Eco-Gardening
A Most Significant Trend

By: Colleen Miles

Eco-gardening is defined as the practice of sustainable gardening. It means taking into consideration the natural environment (i.e., soil, plants, water...).

What it really means is being conscious of the environment and keeping things more sustainable. As a population, we are becoming more and more aware of how we have impacted our environment negatively and how we can learn to be more proactive in working within it.

Eco-gardening is a trending topic as we move toward a more organic lifestyle. Not only organic foods, but organic growing. From using less chemicals and more natural pest deterrents to growing our own foods. More and more people are turning to home grown foods and veganism in the hopes of not only extending their lives but also the lives of farm animals and the planet itself.

As planners we should be at the forefront of this movement as it lessens the carbon footprint and provides more natural areas that can coincide with positive development while ensuring a good food source. These eco-gardens can and are being constructed in food deserts as rooftops or raised beds and are showing up in large lot and estate lot subdivisions as landscape areas and food sources.

We are tasked with representing the underserved. Well, what about the wildlife? It really is about the birds and the bees!...as well as butterflies, hedgehogs, worms, and the like. Each of these underserved and underrepresented factions are paramount in our food sources and contributing to our thriving ecosystem.
I stopped in to Jimmy Johns for lunch a few weeks ago – and there was Christmas music playing over the sound system. “Christmas in July” is one thing but Christmas in October! this might be pushing it just a little too far. However, I do love Christmas (and truth be told, Christmas music too). Speaking of which, keep an eye out for future announcements with several chapters hosting year end Holiday Socials.

As we look forward to 2020, FPZA will be making a concerted effort towards increasing participation and memberships statewide. The 2020 Membership Drive will not only encourage previous members to renew and new members to join but an improved membership appreciation for all! Our goals for 2020 include increased communication through social media (new state maintained Facebook page, Linked-In), more opportunities for education and networking both through the State Board as well as Local Chapters around the state, and an easier way to enroll, renew and pay your membership dues!

For the past nearly 70 years, FPZA has been and continues to be dedicated to promoting and encouraging sound planning practices among planning professionals, boards, civic bodies, citizens, and students throughout the state of Florida. The more we can do to cultivate interest in planning the better our State will be!

The strain on our industry and the economy a few years ago left FPZA with a temporary dip in membership renewals. Special thanks to all those members for not compromising on your FPZA membership during the downturn – the core of FPZA remains as strong as ever! But the economy is back, the applicants are back and FPZA wants you back!

Personally, I have been a member of FPZA since 1999 and have gained invaluable friendships and business relationship over the years. The resources, professional contacts, and social connections have been a tremendous asset to my career and life in general. Please encourage your employer, coworkers, and friends interested in planning and zoning to join and participate in the FPZA events. Satisfaction Guaranteed!

Scott Stuart
2019/2020 FPZA State President
Ideas transform communities

At HDR, we’re helping our clients push open the doors to what’s possible every day.
SUNCOAST CHAPTER

For Immediate Release

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (August 7, 2019) – The Florida Green Building Coalition (FGBC), the leading certifier of green residential and commercial construction, land developments and local governments in the state, has surpassed the 20,000 mark with certified projects.

The milestone achievement was announced during the annual Southeast Building Conference (SEBC) at the Gaylord Palms in Kissimmee, Fla.

“SEBC is the perfect venue to make this announcement. Florida builders and developers continue to see the value in going “Florida Green,” said FGBC executive director C.J. Davila.

A home recently built at Babcock Ranch pushed the number past the 20,000 mark. Southwest Florida’s Babcock Ranch, with sustainability designed into the entire fabric of the community, is a certified FGBC Platinum Florida Green community.

In 2000 the non-profit FGBC brought together industry professionals from the construction, government, academic and research communities to create green standards tailored specifically to Florida.

FGBC’s five certifications provide pathways to build green homes, developments, local governments, high rises and commercial buildings. Today FGBC is by far the largest certifier of green homes, communities and local governments in Florida.

There are a lot of things we’ve put in place that you won’t find in the national standards,” Davila said. “It’s very stringent.”

National and international standards like USGBC LEED and Green Globes also move builders and developers towards environmentally friendly building.

But, “Florida Green” standards take a scientific approach and are developed with state-specific criteria. They address Florida’s hot-humid environment, distinctive topography, unique geology, resiliency and natural disasters.

FGBC’s green certifications are powerful because they complement one another, according to Davila. Together, they can transform cities, counties and entire communities into environmentally sustainable places as well as homes and buildings.

