

Mississippi Native Plant Quarterly

Mississippi Native Plant Society

APRIL 1993

Spring wildflower weekend and native plant sale set at Crow's Nest in Tishomingo

WHEN: April 30-May 2

WHERE: Crow's Neck Environmental Education Center, 281 County Rd. 115, Tishomingo MS 38873, 601-438-6751.

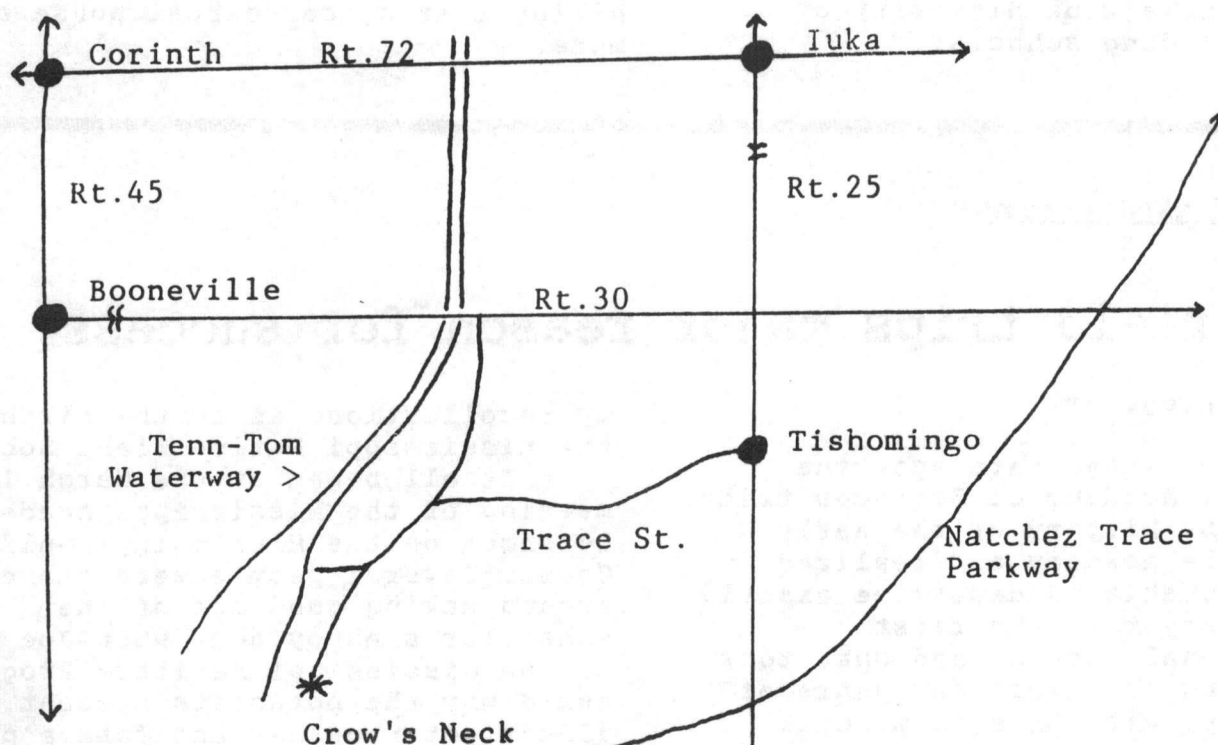
PROGRAM: 8 p.m. Friday. Introduction, storytelling, video-slide show and sing-a-long led by Crow's Nest staff.

8:30 a.m., Saturday, field trip led by Crow's neck staff, Sidney McDaniel and MSU botany students. Evening program: Bring favorite slides of your plants. Dinner followed by plant

sale. Bring a plant to share; donations support MNPS educational activities. Sunday, breakfast and field trip to favorite area.

BRING: Sleeping bag or blankets and sheets. Pillow, towel and soap, rain gear and outdoor trail gear, one native plant to donate.

