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LNPS Officers:

- Bud Willis, *President*
- Peggy Cox, *Vice-President*
- Beth Erwin, *Secretary*
- Jackie Duncan, *Treasurer*
- David Moore, *Newsletter Editor*

Ex officio Board Members:

- Bob Dilleuth, *Past President*
- Lauren Hull, *CANPS President*

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

Board Expiring 2016:
Linda Chance | Charlotte Seidenberg | Betty Mile

Board Expiring 2017:
Rick Webb | Matthew Herron | Dave Banowitz

2014 Annual Meeting

As with last year, it was a beautiful early Spring day when 72 or so members of the LNPS met at Camp Hardtner for the 2014 Annual Meeting held on February 1-3. As always, a great time was had by all—old friends reunited and new ones made. It just gets better every year.

Aside from seeing old friends and talking plants, the presentations were a highlight of this and all meetings.

This year we were honored to have presentations by Marc Pastorek, Matthew Herron, and

Charles Fryling

Marc Pastorek gave a presentation on the work he is doing with Crosby Arboretum and the Cajun Prairie Society. Matt Herron gave a presentation on his Master's research project, where he is studying the patterns of succession in fallow fields and oak plantings since 1984. Charles Fryling gave a presentation on the native plant habitats of the Atchafalaya Basin.

LNPS raised \$671 at the always-popular plant auction. A special thanks to all who provided plants for the auction.

This year's Sunday field trip was to a site that has the only record for Upright Sedge (*Carex stricta*) in Louisiana. The only record for this collection was made by James Black on April 10, 1936 in one of the first purchase units of the Kisatchie National Forest. We were unsuccessful in our search, but this riparian area still had lots of botanically-interesting things to see.

All in all the 2014 LNPS Winter Meeting was a success.

If you missed this year, we hope to see you in 2015.



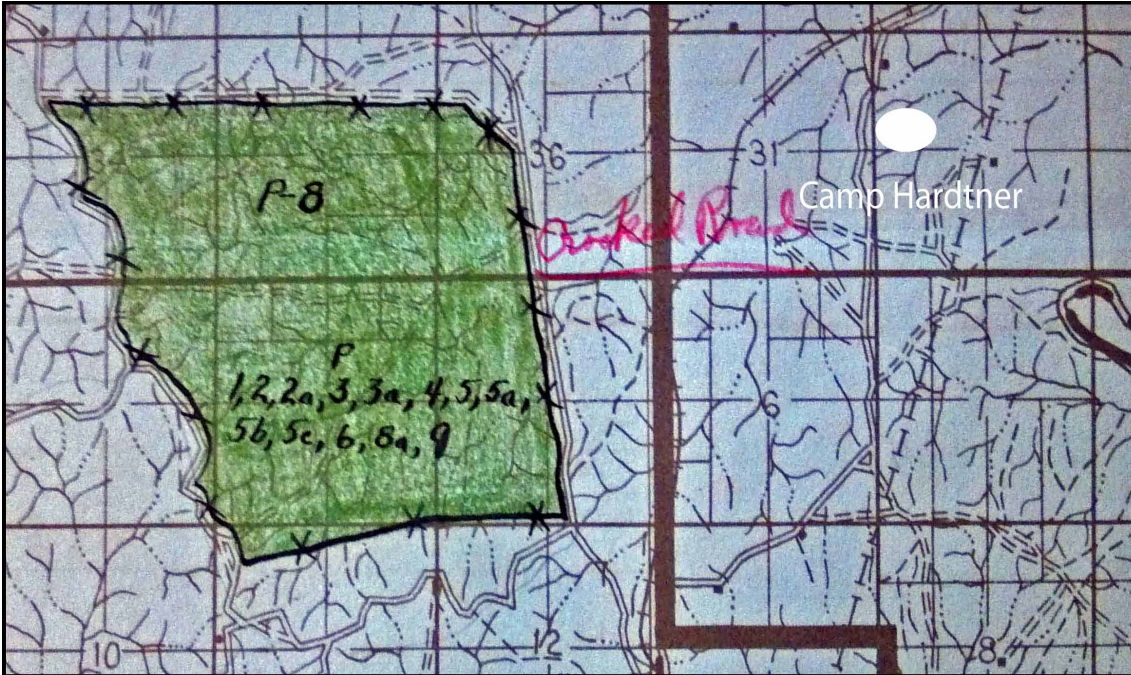
2014 Annual Meeting—Cont.



