

February Coccoloba Jam

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Coccoloba Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society's February 2015 Newsletter. Read more to learn what's happening in the native plant world.

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Coccoloba Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

Next Meeting: **Tuesday, February 10th, 6:30 pm social; 7 pm speaker**

Page Field Base Operations 5200 Captain Channing Page Dr., Fort Myers, FL 33907.

Coffee and popcorn are supplied, but please feel free to bring a snack to share.



Inside February 2015

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Jaime Quintero at work

February Guest Speaker Jaime Quintero

In the 1960s and 70s, Jaime Quintero worked for National

Follow Coccoloba happenings on the web, Facebook, & Twitter!

Check out Coccoloba's website for up-to-date information on chapter events

www.fnpscoccoloba.org.

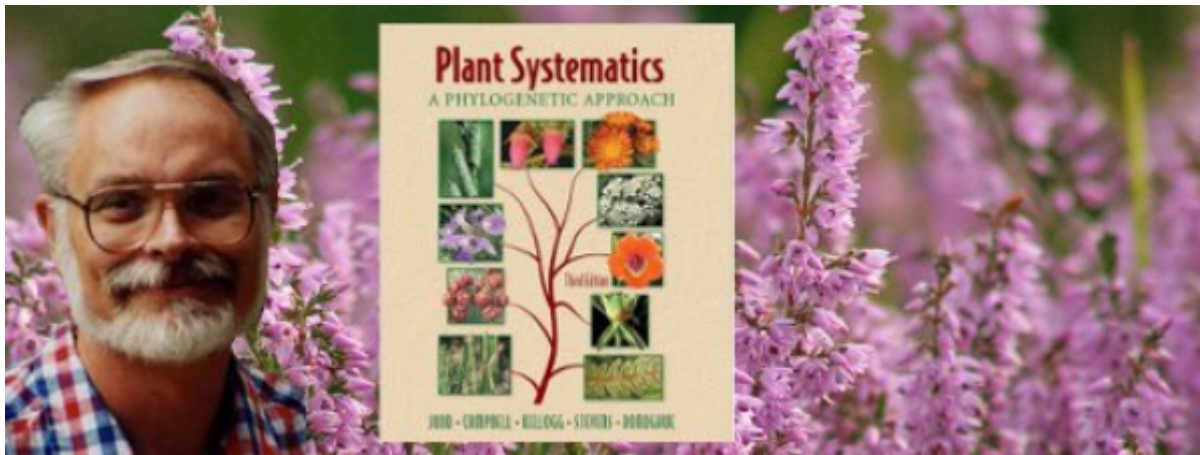
Like us on Facebook (type in Coccoloba Chapter, Florida Native Plant Society) and follow us on Twitter (@FNPSoccoloba) to join the conversation!

In the 1960s and 70s, Jaime Quintana worked for National Geographic, where he produced hand-painted maps illustrating landscapes like the ocean floor, the moon, the planets and the Rocky Mountains. Now the Colombia native is retired and living in southwest Florida. Not one to sit around watching television, Jaime looks forward to sharing his talents with others by creating murals and illustrations with his old-time ways. He particularly enjoys working with children to inspire their appreciation toward our natural world.

Jaime painted the manatee mural at Manatee Park, along with other murals in Colombia, Ecuador and elsewhere in the United States.

His masterpiece is an enormous, three-dimensional map of the United States. It is as big as a professional basketball court, and made out of plaster. It is in storage in the Map Building, at Babson College in Boston, in 1,400 separate blocks, each one 17 by 24 inches.

He currently lives in Naples with his wife Ruth, son David and daughter Liliana.



You are invited the Naples Chapter Annual Banquet and Lecture!

We are very excited about our upcoming banquet on Feb 27th at the Naples Botanical Garden

we are very excited about our upcoming banquet on FEB. 27th at the Naples Botanical Garden Buehler Auditorium. Our guest speaker this year is Dr. Walter S. Judd, professor at the University of Florida and a world-renowned expert on flowering plant taxonomy and tropical botany, who received the American Society of Plant Taxonomists' 2011 Asa Gray Award.

