

BROWARD COUNTY BUTTERFLY CHAPTER

August 2017

**PLANT
OF THE
MONTH**



False Indigo-bush, Bastard-indigo, *Amorpha fruticosa*; Long-lived perennial. Deciduous. Likes wet soils. Plant as a screen. Host to: Silver-spotted Skipper. Height 6-12ft. Provides abundant nectar to bees & butterflies..Photos:Wikki

Welcome Back!

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Nominations For BCBC Positions

We'll have nominations for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer at our September 2017 meeting.

Coming Attractions

Tue Sept 12, 2017

**We'll have a Special Plant Auction
& For all Gardeners**

**Speaker: Janine Griffiths presents
'Native Landscaping For Butterflies &
Other Pollinators'**

Janine Griffiths is an accomplished 4th generation gardener and landscape designer. She purchased Green Thumb Inc., an interior plant maintenance and fine gardening service specializing in rose gardens in 2006, after completing graduate school at Florida Atlantic University.

**On Tue Oct 10, 2017 our speaker:
Roger Hammer, Stay Tuned**

Reminders Hope to see you!

Amazon Users

Please order thru website
www.browardbutterfly.org
BCBC earns 4% of your
Purchases.

Silent Auction

Please ID donated plants.
We accept natives and
Non-invasive plants.

Signing In Notebook

Members & guests, please
print your name. As a guest,
please give us your email
address to receive our
newsletters.

**Please take your Donated
Plants home at each event if
not auctioned off.**

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

IS AUG 8, 2017: Social time 6.30pm, Meeting starts 6.50pm

**Featuring Ms. Pat Howell, Natural Areas Specialist, Broward Parks
& Recreation "Butterfly Strays, Immigrants & Pests OH MY"**

Chapter meetings at the Extension Office 3245 College Ave Davie FL 33314—954-357-5270

www.browardbutterflies.org;

FACEBOOK PAGE <https://www.facebook.com/Broward-County-Butterfly-Chapter-1050990654972867/>

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The Dark Hairstreaks Cause a Stir

AnaMaria our webmaster has the gift of attracting butterflies of unusual variety to her yard. Her excitement spilled over into texting. She notes that after the summer rains she "probably started seeing them in mid-June" and noticed more of those dark hairstreaks again at the end of June. How do you know they're hairstreaks? They are usually small butterflies with those flared tiny tails. She wrote and sent pictures to Dr. M. Minno who confirmed that the 1.12inch butterflies were the Fulvous. They stuck around until July 1st, some five plus individuals sipping nectar on her Bloodberry, Bahama Strongbark and Firebush.



Photo:A.M.Agrusa

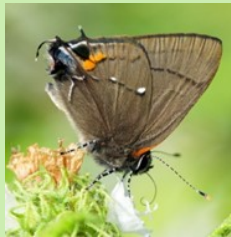


Bloodberry, *Cordia Globosa*.
Photo:MeadowBeautyNursery



Bahama Strongbark, *Bourreria succulenta*.
Shows its Fruit for birds. Photo: R.Hammer

The Fulvous Hairstreak. *Electrostrymon angelia*, is also known as the Angelic Hairstreak. It took up residence in Florida in the early 1970s with others including the Silver-banded hairstreak, Gray Ministreak, Bahaman Swallowtail, Malachite, Dorantes Longtail, Tropical Buckeye and the Dingy Purplewing according to R.Cech of "Butterflies of the East Coast".

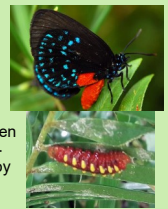


Fulvous Hairstreak
Photo:<http://benkolstad.net/?p=8219>

The butterfly will host on Jamaica Dogwood, *Piscidia piscipula*'s flowerbuds, the recommended plant over any invasive plant host. (See www.miamiblu.org/plantlist/ and the Institute of Regional Conservation site, <http://www.regionalconservation.org/beta/nfyn/plantdetail.asp?tx=Piscipisc>)

Garden Surprise in Red and Black.

You know it's the feeling when you see an Egret catch a fish, you can't stop looking. That was the oh-my-gosh-moment, when I casually checked out my Counties and saw orange caterpillars. Yes we planted, and they came, because more credit is given to my husband who dutifully dotted our landscape with now very large Counties, even when my complaint was "they should be bunched together". So the Atala butterflies could have come from nearby Woodmont Country Club, displaced after a new golf turf. The butterflies could've expanded their territory from the Sawgrass Nature Center Coral Springs FL where I planted over ten Counties eight years ago and deliberately placed live Atalas that have decided to take up residence. Now I have newborns in my yard.



I will stand guard near the host plants and beat off the curly-tail lizards. PatR

HOST PLANTS FOR LESS COMMON BUTTERFLIES

Broward County Butterfly Chapter, BCBC and the Florida Native Plant Society, FNPS Broward Chapter has a new venture. Our VP Barbara DeWitt spoke with Dr. M. Minno who said he was seeing fewer butterflies now than he did in the 1980s. BCBC has taken the initiative to attract less common butterflies by offering the larval plants they use, when we can, at our meetings. The hope is to see more of them as well as enhance our native plant habitat.

Welcome New Committee Members

Cynthia Chambers, Treasurer and Sandy Fernandes, Field Trip Coordinator. Your help will be appreciated. *BCBC Committee.*



A HOT BLAST at Sue Arnold Wildlife Sanctuary, Okeechobee County Sat Jun 24. We were given a detailed tour by Sue. We were entertained by carpenter bees, swallowtails and the bigger animals such as bobcats and panthers.

MEETINGS At Broward County Agricultural Extension Office

Directions to 3245 College Ave, Davie. **From the south**, I-595 West, Take exit 7. Merge into FL 84, turn on Davie Rd. Turn right onto Nova Dr. Turn left onto College Ave. Destination is on your right. It is the first building on your right. **From the north**, I-95 south to SW10th St. to the 869 Sawgrass Expressway (toll). After the Sunrise Blvd exit, merge onto I-595 East to Ft. Lauderdale. Take the University Dr. Exit, turn right onto University Dr. Stay in the left lane. At the 2nd light turn left onto Nova Dr. At the first light turn right onto College Ave. Destination is on your right. It is the first building on your right facing College Ave. The one story bldg. is opposite FAU campus, Davie. UF/IFAS are located behind the building.



Common Fanpetal, Wireweed, Broomweed. *Sida acuta*. DiscoverLife, Bobby Hattaway

The Weed Butterflies Can't Resist

Whenever we advise new butterfly gardeners on what to plant, our Master Gardener training kicks in, 'plant natives' as much as possible and to encourage butterflies, 'leave a patch for weeds, encourage your Spanish needles, *Bidens alba* and Tasselflowers'. There are other weeds butterflies can't resist. One such weed is *Sida acuta*. Probably it's already in your yard. It's the host plant for the Gray Hairstreak, the Mallow Scrub-Hairstreak, the Tropical Checkered-Skipper and the White-Checkered Skipper. These are the butterflies that have diminished in number in Broward County.

There are other species of the genus *Sida*, there is *elliottii* and *rhombifolia* which are also host plants and provide nectar for Gulfs, Zebras and others. All are tough, a bit aggressive, weedy. Growing them is not for the fastidious gardener, these weeds do their best to be the host, the green stalwarts for our desired butterflies.

BUTTERFLY COUNTS Now through Fall 2017. At Select Broward Parks. Starts 8:30am. Join us!
Look for Notices in bcbcm@gmail.com or Email Us.