



Mississippi Native Plants and Environmental Education



Newsletter of The Mississippi Native Plant Society and the Mississippi Environmental Education Alliance

Volume 30 Number 1 Every breath is a giveaway dance between you and the plants - S. Weed **Spring 2012**

The **Mississippi Native Plant Society**, is a non-profit organization established in 1980 to promote the preservation of native plants and their habitats through conservation, education, and utilization.

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MNPS Has a New Logo! by Drs. John Guyton and Lelia Kelly

When Lelia asked for our logo and old brochures for a membership campaign starting this year at garden expos and meetings I confessed we really did not have an official logo and I sent her the collection from old newsletters. With that, she requested funding to have a professional artist create one and you are looking at the results below. The artist who designed the logo is Sweta Desai, a junior majoring in Graphic Design at MSU.

The *Trillium* seems appropriate for our logo. A watercolor (below) by MNPS member Margaret Gratz of the Sweet Little Betsy Trillium was the inspiration for the logo. Margaret Gratz is widely known for her Earth Lady column in the Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal and is author of an outstanding Mississippi Native Plant book, *Wildflower Watch* and *At Home in Earth Lady's Garden*.

Trilliums are perennials, well known and loved ephemerals that grace our woodlands and faithfully bloom year after year. *Trillium* means three, three bracts, three flower petals, three sepals, a triple chambered fruit or berry and a predisposition to grow in clumps of three; and three is a Fibonacci number. Fibonacci numbers are useful in describing a lot of natural relationships and characteristics of plants – hence **education**. They are relatively easy to grow encouraging their **utilization** in landscaping and many were **conserved** with the permission of Toyota when MNPS member Sherra Owen led the rescue of Prairie *Trilliums* (*Trillium recurvatum*) and Sweet Little Betsy (*Trillium cuneatum*) before construction began. *Trilliums* also symbolize the three words that have come to describe the MNPS **Conserve, Educate and Utilize**.

Incidentally, if your membership has expired, now would be a great time to renew.



Hello Fellow MNPS Members! by Dr. Lelia Kelly, MNPS President

I am looking forward to a great year and some great educational opportunities. Our educational chair and I are working with the fieldtrip chair on organizing some wonderful trips this year, including a fieldtrip for youth. Offering youth fieldtrips fits with the goals of both the MNPS and the MEEA. This targets an audience for more outreach opportunities and increases awareness of our two organizations and what we have to offer.

Our education chair and I are working on updating our MNPS brochure and should have a prototype ready sometime soon. Also, as you will see on the front page of this newsletter we have a new logo. My intention is to raise awareness and promote membership in our society by having this brochure available for distribution through some of the Extension garden/landscape related shows and field day events. We also have an opportunity, through our educational chair, to work with the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum in Jackson to revitalize their nature trail with an emphasis on native plants.

On another topic, based on my observations of capricious Mother Nature, I think if we are not going to have a winter we might as well just move on into an early spring! Don't you all agree? I am getting tired of these balmy, spring-like days with thunderstorms alternating with cold days spitting snow and sleet up in my neck of the woods. My family and I just had a little weekend getaway trip to our favorite cabin in Tishomingo State Park and it rained and thundered the entire weekend.

If it is not going to snow and be wintertime up here in extreme north Mississippi, I am anxious to see some of my favorite spring time woodland wildflowers start popping out: bloodroot, woodland phlox, trilliums, Jack-in-the-pulpit, mayapple, Indian pink, dwarf iris and the ground-hugging, shy little flowers of the wild gingers—I call these the “lie flat on yo belly” flowers in contrast to the “helicopter” flowers like the tulip poplar blooms that you would need a helicopter to see.

I encourage you, as spring begins to arrive and the woods and fields begin to come alive, to carve out some time to take the hand of a child, friend, or other loved one and head out for a walk. You may even want to “lie flat on yo belly” to get a better view!

Greetings MEEA and Others, by Terri Jacobson, MEEA President

Making Nature Connections: Start Young and Never Stop Trying

At the Clinton Community Nature Center, I had the opportunity to lead a preschool program called “Nature Nuts.” Since the program date was on February 15 – the day after Valentine's Day, I planned a nature walk activity, which involved finding paper hearts along the trail. Before we started our heart hike, I showed the children ages 2 – 4 what the paper hearts looked like and then I asked them to identify what color each heart was (blue heart, green heart, yellow heart, orange heart, pink heart and red heart). I then asked what does the heart symbolize (I thought this was a deep question and figured I would have to further explain) but to my amazement, one boy quietly answered, “it means love.”

