

Folsom Native Plant Society

folsomnps.org

December 2013



Next Meeting Date: Sunday, December 15, 2013 at 1:00 p.m.

Karla Partridge's Home, 80070 Mae Fussell Road, Covington, LA 70435

From the south, you take Hwy. 190 north into Covington. At second red light past overpass turn right on Hwy 437 (Lee Road). Go 8 miles to an all-way stop at Hwy 40 and Lee Road. Turn Left. Head northwest on LA-40 W/LA-437 for 2.4 miles, then turn left onto Allison Rd 384 ft. Take the 1st left onto Mae Fussell Rd. The destination will be on the left

From the President's Corner

Salutations to All,

As the year draws to a close, we remember the contributions that were made to protect and preserve native plants. Despite some adversity early in the year, the FNPS has continued to spread the word about the positive effects native plants have on the environment. I commend each and every one of our members for the hard work that they have done this year.

I am stepping down from the presidency, but A.J. Bailey is picking up the gauntlet so the good works will continue. I need to devote more time to my writing and to maintaining the 9-acre habitat. New experiments in sustainability are in the planning stages and we should soon have some working models of hydroponics and alternate electricity on-hand. I will keep the club posted on our progress.

December is a good time to survey your landscape for invasive weeds such as Chinese privet, tallow tree, climbing fern and others. The shrubs and trees can be cut to a stump and the fresh cut painted with full strength herbicide. This cool, damp time of year is also a good time to transplant perennials, shrubs and trees.

Thanks to Kraig, Barbara and Kathy for forming a committee to help organize the spring plant show in March, 2014. A.J. and I appreciate the help with this daunting task.

Our December meeting will be held at Still Meadows, the home of Wade and Karla Partridge near Folsom. Karla's garden is beautiful all year long and you'll surely get many creative ideas about landscaping with native plants.

This will be our holiday celebration so please bring a yummy treat to share. We hope to see you there.

Yvonne L. Bordelon

Yellow Baptisia (*Baptisia sphaerocarpa*)



Baptisias are often called false lupines because they have blue, white or yellow lupine-like flowers; but unlike lupines, baptisias thrive in our heat and humidity. They are drought tolerant and long-lived once established.

They can be started from seed. Soak the seeds in hot tap water overnight and plant them in good seed starting soil from fall to early spring. Leave them outside to mimic nature and with a little luck you'll have seedlings in spring.



I have seeds if anyone is interested in trying to start some. Cultivars 'Screaming Yellow' and 'Carolina Moonlight' and Decadence 'Lemon Meringue' are available at online nurseries.

Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*)

Red maple (photo on right) blooms in late winter and is used as a nectar flower by wintering hummingbirds. The attractive red seeds develop before the leaves unfurl in early spring and are what provide the lovely color that we see. The seeds (photo next page) are eaten by wildlife.





2014 membership dues will soon need to be paid. Here's a handy form to help you.

**Folsom Native Plant Society
Membership Renewal / Application**

It's time to pay your FNPS dues. Please complete the following and return with your check for either \$18.00 per family (if you wish to receive the newsletter by regular mail) or \$12.00 per family (if you wish to receive it by e-mail). Special student rates are available: \$9.00 for the printed newsletter & \$6.00 for the email version.

Regular Membership
_____ \$18.00 Mail

Student School Name: _____
_____ \$9.00 Mail

_____ \$12.00 e-mail

_____ \$6.00 e-mail

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Mail to: Folsom Native Plant Society, P.O. Box 1055, Folsom, LA 70437

Folsom Native Plant Society Facebook Page –
<http://www.facebook.com/FolsomNativePlantSociety>

Statement of Purpose: The purpose of our group is to protect, perpetuate, and propagate the abundant native plants of St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana, and adjacent areas, focusing primarily on our native wildflowers, which are fast disappearing; and to discourage pollution of our water and ground so basic to their survival.

Our Board for 2014

President: A.J. Bailey
Vice President/Program Chairman: Kraig Stutes
Treasurer: David Scherer
Plant List Recorder: Yvonne Bordelon
Newsletter: Yvonne Bordelon yborde@aol.com
Publishers: Candyce & David Scherer
Hospitality Coordinator: Jenny Geesey
FNPS Website: (<http://folsommns.org>) Yvonne Bordelon

Dates to Remember

Dec. FNPS Meeting – Dec. 15, 1:00 p.m.
Place: Home of Karla Partridge

Jan. FNPS Meeting – Jan. 19, 2014 1:00 p.m.
(tentative) Place: Firehouse on Hwy 40



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P.O. Box 1055
Folsom, LA 70437