



Magnolia Chapter

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Magnolia Chapter Happenings July 2013

Leigh Brooks, Magnolia Chapter President, reported on 2013 exotics removal workdays at Gholson Nature Park to the Chattahoochee City Council and City Manager, and introduced the new volunteer coordinator. Diana Picklesimer, a Magnolian from Decatur County, Georgia, retired recently and was looking for an outdoor project. The City Manager presented Leigh with a letter of appreciation from the city.

The Chapter is proud to announce that Lilly Anderson-Mesec was awarded a scholarship in the young professionals category to the annual Cullowhee Native Plant Conference at Western Carolina University in North Carolina. Lilly works at Native Nurseries in Tallahassee. Her duties will soon be expanding with Donna Legare's retirement. We look forward to Lilly's report on her conference experience in September.

Eleanor Dietrich received a grant from the Florida Wildflower Foundation to continue her work with FDOT, local governments, and the Panhandle Wildflower Alliance promoting native roadside wildflowers and reduced mowing regimes. The Magnolia Chapter also awarded Eleanor funds to offset travel expenses for this project.

FNPS Land Management Partners Committee (LMP) update - Magnolians will now be attending Florida Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) meetings for the LMP Committee - Guy Anglin, Wilson Baker and Brad Hartman have been approved by State FNPS Board. The Board also approved Gail Fishman as LMP Vice Chair for Northwest Florida to schedule land management reviewers.

Magnolians assisted the Florida Water and Land Legacy Campaign ballot initiative that seeks to dedicate state funds for conservation programs. Thanks to Jan Blue, Leigh Brooks, Beth Grant, Travis & Karen MacClendon, and Carmen Zaldivar, the Chapter has collected 189 petitions to date from registered Florida Voters at various outdoor events. Many more petitions are needed to get this on the ballot. If you aren't inclined or don't have time to volunteer, you can donate to the campaign. Sign up to volunteer or donate at www.floridawaterlandlegacy.org.

The talented Rayanne Mitchell is the Chapter's new Membership Manager. Please make her job easier by renewing your membership on time.

The Chapter is saddened to hear of the passing of Bill Petty's wife, Anne. Bill has been a long time Magnolian, led field trips and given programs, and now is quite involved with the Sarracenia Chapter. You can reach Bill at billpetty360@gmail.com or 326 Beechwood Drive, Crawfordville FL 32327. Visit his wonderful website on Florida Fungi: www.nettally.com/annep/floridafungi.

Aug. 7, 2013

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.