Going Green? In Florida you have a choice. Contact the Florida Green Building Coalition at (407) 777-4914, or email info@floridagreenbuilding.org or visit www.floridagreenbuilding.org.
Proud to support the FPZA on their 67th Annual State Conference

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Past Presidents of FPZA

The OVERVIEW would like to recognize all of those who have served as President for FPZA over the years:

1951 George W. Simons, Jr.
1961 Frank Albert
1962 Frank Branan
1963 George Emery
1964 Frank Stearns
1966 Howard Rybolt
1968 David Simpson, Jr.
1969 Don Greer
1971 Ernest R. Bartley
1972 Jesse Martin (Honorary)
1973 Jerry Dake
1974 Dick Whipple
1975 Dan Abernathy
1976 Marvin Hill
1977 Martin Kreidt
1978 ER “Ted” Mack
1979 Rom Blanton.
1980 Don Ingram
1981 Diane Dunson
1982 George Stahlman
1983 Jack Sullivan
1984 June Small
1985 Paul Segal
1986 Ed Jaffe
1987 Deanie Lowe
1988 Paul Stutsman
1989 Jerry West
1990 Ray Newton
1991 Miriam Maer
1992 Chuck Place
1993 Pat Bourquin
1994 Mark P. Barnebey
1995 Janis Fleet
1996 Jay Marder
1997 Glenn Sweeney
1998 Lee Pitre
1999 Joan Randolph
2000 Paul Wieczorek
2001 Susan Green
2002 Stephen Thompson
2003 Carol Clarke
2004 Leigh Kerr
2005 Sharon Jenkins-Owen
2006 Tracey Crowe
2007 Doug Kelly
2008 Jeffery Jenkins
2009 Thad Crowe
2010 Rachel Layton
2011 Nancy Roberts
2012 Brady Woods
2013 Paula McMichael
2014 Courtney Mendez
2015 John Thompson
2016 Arleen Hunter
2017 Helen LaValley
2018 Alexis Crespo
DAVID A. THERIAQUE, ESQUIRE
S. BRENT SPAIN, ESQUIRE
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Q. **Where are you from originally?**
A. I was born in Boca Raton, FL, but my family moved to Naples, FL when I was 3 years old and I have spent most my life living there.

Q. **What college/university did you attend/graduate from? Please list your degree(s) and if you have any specialized training.**
A. I am finishing my B.S. in Public Administration this semester at the University of Central Florida.

Q. **How did you become involved in FPZA and how long have you been a member?**
A. I first heard about FPZA through the Student Scholarship Award to the annual FPZA conference. I attended the conference this past June and have been a member ever since.

Q. **What is your current position and area(s) of expertise?**
A. I am not currently working for a municipality or private firm, but I have recently finished an internship with the Town of Eatonville CRA.

Q. **What are your hobbies and interests?**
A. My hobbies mostly revolve around technology and how I enjoy spending my free time. Between school, extracurriculars, and work I don’t get much free time during reasonable hours of the day, so I spend that time doing what brings me relaxation. Whether it is watching the latest shows or playing the latest games, I am able to forget about the stresses of the day and experience the entertainment.

Q. **Do you have a favorite travel spot?**
A. The summer after my senior year of high school, my family took a trip to visit my grandfather’s family in Peru. We stayed in the capitol, Lima, for about a week and then headed up the mountains to visit Cusco and Machu Picchu. It was right before the annual Festival of the Sun, so we were able to see a lot of cultural events and festivities.

Q. **What book did you read last?**
A. My most recent title is A Clash of Kings in the Game of Thrones book series. After watching the final season, I began to read the books after hearing how much was missing compared to the TV series.

Q. **If a new college graduate asked you for advice about your field, what would you tell them?**
A. In my short time working in the planning field so far, I would say the best advice I have to give is to learn how to use your network. Starting up a new project or fixing the one you’re on can be difficult, but there is bound to be someone you know that has done it before. Even if they don’t know the exact answer, maybe they know someone else or can at least point you in the right direction. Urban planning is not a solitary practice and requires everyone working together to create better communities.

...continued on page 11
**Call for Articles**

Would you like an opportunity to share an opinion, review or analysis of a current planning topic of personal or state interest?

We are looking for contributions for upcoming issues of the Overview. One time or recurring contributors are welcome. Contributions can include, but are not limited to: news articles, press releases, analytic reviews and narratives, legal briefs and reviews.

