

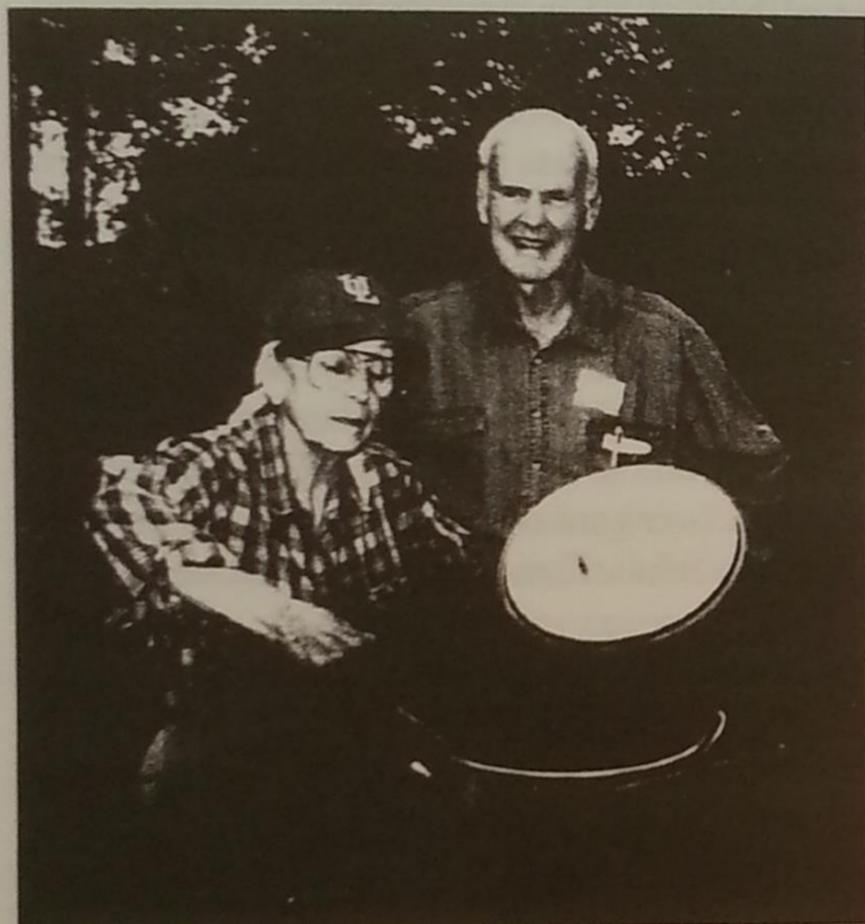
Prose from the president's pen:

Happy New Year to all LNPS folks! And please tell me, who says we do not have fall color in the South? We may not have it like New England but when we get color as intense as we've had this fall it is truly memorable. I guess the beautiful color is our reward for the brutal summer and then perfect timing for the cold weather. It all came together and produced spectacular yellows, oranges and reds.

The chalk maples and silverbells showed yellow for such a long time, as did the hackberries. There are red oaks with more color than I remember seeing before. The sumacs that had been virtually invisible during the summer have been, and still are at this writing in early December, rich red torches in the landscape. And the sassafras, sweet gum and poison ivy are still "redding up" the landscape. There was even some red in the Carolina moonseed vine at Hilltop and I don't ever remember seeing that before. This is the way it was in South Louisiana and I hope Mother Nature was equally giving to all of you throughout the upper regions of the state.

We can compare notes at the January Annual Meeting at Grant-Walker. I hope all of you are planning to attend. There is a terrific slate of speakers guaranteed to give everyone some new information to take home. Remember, it is a week earlier this year: January 19th and 20th. It is a great opportunity to catch up with one another and renew old friendships.

(Continued on page 2)



It's really all about food. Dr. Harry Winters looks on as Mona Hollier stirs a pot of gumbo at the fall Columbia Excursion to his property on the Ouachita River.

Photo by Charles Ancona

Reknown Horticulturist Passes Away

Dr. James Foret, Sr., father of former LNPS president, Jim Foret, Jr., passed away November 4, 2000. Dr. Foret was a reknown horticulture professor who retired from his position as Dean of Agriculture from USL in 1982. He was a leader in the nursery and aboriculture fields in Louisiana. Dr. Foret introduced Folsom's Weeping Yaupon in 1981. He received many awards and citations in the horticulture field throughout his career. He will long be remembered for his work within the nursery profession initiating and developing certification standards for nurserymen, and educating students and businessmen to meet those standards. At the time of his death, he was a partner with his son, Jim in Foret & Foret, consulting horticulturists and arborists.

Dr. Foret was a combat veteran of WWII and a former POW. He is survived by his wife, Camille, seven daughters, three sons, two stepsons, two sisters, four brothers, and numerous grandchildren.