What a perfect answer! Sharing our love and appreciation for nature isn't difficult; we can make connections to nature most any place, at any time and with any age. Appreciating and enjoying nature are the first steps to caring for and learning more about nature. The foundation of developing a sound stewardship ethic is first-hand nature experience. Wanting to take care of our Planet; pursuing careers in the natural resources fields; reducing one's personal carbon footprint – to live more “Green” all starts from our heart.

If you have young children please take them to the new exhibit, “Animal Secrets” that opened at the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science in Jackson. Our last MEEA board meeting was at the Museum, so we had a peek at the exhibit and we all LOVED it! Angel Rohnke walked around wearing a chipmunk vest, Jennifer Buchanan played with animal puppets, Deb Veeder collected large acorns, while John Guyton and Janet Chapman explored the inside of a cave. Peggy Guyton enjoyed making butterfly designs on the butterfly board. The Naturalist Tent scored points with Laura Beiser, Beverly Smith and Carley Lovorn. I especially liked the large eagle nest and the forested stream interactive display with small play animals. You are never too old or too young to have fun learning about nature.

Fieldtrips - See articles on Page 4

March 17 **Jackson Area** - Easter Lilies Everywhere!

April 28 **Tishomingo Area** (Mississippi's mountainous area in the far northeast) - Adult and Youth Wildflower Hikes etc.

Climate Change, or Something to Think About on a Long Trip***by John Guyton, Education Chair***

My recreation reading seldom includes novels, but Peg recently gave me Michael Crichton's *State of Fear* on CDs. She commented that Terri Jacobson and I might enjoy it on the long drive to participate in a Climate Change workshop at the North American Association for Environmental Education. Well, there was seldom a pause in the conversation but eventually I did listen to it and was I ever pleasantly surprised. I typically enjoy good science based articles and am more comfortable on the science side of the house but Crichton certainly wrote an exciting novel that provides a balanced, and exciting, introduction to climate change.

I was reminded of a trip I took to Fiji in 1994. Your first impression flying in is just how small and fragmented the 300+ islands are in the Pacific Ocean. Having flown to Australia in the cockpit of a 747 at night, with a couple knowledgeable Aussie pilots, the occasional lights of islands reminded me of the loneliness Capt. James Cook must have felt sailing into the same ocean in search of an undiscovered continent. When Amelia Earhart realized she was not going to complete her trip in spite of the plethora of widely scattered islands, the vastness of the ocean that comprises about one-third of earth's surface would mean she would never be found in time, even if she made it to solid ground.

While in Nandi I enjoyed reading local newspapers at breakfast in the large colonial dining room with open windows. There were two related items in the news in 1994 that really got my attention. First was the Oceania islands' news that many of the thousands of islands were overpopulated, deforested and beginning to worry about rising sea levels. Many islands highest elevation was less than 20 feet above sea level. The 9 low-lying atolls that make up Tuvalu, north of Fiji, reported there was barely enough high ground to retreat to during tropical cyclones. They also reported that salt water had infiltrated their fresh ground water and they were relying on rain water. The second item was speculation as to where the million of residents of Oceania could emigrate to and what would happen to their culture if sea level continued to rise?

So, in the introduction to Crichton's *State of Fear* I learned the focus of the book was about a lawsuit by the Pacific Island of Vanuatu, located between Australia and Fiji, against the US EPA for global warming! They decided to sue the US because it had the largest economy in the world and was the largest emitter of carbon dioxide. Crichton had my attention. He had done his homework and built a thrilling fast moving novel around surprising principals in and related to the lawsuit. I was particularly intrigued by the character development and their motives, the manipulation of funds provided for environmental protection, and a particularly glaring misuse of environmental education. The underlying premise of the national standards for environmental education is the use of sound science and balanced treatment. Some characters in the book were not bound by this high standard, but Crichton seemed familiar with the national standards for environmental education!

This book could be used as a "book of the semester" for adult or youth study. I could see readers being encouraged to research various organizations, sea level rise in the Pacific and even the supporters of various non-profit environmental organizations. A nice portfolio of critiqued research articles could be assembled, abstracted and analyzed. It might be useful to create a climate change folder on your computer with sub folders for supporting evidence for and supporting evidence against. In each folder you could deposit research articles and or abstracts. In each folder you should maintain a document that is a running narrative of what you are learning along the way as you study climate change. Be sure to identify articles you found particularly persuasive.

