

BROWARD COUNTY BUTTERFLY CHAPTER

February 2015

PLANT OF THE MONTH



Pigeonberry, Rouge plant
Rivina humilis, Wikipedia

Reminder!
Next meeting Tues
Feb 10

Sow Your Wildflower Seeds

Hello everyone, we will have some seed surprises at our February 10th meeting. There will be seeds and in some cases, their plant buddy for auction.

For example, we'll have Tickseed, *Coreopsis leavenworthii* seeds, Passion flower vine-native variety, Blue Pea Vine, *Gallardia* or Blanketflower seeds. We'll have a few hard-to-get seed items like Bandana-of-the-Everglades, golden canna or *Canna flaccida* and Partridge Pea, *Chamaecrista fasciculata*. Also for your interest are Rouge plants & seeds, *Rivina humilis*, Coontie, *Zamilia pumila* seeds & their caudex (roots). There'll be Blue Mistflower seeds too.

Just for your spring planting, there'll be some mini *Salvia* plants; these are the perennials that re-seed themselves. For those hobby propagators, try these wildflower seeds. May your planted seeds and adopted plants bring joy in spring and summer and delight you with their beautiful blooms.

Pat Rossi

Welcome our new member!

Karen Lake

Field Trip Updates

Our field trips last year were an adventure, our butterfly counts were a learning experience. All thanks to the spot on work of Sue and Barb. Consider coming along sometime as we count butterflies or go on a trip.

Fairchild Tropical Garden

Our next field trip will be Sunday Feb 22 2015 9:30am-2pm at Fairchild Tropical Garden. Buy lunch there or BYO. Meet outside the Visitors Center.

Featuring:

Plant Tour by Pres of Miami Blue NABA chapter. Learn why you need to plant Bayleaf Capertree (*Capparis flexuosa*) and Guiana Plum (*Drypetes lateriflora*). Guided Tram Tour & Chihuly 'Garden of Glass'. We'll car pool as much as possible.

Contact Sue 954.205.5432 or email us at BCBCmail@gmail.com for more information.

Fairchild Tropical Garden

(305) 667-1651

How a butterfly garden came to life

It was a veteran's perseverance who is a master gardener and dedicated volunteers who made the butterfly garden at the VA Clinic, Sunrise Florida a reality. It is a beautiful place for local butterflies.

Last November many individuals willingly supplied materials and labor for this garden spot.

The garden was the "brain child" of veteran and MG Brendan Doyle. Nevertheless one of the proud parents of this garden is MG Michael Thomas a veteran himself who is grateful to all who contributed in the installation and behind the scenes.

Some of the donated plants are Fire-bush, *Hamelia patens*, Milkweed, Butterfly Weed *Asclepias spp.*, Porterweed, *Stachytarpheta spp.*, Red Pentas *lanceolata* Starflower, Wild Coffee, *Psychotria nervosa* and Maypop passion vine.

The plants were donated by local nurseries and master gardeners. Michael's thanks volunteers from the Broward County Butterfly Chapter including: Janice Malkoff, Rebecca Copeland & Family, Becky & John Gilpin, Laura Rodgers, Malek Abus-amrah, Barbara Metcalf and Eve Maige. More...

UPCOMING EVENTS. Tues Feb 10, 2015. Speaker: Pat Howell-Monarchs Milkweed & the Monarch Watch

Plant table theme "Wildflower Seeds"

Tues Mar 10, 2015 meeting. Plantation Heritage Park. Speaker: Bryan Tozzi-Butterfly Gardening. Our plant table Contact us at www.browardbutterflies.org/ ; email: BCBCmail@gmail.com

Chapter meetings at Plantation Heritage Park 1100 S Fig Tree Ln, Plantation FL33317

BROWARD COUNTY BUTTERFLY CHAPTER

Page 2

Florida Leafwing



Bartram's scrub-hairstreak



Protection of Two Butterflies

To bring attention to two endangered butterflies that are only found in a few habitats in south Florida specifically the Pinelands, the Fish and Wildlife Service placed the Bartram's scrub-hairstreak and the Florida leafwing on the endangered species list.

Their Rule: "We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, designate critical habitat for the Florida leafwing (*Anaea troglodyta floralis*) and Bartram's scrub-hairstreak (*Strymon acis bartrami*) butterflies under the Endangered Species Act.