The intrepid field trip group (Photo courtesy Susan Allen). Random photos below.



2014 Annual Meeting—Cont.



The field trip site was in one of the first purchase units of the Kisatchie National Forest. The land was purchased in 1936. X-X-X on the property line around the green area at left denotes a range fence to keep out free-ranging livestock such as cattle and hogs.

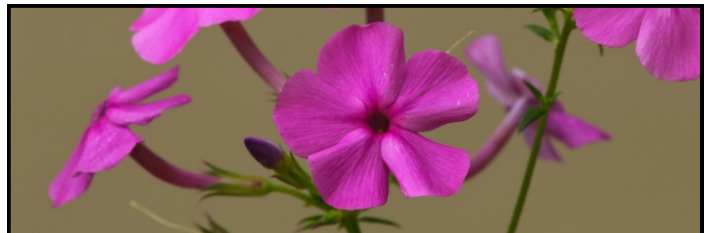
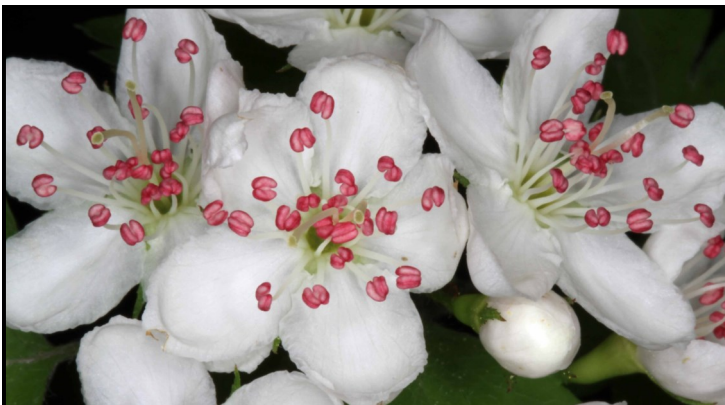


Photo by Matthew C. Perry

Carex stricta (upright sedge) - the object of our fruitless search.



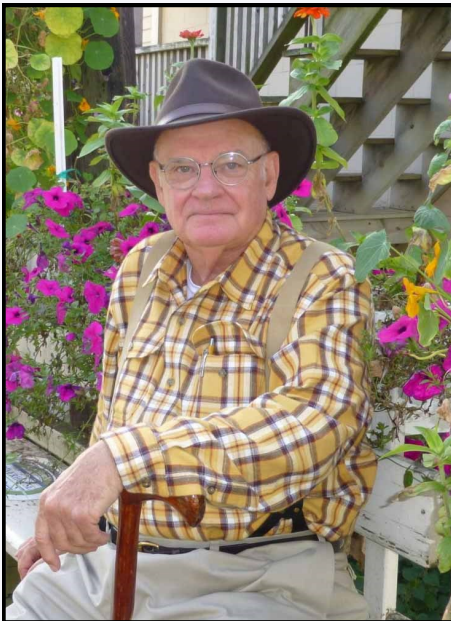
Symplocos tinctoria (sweetleaf) was one of the more prominent plants we saw—but not in flower as in this photo.



Phlox glaberrima (smooth phlox) flowers. Photo courtesy Bud Willis

Crataegus marshallii (parsley hawthorn) flowers.

