

Conradina NEWS

Photos by Bob Peterson



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[Native Butterfly Flowers](#)

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APRIL 2024

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Next Chapter Meeting

Monday, April 8, 2024

Conradina Chapter Meeting Monday, April 8, 2024

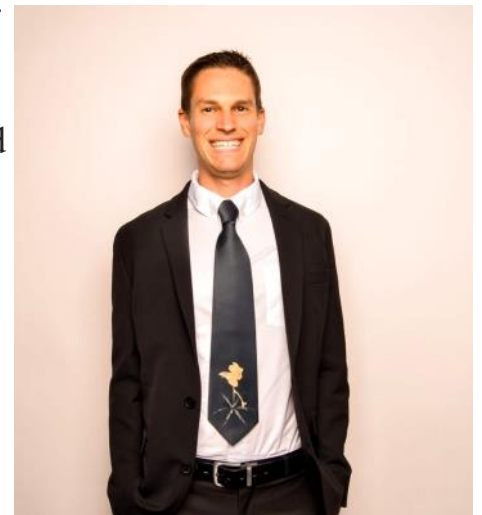
5:30 - 6:00 pm socialization, Meeting will begin at 6:00pm.

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

**Learn about Florida's endemic carnivorous plants!
Presented by Kenny Coogan, Education Director of the
International Carnivorous Plant Society**

Florida has dozens of native species of carnivorous plants – more than any other state in the United States. These plants use appealing scents, leaves, and sticky fluids to trap and imprison insects. Learn the evolution, people, and natural history of this area to discover why Florida is a hotspot of carnivorous plants.

Kenny Coogan has a Master's Degree in Global Sustainability and is passionate about Florida's wildlife and plants. He now runs a successful carnivorous plant nursery in Tampa, Florida.



Kenny's book "Florida's Carnivorous Plants" and a selection of carnivorous plants will be available for purchase after the talk!

Can't make it to the meeting?

View prior meetings on our Youtube page

<https://www.youtube.com/@conradinachapterfnps5627/streams>



www.conradina.fnpschapters.org



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

Carol's Corner: Spring Flowers!

By Carol Hebert

I have enjoyed the beauty of the white flowers of Walter's Viburnum (*Viburnum obovatum*) in bloom in my backyard but as this newsletter goes out it will probably be done. I need to add more to my yard! I did attend the Brevard Discovery Spring Fling at the Agricultural Center on Lake Drive in Cocoa on March 16th and Walter's Viburnum was used wonderfully along walkways. I must say they have a wonderful part of their garden with all native plants.

I also saw Marilyn P. and Sara M. volunteering there!



As I was taking the picture of the Walter's Viburnum in my yard, I noticed some pretty purple flowers on the side of the house I don't walk on often. It was the patch of Blue-eyed Grass (*Sisyrinchium atlanticum*). I remember when I first moved into this house about six years ago and was surprised to find them in my yard. I did notice it was a few feet away from where the pipe drains off the house and that is where they like it in moist soil. I also got lucky to spot a bicolored sweat bee (*Agapostemon virescens*) right on the plant. Always good to slow down and enjoy the flowers - especially native flowers.



Plant natives!
Carol Hebert



Upcoming Events and Meetings

Date	Event
Monday, Apr 8 at 5:30pm	Chapter Meeting. Our Speaker will be Kenny Cogan, Education Director of the International Carnivorous Plant Society. His topic is "Florida's Carnivorous Plants."
Saturday, Apr 13 8am to 4pm	The Downtown Melbourne Botanical Fest at the 1900 Building. 1900 South Harbor City Blvd. , Melbourne FL 32901
Saturday, Apr 13 5pm to 8pm	City of Palm Bay 2nd Annual Sustainability Fair at Fred Poppe Regional Park 1951 Malabar Blvd. NW Palm Bay, FL 32907
Saturday Apr 20 9am to 2pm	Earth Day & Coastal Garden Fair at the DRS Community Center in Satellite Beach 1089 South Patrick Drive, Satellite Beach 32937
Saturday Apr 27 9am to 3pm	Turkey Creek Day at the Turkey Creek Sanctuary 1518 Port Malabar Blvd. NE, Palm Bay, FL 32905, For more information, please phone (321) 676-6690
Sunday, May 5 at 10am	Volunteer Training. Help maintain Native Gardens at the West Melbourne Post Office. 2305 Minton Rd, Melbourne, FL 32904
Monday, May 13 at 5:30pm	Chapter Meeting. Our Speaker will be Marc Spiess, Naturalist at the Environmental Learning Center in Vero Beach. His topic is "Invasive Grasses in Florida".
Sunday June 9	General Meeting at Erna Nixon Park followed by a Bring Your Own lunch social.

