Louisiana Native Plant Society

LNPS News

Volume 19, Issues 2 & 3 Summer/Fall 2001

Dale Thomas Receives Award

At the annual meeting of the Association of Southeastern Biologists in New Orleans in April 2001, the Southern Appalachian Botanical Society gave Dr. R. Dale Thomas the Elizabeth Bartholomew Award in recognition of his lifetime contributions to the study of botany. This was based on his publications, graduate students, professional contacts, and his building of the herbarium at the University of Louisiana at Monroe. Dr. Thomas was to be there to receive it but that weekend but had to go to Tennessee for his nephew's funeral. (Pat Cox, a former student of his, who is now teacher at the University of Tennessee accepted it for him and gave him the plaque at the Great Smoky Mountains Wildflower Pilgrimage).

Dr. Thomas built the herbarium at ULM from 250 mounted specimens in 1966 to the current number of over 431,000. He has personally collected over 172,000 specimens along with several hundred thousands of duplicates Specimens have been deposited in or exchanged with over 175 different herbaria from throughout the world. He has had over 40 graduate students, many of whom have gone on to get a PhD. in botany. Most did parish surveys of plants. Two current ones are surveying Arkansas counties and two previous ones did two other Arkansas counties. He has supplied live plant material for research for numerous botanists. At one time there were five graduate students from other schools who came to then NLU in particular to study field botany with Dr. Thomas. All five of these are employed as botanists, with three holding PhD's.

Through his work in the herbarium, he has become known all over the world, both in and out of the botanical field. Back when NLU's

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Inside this issue:

Missing Your Summer Newsletter?

Several members noted that they did not receive a summer LNPS News. That is because it was not published. Summer began with the crash of a new hard drive, death of a pet, and spiraled downward from there through critical illnesses and several deaths of persons close to us. Someone commented to me recently that they had not seen us in a while. I replied that it was probably a good thing, since that meant they hadn't been around hospitals and funeral homes lately. We regret that we had to let some things slide to keep up with the critical. This issue is late, as we are still catching up. The long awaited directory was a hard drive casualty, and will have to be re-done.

From the president.....*Dr. R. Dale Thomas*

I have spent the last month going through a career of collections of reprints, plant lists, journal articles, etc. and trying to decide which ones to discard and which ones to keep. In the process, I came across two things that rekindled some of my concerns about the wildflowers of Louisiana. I read again a lot of things of the original ideas behind the LOUISIANA PROJECT WILDFLOWER. As a charter member of this now defunct group, I can't help but think that a good idea was allowed to die due to lack of continuation of the enthusiasm exemplified by our state-wide meeting in Lafayette. One of the ideas behind the organization was that we should emphasize roadside wildflowers that are native to the various areas of the state. Seeds were sown in various areas but most of the seeds used were of plants not native to that particular part of the state. Roadside wildflowers in Baton Rouge or in Vidalia are not supposed to look like those in Winn Parish. I suppose there are some places where *Coreopsis* and possibly *Ratibida* remain from these plantings. Texas has demonstrated how roadside flowers can be established and how these attract tourists. We could have and can still learn from their example. I think that one of the things that has quieted public response is the idea propagated by various highway departments (TN, MS, AL, GA, VA, etc.) that one can disk up a small plot along highways and plant it in various non-native, showy plants (crimson clover, daisies, cosmos, poppies, petunias, etc.) and by so doing preserve roadside wildflowers. The roadside vegetation in any part of USA should reflect the native flora of that region. Roadsides provide excellent places for perennials to flourish because of the bright sunlight and occasional disturbances. Perennial native plants can survive and flourish under conditions where mowing is the method of vegetation management. Mowing after seed maturity still allows for the control of woody plant invaders. Herbiciding, regardless to type and time of application, damages or destroys native wildflowers. Johnson grass, dallisgrass, bermudagrass, bahiagrass, etc. are non-native invasive species and should be discouraged or eliminated from our roadsides. We have many native taxa that would prevent erosion. However, as long as the general public thinks that roadsides should look like strips of mown lawns, we will have fewer and fewer wildflowers.

I began driving Louisiana's highways and byways in September, 1966. It is my opinion, based on observing, photographing, and collecting and cataloging the plants throughout the state, the vari-

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Check your mailing label. If the number above your name is highlighted, your dues are due with this issue. Please send your dues to Jackie Duncan, 114 Harpers Ferry Road, Boyce, LA 71409-9716. DO NOT SEND DUES TO THE NEWSLETTER ADDRESS!!! Remember to send your change of address. The newsletter is sent bulk mail, and will not be forwarded.

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It would be worthwhile having a cultivated garden if only to see what Autumn does to it.

ALFRED AUSTIN
The Garden That I Love (1894)

ety and numbers of wildflowers along our roadways continue to decline. I doubt if there are 10% as many flowers in June, 2001 along roads out of Monroe–I-20 to Shreveport, US 165 to Alexandria or to Bastrop, LA 34 to Winnfield, etc.–as were present in June of 1967. The changes are even more noticeable in April and September. I have spent 34 years teaching plant identification to Louisiana students. Much of our field work has been done in clear-cut woods. Clear-cuts were once ideal places for observation of our native perennial wildflowers. When clear-cuts are herbicided in the preparation for the planting of pines, the perennial wildflowers are eradicated. Most of our hardwoods are also wiped out. Some plants resist the herbicide and are thus dominant in herbicided areas. Roadsides become dominated with sow thistle, bedstraw, prickly lettuce, horsenettle, cypress weed, horseweed, etc. Clear-cuts have these taxa as well as a lot of pokeweed and goatweed–cypress weed (*Eupatorium capillifolium*) dominates.

