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MISSISSIPPI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

MAY 1990

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FROM THE EDITOR:

STATE WILDFLOWER INITIATIVE. The informal request for suggestions taken by MNPS and Felder Rushing (through his Jackson area column) contain the following as possible candidates: Coreopsis, butterfly-weed, spiderwort, ironweed, buttercup, black-eyed susan, Stoke's aster, and phlox. Exotics such as Queen Ann's lace and crepe myrtle were also mentioned. One other criterion not mentioned in the previous newsletter: The species selected should be relatively easy to propagate. The purpose is to make seeds or plants available to school children throughout the State. The availability of inexpensive seed also would provide the Highway Department with a financial incentive to plant the species widely as its "theme" for tourists traveling through our State.

My opinion is that selection of a genus, rather than a species, gives people wider latitude in finding suitable habitats for planting the State's wildflower. A genus -- rather than a species -- with wide tolerance for a variety of habitats would help State agencies create the "theme" while reducing monotony in planting design. There would be more opportunities for locally harmonious but regionally distinct species assemblages. And most important, such a selection would permit opportunities for increasing the flower display by selecting species of different heights and flowering periods.

Fellow member Halla Jo Ellis has been polling groups throughout the State for the past year regarding their preferences for the State's wildflower. This she has done as Wildflower Chairwoman of the Garden Clubs of Mississippi. She tells me the favorites are: Coreopsis, Black-eyed susan, showy primrose (Oenothera speciosa), the purple coneflower, and cardinal flower. If all criteria for selection have equal weight, the odds-on-favorite at this point is Coreopsis, with Black-eyed Susan running a close second. When all the votes are in, a decision will be made, a legislative bill drafted and placed before the State legislature. Contact Halla Jo Ellis, Box 77, Spring Ridge Rd., Terry, MS 39170 to express your opinion or to obtain further information.

PROPOSED CONTEST. As part of our educational role, several of our members expressed an interest in having a statewide essay contest for high school students. The subject would be about native habitats and/or native plants, and written as a children's story book for use as a 1st or 2nd grade reader. Winning authors would receive a MNPS T-shirt, and the school would receive a copy of WILDFLOWERS OF MISSISSIPPI. Initially this idea started with the desire for MNPS to do something for Earth Day, but time is too short. We'll aim for the Fall 1990 school year.

## RANUNCULUS - BUTTERCUP

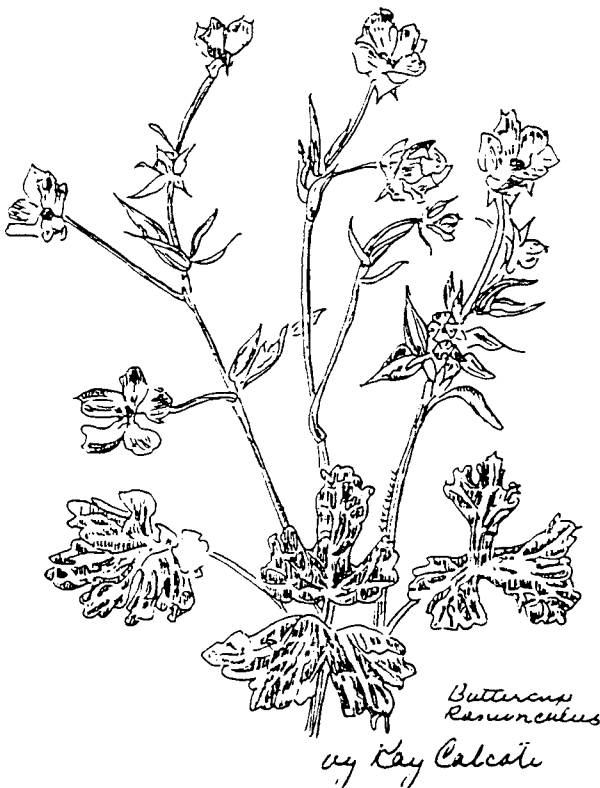
One of the loveliest sights of springtime in Mississippi is a field or a roadside filled with vibrant yellow buttercups, shimmering in a brilliant sunshine! Taken individually, each blossom is as exquisite as a delicate piece of Chinese porcelain.