FEES: \$55 per adult includes two nights lodging at a modern facility complete with fireplace, kitchen, commons area and bunkbeds. Also includes three meals Saturday, Sunday



breakfast and all program activities. Call about fees for day-use only or one-night accommodations: Vic Rudis, 324-0403. Leave message.

SEND FEES TO: MNPS, P.O. Box 2151, Starkville MS 39759. PREPAYMENT REQUIRED BY APRIL 19. Children ages 8-18 are especially encouraged to participate. Children's fees are \$45 (\$55 after April 19). A parent or adult guardian must accompany each child.

Crow's Nest setting offers outdoor ed

Located in northeastern Mississippi near the town of Tishomingo, Crow's Neck occupies a 530-acre peninsula on Bay Springs Lake. Rolling topography and vistas of wooded shoreline dominate the landscape. This beautiful setting combined with facilities which are second to none offer an outdoor educational opportunity unique in Mississippi.

Year around programming is available to a wide diversity of user groups including schools,

business/industry, and the general public. All of the programs conducted at Crow's Neck are centered on meeting the mission of providing educational experiences which will develop and increase environmental understanding and promote appropriate stewardship of our natural and cultural resources. To this end, Crow's Neck was designed to facilitate both day-use and residential programming.

Crow's Neck opened in April 1993, and was built under the supervision of the Army Corp of Engineers as part of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway Project. Upon completion of the site the Corps of Engineers turned over the operation and management of the facility to the Northeast Mississippi Environmental Education Consortium.

Facilities include a 14,000-square-foot building with classrooms, conference room, laboratory, kitchen, auditorium, exhibit room, dining hall and administrative offices. Cabins offer views of forest and lake shore. There are two outdoor classrooms, an outdoor amphitheater, wildlife observation boardwalk, miles of hiking trails, canoe/boat house and more.

History of MNPS traced

Early field trips major reason for success

by Fred Searcy, Jr.

Not too many years ago, the Mississippi Academy of Sciences tried to trace the history of the early years of the academy and realized they were unable to determine exactly who was present at the first organizational meeting and what took place during the first few years of the society. With this in mind, I thought members might like a few of

my recollections as to the birth of the Mississippi Native Plant Society.

It all began at the March 1980 meeting of the Mississippi Academy of Sciences on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Several people were standing around making good use of the exhibitor's happy hour when Joe Jacob of the Mississippi Heritage Program asked why the botanists present didn't get together and form a plant society. I suspect Joe's questions

was a little selfish because such an organization would be of some benefit to the purposes of the heritage program. Be that as it may, none of us could think of a reason not to form a society and in general thought it was an excellent idea.

To the best of my recollection, our group consisted of Ed Decker, Barry McPhail, Cary Norquist, Will McDearman and John Burris. I will not list their associations because they probably have changed so much over the years. We began to throw out names of individuals who might be interested in such a society and in a very short time we had a list of 20 names. I agreed to send out a letter to the people on our list and see if there was interest by calling an organizational meeting on 19 April 1980 at the Museum of Natural Science in Jackson. Will McDearman and I received a good response from the initial mailing of letters.

The meeting on the 19th was somewhat a surprise because 16 people showed up, including several not on the original mailing list, showing the power of word-of-mouth communication.

Those attending were R.C. Roberts, Mrs. Frances Wills Mrs. Ruth Downey, Liz Peeler, John Burris and Frances Rebmann, all of Jackson, Jerry Hall of Starkville, Kenneth Gordon of Florence, Sam Faulkner of Mississippi State, Travis and Margaret Salley of Cleveland, Robert Stewart of Merigold and Delta State, Kirk Hill of Pinola, and myself.

At the meeting we discussed whether or not there was a need for such a society, the function of the society, and the name. Everyone called for the formation of what was then named the Native Plant Society of Mississippi. This was later changed to the Mississippi Native Plant Society because of space limitation on our newsletter. Temporary officers were selected. They were myself as chair-person, Robert Stewart as vice-chair, and

Will McDearman as Secretary-Treasurer and editor of the newsletter.

