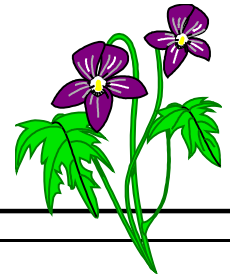


# Folsom Native Plant Society

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

April, 2007



## **Next Meeting Date: Sunday, April 15, 2007, 1:00 p.m.**

Temae still has a family emergency so she will be unable to host the April meeting. Please bring native plants and seeds to swap and share. It would be very helpful for the newsletter editors if you would jot down the names of the plants and/or seeds (common names are fine) and give the list to Al, Yvonne or A.J. Also bring a pot luck dish.

**Meeting Place - at the home of John Larkin - 86419 Mockingbird Hill Road (north of Folsom) - phone number: 796-5597**  
- Directions: From Folsom, head north on Hwy. 25 for 4 ½ miles (start your odometer at the old stoplight by the Texaco.) You'll pass Jenkins Lumber. Turn left on Mocking Bird Hill Road (if you cross the little bridge on Hwy 25, you've missed the turn.) Drive on Mocking Bird Hill Road for 4/10 of a mile, past the Blackwell Cemetery. John's house is on the left.

## **From the President's Corner**

Salutations to All,

With the beautiful spring weather beckoning us to go outside, it was extremely difficult to resist, but resist we did (somewhat) and we worked long and hard to complete this newsletter.

I am happy to report that our booth at the Northshore Plant Show was a big hit. We would like to thank all of the members who donated plants and the volunteers who spent long hours spreading the word about native plants. A special thanks goes out to David S. and John who came back at closing and with Carrie helped with packing and transporting everything. We gave away over 100 native plants and trees and as a result we now have 23 additional members, most are new, but some are returnees. However, I must sadly report that we have lost another of our founding members, Lois Gagliano, who died on March 24. She will be missed by all who knew her. With her passing goes an abundance of gardening and native plant knowledge. It is pertinent that we, the FNPS, share our knowledge with the next generation.

I encourage our seasoned members to take 1 or 2 of our newer members under their wing and I hope that both old and new members will reach out to the children of St. Tammany to teach them about the wonders of nature and the environment. Folsom Elementary is beginning to develop a nature trail in a wooded area behind the school. Here is an opportunity to educate future naturalists and it's right on our doorstep. Al and I will be representing the FNPS at the Folsom Elementary Earth Day Assembly and we hope that other members will follow our example. The children really are our future. Let's all help them learn to be Green.

Our next meeting will feature a native plant and seed swap. Bring your extra native plants and seeds to share and swap with other club members. Also, please jot down the names of the plants you bring (common names will be fine) and give the list to Al, Yvonne or A.J. This will help greatly with publishing the list in the newsletter. We hope to see all of you at John's house on Sunday, April 15 at 1:00 with a smile on your face and plants or seeds in your hands.

April is the month for blooming flowers here in Southeastern Louisiana. Some of our favorites include the native irises (*Iris fulva*, *I. virginica*, *I. brevicaulis*), Blue-eyed Grass (*Sisyrinchium capillare*), Obedient Plant (*Physostegia virginiana*), Indian Pink (*Spigelia marilandica*), Spiderwort (*Tradescantia virginiana*), White Spider Lily (*Hymenocallis caroliniana*) and Self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris*).

*Yvonne Bordelon*

***A society grows great when old men plant trees  
whose shade they know they shall never sit in.***

*Greek Proverb*

### **Tree Facts: Trees Enhance Economic Development**

- ♦ Mature trees increase property values as much as 20%.
- ♦ Quality of life and environment are key elements in rating sites for headquarters and research and development facilities.
- ♦ Trees in shopping areas improve business – University of Washington studies indicate that customers will pay 12% more in shopping areas with trees

### **Tree Planting at Folsom Elementary**

**By AI Bordelon**

Earlier in March, Catherine Bell, of Folsom Elementary, gave us a tour of the yard and nature trail which is in the process of being developed. This was excellent timing for our donation of one native live oak and one native red mulberry. Then, on March 29, Yvonne & I, along with a lot of help from Ms. Ollie McGillivray's first grade class, planted the live oak along the school fence and the red mulberry along the school's nature trail. The first graders have willingly accepted the responsibility of caring for the trees. A class lesson is planned for later this Spring and Ms. Ollie has invited us to speak at the Folsom Elementary Earth Day Celebration during the week of April 16-20. The FNPS wants to personally thank the staff and students of Folsom Elementary for allowing our planting in memory of Muriel Larkin and special thanks goes to Sparkman Wyatt for making the initial contact to get the ball rolling.