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|------------------|--|--------------|------------|
| inside... | Prairie Garden Update —Fontenot | Pages | 4-6 |
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- Our good nursery friends will have plants for us to indulge in. Thanks go to TINA and DON REID with COYOTE CREEK, MARY ELLIOTT of FRONDEROSA, LYDIA and BILL FONTENOT from PRAIRIE BASSE and SANDRA and LONNIE GIBBS of WILD THINGS PLANT FARM. We appreciate the work they go to to bring us those hard-to-find plant favorites.
- Another wonderful reason to attend is to get your NEW LOUISIANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY T-SHIRT! Those who have been tuned in and read the newsletters know which plant is on the shirt; those who have not will just need to come and find out! Thanks to JIM FORET and his extensive committee!
- I am wondering if any of you live in areas where the USDA has released some of the phorid flies that are supposed to help control the fire ants? According to an article in the New York Times they were to be released throughout specific test areas in the southeast. The female fly injects an egg into the body of the fire ant and the larva that hatches destroys the ant from within. This is the insect that controls the ants in South America where they are native. Another Invasive Exotic!
- For those of you who are setting up your 2001 calendar, you might want to take note of the Cullowhee Lone Star Regional Native Plant Conference to be held at Stephen F. Austin May 30 through June 2. Two of the scheduled speakers are Joe Liggio and Geyata Ajilvsgi; tours are planned to visit the Little Cow Creek, one of two sites remaining for the silky camellia, and to Mill Creek Gardens, a site for reintroduction research of several endangered Texas natives. Brochures are not yet ready, but to get your name on the mailing list, email Matt Welch at: mwelch@sfasu.edu. I am predicting this one will fill quickly.
- FYI: Firewood is available - with permits - to anyone living near a US national forest. Call the office listed in the Government section of the telephone book for details.
- A book published in 1999 is new to me. *Forest Plants of the Southeast and Their Wildlife Uses* is published by the Southern Weed Science Society and is available only through them. I find its 450 pages to be very comprehensive with excellent detail photographs of some plants I have not seen listed before. Very handy is the fact that the photographs are on the facing page for each entry, and especially useful is the inclusion, for each separate entry, of the wildlife that uses that plant. We are carrying it in the gift shop at Hilltop and I will be interested in seeing how well it is received. I shall try to bring a couple of extra copies to the January meeting.

I am looking forward to once again gathering in fellowship with each of you who can be with us and for those who cannot make it this year, I hope our paths will cross soon again.

Marion Drummond

*If you know of an organization with an activity relating to native plants, let Beth Erwin (kalorama@kalorama.org 318-874-7777) or me (m.drummond@worldnet.att.net 225-274-9674) know and we will try to include it in one of the quarterly newsletters.

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Book Review:

Miracle Under the Oaks - the Revival of Nature in America

Miracle Under the Oaks - the Revival of Nature in America by William K. Stevens. New York, Pocket Books (Simon & Schuster, Inc.). 1995. ISBN: 0-671-78045-X (paperback)

The author, a science writer for the *New York Times*, uses the story of Steve Packard to describe the development of the ecosystem restoration movement in the 1970s. Packard began as a mildly interested amateur who identified prairie plants near his home in Chicago as an outdoor hobby. He soon became interested in the embryonic prairie restoration movement and went on to become a self-taught ecologist and an avid crusader for restoring and studying Oak Savannas. He recruited and inspired volunteers, organized work groups, attended ecological meetings, defeated administrative bureaucracy, and overcame local resistance to burning and the regulation of overpopulated, deer herds.

Eventually, he was influential in getting the Nature Conservancy to shift from a passive, "set aside" mode into that of active restoration and in the formation of the Society for Ecological Restoration. His work led to a re-interpretation of the Oak Savanna as an ecosystem in its own right, and the development of the North Branch Prairie Project. By 1993, it had involved some 5000 volunteers and restored 30,000 acres of Prairie Savanna in 200 sites along the North Branch of the Chicago River and the surrounding area. .

As a typical crusader, Packard not only inspired but alienated - particularly many in the scientific community. In the book, they come off as the bad guys or at least as the entrenched Doubting Thomases. Once Packard understood that he needed hard data and repetitive experiments to convince the scientists, things drastically improved, and most ecologists came to accept his views. I feel I should come to the defense of one ecologist given a particularly bad rap in the book - Dr. John T. Curtis of the University of Wisconsin. Curtis did some of the early studies on prairie ecology and established the first restored prairie in the 1950s. When I took his ecology course, I found him to be not only an extraordinary scientist, but a very reasonable man. If he were alive today, I believe he would have been among the first to change his opinions in the light of Packard's new evidence. It is unfortunate that his works have become dogma to his disciples and were cited relentlessly to Packard.

Overall, this is a very engaging book, but be warned - the introduction and first chapter contain lengthy discussions of biodiversity, restorationism, and glacial periods that may be a bit dull. If you can last through them, I think you will find the rest fascinating reading. I want to close with a quote from one of the North Branch volunteers. It greatly impressed me, because it almost exactly expresses my feelings for a beloved piece of land here in the Felicianas.—*Marie Standifer*

"I can't imagine what my life would be without this. It's provided me with a real connection to the landscape, and with this place..... and to call it a hobby seems to demean it..... Hardly a day goes by where I don't think about it, some aspect of it. I don't know how I'd define myself environmentally, politically, any other way, even religiously, without my 15 years on the North Branch."