Meet the New LNPS President—Gladden (Bud) Willis



Gladden (Bud) Williams Willis was born in 1939 in Minden, LA and grew up in Doyline, LA. His early years were spent on part of the family farm that later became Lake Bistineau State Park. Around that time Gladden's family moved into the little community of Doyline where he graduated from Doyline High School in 1957. He graduated from Centenary College in 1960 with a mixed premedical degree in biology, physics, math, and chemistry. He graduated from Tulane Medical School in 1964 with an MD degree. His post-MD training was at the old Confederate Memorial Medical Center (Now LSU medical school in Shreveport) from 1964 through 1969, where he qualified in pathology. While there he met and married Lydia Hall, a medical artist, and they moved to Manhattan where Gladden was located at the Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

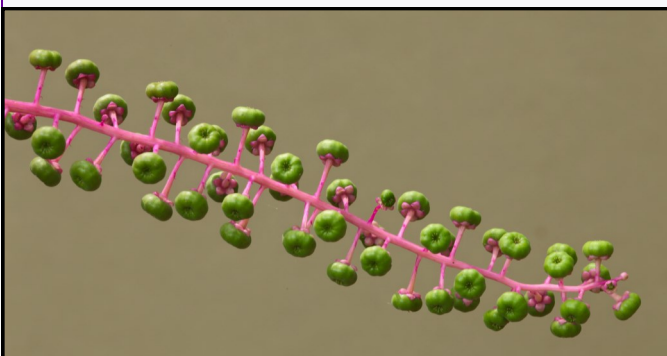
A short time after the birth of their first child, Gladden and Lydia decided to move out of New York, and Gladden joined the Pathology Department at the Ochsner Clinic Foundation in New Orleans, where he would remain for 32 years - 25 as head of Surgical Pathology.

Gladden is an emeritus member of the Arthur Purdy Stout Society of Surgical Pathologists, the Association of Directors of Surgical Pathology, the International Academy of Pathology, the Royal Microscopical Society, The Society of Surgical Oncology, the New York Academy of Sciences and various others. He served as president of both the Louisiana Pathology Society and the pathology section of the Southern Medical Association.

Gladden and Lydia returned to his old home on the Willis Farm in Doyline, Louisiana after retiring from medicine in December of 2004. One of his two avocations has been nature and scientific photography. Over 3,500 photographs have been published in biology books, guides, etc, and he continues pursuing his work in macrophotography.—two examples of his work are below. He remains a member of the North American Nature Photography Association and the American Society of Media Photographers. His other avocation has been to grow native plants and trees and he pursues this with some vigor. This vigor led to the formation of Willis Farm Nursery, which is a small, private grower of ornamental native and heirloom shrubs, selected ornamental and shade trees, selected fruit trees and native perennials.

Gladden and Lydia have two sons. Charles Austin Willis lives in Beijing, China where he is a private businessman who has been mainly interested in software, but is most recently forming an import / export company dealing with timber and lumber. Their younger son, Loye Stillmon Willis, lives in Chicago with his wife Sophia where he heads the division of his company located in that area. Lydia and Gladden have two granddaughters, Wynter Alexandra Willis, in middle school in Denham Springs, LA, and Sierra Elise Vela, a junior at the University of Texas.

Gladden's happiest responsibilities are being involved with the Briarwood Nature Preserve and the Louisiana Native Plant Society. He considers it an honor to serve as chair of the board at Briarwood and as president of the Louisiana Native Plant Society.



Pokeweed (*Phytolacca americana*). Photo courtesy Bud Willis.



Downy lobelia (*Lobelia puberula*). Photo courtesy Bud Willis.

LNPS Business Meeting--February 1, 2014—Camp Hardtner

LNPS Business Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2013

The Louisiana Native Plant Society held the annual business meeting at Camp Hardtner, Louisiana.

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Dille-muth.

On a motion from Charles Allen and a second from Peter Loos, those present voted to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the 2013 meeting

The Treasurer's report was given by Jackie Duncan, with a balance reported of \$13,116.36 (details on next page).