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## **April Native Blooms**

*Acer drummondii*, [Swamp Red Maple \(seeds\)](#)

[Arisaema triphyllum](#), Jack-in-the-pulpit

*Bidens aristosa*, **Sticktight**

*Bidens pilosa*, **Shepherd's Needle**

*Bignonia capreolata*, Crossvine

*Coreopsis lanceolata*, Tickseed Coreopsis

*Cornus florida*, Flowering Dogwood

[Chaptalia tomentosa](#), **Sunbonnet**

*Clematis crispa*, Leather-flower, Clematis

*Chionanthus virginica*, Fringetree

*Erigeron philadelphicus*, Daisy Fleabane

*Gelsemium sempervirens*, **Carolina Jessamine**

*Hymenocallis caroliniana*, [H. occidentalis](#), Spider-lily

*Ilex decidua*, **Deciduous Holly** (flowers)

*I. opaca*, **American Holly** (flowers)

*I. vomitoria*, **Yaupon Holly** (flowers)

*Illicium floridanum*, **Florida Anise**

*Iris brevicaulis* (zig-zag-stemmed), [I. fulva](#) (**Copper-colored**), *I. giganticaerulea* (Giant-blue), [Iris virginica](#) ,

**Southern Blue Flag**

*Liriodendron tulipifera*, **Tulip Poplar**

[Lonicera sempervirens](#), **Coral Honeysuckle**

*Mitchella repens*, Patridge Berry

*Nymphaea odorata*, Water Lily, white

*Sarracenia alata*, Yellow Pitcher-plant

*Prunella vulgaris*, Self-heal

*Oxallis rubra*, *O. violacea* **Violet Wood Sorrel**, *O. stricta*  
**Yellow Wood Sorrel**

*Penstemon tenuis*, **Sharpsepal Beardtongue & other**  
*Penstemon* spp.

*Phlox divaricata*, **Blue Phlox**

*Ranunculus fascicularis*, **Early Buttercup**

**Native Honeysuckle Azalea**, [R. austrinum](#) , **Flame**  
**Azalea**

*Salvia lyrata* , **Lyre-leaved Sage**

[Sassafras albidum](#)

*Senecio glabellus*, **Yellow Top**

*Sisyrinchium atlanticum*, *S. capillare*, Blue eyed grass

[Spigelia marilandica](#), Indian Pink

*Stachys floridana*, Tuberous Hedge-nettle (invasive)

*Stokesia laevis*, Stokes' Aster

*Taraxacum officinale*, **Dandelion**

*Taxodium distichum*, **Bald Cypress**

*Tradescantia Virginia*, Spiderwort

[Trillium foetidissimum](#), **Mississippi Wake-robin (Red**  
**Trillium)**

*Triodanis perfoliata*, Venus' Looking-glass

*Viola primulifolia*, **White Violet**; *V. rosacea*,

**Lavender/Purple Violet**, [V. palmata](#), **Early Blue**  
**Violet**

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## Native Plant Propagation Tips - Part 5

**Propagating Plants from Cuttings** – John urges all members to relate their positive experiences with starting native plants from cuttings. Here are a few from the meeting:

John: Couldn't many of these plants be started from root cuttings?

Jim: Many have shallow roots & can be root-pruned, marked and left in the ground for a few months then dug up when new roots have formed. Good markers are surveyor's or electrician tape, or those little markers for pipelines.

*Euonymus Americana* **Heart's-a-Burstin** is propagated by cuttings using a clear bottle to cover.

**Arrow-wood**, *Viburnum dentatum* – grows well from cuttings using milk bottle cover to maintain moisture.

Mary Ann has started Florida Anise (*Illicium floridanum*) successfully from cuttings.

The red mulberry cuttings that John rooted in rain water are doing well at Olga & Walter's house.