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
	Newsletter Sponsor		
	Brendan Healy	321-536-0655	Native and edible plants, landscape design, installation & maintenance
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
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.

The Downtown Melbourne Botanical Fest



April 13, 2024 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

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.

Conradina Chapter FNPS will be there!

Thank you for signing up to help!

You will be contacted by Carol Hebert with information and shift times.

The 2nd Annual Sustainability Fair

2ND ANNUAL Sustainability Fair

HOSTED BY THE CITY OF PALM BAY'S SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024

5 PM TO 8 PM

FRED POPPE REGIONAL PARK

JOIN US FOR FOOD TRUCKS, ECO-VENDORS, RAIN BARREL WORKSHOP, SUSTAINABLE DEMONSTRATIONS, AND MORE! END THE NIGHT WITH A SPECIAL EARTH DAY MOVIE IN THE PARK, SPONSORED BY THE PALM BAY UTILITIES DEPARTMENT! WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR THE RAIN BARREL WORKSHOP. SCAN THE CODE TO REGISTER.



BE THE SOLUTION!



INTERESTED IN BEING A VENDOR?
PLEASE CONTACT DANIEL WAITE, RECREATION SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR AT
DANIEL.WAITE@PBFL.ORG

Satellite Beach Coastal Garden Fair

The poster features a central illustration of a smiling Earth with arms and legs, surrounded by smaller versions of the same Earth character. The text 'Earth Day' is arched at the top, and 'COASTAL GARDEN FAIR' is arched at the bottom. Below the illustration, it says 'Presented by Sustainability and Beautification boards' and 'April 20th 2024'. A dark blue arrow-shaped box contains the address: 'DRS Community Center 1089 South Patrick Dr. Satellite Beach, FL 32937'. Below this, a list of activities is provided: '9a-2p Free admission and parking', 'Native plant sale', 'Come join us and support our planet by learning the importance of planting native plants', and 'contact smartin@satellitebeach.gov'. The City of Satellite Beach logo is in the bottom left corner.

Earth Day

COASTAL GARDEN FAIR

Presented by Sustainability and Beautification
boards

April 20th 2024

**DRS Community Center 1089 South
Patrick Dr. Satellite Beach, FL 32937**

- o 9a-2p Free admission and parking
- o Native plant sale
- o Come join us and support our planet
by learning the importance of
planting native plants
- o contact smartin@satellitebeach.gov



There will be a native plant sale for Earth Day where people can buy native plants and learn the importance of keystone species.

If there are any plant vendors interested in this event, please email Shane Martin at smartin@satellitebeach.gov

Turkey Creek Day



FOR QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL THE NATURE CENTER



AT (321) 676-6690

IT STARTS IN PARKS

WWW.PLAYPALMBAY.ORG

WWW.TURKEYCREEK.ORG

Help Preserve Native Gardens

Volunteer Opportunity

Help maintain our vibrant native gardens at DeGroot Library, MLK Library, and West Melbourne Post Office. No experience needed!

Interested? Contact Jessica Paskert at jessicapaskert@gmail.com. Your help is appreciated!

Volunteer Training:

Sunday, May 5th

8:30AM

West Melbourne Post Office

Please wear closed toes shoes and work gloves. Bring your own garden hand tools and shovels, bags to put the weeds in, kneeling pads, hats and WATER



May Elections

Our Conradina Chapter May Elections are coming up and we are looking for four Board members and a Secretary starting in June 2024.

Key Board of Director roles:

- **Set objectives and priorities for Chapter's activities.**
- **Monitor Chapter finances.**
- **Lead an outreach event and/or chair a committee of choice**
- **Contribute your skills, knowledge, and experience to promote use of native plants**
- **Attend Board Of Directors (virtual or in-person) meetings and the Membership meetings**
- **Abide by the Chapter's by-laws**

Key Secretarial roles:

- **Record, maintain and report minutes of the Board meetings on monthly basis.**

Contact Carol Hebert for any questions and/or request for an application by cell phone 321-480-9723 or by email: carol.hebert@gmail.com.

We would appreciate receiving applications by April 15th or sooner.

Thank you for your interest in supporting our Chapter Nominating Committee: Carol Hebert (Chair), Karen Moser and David Zeitz.

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	5:30 pm on 2nd Thursday 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

Palm Bay Sustainability Board Needs You

Want to make a difference in the environment where you live in Palm Bay?

The Palm Bay Sustainability Board currently has **one opening** that we need to fill and it would be great to fill those spots with folks like you knowledgeable about native plants and the environment.