Over his distinguished career Dr. Judd has published over 150 scientific articles as well as one of the most widely adopted textbooks in the field, *Plant Systematics: A Phylogenetic Approach* (2007), now in its third edition. Throughout his career Dr. Judd has been at the forefront of integrating traditional anatomical approaches to understanding plant diversity with modern DNA-based techniques. He is also one of the world's leading experts on Caribbean plant diversity.

Dr. Judd has also been recognized as an exceptional teacher throughout his career. He has received the University of Florida's Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Instruction/Teacher of the Year Award three times. In addition to his University of Florida duties, every summer Dr. Judd teaches a Tropical Botany course at the National Tropical Botanical Garden that is attended by students from all over the world.

Dr. Judd will present "Appearances Can Be Deceiving: Recent Advances in Plant Classification" at our banquet. Perhaps we will all receive the answer to why our plant names keep changing.

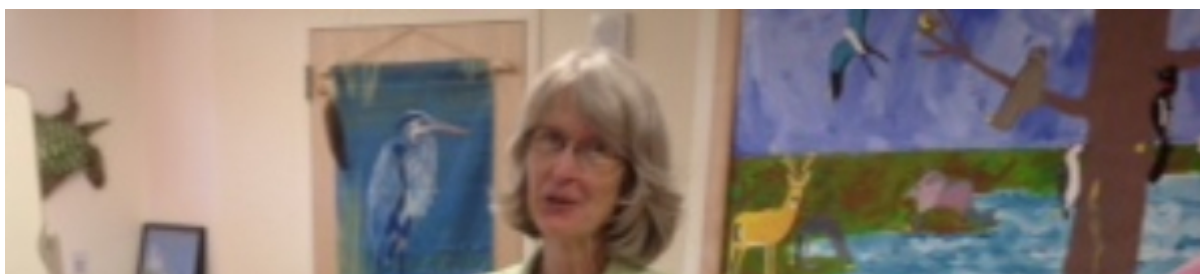
In addition to the lecture, the evening will begin with a wine and cheese reception. While socializing attendees will have the chance to peruse and bid on the fabulous array of donations for our Silent Auction. These include (but are not limited to): plants from Green Door Nursery, a Clyde Butcher print, Tram tour from Friends of Fakahatchee, books and photos by Larry Richardson, Sweet Liberty Cruise for Two, a night at LaPlaya, Rookery Bay family membership, Corkscrew passes, Naples Botanical Garden passes, Up a Creek Kayak tour, Marks Kayak tour for 4, Conservancy passes, vet exams, handmade jewelry and many more. All donations (cash or checks only please) for the Silent Auction are tax deductible.

A full dinner including dessert will be catered by Wynn's catering and the lecture will follow. The evening begins at 5:30 and the lecture starts around 7. All this for only \$40 per person. Please make your reservation today. Pre-purchase is required and tickets can be picked up at the door. Please make checks payable to Naples Chapter, FNPS and mail to 2110 Arielle Dr.

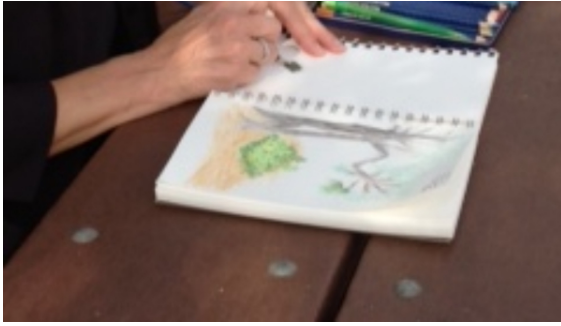
#105, Naples, FL 34109. Or call Jean Roche at 239-597-7222.

All donations are welcome. If you would like to help out but cannot attend consider donating a ticket for a student intern at the gardens.

Questions? Visit www.naples.fnpschapters.org.







Top: Elizabeth Smith with her Journals. Clockwise: A close-up of her watercolor drawings, Donna Chase, Debbie Haggett and Karen Maxwell outside, enjoying the session.