A summer meeting was scheduled for the Mississippi Gulf Coast to areas in and around the Mississippi Gulf Coast Laboratory for May 24, 1980. The meeting adjourned with 100 percent paying due for the first year.

Interest in the society began building immediately. The Gulf Coast field trip drew 24 people. This was also designated the first official meeting of the organization. Those attending were Jonathan Barlow, Les and Margaret Saucier, Donald and Susan Crawley, Randy Coleman, Travis and Margaret Salley, Janice Thrash, Maryellen Duprel, Elizabeth Smith, Bill and Hedy Cibula, Kirk Hill, Samuel Faulkner, Will McDearman, Fran and Marjorie Smiley, Chris Smith, Marion Rush, Mary and Bob Burkes, Robert Stewart and myself. Permanent officers were selected. I was chosen as President, Robert Stewart as Vice-President, Travis Salley as Secretary-Treasurer and Will McDearman as editor of the newsletter. The constitution was discussed as to the items needed in it and several volunteered to write in and submit suggestions and questions for ratifications.

Reflections on those early years amaze me that a group of people so easily established the society and that it had an immediate success. Communications were either by letter, phone or word of mouth and out enrollment began to grow rapidly. I feel that the major reason for the success was the numerous field trip scheduled early in the organization's beginnings and the contributions by professors at Ole Miss, State and Delta State to serve as guides on these trips.

Robert Stewart was a major influence on the beginning of our society. His tireless efforts and guidance made the earlier years the success that you see in the native plant society today. I'm not sure

that the people who first met in Jackson in March of 1980 had any idea that the society would turn into as dynamic an organization as it is today. Travis Salley went out of his way to produce and put on programs for us and would visit any group at the drop of the hat to show his great slides while promoting the native plant society. Over the years I've seen the society grow and become more important in conservation in the state and have seen it reach the stage of having influence state wide.

NOTE: Fred Searcy is now an associate professor of biology at Broward Community College, 7200 Hollywood Blvd., Pembroke Pines, FL 33024.

Research arboretum offers new possibilities

by Patti Drapala

For many years, the Mississippi Nurserymen's Asso. has sought evaluation information from Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station (MAFES) horticulturists on landscape plants common to other areas of the country but capable of growing in Mississippi.

In response to that request, the MSU Department of Horticulture began a research arboretum three years ago on the MAFES South Farm. This gives researchers yet another means of evaluating hardiness of plant materials to satisfy public demand for new and different plants.

"In 1989, my graduate students and I put out plants donated by members of the nurserymen's association. Since then, the research arboretum has gradually been built to what's here today," says MAFES Horticulturist Lester Estes, manager of the arboretum.

At present, the three-acre arboretum contains 151 trees; 301 shrubs, vines and ornamental grasses;

94 varieties of perennial; 44 ferns; and 502 annuals. Trees and shrubs are lined in neat rows, and vines are trained on wire trellises. Annuals and perennials are in three raised beds, each bed eight feet by 99 feet. Ferns are growing in an 18-foot by 18-foot raised bed.

Estes says there is a huge pool from which researchers can select plant materials for the arboretum. Not only are researchers looking at native varieties and their performance under different growing conditions, but they are also examining the adaptability of popular plants from the North. Cuttings from such plants grown at the arboretum could one day lead to varieties suited to Mississippi's climate.

"We don't know whether certain sugar maple cultivars can sustain themselves here. Will they take the temperature? How would they be affected by lack of soil moisture for an extended period?" asks Estes.

Plans are already underway to double the size of the arboretum to six acres within the next few years. But even more important is the support of MAFES, the nursery industry and the public in getting the research arboretum established.

"Just like the rose garden on campus, once people hear and read about the research arboretum, they will come out and see it," Estes points out.

Nursery operators and industry representatives interested in donating plant materials to the research arboretum can contact Estes at 601-325-3223, or write him at: MSU Dept. of Horticulture, P.O. Drawer T, Mississippi State, MS 39762.