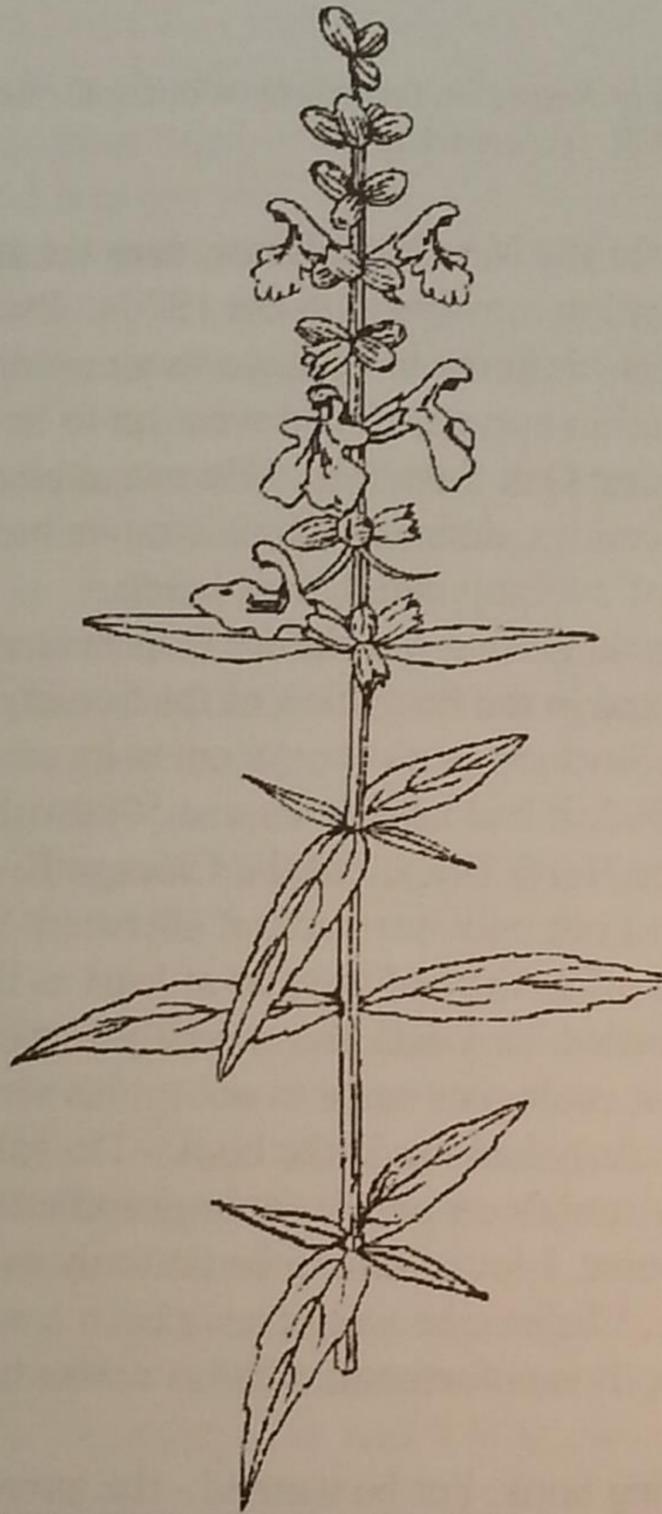
Prairie Garden Update: Lessons from Year XII

by Bill Fontenot

Hanging out with either Charles Allen or Malcolm Vidrine at any point after 1986 has usually resulted in some rather serious repercussions for those native plant gardeners who have chosen to do so. By the end of the 1980s, Malcolm in particular had completely converted his minuscule mobile home lot on the outskirts of Eunice, LA into a coastal tallgrass prairie plant research nursery, filled with containers of freshly germinated seedlings, rooted cuttings, and rescued root crowns of dozens of species. Rare, then, was the visitor to the Vidrine compound who escaped without a load of prairie plant propagules.

As the number of prairie survivors/orphans gradually increased in my own holding area, the inevitable burning question arose: What to do with these things? At the time, Lydia and I were busily planning and installing our own native garden complex, most of which precluded the use of those rank, borderline-noxious prairie things which we were amassing from Malcolm and (eventually) several other benefactors. Eventually, we resolved the issue by reserving a sun-drenched 25'X50' segment of our property as our "prairie plot," installing Malcolm's waifs in no particular order or scheme. The results, for the most part, have been pleasing - and infinitely educational.

To set the stage, our prairie plot is roughly half-moon-shaped. The straight edge fronts a gravel access road. As with all of our gardening efforts, we initiated the prairie plot by mulching the entire site 12-18" deep with hardwood leaves, and planting directly into our native soil (black silty-clay; pH 6.85). Along the border of the plot and the road, we planted a mixed shrub screen which includes wax



Salvia azurea

myrtle (*Myrica cerifera*; this one, a fancy skinny-leaved cultivar named 'The Emperor' I believe), flame acanthus (*Anisicanthus wrightii*), groundsel bush (*Baccharis spp.*), West Indian lantana (*Lantana camara*), swamp rose (*Rosa palustris*), and a few clumps of *Hibiscus laevis*. Also, we "anchored" the plot with three trees: leadplant (*Amorpha fruticosa*), eastern redbud (*Cercis canadensis*), and sweetbay magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*).

Within the plot itself, our original prairie species plantings included (from Malcolm) compass plant (*Silphium gracile*), joe-pye weed (*Eupatorium maculatum*), mountain mint (*Pycnanthemum albescens*), wild bergamot (*Monarda fistulosum*), a very cool white-flowered pitcher sage (*Salvia azurea spp.*) and little bluestem (*Schizachrium scoparium*); (from Gail Barton) *Rudbeckia grandiflora alismifolia*; (from Charles Allen) a blue-

flowered boneset (*Eupatorium ivifolium*), and sweet coneflower (*Rudbeckia subtomentosa*); (from David Martin) big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*); (from Peter Loos) seaside goldenrod (*Solidago sempervirens mexicana*), and switch grass (*Panicum virgatum*); (from Lynn Lowery) western ironweed (*Vernonia baldwinii*), (from Larry Allain) flat-topped goldenrod (*Euthamia leptoccephala*), and "doll's daisy" (*Boltonia spp.*); (from Julius Furr) white crownbeard (*Verbesina virginica*), (from John Mayronne) a white-flowered salt-marsh mallow (*Kosteletzkya virginica 'Immaculate'*).