The primary requirements are:

- Must be a resident of the City of Palm Bay for at least one year OR be the owner of a business located within the City of Palm Bay for at least one year
- Able to attend monthly meetings at 6 pm on the fourth Wednesday of the month
- Willing to work on issues related to improving the sustainability and environment of Palm Bay

For more information, please check out their website here:

[Sustainability Advisory Board | City of Palm Bay, FL \(palmbayflorida.org\)](https://www.palmbayflorida.org/sustainability-advisory-board)

Also feel free to contact the three Conradina members already on the Palm Bay Sustainability Board for any questions you may have:

Susan Connally at Sbconnolly@aol.com

Rebecca Ziegler at rebeccarelgeiz@gmail.com

Jane Higgins at janehiggins2016@gmail.com

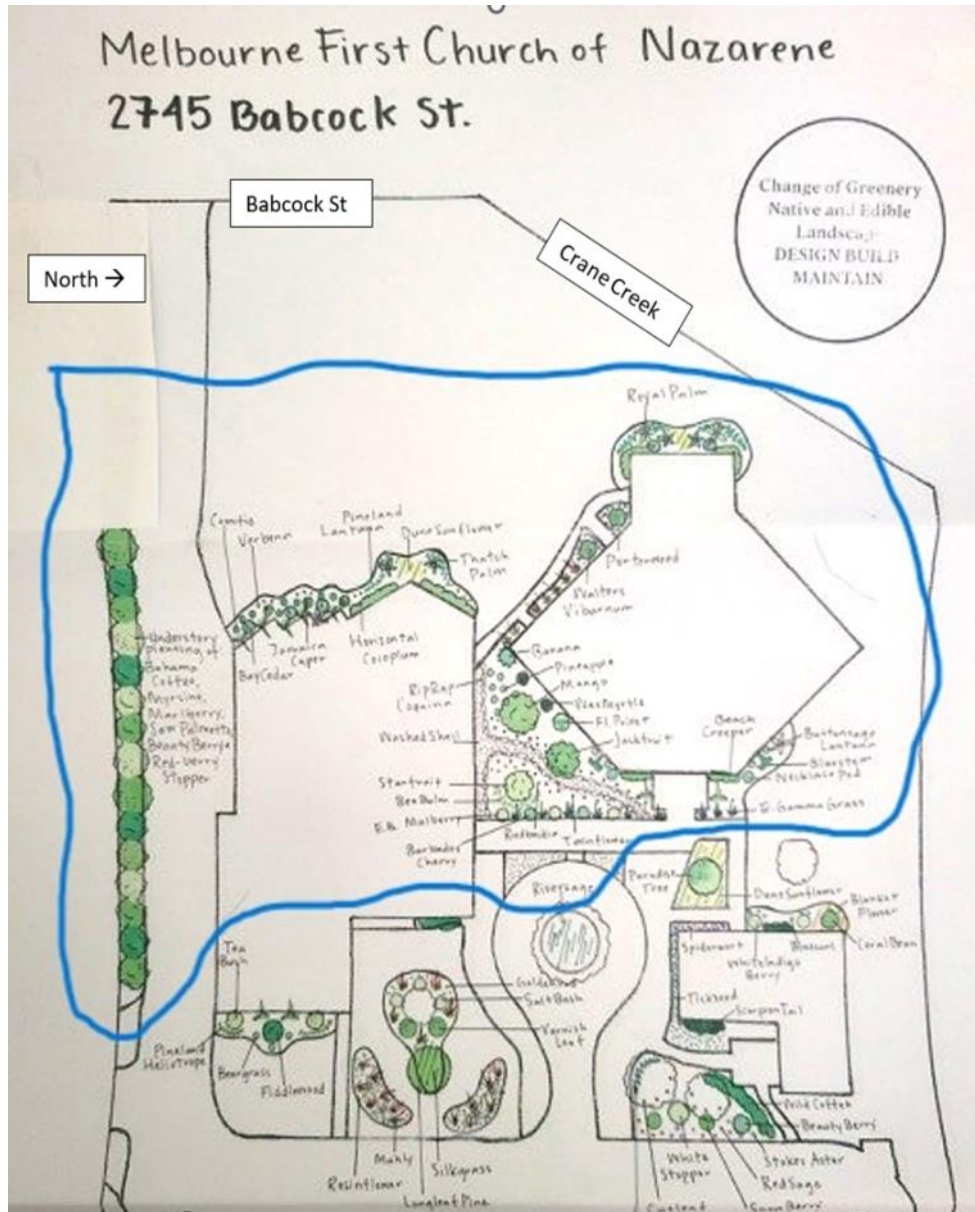
If you're interested in this opportunity, please fill out the online application here:

[APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP City Boards or Committees for the City of Palm Bay Florida \(palmbayflorida.org\)](https://www.palmbayflorida.org/application-for-membership-city-boards-or-committees-for-the-city-of-palm-bay-florida).

Thank you!!