State of Fear is available in book form or if you spend too much time producing carbon dioxide on our nation's highways, you may prefer the CDs or Kindle versions and save trees for better uses.

Climate Change Education by John Guyton, MNPS Education Chair

If you are interested in participating in the NSF-funded Climate Literacy Partnership in the Southeast (CLiPSE) project that aims to improve climate change information and education including related impacts to the citizens of the southeastern US using fact based non-political information go to the CLiPSE website <<http://www.clipse-project.org/>> and register as a partner or email jguyton@cfr.msstate.edu.

Phenology by John Guyton, MNPS Education Chair

Phenology is the study of periodic plant and animal response to life cycle and climatic events. Spring moves north at about 15 miles/day. If you can remember when your first daffodils bloomed this year, email me the date and where you live and I will see if I can generate a map of daffodils' arrival. jguyton@cfr.msstate.edu

Easter Lilies Everywhere! (Fieldtrip) by Gail Barton, MNPS Trip Chair

On March 17, Heather Sullivan will lead MNPS members on a foray to Jasper County to see the Easter lilies in bloom. The “Easter lilies” are actually a native rain lily (a.k.a. *atamasco* lily or *Zephyranthes atamasco*). The flowers are so called because they usually appear around Easter and are white and trumpet shaped like exotic Easter lilies. This year, due to the mild winter, most plants are blooming early. We are speculating that there will be lots of flowers about three weeks before Easter.

The *atamasco* lily site is wet and shady. If our timing is good there will be hundreds of white lilies. The site is also populated with wild blue phlox (*Phlox divaricata*), Indian pink (*Spigelia marilandica*), purple trillium (*Trillium recurvatum*), spring cress (*Cardamine bulbosa*), butter top (*Senecio glabellus*), Jack in the pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*), wild honeysuckle azalea (*Rhododendron canescens*), red buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*) and many ferns including cinnamon fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*) and Southern lady fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*).

We will meet at the gas station at I-20 exit 100 at 9:30 and drive to the site in Bienville National Forest from there. This is one of the Lake exits. The station is northwest of the junction of I-20 and Highway 80. People commuting from Jackson can convoy with Heather from the Natural Science Museum. Heather will be unavailable the week prior to the fieldtrip. If you want to convoy, contact Heather by email at heather.sullivan@mmns.state.ms.us and plan to meet at the Museum Employee’s entrance gate at 8:00. Other attendees should e-mail Gail Barton at lgbarton@gmail.com or call 601-483-3588 to let us know that you are coming.

The site is level and fairly easy to walk, but participants should be prepared to slog through mud and shallow water. Since we are not walking a long distance, wading boots might be the best footwear.

Be sure to bring a camera. If our timing is right, you will see one of the most beautiful wildflower vistas that Mississippi has to offer.

We are particularly lucky to have Heather Sullivan as our trip leader since she knows the site well and is a fern expert. Please join us for this Easter Lily Excursion! MEEA Members are welcome to join the fieldtrip.

Tishomingo Fieldtrip for Adults and Youth by Dr. Lelia Kelly

On Saturday, April 28th, MNPS will host an adult and youth fieldtrip at Tishomingo State Park. This will be a joint effort of the MNPS and the MSU Extension Service. We hope to use this educational opportunity to promote our society and generate interest. We plan a full day of hikes, activities and fun stuff for middle school youth and their parents or grandparents and other MNPS and MEEA members to enjoy. The Extension offices in Alcorn and Tishomingo will help promote locally to 4-H groups, Girl and Boy Scouts and other groups. Their staff will be involved to help support this event. Gail Barton, Sherra Owen, John Guyton, and other experienced educators will be on hand to lead activities and/or hikes and share their fun facts, stories, and interesting folklore and Native American uses for plants. We are keeping our fingers crossed that there will still be some late wildflowers and blooming trees to see. All indications are we will have an early spring, so keep an optimistic attitude and hope for cool weather to delay things a little. Due to conflicting schedules and events at the park, the date of April 28th seemed to be the best we could do.

