

MANGROVE CHAPTER

President's Message:

by Lois Cantwell

Our Chapter is headed into a new season. Speaker Programs and Field Trips are lined up, special events in the planning stages, other outreach opportunities just around the corner. Could be another busy season. So, I will get on my soapbox and say a few things about leadership and the future of Mangrove Chapter.

2020 may be a year of change for us. By this time next year, you will probably be starting a new season with a whole new set of Executive Officers and a few new Committee Chairs. There may be some of you who are reading this message who will occupy those seats on the Board.

Right now, I am serving as Interim President since no one stepped forward at the May Election of Officers. The position is still open! To the best of my knowledge, your current VP will end his term and most likely not sit in the President's chair. Come next spring, our Secretary is retiring from her day job with plans to be free of all responsibilities. Our Treasurer, who also serves as Membership Chair, will also retire from her profession next fall, which means these positions will also be vacant when the May election rolls around in 2020.

There you have it! Volunteer opportunities await! Your four current Executive Officers have a total of 76 years of Mangrove Chapter Membership between them. About 60% or more of that has been spent in leadership of this Chapter. Over the next 6 months we will need to prepare for a new era. Worst case scenario: No one steps up and the chapter dissolves. Don't let that happen!

The Four Seasons are Not Created Equal

Check the declining bee populations. To some degree, the lack of food sources at certain times of the year contributes to their decline. We are already concerned about pesticide use, modern farming practices, increased urbanization, and extreme weather events that reduce diversity and abundance of flowering plant species. These insects have a tough life and face a lot of challenges. Gardeners can help the situation in various ways:

- 1) Identify the "hunger gaps" that occur in your area and which pollinator species are effected. Early spring and late fall can be lean times for them. Plan your landscape accordingly.
- 2) Emphasize biodiversity using blooming plants of different colors, shapes and sizes. Look into annual and perennial flowering plants, as well as trees, shrubs, vines and herbs. These lure a larger variety of pollinators to your garden. The key to this is providing a wide variety throughout the various seasons.
- 3) Mix things up by creating more natural surroundings. Let weeds have a place in

the equation by minimizing the use of chemicals that can weaken or kill bees and other insects.

- 4) Dead head certain pollinator-friendly plants to stimulate re-blooming. But hold off dead heading others until they have fully finished blooming. Also, certain plants may also regenerate new growth and re-bloom if they are cut back severely after they bloom.
- 5) Make your "wild" pollinator habitat into an attractive feature in your landscape, setting an example to others, as well as avoiding criticism from fussy neighbors.
- 6) Provide areas of open ground and undisturbed areas for nesting cavities. Don't dig, rake or pave them over. A large percentage of bees are ground dwellers.

[Click here to Visit our Website](#)

Field Trip Saturday September 28

HATHAWAY PARK, 35461 Washington Loop Rd, Punta Gorda

Hathaway Park is the site we go to annually in search of the pond apple on the banks of Shell Creek. DIRECTIONS: From Englewood-Take SR 776 east to Veterans Hwy, keep straight onto Veterans Hwy drive 6.9 miles to Kings Hwy, turn left onto Kings Hwy and almost immediately merge right onto the I 75 on-ramp. Drive 6 miles to Exit 164 (US 17/Duncan Rd), exit toward Arcadia and proceed north on US 17/Duncan Rd 4.3 miles to Washington Loop Rd. Turn right onto Washington Loop Rd and drive 4.6 miles. Entrance is on the left.

y guests who may be in attendance.

Welcome New Members:

William and Marjorie Keller
Eric Kohnen, Port Charlotte;
Barbara Lockhart, North Port;
Lori-Nan Mihaley, Englewood;
Rhonda Tippett, Venice.

Sarasota County Parks Happenings for October, Register On-line: parksonline@scgov.net

Oct 3 (Thursday), 9 AM, Demonstration Garden Tour, Shamrock Park
Oct 9 (Wednesday), 9-10:30 AM, Fall Wildflower Walk, Urfer Family Park
Oct 11 (Friday), 8 AM, Seasons and Serendipity Stroll, Shamrock Park
Oct 23 (Wednesday), 8 AM, Fall Birdwatching Walk, Curry Creek Preserve (East)
Oct 26 (Saturday), 9 AM, Migration: Myths and Mysteries, Shamrock Park
Oct 29 (Tuesday), 9 AM, Fall Wildflower Walk, Curry Creek Preserve (East)
Oct 30 (Wednesday), 6:30-8 PM, Spooktacular Nature as day turns to night, Red Bug Slough Preserve