Nazarene Native Garden Update

- It's happening! The Melbourne First Church of the Nazarene native garden is in the planning stages as a collaborative effort with First Church, Change of Greenery Native and Edible Landscapes, and the Conradina Chapter of the FL Native Plant Society. Here's where we are so far:



- Landscape plans created by Change of Greenery
- Phase 1 & 2 are the areas circled in blue on the diagram
- 35 plant species and a small food forest
- Total discounted cost for Phase 1 & 2 is \$17k.
- Two grants have been submitted to request funding and one more this summer for Phase 1 & 2
- All grants will be awarded by early Sept. and we'll assess how far we can go with funding received

What can you do in the meantime?

- Talk about the project and help us find funders and donors
- Get ready to volunteer to help in Sept!

Please send any funding prospects or questions to janehiggins2016@gmail.com

Florida Friendly Landscaping Seminar

Conradina attended the Florida Friendly Landscaping Seminar on March 23rd at the Melbourne auditorium.

Speakers at the seminar were:

Kathy Hill from the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program

Sally Scalera, Urban Agricultural agent from UF/IFAS Extension Brevard County, Cocoa, FL

Tim and Anna Harrison of Native Butterfly Flowers “What you plant matters!”

Skip Healy of Change of Greenery “Nurturing Native Landscapes: Tips and Tricks,”



Understanding What's Ailing the IRL

Understanding What's Ailing the Indian River Lagoon... *and finding solutions to bring it back to health*



If you loved this presentation at the March meeting and want to study it in detail, we have posted it here:

[The Indian River Lagoon \(brevardlandscapetour.org\)](http://brevardlandscapetour.org)

Thank you to Heather Stapleton for sharing this important information!

The Marine Resources Council Lanches IMAGINE!

MRC Launches IMAGINE! on the First Day of Spring and Conradina was there!

IMAGINE! A Year of Hope + Action is a year-long initiative to call attention to the historic progress underway, what anyone can do to help, and what more needs to happen to protect, restore, unite, and promote the Indian River Lagoon coastal community of East Central Florida.

This region, one of our Earth's rarest and most valuable natural treasures extends east from Orlando, encompasses 40 percent of the state's Atlantic coastline and supports the most bio-diverse habitat in North America.

For more information go to [Homepage | Marine Resources Council \(lovetheirl.org\)](https://www.lovetheirl.org)



The 2024 Environmental Landscaping Award

On Monday March 25th Conradina received the 2024 Environmental Landscaping Award from the Pelican Island Audubon Society of Indian River County.

For our annual support of their Transforming Landscapes for a Sustainable Future held each year in Vero Beach.



Volunteers In Action

Club Esteem – It Takes A Village Event

Jamie Snider and Jane Higgins attended this event with many other local area non-profits to show our support for all the good work Club Esteem does with students. Jamie won the pot luck first place prize for her amazing macaroni and cheese and peach cobbler!

For her efforts, Conradina was awarded a check for \$250 we plan to use for a native garden at Club Esteem.

If you're interested in helping organize this project, please contact Jane at janehiggins2016@gmail.com



Erna Nixon Invasive Plant Removal Days in March

Many thanks to the hard-working volunteers that came out to work on pulling out the terrible invasive Ardesia – we are slowly making a difference year by year!



Thanks also to the staff and Celia for organizing these events. If you have a group interested in organizing a day to help out at this treasured park or want to know about future events, please contact Celia at CeliaByrnes@gmail.com and get on her events mailing list.

Officers and Directors

President

Carl Winebarger 2022-2024

Vice President

Lynda Geraci 2021-2023

Secretary

Terry LaPlant 2022-2024

Treasurer

Jane Higgins 2022-2024

Chapter Representative

Martha Steuart 2022-2024

Board of Directors At Large

Anastasis Doshna 2022-2024

Skip Healy 2022-2024

Kathryn Merry 2021-2023

Sara Morrison 2022-2024

Karen Moser 2022-2024

David Zeitz 2022-2024

Past President

Carol Hebert 2022-2023

Membership Chair

Lynda Geraci

Webmaster

Cammie Donaldson

Newsletter Editor

Marilyn Peio

Conradina Chapter

Florida Native Plant Society

www.conradina.fnpschapters.org

[YouTube](#) - Conradina Chapter

FNPS

Florida Native Plant Society

www.fnps.org

Chapter News

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.

All members are encouraged

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

Thanks!



Looking for a new home with a beautiful native landscape?

This is a home in NW Palm Bay that has a wonderful established native plant landscape.

This home has been featured on Conradina's "Landscaping with Native Plants" tour several times.

The house is a 3 bedroom 2 bath with a fantastic layout inside as well.

Spread the word to other native plant lovers that are looking for a new home!

Please take a look at the Zillow website below:

https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/882-Brisbane-St-NE-Palm-Bay-FL-32907/43502395_zpid/



**CONRADINA
CHAPTER**