The buttercup can be grown in most areas of the state and is easily recognizable. I think the individual flower could be easily used on t-shirts, on stationary, and on posters as well as logo for MNPS. It is my understanding that buttercups can be grown in the garden, and it is certainly lovely as one of the flowers in a spring garden arrangement.

In addition to the beauty of the buttercup, it has some interesting folklore attached to its history. According to one belief, the roots of the buttercup when ground up with salt could cure the plague. The mixture was said to cause blisters which drew out the disease. And, buttercups hung around the neck in a bag were thought to cure lunacy.

So, my nomination for the officially-designated state wildflower of Mississippi is the buttercup. It would be a shame if we don't recognize one of the most familiar and beautiful sights in Mississippi--the blaze of buttercup yellow!

My line drawing of the buttercup (one of the series of notecards and prints I have had printed) accompanies my nomination--KAY CALCOTE.



## SCIENTIFIC NAMES WITHOUT TEARS

You're on a native plant walk in one of the loveliest areas you've been in years. You spy a new (to you) and interesting-looking plant with little blue flowers and spicy foliage and inquire its name of the trip leader. "Oh that's one of the Lamiaceae. Trichostema dichotomum, I believe. It's in the same family as the Scutellaria integrifolia we found here last May."

By now you feel defeated, crestfallen. Your beautiful find now has an ugly, foreign-sounding name. Why can't botanists use English? Why scientific name at all?

Actually, we all know many more scientific names (at least the first half of them) than we realize. For example, Rhinoceros, Hippopotamus, Chinchilla, Bison, and Boa constrictor are part of everyone's vocabulary, instantly recognized because of common useage. The names of many plant genera (singular: genus, the first half of a scientific name) might otherwise seem to be real tongue twisters were they, too, not used routinely, if occasionally imprecisely, by all. Examples include Philodendron, Rhodendron, Nasturtium, Chrysanthemum, Camellia, Delphinium, and Gladiolus.

Other generic names, virtual household words, are not forbiddingly "foreign-looking or -sounding at all. Examples here are many and include: Asparagus, Narcissus, Crocus, Caladium, Coleus, Begonia, Iris, Canna, Yueca, Phlox, Impatiens (touch-me-nots), Magnolia, Hydrangia, Salvia, Oxalis, Verbena, Wisteria, etc.---the point has been made.

Some genera are intuitive -- plant enthusiasts actually know them already, but may not know that they know them! Examples are Lilium (lily), Trillium, Crinum, Aster (aster!), Lobelia, Catalpa, Lespedeza, Agave, Viola (violets), Coreopsis, Lupinus (lupine), Gentiana (gentians), and Saxifraga (saxifrage).

Scientific names have two parts, of course. When a generic name (always capitalized) is coupled with a specific epithet (not usually capitalized) to indicate which member (i.e.; species) of the genus is meant, the result is the complete scientific name. The specific epithets tend to be adjectival. For example, when cardinalis is appended to the genus Lobelia, the result is Lobelia cardinalis, the familar cardinal flower.

Many, perhaps most, scientific names are actually beautiful Latin or Latinized word which flow off the tongue when pronounced "correctly." Witness Asclepias (milkweeds), Helenium (sneeze- and bitterweeds), Helianthus (sunflowers), Ratibida (a coneflower genus), Vernonia (ironweeds), Podophyllum (mayapple), Calycanthus (sweet shrub), Euonymus, and Hypericum. And the plants these names refer to are equally appealing.

Scientific names are intended to be unambiguous and they usually are, allowing anyone anywhere in the world to communicate with anyone else about a particular organism, unlike common names (such as creeping Charlie, possum haw, snake root, etc.) which, however colorful, mean different things to different people. Through repeated hearing and using we can all add scientific names to our vocabularies. (I find that if I am able to see a term in a print right after I hear it for the first time, I usually remember it.)

Many field guides and natural history books have good discussions of scientific names somewhere in their introductory pages. Wildflowers of Mississippi by Steve Timme does so on pages xiii-xiv. A more detailed discussion is found in Chapter 1 of Vascular Plant Families by James P. Smith, Jr. (Mad River Press, Eureka, Ca.).--JOE MCGEE.