Charlotte Harbor Upcoming Events

Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center and the Charlotte County Natural Resource Department will be conducting the following free programs in **October 2019**. All programs can be found at www.ChecFlorida.org

Unless noted, all walks begin at **9:00 AM**. For directions or further information, call Cedar Point Environmental Park at 941-475-0769

Monday October 14 Get wild & wet! Join a trained naturalist at **Cedar Point Park** on a **Seagrass Adventure Wading Trip** into Lemon Bay in search of marine organisms such as sea horse, crabs and juvenile fish. **Registration are required.**

Monday October 14 Join **Haynes Currie** on a guided walk through **Charlotte Flatwoods Environmental Park**, a 487-acre Charlotte County property of mature pines, dry prairie, marsh wetlands and freshwater ponds. Its location adjoining state lands make it an important wildlife corridor. Meet at the parking lot on US 41.

Wednesday October 16 Explore “**The ABC’s of Fishing**” with **Capt. Doug Rhees** at **10 AM** at **Bayshore Live Oak Park** in Port Charlotte. Capt. Doug will focus on where to fish, tackle & bait to use, and the rules for a safe and legal fishing experience. **Reservations are advised.**

Wednesday October 23 Join **Kate Borduas** on a guided walk through the scrub and pine flatwoods of 217-acre **Amberjack Environmental Park** in Rotonda. Meet at the end of Gasparilla Pines Blvd.

Saturday October 26 Join **Al Squires** on a plant identification walk through the old growth pine flatwoods and mangrove fringe of 125-acre **Oyster Creek/Ann Dever Regional Park** in Englewood. Meet at the Placida Road entrance.

Wednesday October 30 Join **Trudy Norsworthy** at **10 AM** at **Bayshore Live Oak Park** in Port Charlotte as she discusses “**Gifts from the Honeybee**”. Trudy will share bee facts & problems, how we can help them survive, and will offer samples of honey from around the world. **Reservations are advised.**

A Room with a View (My Northern Report)

by Lois Cantwell



So, what do you see when you look out your window on the outside world? I don't have the best view of any of my landscaped areas at my Florida house. But, back in Michigan, I have a very large, 3-section window in the living room that overlooks the front yard. Four summers ago I dug out all the turf grass lawn and replaced it with a "cottage garden". When I return there in the month of May I can watch all of the "spring things" come to life and

bloom into June.

Starting with Daffodils and English primroses, Forget-me-nots, Dwarf Iris and Coralbell, followed by Bearded Iris, Baptisia, Lupines, Pinks, Columbine, Comfrey, Asiatic lilies, Astilbe, Bellflowers, Spirea and Honeysuckle, Phlox, Yarrow and Hostas. When we get into July/August, then comes Shasta daisies, Chives, Globe thistle, Beard tongue, Wild geranium, Coreopsis, Blue Oat grass, Cornflower, Prairie coneflower, Hollyhocks, Catmint, Canadian anemone, Daylilies, Wild Roses, Butterflyweed, Valerian, Lady's mantle, Sundrops, Red monarda, Liatris, Russian Sage, Sneezeweed, Lavendar, and False sunflower.

September brings Stonecrop, Obedient plant, Purple coneflower, Rudbeckias, Thimbleweed, various Asters and Mums, and native lavender-colored Monarda. I have allowed a fair number of wildflowers to remain in the front yard to pop up among the planned and planted ones. Some are of European origin, others native to the area. Chickory, Queen Anne's lace, Buttercups, English plantain, wild Mint, Field daisies, native milkweed, Sarsaparilla, various ferns, four different species of Goldenrod, and Hypericum. There is another list of things that grow on the rest of our property, but not enough space to mention everything.

When October rolls around it's time to start the process of "putting the gardens to bed" for the winter months. Yard ornaments are boxed up and put away, tallest perennials cut back to the ground, anything still blooming or having a seed head stays for the birds and other wildlife. Leaves and pine needles (two-thirds of our lot is filled with mature pines, maples and oaks) get raked and mulched where needed. Tools are cleaned and stored in the garden shed. Then it's good-bye yard, see you in the spring! Then it starts all over again



Save the Date

14th Annual Plant Native Day




March 14, 2020

Gardening for Butterflies

Trek for CHEC


We welcome all runners & walkers to our first annual Trek for CHEC event on **Saturday, January 25, 2020**. This event will feature competitive runs and fun walks for people of all ages. There will

Saturday, January 25, 2020
10941 Burnt Store Road, Punta Gorda, FL 33955

**Hosted by and held at the
Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center**

Same day on-site registration from 6:30 - 7:30 a.m.
10K event begins at 7:45 a.m.
Performance T-shirts included for all 10K and 5K participants registered prior to December 20, 2019!






