President's Message
By Jan Allyn

I have served on the Pinellas Chapter’s board for 15 years in various capacities. In that time much has changed. Our county has become ever more urbanized and paved over and, perhaps as a result, more people recognize the importance of preserving green space and the value native plants play in restoring some semblance of biodiversity to our community. Though more commercial growers are propagating native plants for landscapes, they are still absent from mainline nurseries and big box stores. Local governments are more accepting, sometimes even proactive, in using native landscaping in public spaces, but changes are still needed in municipal development codes to encourage the planting of native species for new construction projects.

Some things never seem to change. There are those people whose love of lawns and overly-tidy “tropical-looking” landscapes is unshakable. In general, people are still more concerned about how a plant looks in the landscape than they are about what it does. An unchanging aspect of our chapter, as with so many volunteer-run organizations, is that just a handful people do the majority of the heavy lifting. If the Florida Native Plant Society is to make progress in moving its mission of preservation, conservation, and restoration, it needs the help of all of its members, not just a few. Please consider how you might help the chapter with its activities on a continuing basis. We still have a lot of work to do in helping people to learn about the joys of growing and sharing native plants, and making our community a greener, more inviting place.
Nominations Open for 2018 Chapter Officers and Directors

The Chapter’s annual meeting is November 1st at Moccasin Lake Nature Park. At the meeting, next year’s chapter board will be elected. According to the chapter bylaws, the board is composed of the officers and up to five (5) directors. Those who have been nominated and agreed to serve if elected are:

- President: Mary McCahon
- Vice-President - nominee(s) needed, those who aspire to lead the chapter as president in the future
- Secretary - Sue Taylor (continuing)
- Treasurer - Jan Allyn
- Chapter Representative - nominee(s) needed. Chapter Rep. is the liaison with the state FNPS organization. Travel to four (4) Council of Chapters meetings a year is required, with expenses reimbursed by the chapter.
- Past-President (non-elected) - Jan Allyn
- Directors - Nancy Bickner (continuing), Donna Trott (continuing), Mary Sanders, Stefan Babjak, Craig Huegel.

Nominations will be accepted "from the floor" at the November 1st meeting. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else (with their permission!), or would like more information about what is required of any position, on the Pinellas FNPS chapter board, please contact the chapter at pinellasfnps@gmail.com.

As is the Chapter’s custom, we will have a potluck supper at the November meeting, which will start a little early, at 6:30 p.m.

We will also have an "open-mike" night, organized by Mary McCahon. Members are invited to speak for 5 minutes, with up to 5 photos/slides, on any topic they think would be of interest to other Chapter members. Share photos of favorite plants in your garden, butterflies or other wildlife you’ve observed there, a place you’ve visited, or anything else. We’re a 501(c)3, so no politicking, please! Send your photos to Mary McCahon before October 28th: memccahon@gmail.com.

Peacock butterfly on Stoke’s Aster, at our Fall Plant Festival at Wilcox Nursery. Photo by Ed Schoen.
Chapter Addresses Pinellas Delegation

By Jan Allyn

On September 25th, Chapter vice president Mary McCahon addressed a meeting of the Pinellas Legislative Delegation at the Clearwater campus of St. Petersburg College. She was one of several dozen citizens who were given two minutes each to speak to the Delegation. The meeting was streamed online and broadcast on The Florida Channel. FNPS encourages each chapter to attend such delegation meetings and to engage elected representatives on environmental issues. Mary’s talk focused on the importance of complying with Amendment 1 by fully funding the Florida Forever land acquisition program.

Mary McCahon speaking on behalf the nearly 300 members of the non-profit Pinellas County chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society,

The chapter and society are dedicated to the conservation of Florida’s native plant communities and the eco systems on which they are dependent. Our members donate thousands of hours each year working to preserve, conserve and restore native plants and plant communities. We promote sustainable landscaping and conservation practices throughout the county, from educating homeowners about ecologically sustainable home landscaping supporting biodiversity to working with elected officials and government agencies on the local and state levels to encourage and implement good conservation and sustainable land management practices on public lands.