In May, 2001, I made the trip from Shreveport up La. 1 through Vivian to Rodessa and across to Ida and down U.S. 71 back to I-220. At one time this was a widely publicized wildflower trail. I saw very few wildflowers along the drive and could have seen more in any one-mile stretch of US 80 in East Texas. I remember leading a group of people on a Greyhound-type bus on a trip along this wildflower trail. Like the field of dreams, if it is built, they will come. I think we are missing the possibility of a lot of increase in tourism by having some of the ugliest roadsides in the nation. As a group of people who like wildflowers, we should figure out some way to make sure that our offspring will be able to observe wildflowers somewhere other than in gardens.–Dale

The Louisiana Native Plant Society was founded in 1983 as a state wide, non-profit organization.
Its purposes are:

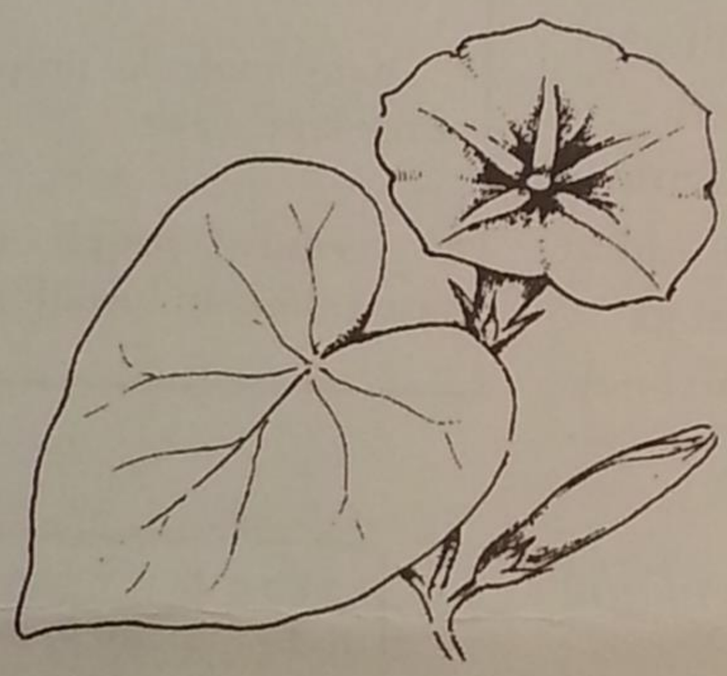
- to preserve and study native plants and their habitats.
- to educate people on the value of native plants and the need to preserve and protect rare and endangered species.
- to promote the propagation and use of native plants in the landscape
- to educate people on the relationship between our native flora and wildlife.

LNPS extends sympathy to Dr. R. Dale Thomas in the sudden losses of his nephew in late spring, and his brother in late summer.

Some notes on *Ipomoea pandurata*.....*by Carl Amason*

One of the most outstanding blooms of the summer can be found on a native wild sweet potato vine or morning glory perennial vine found in most of Louisiana. Yam is an old world plant that was not grown for food in the Western World. The sweet potato was found to be grown by the American Indians and only the word yam lingers in the language in Louisiana to mean a sweet potato.

Yams are only grown as a non-blooming ornamental vine, mostly in South Louisiana. There are other sweet potato relatives that are found growing in the temperate areas of the South. Many are in the morning glory genus of *Ipomoea*, which includes so many annual vines.



One that is most outstanding is *Ipomoea pandurata*, which ranges over much of Texas to Florida and the Southeast. It is found in uplands and along some of the sunny streamsides. When in bloom it is very showy. Once established, it will multiply and live forever if it has space to grow as the perennial root is massive. Some of the roots, which resemble massive sweet potatoes, will weigh up to thirty pounds or more. As a word of caution, some people consider it to be a weed, but when in bloom, it is magnificent.

First, the plant is common and was considered to have been an important American Indian food source, but the untreated roots are also reported to be purgative. From this root, vines will grow fifteen to twenty feet, green with leaves that vary from cordate-ovate to pandurate(fiddle-shaped) with milky sap on long petioles. From the upper leaf axils will come the buds that make a three to four inch funnelform white flowers with a purple throats. The blooms will last for one day as flowers, but there are quite a few of the buds to open daily mostly during the daytime. These vines have few if any insect problems. The only disease seems to be a rust that alternates between it and loblolly pines, but that pest is minor.

The vine can be used somewhat as a ground cover in a natural grassy or weedy area that is given only one winter mowing. It can be grown as a vine much like its relatives, the Mexican morning glory vines, on a frame used as a sunscreen, or left to clamber over existing shrubs. It does not have to be replanted each year. It is very easily grown from the seeds that mature in the autumn, but cuttings are not easily grown. This comes as a surprise since the sweet potato is frequently grown as such. It is seldom grown as a garden ornamental because few people care for vines, especially when they can get weedy. In spite of all its tropical connections, it is rather winter hardy and is not too selective in the soil as long as it is in light shade to full sun. Blooms come at a time when so many other plants are wilted or gone dormant. Perhaps its best use is as a naturalized vine when it receives little or no care. In reading the origin of the name, *Ipomoea*, it comes from the Greek *ips*, a worm, like an Ips pine bark worm. *Homois* means resembling, in this case a worm because of its twining growth. At any rate, this is one plant to enjoy the carefree beauty in the wild. It is not for those who only value mowed lawn grasses. There are so many other morning glory type vines to enjoy throughout the countryside. *Carl Amason is a superior plantsman who lives and gardens near Calion, Arkansas.*

Hickories of Louisiana..... *by R. Dale Thomas*

Eleven species of hickories have been collected in Louisiana. The genus *Carya* is divided into true hickories (Section *Carya*) and the pecan hickories (Section *Apocarya*). The most reliable way to separate these two groups of hickories is by using the terminal buds. True hickories have overlapping (imbricate) bud scales with more than 6 scales per bud. The pecan hickories have 4-6 bud scales that do not overlap (valvate). The number of leaflets also helps in identification. True hickories may have 3-9 leaflets but usually have 5-7 leaflets per alternate leaf. The pecan hickories can have 5-21 leaflets but usually have more than 7, and, except for nutmeg hickory, leaflets that commonly are falcate (sickle- or scythe-like).