"Bad" wildflower plot? There's no such thing

by Travis Salley

My son, Tom, offered me the use of a plot of land 60' by 200' to use for wildflowers. It is located on the bank of Jones Bayou in Boyle, MS. Because this plot was a public road about 70 years ago, it is compacted, has no top soil, and very little summer vegetation. It has a pH of 7.5 and a history of flooding. Beavers, muskrats and water moccasins are abundant. There are so many cutworms, they even eat plants that no one wants. Anyone with one eye and half a sense would have run from the offer. I accepted the offer saying it would take five years to make any type of showing.

On November 1, 1991, I spot sprayed to kill small amounts of dallis grass that was on the plot. The next step was to lay out the beds, 7' by 7' with a 5' walkway over the area. Since it was getting late in the planting season, I started planting seeds and setting out plants with very little bed preparation: only scratching the top of the soil with a garden rake. This continued until May 1992. I used every species of wildflower and every variety of vegetables that I had and what other people gave me.

The walkways were covered with 4" to 8" of leaves from John q. Public. I hauled about 40 cubic yards of oak leaves and pine needles that people had put out for the trash truck. The leaves were there to decay, hold moisture, improve the soil and control any "weeds" that might come up. In the summer, I removed the leaves from the walkways and put them in a pile to finish composting for about two months. After removing the leaves, I dug 2" to 6" of soil from half of the walkways and put it on the beds which then became 19' x 19'. The composted leaves were then added to the top of

the beds to about 2" deep.

Last fall I obtained about 40 cubic yards of wood chips and 40 cubic yards of oak leaves and pine needles. This was put in the walkways. The chips were put down 4" to 6" first with the leaves 4" to 6" deep on top. It has not settled to a firm walkway.

"There is a plant for every place."

The first summer the plot created a lot of interest from people who were curious and people who were interested in plants. The Mississippi Delta does not have a great number of wildflowers and there were some plants that a few people had not seen before. Only about 75 of the 100 kinds of seeds and plants put out came through the summer.

Some of the plants did very well and others did "so-so". Some of those that did well are Queen Anne's lace and chicory, which both can be a pest. Some others are: several types of black-eyes susans, cup plant, Mexican sunflower (Tithonia), Indian blanket, New Jersey tea, rain lily, New England aster, purple coneflower, five species of hibiscus, cypress vine, sensitive plant, Stoke's Aster, hearts-a-bustin', wild strawberry, California poppy, cosmos, wild geranium, four species of wild iris, showy evening primrose, nasturtium, iron weed and four species of phlox. The vegetables were planted on prepared bed and the ones that did well were okra, tomatoes, onion, carrots and cabbage.

This first year was so good it leaves me with little to do for an encore in five years. My goal is to have 200-plus species of wildflowers. It seems to me now there is no such thing as a "bad" plot for wildflowers. There is a plant for every place.

Upcoming Events

April 17: Spring Yard and Garden Jamboree, Jim Buck Ross Agriculture & Forestry Museum, Lakeland Dr., Jackson. While there, check out the garden displays of recycled materials and the herb garden.

April 17: Music and Storytelling Workshop. Crow's Neck Environmental Education Center, Tishomingo. More info: M. Miller, 438-6751.

April 22-24: Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage, Gatlinburg, TN. More info: Great Smokey Mountains National Park, 615-436-1262.

April 24: Spring wildflower field trip led by botanists Charles "Sedge" Bryson and Ron Weiland along Coonewah Creek chalk bluffs to view variety of unusual plant life including rare Price's potato-bean, and a potential prairie restoration project area along the Natchez Trace. Bring insect repellent and sack lunch. Meet at 10 a.m. at Tupelo Ranger Station, Natchez Trace, Tupelo. Cost: \$10; limit 20 people. Sponsored by Nature Conservancy.

April 24-25: Spring Open Garden, Flowerplace Plant Farm, Meridian, MS. Mail order catalog \$3. For a catalog (\$3) or directions to the farm, contact Gail Barton, P.O. Box 4864, Meridian MS 39304, 482-5686.

