



Magnolia Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

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Do Plants Know Where the Bodies are Buried?

By Suzi Goodhope

October 5, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

1024 King Bldg., FSU Campus



This presentation highlights how the communication of flora and the remarkable scenting capabilities of canines allow us to identify resting places of human remains. Plants can give us clues of disturbances in their surroundings. Human remains detection (HRD) dogs will react to odor clues gathered by the flora revealing what is in their environments. The plants give us a peek into events in the past, for example those that have disturbed their growth or stopped it all together. Suzi will bring her cadaver dog, Shiraz, to the presentation.

After a career in health care ranging from the bedside, to administration and teaching; Suzi embarked on the avocation and adventure of Search and Rescue. After several years in general canine Search and Rescue, her interest narrowed to training dogs who detect human remains. She is now training her third HRD dog, Fletch, a Belgian Malinois. As a member of both local and national search teams, she has participated in over 75 searches encompassing criminal cases, missing persons, historic and archeology subjects. She continues her search work, teaching and volunteering for organizations such as the National Park Service. She and her second dog Shiraz have contributed over 1000 hours of searching for the National Park service and have aided numerous churches and municipalities in defining historic graveyards.

Joint Field Trip with Florida Trail Association (FTA):

Sunday, 29 October 2017, 10:00am-12:30. Halloween Murder Mystery Walk!! Along with a 4-footed detector, "Shiraz," and her partner, noted cadaver-dog handler, Suzi Goodhope, follow clues through the forest to find the missing body!! Meet at Gate A, Elinor Klapp-Phipps Park, 1275 Miller Landing Road. Please be on time, 10:00am. Wear close-toed shoes and clothing appropriate for hiking in the woods. Bring water. Bring lunch too, if you want to stay afterwards to talk more with Suzi Goodhope (and Shiraz). **DOGS are NOT PERMITTED** on this hike. Children are permitted with an accompanying adult, but note that there will be frank discussion about deceased people and their remains.