Pecan
Carya illinoiensis

The pecan hickories in Louisiana include bitternut hickory (*Carya cordiformis*), nutmeg hickory (*C. myristiciformis*), bitter pecan or water hickory (*C. aquatica*), and pecan (*Carya illinoiensis*). Two hybrids have also been reported--*C.* x *brownii* is a hybrid between bitternut and pecan and *C.* x *lecontei* is a hybrid between bitter pecan and pecan. Dr.Wilbur Duncan, Professor emeritus from University of Georgia, separates this section by saying that it has leaflets 5-21; often falcate, with terminal leaflet smaller or about equal to the adjacent ones (may be larger in nutmeg hickory), outer bud scales valvate and seams of fruit husk winged or keeled. Nuts are round in cross-section in pecan and nutmeg hickory and are flattened in bitter pecan and bitternut hickory. Kernels are sweet in pecan and nutmeg but bitter in the other two species.

Carya illinoiensis (pecan) is native from Mexico to Louisiana and Mississippi and north to Iowa, Indiana, and Illinois. It usually occurs on moist but well-drained ridges in river bottoms. The wood is not as strong or heavy as it is in true hickories but is used for veneer, flooring, and furniture. All hickories are prized for fuel, charcoal, and wood chips for grilling meats. Numerous commercial varieties have been developed emphasizing size of the fruit and the thin fruit wall. This taxon is recognized by its fruit shape and by the largest number of leaflets of all the *Carya* species. The leaflets are falcate and assymetrical at the base. Young plants and stump sprouts can be confused with bitter pecan, but pecan usually has larger, more pubescent leaves. Wild or "native" pecans have smaller fruits which have a thicker wall but much sweeter kernels.

Carya aquatica (bitter pecan or water hickory) grows in low bottomland areas but can occur on clay soils elsewhere. It has flattened fruits that usually retain their husk and float around on water. They are commonly found as concentric rings of young plants around depressions in lowland woods. The kernels are bitter. The buds are reddish brown with yellow glands that disappear with age. The bark is shaggy (peels upward) unlike that of pecans. The husk of the fruit splits to the base in pecans but only about halfway on bitter pecans.

Bitter Pecan or
Water Hickory
Carya aquatica

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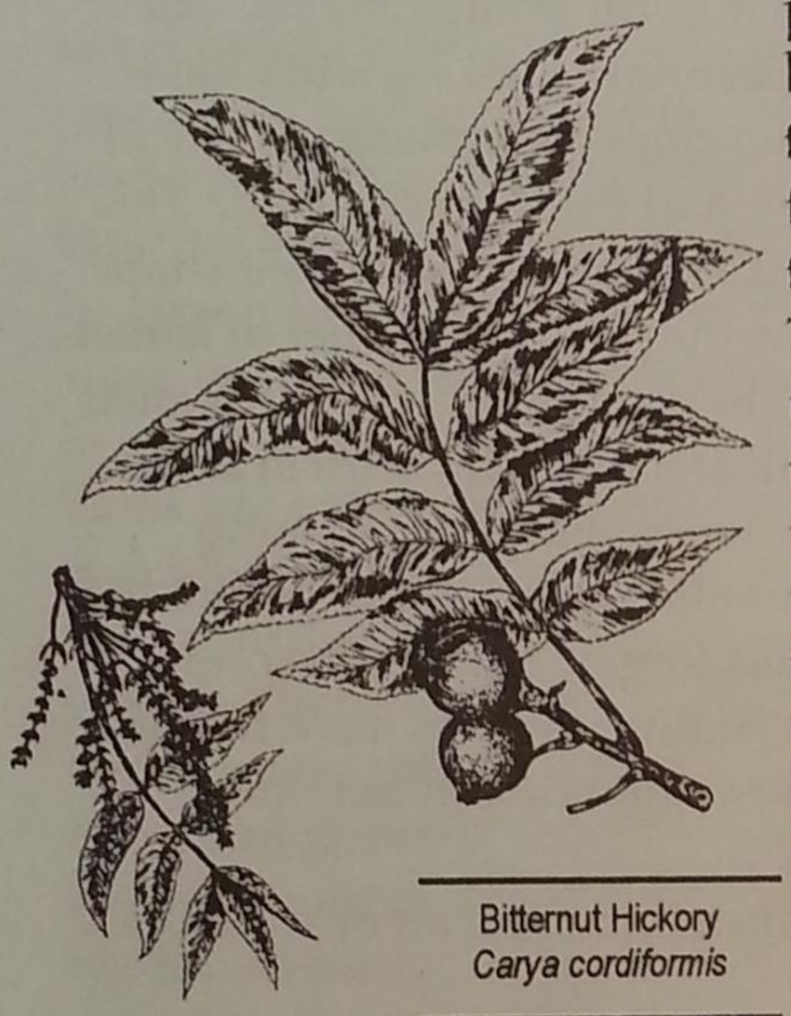
Carya cordiformis (bitternut hickory) is distinguished by its smooth bark and its very distinctive yellow buds. It can be identified in the field by one terminal bud even if no leaves are present. Its leaflets are thin and have fine teeth on the margins. The fruit wall is white and the husk is very thin with ridges along the shoulders of the slightly flattened small nuts. The saplings of bitternut hickory are very limber and as a child, I found them to be excellent trees to climb and "ride-over-to-the-ground" in games of "follow-the-leader" played with my numerous cousins. Its thin-walled fruits are favorites of squirrels in early fall. The kernels are too bitter for human consumption. This tree usually grows on upland clay soils or in alluvial soils along streams. Even old trees have smooth bark.



