

Laurie Sheldon
662 Selva Lakes Circle
Atlantic Beach, Florida 32233

February 20, 2013

Steve Woodmannsee
FNPS President
8025 Southwest 102nd Avenue
Miami, Florida 33173-3937

Dear Steve,

It is with great enthusiasm and the support of the Ixia chapter Board of Directors that I am writing to nominate Ginny Stibolt for the Palmetto Award for Service. Here is my supporting rationale for this nomination:

Ginny moved to Florida from Maryland in 2004, and joined the Ixia chapter in 2006 after it had reorganized. A seasoned northern gardener, she began writing about the trials and tribulations that she encountered as a new Florida gardener in a blog entitled the [Transplanted Gardener](#). That got her headed down the garden writing path; she currently writes for the [F.N.P.S. blog](#) in addition to staying on top of her own blog called [Green Gardening Matters](#). She has also been a featured writer for the [Lawn Reform Coalition](#), [Floridata](#), and the [Native Plants & Wildlife Gardens](#) blog, and has used those venues to promote F.N.P.S. when appropriate.

Ginny has been working on the F.N.P.S. social media front (Facebook/Blog/Twitter) for at least two years now - a job which deserves an award itself, as it is incredibly time-consuming - TRUST ME.

She was also instrumental in helping Shirley Denton expand and update the new website. She proofread every page, verified every link, and edited EVERY plant in the database (added plant families, checked/amended/cleaned up descriptions, and inserted photos where needed). As Publicity Chair for this year's conference in Jacksonville, Ginny has taken it upon herself to make life much easier on whoever fills her shoes next year by writing up detailed instructions for working with the conference pages on the website.

After authoring two books about gardening in Florida ([Sustainable Gardening for Florida](#) and [Organic Methods for Vegetable Gardening in Florida](#), both published by the University Press of Florida), Ginny secured a contract for a third book: *The Art of Maintaining a Native Landscape*. She has already negotiated for half of her royalties to be donated to F.N.P.S.

When she's not behind the screen of a computer or experimenting in her own garden, Ginny can be found giving presentations to gardening groups and representing F.N.P.S. at events attended by a demographic of potential members.

Ginny Stibolt has contributed countless hours to F.N.P.S. and to advancing its mission. Her dedication warrants recognition, and the well-deserved honor of being nominated for and receiving the Palmetto Award for Service. I can only help with the first part of that equation. It is my hope that the B.O.D. will see it through. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Laurie E. Sheldon
F.N.P.S. Social Media Director
Ixia Chapter Newsletter Editor