



Florida Native Plant Society ~ Sea Rocket Chapter ~ Serving Central & North Brevard County

MARCH 2020 HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

The purpose of the Florida Native Plant Society is to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

**~ Sea Rocket ~  
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Membership  
Barbara Gwiazda

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Nursery  
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To contact us by email:  
[searocketfnps@gmail.com](mailto:searocketfnps@gmail.com)

**MARCH 25th GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

“Native Turf Alternatives” by Brendan “Skip” Healy



Join us as we learn about reducing turf by using native plants. We will also hear of the importance of using certain mulch blends and permeable aggregates.

Our speaker is Brendan “Skip” Healy. A Brevard native who grew up in West Melbourne. He graduated from MCC and earned a Bachelors in Agribusiness with a Horticulture minor from Mississippi State University.

After college, He interned at The Land Pavilion in Walt Disney World’s EPCOT, and has since managed greenhouse and nursery operations in Sarasota, Indian River and Brevard Counties.

Skip established Change of Greenery in 2018 to implement Florida native & edible landscapes that provide habitat to native pollinators and wildlife. He takes pride in using sustainable approaches, without the use of harmful chemicals, and in order to preserve Brevard’s natural beauty.



**NEXT NATIVE PLANT SALE**

EARTH DAY—APRIL 18TH

Sea Rocket Plant Sale at the Enchanted Forest Earth Day—

Members—Get your requests in early!

Find us on FACEBOOK



For a comprehensive view of Sea Rocket activities go to <https://www.facebook.com/searocketchapter>



# LET'S GO ON A HIKE!

**South Lake Conservation Area**

**Saturday, March 21st, 2020 0900—1200**

Join Dr. Paul Schmalzer as we explore the South Lake Conservation Area. This beautiful area was a mitigation donation to the Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program.

There has been extensive restoration by cutting and burning, timber thinning, and exotic plant treatment.

Vegetation is primarily oak scrub, scrubby flatwoods, and mesic flatwoods. An experimental translocation of Florida Scrub-Jays to the property began in 2009,

Directions:



1) I-95 to exit 220 Garden Street (ST. Rt. 406). West 0.6 miles on Garden Street to North Carpenter Road. North 1.5 miles on N. Carpenter to Dairy Road. West 1.1 miles on Dairy Road. Turn North (right) on Lancaster Lane (not paved) and park by the gate.

OR

2) US1 to Dairy Road. West on Dairy Road. Cross North Carpenter Road. West 1.1 mile on Dairy Road. Turn North (right) on Lancaster Lane (not Paved) and park by gate.

**Bring hat, sunscreen, water,  
And insect repellent.**



## Join the “Highway Squad”

The Sea Rocket Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society is performing this community service on a 1 mile section of Columbia Blvd.

**Have you seen the signs?**



### Watch for dates!

We need volunteers to help keep this section of the highway litter free.

Contact Janina Shoemaker at ([janina13@cfl.rr.com](mailto:janina13@cfl.rr.com)) to volunteer and get involved in this great community service event, which will bring more awareness to the Sea Rocket chapter.

# Community Corner

## Happenings About Town

### Saturday in the Garden

Join us Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m., as we spend a few hours sprucing up the Enchanted Forest Garden area.

The Sea Rocket Chapter has an agreement with the EEL program as part of our native plant storage to assist in making the Forest a beautiful place for all its visitors.

Bring your high school student for Bright Future or other Volunteer Hours!

444 Columbia Blvd, Titusville, FL 32780

Extra fun this year:

- Environmental & craft vendors
- Food trucks
- Music
- Workshops

**K:B**  
KEEP BREVARD  
BEAUTIFUL PRESENTS

## 3RD ANNUAL PLANT SALE

April 18th, 2020

8am-2pm  
Cocoa Riverfront Park  
401 Riveredge Blvd

Special thanks to:



### UPCOMING DATES MARCH 2020

- 3/5 & 17 @ 10:00 am.  
Biolab Nature Walks at Playalinda. Meet at Vista 3.
- 3/7 Scrub Jay Viewing @ 9:00 am. Meet at Playalinda Beach Ranger Station
- 3/10 Board of Directors Meeting 5:30 pm @ LeCrave
- 3/12 & 26 @ 10:00 am.  
Shoreline Seashell Hunt  
Playalinda Parking #3
- 3/14 Saturday in the Garden Enchanted Forest @ 9:00 am
- 3/19 Bartram Nature Walk At 10:00 am Playalinda Beach. Meet at the Eddy Creek Parking Area.
- 3/21 Hike at South Lake Conservation Area 9:00 am—Noon
- 3/21 Anthropology of Florida's Ais Indians @ 4:00 pm at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary
- 3/21 Night Sky Exploration 6:00 pm. Playalinda Beach. Meet at the Eddy Creek. RESERVE early by Calling 321-403-9334 (1 week in advance)
- 3/25 General Meeting @ 6:30 pm Brendan "Skip" Healy will discuss Native Turf Alternatives
- 3/28 Saturday in the Garden @ Enchanted Forest 9:00 am