Our number one legislative issue is, no surprise here, fully funding the land acquisition component of Amendment 1. We, just like the rest of the 75%ers, voted for Land and Water Legacy Amendment because we understood it to be a way to restore the funding to Florida Forever, which was traditionally funded at $300 million a year. We expected a large portion of those funds to be used for land conservation, not for general revenue items like staff salaries and trucks for state parks & forests. It was unconscionable that there was zero funding for land acquisition during the 2017 session. This is not acceptable. Funding needs to be, no, must be restored to at least pre-recession levels, especially given that the doc stamp tax funding exceeds $700 million a year.

Legislators, please stop delaying and justifying inaction saying other types of projects achieve worthy environmental objectives. The time for land acquisition action is now. You have the means, we respectfully demand that you enact the ways. The priority tracks have been
identified. As Hurricane Irma dramatically demonstrated, we need the natural lands right now to mitigate the effects of global warming and hurricane devastation. Putting money into natural barriers, like wetlands, is a better economic decision than spending even more on post-disaster rebuilding. Reminds me of the old Fram oil filter commercial when the mechanic says "you can pay me now (for the oil change and filter), or you can pay me later, to rebuild engine. Buy the filter!!!!

Undeveloped environmentally sensitive lands in Florida are a finite resource. As the ravages of storms and the benefit mangroves, barrier islands, seas of tall grass that absorb copious amounts of water are acknowledged, it has become so clear that this wonderful vulnerable paradise we all call home can never have enough protected land. Thinking or saying otherwise, as some like Speaker Corcoran do, is an indefensible and unsupported argument. The NYT 9/18 article on Florida's enduring land rush and its devastating effects on storm survivability is both enlightening and a sobering reality check. I urge you and your staff to read it if you haven't already.

Jan Allyn (left, in photo), with Smokey the Bear and Sonya Guidry of the Pawpaw Chapter. As our Chapter Representative, Jan attended the quarterly meeting of the FNPS Board of Directors and Council of Chapters on Aug. 13, held at the Withlacoochee Forestry Center in Brooksville.
Chapter Events for Nov. 2017 – Jan. 2018

The Pinellas Chapter holds monthly program meetings the first Wednesday of each month, 7:00 pm, at Moccasin Lake Nature Park, 2750 Park Trail Lane, Clearwater. We have announcements, a silent auction of plants and seed swap, and a featured speaker. Members are invited to bring refreshments to share.

All meetings, field trips and other FNPS activities are free and open to all.

- Nov. 1st (Wed.), 6:30 – Pinellas Chapter Annual Election/Meeting. Election of officers and board; nominations accepted prior to the meeting or “from the floor”. Potluck dinner will start at 6:30– bring your specialty to share. “Open Mike Night” – 5 min./5 slides. Share photos of your garden, tell about a place you visited, or anything else you think others would enjoy hearing about. Meeting/program 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM, Moccasin Lake Nature Park, 2750 Park Trail Lane, Clearwater.

- Nov. 10th-12th (Fri.-Sun.) — Join the Citrus and Pinellas chapters on a field trip to learn about the endangered scrub habitats of the Lake Wales Ridge at Archbold Biological Station in Venus, FL (about 20 miles south of Sebring) on Nov. 10-12. Cost $97 for two nights lodging, double occupancy, and meals on Sat. There is a limit of 25 people. For information and online registration, visit the calendar page of the Chapter’s website.

- Nov. 18th (Sat.) — Workday at “Andy’s Pond”. Cleanup of pond area at Pinellas County Extension. Weeding, pruning, plant removal, general cleanup. Wear old sneakers or close-toed water shoes. Bring hand tools: pruners, loppers, rakes, etc., a reusable water bottle, sun and bug protection. Chapter will have cold water and snacks on hand, and will provide pizza for lunch. From 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Pinellas County Extension, 12520 Walsingham Road, Largo.