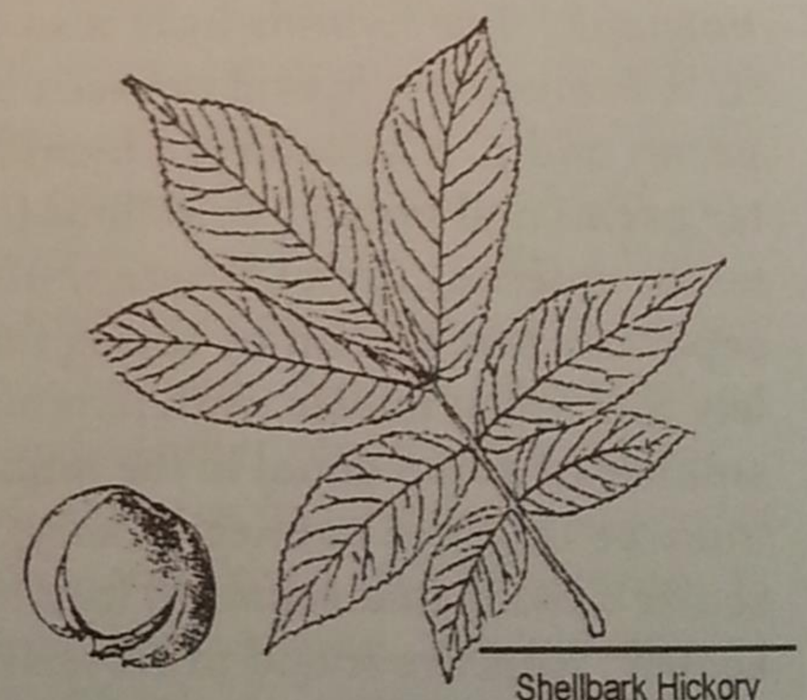
Bitternut Hickory
Carya cordiformis

Carya myristiciformis (nutmeg hickory) has fewer leaflets (5-9) than the other pecan hickories. The terminal leaflet is usually as large as or larger than the lateral ones. Its buds and young twigs are covered with yellowish to brownish scales. The undersides of the leaflets are covered with silvery to gold-colored scales that are thick enough to give the whole crown a metallic sheen that is gold-tinted. The fruit is round and resembles the fruit of a nutmeg with its purple specks. Some are round enough to use as marbles. The husk is thin but the fruit wall is very hard and thick and is very difficult to crack. The thin but sweet kernel seems not worth the effort needed for extraction (sometimes not even by squirrels). The bark of the old trees is as shaggy as that of shagbark hickory with which it sometimes occurs.

Nutmeg Hickory
Carya myristicaeformis

The true hickories in Louisiana include Shellbark Hickory (*C. laciniosa*), Shagbark Hickory (*C. ovata*), Mockernut Hickory (*C. alba*, previously *C. tomentosa*), Black or Texas Hickory (*C. texana*), Sand Hickory (*C. pallida*), Red Hickory (*C. ovalis*), Swamp Hickory (*C. glabra* var. *hirsuta* formerly *C. leiodermis*), and Pignut Hickory (*C. glabra* var. *glabra* and/or var. *megacarpa*).

Carya laciniosa (shellbark hickory) is becoming a rare tree throughout its range. It probably never occurred in dense populations throughout a lot of its range from Arkansas to Pennsylvania. The only specimens I have seen from Louisiana are plants grafted several years ago to native pecan and/or bitter pecan trees. These plants occur in the woods on Tensas National Wildlife Refuge. This tree is easily distinguished by its large fruit and by the thick twigs and large fruit. The plates of bark that peel off are larger than those produced by shagbark hickory.



Shellbark Hickory
Carya laciniosa

Shagbark Hickory
Carya ovata

Carya ovata (shagbark hickory) has large buds and shaggy bark. It leaves usually have 5 leaflets (sometimes 7 and almost always some with 3) that are densely hairy along the margins when young. Old leaves, late in the season, have white tufts of hairs near the tips of the teeth on the margins of the leaflets. This is the choice nut tree particularly for those who do not grow pecans. In East Tennessee, every farmer left some shagbark trees in or along edges of pastures and fields for the fruit and each one knew the location of all of the trees in the woods. A good fruit crop meant a good harvest of squirrels. I know of no better cake and/or cookie than one baked with hickory nuts and served during a snowy Christmas season. This tough tree was used as a nickname for Andrew Jackson ("Old Hickory") and is the name of an excellent brand of butcher knives that have hickory handles. Because hickory wood was not used extensively for lumber, many large trees of several hickories occur in remnant upland hardwood forests in eastern U.S.

Mockernut Hickory
Carya alba

Carya alba (mockernut hickory, formerly known as *C. tomentosa*) has large buds and usually has 7-9 leaflets. Like those of shagbark, the terminal leaflets are usually larger than the lateral ones but they lack the tufts of hairs characteristic of shagbark. The bark of old trees is rigid but does not peel off. The nuts are large, thick-walled, and have much thinner kernals than shagbark. Although the meat is sweet, this nut is second choice for both man and squirrels. The young twigs, leaflets, and rachis of the leaves are usually hairy (hence *C. tomentosa*). The wood is usually white throughout (hence *C. alba*). Mockernut and Texas or black hickory are our common upland hickories that are easily distinguished by mockernut having much larger buds.