**1st Annual
Trek for CHEC
2020**
Formerly "Hands Across the Harbor"

- 10K Competitive Trail Run
- 5K Trail Run / Fun Walk
- 1 Mile Trail Fun Walk

Family-friendly activities until 3 p.m.
Food Trucks!
Go to RunSignup.com and our [web page](#) for more information!

Raffle Tickets for Sale!
Fabulous Door Prize!
1 Ticket - \$1.00 ~ 6 Tickets - \$5.00
15 Tickets - \$10.00
Need not be present to win! Winners will be notified.

25/25 - 50 Raffle!
2 Lucky Winners!
1 Ticket - \$2.00 ~ 6 Tickets - \$10.00
9 Tickets - \$15.00 ~ 13 Tickets - \$20.00
Need not be present to win! Winners will be notified.

www.checflorida.org/trekforchec

be food trucks, a band, special activities such as “how to fish” lessons for younger children, a Fabulous Door Prize raffle, a 25/25-50 raffle, and more! Our mission is to build awareness and encourage conservation of our area’s rich natural resources while protecting the environment. Proceeds will help further environmental educational programs for children and adults. We hope to see you there!

The first event is a 10K competitive run. The second event is a dual 5K competitive run and 5K fun walk. The third event is a 1 mile fun walk for younger

children. The first event begins at 7:45 a.m. Several (trail) routes will be used simultaneously and at staggered times – see attached and/or website (www.CHNEP.org) for further information and to register.

Nature Festival Save the Date!

CHNEP is thrilled to present the 2019 Nature Festival! We will celebrate the splendor of Central and Southwest Florida with environmental educators, live animal exhibits, engaging speakers, guided nature walks, games, and food trucks!

Please join us on Saturday, November 16th, 2019, from 10 AM - 3 PM at Lashley Park in Punta Gorda.

If you are interested in having a booth space at the event or volunteering, please register below!

Register to Volunteer at the Nature Festival Here!

Thank you for promoting and protecting clean water!

CLICK HERE to subscribe to our quarterly publications and popular Nature Calendar!

For any further questions contact
CHNEP Outreach at
outreach@chnep.org or 941-575-3385
www.CHNEP.org
941-575-3392



Florida Association of Native Nurseries The Native Plant Show November 7-8, 2019 West Palm Beach, FL

Greetings

Attendee registration is now open for the 7th annual **Native Plant Show**, November 7-8, 2019 in West Palm Beach, Florida.

Whether you're a landscape architect, designer, garden center, property manager or homeowner, you'll find new information that helps you successfully use native plants. Return to work or home with everything you need — including the plants. Our ever expanding education program with more than **19 new speakers** and 35+ different classes offers different tracks for industry professionals and property owners.

And we're super excited about this year's outdoor exhibits setting at beautiful Mounts Botanical Garden. Most classes will take place indoors in the Clayton Hutcheson Center, in cooperation with Palm Beach County.

Multiple registration options let you build your own schedule or take advantage of specially priced ticket bundles. [Register Now](#)

FANN members receive an additional 10% discount when you login to your member account.

As always, we'll have hard-to-find native plants for sale along with books and fun garden and landscape novelty items.

The Native Plant Show is unlike any other native plant event. Nowhere can you meet and talk with as many native plant growers, see the diversity and quality of native plants now available, take practical, experience-based classes and buy plants. So check out all the options, put your plan together and register soon.

We're all seeking solutions to the problems that face our planet. Planting natives is one of the easiest, highest impact things we can each do right now.

We look forward to seeing you in November.

Cheers,

p.s. Want to align your organizations with leaders in sustainability through native plants? FANN welcomes new **sponsors and exhibitors**. Your success is ours as well.

Florida Association of Native Nurseries

PO Box 972

Melbourne, FL 32902

(321) 271-4885

[Visit our website](#) | [Contact us](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

Mangrove Chapter Florida Native Plant Society

P.O. Box 5197, Englewood, FL 34224-1153