Botany through Art at Six Mile Cypress Slough

Ten of us met last weekend for the Nature Journaling Workshop with Elizabeth Smith. This was such a great event, we all had a wonderful time. Elizabeth shared her very large collection of journals from over the years. They were amazing to look at and very inspiring. She provided us with some drawing tools and a brief lecture on composition and drawing styles. Then we were off to start our observations. In a very short time everyone was engrossed in observing and recording. The session really helped me to think about the individual identifying characteristics of each plant. I am confident that I will be a better observer in the future. If you missed this event and are interested in attending a session in the future, there is good news. Elizabeth is holding a series of classes at Naples Botanical Gardens.

Watercolor Pencil Workshop Series: Botany Through Art

3/2/2015 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Kapnick Center room 124, 4820 Bayshore Drive, Naples Florida 34114

For more information go to: <http://tinyurl.com/WC-Pencil-Workshop>



Looking for new native plants? Your search is over!

All you have to do is come to a meeting! Every month we auction off plants donated by our members. All proceeds go to support Coccoloba Chapter programs. What a great way to get new plants and support your favorite cause.



Hey Everybody Guess What!?! It's the Cape Coral Friends of Wildlife 13th Annual Southwest Florida **BURROWING OWL FESTIVAL!**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH, 2015

\$5 Donation – free for children under 16

Guided Air Conditioned Owl Burrow Bus Tours * (\$5 fee) at 10:30, 11:00, 1:30 and 2:00

Popular 7:30 a.m. Photographers Bus Tour (by \$25 prepaid reservation only)

Wildlife Presentations:

10:30 a.m. - Florida Butterflies by Cheryl Anderson and Carol Miller

11:00 a.m. - Gopher Tortoises by C.R.O.W.

12:00 p.m. - Burrowing Owls by Dan Tudor

1:00 p.m. - Birds of Prey by Maitland Audubon Center

Maitland Audubon Center for Birds of Prey with Live Raptors

Live Animals from Peace River Wildlife Center and C.R.O.W.

Creative Kids Corner | Wildlife Themed Arts and Craft Vendors

Butterfly House Tours | Student Wildlife Art Contest

Wildlife & Environmental Exhibitors

Food, fun and much, much more!

PLUS FREE PARKING!

www.ccfriendsofwildlife.org

www.CapeParks.com

Special thanks to our sponsors:

Fox 4 Morning Blend

Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program

LCEC



Conservation 20/20 Guided Walks

1st Saturday-Prairie Pines Preserve

18400 N Tamiami Trail North Fort Myers, FL 33903

2/7/2015 9:00 AM -10:00 AM

239.707.2206

<http://www.conservation2020.org/Documents/DOWNLOADS/2015Guided%20Walks%20Flyer.pdf>

Trail Length: 1/4 mile - Degree of Difficulty: EASY

Restroom Facility on-site. You've driven past, now stop to explore the wonders of this 2,650-acre preserve. Get to know some of the plants and animals that call the preserve home.



2nd Saturday - Caloosahatchee Creeks Preserve East

10130 Bayshore Rd. North Fort Myers, FL 33917

2/14/2015 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM

239.707.0862

<http://www.conservation2020.org/Documents/DOWNLOADS/2015Guided%20Walks%20Flyer.pdf>

Trail Length: 1 mile - Degree of Difficulty: EASY.

Traverse wetland, oak hammock, and pine flatwoods on ADA-compliant boardwalk and trail while learning more about the birds, butterflies, and plants that call this home. Visit one small section of roughly 1,300-acre wilderness oasis that includes nature trails, scenic observation areas, and picnic pavilions.

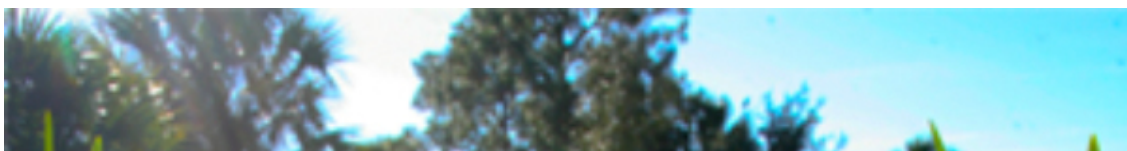




Photo by Kharli Rose

3rd Saturday - Wild Turkey Strand Preserve

11901 Rod & Gun Club Road, Fort Myers, FL 33913

2/21/2015 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

239.707.3325

<http://www.conservation2020.org/Documents/DOWNLOADS/2015Guided%20Walks%20Flyer.pdf>

Trail Length: 1.8 miles Degree of Difficulty: Moderate.

