

# Folsom Native Plant Society

[folsomnps.org](http://folsomnps.org)

November/December 2014



Next Meeting Date: Sunday, November 30, 2014 at 1:00 p.m.

**At the home of A.J. Bailey**, 82517 Owen Sharp Rd, Bush, LA 70431

**Directions:** From the south, you take Hwy. 190 north to Hwy. 437. Turn right onto N. Lee Rd (Hwy 437) and continue for 7.2 miles. Turn right onto LA-40 E for 5.5 miles. Turn right on Owen Sharp Rd. Destination is first driveway on right.

## *From the President's Corner*

Hi Everyone,

This month we will be meeting at my house. The unexpected freezes caused a lot of leaves to drop so most of the trees and shrubs are bare and colorless. I will have hickory nuts to share at the meeting.

We will not be participating in the Spring garden show in March next year. Instead, we will take our display to the fall plant sale in Folsom and give away packages of wildflower seed to promote native plants. The club will be purchasing the wildflower seeds for distribution instead of tree seedlings.

Thanks to Walter and Carolyn for their hospitality last month. The yard looks great.

November 30th is the date for our next meeting. Feel free to bring holiday goodies if you desire.

Due to the busy schedules of the holiday season, we will not hold a meeting or send out a newsletter in December. We will resume meetings in January. Have a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving. AJ

*Photos: Top - American Beautyberry (Callicarpa americana) Bottom - Common checkered skipper butterfly on goldenrod (Solidago spp.).*



# Plants for Fall Color

By Yvonne L. Bordelon

Recently I attended an informative talk at the Abita Springs Library which was entitled **Color it Cool**, given by a team of Master Gardeners. Speakers were Martha Gruning, Deborah Nolan and Cindy Manger. Martha gave a delightful presentation on the following native plants which provide autumn interest.

## Trees

Swamp (Drummond) Maple (*Acer Rubrum*)  
Sumac (*Rhus coriaria*)  
Black Gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*)  
Parsley Hawthorn (*Crataegus marshallii*)

## Shrubs

Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*)  
American Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*)  
Yaupon (*Ilex vomitoria*)

## Wildflowers

Swamp Sunflower (*Helianthus angustifolius*)  
Mistflower (*Conoclinium coelestinum*)  
Wild Aster (*Asteraceae*)  
Goldenrod (*Solidago*)

The fact that most *Ilex* (holly) species are dioecious came up during the question and answer period. In fact, the fruit-bearing females of native varieties actually must have a male plant nearby in order to produce berries. If the female flowers are not pollinated with male pollen, then the tiny fruiting flowers will just drop off. To confuse the matter more, occasionally, when a native female *Ilex* is under stress, or last year's berries are still on the tree, fruit is not produced.

Some oriental species of holly, such as Burford, are parthenocarpic. Parthenocarpic females can produce fruit without pollination from a male tree. However, parthenocarpic berries are sterile and will not germinate.

The persimmon is another native fruit tree which is dioecious. Besides having delicious fall fruit, it also has colorful fall leaves.

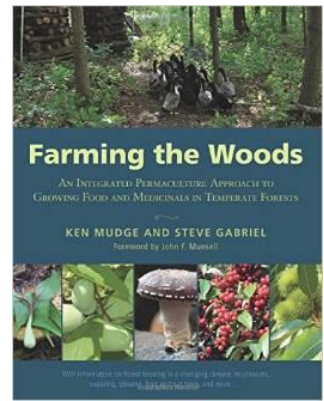
Another question came up about parsley hawthorns not producing fruit. Hawthorn (*Crataegus*) are monoecious (both male and female flowers are on the same tree), so I did some research and found that there are a few factors that may cause hawthorns and other fruiting plants not to bear fruit. Sometimes a spring freeze can damage the flowers and/or young fruit, or a summer drought can cause the fruit to drop off. Considering the extremely cold late winter/early spring weather last year, it is very possible that the flowers and young fruit of many trees and shrubs were killed or damaged.

For more information about native (and introduced) trees, shrubs and perennials which produce food for wildlife, check out the article, "Planting for Birds and Wildlife", that I wrote on Hubpages. The link is: [http://naturegirl7s.hubpages.com/hub/plants\\_birds\\_wildlife](http://naturegirl7s.hubpages.com/hub/plants_birds_wildlife)

# Book Corner

By Yvonne L. Bordelon

**Farming the Woods - An Integrated Permaculture Approach to Growing Food and Medicinals in Temperate Forests** by Ken Mudge and Steve Gabriel. Chelsea Green Publishing: 2014. ISBN 978-1-60358-507-1 (pbk.)



Anyone who is interested in edible native plants or sustainable landscaping will find this wonderful new book a great how-to reference. The author manages and farms his forest land to produce and harvest such edibles as fruit, nuts, mushrooms, tree syrups, and culinary and medicinal herbs. The step-by-step methods are laid out in well organized chapters. My favorite chapters are "Food From the Forest: Fruits, Nuts, and More", "Forest Cultivation of Mushrooms", and "Forest Medicinals".

The authors write:

"For many in the modern world the forest is a place to recreate, which means visiting for a time before returning to "town" or to the places we call home. Yet as we spend time grafting trees, moving mushroom logs, and sharing forest farming with students and youth we realize that the forest is a home, too. Students in our forest farming class look forward to the weekly sessions when we meet in our classroom--the woods--and learn ideas and skills.... With increasing inequality, the collapse of ecosystems around the world, and the uncertain effects of climate change, there is not a better time to consider farming the woods." YLB

## Folsom Native Plant Society MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL APPLICATION

It's time to pay your FNPS dues. Please complete the following and return with your check.

There are two types of membership, family and student. You will receive the FNPS Newsletter by one of two methods, email and snail mail.

<u>Type Membership</u>	<u>Newsletter</u>	<u>Dues</u>	<u>Check One</u>
Family	Mail	\$18.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Email	12.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student	Mail	\$ 9.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Email	6.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Send 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 [yborde72@gmail.com](mailto:yborde72@gmail.com)  
**Publishers:** Candyce & David Scherer  
**Hospitality Coordinator:** Jenny Geesey  
**FNPS Website:** (<http://folsomnps.org>) Yvonne Bordelon

**Dates to Remember**

**2014 Meetings:**

November 30 – A.J. Bailey near Bush  
December – Cancelled, No Newsletter  
January TBA – Firehouse near AJ  
February TBA –  
March – TBA  
April 19 – Yvonne Bordelon near Covington  
May 17 - TBA

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