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# Coastal Plain Chapter

## Georgia Native Plant Society

### 2023 June Email to CPC Members

#### One More Spring Plant Sale

Our last plant sale for the spring season is **Sat., May 27, from 9:00 a.m. - noon** at the [Wiregrass Farmers Market](#) in Tifton. Online sales continue throughout the year. To order plants, check the [plant list](#) that is updated after each sale. Minimum pre-sale (online) order is \$35.00. Email [cpcgnps@gmail.org](mailto:cpcgnps@gmail.org) to order plants.



**Propagation continues:** In above photos--a view of the propagation set up of CPC board member Mary Beth Cary. Mary Beth propagates a number of butterfly host and nectar plants in her greenhouse, including *Asclepias*

(milkweed) species, golden alexander (*Zizia aurea*), and passion vine (*Passiflora incarnata*). Plants are moved to a shady area, once they are upsized. Among the species blooming now in her garden are blanket flower (*Gaillardia pulchella*), tickseed (*Coreopsis lanceolata*), and in the background red columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*) and coral honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*). Many more species will be in bloom during summer and fall, most importantly milkweed (*Asclepias*) species. Mary Beth is Chair of Monarchs Across Georgia.

### **Plant Rescue Scheduled for Berrien County**

There will be a plant rescue in Berrien County on **Sun., June 11**, from 9:00 a.m. - noon, led by Amy Heidt and Heather Brasell. **Pre-registration is required.** Among the species identified for rescue are *Cyrilla racemiflora*, summer titi; *Euthamia graminifolia*, flat-top goldenrod; *Hypericum crux-andrea*, St. Andrew's cross; *Hypericum sp.*, St. John's wort; *Ilex coriacea*, largeleaf gallberry; *Ilex glabra*, gallberry; *Liatris microcephala*, small-head blazing star; *Lyonia ferruginea*, rusty lyonia; *Osmanthus Americana*, American olive; *Pityopsis graminifolia*, silver leaf aster; *Rhododendron canescens*, piedmont azalea; *Rhus copallinum*, winged sumac; *Serenoa repens*, horse sugar; *Smilax pumila*, sarsaparilla vine (smilax – thornless); *Vaccinium arboretum*, sparkleberry; *Vaccinium elliotii*, Elliot's blueberry; and *Vaccinium myrsinites*, shiny blueberry. Go to the **GNPS Rescue Calendar** to [register](#) and to see the complete list of plants to be rescued.

### **Monarchs Across Georgia Symposium**

On **Sat., June 24, 2023**, Monarch Across Georgia will present a **pollinator symposium**, "*Creating Landscapes for Beauty, Biodiversity & Ecological Benefits.*" The symposium will be held at the Wimberly Center for Community Development, located at 163 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Winder, GA 30680. Registration is \$75.00. Keynote speaker is Anne Spafford, author of "*Pollinator Gardening for the South: Creating Sustainable Habitats.*" Go to the [link](#) for registration and agenda details.

### **Coming this month—a program with the Florida Native Plant Society**

Stay tuned—Mark Kateli, the President of the Florida Native Plant Society, reached out to GNPS President Ellen Honeycutt to suggest a joint online program to discuss native plants that are common to both Florida and Georgia. CPC member Heather Brasell along with Mark, Ellen and Mary Alice Applegate, will talk about a dozen favorites. The event will happen the third week in June. We will be sure to share the zoom link with everyone.



In photo above: Kaleb Bell, center, helped with our plant sale at the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Symposium in Plains, Ga. CPC members Paul Sumner, left, and Amy Heidt, right, have taught Kaleb many propagation protocols as he interned with them this spring.

### **UGA Tifton Student Intern learns via CPC Propagation**

The following article has been contributed by Kaleb Bell of Nashville, Ga, who completed an independent study in greenhouse management in cooperation with the Coastal Plain Chapter. Kaleb has also been serving as an after-school instructor in agriculture and environmental concepts at the Berrien County Elementary School. His next step is to begin student teaching and searching for a full-time career in agricultural education. He was honored at the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Symposium as the recipient of Garden Club of Georgia (and National Garden Club) scholarships throughout his college career.