Just south of Lehigh Acres. this 3.137-acre preserve sites atop portions of the former

Buckingham Army Air Field. The state's largest airfield training base during World War II. Walk wetlands, and interpretive panels describing the gunnery training that once took place here.



4th Saturday - Pine Island Flatwoods Preserve

6351 Stringfellow Rd. St. James City, FL 33956

2/28/2015 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

239.707.8251

<http://www.conservation2020.org/Documents/DOWNLOADS/2015Guided%20Walks%20Flyer.pdf>

Trail Length: 1.12 miles - Degree of Difficulty: Moderate. NO RESTROOM on-site.

Pine Island is one of a couple of locations in Lee County where you will see naturalized Longleaf pines. The tall, stately tree once covered 30-60 million acres of the southeastern United States Coastal Plain, but 200 years of logging and land clearing have greatly reduced its range. Fire plays a major role in the development of this community, and is essential to the survival of the many animals dependent on this habitat, the gopher tortoise being a primary example. This 920-acre preserve nearly spans the width of the island.

FLORIDIANS
FOR CLEAN WATER & AMENDMENT 1
RALLY

FLORIDIANS

ON THE STEPS
OF THE OLD
CAPITOL

400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL
32399



Amendment 1 Rally - will you be there?

Please join us Wed, Feb 18 at 11:30am for a rally at the Capitol, sponsored by the Amendment 1 Campaign and the Clean Water Declaration Campaign. We've got a great line-up of speakers and a packed schedule.

We have buses lined up so you can join us in Tallahassee for this event. [Purchase your bus ticket here.](#) Buses will fill up quickly, so please don't delay!

If you live in the Tallahassee area or plan on transporting yourself, please be sure to let us know you're coming so that we can provide you with materials in preparation for the event. [Please RSVP today!](#)

[Even if you are unable to join us at the rally, please consider contributing \\$10, \\$20, or \\$40 today to help us bring as many volunteers to Tallahassee as possible!](#)

This is our chance to come together as a united voice and urge lawmakers to spend Amendment 1 funds to protect our rivers, lakes, springs and natural areas for future generations as was intended by 75% of Florida voters. Please don't miss out on this opportunity!

For Florida

Aliki Moncrief, Director

Florida's Water and Land Legacy

Minutes of the General Membership Meeting of the Florida Native Plant Society, Coccoloba Chapter

Thursday, January 13, 2015, 7:00 pm

By Ben Johnson, Chapter Secretary

Attendance: 21

Martha Grattan called meeting to order.

Martha introduced new members: Katie Leone, Ana Clavero, Clydie Douglass, Karen Maxwell, and Carol and Michael Price.

Marlene Rodak gave the current Coccoloba treasury balance of \$10,499.92. She also stated that sales tax was paid, website renewed, and P.O. box payment is in progress. Other business as usual, and current financial obligations met.

Martha Grattan reviewed the meeting agenda. Board positions are open for election in March, including Vice President. All members interested in serving are encouraged to seek nomination. Martha shared her meeting with Riverdale High school staff. She was accompanied by Pat Moyer. Plants were purchased by the chapter (less than a \$100) for a native plant garden project on campus.

Pat Moyer let members know that 4 spots were available to members for the Nature Journaling Workshop on January 31st at a cost of \$30.

Pat also stated that Heather Gienapp (Lee County Parks and Recreation Supervisor at Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve) suggested the Coccoloba Chapter submit a comprehensive plan to partner with Lee County Parks and Recreation. The Coccoloba Chapter would then have free use of park facilities. Discussion took place and members agreed this would be a good endeavor.

Martha Grattan announced the guest speaker; James N. Burch, PhD. Dr. Burch gave a very informative presentation on coastal scrub communities. His topic included natural development and progression, characteristics, and the variety of wildlife found within these communities.

