

*The Passionflower Chapter*



*of the Florida Native Plant Society*

# the Maypop

the occasional newsletter

of

The Passionflower Chapter of  
the Florida Native Plant Society, Inc

**Winter 2018**

## coming events - details inside

**Mar 17** - program meeting

**How to get the right Bugs in Your Yard** -- 10 AM, Cooper Memorial Library

-----

**Mar 24** - Field Trip

**Crooked River Preserve**  
meet on site at 9 am, details on p.2

-----

**April 7 & 8 - Passionflower Booth**

**Spring Fever in the Garden** the annual Winter Garden downtown garden festival

-----

**April 21-** program topic t/b/a annual business meeting follows

-----

**and possibly one or two more field trips before summer break**

-----

**May 16-20 FNPS Annual Conference**

This year's Conference will be at the Miccosukee Resort on the west edge of Miami, centrally located to a number areas for some really interesting field trips with a variety of native plants that we don't see in our neck of the woods. Details on back cover. Registration now open

## How to get the right Bugs in Your Yard

presented by Taryn Evans, Pres. Marion Big Scrub FNPS

Saturday, March 17th, 10 AM

Have bugs been bugging your garden? Then you need to learn how to get the right bugs in your yard. At our March program, popular speaker Taryn Evans will be telling us about the indispensable role of beneficial insects in our landscape. Come and learn which ones they are, how to start recognizing them, and things you can do to attract them and convince them to hang around.

Our guest speaker, Taryn Evans, is president of the Marion Big Scrub chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society and has been bugging the bugs for many years now, watching them, studying them, photographing them and has brought us a couple excellent programs in prior years so we're eager to have her update us on her latest findings.

We'll meet for this program at our usual spot, Cooper Memorial Library. If you don't see us in one of the meeting rooms downstairs just outside the inner door to the library, then look for us upstairs in one of the computer labs. As usual, we also plan to have a selection of native plants available for you to see.



**The mission of the Florida Native Plant Society is the preservation, conservation and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida**

## Field Trip to Crooked River Preserve -- Saturday March 24th

### meet in the parking lot at 9 am

Crooked River Preserve is a small 63 acre site tucked in between Lake Louisa Road on the east, and Lake Louisa and the Palatlahaha River on the west. Owned and managed by the Lake County Water Authority the preserve has a variety of interesting native plants along several easy trails, some sunny and some shaded.

Incidentally, this preserve has even gotten some national attention in travel guides. TripAdvisor gives it 4 1/2 stars.

If you haven't been on an FNPS field trip before you may not know what to expect. Though we will walk a mile or two, anyone expecting a good fast fitness walk will be sorely disappointed. Our focus is on the plants, their habitat and their usefulness to wildlife. Though we don't stop to put every leaf under the microscope, we do stop frequently to look at and learn about both the native and exotic invasive plants on a site. Maybe we'll be lucky enough to see some wildlife too.

Jim Lobb, our chapter's Vice President has spent quite a bit of time at Crooked River and will be guiding us.

Four federally listed (i.e., threatened or endangered) plant species have been identified in the preserve: Britton's bear grass, Florida bonamia, scrub plum and paperlike nailwort. Other plants of particular interest would include Titi (rhymes with bye-bye), Trumpet creeper, goldenrods, button bush and a number of native trees.

If you have a book that would help with native plant ID, bring it along. A camera and a hand lens are nice to have too.

Weather permitting, following the plant walk, those who've brought sack lunches will enjoy them together in the picnic area.



Although the trails here are wide, we generally recommend closed toe shoes, long pants, insect repellent, a bottle of water & maybe a hat or sunscreen. But we won't turn you away if you're so adventurous that you come in sandals & shorts.

## What IS a plant rescue anyway?

- \_\_\_ (A) a project to preserve native plants
- \_\_\_ (B) a bunch of hot long mornings of work
- \_\_\_ (C) an attempt to maintain biodiversity
- \_\_\_ (D) something done by Susan Knapp, our Passionflower Chapter Rep
- \_\_\_ (E) something that happened right in our neighborhood
- \_\_\_ (F) all of the above

Well, as you probably guessed, the correct answer is (F), all of the above. But, what IS a plant rescue anyway? Well, one was right in our back yard, at a place called Castle Hill. Thousands of people drive by the site every day. Maybe you do too. It's on the south side of SR-50, west of Emil Jahna Road. Picture below.



The site is a relatively undisturbed sandhill with many threatened and endangered plants BUT the owners have wanted to develop it for a number of years. Once the development process had begun, the owner gave FNPS permission to go in and dig up as many endangered plants as we could.

So last Oct & Nov, Susan Knapp from Passionflower and a number of other folks from Tarlower & other chapters gathered to help the project under the direction of Jackie Rolly from Tarflower, a pioneer in rescuing plants and Juliet Rynear, formerly of Bok Tower. Thousands of dug up plants were potted and then transported to Green Isle Gardens to be hardened off. Many have already been planted back in natural areas on protected lands. Tell us if you'd like to help when a rescue opportunity comes up  
**PassionflowerFNPS@gmail.com**



*Bonamia grandiflora* blossoms were carefully wrapped to collect seeds for several weeks before being dug and potted for replanting in protected natural areas.



## 2018 FNPS Annual Conference

What is the FNPS Annual Conference? It's the one week a year I wish I could clone myself to be in 3 or 4 places at once.

Choosing one of the half dozen or more Thursday and Sunday field trips is always a tough decision made all the more difficult because there are usually a couple of workshops going on at the same times as the trips.

Just as challenging are the decisions on Friday & Saturday when after the morning's plenary session, always with informative and entertaining speakers, often well known or with new ideas, there are simultaneous presentations on three tracks: science, conservation & landscaping.

There are enjoyable dinners and socials on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights too, with botanical games & plant ID contests.

For conferences at a distance, I like to arrive the Wednesday night before so I'm not drained before I even get to the field trip site. May run into old friends at dinner too!

This year's conference is in Miami at the Miccosukee Resort, quite a hike from home but centrally located to many fascinating trips ranging from a mudwalks and drier walks to see a wide variety of our native orchids, bromeliads, ferns & peperomias, & coastal ecosystems and now rare pine rocklands. Details on [www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org)

Registration is now open on [www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org), but if you'd like to car pool or find another guy or gal to share a room with, please let me know and I'll try to facilitate things. Both options add to the fun and cut the expense permitting more of us to go. [PassionflowerFNPS@gmail.com](mailto:PassionflowerFNPS@gmail.com)

Hope to see you there! Jon Pospisil

follow **Passionflower Chapter FNPS** on FaceBook.

Thanks to Lynn Heizer, our intrepid treasurer we have an up to date Face-book page where you can learn quite a bit about our chapter.



The day after our program Sunday 3/18, Nancy Bisset from The Natives nursery in Davenport will be doing a program at Trout Lake Nature Center for our Bb friends



Our windy days reminded me of this one -

Three old guys are out walking.  
First one says, "Windy isn't it?"  
Second one says, "No, it's Thursday!"  
Third one says, "So am I. Let's go get a drink."

### *Your Chapter Leadership Team*



Jon Pospisil, President  
[PassionflowerFNPS@gmail.com](mailto:PassionflowerFNPS@gmail.com)

Jim Lobb, Vice President

Susan Knapp, ChapterRep

Linda Heizer, Treasurer

Arline Jelly, Secretary