  Map to site: https://goo.gl/maps/jc1c9af1hH92

- Dec. 2th (Sat.) — In place of our December Pinellas Chapter meeting/field trip, we have planned a visit to the Morean Art Center and Chihuly Collection as a festive holiday event. The new Chihuly Collection has a terrace landscaped with Florida native plants, designed by Bruce Turley of Wilcox Nursery & Landscape. Bruce will show us this garden and speak about the challenges they faced in designing and installing it. Cost: $16.25 per person. For details, visit the calendar page of the Chapter’s website.
Dec. 10th (Sun.) — Gift & Plant Sale at Florida Botanical Gardens, to benefit FBG Foundation. The Chapter will have an information table. Volunteers are needed, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Contact Andy Karpinsky: ak@stonemarmot.com.

Jan. 3rd (Wed.) — Pinellas Chapter Meeting/Program. Lara Milligan, Pinellas County UF/IFAS Extension, “Pinellas County’s Urban Forest.” From 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM, at the Pinellas County Extension, 12520 Ulmerton Road (note: change of location).

Jan. 6th (tentative) — Field trip to Hammock Park in Dunedin (tentative), 9 am to noon. Meet at Hammock Park.

Jan. 19th (Fri.) — Florida Arbor Day. Hug your favorite tree, then plant a friend for it! Need suggestions? Check out this interactive Tree Matrix on the Tampa Tree Map website: http://www.tampatreemap.usf.edu/tree-matrix

Jan. 24th (Wed.) — “Natives for Newbies” workshop presented by Jan Allyn, at Moccasin Lake Nature Park, 10 am to noon.

Visit out Calendar page for a current list of upcoming speakers, field trips and other events. http://pinellas.fnpschapters.org/index.php?id=calendar

To receive reminders/notifications of upcoming programs, field trips, and other activities, become a member of the Chapter’s Meetup group. Visit the Subscribe page for more information and to sign up. https://www.meetup.com/en-AU/Pinellas-FNPS/

Florida Wildflower Symposium, Orlando - April 27 and 28, 2018

Due to Hurricane Irma damage and complications, the Florida Wildflower Foundation had to move the date of its Florida Wildflower Symposium, which was to have been Sept. 22-23. The new date for the event is April 27 and 28 at the same venue, the Orange County UF/IFAS Extension office in Orlando.
The Pinellas Chapter is pleased to announce that Tonya Clayton will be our guest speaker at our March 7, 2018 meeting!

The sea is rising, and the signs are all around us. Today’s headlines come from flooded city streets, but Florida’s native plants were among the first to tell this tale — quietly, many decades ago. In this illustrated armchair stroll across the state, we’ll look at some of those early hints and we’ll explore what’s happening today. How do we know the sea is rising, what’s the big deal, and how can we help? Along the way, we’ll visit some of Florida’s most iconic natural communities.

Guest speaker Tonya Clayton, PhD, is a contributing author of Sea Level Rise in Florida, published in 2016 by the University Press of Florida. She is also an instructor for the USF Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, a graduate of the Florida Natural Resources Leadership Institute, and a member of the FNPS Pinellas chapter. This is going to be an excellent program presented by our very own expert. This was one of the plenary programs at the 2017 FNPS statewide conference, and it was very well received.

Landscaping for Hurricanes – A Reprise

Was your landscape leveled by Irma? Do you need some storm-proof suggestions for replacing what got clobbered? Look no further than the August-September 2012 issue of The Understory for the information you seek. In that newsletter, Andy Karpinsky gave us an excellent primer on which natives have been proven to withstand Florida’s extreme weather. Check it out here:

Fall Plant Festival, Wilcox Nursery, 10/21 By Mary McCahon, Plant Sale Coordinator

October 21st Fundraiser at Wilcox Nursery Poorly Attended

The weather was perfect. The speakers had superb programs on native plants to support birds (all talks proclaimed as excellent). County Commissioner Pat Gerard presented a Native Plant Month proclamation to the chapter. The volunteers worked hard prepping and were eager to assist members, friends and newbies make their plant choices. But very few came to the event. For a variety of reasons, from too many completing activities that date to the ready availability of native plants, we raised less than $1,000. To help the chapter generate the funds to pay for our programs, websites, educational outreach, etc., Wilcox Nursery owner Bruce Turley hosts the event and then donates a generous percentage of the day's sales to us. Thanks to members and friends buying plants at previous sales, we had typically raised $2,000 and more. We were disappointed with the response to this fundraiser. Seems like it is time to reassess the benefit of the semi-annual plant sale event to the membership and friends along with chapter activities that can realistically be funded.