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

A dozen or so years have passed, and to say the least, our prairie plot has taken on a life of its own. Discussed below are some of the more important lessons that we've learned in the process of south Louisiana prairie gardening.

The Banshee

In the beginning, our biggest battle was against Bermuda grass; and even though we had mulched thickly prior to planting, we sort of dreaded what might happen once this steely-rooted interloper found its way out of the duff. Surprise! Only a month or two after planting a lone specimen of *Pycnanthemum albescens*, we found that it had run like a banshee through the entire plot, effectively shading out any of the Bermuda grass which dared to poke up through the mulch. Wow. Talk about dumb luck. Year after year, the mountain mint has faithfully reappeared, unifying the whole plot with a dense 30" tall layer of silvery elegance. Being so shallow-rooted, it doesn't bother the other stuff we've put in.

The Good, The Bad, The Volunteers

Since the beginning, additional plant species have constantly moved into the plot - some for the better, some for the worse. Our first migrant was a lovely white-flowered form of showy primrose (*Oenothera speciosa*). The nominate pink-flowered form grows everywhere around here; but this white-flowered one came out of nowhere. A gift from heaven. Other gorgeous gifts have included mist flower (*Eupatorium coelestinum*), a big ol' goldenrod (probably *Solidago canadensis scabra*), and at least three species of *Aster* - each of these plants doing its part to make the plot much more handsome than we had originally envisioned.

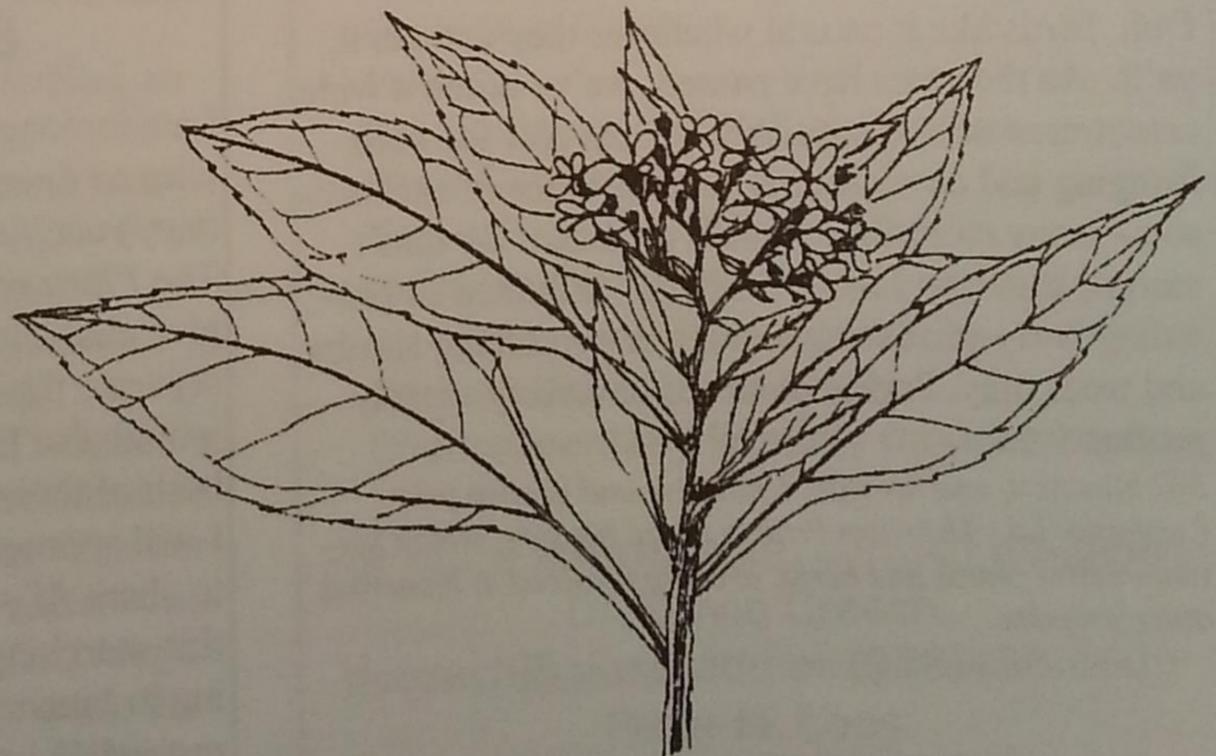
On the other hand, several invaders have given us fits, particularly early on,

when our "planted things" were still getting established. For the first several years, vasey grass (*Paspalum urvillei*) and Brazilian vervain (*Verbena brasiliensis*) - both exceedingly invasive exotics in our area - really kept us on our toes (or knees). Thankfully, both of these have disappeared as the plot has matured. Giant ragweed (*Ambrosia trifida*) still comes in each year, but it is easy to weed out. Ditto for the "big goldenrod," but we always let it bloom awhile before yanking it. Really, our only persistent adversary is blackberry (*Rubus spp.*), which we spend 24-32 man-hours per year weeding. Not too bad, considering we cannot burn the plot.