LNPS Brochures: LNPS brochures were made available for anyone who needed them.

Grant review committee: Grant committee for 2014 was appointed: Peggy Cox, Matthew Herron, Brian Early, and Chris Doffitt.

Grant review committee report: Bud Willis: Ken Litzenberger and David Stoughton received a \$500 grant for the redesign of a butterfly garden at the Southeast LA USFWS refuge at Lacombe. It is a joint project between USFWS and St. Tammany Master Gardeners. Krislyn Newman was not able to receive grant until paperwork was in order.

Elections – 3 persons were nominated for board positions expiring 2017. These are Rick Webb, Dave Banowitz, and Matthew Herron.

LNPS officers are as follow: Bud Willis, President; Peggy Cox, Vice-president; Beth Erwin, Secretary; Treasurer, Jackie Duncan. On motions from Dave Banowitz with seconds from Tracey Banowitz, all those proposed for election were approved.

2014 meeting: The group agreed the 2015 Annual meeting

time and location will be January 30, 31, Feb 1st, 2015.

Lauren Hall will check on facilities for the 2016 meeting at Louisiana Arboretum

Chapter Reports

Capital Area Native Plant Society president Lauren Hall introduced Will DeGravelle, their new VP and gave a report of chapter activities

Linda Chance reported that the Folsom group is still active.

Logo for LNPS—Peter Loos made a motion, seconded by Johnny Mayronne that Matthew Herron come up with some potential logos for the LNPS. All were in favor.

Field trip ideas for 2014 – Field trip ideas for 2014 presented were: 2nd Saturday in March, trout lilies. Meet at Briarwood at 9:30. Tracey and Dave Banowitz offered to host a field trip to their place in Tunica Hills, late summer, early fall. They will announce dates later.

Recognition of deceased members:

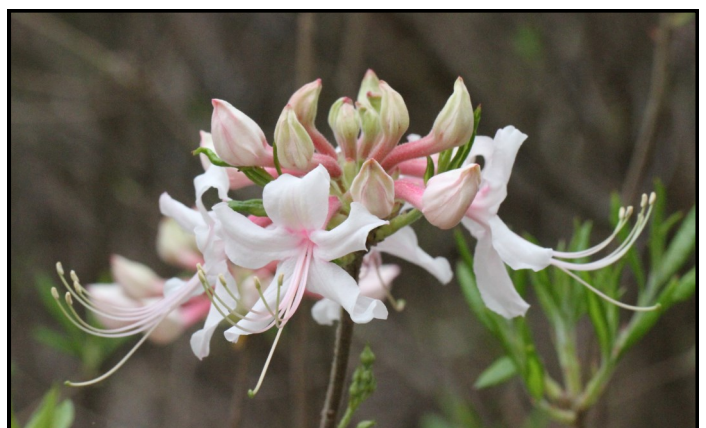
Bob Dille-muth called for recognition of members we have lost in 2014. Marion Drummond, Fred Christian 2011, and Marion Harageones

On a motion from Bud Willis and a second from Dave Banowitz, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth M. Erwin

