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President's Corner by Bob Dillemath



I'm sitting here watching the Goldfinches in a feeding frenzy outside of my living room window. Another year has come and gone and I'm getting my notes together for the LNPS annual meeting in February. It has been an interesting fall here, with more than the usual amount of seasonal color. Because of an eye injury I have not been able to do any of my usual winter cleanups and I find the perspective of the garden in its more natural state enjoyable with a carpet of leaves and fallen debris.

It has been interesting having time to just walk around the garden and reflecting on all of the personal connection that the plants bring to mind. In many ways the garden is a history of my life. I live where I grew up and pretty much everything in the garden was planted by my father or me. The redbuds, planted by my father in the 1950's, originally came from Emory Smith at Hilltop. Of

course the originals are gone but their descendants continue to grace the garden every spring. As usual, the fall color from the southern sugar maple was wonderful this year, another Hilltop plant planted by my dad many years ago.

In the spring, the Southern Crab apple given to me by Bill Fontenot is always a reminder of many interesting conversations. The *Rhododendron austrinum*s from Tommy Dodd's are budded out and waiting to burst forth this spring. Lots of plants from many years of Hilltop plant sales, LNPS annual meetings, and pass along plants from friends. My garden is mostly green with lots of trees and shrubs, but tucked in are numerous ferns and perennials, many of them from Tina Reid's nursery.

The garden would not be complete without Margie Jenkins' azaleas blooming in the spring and again in the fall. We have had a succession of blooms since September. My compost bin, quietly working its magic, is screened by a of thicket of giant Turks cap, some Camellias and a wonderful Walters Viburnum from Rick Webb. And of course, the three bald cypress in the back, planted when my daughter Jennifer came home from the first grade with three bare rooted seedlings that just had to be planted right then.

And finally, my garden would not be so complete or interesting without the influence of

LNPS Officers:

- Bob Dillemath,
President
- Bud Willis,
Vice-President
- Beth Erwin,
Secretary
- Jackie Duncan,
Treasurer
- Chris Reid,
Past President
- David Moore,
Newsletter Editor

Board Expiring 2014:
Kent Milton | Pat Lewis |
Johnny Mayronne

Board Expiring 2015:
Jim Foret | Annette Parker | Charles Allen

Board Expiring 2016:
Linda Chance | Charlotte Seidenburg | Betty Miley

Marion Drummond. I have to thank Marion for introducing me to the LNPS and many of you. She helped make our lives so much more interesting and fulfilled. I can't count the times that Marion convinced me that she had the perfect plant for my garden and one I just had to have. Marion left us this year and she will be missed, but her presence will linger in our gardens for many years.

Have a great New Year and I hope to see all of you at the LNPS annual meeting on February 1st at Camp Hardtner.

Bob

Winter 2014 Annual Meeting

January 31, February 1-2, 2014

Camp Hardtner, Pollock, LA

For the ninth year, LNPS members will return to Camp Hardtner, located in the piney woods of central Louisiana, north of Pollock, La. Fishing is available in the pond at the Camp and there is a wonderful deck that overlooks the pond where visiting and drinking coffee can be enjoyed. No boats are allowed and alcoholic beverages are not permitted on the grounds. The costs for lodging and food are shown below. Please complete the registration form and return to Jackie Duncan at the address indicated by January 24, 2013.

Friday, January 31, 2014, Henton Hall

5:00 pm till – Registration will be from 5 till 6 pm followed by a potluck supper in Henton Hall. Bring your favorite dish along with your favorite plant slides. Favorite slides will be shown during and after the meal. Book sales and plant swapping will also start and continue into the weekend. Laptop, projector, and screen will be provided.

Saturday, February 1, 2014, Hargrove Hall

Registration will be in the Dining Hall beginning at 8 am and the meeting will begin at 9 am in Hargrove Hall (coffee and water will be available). Almost Eden Nursery will be selling native plants on Saturday.

7:30 am – Breakfast

9:00 am – Program I: “Biodiversity Gardening and Prairie Landscaping” by Marc Pastorek. Marc is a long time member of LNPS and past president of the Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society. Marc is the founding partner of Pastorek Habitats. He is a consultant for architects and engineers on projects of varying scale and diversity, ranging from tiny urban rare plant gardens to authentic, diverse grassland habitat restorations of hundreds of acres. Pastorek Habitats is the only source for local-genetic, restoration-grade native grassland seed in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. The company harvests its diverse seed mixes from restored and remnant prairies and savannas and from its own seed fields in Pearl River County, Mississippi. Marc will speak on the work he is doing with Crosby Arboretum and the Cajun Prairie Society.

9:40 am – Break.

9:50 am – Program II: “Succession in Ouachita Wildlife Management Area” by Matthew S. Herron. Matthew co-founded the Capital Area native plant Society in Baton Rouge. Matthew is currently pursuing his M.S in Biology at the University of Louisiana at Monroe. His research is located in the Ouachita Wildlife Management Area near Monroe, Louisiana, studying the patterns of succession in fallow fields and oak planting since 1984. He will discuss his research and how it is furthering our understanding of conservation and restoration.

10:45 am – Business meeting.

11:45 am – Break, shopping.

12:00 pm – Lunch.

1:00 pm – Program III: “Atchafalaya Basin Native Plant Habitats” by Charles Fryling. Charles teaches LSU Landscape architecture courses in plant materials, regional planning, ecology and the American Landscape. He is a long time environmental activist who has been involved in environmental concerns of preservation, conservation and restoration for

many years. He has been particularly known for his concern about the protection of the Atchafalaya Basin. He will share his knowledge of the Atchafalaya Basin and its native plant habitats.

1:50 pm - Native Plant Auction (Funds from the auction are used to fund the annual LNPS grants given to students and organizations for native plant projects.)

Sunday, February 2, 2014

8:30 am – Morning field trip will depart from the Dining Hall at Camp Hardtner. Trip is to be determined.

Directions:

Camp Hardtner's address is 2393 Camp Hardtner Rd., Pollock, LA 71467-4183.

It is located to the east of U.S. Highway 165, eight miles north of Pollock in Grant Parish.

The entrances to the side road that loops to the camp are near Mile Markers 103 and 109 on U.S. Hwy. 165. The loop is about 8 miles long and the Camp is midway, literally straddling the road. The loop is rough, so travel cautiously.



2014 Annual Meeting Registration Form

Remittance

Registration

Free

Saturday Meals:

Breakfast \$7.00/person (7:30 am)

Lunch \$8.00/person (noon)

Dinner Leftovers from Potluck (5:30 pm)

Lodging:

Holy Day Inn \$55 single; \$70 double/night

Cabins \$20/person, bring your linens

Please indicate which nights you will be staying:

Friday _____ Saturday _____

Annual Dues (form below):

Check address label for expiration date

TOTAL

Please submit your registration and payment by **January 24, 2013**. Checks payable to LNPS.

Send to:

Jackie Duncan, 114 Harper Ferry Road, Boyce, LA 71409

LNPS Membership Form

Membership Form:

Checks payable to LNPS.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Annual Dues: Student/Senior \$5_____ Individual \$10_____ Family \$15_____

Organization \$25_____ Sustaining \$50_____ Corporate \$100_____

Mail to: Jackie Duncan, 114 Harper Ferry Road, Boyce, LA 71409

LNPS

Louisiana Native Plant Society
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Boyce, LA 71409
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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, and to educate people on the relationship between our native flora and wildlife.

www.lnps.org

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