Thank you to all the members who gave time and labor to make the event enjoyable and worthwhile. This includes moderator JoAnn DeFrancesco and the terrific speakers Marie Hughes, Lynn Sumerson, and Craig Huegel. Rebecca Wellborn, Sally McConnell, Mike Mitchell, Pam Schrader, Mary McCahon, Andy Karpinski, Lisa Boeing, and Sue Taylor worked on Friday to paste labels on and arrange hundreds of pots in the sales area. Sally, Mike, Andy, Sue, Mary, and Lisa were joined on Saturday by Jan Allyn, Carlton Rowell, Darcey Phillips, Ed Schoen, Cathy France, Cathy Close, Belinda Lambert, Nancy Bickner, and Katy Roberts to set up and manage the event and assist “customers” with their plant and supply selections. The Wilcox staff under Bruce Turley’s direction was great, and, in my opinion, the nursery plant sales area never looked better. I think that all volunteers would agree that it was a pleasure to work with and learn about the variety of native plants. While not the financial success hoped for, we all made new friends, spread the word about the tremendous value of native plants to supporting birds, welcomed new chapter members, and had fun. Thanks to everyone who helped and shopped.
It was a gorgeous day at Wilcox Nursery. Our plant sale theme was "Native Plants Are for the Birds" and our three speakers gave wonderful talks on the subject. Thanks to Craig Huegel, Lynn Sumerson, and Marie Hughes.

Native wildflower beds, photo by Alexa Huegel.

Right, Craig Huegel and Lynn Sumerson giving their talks. Below, skyblue clustervine. Photos by Ed Schoen.

Watching a monarch on the blazing star.

Marie Hughes. Below, our Chapter display.

Plant festival photos by Cathy Vogelsong, unless noted.
Field Trip: Fort DeSoto Park, July 9
By Mary McCahon

The Sunday morning tour of the Soldiers Hole and Arrowhead trails on Mullet Key at Fort DeSoto Park provided a wonderful opportunity to contemplate what native plants might have thrived on the county’s barrier islands prior to World War II. After over 100 years of primarily military and state use as a quarantine station starting in 1848, Pinellas County acquired the keys that make up the park in 1948. The much-loved county park with its famed beach opened to the public in 1963. Today the undeveloped portions support a multitude of native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers on a variety of coastal habitats.

The hike through the Soldiers Hole and Arrowhead areas was led by Bruce Turley, owner of Wilcox Nursery and co-president of the Florida Native Nurseries Association (FANN). Bruce and volunteers from the Pinellas chapter had done invasive removal and trail development there in the 1990s. The park remains one of Turley's favorite haunts for observing coastal plant communities. Species we observed included a rare Florida rosemary (Ceratiola ericoides) dome, mature Florida mayten (Maytenus phyllanthoides) with deep reddish-orange fruits, and a host of buttonwoods (Conocarpus erectus), white stoppers (Eugenia axillaris) and varnishleafs (Dodonaea viscosa). He also pointed out the lovely seaside gentian (Eustoma exaltatum), sea oxeye (Borrichia frutescens) and beach false foxglove (Agalinis fasciculata), all in bloom along the Soldiers Hole Trail. Additional observations included Christmasberry (Lycium carolinianum),

October is Native Plant Month
Pinellas County Board of County Commissioner Pat Gerard came to our Fall Plant Festival to present the county’s proclamation naming October as Native Plant Month. Bruce Turley and Jan Allyn welcomed Commissioner Gerard and accepted the proclamation. Interestingly, Wilcox is Commissioner Gerard’s “home” nursery. Her personal involvement with our event is sincerely appreciated. Making October native plant month is an awareness program initiated in 2015 by the society.

From left, Bruce Turley, Pat Gerard and Jan Allyn. Photo by Ed Schoen.
an underutilized shrub that provides food for birds, and saffron plum (*Sideroxylon celastrinum*).