The Value of Timely Pruning

When you're working with species as rank as vigorous as wild hibiscus, sweet coneflower, goldenrods, crown beards, compass plant, bonesets, and ironweeds, it really helps to know when and how much to cut those rascals back. All of these species tend to flop badly once blooming begins, so we've gradually learned when to provide each with a pre-bloom haircut. We try to take about 75% of their height off 4-6 weeks before blooming occurs, resulting in stouter, multi-stemmed plants which produce more (albeit slightly smaller) blooms.

(Continued on page 6)



Verbascina virginica

Obviously this practice requires that the gardener know the time of bloom onset for each species.

Likewise, in order to prevent massive over-seeding by these big guys, we try to cut them back once more before seed maturation occurs. Moreover, the remaining newly-shortened post-bloom stalks make excellent natural supports for the more delicate mist flowers, asters, etc. which begin blooming at just the time when we're whacking back the big stuff. Ultimately, though, a substantial percentage of the big stuff still ends up producing seed each year, which we happily use for nursery propagation, or leave for. . .

Bird Surprises

One of the greatest joys associated with native gardening is in watching the resulting food web unfurl before your very eyes. In the case of our prairie plot, I was pretty well shocked when I began to note several dozen Swamp, Song, and White-throated Sparrows, along with a like number of American Goldfinch and Cardinals sedately foraging through the plot each winter day. And I was pretty well stunned to find many Painted Buntings of all ages and sexes using our plot's fat, oily, compass plant seeds each fall. Of course, my first impulse was to usher these feathered jewels toward our store-bought seed feeders out behind our deck. Duh. Birds like it natural whenever they can get it, ya'll. As the years have passed, we've noted a wide assortment of bird species using the plot for both foraging and cover during various times of each season - many more than we had dreamed! So don't assume that "gardening for birds" is limited to providing berry-producing and cover-producing shrubs and trees only. Prairie plots are obviously equally productive.

Bill Fontenot, and his wife, Lydia live and garden near Carencro, La. They own Prairie Basse Nursery, which features native plants and herbs, and are involved in numerous other projects.



ERYNGO WANTED

I am looking for an easy way to separate the 2 varieties of *Eryngium yuccifolium* (var. *yuccifolium* and var. *synchaetum*) in the field. The *Flora of the Carolinas* and the *Texas Manual* give characters, but both state that it is difficult to separate the two, and that seems to be very true! I would also like to find fairly dense, wild stands of both of these for the purpose of collecting leaves. I will appreciate whatever information anyone has to share. If you want to know the reason behind all this searching, come to my talk at the winter meeting in January! - Marie Standifer
mstandi@lsu.edu or 225-766-0831

Upcoming Events posting

Thanks to the efforts of Andy Allen and Herbert Young; Charles Allen has a webpage with a place for posting upcoming events. Check it out at <http://www.ulm.edu/~callen/> and follow the link to upcoming events. To add events to the list, email to biallen@ulm.edu or call 318-342-1814 or mail to Charles Allen; Dept. Of Biology; The University of Louisiana at Monroe; Monroe, LA 71209. Andy is the youngest child of Charles and Susan, and Herbert is a graduate student at ULM.

Two Notes on Trees

Information on the state champion trees, such as size and parish can be found at the following web site: <http://www.laforestry.com/champlist3.html>

Your local La. Dept. of Forestry office has it, also.

The National Arbor Day Foundation is holding an election for a national tree. You can vote online at www.arborday.org before April 26, or send your choice on a 3 x 5 card to National Arbor Day Foundation, Nebraska City, NE, 68410, by April 1. There are 21 nominees: Bald Cypress, Maple, Birch, Oak, Buckeye, Palm, Cottonwood, Paloverde, Dogwood, Pecan(Hickory), Douglas Fir, Pine, Elm, Redbud, Magnolia, Hemlock Redwood, Holly, spruce, Kukui, Tuliptree, Write-in. The trees are not listed by genus and species, but rather in a broader sense. Species like Elm, Birch, and Magnolia are implied to be any species covered under the common names, presumably native to the United States.

Lone Star Regional Native Plant Conference

In association with the Cullowee Native Plant Conference

**Stephen F. Austin
State University
Nacogdoches, Texas**

May 30-June 3, 2001

Learn about gardening with natives while networking with other native plant enthusiasts. There will be field trips, lectures, and networking events.

Topics include, but are not limited to:

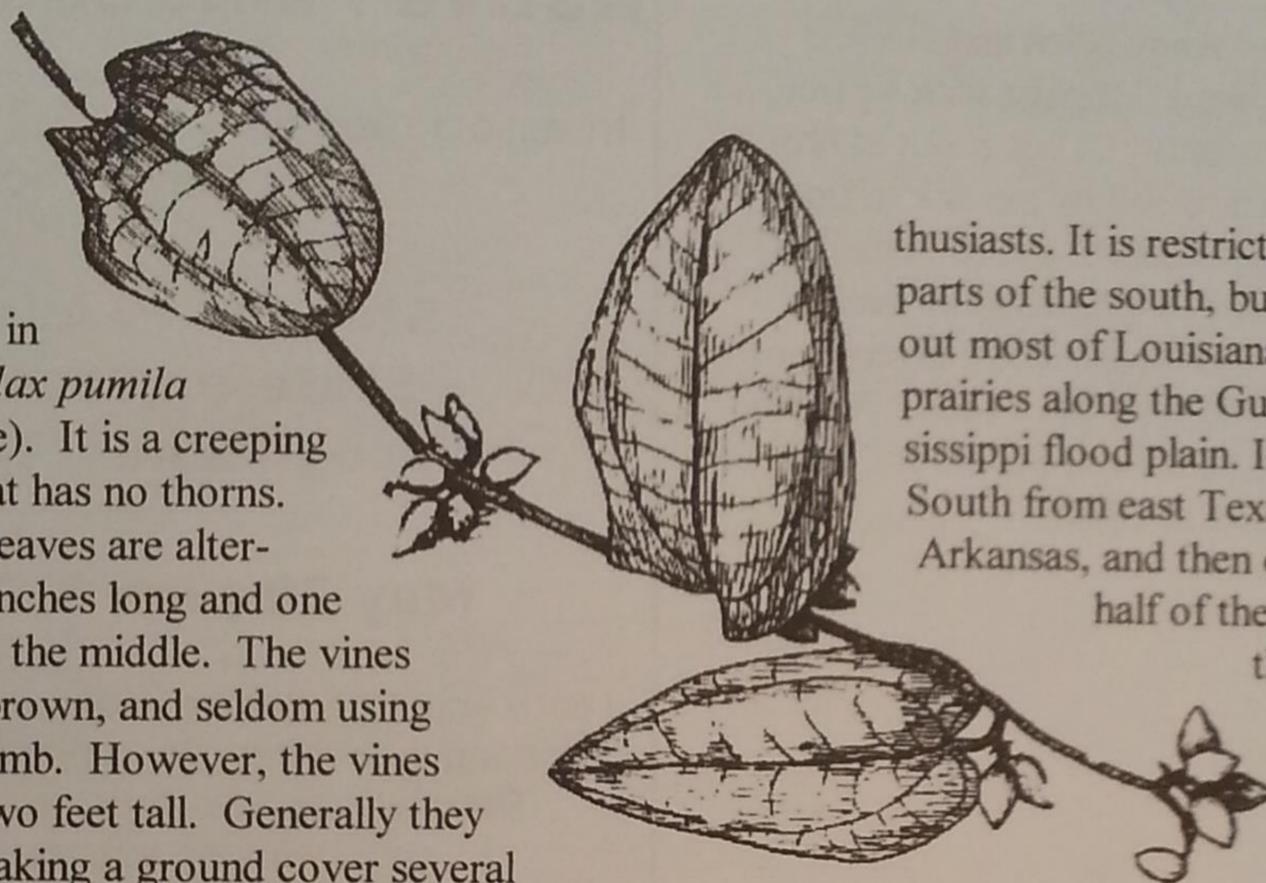
- Naturalistic Landscapes
- Roadside Management
- Native Edibles
- Wildlife Gardening
- Native Perennials
- Plant Propagation
- Orchids of Texas
- Prairies
- Prairie Beauty w/ Native Grasses
- Pond Gardening
- Texas Plants -A Historical Look
- Native Roots in the Urban Forest of America's 4th Largest City
- Natives Hot in the Nursery
- Environmentally Friendly Development

For more information, contact co-chairs:
Dr. David Creech:
dcreech@sfasu.edu or (936)468-4600
Peter M. Loos:
cyrilla@flex.net or (281)362-1107

Some Notes on *Smilax pumila*.....by Carl Amason

One of the most distinctive woodland plants in Louisiana is *Smilax pumila* (Sarsaparilla vine). It is a creeping ground cover that has no thorns. The rough oval leaves are alternate, up to two inches long and one inch broad about the middle. The vines are slender and brown, and seldom using the tendrils to climb. However, the vines can climb over two feet tall. Generally they are sprawling, making a ground cover several feet across. The greenish flowers appear in small, inconspicuous clusters in late summer. They develop into green berries in small tight clusters which turn bright red in the late fall and persist through the winter months when they are easily seen. Since men see it, perhaps more often, the plant is not as well known as many other showy plants. Each berry is pointed on the end, and is about the size of a BB or about one-millimeter round. It seldom is as showy as one could wish for it to be. One colony can be magnificent in fruit and then is just evergreen for several years. It isn't consistently showy.

Smilax pumila grows well in woodlands where it isn't too shady or too sunny, or where floods will drown it out. It is most common on well-drained terraces of creek bottoms where it doesn't become too dry in summer. The vines prosper best where sandy pine woods become mixed with bottomland beech trees. There do not seem to be any insect problems or problems with diseases. It has a slow growth pattern, making it a problem for gardeners who want an immediate effect. A woodland colony in berries is one of the pleasures of wildflower en-



thusiasts. It is restricted to the warmer parts of the south, but it ranges throughout most of Louisiana except for the prairies along the Gulf coast and the Mississippi flood plain. It ranges across the South from east Texas, into South Arkansas, and then only about the lower half of the Gulf States on into the Carolinas, always near the coast.

In looking up the definition of sarsaparilla, it is given as the tonic and

flavor of some of the Brazilian, Central American, and Mexican species of *Smilax*, and it comes from different species of *Smilax*. Apparently, our *Smilax pumila* has direct tropical connections. Locally, *Smilax* is not a beloved plant because we associate the name with many of the thorny saw briars. Even those have some refined members of the genus. In discussion with Dr. Dale Thomas about *Smilax pumila*, he declares that it makes a good tea if one uses the roots, which are stringy, and furthermore, it is one of the best tonics for a sick or upset stomach. This is exactly the use of the tropical sarsaparilla! Perhaps this is a plant in our midst that has a medical future. It is definitely a beautiful woodland plant.

Carl Amason is a superior plantsman who lives and gardens near Calion, Arkansas.