April 30-May 2: MNPS Spring Meeting, Tishomingo. More info: See (Add page here) or call 324-0430.

May 1: Pascagoula River boat tour and barbecue, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Nature Conservancy trip will tour cypress-filled oxbow lakes of "Big Swamp". Naturalist guide is Jack Herring. Bring insect repellent and snack for lunch. Supper provided. Cost \$25 person; limit 15 people.

May 8: Black Creek canoe trip and Trash-A-Thon, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Black Creek Canoe Rental, Brooklyn. Cost, \$10; limit 20 people. Canoes and beverages provided. Bring sunscreen, insect repellent hat, sunglasses and sack lunch.

May 19: "Plants and Gardening" lecture, Dr. Lester Estes, Starkville Public Library, noon.

May 29: Sweetbay Bogs tour will be led by Mississippi Nature Conservancy Director Roger Jones. This unique ecosystem near Wiggins includes many unusual carnivorous and rare plants. Feet will get wet. Bring sneakers or boots, insect repellent and sack lunch. Cost, \$10; limit 20 people.

June 9-12: Gulf Coast Regional Native Plant Conference, University of Southwestern Louisiana, Lafayette, LA. This is another in a series of regional native plant conferences akin to the widely-praised Cullowee, NC conferences. Register before May 15. Costs \$70. More info: Bill Fontenot, Lafayette National History Museum, 637 Girard Park Dr., Lafayette, LA 70503, 318-235-6181 or Marion Drummond, 504-767-6916.

July 22: Landscaping with Native Plants Conference, Cullowee, NC. More info: Continuing Ed, Western Carolina University, 704-227-7397.

Sept. 24-26: Eastern Native Plant Societies Annual Conference, St. Louis, MO. More info: Eastern Native Plant Alliance, P.O. Box 6101, McLean VA 22106, 703-356-7425.

TRAVELING TO NEW ENGLAND THIS SUMMER? Check out the program and events of the New England Wildflower Society. Info: Garden in the Woods, 180 Hemenway Rd., Framingham MA 01701-2699, 508-877-7630.

The Parable of the Kindled Spirit

by Dale Goodner

One upon a time a large bear named Herald (a relative of Smokey) was walking through the woods. He wore a tattered broad-brimmed hat and carried a shovel. His goal was to protect the forest.

It happened one day that he came upon a wonderful bird known as the phoenix. This was the mythical bird which periodically consumed itself in flames and then arose renewed from the ashes.

Herald knew nothing of the natural history of this incredible bird. He marvelled, however, at its beauty and colors. You can imagine his shock when this object of his attention began to smolder. He rushed up and "put the phoenix out" before it had really warmed up. In this way he saved its life, removed any hope of regeneration, and thereby condemned it to extinction all at the same time.

Herald, being a fairly intuitive bear, saw the misery he had inadvertently caused and realized immediately that something was very wrong here. He decided to conduct a study. Ornithologists from throughout the land were called in to examine the endangered phoenix and all agreed that, alas, it was aging and would soon be dead. But it was not too late! There was still a spark of life in the deteriorating bird. One hope remained...if the magical fire could be re-kindled!

It would not be easy. It would require many people from all over the countryside to come to the aid of the dying phoenix. Only through love and care and great effort could this magical mystical and colorful bird hope to once again arise renewed from the ashes. Volunteers from all walks of life responded, including Herald.

But there was a venerable old cat, Faust, who demurred. He thought

that he, as a cat, knew more about birds than any "know it all" ornithologists (a bird in the teeth is worth two in the heath, etc.). Faust called for still more studies, and offered himself as an authority in place of the scientists. He didn't believe that anything could arise from a bunch of ashes, even from magical flames. It is death, not life, that comes from fire. Besides, if the phoenix is meant to die, so be it...that's what birds are supposed to do; it's natural, it's evolution!

The cat spoke loudly decrying what he called the 'self interests' of the volunteers. He insisted that Herald's original actions were "natural." Also, it would, in fact, be "unnatural" to help the phoenix rekindle.

