



Chapter Board and Committee Chairs

Co-Presidents

Neta Villalobos-Bell
&
Jane Bullock

VP Field Trips/ Conservation

Lavon Silvernell

Secretary

Suzanne Hill

Treasurer

Jane Bullock

Chapter Rep

Tina Mertz

Membership/ Plant Sale

Nancy LaPointe

Outreach Chair

Delphine Salai

Communication Director

Robin Kester

[www.lakebeautyberry.
fnpschapters.org](http://www.lakebeautyberry.fnpschapters.org)

JANUARY 2026 CHAPTER NEWS

*THE FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY'S MISSION IS TO
CHAMPION FLORIDA'S NATIVE PLANTS AND THEIR HABITATS.*

Annual Meeting and Voting of Officers

Annual Member Meeting January 18, 2026

1:30pm, W.T. Bland Library, 1995 N Donnelly Street, Mount Dora

Vote for Slate of Officers.

Anyone in good standing may self-nominate or nominate another person if they agree.

President Jane Bullock. Previous Co-President, Treasurer.

Vice President Neta Villalobos-Bell. Previous President, Vice President, Secretary

Treasurer—Vacancy. This position is primarily bookkeeping, income and expenditures. There are minimal scheduled State and Federal IRS forms to submit, mostly online. Mentoring included.

Secretary—Vacancy. Document Bi-monthly Board and Annual Member Meetings. The minutes are Board approved then stored online.

Chapter Representative Tina Mertz. Incumbent.

Committees that need volunteer help at specific times of year. Not a voted position. Just contact the Chairperson.

Outreach

Chairperson Delphine Salai, weedpuller121@gmail.com

Frequency: Approximately 4-6 events per year. Times varies.

Locations: Within Central Lake County

Different areas of opportunity to volunteer: organization of materials, recruit volunteers, participate at Chapter display table.

Field Trips

Chairperson: Lavon Silvernell, lavonsilvernell@gmail.com

Frequency: Approximately 4 trips per year. Times varies
 Locations: Usually within Lake County
 Different areas of help: organization, logistics, participation day of trip.

Plant Sales

Chairperson: Nancy LaPointe, laf4good@gmail.com
 Frequency: Twice per year, April and October
 Location: W.T. Bland Library , Mt Dora
 Different areas of help: plant selection, communication with Nursery staff, library, and volunteers, Excel spreadsheet (will train), Preparation of plant Labels, plant descriptions, Pick up plants at nursery for delivery to library.

Meeting Presentations

Chairperson: Neta Villalobos-Bell, netavb@gmail.com
 Frequency: 6 times per year.
 Location: Home
 One position/one person: Solicit topic ideas and/or speakers. Continue contact from initial request through to Thank you to speaker after presentation. Document details. Mentoring included.

2026 Proposed Budget

Please review the attached and bring any questions for clarification before voting at the January meeting.

Lake Beautyberry Chapter				
2026 Budget				
	2024 Actuals	2025 Budget	2025 YTD	2026 Budget
Balance Brought Forward from previous year	\$10,095	\$10,390	\$10,390	\$10,694 (estimate)
INCOME				
State Chapter Support	\$0	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500
Fundraiser/native plant sales	\$1,718	\$3,435	\$3,866	\$3,500
Misc Income	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other donations	\$105	\$100	\$169	\$0
Income Total	\$1,823	\$5,035	\$4,035	\$5,000
EXPENSES				
Mtg plant giveaways/refreshments	\$39	\$200	\$61	\$200
Plants - Discovery Gardens	\$50	\$200	\$0	\$200
Fundraiser Expense	\$167	\$400	\$276	\$400
Plant Wholesale Cost	\$776	\$1,552	\$2,194	\$2,195
Sales Tax Paid	\$112	\$225	\$114	\$263
Speaker Donations	\$200	\$300	\$150	\$300
Sponsorships	\$0	\$600	\$250	\$350
TLNC Donation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200
FANN Advertising (every other year)	\$115	\$0	\$0	\$115
Outreach Material	\$0	\$100	\$84	\$150
Newsletter/Communications	\$0	\$100	\$0	\$100
Supplies	\$193	\$100	\$127	\$150
Plant Rescue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500
Donation to NP Hort. Foundation	\$0	\$0	\$200	\$0
Memberships	\$0	\$200	\$200	\$200
Fictitious Name Filing ** (2025)	\$0	\$80	\$50	\$0
Stock Dealership Cert renewal	\$26	\$26	\$26	\$26
Grant Project	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
Expense Totals	\$1,677	\$5,082	\$3,733	\$6,349
Net Income	\$145	(\$47)	\$302	(\$1,349)
Ending Balance:	\$10,390	\$10,343	\$10,692	\$9,345
Memberships: TLNC \$50, LCCC \$50, Fla Wildflower \$100				
Sponsorships: Cracker Christmas \$25, Eco Expo \$50, Uncommitted \$275				

Next Chapter Meeting

Presentation topic "Plant a Sustainable Landscape with Native Plants"

January 18, 2026 1:30pm, W.T Bland Library, 1995 N Donnelly Street, Mount Dora

You're interested, but want to know how and where to start. Our speaker, Chris Leibner (pictured to the right), Landscape Designer with Wild Garden Company, will share his knowledge and experience so you have the confidence to add these functional, as well as beautiful, native plants into your yard benefiting wildlife, the environment, and you. Free and open to the public.



Upcoming activities at the Library

Forest Preserve Nature Hikes

January 17, 2026 Saturday, 8:30am Forest Preserve Guided Walk and Talk, "Native Plant Medicinal Uses" 1995 N Donnelly Street, Mount Dora.

Focus is on the traditional knowledge and uses and beliefs of native plants for medical uses, such as teas, tinctures, and salves. In addition, some uses became the precursor for some of our modern day drugs. Salicylic acid in willow trees resulted in aspirin.



Past Outreach Activities

2025 Annual Cracker Christmas Festival in Umatilla

The Cracker Christmas Festival is an annual event organized to celebrate the holidays with a parade and many vendors, either selling Christmas related items, or had a booth to inform visitors on different topics. Our chapter was represented by Neta Villalobos-Bell (Chapter Co-President), Delphine Salai (Outreach Committee Chair), and Lea Faulkner (Chapter Volunteer). Mike Archer, with the Passionflower Chapter, kindly joined us and helped with breakdown.



Lea on the far left, and Delphine on the far right



Neta sharing about native plants

Volunteers Needed!



The Umatilla Black Bear Festival will be held from 9am to 4pm, Saturday, January 31, 2026 at Cadwell Park in Umatilla. Admission is free. The festival aims to increase awareness, foster appreciation, and promote the safe coexistence between humans and black bears. Additionally, there will be educational exhibits, wildlife tours, live music, food trucks, and train rides for kids! This is a family friendly event.

Lake Beautyberry Chapter of the FNPS Volunteer Opportunities

- Arrive about an hour early, assist with set up or help breakdown
- Speak with the public about the many benefits of native plants
- Distribute the many handouts and posters that Lake Beautyberry provides for free
- Suggest people sign up for newsletter and invite to the next chapter meeting

Please contact for more information:
Delphine Salai 352-217-8786, text or leave message; or email weedpuller121@gmail.com

Neta

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