(Editor's note: A good example in this issue is "buttercup," a common name associated with Oenothera as well as Ranunculus.)

Coreopsis auriculata by Carole Ritchie  
From Fred Searcy's 1977 book:  
Ferns and Wildflowers of Tishomingo State Park



Coreopsis nudata.  
From Sidney McDaniel's collection of drawings.

## COREOPSIS

The word on the street is that Coreopsis is the all-time favorite plant for selection as the State's "official" wildflower. Here's some background information on 10 species found in Mississippi, and a handy reference for gardeners (from personal experience, as well as H.W. Rickett 1967 Wild Flowers of the U.S., Vol. II. McGraw-Hill Book Co., and other sources):

	Major flowering time							Height							
	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	2"	6"	1'	2'	3'	4'	7'	10'
<u>C. auriculata</u>	x	x	x						-----						
<u>C. nudata</u>	x	x										-----			
<u>C. lanceolata</u>		x	x						-----						
<u>C. grandiflora</u>		x	x	x					-----						
<u>C. major</u>		x	x	x	x	x	x					--			
<u>C. verticillata</u>			x	x					-----					*	
<u>C. pubescens</u>			x	x	x	x			-----						
<u>C. tinctoria</u>			x	x	x	x			-----						
<u>C. tripteris</u>				x	x	x							-----		
<u>C. gladiata</u>					x		x						-----		

### Identification:

- C. auriculata Leaves with paired lobes at leaf base, generally undivided. Semi-evergreen.
- C. nudata Leaves threadlike, or rushlike, round in cross-section, generally undivided. Wet areas. Flowers rose-purple.
- C. lanceolata Leaves smooth, narrow, mostly near the base, generally undivided. Semi-evergreen.
- C. grandiflora Similar to C. lanceolata, but upper leaves more often divided, leaf segments narrower, and flowers frequently semi-double. Seeds widely available. Evergreen.
- C. major Leaves palmately divided into 3 narrow segments, 10-30 mm wide.
- C. verticillata Leaves palmately divided, thread-like segments, under 2 mm wide. Deciduous.
- C. pubescens Leaves hairy, ovate or lanceolate, leaves lower-stalked, generally undivided. Evergreen.
- C. tinctoria Leaves pinnately divided into very narrow segments also pinnately divided. Also known as Calliopsis, an annual. Seeds widely available. Evergreen, winter annual. Plant in fall.
- C. tripteris Leaves stalked, divided into 3 or 5 narrow leaf segments, opposite leaves or rarely alternate. Flowers anise-scented.
- C. gladiata Leaves at or near stem base, outer bracts short and triangular. Alternate leaves more than 15 mm wide and 7 mm long, generally undivided.

\* Several cultivars available, each with varying heights. "Moonbeam", at 1-2 ft., is the most popular; leaves are described as fern-like. Propagation is by division.

Of the 10, all but Coreopsis tinctoria are perennial. All except C. tripteris and C. gladiata can be found in the nursery trade. C. grandiflora is widely available as seeds and plants. Flowers are generally a vibrant yellow. Some occur with maroon or red zones toward the flower's center. -- VIC RUDIS

#### PROPAGATE--TO CAUSE TO MULTIPLY OR BREED.

Most of you are familiar by now with the problem of some wildflower and bulb companies using language that leads us to believe their plants have not been wild collected. Terms such as "nursery grown" and "bed grown" etc. are becoming more and more familiar. Often this only refers to a very short period of the plant's life having been spent "healed in" to a nursery bed after being wild collected and before you buy it.

This fall a prominent grower even says that his plants are "nursery grown, not wild collected" and then proceeds to list rare, threatened, or sensitive species. We personally find that hard to believe and no one we know in the field of true nursery propagation of wildflowers is aware of any commercial source of such plants that have been propagated in numbers even approaching numbers needed to supply the demand of such a catalogue.

Dig out all of the mail-order catalogues you have received in the past year. Check their "wildflower" listings particularly for such plants as trilliums, lady's slippers, bloodroot, dogtooth violets, ferns etc. (Do they even mention where they came from?) WRITE OR CALL THEM!! Ask them just where their plants came from and what their terminology really means. Do they know the age of their plants? Most nurserymen do. If you call, be sure to take the name of anyone you speak with. Don't let them tell you they don't know because somebody had to either grow or buy their plants. However you do it remember to be firm and persistent, but nice.