The volunteers, based upon what they saw, and what the scientists had told them, knew action must be taken quickly if their mythical bird was to be saved. In the end they left Faust meowing in the distance and went about the business of re-setting the magical flame.

Slowly, little by little, bit by bit, the beleaguered phoenix was able to once again consume itself in flames, and with breathtaking beauty arose renewed from the ashes. A sense of well-being returned to the land. Herald was deeply grateful to all who had given of their time and efforts to make the renewal possible. In fact, everyone, with the possible exception of the cat, were indebted to the phoenix for giving them the opportunity to experience life, death, and a sense of belonging. If the truth were known, even old Faust was moved by the mythical bird...but he's never admit it.

Herald is back out, protecting the forest; but now there is a connection. He has participated in the natural processes and found new meaning and feeling of unity. He knows now that he is both protector and protected. Reprinted from "Oak Friends", Peoria Wilds Project.

Delta member shares her favorite ideas for landscaping with Mississippi native plants

By Lynn Libous-Bailey

I am a gardener. In many respects that is a sickness. I live to make it through my eight-hour day at work so that I can rush home to be in my yard. My husband and children have grown to understand that dinner in our household will never be served as long as the sun is shedding enough light for me to find my spade!

Though I have lived in Mississippi for 12 years, I am originally from Upstate New York. Gardening in this harsh Delta environment has made me more than humble. Seems that this thing they call Zone 8 with summer nighttime temperatures in the mid-to-upper 70's, and humidity hovering in the low-to-mid 90's makes one quickly reassess what plants will make it May through September here and which ones are better left to be grown in the cooler hills of Mississippi and to Gail Barton in her now re-defined Zone 7b!

I finally realized, after losing more plants than I care to remember, that the way to go is with natives, especially those that thrive in the middle South. There is always the perfect plant for that not-so-perfect place and Mother Nature knows what it is. All one has to do is study her.

Unfortunately, most people seem to feel that if you garden with natives, you must have a very unkept looking border. Not so. It is all in the method of presentation. I have found a winning combination with some natives that thrive in low, wet, damp areas, in sun or shade. Our backyard had a natural drainage gully which ran through it. Filling it up to level the land would mean more work than I cared to undertake, not to mention the question of where the runoff would then end up. Besides,

there is always the perfect plant waiting for such a place. After clearing the area of the brush that had accumulated and widening it into a three-foot sweep, I began to search the wildflower, trees and shrub books and gardening catalogs in search of the plants to fill the area.

I began with *Itea virginica*. It would provide me with beautiful bronze stems all year, great panicles of flowers in the spring, and burgundy leaves remain even in December. The *Itea* was placed on the Southeast side of the gully, as it will flower and have much brighter fall color if placed full sun. In the middle of the gully, just behind the *Itea* I needed something striking in form, semi-evergreen and not just your usual perennial. I found what I needed in a *Juncus* sp. Three foot tall, great structure and its flowers are produced in a wispy group that makes you look twice. It has been more than a conversation piece, especially to those who dare to see if the tips are sharp! Near the *Juncus* but on the shadier side of the gully I have placed three *Amsonia hubrechtii*. It provides me with great-steel blue flowers and a wonderful airy structure all summer. The fall colors of gold/yellow give a wonderful contrast to the green stems of the *Juncus* and the burgundy of the *Itea*. I do not cut the stems, as the winter form of the seed pods and the tan/grey they turn provide structure so badly needed in winter. This fall I filled the gaps in this section with *Ranunculus sardous*, transplanted from a nearby field, and it is providing a blast of yellow at such a dreary time. I underplanted this area with *Marshallia graminifolia* this fall and eagerly await its bloom next summer.

As you look further behind the

Amsonia into the transition region of my "Woodland Area" you will find a mass planting of *Hydrangia quercifolia*. This is one shrub that I would not trade for the world. Providing me with great peeling bark beautiful summer blossoms and brilliant red/orange foliage in the fall and winter, it is the backbone of the area. I find that although it may thrive in full sun with its feet damp mine is doing better in a morning sun/afternoon shade area with very little additional water during the year.