A highlight of the day, after we all enjoy our sack lunches at the park, will be a trip to Mr. Bob Gresham’s place where he will lead us through his beautiful native plant trail. There are plants here that you will not see in other parts of the state. Mr. Gresham also will take us to his rock quarry, where his family quarries the unique Tishomingo Stone. Yes, we will have an opportunity to purchase his wonderful stone benches and other artful garden sculptures—so bring a big vehicle or a wagon!

We will congregate at 9:00 a.m. on the 28th at Pavilion 1 in the Park. Be sure and check out the park website for maps, pictures and other information. <http://www.mdwfp.com/parks-destinations/ms-state-parks/tishomingo.aspx>. The day’s festivities should conclude around 3:30 or 4:00.

Please bring your young one(s), including those young at heart, and get set for a fun, educational day at Mississippi’s most beautiful and unique state park. Yes, I am a tad biased as I grew up enjoying this park’s unique features and flora.

A few suggestions are in order. Don’t forget your cameras, an extra lawn chair (if you don’t want to sit on the benches under the pavilion), your sack lunch with several bottles of water and bug spray. Wear your sturdy hiking shoes, as some of these hikes can be strenuous. **Please e-mail either me or John Guyton to let us know if you are coming** or if you have any questions: leliak@ext.msstate.edu, jguyton@cfr.msstate.edu. You may also call me on my cell phone: 662-415-2115.

A big thanks, to all those who are helping to put this together. It will be very interesting to see how this turns out. MEEA members are certainly welcome to join us.

The Deacon's Masterpiece or "The Wonderful One-Hoss Shay" is a Great Analogy for a Forestry Course at MSU by John Guyton

Foresters who are not woodworkers are like vegan cattle ranchers; they are producing a product that they have little firsthand understanding of, and see their product solely as a commodity that is interchangeable with other commodities. Beef and chicken are both sources of protein, but entirely different in taste, texture and method of preparation. Ever hear of barbecued chicken ribs or southern style fried T-bone? - Doghouse Woodcrafts shop quote

Over the holidays I was catching up on some reading and read Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.'s (1809-1894) *The Deacon's Masterpiece or the Wonderful One-Hoss Shay*. Now, I am not talking about James Lord Pierpont's (1822-1893) *One Horse Open Sleigh*, more commonly referred to as *Jingle Bells* – that you may be surprised to learn was intended as a Thanksgiving song! I was reading about the construction of a one-hoss shay – a two wheeled buggy pulled by a single horse and written by Holmes.

The deacon, inspired by logic, reasoned that if you paid attention you would realize that 3 out of 4 problems with shays have to do with their axle and wheel hubs. So a thoughtful builder could pay particular attention to these parts and design them stronger. Then logic would suggest that if you strengthen or redesign the next weakest part and so on ad infinitum you could design a shay in which all parts would last the life of the shay, and in the end fail together.

So the Deacon inquired of the village folk
Where he could find the strongest oak,
That couldn't be split nor bent nor broke, –
That was for spokes and floor and sills;
He sent for lancewood to make the thills;
The crossbars were ash, from the straightest trees
The panels of whitewood, that cuts like cheese,
But lasts like iron for things like these;

In that day, people knew the best wood for every purpose and unfortunately only a few today are wise in the use of woods. This tradition is, however, passed down through woodworkers. My father-in-law primarily works in cypress, black walnut, cherry and pine and he uses cypress for outdoor furniture because of its ability to withstand many years of outdoor use. In my shop I use these and more that I have found and used experimentally. One of the absolute joys of being a woodworker is feeling a new or different wood under our favorite tool, be it a plane, router or lathe. In recent years I have noted woodworkers first two questions when they meet each other include, what do you make and what woods do you use. And, so began a conversation with Dr. Bill Stuart on my first day in the College of Forest Resources. When I replied I had recently been turning bowls out of water oak and lamented I had given my son in law my lathe not knowing if I would have a place for it after my move, he commented, he had three and he would loan me one. And that is another important characteristic of most wood workers, they tend to be teachers and enablers! In less than 24 hours I had met his shop partner, Dr. Laurie Grace who said, "You have to come out to the shop."