Photos by Holly Salvato
Fish & Wildlife; 8/24/14

In total, approximately 4,273 hectares (10,561 acres) in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties, Florida, fall within the boundaries of the critical habitat designation for the Florida leafwing butterfly, and approximately 4,670 hectares (11,539 acres) in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties, Florida, fall within the boundaries of the critical habitat designation for the Bartram's scrub-hairstreak butterfly." Fish and Wildlife Service on 08/12/2014. Sources: <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2014/08/12/2014-18611/endangered-and-threatened-wildlife-and-plants-designation-of-critical-habitat-for-florida-leafwing>.

~~~In Remembrance~~~

On January 20, 2015, we were saddened to learn that we have lost one of the giants in botanical studies, Dr. Daniel F. Austin. Dan was the author of over 35 book chapters, 100 journal papers, and 60 popular articles. He was a founding member of Florida Native Plant Society and a frequent contributor to Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council. Some of his most practical and useful botanical works were the small field guide-type booklets he wrote and which I have used extensively (Scrub Plant Guide, 1999; Coastal Park Plant Guide, undated; Coastal Dune Plants 1991; Pine Rockland Plant Guide, undated).

Dan taught at Florida Atlantic University and was a research associate at Florida International University and Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden. After moving to Arizona in the early 2000's, he also taught at the University of Arizona as an adjunct professor and was a research associate at Drylands Institute and the Arizona-Sonoran Desert Museum.

The shining pinnacle of his amazing work is the book "Florida Ethnobotany," a 900-page pivotal masterpiece combining Florida's history, and the ecology, botany, and native cultures of our fine state. Dr. Austin contributed so much to our knowledge and understanding of the wonderful world of plants that he will be greatly missed. *Sandy Koi*. More info at:

<http://e-atala.blogspot.com>; <http://e-atala2.blogspot.com>

COMING SPRING 2015

Ann Kolb Plant Sale

Sat Feb 28. Join us, we'll have an array of native plants and butterfly information.

Water Matters Day Tree Tops Park, Davie

Sat Mar 14. The Broward Butterfly Chapter will have a booth for this exciting annual event.

'Anything Goes' by the Plantation Garden Club, Westfield Broward Mall

Sat-Sun April 11 & 12. Visit our booth in the Broward Mall.

Butterfly Count Weekends

Watch for upcoming weekend dates in April 2015 for times counting our fabulous Florida butterflies.

Speakers 2015. Thanks to Peggy, we have knowledgeable speakers lined up for 2015. Hope to see you.

How A Butterfly Garden... Other individuals to thank are MG Errol Simmons as well as Wayne Barnes for his labor and fantastic photos. Participation thanks to: veterans & family members; the Knights of Columbus Holy Spirit 6032 Council & Broward County's Extension Office Agent. The hope is that this butterfly garden and intended vegetable garden will bring a sense of peace to many of the challenges that veterans and their families are experiencing.

The William "Bill" Kling Broward Veterans Administration Clinic, located at 9800 W. Commercial Blvd., Sunrise, FL. (Info by Michael Thomas)

Habitat Loss of Two Butterflies

The designation to protect the Florida leafwing and the Bartram's scrub-hairstreak is significant as these butterflies are threatened by habitat loss due to further development of Pinelands, their primary home. The Pine Rocklands or Pinelands is typically dry limestone strata, a hammock area on higher elevation that exist mostly on the Miami Rock Ridge extending from the Miami River south to the Everglades National Park.

But these fragile ecosystems that are part of Cuba and the Bahamas are also part of the Keys, the National Key Deer Refuge & Big Pine Key, Monroe County. The main canopy is slash pines, *Pinus elliotii* though the sub-canopy contains wide varieties of herbaceous plants. Most Pineland areas in south Florida are already developed. It is the remaining critical plant habitat on which these butterflies and other wildlife species depend. The Rockland Rally on 1/17/15. The reason for this protest is the newest threat: A plan to develop a strip mall within the boundaries of this habitat.

Read more: <http://e-atala.blogspot.com>; <http://e-atala2.blogspot.com>; MSRP_Pinerocklands.pdf