Beth Erwin, Secretary



LNPS 2013 TREASURER'S REPORT

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Beginning Cash Balance, January 1	\$11,585.68	\$10,095.09	\$10,124.15	\$10,077.11	\$10,658.81
Dues	\$1,670.00	\$1,867.00	\$1,114.00	\$987.00	\$1,290.00
Annual meeting –					
Registration	-	-	Meeting cancelled due to ice storm.	-	-
Meal receipts	677.00	803.00		358.00	279.00
Lodging receipts	1,230.00	1,385.00		915.00	770.00
Camp rental	-	-		-	-
Meal costs	(931.00)	(945.00)		(400.00)	(329.00)
Lodging costs	(1,175.00)	(1,235.00)		(915.00)	(715.00)
Insurance	-	-		-	-
DJ	-	-		-	-
King cakes	-	-	(502.50)	-	-
Miscellaneous costs	-	-	(502.50)	(44.35)	(46.48)
Net meeting (costs)/income	(199.00)	8.00		(86.35)	(41.48)
Interest income	3.29	3.31	3.19	3.19	3.18
Donations received	-	-	-	-	2.00
Plant auction at meeting	685.00	988.00	-	712.00	349.00
Expenditures					
Grant/donations	(500.00)	(1,100.00)	(500.00)	(500.00)	(1,000.00)
Memorial donation	-	-	-	(500.00)	-
CPHPS donation	-	-	-	-	-
501(3)(c) Application	-	-	-	-	-
T-shirts	80.00	340.00			260.00
Sales	-	(225.00)			(1,041.12)
Costs					
Newsletter costs	(193.00)	(201.08)	(85.80)	(181.10)	(398.28)
Brochures	-	(106.30)	-	(322.70)	-
Award plaque	-	-	-	-	-
Signs	-	-	-	-	-
Web page costs	-	(60.00)	(32.00)	(60.00)	-
Louisiana state tax	(10.00)	(10.00)	(7.00)	(5.00)	(5.00)
Supplies, misc.	-	-	-	-	-
Bank charges/Paypal costs	(5.61)	(13.34)	(18.95)	-	-
Net cash inflow (outflow) for the year	1,530.68	1,490.59	(29.06)	47.04	(581.70)
Ending Balance, December 31	\$13,116.36	\$11,585.68	\$10,095.09	\$10,124.15	\$10,077.11

***Prunus* (Peach, Plum, Cherry) but the Big Question is American Plum; is it in Louisiana or Not?**

By: Charles Allen

There are at least nine species of the genus *Prunus* in Louisiana. The species are divided into three groups:

- 1) rhizomatous, clump forming shrubs or small trees and flowers and fruits in fascicles or umbels including *Prunus angustifolia* (Chickasaw plum), *Prunus gracilis* (Oklahoma plum), *Prunus munsonia* (wild goose plum), and perhaps *Prunus americana* (American plum);
- 2) the non-rhizomatous, mostly solitary trees with flowers and fruits in racemes; *Prunus caroliniana* (Carolina laurel cherry) and *Prunus serotina* (black cherry); and
- 3) the non-rhizomatous, mostly solitary trees with flowers solitary or in fascicles including *Prunus mexicana* (Mexican plum), *Prunus umbellata* (flatwoods sloe) and *Prunus persica* (peach).

Chickasaw plum is best identified as a short, clump (thicket) forming plant up to 4 meters tall with deciduous leaves mostly shorter than 7 cm., fruits ripening in May-June, and the flowers in fascicles. Closely related is the wild goose plum that is also rhizomatous plant up to 10 meters tall that has leaves that are 7 cm or longer. Both have blades that are folded together lengthwise and tend to droop. The third species in this group is Oklahoma



Prunus gracilis (Oklahoma plum).

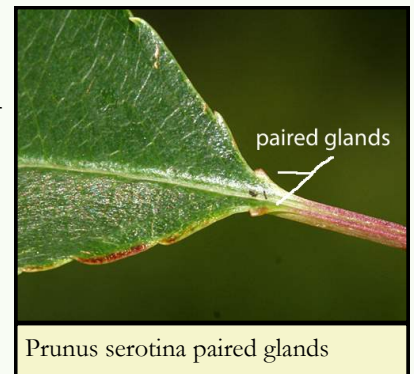


Prunus angustifolia (Chickasaw plum).

plum which is known only from Caddo Parish. It has pubescent leaves and twigs and blades that are not folded and do not droop.

Black cherry has distinct serrate-margined deciduous leaves with two glands near the apex of the petiole and the crushed twigs have a distinct strong odor. In addition, black cherry leaves almost always have distinctive orange-fuzzy hairs on the lower portion of the midvein on the underside of the leaf. Carolina laurel cherry has indistinct serrate margined evergreen leaves and the crushed leaves have an odor of Dr. Pepper or almond extract.