This entire grouping I have planted next to a foot bridge my husband built this past summer. Low railings topped with an eight inch piece of cypress provide a seat from which to admire the combination.

In another area of the gully I have placed *Illicium parviflorum*, which provides the evergreen height needed in that spot, and the scent of root beer when the leaves are bruised. On the sunnier side lies a grouping of *Andropogon virginicus* and flanking this grass on the slope is a mass planting of *Lythrum virgatum*. The *Andropogon* gives me the blue-green color and upright form that I find attractive with the airy loose form of the *Lythrum*, especially when the *Lythrum* is in bloom. In the fall the *Lythrum* provides red/burgundy leaves which look great against the copper flower stalks of the *Andropogon* which also give height and structure to the winter garden. The center of the gully in this area is comprised of a sweep of Louisiana Iris. Although most of them are selections of wild species, I admit to sneaking in a few named hybrids. The La. iris's are in active growth throughout the fall and winter and provide a fresh green color and upright form for the area. I have ordered a start of *Niviusia alabamensis* (Alabama Snow-wreath) hoping it will provide an early spring bloom to replace the White Flowering Almond (*Prunus* sp.) which

no longer fits into the scheme of the area) located on the woodland side of the La. Iris.

This area of the yard is far from finished. I have huge gaps along the gully that are yet unfilled, but would rather keep them mulched than have to plant something that I just am not happy with.

I find it very satisfying when guests tour the yard and find it hard to believe that this section of the yard is comprised of natives. I am often asked why I don't have marigolds or petunias (or those 700 other garden center specials) and I am quick to point out the *Tagetes* on the edge of one border by the *Pennisetum* 'Hamlen' and a *Ruellia* sp. standing three feet tall in a clump that is finally large enough to make a statement. I look forward to showing off the *Ruellia* 'Nolans Dwarf' that I planted this fall and letting them know that this 18-inch beauty is evergreen, can take full sun and stays open all day without me dragging the hose to its rescue.

They may not appreciate it the way I do, but I'm the lucky one that gets to have her morning coffee sitting on the railing of that handmade bridge watching the birds bathe in the gully after a soaking rain.

THE MNPS is in urgent need of new officers

Randy Winstead, vice president, has moved out of state, and Sherrie Wiygul, secretary-treasurer, is resigning at the end of this year. With competition for our time from other groups sponsoring plant outings such as Crosby Arboretum and The Nature Conservancy, it is very important to have active leadership to continue the mission of the Native Plant Society. Anyone interested in serving should call Vic Rudis at 324-0430.

Native Seed Bank news

In the previous issue, Dr. James Wolfe wrote about the Native Seed Bank at Coffeeville, MS. Dr. Wolfe informs us that he is now retired from the USDA Soil Conservation Service in Coffeeville and has moved.

He's still interested in wildflowers, heirloom varieties and maintaining a personal "seed bank". He will provide a list of what he has to those interested when time permits. Address inquiries to: Dr. James A. Wolfe, Rt. 3, Box 3145, Rogersville, TN 37857, 615-272-8801.

Seeds of natives available at Crosby

Crosby Arboretum in Picayune maintains a good collection of native seed of herbaceous and woody plant species.

Bob Brzuszek, curator of Crosby's Pinecote Native Plant Center, says the following species are available: toothache grass (Ctenium aromaticum (Walter) Wood, white topped sedge, Dichromena latifolia (L.) Hitch., purple coneflower Echinacea purpurea (L.) Moench, false hoarhound (Eupatorium rotundifolium L., plume grass (Erianthus giganteum (Walter) Muhl, liatris (Liatris squarrulosa Michx., panic grass (Panicum virgatum L.) and thalia (Thalia dealbata Roscoe).

For more information, contact Bob at 799-2311.

