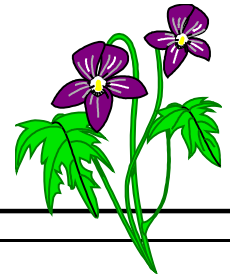


# Folsom Native Plant Society

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

March, 2008



## **Next Meeting Date: Sunday, March 30, 2008 at 1:00 p.m.**

We will have a plant swap so bring native plants and seeds that you'd like to trade or share and a pot luck dish.

***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 2nd Folsom stoplight.) You will 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*

## **The FNPS' Next Public Appearance will be at the Northshore Garden Show on March 15-16, 2008.**

*Get those native plant seeds in pots and survey your yard for natives that can be divided and shared.*

*We will need at least 75 native plants and we should have about 200 native trees for our booth.*

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

Salutations to All,

Spring has sprung in South Louisiana. Even though a few winter nights sneaked in lately, the native flowers, which are adapted to these ups and downs, are doing fine. We look forward to a bumper crop of wild blueberries (Huckleberries), Mayhaws and wild Plums as most of our mature trees and shrubs are in full bloom. It's still not too late to plant trees and shrubs. Al and I planted about 50 native trees during the past month and most are already leafing out.

Don't forget about the 2 day **Northshore Plant Show at the Covington Fair Grounds** on March 15-16. The FNPS will have an educational booth again this year where we will give away free information and native plants. We still have a couple of volunteer slots that need filling so give Yvonne and Al a call or email if you can help. We always have a great time sharing our knowledge about native plants with the public and usually recruit some great new members, so come give us a hand. We have plenty of trees, but we could use some perennials to give away. We'll be setting up Friday afternoon (3-14-08) at 2:00 p.m. so you can drop them off then or on Saturday morning.

The Northlake Nature Center project wildflowers are growing well and some of the annuals are even beginning to bloom. Rod's tree / shrub project behind the wildflower garden is taking shape, too. We'll probably have one more work day before the April 11-13 Birdfest to label things, fill in any holes in the planting and to mulch around the seeded plants. I want to thank all of our members who have volunteered their valuable time, energy and expertise to complete these projects that will help to spread the word about the beauty and value of native plants. Now, more than ever, as gasoline and water prices soar, Americans need to become aware of the benefits of using natives in a sustainable garden. Happy Spring and Happy Planting! Go-o-o Natives!

*Yvonne Bordelon*

I am not a lover of lawns. Rather would I see daisies in their thousands, ground ivy, hawkweed, and even the hated plantain with tall stems, and dandelions with splendid flowers and fairy down, than the too-well-tended lawn. ~W.H. Hudson, *The Book of a Naturalist*, 1919

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## March Native Blooms

*Acer drummondii*, [Swamp Red Maple \(seeds\)](#)  
[Amelanchier aborea](#), Service Berry  
*Bidens aristosa*, Sticktight  
*Bidens pilosa*, Shepherd's Needle  
*Cercis canaensis*, Redbud  
[Chaptalia tomentosa](#), Sunbonnet  
*Cornus florida*, Flowering Dogwood  
Hawthornes - *Crataegus opaca* & *C. aestivalis*,  
Mayhaw, *C. marshallii*, Parsley Hawthorne  
*Gelsemium sempervirens*, Carolina  
Jessamine  
[Houstonia patens](#), *H. caerulea*, Bluets  
*Ilex decidua*, Deciduous Holly (berries)  
*I. opaca*, American Holly (berries)  
*I. vomitoria*, Yaupon Holly (berries)  
*Illicium floridanum*, Florida Anise  
[Iris virginica](#), Southern Blue Flag  
*Lamium amplexicaule*, Henbit  
*Lirodendron tulipifera*, Tulip Poplar  
*Lonicera sempervirens*, Coral Honeysuckle