The views expressed in the Overview are those of the Editor or other contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Florida Planning & Zoning Association. Articles may be edited to conform to space and/or style requirements, and may be reserved for use in later issues if appropriate.

If you are interested in submitting a contribution, or would like additional information, please contact Branden Roe, the Overview Editor at branden.m.roe@gmail.com.

**Member Spotlight Continued**

Q. *What do you think you’d be doing now if you hadn’t chosen your current profession?*

A. Prior to studying public administration and urban planning, I was in the civil engineering program at UCF. I would probably be searching for an entry-level position and start working towards my PE license. Everyone else in my immediate and extended family is a teacher so, if nothing else, I probably would have wound up doing that, too.

Q. *Do you have a motto or personal mantra that you like to live by?*

A. A phrase that often comes to mind is “Be the change you want to see in the world,” which is actually a summation of a much longer quote from Mahatma Gandhi. I like this phrase because it ties to our personal lives, but as planners and administrators we are also able to enact this in our professional lives as well.

Q. *What personal goals would you like to achieve (before you retire)?*

A. As I am just starting my career, many of my goals are far off into the future but I am positive they will happen at some point before I retire. The communities I grew up in were mainly minority populations that had low socioeconomic standing. Eventually, I would like the opportunity to serve as the director of a CRA or planning division that primarily serves minority communities like the ones I lived in. I would also like to be involved, in some capacity, in the development of the first regional high-speed rail system in the U.S. HSR has been a personal passion since middle school and bringing such a transformative system to the U.S. is a major life goal.

If you know of any members of FPZA that should be spotlighted in our quarterly newsletter issues, please contact the Overview Editor, or any State Board member and provide contact information for those member(s).
Save The Date

ST. AUGUSTINE

June 10 - 12, 2020

Florida Planning & Zoning Association 2020 Annual Conference

www.fpza.org

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ABOUT THE OVERVIEW

The Overview is a quarterly newsletter published by the Florida Planning and Zoning Association. The contents of these newsletters include contributions from our members across the state. The issues are issues in the Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall following the quarterly Board of Director’s meetings.

CONTRIBUTIONS

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HALF-PAGE AD:
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Maximum Ad

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Maximum Ad dimensions: 9.2” x 7.5”

DEADLINES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Contribution and advertisement deadlines are generally two weeks after the scheduled quarterly Board of Directors meeting. For specific deadlines please coordinate with the Overview Editor.

If you are interested in submitting a contribution, or would like additional information, please contact Branden Roe, the Overview Editor at branden.m.roe@gmail.com.
OVERVIEW


Calusa Chapter

Central Florida Chapter

Paul Wieczorek
COBB COLE IS A PROUD SPONSOR OF THE 2019 FPZA CONFERENCE.

As members of the FPZA Surfcoast Chapter, Cobb Cole sends a special thank you to the Surfcoast Board of Directors and the State Officers for their commitment to the conference.

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For additional information or questions regarding this message, please contact Matthew Welch.
About The Florida Planning and Zoning Association

The Florida Planning and Zoning Association was founded in 1951, during the national conference of the American Planning and Civic Association held in Miami. Frank F. Stearns, then Director of Planning for the City of Miami, set up a special meeting for those interested in forming an active State Association. Approximately thirty people attended that historic meeting, representing most of the populated areas of the State.

The purposes of the Association are: to promote cooperation among official planning and zoning boards or commissions, civic bodies, citizens, technicians and students interested in planning and zoning in the State of Florida; to cultivate and stimulate interest in planning and zoning by local governments; to encourage the observance of sound planning and zoning practices; to furnish information, advice and assistance to its members and provide a medium for exchanging information, advice and assistance among them; to engage in research and issue publications on planning and zoning and related matters; to promote and encourage the sound development of land, water and natural resources and the elimination of air and water pollution; and to educate the public and elected and appointed officials in matters pertaining to planning and zoning.

Who Belongs to the Florida Planning and Zoning Association?

Men and Women who are...

Planning professionals - public and private zoning staff, transportation engineers, land-use lawyers, expert witnesses, members of the Florida Bar, city, county and state elected officials, members of local planning and zoning boards, university professors, architects, landscape architects, housing professionals, real estate agents, transportation specialists, surveyors, marketing professionals, communications directors, graphic artists, students of land planning, public relations professionals...and more.

For a chance to network with like-minded professionals and community leaders, why not join us?

