

CITRUS CHAPTER of FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
Meeting Minutes April 6, 2021
Virtual Meeting via YouTube and Facebook

Meeting chaired by Athena Phillips, Co-President
Attendance: 7 persons watched the meeting live

Athena Phillips opened the meeting by wishing everyone a Happy National Native Plant Month. She explained that the US Congress and Senate declared April National Native Plant Month. She also reminded everyone that Florida Native Plant Society has designated October as Florida's Native Plant Month and that our chapter asks the Board of County Commissioners to do a proclamation each year.

Athena Phillips introduced herself, welcomed everyone and encouraged viewers to say hi in the written comments section and to post questions and comments during the program.

Our membership is currently 126. Athena announced that this is our last broadcast for the spring. She thanked everyone for sticking with us during our in-person hiatus and that we are hopeful that we will resume in-person meetings in the fall.

She encouraged everyone to stay with us on Facebook as all current events are on posted on FB. There will be a contest on FB starting this weekend with a prize provided by Anson Nursery.

Athena posted pictures of two recent activities that our chapter has been involved in. A Citrus County Chronicle article highlighted the plantings at Ft. Cooper, a joint effort with The Friends of Ft. Cooper. She also posted a photo of Citrus County Fair entries in the Native Plant division, many of which won ribbons. She encouraged everyone to enter next year but the plant must be in your possession by December to enter the fair in March.

A slide was posted showing upcoming chapter events.

Wed. April 14, 9-12, Plant walk at Two-Mile Prairie tract, RSVP required.

Sun April 18, 1-3, Plant and Seed Swap at Pine Ridge Estates Community Center Pavilion. See Facebook Event to post plants being offered or requested.

Sat. April 24, 10-2, chapter presentations at Anson's Nursery Earth Day Party. Hot dogs and drinks for attendees. 10:00 Donna Carrigan will present butterfly gardening and at 11:30 Barbara McCormick will teach proper planting and maintenance for native plants. Volunteers are needed for this event.

Wed April 21 & 28, Save the Wildflowers, Fight the Invaders, Brooksville, project to remove invasives with Beautyberry Chapter.

May 14-16, FNPS Conference, virtual, register at <https://www.fnps.org/conference>

Our May meeting will be a picnic on Saturday May 22. You may participate by bringing a potluck dish or a brown bag lunch, whichever you feel comfortable with.

Athena introduced our guest speaker, Deborah Curry, president of the Marion County Chapter. She spoke on the rare Longspurred Mint, known only to exist in Marion and Sumter Counties.

At the conclusion of her presentation, Athena thanked everyone for attending and reminded listeners that this would be our last virtual meeting until Fall.

Minutes submitted by Gwen Dunaway, CCNPS Secretary

Citrus Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society (CCFNPS)

US Mail: PO Box 465 Lecanto, FL 34460

Email: CitrusNPS@gmail.com

Phone: 352-631-8444 (leave a message)

Website: citrus.fnpschapters.org

Facebook: Citrus Native Plant Society