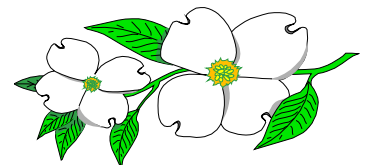
*Oxalis rubra*, *O. violacea* Violet Wood Sorrel,  
*O. stricta* Yellow Wood Sorrel  
*Phlox divaricata*, Blue Phlox  
*Prunus angustifolia*, Chickasaw Plum  
*Pyrus angustifolia*, Southern Crabapple  
*Ranunculus fascicularis*, Early Buttercup  
*Rhododendron canescens*, Native  
Honeysuckle Azalea, [R. austrinum](#), Flame  
Azalea  
*Salvia lyrata*, Lyre-leaved Sage  
[Sassafras albidum](#)  
*Senecio glabellus*, Yellow Top  
*Taraxacum officinale*, Dandelion  
*Taxodium distichum*, Bald Cypress  
[Trillium foetidissimum](#), Mississippi Wake-  
robin (Red Trillium)  
[Vaccinium spp.](#), Huckleberry / Wild Blueberry  
*Viola primulifolia*, White Violet; *V. rosacea*,  
Lavender/Purple Violet, [V. palmata](#), Early  
Blue Violet

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## The Latin Quarter

More word games to exercise the brain and keep the mind sharp. Some of the names refer to the plant's growth habit and/or flavor rather than descriptive aspects. The botanical names *albi*, *florida* and *stricta* are used in other botanical plant names. See if you can guess the common names by reading the meaning of the botanical names below. The answers (the common names) can be found on page 4.

1. **Phlox** = a flame – the Greek name for some plants with flame colored flowers. **divaricata** = Spreading; growing in a straggling manner.
2. **Cornus** = the Latin name for Cornelian Cherry (Dogwood or Cornel, Bunchberry) **florida** = of Florida
3. **Sassafras** = Spanish sasafrás, from Late Latin saxifragia, *kind of herb*. **albidum** = "albi" in compound words signifies white.
4. **Oxalis** = from the German oxys meaning acid, sour, sharp – wood-sorrel. **stricta** = Erect, upright



## February Meeting Highlights

by Al Bordelon

After John read our purpose, we welcomed four new members; Barbara Hargrove from Abita Springs; Don Hames, a Master Gardener, from Folsom and Kevin & Peg Janick from Bush.

The answer to our mystery plant question was Mayhaw, *Crataegus opaca*, which Barbara Hargrove identified correctly. She was the winner of our door prize which was a beautiful rose.



A progress report was given on our wildlife garden project at the Northshore Nature Center. Members selected Feb 23rd at 10:30 to meet at the nature center to complete the garden. Rod stated he would also be there to plant trees at the center. The photograph of the initial planning session shows some of the FNPS, Master Gardener and Northlake Nature Center members who are involved in the cooperative project.

The **Northshore Garden Show**, which is on March 15th & 16th, was discussed and a schedule was filled in by members who will work two hour shifts. David S. and Don agreed to meet on the Friday before the show to help Al unload and set up our booth at the fairgrounds.

### Future Native Plant Related Functions:

Feb 19th & 20th, SLU offers a presentation on Storm Water Management.

Mar 8th Felder Rushing, an author, will give a presentation on native plants at the Mandeville Trailhead on Giraud Street.

Our next meeting will be March 30th and we will have a plant swap.

Apr 11th, 12th & 13th, David Campbell's and Yvonne & Al's houses will be on the tour of this year's Northlake Nature Center Birdfest. Rod will give a "Walk Through the Woods" presentation at the Center.

Rod will give a talk at the Madisonville Garden Club Show in the near future.

Rod also found a rare native plant, *Ilex myrtifolia* (Myrtle Holly) and refuses to tell any member of its location because it is on private property and it needs to be protected. However, he shared identification information with the club, comparing it to the well known *Ilex vomitoria*, Yaupon Holly as to its form and leaf shape. Other hollies mentioned were *Ilex cassine* (Dahoon Holly) and *Ilex coriacea* (Large Gallberry).

David C. brought Holly and Jim brought a whole bag full of native plant seeds. Jim also asked for help in relocating his bog plants on a date yet to be determined.

Yvonne brought cuttings of wild blueberry (*Vaccinium ellotii*), Dwarf smilax and yellow eyed grass. Don and Rod will research how to propagate rare plants like hollies & native azaleas.

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## Attracting Butterflies to the Garden with Native Plants

By Yvonne Bordelon

Beautiful flowers planted in large groups will attract butterflies to your garden, but they are not enough to keep them there. The most important plants in a butterfly garden are those “weeds”, herbs, shrubs and trees that provide food for butterfly larvae. Most plants that are used by butterfly larvae and other insects are native to the United States. Many scientists believe that the increase in alien (imported) plants directly affects the decline of insects because most of the alien plants can not be eaten by these insects. This, in turn, affects the number of birds that an area can support; when the insects leave or die out, the birds move to another area where insects are prevalent.