Carya texana (Texas or black hickory) has 5-7 leaflets and the terminal leaflet is not much larger than the lateral ones. Its bark is rough but not peeling. It is the only hickory with tufts of rust-colored hairs on the twigs, buds, petioles, and the lower surfaces of leaflets. Most of these hairs are lost before the end of the growing season. The best diagnostic characters for this common upland hickory is the presence of orange scales on the lower leaf surfaces, buds, and shucks (fruit husks). The lower leaf surface looks rusty and the upper leaf surface is dark, glossy green. Nuts are smaller than those of mockernut but the kernels are equally sweet.

Black or Texas Hickory
Carya texana

Carya pallida (sand hickory) is rare in Louisiana where it has been collected from St. Helena, Tangipahoa, and Washington parishes. The young leaves are silvery on the lower surfaces which is unusual in hickories. Petioles

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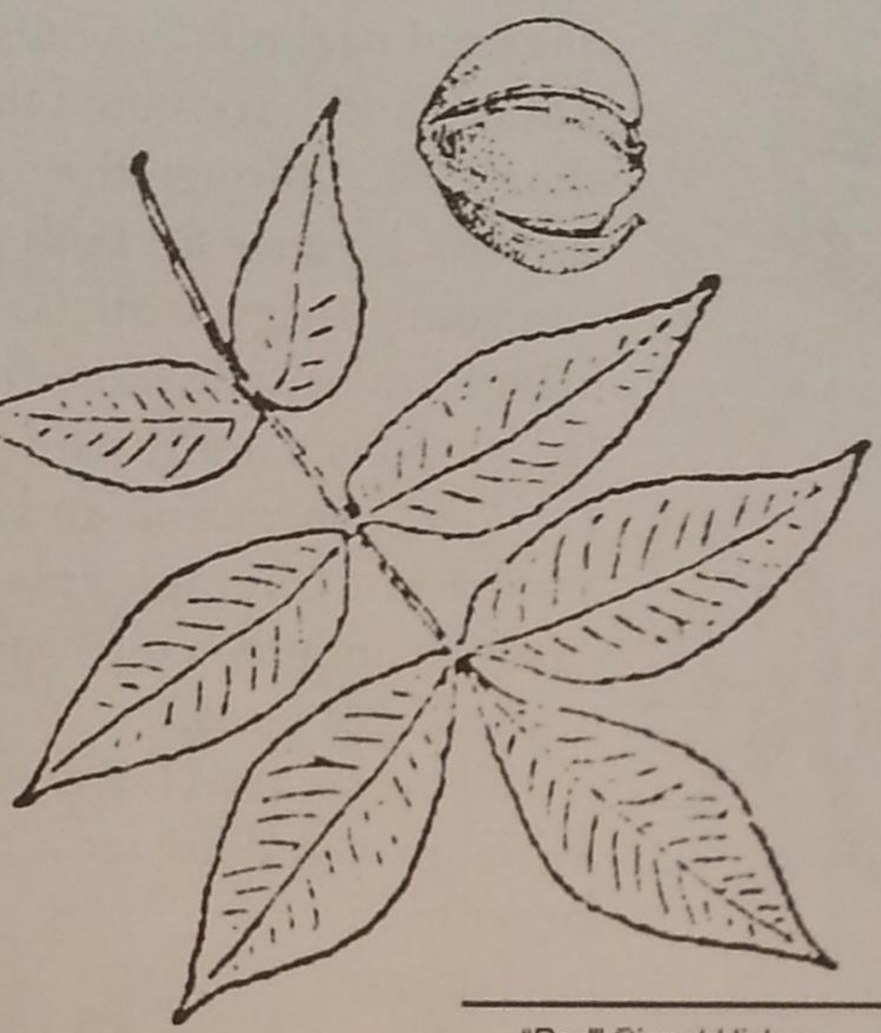
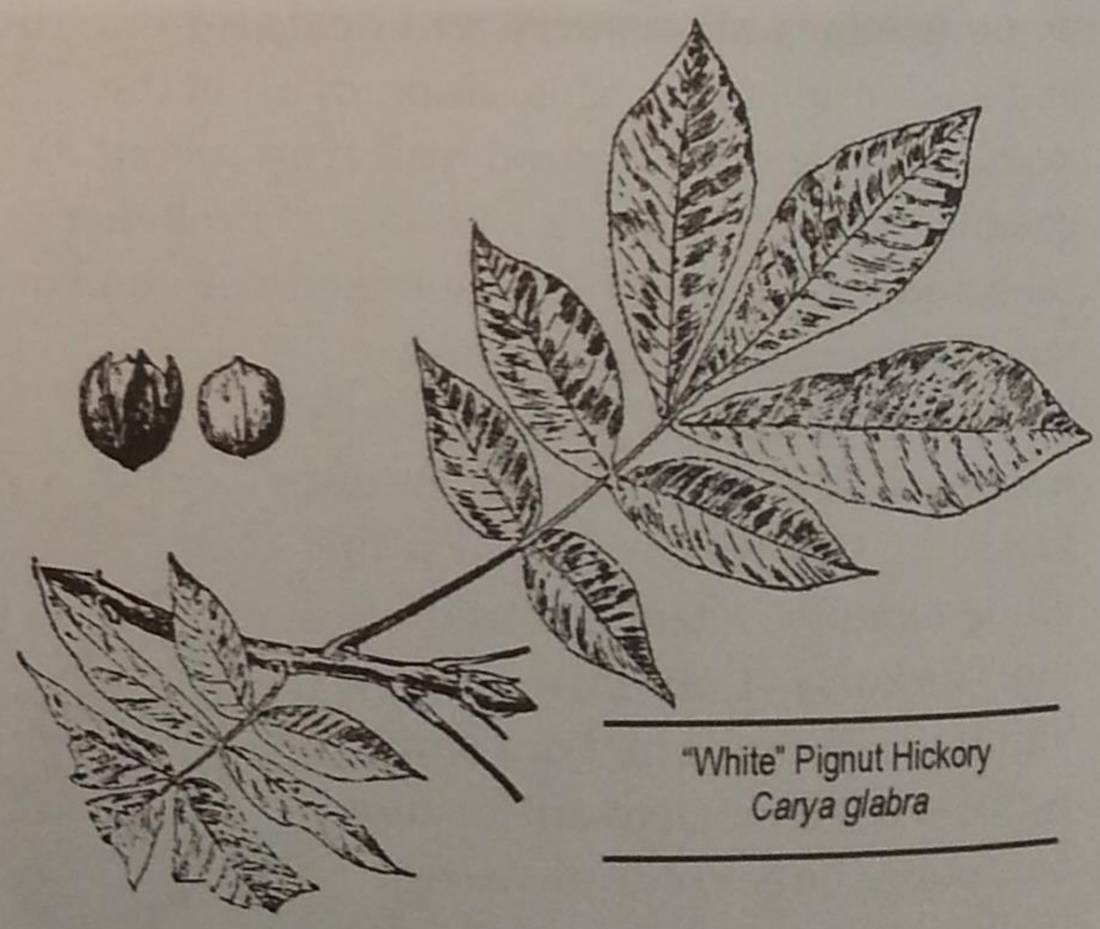
have tufts of hairs on them. It has 7 to 9 leaflets per leaf and the leaf-bearing twigs are thin (3-6 mm across). This is the common upland hickory on the sandy western and southern exposed mountains and ridges of the southern Appalachians.