Peach is the cultivated plant that sometimes persists or escapes. It is best recognized by the fairly large deciduous leaves with long petioles, 1/2 inch or longer,



Prunus serotina paired glands



Prunus munsoniana (wild goose plum)



©2008 Will Cook

Prunus caroliniana (laurel cherry)

short pedicels, and large flowers. The last three species are Mexican plum, American plum, and flatwoods sloe, all three with flowers in fascicles or solitary.

In the Fort Polk area, I can recognize Mexican plum and flatwoods sloe. Mexican plum occurs on less sandy soil and is usually a single-trunked tree with bark similar to that of black cherry that is described by some as silvery bark. Flatwoods sloe is also a single-trunked plant with dark bark and overall is a smaller tree than Mexican plum. Mexican plum has longer (mostly longer than 6 cm) and wider (>3 cm) leaves than flatwoods sloe (shorter than 6 cm and narrower than 3 cm). It occurs on sandy soil and Allen Acres has lots of them but no



Prunus americana leaf



Prunus mexicana leaves



Prunus umbellata leaves

Mexican plum. I have trouble with American plum; it is reported to be a multi-stemmed plant with bronze to charcoal gray bark. American plum is reported

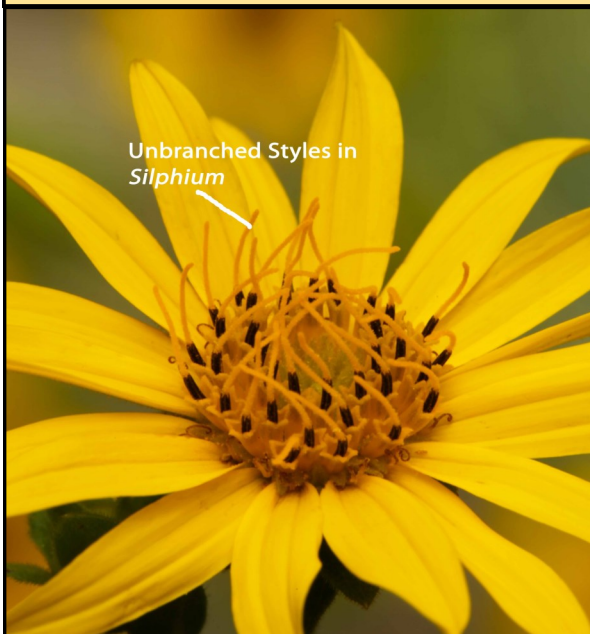
to have blades that are narrowly to broadly cuneate at the base, petiole usually lacking glands near its junction with the leaf blade and glabrous sepals. Mexican plum has blades that are broadly rounded at the base; the petiole usually has glands near its junction with the leaf blade and sepals are pubescent on the lower side. The best identification may be the single-stem habit of Mexican plum compared to the multi-stem habit of American plum. The identification and distribution of American plum in Louisiana needs to be verified.

*Prunus serotina* bark*Prunus mexicana* bark*Prunus umbellata* bark*Prunus munsoniana* bark*Prunus americana* barkUnderside of leaf of *Prunus serotina* showing orange, fuzzy hairs along mid-vein.