If they list particularly trilliums or lady's slippers, ask them specifically how they propagate them (seeds, cuttings, divisions) and how long it took. If from cuttings or divisions were they taken from wild or nursery propagated plants? These two plants are particularly slow-growing (5-7 years to reach blooming age for either plant is normal from seed). We would appreciate knowing your results, and thank you in advance for your concern and help.--MEREDITH AND ED CLEBSCH, Native Gardens, Route 1, Box 494, Greenback, TN 37742. (615-856-3350).

#### ALABAMA SNOW-WREATH

The Alabama Snow Wreath, Neviusia alabamensis, is a plant which has no petals, but it is still desired as an ornamental because of its cream-colored stamens which are very showy. N. alabamensis is a shrub member of the Rosaceae family that grows to a height of 3-6 feet. Its branches are slender and sprout from the ground like a fountain. In full bloom, the stamens' appearance make the shrub look like a wreath with snow. The flowering period is in March for a 1-2 week period.

N. alabamensis was first discovered by Reverend Doctor Reuben Denton Nevius and W. S. Wyman on the banks of the Black Warrior River a few miles upstream

from Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Although Dr. Asa Gray named it after Nevius, Wyman was the one who actually discovered the plant.

Neviusia is considered by some to be the rarest ornamental shrub in North America. This species is on the endangered and threatened species lists in AL, AR, MS, and TN. It is classified as threatened which means it is likely to become endangered or in danger of extinction in the foreseeable future in all or part of its range. However, a few colonies are on public land and will be preserved. Also, the plant is widespread enough in cultivation by nurseries that should it accidentally become extinct in the wild, it would not vanish.

Two colonies of the species are present in Mississippi. Both are in Tishomingo county on the Tennessee River. The first population is located on an open point about 3-6 feet above the river. The colony is hampered on the east side of the point by shallow soil interspersed with very loose shale. The second population is 800 meters upstream from the first colony. It is also on a steep slope with a series of rock ledges; however, this one grows under a closed canopy. There were more specimens present at this site despite the very shallow soil.

Vegetative propagation is relatively easy. Older plants can be divided, and the cuttings dipped in rooting hormone. The plant sends up suckers from the base, which provides another source of propagules. Propagation from seed is unknown.

Transplant shock is not uncommon, even for vigorously growing container plants. The foliage wilts, but generally recovers after a few months. Like many 1st year transplants, Neviusia looks better in the 2nd and succeeding years. The plant grows on alkaline soils, but in cultivation, it will tolerate a variety of soils. Neviusia is an interesting plant which should be cultivated not only because of its showy stamens but also to preserve a threatened species from possible extinction. [Adapted from C. Sawyers "Plants that merit attention" Native Notes 2(1): 10, 1990 -- R. LYNN EASLEY]

EDITOR'S NOTE: I purchased 3 of these rare gems from Woodlander's (Aiken SC) in February 1989. They are growing in sandy clay loam, with shade in the early morning, and full afternoon sun. So far, the plants are doing well.

Neviusia alabamensis - Alabama snow-wreath  
After stamens have gone by, and (inset) in flower



## RECOGNIZING THE NATURAL LANDSCAPE

As our family plans the summer vacation, I am reminded of the places we visited in years past. The most memorable of these make distinct statements that capture the essence of its environment. Those that come to mind are the ones with unique geomorphology that are mirrored in buildings, gardens, and yards, e.g. Santa Fe, NM; parts of the AL and FL Gulf Coasts; and in MS, the Crosby Arboretum. In springtime, the azaleas, dogwoods, and other flowering plants surrounding the antebellum homes of Columbus, MS also depict a distinctive environment -- albeit an historic one. Even the sprawling campus of Mississippi State University has a unified, distinctive character (largely due to extensive lawn and landscape maintenance and a Master Plan for buildings) which makes it unique among institutions in the State.