Agricultural Education major Kaleb Bell has had the opportunity to partner with the Coastal Plains Chapter of the Georgia Native Plant Society while completing an independent study this semester. As part of his study, Kaleb has been growing native plant species, including members of the aster family like *Mikania scandens*, as well as a variety of native hibiscus varieties using

the green house facilities on the UGA Tifton Campus.

Kaleb has also met with the Coastal Plains chapter members to help manage their nursery while learning first-hand about the growing habits of native plants.

“It’s truly been an honor,” Kaleb said, when asked about the work he’s been doing with the Native Plant Society, “I never would have imagined the diversity of plants here in our backyards. Plants that most of us may consider weeds are actually key parts of our regional ecosystem—with many of them serving as breeding grounds or food sources for our pollinators.”

In addition to working in the chapter’s nursery, Kaleb has put his feet to the ground, assisting chapter members with plant reintroduction efforts. Most recently, Kaleb accompanied several members of the chapter as they reintroduced over 120 protected pitcher plants in a regional state park.

“It’s really rewarding to have been part of something larger than myself and my studies. Now I can go back to that park, make my way to the bogs, and see the effort that we put forth to ensure these plants have a home.”

As he continues his study, Kaleb is planning to attend outreach events with the chapter. As for the plants he’s been growing in the Tifton greenhouse—those will be given away as gifts to attendees at these events. A true educator, Kaleb says his main hope is to impact the lives of others, stating “It’s important that people recognize the beauty of our environment here at home. If one person is impacted by taking home and rearing a native plant that I watched grow from seed, I’ll be proud of the work we’ve done thus far.”

### **Plan now for the Great Southeast Pollinator Census**

The Coastal Plain Chapter will be present at the [Gaskins Forest Education Center](#) for the 2024 Great Southeast Pollinator [Census](#), set for Aug. 18 and 19, 2023. If you know of other locations where a pollinator census will take place in our area, please let us know, so we can help publicize it.

### **Fall Annual Meeting**

We are looking ahead to our annual meeting, tentatively set for Nov. 4, 2023. This annual meeting includes election of new board members and officers. We are looking to add board members, so if you are interested, please contact [maryalice.applegate@gnps.org](mailto:maryalice.applegate@gnps.org). If you’d like to know more about our board and officer descriptions, please check our [bylaws](#). Board member descriptions are on p. 2; officer descriptions are on p. 4. Board and officer terms are two years.

### **State Botanical Garden of Georgia**

The SBG in Athens offers [classes](#) toward a Certificate in Native Plants and classes for the Plants and Pollinators Specialization. For further

information, email Cora Keber ckeber@uga.edu or call 706-542-6156.

**June 3:** Summer Tree Identification, Athens, GA

**June 10:** Native Plant Propagation, Roswell, GA

**June 16:** The Bee-utiful World of Native Bees, Blairsville, GA


**June 24:** Native Ferns of North Georgia, Athens, GA


**CPC Board Meetings:** The next Meeting is **July 19, 2023**, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Board meetings are open to all CPC members. Contact Mary Alice Applegate (maryalice.applegate@gnps.org) to request a link. Minutes of meetings are available upon request.

### **CPC Board of Directors**

 Mary Alice Applegate, President 

Jimmy Lindsey, Vice President 

Katie Antczak, Secretary 

Elizabeth King, Treasurer 

Heather Brasell, Past President and CPC Education Committee Chair 

Paul Sumner, CPC Membership Chair 

Amy Heidt, CPC Propagation Chair 

Gail Farley, Representative, East Coast

Mary Beth Cary, Representative, West Georgia

The Coastal Plain Chapter of the Georgia Native Plant Society focuses on native plant species and ecosystem issues in the Coastal Plain region of Georgia.



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