Arkansas Flora Project Continues *by Phillip Hyatt*

Progress continues on production of an Arkansas flora. Committee members meet November 4, 2000 and discussed progress on both the new atlas of Arkansas and the flora. We have, indeed, created a monster. Now if we can only tame it.

The atlas committee reported data collection from two herbaria. UAM has turned in data for the atlas on their 20,000 collections while UALR has reviewed about half of their collections. NLU's Dr. Thomas is organizing and consolidating his extensive Arkansas collections in Monroe, Louisiana where he teaches. UARK has the largest task and will begin reviewing their data during this winter. Dr. Jim Peck at UALR is receiving hard copies of data, and organizing them by both herbarium and species. As soon as data is received, a copy is forwarded to UARK. This allows three copies of any data, to prevent data loss: the data source herbarium should keep a copy, Jim's copy at UALR, and UARK's duplicate. Jim is producing a hard copy list of vouchers for each species by county. All curators were encouraged to continue their herbarium reviews in support of the effort. Several committed to completing reviews of smaller collections through the winter.

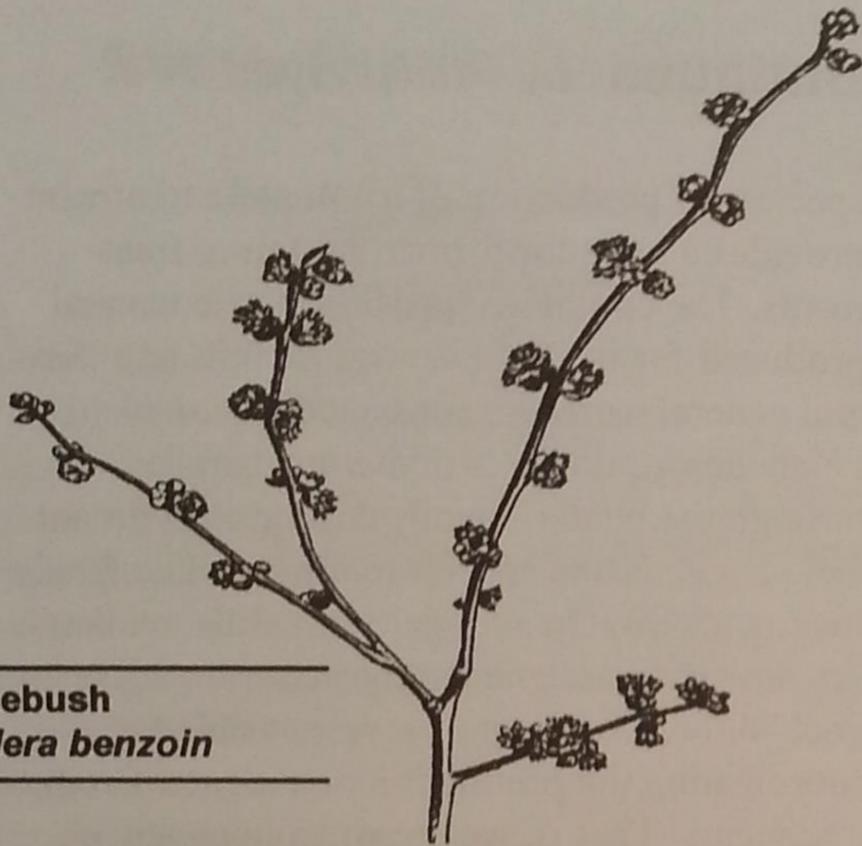
We do not yet have a firm date for production of the new atlas, but Jim is looking into using ArcView to produce county distribution maps. The current publication date of a new atlas is not agreed upon, but likely will be about 2003 to 2004.

The flora committee produced the first two family treatments and circulated them among the committee. These small families have one or a few

species, so production of a complete treatment provides a basis for formatting future treatments. The committee is using a style manual produced for the flora several months ago. Several general members consented to complete family descriptions for numerous families through the winter. Family descriptions do not include genus and species treatments like family treatments do. On a longer term scale, all families now have assigned author/coordinators. Each author/coordinator is responsible for coordinating the production of assigned family treatments. That is, we are welcoming any experts from other states (or in Arkansas itself) who want to contribute manuscripts for specific families, genera, or species to work through the committee coordinator for that group. While all families are assigned, some Asteraceae will likely need attention; and we expect to lose committee members through attrition, so there's plenty of work for anyone who's interested. Our long term goal is to produce a flora by 2007 to 2008.

The Sylamore District's flora (Ozark NF) is being reviewed from two corners. Hyatt is reviewing the district collection. Dr. Thomas has secured Dr. Browne's collections from MEM (through TENN) and will house them at NLU and review them for the flora project.

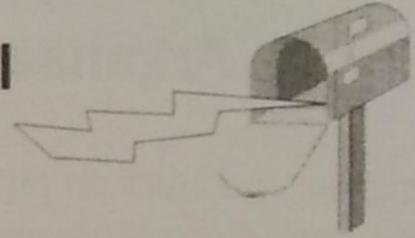
Several other items were discussed, such as funding, collecting, work with the Arkansas Native Plant Society. The next committee meeting is set for March 3, 2001.



Spicebush
Lindera benzoin

Coming up!

LNPS Email Newsgroup



In its first year of operation, the LNPS email group has gotten off to a great start as a new communication tool. Just some of the topics that members have posted include an informative discussion of the *Morus* and *Aesculus* species, prairie field trips, updates on the development of golf courses in state parks, area bloom reports, and more! Get in on all the fun and join the LNPS email group today! Contact Tracey Banowetz at banowetz@bellsouth.net

February 24: Tom Sawyer Day at Briarwood, 9 AM. Volunteer for a little work and some good company and conversation at the Caroline Dormon Nature Preserve. Briarwood is located at 216 Caroline Dormon Rd., off La. Hwy 9 south of Saline. Bring your lunch, gloves, and clippers. Drinks provided. Call 318-576-3379 for directions or more information.