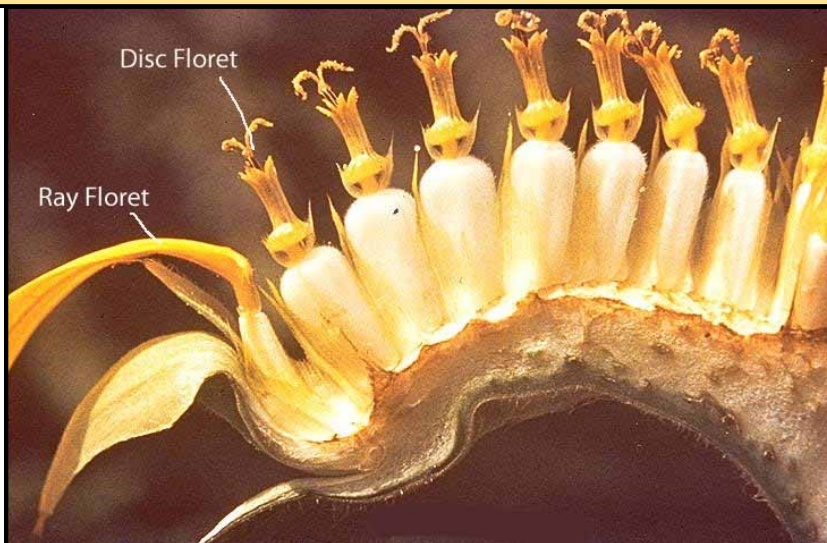
The significance of the cherry blossom tree in Japanese culture goes back hundreds of years. In their country, the cherry blossom represents the fragility and the beauty of life. It's a reminder that life is almost overwhelmingly beautiful but that it is also tragically short. — Homaro Cantu



Did you know......that one of the major differences between the Rosinweeds (*Silphium* spp.) and the Sunflowers (*Helianthus* spp.) is the morphology of the styles on the disc florets? The disc floret styles in *Silphium* have no branches and only one stigma, while the disc floret styles in *Helianthus* are branched and terminate in two stigmas. The sticky tip of the pistil, the stigma, is the receptor of pollen. The supportive stalk, the style, becomes the pathway for pollen tubes to grow from pollen grains adhering to the stigma.



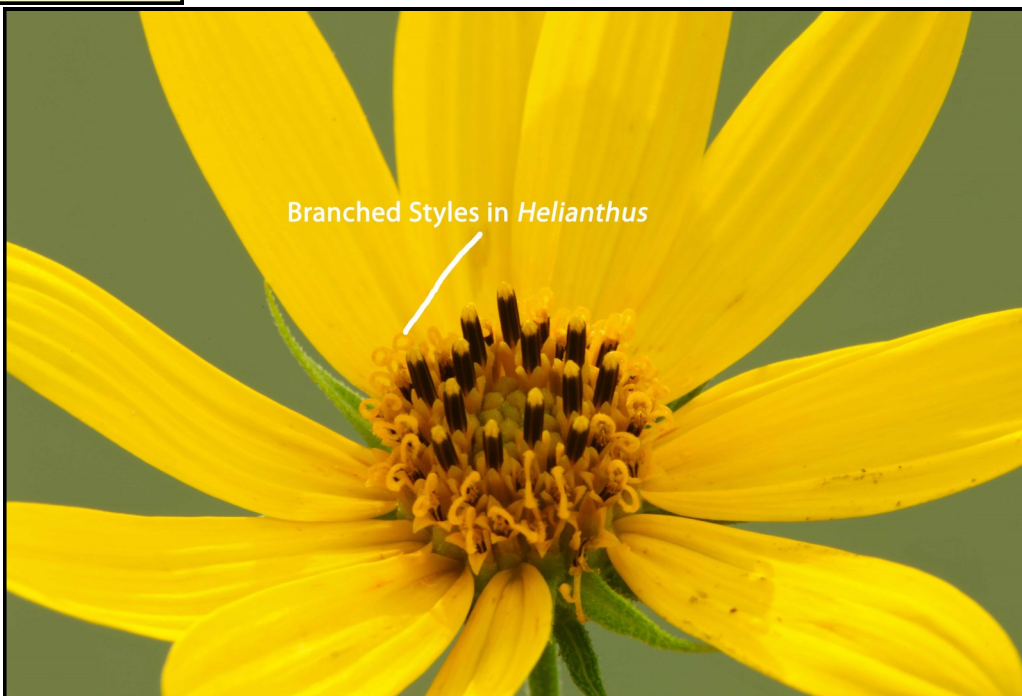
Silphium radula (Roughstem Rosinweed) showing unbranched styles on the disc floret.