Every region has unique social, environmental, and historical values. In nature, plant species indigenous to a community create a consistent image and a cohesive look, or a harmony that makes it easily identified. When a landscape architect designs a park, a campground, a suburban development, or even a backyard garden, he or she incorporates the aesthetic values of the region so the new structure will be in harmony with the character of the surrounding community. Communities that are successful in making themselves memorable to visitors usually have strong planning and zoning commissions or design review boards that help retain harmony in renovations and new construction projects.

The desire to express uniqueness while maintaining harmony with the surrounding environment is occurring in a variety of disciplines. In the 50's and 60's, residential buildings and yards, chain restaurants, and shopping malls were designed within a narrow range of alternatives and satisfied a limited range of social and environmental needs. Today, individuals, corporations, and even foreign governments are recognizing the importance of allowing the expression of unique but locally harmonious values. Witness the localized interiors of McDonald's restaurants, the creation of interior "themes" in shopping mall developments, and the increasing demand for native plants and "natural" landscapes, i.e. those in harmony with the character of the landscape.

How do we maintain harmony with nature, yet supply our need for yards, screening, and play areas? First, we must recognize the natural landscape. Areas with unique geomorphology (mountains, deeply cut ravines, sandstone outcrops, swamplands) are easily recognized as "natural", simply because such areas are too expensive to develop for agricultural, residential, or commercial uses.

But many of us live in developed areas whose geomorphology has been made a secondary feature in the landscape. The primary feature is man-dominated, e.g. buildings, lawns, exotic shrubs, trees, and even farmlands. And we are not often trained in landscape appreciation. There is no one way to solve this lack of knowledge.

I suggest looking for plants and planting designs that nature creates without man's intervention. Identifying plants are sometimes a chore. But finding a name for one of those otherwise anonymous "weeds" opens up another avenue for appreciation. Take a close look at the so-called "weeds" in your lawn and flower beds. Try to identify their names and their origin. If it is a



native species, try letting it do its own thing. (You may have to do this anyway for some species, if only to identify it.)

Finding a planting design that is not man-dominated is much more difficult. These areas are hard to find, and some would say impossible to find. Areas closest to the ideal "natural" landscape often occur in places no one much cares about -- along railroad right-of-ways, long-abandoned fields and forests, and along roadsides of little-used highways. Forests where the cultivation of trees is not readily apparent, and natural areas managed by the Nature Conservancy, federal, and state agencies, are other places to visit.

Nature herself can teach us what a "natural" landscape is, often with the flip of a few pages, or a 1/2 day tour of a natural area. With time, the accumulated knowledge can help us design our own "natural" landscape, and ultimately improve the distinctiveness of the communities we live in. -- VIC RUDIS.

#### EVERGREEN SEDGES

Has anyone been using evergreen sedges in landscape design? Native specialty nurseries (e.g., We-Du Nurseries, Route 5, Box 724, Marion, NC 28752) list them for sale by mail-order.

Mississippi has a potential "native" sedge with landscape design potential, named Carex flaccosperma. This plant is evergreen, with handsome light blue-green leaves 1/2 inch to 1 inch in width, and 6 to 12 inches in length. Leaves are densely packed. It grows naturally in calcareous, poorly drained clay soils typical of the Jackson prairie and Blackland prairie areas of Mississippi and Alabama. The species normally grows in full sun, though I've spotted a few in densely-stocked pine plantations. C. flaccosperma is found occasionally in prairies and in lawns of low fertility, typically in clumps where surface moisture is present for part of the year. Given the condition of my lawn, I would say that it thrives on neglect, including the late summer droughts typical of the soils in the area.

Unlike nutgrass and other invasive sedges, C. flaccosperma does not form underground runners. This year, it has begun to form short corn-like inflorescences (early April in Starkville) which provide interesting detail upon close inspection. Meredith Clebsch (of TN) is propagating this, or a similar sedge (C. albursina) through division. Gail Barton (of Flowerplace Plant Farm, Meridian) is also looking at the desirability of this plant for the nursery trade. Since I have been noticing and retaining this species only recently, I can only speculate on its value in the landscape. Because of its small stature, this native could substitute for the ever-popular Liriope (monkey grass) where a lighter blue-green contrast is desired. -- VIC RUDIS.

