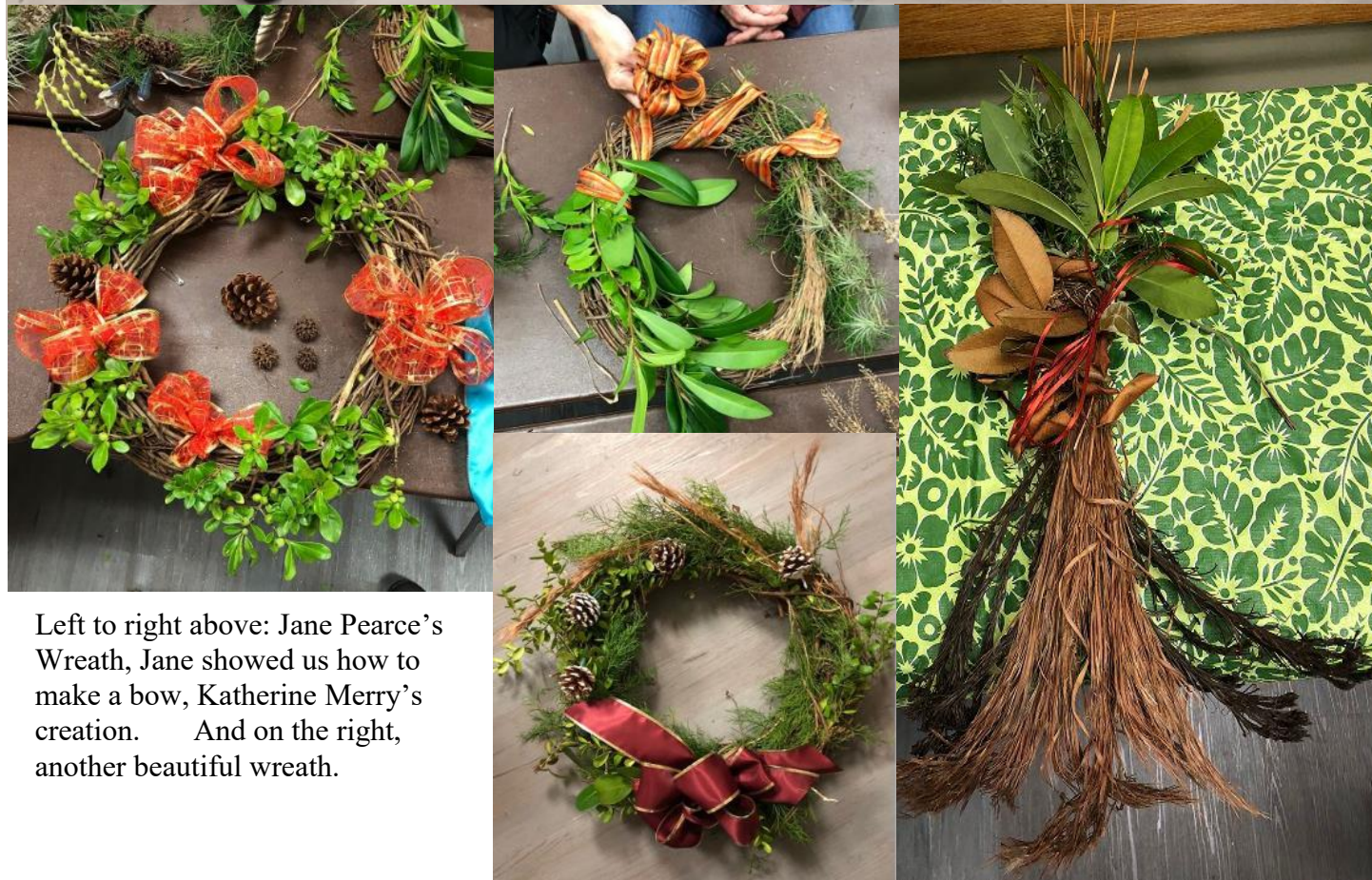


Annual December Wreath Making

Conradina held its annual December wreath making using native plant materials supplied by Martha Steuart. We had a good turn out and a lot of very creative wreaths made.



Our Group



Left to right above: Jane Pearce's Wreath, Jane showed us how to make a bow, Katherine Merry's creation. And on the right, another beautiful wreath.

Your Right to Clean & Healthy Waters

Florida Needs Your Help For Our Right to Clean & Healthy Water

Did you know that we the people are not guaranteed a right to clean and healthy water? Yes, that's right. The very laws that are written to keep our air and waters clean actually do the opposite and allow pollution through the permitting process.

In this sense, for the past 50-60 years society has allotted businesses and governments a pass to pollute. The time has come to change the way the law is written.

Please join the Clean and Healthy Waters movement and be one of the 900,000 to sign a petition in support of putting an amendment on the 2024 ballot here: [Petitions | Florida's Right to Clean Water \(floridarighttocleanwater.org\)](https://floridarighttocleanwater.org) .

The deadline is November 30, 2023, practically a whole year before the actual vote will take place.

If you sign and get 20 of your friends to sign we can reach this extraordinary goal in time. Check out the easy to navigate website, print, sign, and mail in your petition, and signup to be an ambassador!

https://initiativepetitions.elections.myflorida.com/InitiativeForms/Volunteer/DSDE155A_999_2202_EN.PDF

Time is ticking to save Florida's waters...Please be part of the solution!

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www.conradina.fnpschapters.org

[YouTube](#) - Conradina Chapter

FNPS

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www.fnps.org

Chapter News

The seven-member Brevard County delegation to the Florida Legislature will hold its annual meeting in advance of the 2023 legislative session.

The meeting will be held on on January 11th 2023 from 5:30 pm to 9:30 p.m. at the Brevard County Commission Chambers at the Government Center, 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Building C, Viera.

Come the meeting and voice your concerns about issues that are important to Conradina members. The importance of native plants in the environment. The Indian River Lagoon and the preservation of environmentally sensitive lands in Brevard County.

Those interested in speaking to the delegation must complete and submit an Appearance Request Form.

All completed Appearance Request Forms are due no later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 29, 2022.

Please send completed form via one of the options below:

Online: <https://forms.gle/msoJeSxZ9VhKqQFG8>

Email: Thad.Altman@myfloridahouse.gov

In Person/Mail: The Honorable Thad Altman 1895 South Patrick Drive Indian Harbour Beach, FL 32937

Check out Doug Tallamy's latest initiative and join in at [HOMEGROWN NATIONAL PARK](#)

THEY FOUGHT THE LAWN AND THE LAWN LOST !!!

After their homeowner association ordered them to replace their wildlife-friendly plants with turf grass, a Maryland couple sued. They ended up changing state law. To learn more, copy this link into your Browser:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/12/14/climate/native-plants-lawns-homeowners.html>

You may then download the article as a pdf. NOTE: If you use the link more than 3 times, you will be locked out.