Planting native perennials, shrubs and trees will have many positive effects on your yard. In addition to providing food for beautiful butterflies, natives will improve the soil, help conserve water, alleviate flooding, save money and decrease pollution. If you are concerned about the holes that the larvae make in the leaves, then hide the host plants away in a back corner. As with other wildlife gardening, pesticides are prohibited. Sunny areas with rocks for warming on cool mornings, boggy areas for puddling and shelter from winds will also be appreciated by the butterflies.

Here are some butterflies common to our area and some of their larval food plants.

- Fritillaries
  - Gulf Fritillary – Passion Vines (including the wild tiny yellow flowered *Passiflora lutea* L.)
  - Variegated Fritillary – Passion vine, flax and viola family
- Question Mark and Eastern Comma – Hops, nettles, elms & hackberries
- Mourning Cloak – Willows, cottonwoods, elms, birches & hackberries
- Red Admiral – Nettles and false nettles
- Painted Lady – Thistle and mallows
- Common Buckeye – Plantains, snapdragons and False Foxglove
- Red Spotted Purple – Willows, cottonwoods and poplars
- Viceroy – Willows
- Emperors and Snouts – Hackberries
- Monarch and Queen – Milkweeds
- Swallowtails
  - Eastern Tiger – Sweet bay and cherry
  - Pipevine – Pipevines
  - Spicebush – Spicebush, sassafras & other laurels
  - Black – Parsley family (dill, fennel, carrots, etc.)
  - Palamedes – Red bay & other laurels
  - Giant – Citrus, wild lime & other citrus relatives
  - Zebra – Paw Paw
- Sulphurs
  - Cloudless Sulphur, Little Yellow, Sleepy Orange – Senna (Cassia family)
  - Southern Dogface & Clouded Sulphur – Indigo Bush, clovers & other legumes
- Satyrs, Wood-Nymphs, Browns & Pearly – Grasses
- Skippers
  - Silver-spotted – Locusts, wisteria & legumes

### Answers to Latin Quarter

1. *Phlox divaricata* – Blue Phlox
2. *Cornus florida* – Flowering Dogwood
3. *Sassafras albidum* – Sassafras
4. *Oxalis stricta* – Yellow Oxalis

- Long-Tailed & Cloudy wings – Legumes, especially beans
- Common Checkered Skipper – Mallow Family
- Grass Skippers (Fiery Skipper & others) – Bermuda grass & other grasses
- Brazilian – Cannas

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

This sprawling, herbaceous perennial grows in clumps in well-drained, deciduous, mixed woods. Erect, flattish clusters of blue to lavender, pinkish or nearly white flowers bloom from late March to May. If you know the answer, write the name of the plant and your name on a slip of paper at the March meeting to be eligible for the door prize drawing.

**Membership Renewal Information**

New members who joined from September to December 2007, are paid up for 2008. For everyone else, the 2008 renewals were due in January.

**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 2008**

**President Emeritus:** John Larkin

**President:** Yvonne Bordelon

**Program Chairman:** Rod Downie

**Treasurer:** David Scherer

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

**Business Recorder:** Al Bordelon

**Newsletter:** Al & Yvonne Bordelon

[ybordelon@bellsouth.net](mailto:ybordelon@bellsouth.net) **Publishers:** Candyce & David Scherer

**Hospitality Coordinator:** Candyce Scherer

**New Member Mentor:** Temae Theriot

**FNPS Website:** (<http://folsomnps.org>) Emily Canter & Yvonne Bordelon

## **Dates to Remember**

March 15-16, 2008 – Booth at the Northshore Garden Show – We need a few more volunteers.

Sunday, March 30, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. at John's – FNPS Meeting – Plant Swap

March 29-30, 2008 - Baton Rouge Spring Garden Show. LNPS will have a booth. ([www.lnps.org](http://www.lnps.org)) or [>> MORE INFO](#)

April 10-13, 2008 - 18th annual BBB to be held in the Fort Polk area. Contact Charles Allen ([www.lnps.org](http://www.lnps.org))

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

Please note:

Next Meeting:

Sunday, March 30, 2008

1:00 P.M

At John Larkin's House