Cross-section of *Helianthus annuus* (Common Sunflower) receptacle showing individual disc florets, a ray floret, and immature sunflower seeds, a.k.a. cypselae. The white-gray husks of a sunflower "seed" are the walls of the cypsela fruit. Many cypselas, such as Dandelion, have calyx tissue attached that functions in biological dispersal of the seed



Helianthus annuus with branched styles and immature sunflower seeds (cypselae).



Helianthus divaricatus (Woodland Sunflower) showing branched styles on the disc florets. Photo courtesy Bud Willis.

Capital Area Native Plant Society News

The new year has been a time for growth in the Capital Area Native Plant Society!

New leadership includes **Lauren Hull (President)**, **Will DeGravelles (Vice President)**, **Helen Peebles (Secretary)** and **Nancy Tarver (Treasurer)**.

Past co-president Matthew Herron is now our web guru, who is working on digitizing historic LNPS newsletters. Matthew has been working closely with Dr. Charles Allen and Beth Erwin to hunt down all of the past issues dating back to 1982. Currently they have all been scanned and turned into pdfs. Check our new "Newsletter" section on our website to see the first batch of uploads. The complete archive will be going up in sections over the next few months.

Meetings and outings now alternate monthly. February guest speaker Robert Seamann, Program Director of Baton Green, provided wonderful insights on their programs incorporating native plants into Baton Rouge landscapes. Many thanks to Will, who coordinated a tour of the beautiful Crosby Arboretum in Picayune, MS on March 29th!

The Capital Area Native Plant Society has a number of engaging events in the upcoming weeks. Baton Rouge Earth Day celebration is Sunday, April 27th, and CANPS will be hosting Velo des Fleurs, a wildflower bike ride in partnership with Bike Baton Rouge promoting bikes, native plants and natural spaces. In addition, CANPS will host an educational booth making native seed balls with the public. On May 10th, we will be attending the Cajun Prairie Restoration Society Meeting and touring the Duralde prairie! For more information on chapter happenings, please visit canps.weebly.com or check out our facebook! Want to join in on our events? Email us at canpsbr@gmail.com.

Best,

Lauren and Will

Announcements

The Aldo Leopold Archives, from the University of Wisconsin Collection, is now online and can be viewed at:

<http://uwdc.library.wisc.edu/collections/AldoLeopold>

"The outstanding scientific discovery of the twentieth century is not television, or radio, but rather the complexity of the land organism. Only those who know the most about it can appreciate how little we know about it. The last word in ignorance is the man who says of an animal or plant, "What good is it?" If the land mechanism as a whole is good, then every part is good, whether we understand it or not. If the biota, in the course of aeons, has built something we like but do not understand, then who but a fool would discard seemingly useless parts? To keep every cog and wheel is the first precaution of intelligent tinkering." – Aldo Leopold from *A Sand County Almanac: With Essays on Conservation from Round River*

5th Annual State of the Prairie Conference, May 29-31, 2014, Fort Worth, Texas. "Prairies in a Changing World" <http://prairiepartner.org/page/2014-sop-conference>

Baton Rouge Earth Day celebration is Sunday, April 27th.

Almost Eden's Spring Open House will be April 26th & 27th of 2014! We'll be open from 9am-5pm both days, we hope to see you there. Check us out on Facebook for more details.

LNPS Membership Form

Membership Form:

Checks payable to LNPS.

NOTE: Membership and donations may also be paid online at www.lnps.org.

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
114 Harpers Ferry Road
Boyce, LA 71409
Phone: 318-793-8064
E-mail: jacalynduncan@hotmail.com

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

Louisiana Native Plant Society
Jacalyn Duncan
114 Harpers Ferry Road
Boyce, LA 71409

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