The white, spider lilies (*Hymenocallis*) are blooming so don't forget to watch for the large seeds that follow. All you have to do is put them into some moist soil and you'll have little plants in a few weeks.

## A Bounty of Book Recommendations

Jim Russell:

Ornamental Plants for the Southeast, by Odenwald and others (has sedge)

Gardening with Native Plants of the South, by Sally Wasowski – Is it really necessary to freeze treat things here in the SE? You should try to get local plants that are already acclimated to our climate.

Native Gardening in the South, by Bill Fontenot, Prairie Basse nursery in Carencro

Seedheads in the Garden, by Noel Kingsbury, Timber Press

Ornamental Grasses for the Southeast, by Peter Loewer – Includes, How to build your own sedge lawn and talks about a lot of natives & has many varieties of switch grass.

East Gulf Coastal Plains Wildflowers, by Gil Nelson, scientist and author. Best book he's seen for this strip. It even has hairy bittercrest.

Does not recommend All About LA Wildflowers, by Midgley. It has too many uncommon plants that grow in GA and it does not have LA *Iris fulva* or any of the blue LA iris.

Marion:

LA Trees by the Cooperative Extension (free from the AgCenter)

Meadowmakers Catalog by Marc Pastorek

Yvonne & Al:

Field Guide to Native Oak Species of Eastern North America, by J. Stein, D. Binion and R. Acclavatti. January, 2003

American Wildlife and Plants A Guide to Wildlife Food Habits, by Alexander C. Martin, Herbert S. Zim and Arnold L. Nelson.

John:

The Louisiana Iris, by Marie Caellet and Mertzweiller, 1988.

Society for Louisiana Irises 1941-1991

Louisiana Native Iris Booklet, by the Cooperative Extension Service – It is probably out of print, but several members have copies that could be duplicated.

## March Meeting Highlights

The meeting was called to order and John read the purpose. Our new members introduced themselves and were welcomed into the club. The answer to the Door Prize Question was Bluets (*Houstonia*). Dr. Charles Allen says that the new Latin name is *Hedyotis*. There were 2 winners because Jim brought a nice Silverbell (*Halesia diptera*) to be given as an additional door prize. Having no room to plant it, Laura Morgan turned down the Silverbell, so the 2 prize winners were Linda Beall and Gerry Eberling.

Sparkman Wyatt contacted Cathey Bell, of Folsom Elementary School and the principal loves the idea of planting a tree in Muriel's honor. Mary Ann and Al & Yvonne will visit the school to tour the nature trail in the next couple of weeks. Other members will contact sign and plaque shops to find an appropriate marker for the tree. Jim donated a Green Ash, Arrow-wood *Viburnum* and Hearts-a-Burstin' for the school nature trail.

Plans for the booth at the Northshore Plant show were reviewed and we have enough volunteers for both days of the show. We also have 90+ trees and about 55-60 native plants to give out at the show.

We are still trying to line up a speaker for the May meeting.

John urged members to give their input about plants that they have successfully propagated from cuttings. Yvonne & Jim discussed the plants that are listed below.

## March Plants that were discussed:

Yvonne & Al's contribution included many of the plants that bloom in March:

*Acer drummondii*, [Swamp Red Maple \(seeds\)](#)

[Amelanchier aborea](#), **Service Berry**

*Cercis canaensis*, **Redbud**

[Chaptalia tomentosa](#), **Sunbonnet**

Hawthornes - *Crataegus opaca* & *C. aestivalis*,

**Mayhaw**, *C. marshallii*, **Parsley Hawthorne**, *C.*

*viridis*, **Green Hawthorne**

*Gelsemium sempervirens*, **Carolina Jessamine**

[Houstonia patens](#), *H. caerulea*, **Bluets**

*Illicium floridanum*, **Florida Anise**

*Oxalis rubra*, *O. stricta* **Yellow Wood Sorrel**

*Prunus angustifolia*, **Chickasaw Plum**

*Pyrus angustifolia*, Southern Crabapple

*Rhododendron canescens*, **Native Honeysuckle**

**Azalea**, [R. austrinum](#), **Flame Azalea**

[Vaccinium spp.](#), **Huckleberry / Wild Blueberry**

*Viola primulifolia*, **White Violet**; *V. rosacea*,

**Lavender/Purple Violet**, [V. palmata](#), **Early**

**Blue Violet**

**Jim's Plants** featured plants with interesting seed heads and winter color:

*Euonymus Americana* **Heart's-a-Burstin** –

propagate by cuttings using clear bottle to cover, filtered sun. Interesting red seed pods, Good fall color

**Elliot's Huckleberry** has good fall color

Sedge, **Carix flacaspermum** – Woodland Plant, when happy it turns bluish-green.