If you would like your event listed here for our members to see please email us at [searocketfnps@gmail.com](mailto:searocketfnps@gmail.com)

# The fun we had at the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Pioneer Day

Sams House/Pine Island Conservation Area



From L to R: Barbara, Dave, Janina, Nancy.  
The morning crew

Sea Rocket was well represented at the Pioneer Day Festival. It all started by 8:30 in the morning. Janina unloaded her car of all the material needed and had several festival volunteers help her set the tent up. The weather could not have been better for the day long event. The civil war encampments were next to us, and a Seminole camp was on the other side. Our site had that early morning campfire atmosphere that begged you to try the fresh brewed coffee. The foot traffic was heavy, with many people stopping to find out about Sea Rocket our mission and work. We had 42 signups for our very excellent newsletter (thank you Jill). All the volunteers that signed up to help, showed up and involved themselves in talking to the passersby. We had Janina, Barbara, Dave, Nancy, Patti, Jill, and Jill's husband Jeffrey. As it turned out 2020 is the 100th anniversary of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment giving women all the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. The 19<sup>th</sup> amendment was ratified on August 18, 1920. Janina, and Nancy were dressed out in period attire and marched in the victory parade. Many photos were taken. A dedicated photographer will add his photos to the North Merritt Island Homeowner Association website (<http://www.nmihoa.org>) hopefully by the end of February. There were several bands entertaining at the picnic site amongst the many local vendors. It was a great day!

## See you next year!

### The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary Education Center

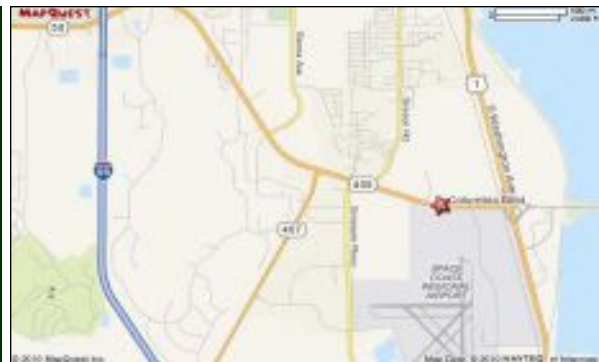
444 Columbia Blvd, Titusville, FL 32780 321-264-5185

Driving Directions to the Sanctuary:

**From I-95 Northbound:** take SR-407 Exit 212 east 2.7 miles to SR-405 intersection. Turn right onto SR-405 and go east 1.9 miles (the Sanctuary entrance is on the left 0.4 miles past Sisson Road)

**From I-95 Southbound:** take SR-50 Exit 215 east. Turn left onto SR 50 and turn right onto SR-405 (2nd light) Travel 3.6 miles (the Sanctuary entrance is on the left 0.4 miles past Sisson Road)

**From U.S. HWY 1:** go west 0.5 miles on SR-405 in south Titusville. Sanctuary entrance is on the right.



## Florida Native Plant Society Sea Rocket Chapter



For membership information, address change: P. O. Box 278, Melbourne, FL 32902-0278  
Phone: 321-271-6702; Fax: 321-951-1941; Email: [Info@fnps.org](mailto:Info@fnps.org)/[www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org)  
Sea Rocket Chapter mailing address: 444 Columbia Blvd, Titusville, FL 32780

**Sea Rocket Chapter November Board meeting will be held on  
March 10th at 5:30 pm.**

**The meeting will be held at Le Crave in Titusville**

**All members are welcome to attend.**

**Please RSVP if you plan to attend.**

### WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?

Well, these volunteers are ready to hit the road with good intentions and excessively good spirits! They had just about the perfect weather...cool enough to need long sleeves, and dry enough that their steps were not soggy in the morning dew.



David, Patti, and Nancy are pictured. Barbara and Janina were also apart of the team!

### WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

They spent just 2 hours collecting three bags of trash from our mile of roadway. Thank you to David, Patti, Nancy and Barbara for joining their leader, Janina! The next Highway date will be in April. Watch your email for the announcement.

### **\*Next volunteer efforts will be Earth Days.**

Kennedy Space Center on April 16th and The Enchanted Forest on April 18th.

Be sure to check out the bi-monthly newsletter of the  
Florida Native Plant Society

Located online at : <http://fnps.org/resources/sabalminor>