#### MEADOW GARDENING ALERT

The April 1990 issue of Southern Living magazine has 2 articles of interest on natives. "Have a Home Meadow," page 64, is a short piece with pointers on establishing a wildflower patch with a natural look. "Flowers wild and wonderful," page 90, discusses some of the aesthetic and practical aspects of using native wildflowers in landscaping roadways. See also "Planting seeds of a Nation," National Wildlife magazine, April/May 1990, page 52. -- JOE MCGEE.

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 15 - 22 EARTH WEEK. Remember to take care of the environment!

APRIL 21 - Mynelle Gardens, Jackson area.

Sponsored by the Garden Gang for Mynelle Gardens. Meet at Mynelle Gardens, MNPS-sponsored native plant area, 10:30 AM. Garden and propagating tips, and plant swap. Fee \$10.00. Bring no more than 5 plants for swapping. With Felder Rushing, Gail Barton, and Robert Poore.

APRIL 21-28 Gatlinburg, TN. 40th Annual Wildflower Pilgrimage. 615-436-1262

APRIL 28 - Vicksburg/Jackson area.

MNPS-sponsored field trip. Meet at the gas station north of Interstate 20 (Exit 6 Bovina) at 8:30 AM. We will tour in and around Bluff Experimental Forest, which includes a 47-acre natural area on loessal soil that has not been logged for over 80 years. After lunch, we will proceed 30 miles north to nature trails and greentree reservoirs on the Delta National Forest, beginning at the Blue Lake campground. See Feb. 1990 MNPS newsletter or contact Vic Rudis 324-0430 for details.

MAY 4-6 Fall Creek Falls State Park, Pikeville, TN.

Sponsored by the TN Native Plant Society. 615-881-5708

MAY 4-5 Cullman, Alabama.

Sponsored by the Alabama Wildflower Society. Meet at the Holiday Inn (734-8484) near Interstates 65 and 69. Includes a plant dig, plant sale, banquet, guest speaker Gary Williams, and field trips. Hotel reservations (\$39.50 per room) must be made by April 21. Contact Betty Crumpton, 604 4th Ct., Pleasant Grove, AL 35127.

MAY 12 - Gulf Coast area.

MNPS-sponsored field trip. Meet at the Pinecote Nature Center Pavilion, Crosby Arboretum. We'll tour a bog and several other areas in the vicinity. In the afternoon we will go to fellow-member Dot Burge's place. See Feb. 1990 MNPS newsletter or contact Chris Wells 798-6961 for details.

MAY 19 - Hattiesburg area.

MS Nature Conservancy (MNC). Annual Meeting 12:00 noon, Hattiesburg, MS. Fee charged. Contact MNC 355-5357 for details.

MAY 26 - Jackson/Meridian area.

MNPS-sponsored field trip. Meet at the parking lot of Bo-Ro Restaurant, off Interstate-20 at the Newton/Highway 15 exit. We will see vegetation associated with mesic ravines, and possibly a remnant prairie. See February 1990 MNPS newsletter or contact Joe McGee (Hickory 646-5402) or Sidney McDaniel (Mississippi State/Starkville 325-7570) for details.

MAY 26 - Jackson area/WJDX/62 AM RADIO.

Steve Timme, author of WILDFLOWERS OF MISSISSIPPI will join Felder Rushing on his regular Saturday talk show from 8:00 to 10:00 AM.

JUNE 11-15, 18-22, 25-29 Baton Rouge, LA.

The Landscape School of the South is presenting a week-long short-course on landscaping. The program is offered at 3 different times in June. Fee \$390, inclusive. Contact Professor Ed Martin 601-325-3012 or Louisiana State University 800-234-5049.

Horn Island and Gloster. Joint meetings with the Alabama Wildflower Society have been in Birmingham and the Bankhead National Forest.

- Lectures, seminars, and slide shows by native plant experts, knowledgeable amateurs and gardeners
- Assisting others in preparing a Mississippi wildflower guide, studies of Mississippi flora and monitoring of nature preserves
- Plant and seed exchanges, creating and maintaining displays for public education and appreciation, and plant rescues in areas about to be developed

#### NEWSLETTER AND MEMBERSHIP

The MISSISSIPPI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER is published 4 times annually. In addition to a calendar of upcoming events, the newsletter contains articles on plant propagation and identification, notes on plant and seed exchanges, habitat preserves and descriptions, reviews of books, activities, and people associated with native and naturalized plants of Mississippi.