Call the state office of FPZA at (407)895-2654 for chapter membership within Florida and your local community. Visit our website at www.FPZA.org.
Creating Great Community Places

GAI’s Community Solutions Group is an idea-driven strategic consulting practice integrating design, planning, and economics. We are committed to enhancing communities in ways that are practical, sustainable, and authentic to our clients’ needs, while being politically aware, financially feasible, and aesthetically compelling.

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gaiconsultants.com/communitysolutions
President Stuart called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM

The following were present via telephone:
Scott Stuart – Central Florida
Joe Quinn – Springs
Scott Ashley – Surfcoast
Sarah Sinatra Gould – South Florida
Jeremy Chastain – Calusa
Heather Croney – Central Florida
Diane Chadwick – Suncoast
Colleen Miles – Surfcoast
John Thomson – Surfcoast
Sam Camp – Student Representative
Irina Pashinina – Central Florida
Paula McMichael (via telephone) – Calusa
Helen LaValley (via telephone) – Surfcoast
Paul Wieczorek (via telephone) – Springs
Branden Roe (via telephone) – Overview Editor
Alexis Crespo (via telephone) – Calusa
Jim Barnes via telephone) – South Florida

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
Roll call was conducted and a quorum was determined. President Stuart welcomed everyone and thanked them for participating in today’s meeting. Each person introduced themselves and their chapter.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT
Ms. Miles stated that the minutes of the June 2019 meeting were emailed to everyone as well as appeared in the Overview. A motion was made by Ms. LaValley and seconded by Mr. Wieczorek to approve the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Miles then provided the current membership numbers. The total membership numbers as of October 7, 2019 were 404.

Ms. Miles then told the Board she would be sending out emails to ensure the most up-to-date contact information was on record.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT: SCOTT STUART
President Stuart welcomed the Board and began with a discussion on strategic planning.

Regarding strategic planning, President Stuart shared a handout of various strategic planning goals for 2019-2020. He asked that the Board members review the information a future meeting or workshop would be scheduled to discuss those and any other ideas the Board may have.

President Stuart then discussed the other handout relative to membership. There were numerous ideas about how to enhance and increase membership but the most achievable and easily tracked would be a membership drive including a mail-out and email blast. He stated that a focus on a membership flyer using the highest membership list we had on record (2009) would possibly garner the most new and former members.

Ms. LaValley volunteered to prepare a draft flyer. It was also suggested that a link be added to the email blast and included in the Overview to make it easier to join.

Mr. Roe suggested that with any conference information such as a Save the Date for the next Conference have a membership application or link included. We would also include membership information with all conference mail outs and emails. Mr. Roe also provided the idea that the last page of the Overview be the membership application and flyer.

The Board discussed how difficult maneuvering around the State website and Ms. LaValley suggested that Ms. Mendez of the Surfcoast Chapter might be able to provide some insight as the Surfcoast Chapter’s website was quite user friendly.

SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR: IRINA PASHININA
Ms. Pashinina suggested that a membership blast be added to the Face Book Page as well as LinkedIn.

PRESIDENT ELECT’S REPORT: JIM BARNES
Mr. Barnes reported that a meeting had been scheduled with Gulf Stream and South Florida to further the idea of combination of the Chapters to allow for a more active Chapter role. However, the meeting was cancelled and another meeting was being scheduled. Mr. Barnes also stated that he had met with FAU staff and they were interested and ready to participate in the FPZA.

Ms. Sinatra Gould informed the Board that she had been working to gather interest from various people in the area to join the Chapter Board and assist with the combination and increasing membership. They would report back on the meeting and outcome.

The State Board had held a conference call regarding the combination of the South Florida and Gulf Stream Chapters and it was a unanimous approval. It was suggested that the name be the South Florida Chapter.

Mr. Barnes said that he would be assuming the PDO duties and would be registering the State events. Ms. LaValley said she would coordinate with Mr. Barnes to get him registered to have the ability to enter credited events.

Ms. LaValley mentioned that the APA/FPZA CM maintenance needed to be renewed. President Stuart stated he had forwarded the renewal for payment.

VP MEMBERSHIP SERVICES REPORT: JOE QUINN
Mr. Quinn had no formal report however he did say he was assisting with the coordination of the membership drive.

Regarding the preparation of the upcoming budget, it was suggested that all line items be kept the same with the exception of merchandise. A discussion then took place as to what should be purchased and how many units. Ms. Sinatra Gould said she would come back to the Board with various options.