The hike reinforced to me that there is no better way to learn about native plants than to see them in their wild, natural setting. It’s hard to forget the distinctive leaves of a varnishleaf or Florida privet (*Forestiera segregata*) after you have seen them glistening in the sun, or to fail to distinguish among our three mangroves when all are present around you. Bruce’s friendly quizzing – “Do you remember which tree that one is?” – caused all of us to sharpen our identification skills. By the end the tour, we were all better plant identifiers. Plus, everyone benefited from the banter among the hikers about plant characteristics, their benefits to wildlife (including humans), and how Mullet Key plant communities have changed over the decades. The tour concluded with the group gathered around a shaded picnic table talking about the challenges of maintaining and propagating *bona fide* Florida native plants and the effects of climate change and salt water intrusion. In summary, it was a terrific tour because of Bruce’s knowledge, passion for the place, and thoughtful preparation. These allowed him to steer us to areas loaded with mature and seldom-seen native plants.

Thanks, Bruce! It was a memorable hike that held the interest of beginners and seasoned native plant-lovers alike. Being shown the mangroves and buttonwoods alone made it a great learning experience. As a beginner myself, I want to add that this is the very best way to learn about and retain information about native plants and their preferred habitats – knowledge that is particularly useful as we plan and manage our personal native landscapes. If this type of experience is useful to you, please join us on our field trips. You will leave more knowledgeable than when you arrived! And you will really appreciate the importance and benefit of all those invasive removal efforts.

---

**Survey Says . . . We Want to Hear From You**

The Pinellas Chapter’s board strives to provide educational and fun speakers, field trips, and other activities and to help in program planning has created a short survey to learn about the preferences of members. You can find the survey at this link:

https://goo.gl/forms/nV3dqa48Ur7JjUt72

Please take a few minutes to complete it and share with us your ideas and suggestions!
Field Trip: Perico Preserve, Aug. 5

By Jan Allyn

Restoration the theme of Perico Preserve program, field trip. What we learned from our August program and field trip was that redemption is possible. Even land that has been cleared, farmed, abandoned, and planted with invasives by both man and beast can be brought back from the brink - can be beautiful, harbor wildlife, provide “ecosystem services”, and can be a place for recreation and reflection. Perico Preserve, on Manatee Avenue West in Bradenton, sandwiched between a mangrove forest and a housing development, was rescued by Manatee County under the direction of Damon Moore. The 176-acre preserve was overrun by Brazilian pepper and Australian pines, the latter planted intentionally as windbreaks. The property had to be cleared down to bare earth, with virtually no plant material left in place afterward. The land was resculpted and completely replanted using a variety of methods and sources including sowing wild-collected wildflower and grass seed. A tidal lagoon was created that includes a bird rookery with elevated platforms and a ring of mangroves. Trails and boardwalks were added for visitors. The restoration was accomplished using a combination of labor from Manatee County staff, contractors, and over 200 volunteers. It has a mix of habitats including coastal wetland, upland scrub, forested hammock, and both fresh and saltwater marshes. Good planning has allowed Manatee County to offset the preserve’s management costs by selling mitigation credits: its newly-created tidal lagoon has seagrass beds and a bird rookery, and it is a receiving site for “waif” gopher tortoises.

Our field trip to the preserve was led by Moore, who had many “war stories” about the restoration process: unanticipated problems dealt with, disasters averted, and times when the resiliency of nature brought surprises and elation. Most of the preserve is in the open, so there was little shade for our summertime hike. The trail winds through different habitats, passing freshwater and saltwater marshes which attract large numbers of birds. There was much to see, with a large variety of species to delight wildflower lovers in every season. Though largely finished and open to the public, the preserve is still a work in progress, with more trees being added. It was a great visit and we should plan another trip there in the future to see how the preserve changes as it matures.

Photos courtesy of Manatee County.

Irma: The Aftermath. Hurricane Irma cleared the Chapter's calendar in September! Our monthly meeting (Craig Huegel on the Sandhill plant community) and field trip (to Juniper Springs State Recreation Area) both had to be canceled.
Celestial Lily/Fall Ixia
By Craig N. Huegel

I will be writing articles on specific plants, or groups of closely related plants, in our revised Chapter newsletter. With many thousands of native plants to choose from, I should have no problem finding something new to write about every 3 months. My idea is to mostly concentrate on species that are doing something special at the time of each issue, and with that in mind, I have chosen to focus this one on one of my favorite wildflowers - the celestial lily or fall ixia (Nemastylis floridana).