March 23-24, 30-31, April 6-5, 20-21. Friends of the ULM Herbarium Plant Sale. 8-5 at the greenhouses in the 3900's block Bonaire Drive north of Ewing Coliseum in Monroe.. Mostly native plants species, outstanding selection. Proceeds benefit the ULM Herbarium in Monroe. Contact Dr. R. Dale Thomas, 318-342-1812, bithomas@ulm.edu

March 31-April 1: Bogs, Birds, Butterflies and Bivalves at Ft. Polk (Contact Charles Allen, 318-342-1814 or 318-651-8691 biallen@ulm.edu)

April 7-9: Cajun Prairie Spring Meeting and Tours. Contact Charles Allen, 318-342-1814 or 318-651-8691 biallen@ulm.edu

Winn Wildflower Walk May 19. Winn District Prairie Wildflower walk will be on Saturday, May 19, 2001. Meet at 9AM at the Winn District Work Center, which is about 8 miles west of Winnfield on US Hwy 84. Contact person: David Moore, Zone Botanist/Ecologist, Kisatchie National Forest, Kisatchie Ranger District, PO Box 2128, 106 Hwy. 6 West, Natchitoches, LA 71457 Phone - 318.352.2568
Email - dmoore02@fs.fed.us

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.

The *Louisiana Native Plant Society News* is published four times per year. It is the official publication of the Louisiana Native Plant Society. The editor welcomes articles, notices of upcoming events, and book reviews of interest to native plant folks, as well as illustrations, poems, and prose. Deadlines for submissions are June 1st, September 1st, December 1st, and March 1st. Send any address changes to LNPS News, P.O. Box 126, Collinston, La., 71229.—*Terry Erwin, editor.*

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Are Your Dues Due?

Check your mailing label. If the number above your name is highlighted, your dues are due with this issue. Please send your dues to the treasurer, Jessie Johnson, 216 CAROLINE DORMON ROAD, SALINE, LA. 71070. **Remember to send us your change of address.** The newsletter is sent bulk mail and will not be forwarded to you by the postal service.

DO NOT SEND DUES TO THE NEWSLETTER ADDRESS!!!

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| Student or Sr. Citizen | \$5 |
| Individual | \$10 |
| Family | \$15 |
| Organization | \$25 |
| Sustaining | \$50 |
| Corporate | \$100 |

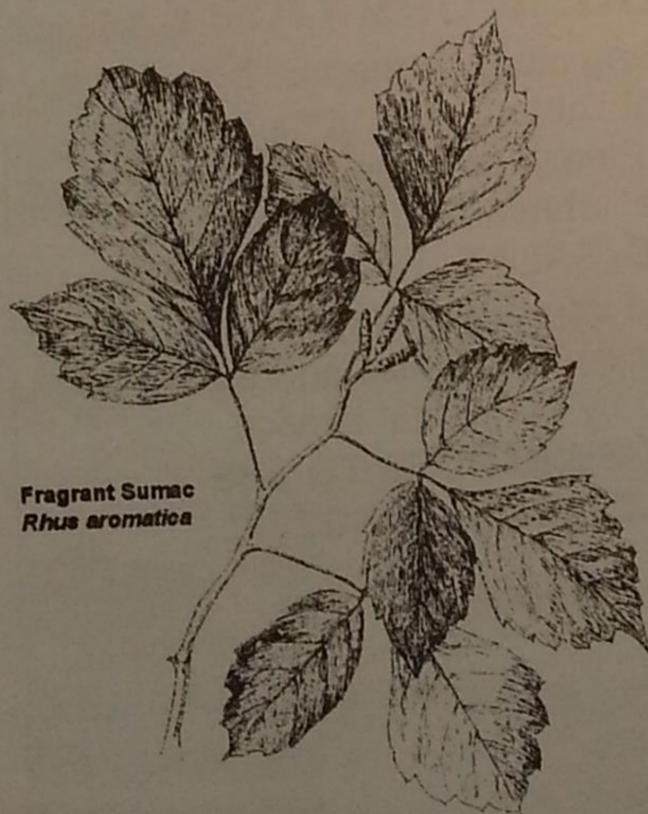
Dates to Remember

- January 19-20, 2001.** LNPS Winter Meeting. Camp Grant Walker, Pollock
- February 24.** Tom Sawyer Day, Caroline Dormon Nature Preserve, Saline
- March 1.** Deadline for entries in LNPS *Spring News*
- March 23-24, 30-31, April 6-5, 20-21.** Friends of the ULM Herbarium Plant Sale, Monroe
- March 31-April 1.** Bogs, Birds, Butterflies and Bivalves at Ft. Polk
- April 7-9.** Cajun Prairie Spring Meeting and Tours.
- May 30-June 3, 2001.** Lone Star Regional Native Plant Conference, SFA University, Nacogdoches, TX
- June 1.** Deadline for entries in LNP *Summer News*

LNPS News

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Dr. & Mrs. Charles Allen
NLU Department of Biology
Monroe LA 71209-0502

inside...

Prairie Garden Update—Fontenot
Carl Amason on *Smilax pumila*
Arkansas Flora project
Calendar of events

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