VP FINANCIAL AFFAIRS REPORT: SARAH SINATRA GOULD
Mr. Quinn said he was wrapping up the financials in order to hand them off to Ms. Sinatra Gould. He was specifically waiting for the September statement and needed to separate the renewals from conference registrations.

STUDENT OUTREACH
Mr. Camp said there would be a focus on FSU and also suggested the student membership information be included in the membership flyer and in the Overview. Mr. Camp said he would take the Chapter Director’s list and use that to reach out to planning schools in that area.

Mr. Roe would provide Jeff Brown’s contact information for FSU to assist with student outreach. Other names discussed were Dennis Smith, Mark Barnaby, and Jeremy Crute (contact information provided by Ms. Crespo).

2020 STATE CONFERENCE: SCOTT STUART
President Stuart informed the Board that conference planning was underway. He said that the conference would follow the same Wednesday to Friday timeframe as in recent years. He asked that a Save the Date be put in the Overview.
OLD BUSINESS
There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS
Review overall Administrative procedures/contracts (establish Committee) – No report as yet. Mr. Barnes has the current contract and is reaching out to various vendors for comparison pricing.

OVERVIEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR: BRANDEN ROE
Mr. Roe told the Board that the upcoming issue of the OVERVIEW would focus on membership. He also provided the deadline for submission of required items of Wednesday, October 30th, with a target date for distribution of November 12th. A cover story on Eco-Gardening was being provided by Ms. Miles. A social media announcement and Facebook link were being proposed. A Save the Date for the upcoming 2020 State Conference was being provided as well as a membership link. Sam Camp would be the member spotlight. The President’s Letter and the draft minutes were also due.

President Stuart would contact First Coast to get a sponsorship form for the conference.

2019 CONFERENCE RECAP: HELEN LAVALLEY
Ms. LaValley said that although the June State Conference financials were not finalized, there was a profit made. She said the Surfcoast Chapter would be paying back the seed money once reconciliation took place. Ms. LaValley also said that there was half of the profit that also got paid to the State and she would have the Chapter’s Treasurer, Becky Mendez, coordinate with Ms. Sinatra Gould and Ms. Simmons.

CHAPTER REPORTS
- Surfcoast reported that they held a luncheon in July on manufacturing and visiting the Kermit Key Lime Factory in DeLand. In September they held a Legislative Update luncheon. A National Park(ing) Day event was held on September 20th in New Smyrna Beach. A Coastal Cleanup was held on Saturday, September 21st. In October they held an Eco-Tour and the last event of the year would be the Awards Gala in December.
- Calusa hosted a session for the Bayshore/GateWay CRA Redevelopment Plan. They also hosted a law session. They were working on their Holiday Party and planning an Affordable Housing Panel for early next year.
- Springs said they were planning on hosting a Bike Trail session in conjunction with APA after the 1st of the year .
- Central Florida held the Regional Forum “Plantoberfest” the previous day and it was well received. The topic was the North Quarter Transportation Plan and the presentation was standing room only. They were planning their Holiday Social in conjunction with APA and CNU. They also were planning a spring event with UCF at the new campus with the topic being the “Creative Village.”
- Suncoast had no recent events to report, however said they would host the winter forum in late January.
- Gulfcoast although not in attendance had a meeting scheduled for the following Friday.

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS:
QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE
Winter: Jan/ 2020
Spring: “Creative Village” Orlando - Central Florida
Summer: State Conference - St. Augustine - First Coast

ADJOURN – With no further business, a motion was made by Ms. Sinatra Gould and seconded by Mr. Ashley, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:54 AM.
MEMBERSHIP IN FPZA
LOCAL CHAPTERS

DUES

To join the Florida Planning and Zoning Association, identify a chapter containing your location on the list at left. Refer to the current list of chapter dues below to determine the appropriate dues amount. These amounts include both state and local dues.

<table>
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<th>Chapter</th>
<th>State Dues</th>
<th>Local Chapter Dues</th>
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**Individual Membership Dues**

**Group Membership (Minimum Four Individuals)**

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**A Note About Agency Dues:**

The minimum number of individuals for a group is now four, but there is no longer a maximum number; you may add an unlimited number of additional people to your overall group. You now also have the option to pay a group rate for a combined group with members of different local chapters or for combinations of professional staff and board/commission members, rather than the previously separate categories.

To find out the chapter you will belong to, visit the [FPZA website](http://www.fpza.org).

Return your application form with payment to:

FPZA
Post Office Box 1443
Titusville, Florida 32781

For questions call (407) 508-7974 or email fpza@bellsouth.net