Celestial lily is an apt name in my opinion. As a monocot, it is related to the lilies of the world. In fact, it is a member of the Iridaceae, it is actually more of an “iris” than a “lily”. A close look at the flower structure and the foliage makes that pretty clear. The narrow, rapier-shaped basal leaves resemble those of irises and the deep blue sepals and petals are close in color to those of our native savanna iris (Iris savannarum).

Celestial lilies are “celestial” because the deep blue of their open flowers mimics the color of a clear fall sky. Few flowers, except their close cousin, Bartram’s ixia (Calydorea caelestina), appear in such celestial hue. It is a clear rich blue, unspoiled by spots or other markings. As alluded to above, the other common name for this special wildflower is fall ixia. This makes tribute to its close affinity with Bartram’s ixia and its special blooming season. While Bartram’s ixia blooms in spring, fall ixia blooms from mid-August to sometime in late October. There are other differences, of course, but you will never find these two species in bloom at the same time. One leaves the scene while the other takes its place. The word “ixia” comes from the Greek word for birdlime - an extremely sticky substance used (illegally now) to trap small birds. Though our native “ixias” do not produce a viscid sap in their stems, this is a group with worldwide distribution and many others do - especially those in the genus Ixia.

My good friend, Roger Hammer, likes to call this species the “happy hour flower” and that comes for good reason too. Celestial lilies open their flowers for only a few hours in the late afternoon - “happy hour” for those of you that occasionally imbibe. At my home, where I have grown this wildflower for many years, the flowers start to unfurl about 4 pm in the afternoon and are completely closed again by dusk. Plants produce a succession of flowers on their 2-foot flower stalk, but each only opens for this short time on one day. The petals and
sepals shrivel quickly and soon afterwards there is very little to indicate that a few hours earlier a spectacular flower stood in its full glory.

At my home, celestial lilies are mostly pollinated by bumblebees. Though I have a good variety of other pollinators, I rarely see them at my ixia blooms. This has been reinforced this fall as bumblebees have been relatively scare in our landscape. Very few of my celestial lilies have been pollinated compared to most years. When they are, they quickly form a rounded seed capsule that turns brown about 2 months later and splits along its three seams. Celestial lilies are endemic to Florida, though found throughout much of peninsular Florida from the Jacksonville area to Broward County in the south. It is essentially absent from the west half of this region, however, though there are records from Pasco County. It may well be that is has a greater distribution than this as it is a difficult plant to census in the wild owing to its blooming ecology. Celestial lily is native to sunny moist savannas and prairies. The state lists it as a “facultative” wetland species, meaning that it adapts to wetland conditions, but doesn’t require them, while the national wetland plant list categorizes it as an “obligate” wetland plant, meaning that is requires wetland conditions to survive. In my propagation of this plant, I have found that it prefers moist to wet soils, but has a fair amount of forgiveness if I forget to water it for several days.

I love having this beautiful wildflower in my landscape where I can admire it each year. It is relatively easy to grow from seed and immune to most of the problems I sometimes encounter with other species. If you don’t have a moist location in your landscape (and we don’t), it is easy to maintain in a container. As a bulb, it has a shallow root system and does not need a large container. Keep them watered and fertilize them annually, and they are likely to prosper for a great many years. This species, and its close cousin, goes dormant in the winter and dies back to the ground. It will start to send up its leaves in mid-spring.

Our monthly meetings include a seed swap. Bring some, take some, expand your native plant repertoire!

Do you have extra "volunteer" plants? Support the Chapter by donating them for our silent auction.