"Red" Pignut Hickory
Carya ovalis

Pignut hickories (*C. ovalis* and *C. glabra*, including swamp hickory) are common and have a long history of taxonomic confusion among both plant taxonomists and dendrologists. Frankly, I have spent over 40 years being frustrated when trying to identify pignut hickories to species without mature fruits, flowers, and young and old leaves—all of which are never present at the same time. My father spent a lot of his adult life using a cross-cut saw to saw timber from the hardwoods of the East Tennessee mountains. He could not believe that university botanists and dendrologists could not tell red hickory (*C. ovalis*) from white hickory (*C. glabra*) (his names for the pignut hickories). He could look at a leafless tree and tell if it had red heartwood (*C. ovalis*) or had white throughout (*C. glabra*). I could verify his determinations only by cutting the tree down or by finding mature fruits. When fruit are available, *C. glabra* has pear-shaped (pointed at base) or obovate fruits. The red hickory has oval nuts. Red hickory is sometimes called false shagbark because it is the only pignut hickory that has bark that peels back (or "shags"). These hickories are called pignuts because early American settlers fed them to their hogs but they saved shagbark nuts for human consumption. *C. ovalis* has 5-7 leaflets but mostly 7; *C. glabra* has 5 leaflets and less often 7. *C. ovalis* has oval to subglobose fruit with husk splitting freely to the base while C. *glabra* has obovoid or pyriform fruit with husk splitting halfway to base (2 places in var. *hirsuta* and 4 places in other varieties). Bark on mature trees is distinctive—plating or shagging in *ovalis* and staying tight and grooved or ridged in *glabra*. *C. ovalis* tends to be more of an upland species and *glabra* is bottomland or only on mesic upland sites. Swamp hickory was described by Sargent as *Carya leiodermis* but is now usually called *Carya glabra* var. *hirsuta*. It has pubescent lower leaf surfaces and especially on the midrib and in axils of the veins. It is a common lowland hickory with *C. ovata*, *C. cordiformis*, *C. illinoiensis*, and sometimes with *C. aquatica*.