Marlene Rodak updated members on the Heights Elementary project. Coordinating this effort has included Jim Burch, FGCU, Conservation 20/20 and the Lee County School District. The project is currently in the permitting process.

Marlene stated that monthly field trips would be taking place for members. All suggestions for field trip locations are welcome.

Marlene made a motion to donate \$400 to the Calusa Nature Center as a gesture of appreciation for taking the chapter in, and allowing us to host our meetings there. Motion seconded by Ben Johnson. Motion unanimously passed.

Martha Grattan shared upcoming events:

- There will be a chapter picnic in May at Estero Community Park and Recreation Center. Members can see the results of the planting project that took place there.
- The next yard visit will take place at Ana Claveros residence on February 14th from 10 am to 12 noon. Her address is: 3400 Andalusia Blvd, Cape Coral, FL 33909. Please RSVP Martha if you are interested in participating.
- Fort Myers Middle school is interested in a native plant landscape project. More information will be provided following an upcoming meeting with the school.

Pat Moyer motioned to adjourn meeting. Rodger Bunnell seconded. Meeting adjourned.

\$32 raised from plant auction following the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Ben Johnson

Happenings.

See what is going on in the next few months!

Florida Earthskills Gathering

February 5-8, Hawthorn

<http://floridaearthskills.org/>

This is a conference that gives you an opportunity to learn, share, and experience sustainable living skills. There are dozens of classes to sign up for, which include wild medicine, didgeridoo making/playing, buckskin sewing, fire making, yoga, insect study, cabbage palm basketry, bird songs, atlatl throwing, permaculture, mushrooms, and more. For more information and to register, visit their website listed above.

Florida Yards & Neighborhoods (FYN) Gardening Series

Feb 6th, 9:00 am: Lawn Care and Lawn Weeds w/ Barbara Meyer

Feb 20th, 9:00 am: The Care & Feeding of Palms w/ Donna Cressman

Rotary Park Environmental Center, Cape Coral

(Register by calling Rotary Park at (239)546-4606)

Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Program (16+ years)

Learn what plants to use and Where, how to create a beautiful and eco-friendly yard. Be efficient with water and more. FREE

Saturday, **February 7th**, 9 am to 12 pm

Saturday, **March 21st**, 9 am to 12 pm

Saturday, **April 25th**, 9 am to 12 pm

Rotary Park Environmental Center, Cape Coral

Call 239-549-4606 for more information.

FNPS Retreat at Archbold Biological Station

February 7th & 8th

All members are welcome. For more information,

visit: <http://www.forum.fnps.org/index.php?topic=1027.0>

Container Art (12+ years)

A fun afternoon where you can decorate an 8" terra cotta pot for your yard. All supplies are included.

\$15 residents/\$20 non-residents

Monday **February 9th**, 1 to 2:30 pm

Rotary Park Environmental Center, Cape Coral

Call 239-549-4606 for more information.

Florida Friendly Gardening Walks

Join a Lee County Master Gardener for a walk through the gardens at Rotary Park.

Learn about butterflies and birds and how you can attract them to your yard by using the Florida Friendly gardening principles.

FREE

Friday **February 13th**, 10 am

Friday **February 27th**, 10 am

Friday **March 13th**, 10 am

Rotary Park Environmental Center, Cape Coral

Call 239-549-4606 for more information.

Tree and Shrub Pruning (16+years)

Let a certified arborist teach you pruning techniques to enhance proper growth of your trees and shrubs.

\$5 residents/\$8 non-residents

Saturday **February 14th**, 9 am to 11 am

Rotary Park Environmental Center, Cape Coral

Call 239-549-4606 for more information.

Introduction Florida Friendly Landscaping Workshop

February 19, 1-4pm

Learn how to create and maintain a fabulous lower-maintenance yard without excessive fertilizer, herbicide and irrigation.

City of Bonita Springs, City Hall

www.FNPSCoccoloba.org

Neighborhood Lakes and Ponds Management Workshop (WetPlan)

February 20, 1-4 pm

Learn how to increase the life of your pond and techniques on how to manage it better.

Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium

Visit www.WetPlan.org for more information on this and other workshops

Nature of Cape Coral Tours

\$15 residents/\$23 non-residents

Join a knowledgeable guide on this unique bus tour to see the real nature of Cape Coral.

Seats are limited and pre-registration is required.

Saturday **February 21st**, 8 am to 12 pm

Saturday **March 7th**, 8 am to 12 pm

Saturday **April 4th**, 8 am to 12 pm

Rotary Park Environmental Center, Cape Coral

Call 239-549-4606 for more information.

Rec Code: 245333

Florida Herbal Conference

February 27-March 1st

Camp Winona, DeLeon Springs

<http://floridaherbalconference.org/>

Organized by Emily Ruff, this is a must for all herbalists. This conference includes interesting speakers and great classes, with a crossover of the first conference (Earthskills) listed above. However, the two conferences are significantly different, so we suggest going to both. Visit the website for more information and to register.

Jasmine Garden Club-Fairchild Gardens Tour

Tuesday, **March 3rd**, 8 am to 6 pm

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Miami Beach, FL (Chihuly at Fairchild) \$30, plus \$18 admission fee to garden

Contact Mitzi Marckesano (239) 561-5513 or email at couponqwn@hotmail.com to make your reservation.

This tour is open to all members of Jasmine Garden Club, Inc. and the Fort Myers-Lee County Garden Council, Inc. and their friends and/or family! (The Coccoloba Chapter membership is also a member of the Lee County Garden Council.) Please arrive at departure point by 7:30 am so we will have a timely departure at 8 am sharp. The travel time is approximately 2 ½ hours and lunch is on your own. Approx. 3:30 pm departure from Miami for return to Fort Myers by 6 pm. Contact the above number/email to make your reservation.

Florida Friendly Yard Tours

Visit several Cape Coral yards to see how others have transformed their plain lots into beautiful, eco-friendly places. Wear closed toe shoes please.

\$10 residents/\$15 non-residents

Saturday **March 14th**, 9 am to 12 pm

Rotary Park Environmental Center, Cape Coral

Call 239-549-4606 for more information.

Wild Edibles Walk

Learn how to identify edible plants in the wild and how to incorporate them into your

landscape.

\$5 residents/\$8 non-residents

Wednesday, **March 18th**, 10 am to 11 am

Rotary Park Environmental Center, Cape Coral

Call 239-549-4606 for more information.

Butterfly Garden Design (16+ years)

Learn all about the butterflies found in this area and what plants and flowers work best to attract them. Please bring pictures or drawings of your yard so the butterfly expert can help you design a butterfly friendly landscape of your own. Tour the butterfly house and gardens as part of this class.

\$15 residents/\$23 non-residents

Wednesday **March 25th**, 1 to 3 pm

Rotary Park Environmental Center, Cape Coral

Call 239-549-4606 for more information.

Design a Florida Friendly Yard (18+ years)

With the help of experienced horticulturalists, design a personalized landscape to fit your needs. Do you have a view you would like to block? A dry area? A soggy area? A shady area? What more birds and butterflies? Get specific information and help with all your landscape issues. This class includes indoor and outdoor class time.

\$18 residents/\$20 non-residents, two sessions

Friday **April 10th and 17th**, 9am to 12 pm

Rotary Park Environmental Center, Cape Coral

Call 239-549-4606 for more information.

Rain Barrel Workshop (16+ years)

Build a rain barrel and in this workshop with Florida Yards and Neighborhoods. Class includes a rain barrel ready to install in your yard.

\$45 per rain barrel

Saturday **April 18th**, 9am to 12 pm

Rotary Park Environmental Center, Cape Coral

Call 239-549-4606 for more information.

Spring native Plant Sale

Shop from a variety of trees, shrubs, plants and grasses. Native plant experts will be on hand to answer questions and to help you choose the right plant for the right place. This is a very popular event, so come early for the best selection!

Saturday, **April 18th**, 9am to 2pm

Rotary Park Environmental Center, Cape Coral

Call 239-549-4606 for more information.

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