Membership is open to any interested individual, family, or organization. If you wish to join us, please mail the application below, indicate the class of membership desired and enclose appropriate dues.

-----\*\*\*\*\* MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND DUES NOTICE \*\*\*\*\*-----

\_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New  
Please indicate class of membership desired and enclose appropriate dues:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Student \$2.50
- \_\_\_\_\_ Regular \$5.00
- \_\_\_\_\_ Family \$7.50
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sustaining \$10.00
- \_\_\_\_\_ Contributing \$25.00
- \_\_\_\_\_ Life \$75.00

The Mississippi Native Plant Society is an organization dedicated to the scientific and educational exchange of information about native and naturalized plants occurring in the State of Mississippi.

All classes of membership receive the MNPS Newsletter. Please make checks payable to: Mississippi Native Plant Society. Return this form with payment to: Mississippi Native Plant Society  
P.O. Box 2151  
Starkville, MS 39759

Be sure to include the following information with your payment:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

If Mississippi, county of residence \_\_\_\_\_

#### 1990-1991 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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#### URGENT MESSAGES

4th ANNUAL MISSISSIPPI NATIVE PLANT CONFERENCE. We are open to suggestions for the upcoming conference to be held in Jackson this summer (August or September).

Please send your thoughts on what you would like to see accomplished, or if you would be willing to serve on the program. Send your thoughts to: Felder Rushing, 3824 Ridgewood Rd., Jackson, MS 39211.

ESSAY CONTEST. Drop Vic Rudis a note if you have had experience with this sort of thing, if you can prepare a suitable ad campaign, or if you are willing to volunteer in related tasks. c/o MNPS, P.O. Box 2151, Starkville, MS 39759

If you don't remember when you last paid your dues, it is time to do so. Mailing labels with a "star" or numbers 88 or 89 indicate overdue membership. THIS IS THE LAST ISSUE FOR THOSE OF YOU WITH OVERDUE MEMBERSHIP. Send your dues to: Mississippi Native Plant Society, Attn: Sherrrie Wiygul, Secretary/Treasurer, P.O. Box 2151, Starkville, MS 39759.

Sales of WILDFLOWERS OF MISSISSIPPI by S. Lee Timme (Steve Timme to most of us) have been brisk. If you have not yet purchased a copy, member prices are \$32.00 (tax included), plus \$2.50 shipping 4th class (an additional \$1.00 is needed for 1st class). Quantity discounts available for 5 or more books. Order through: MNPS, Attn: Book order, P.O. Box 2151, Starkville, MS 39759.  
NOTE: PRICES WILL RISE \$5.00 AFTER JULY 1st! ORDER NOW!

T-SHIRTS are available in adult and children sizes in Gray background. There are a few in LARGE and EX-LARGE in PINK and in WATERMELON. Prices are: \$8.50 (tax included) + \$1.50 for shipping. Order through MNPS, Attn: T-shirt order, P.O. Box 2151, Starkville, MS 39759.

Mississippi Native Plant Society  
P.O. Box 2151  
Starkville, MS 39759



MISSISSIPPI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

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 for the native plants of Mississippi. The overall purpose of the Mississippi Native Plant Society is the furtherance of knowledge about the native and naturalized plant species of the State of Mississippi and the encouragement of an attitude of respect and appreciation for these species.

GOALS include:

- To gather and disseminate knowledge about the native and naturalized species of Mississippi plants and their habitats
- To work for the preservation of these plants and conservation of their habitats
- To educate people concerning these plants, including their propagation, importance, ecology, and need for protection
- To encourage the propagation and use of native plants in landscaping
- To promote fellowship among all persons interested in the understanding and appreciation of Mississippi native plants
- To undertake any other activities that the members of the Society shall deem consistent with the overall purpose of the society

PROGRAMS include:

- Field trips. In past years, Mississippi locations have included Ocean Springs, Pinona (canoeing on the Strong River), Crosby Arboretum, Davis Lake, Tishomingo State Park, Delta National Forest, Starkville,