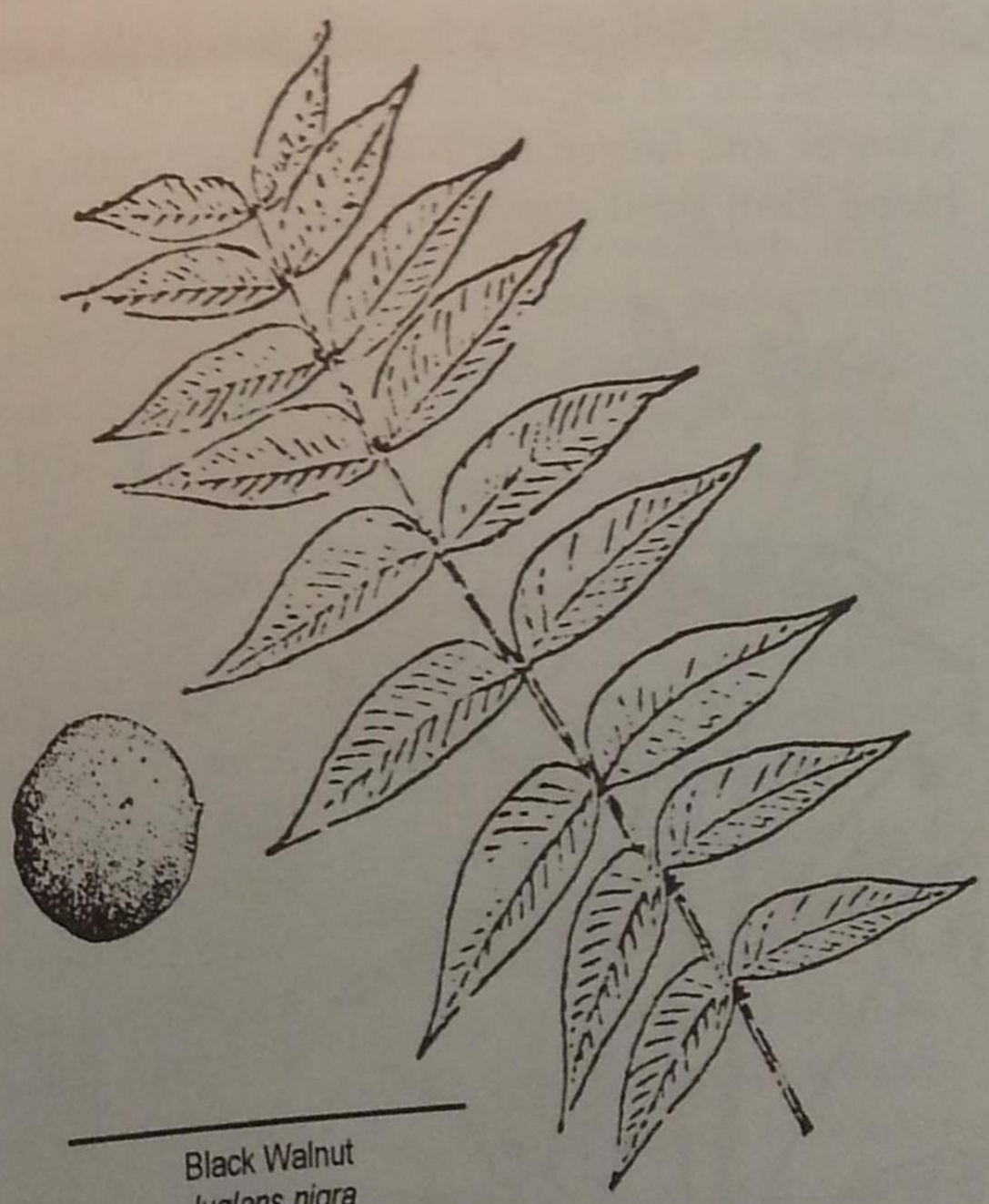
"White" Pignut Hickory
Carya glabra

When I try to teach the identification of hickories to students, I begin by dividing them into the two sections (pecan and true hickories) based on buds and leaflet number. The yellow

bud distinguishes bitternut hickory. The silvery to golden scales on the stem and the metallic sheen of the leaves distinguishes nutmeg hickory. The twigs of bitter pecan are thinner than those of pecan and the leaves tend to be smaller and less pubescent. The true hickories are separated into two groups by bud size. Shellbark, shagbark, and mockernut have large buds. The leaf-bearing twigs of shellbark are twice as thick as those of other hickories. The twigs of mockernut are hairy when young. The tufts of hair on the teeth on the leaves of shagbark are distinctive. The small-bud hickories can be separated by Texas or black hickory having reddish hairs on the twigs, leaflets, and rachis while the leaves of sand hickory are pale underneath. The leaves of pignut hickories are difficult to separate without mature fruit. Seedlings of most true hickories with small buds are easily confused. Hickories, like people, show their true characteristics better as adults.

I have used various books to study the hickories of this area. The dendrology books by Harlow and Harrar and by Preston are helpful. My favorite book for our trees is the TREES OF SOUTHEASTERN UNITED STATES by Duncan and Duncan. This University of Georgia book was $19.95 in a flex-back field guide form in 1998. It has color pictures, distribution maps, and easily understood descriptions of almost all our trees. An extensive article called "A Field Guide to the Hickories of Louisiana" by L.J. Grauke and J.W. Pratt (pp. 159-189) and one by Grauke called "Notes on the Rank of Critical Tax of the *Carya* Genus" (pp. 127-158) can be found in the 1987 RESEARCH REPORT OF THE PECAN RESEARCH-EXTENSION STATION, Shreveport, Louisiana, published by the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station and The Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service, Louisiana Agricultural Center, Baton Rouge. The first article mentioned has keys with line drawings of characteristics. It also has photographs of leaves, nuts, and twigs of each species.

In addition to the hickories, *Juglandaceae* is represented in Louisiana by two other genera. Black walnut (*Juglans nigra*) has chambered pith in its twigs and has a characteristic "green walnut" odor to its foliage and husks. Its kernels are used for food and oil and the nut walls are used in making abrasives. Black walnut is one of the better furniture woods of the world and its sap has been used to make a syrup. The Chinese Wingnut (*Pterocarya steoptera*) has small winged nuts that look like samaras. It is spreading from a steet-side planting in Angie in Washington Parish and has also been collected in East Baton Rouge Parish.



Black Walnut
Juglans nigra

Summer Breeze

In spite of the heat about 30 people from all over Louisiana attended the summer breeze in Columbia/Monroe/West Monroe July 7th & 8th. Some gathered at Susan and Charles Allen's house in Monroe on Friday night to eat and eat and eat. There was enough Chinese food even for those with a black belt in buffet. On Saturday morning, the group enjoyed a birding tour led by Joyce Bennett at 7 AM. Several birds were heard and a few birds showed themselves. At 9 AM, the group took to the nature trails and saw many trees, butterflies, and a few flowers including some old trilliums and a bear's foot in flower. We also aged a pine tree with an increment borer and saw the newly installed ULM weather station. The group enjoyed the air conditioning and lunch on the ULM campus. Sara Thames talked about her research at Ft Polk and GiGi Parker talked about her "Pushy Prairie Perennial" research. Charles Allen and Spencer Trichell demonstrated the use of the computer and microscopes and the internet.