Fall ixia, photos by Craig Huegel.
Other Events of Interest

Herb Society Herb Festival, Moccasin Lake — Nov. 11 (Sat.), 10 am - 4 pm

Moccasin Lake Nature Park is hosting the Florida Herb Society’s 45th Annual Herb Faire Celebration on Sat., Nov. 11th, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This should be a fun event, with herbal vendors, other environmental organizations, ongoing demonstrations, silent auctions, herbs and other plants for sale, entertainment and children’s activities. The Pinellas Chapter has been asked to have an information table and we need two people to man it during the event, to chat with people about native plants, distribute information, make newspaper pots and plant wildflower seeds with kids. If you’d like to help, please email the chapter at pinellasfnps@gmail.com.

Shop at “The Natives” — Nov. 20 - 25 (Mon. - Sat.)

The Natives Inc. is a wholesale nursery in Polk County that specializes in contract growing of wildflowers, shrubs, groundcovers and trees, primarily for restoration work. They do restoration project planning and installations as well. The gorgeous native meadow composed of native wildflowers and grasses at Bok Tower Gardens is their work. The nursery will be open for retail sales the week of Mon., Nov. 20th through Sat., Nov. 25th. No appointment is needed, but the nursery asks that you give them a call when you’re in the vicinity so that there will be no delay in getting someone to help you with your selections. All sales will be at the “Hill” Nursery at 1617 Champagne Road, Davenport. The phone number is (863) 287-3903. Visit the nursery’s website at www.thenatives.net.

Florida Botanical Gardens Gift & Plant Sale — Dec. 10 (Sun.), 10 am - 4 pm

The Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation is sponsoring their annual Gift and Plant Sale at the Florida Botanical Gardens at 12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo FL 33774. There will be various vendors selling beautiful plant-themed, and non-plant-themed artworks, soaps, jewelry, pottery etc. as well as plants propagated by the Foundation and other nurseries. Most vendors will be located in Mackay Creek Plaza, Tropical Pavilion, and towards the Walsingham entrance.

Suggested donation of $4.00 per person 13 and over. Florida Botanical Members are free with membership card. Parking is available in the Main Parking lot near the Extension Building and the EMS parking lot as the Walsingham entrance is being used for vendors. Come on out for some great gift ideas! For more information, please call (727) 582-2117.

Florida Wildflower Symposium, Orlando - April 27 and 28, 2018

See page 6.
Thank you to our Business Sponsors. They support us. Please support them.
The mission of the Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS) is to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

This is your newsletter, published quarterly. As always, feel free to contribute. Please submit articles to Newsletter Editor Dr. Craig Huegel (727) 422-6583 or email Huegelc55@aol.com.

Pinellas Chapter web address:  http://pinellas.fnpschapters.org/
FNPS Blog:  http://fnpsblog.blogspot.com
Follow us on Twitter @FNPSonline
Join us on Meetup: https://www.meetup.com/en-AU/Pinellas-FNPS/
Like us on Facebook:  https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=pinellas%20chapter%20fnps

**Officers**

President, Jan Allyn  
  jallyn@tampabay.rr.com

Vice President, Mary McCahon  
  memccahon@gmail.com

Secretary, Sue Taylor  
  susn31taylor@gmail.com

Treasurer, Donna Trott  
  donnatrott@me.com

Chapter Representative, Jan Allyn  
  jallyn@tampabay.rr.com

Past President, Kodiak Brothers

**Board Members**

Nancy Bickner, nbickner@gmail.com

Belinda Lambert, bocklamb@aol.com

Arnold Rutkis

**Committee Chairs/Coordinators**

Advocacy/Conservation: Katy Roberts

Events/Displays:  Vacant

Field Trip Coordinator: Mary Sanders

Spring and Fall Plant Festival Coordinator: Mary McCahon

Hospitality:  Vacant

Membership Coordinator: Nancy Bickner

Native Plant Demonstration Garden Liaison: Lisa Boing

Newsletter Editor: Craig Huegel

Newsletter Publisher: Cathy Vogelsong

Publicity: Carlton Rowell

Sales/Merchandise:  Vacant

Social Media: Katy Roberts and Donna Trott

Volunteer Coordinator:  Vacant

Website: Jan Allyn

The Pinellas Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society, a 501(c)(3) organization, is registered with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Registration # CH4271. No amount of any contribution is paid to a professional solicitor and 100% of each contribution is retained by FNPS.

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.