"Sedges have edges, rushes are round and grasses are hollow like a hole in the ground"

**Vernal Witch Hazel** – "pretty one" with coral flowers (not winter blooming) that's in Wasowski's book

**Native Ash**, possibly green ash or pumpkin ash, grows in flood plains, found between Charity Hospital & the Superdome, grows in high shade. Many seedlings near the Superdome on corner of Poydras.

**Arrow wood**, *Viburnum dentatum* – once used for arrows & is also used in cancer treatment

**Monarda** *didyma* or *fistulosa*

**Florida Anise**, *Illicium florida* – and also the yellow flowering from Florida – propagate from root cuttings

**Pine Woods Hibiscus** seed pod – common in longleaf pine savannah

**Red Mulberry**, – native, beginning to flower, deer eat, White mulberry & black were brought in from China for the silk worm trade

**Small Leaf Titi** seeds

Mountain Mints, **Pycnanthemum incanum** will spread readily, flowers and bracts turn white & are prettier.

**Inland Sea Oats**,

**Sacrum gigantium** – 1<sup>st</sup> cousin to sugar cane, wet. Giant, fluffy seed head

Lower growing nice ground cover, grasses

**Andropogon** spp. 2 – 3 spp. –

Various Grasses, Broom Sedge

**Native mint**, *Hypoxis* relative

**Cardinal Flower**, *Lobelia cardinalis* seed head

**Donations for the Spring Show Booth:**

Walter & Olga brought Nuttall Oaks, Quercus nuttallii to share with club members and for the booth.

Hazel Sinclair – Water Oaks and White Oaks

Velma Signorelli – Various trees and shrubs

Al & Yvonne – Various perennials, seeds and trees  
John Larkin – Longleaf Pines, Bald Cypress and Mayhaw trees

Margaret Hebert – various perennials

Temae Theriot & Ben Watson – various trees

**Guess the Mystery Plant and your name will go into the Door Prize Drawing.**



This native perennial is very eye catching with its red and yellow flowers. Hummingbirds relish its nectar. The roots were once harvested and sold as a treatment for intestinal parasites and this practice almost caused its demise. It is widespread in moist woods and makes a fine garden plant. It is in the Logania family. If you know the answer, write the name of the plant and your name on a slip of paper at the April meeting to be eligible for the door prize drawing.

**Membership Renewal Information**

Dues for 2007 were due in January, 2007. If you get a printed copy, Postal Service newsletter, check your address label or, if you get an email version, check the number after your last name in the To: box. If you see 06, your membership is paid through December, 2006. If you see 07, you're paid through 12/2007. If you see 05 you are way behind & need to send in the form below ASAP.

**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 Statement of Purpose:**

The purpose of our group is to protect, perpetuate, and propagate the abundant native plants of Northwest 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 2007**

**President Emeritus:** John Larkin

**President:** Yvonne Bordelon

**Treasurer:** David Scherer

**Recording Committee Chairman:** A.J. Bailey

**Newsletter:** Al & Yvonne Bordelon

[ylbordelon@bellsouth.net](mailto:ylbordelon@bellsouth.net)

**Hospitality Coordinator:** Candyce Scherer

**New Member Mentor:** Temae Theriot

**FNSP Website:** ( <http://folsomnps.org> ) Emily

Canter & Yvonne Bordelon

## **Dates to Remember**

April 20, 2007, 5:00-7:00 p.m. – **Gardeners Night Out:** Hammond Research Station, “My Favorite Plants”, Speaker: **Dr. Neil Odenwald**, free to the public

April 30, 2007, 6:00 p.m. – Covington Branch Library – **Perennials for Louisiana Landscapes presented by Dan Gill**, free but registration is required call 985-893-6280

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

Please note:

Next Meeting:

Sunday, April 15, 2007

1:00 P.M

At the Home of John Larkin