Commelina virginica

Charles Allen gave a presentation of the Cajun Prairie. The group also saw slides taken by Marc Pastorek on his digital camera during the morning events. About 3:30, the group headed to West Monroe and toured the West Monroe Wetlands Park. Some ate Florida betony tubers and saw the blood from giant ragweed. Everyone saw the shining sumac, the aromatic sumac, and the many water lilies. We took a short trip to Steve Pagan's house to view his wonderful wildflower bed. Many species were in flower including blazing stars, *Silphium*, *Helianthus*, and *Scutellaria*. The stop was well worth the effort. A quick stop was made by Charles and Susan's yard to see the small prairie, landscaped by Marc and his Meadowmakers Company, and the bamboo water clapper.

Lysimachia ciliata

All were glad to finally be seated at Chile Verdi out of the heat. A lot of discussion was held here including a name for the group that started as messy people (because of the sweaty nature at the time) then to MF (messy fun) people, then to other fungi, then to Mars Finders (when we went outside to see Mars), and finally to Move Forward as we left. The group shrunk on Sunday morning, but a few listened to birds with Joyce Bennett again, some gathered at 9 for a tour of the bottomland trails, and a third group went to see the Copenhagen prairies. The trail group saw *Commelina virginica* in flower, lopseed, *Lysimachia ciliata*, and many other plants. The group split at 11 AM with a few taking a quick trip to the Keiffer Prairie west of Winnfield. The weekend was fiery but fun.—*Charles Allen*

Propagation Tale

Our good friend, Rector Hopgood, who owns and manages Rector's Prairie on the Bastrop Ridge in Morehouse Parish spent June & July recovering from a heart attack. I frequently ferried him back and forth from his camp house there to Collinston. For several years, I had attempted propagating Goat's Rue, *Tephrosia virginiana*, which is so prolific up there. It grows adjacent to the drive to the camp house. I stopped one evening and gathered some seeds as they were just beginning to ripen. I cleaned them before I left, and many of them were quite green. I was determined to try them all, even those that looked too green to be mature. Upon returning home, I placed them between damp paper towels and slid them into a baggie. I left them on the kitchen counter to watch. I knew if I put them in pots, I would never see them again, given our schedule at that time. To my surprise, nearly every seed sprouted within the week. I transferred them to 4" pots, with several sprouts per pot, where they continued to prosper. I finally transferred the survivors to one gallon pots, since the roots were very long. I did loose one 4" pot of seedlings to a large frog that insisted on laying on top of them every evening while waiting for bugs. So far, most of the one gallon pots have survived. Hopefully they will make it through the winter. And for those of you who know Rector and have visited his place, he is doing fine, and has agreed to do his program at the winter meeting in January. It is much bigger and better than before.—Beth Erwin

The frost hurts not weeds
THOMAS FULLER
Gnomologia (1732)

(Continued from page 1)

basketball team was playing in the NCAA tournament, they were playing at Iowa. The faculty in the biology department at the University of Wisconsin at Oshkosh had a tournament party and no one there had ever heard of NLU. Dr. Harriman who, had thousands of plants from the NLU herbarium said he had read so many *PowWow*'s (the school newspaper and ready source of newspaper to press plant specimens) that he was able to tell them all about NLU and about the herbarium. The former head of the NLU biology department was on leave in Papua, New Guinea north of Australia. She collected plant specimens for the herbarium and went to the National University there to see if they would ship them to Dr. Thomas in order to get them through customs (they did). The curator there introduced her to his graduate student as being from NLU. The PhD student said, NLU, I know where that is–that is where Dale Thomas teaches. He had worked in Kew Herbarium (the largest one in the world) in England and had mounted the specimens that Dr. Thomas had deposited there.

The upcoming article about the award that will be in *Castanea* (the journal published by SABS) will say that Dr. Thomas' accomplishments in botany and his dedication to teaching shows that his "call" was to be a plant collector and field botanist and that by so doing, he had influenced a lot of people.

Calendar

October 27, 2001. Tom Sawyer Day, Briarwood, the Caroline Dormon Nature Preserve, Saline, La., Bring lunch, gloves, and clippers. 318-576-3379

November 3, 2001. Friends of the ULM Herbarium Plant Sale. 8-5, Greenhouses on BonAire Drive, north of Ewing Coliseum.

January 18-19, 2002. LNPS Winter Meeting, Camp Grant Walker, Pollock, Louisiana.

LOUISIANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

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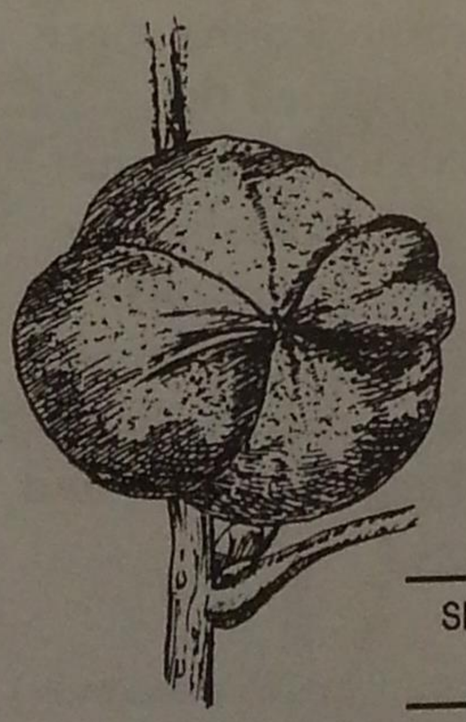

Shagbark Hickory Nut
Carya ovata

*01
Dr. & Mrs. Charles Allen
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