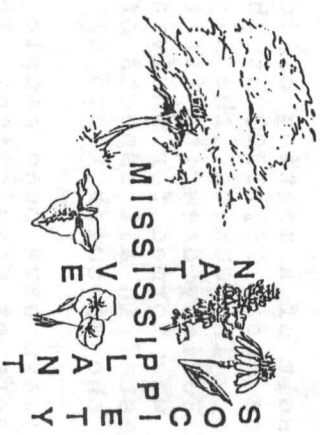
Does your yard look like Anywhere, USA? Give your garden a sense of place with native plants. --
Mississippi NATIVE Plant Society.



Blue Phlox (*Phlox divaricata*)

1992-93 Board of Directors

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T-shirts with a new design are being prepared by Susan Haltom, Bob Brzuszek and Lynn Ashford. For now we still have some silver-grey t-shirts left with the present logo shown above available in the following sizes: Adult small and medium; child small, medium and large. They can be purchased for \$8.50 plus \$1.50 shipping.

Wildflowers of Mississippi, softcover edition, is for sale by the MNPS at a cost of \$19.50 plus \$2.50 shipping (an additional \$1 for first class).

T-shirts and books can be purchased from Vic Rudis, P.O. Box 2151, Starkville MS 39759.

WE NEED ARTICLES and b&w photos for the newsletter on all kinds of issues of interest to members. Scientific plant reviews particularly welcome. Next deadline: July 1. Please double-space manuscripts, and submit copy on diskette if possible (Word Perfect 5.1 on 3.5" disk preferred, but can translate most other word processing programs). Send to: Editors, MNPS, 6104 Olvida Circle, Ocean Springs MS 39564.

PROGRAMS

- Field trips to locations throughout state.
- Lectures, seminars and slide shows by native plant experts, ecologists, landscape experts, knowledgeable amateurs and gardeners.
- Facilitate study of state flora and monitor nature preserves through newsletter announcements, networking and awarding small research and education grants.
- Plant & seed exchanges, creating and maintaining displays for public education, and plant rescues in areas about to be developed.

NEWSLETTER AND MEMBERSHIP: The Mississippi Native Plant Society Quarterly provides a calendar of upcoming events, articles on native plant propagation and identification, notes on plant and seed exchanges, landscape design, reviews of books and articles on activities/people associated with native and naturalized plants of Mississippi

Membership is open to any interested individual, family or organization. To join, please mail the application below with fee.

Membership Application and Dues Notice

Please indicate class of membership and enclose dues.

- ____ Student, \$5.00
- ____ Individual or family, \$7.50
- ____ Sustaining, \$10.00
- ____ Contributing, \$25
- ____ Life, \$125.00

All classes of membership receive the MNPS Quarterly. Life members will receive Wildflowers of Mississippi. Please make checks payable to Mississippi Native Plant Society. Return form and check to: Mississippi Native Plant Society, P.O. Box 2151, Starkville MS 39759

Be sure to include the following info with your payment:

Name _____
 Mailing Address _____
 Telephone (optional): _____
 If Mississippi, county of residence _____



As a result of a meeting called by Fred Searcy, Jr. on April 19, 1980 at the Museum of Natural History in Jackson, the Mississippi Native Plant Society drew its first breath. The organization was formed for individuals and groups interested in all aspects of botany, particularly the vascular flora of Mississippi.

There always have been people with a love of native plants of Mississippi. The overall purpose of the Native Plant Society is the furtherance of knowledge about the native and naturalized plant species of Mississippi and the encouragement of an attitude of respect and appreciation for these species.

GOALS

---Gather and disseminate knowledge about the native and naturalized plant species and their habitats in Mississippi.

---Work for the preservation of these species and conservation of their habitats.

---Inform the public about these species and habitats, including their propagation, importance, ecology and need for protection.

---Encourage the propagation and use of native plants and habitats in designing residential, commercial and public landscapes.

---Promote fellowship among all persons interested in understanding and appreciating native plants and their habitats.

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P.O. Box 2151
Starkville MS 39759