In a subsequent conversation Bill revealed what to any woodworker would be a serious problem in the College of Forest Resources. He pointed out that we teach our students how to grow the "best pine sticks" in the world but they know nothing of wood! My response, "so, what do you think you need to do about it," drew a quick and absolutely tantalizing reply. The two of them had decided to offer a college course on woodworking and open their shop to students. And in no time at all this became a reality, for a little while. During this course students were to work on a class project for the college and were "invited" to take on a personal project for themselves. Bill smiles when he adds, "this resulted in a come early, leave late and come back on weekends schedule that the instructors were glad to accommodate." It was amazing to watch two classes of students learning about wood and developing the appreciation for wood only a woodworker can know, and they learned so much more. They learned how to safely and correctly use tools, they developed teamwork skills and learned which woods are best for which purposes. They learned to take pleasure in the accomplishments of others! Possibly the most important lesson they learned is that it is okay to fail, if it helped them learn. Dr. Laura Grace adds that mistakes that cannot be fixed are put in the biofuel reactor and still serve a good purpose - heating the shop! Bill and Laurie believe in trial and error and never say no, except where safety may

be an issue; but a common question is, "are you sure you want to do that?" Students mature as alumni of the College of Forest Resources and wherever they go will sow the seeds of a woodworker who not only can grow the best pine sticks in the world but who knows wood – there really are no trash trees.

If you are still wondering what lancewood is, Bill thinks it was most likely a wood imported from the Caribbean for its strength and durability. Thills, after all, are the shafts or poles that run down either side of the horse connecting it to the shay and must be strong lest they break catapulting the shay into the woods and injuring the passengers or horse. Bill adds, the whitewood was likely spruce.

The Deacon's masterpiece, the logically designed and built, *Wonderful One-Hoss Shay*, "ran a hundred days to the day" and concluded with the verse "Logic is logic. That's all I say." In the evolution of program curriculums this course certainly fills a gap and produces a stronger, more flexible student who is better positioned to deal with life's eventualities and changing world conditions than a mono-cropped student! My only regret is that I was in the wrong department to be a fellow teacher of this course!

Evolution of an Obsession by Breanna Lyle

It started innocently enough. "Just one! I'll be happy with one!" That was what I told my parents a few years ago when I was trying to convince them to let me get Catastrophe, my first tarantula.

From the age of about six, I had wanted a tarantula to call my own. Eleven years had passed since my first encounter with a sweet old rose-haired tarantula at a school sponsored Halloween Carnival. I was now a senior in high school, preparing to set out to college in the fall. It was a few months before graduation, and I knew that no time would be better to try once again to get my own eight-legged companion.

I had spent the past eleven years researching everything I could about tarantulas. I had read care sheets, books, papers, anything I could find on pertaining to the large arachnids. I'd decided at a young age which species I would someday have. I was going to get a Mexican Red Knee Tarantula, *Brachypelma smithi*. I had fallen in love with the species while reading a library book on spiders.

Around Christmas that year I began talking non-stop about tarantulas. I had pictures of my desired species lying all around the house. I then searched online for a reputable breeder. I found one. I pestered Mom and Dad for a while, and then they said something that I had longed to hear for eleven years. They told me that if I wanted it so badly, that they would let me have a tarantula. The feeling of joy that washed over me when I heard that was amazing. My dream was coming true!

I watched the breeder's website, waiting for the right moment to order my spider. Finally, one day when I got home from school, the website was having a sale. I knew then that the time was perfect. I placed my order right then and there. Little did I know that, with that one click, I was starting the experience of a lifetime.

A few weeks later, the mail lady dropped off a package on our doorstep. I arrived home from school to discover that the thing I'd most wanted was right there in front of me. I carefully opened the box, and inside, wrapped in some padding for safety, was Catastrophe, a one inch long *Brachypelma smithi*. Here, after all this time, was the spider of my dreams. I was so excited that I ended up taking over one hundred pictures of her that night.

Not too long after I got Catastrophe, I realized something. I wanted more tarantulas. All of the species that I had read about seemed so amazing to me. So I got a closely related species to Catastrophe for an amazing Graduation present.

That started the ball rolling. Since that day, I have continued to collect tarantulas. My collection has grown quite a bit. I now have ten tarantulas of five different genera and seven different species. I have no plans to stop the collection there, either. It's not hard to see that one little tarantula has become more of an obsession than I ever thought possible. Catastrophe has grown a lot, but is still my little baby that she was the day that I opened the box.



Tarantula illustration courtesy of Florida Center for Instructional Technology, College of Education, University of South Florida.
<http://etc.usf.edu/clipart/index.htm>

MNPS Fall Conference

We are looking at a Friday night - Saturday conference at **Tishomingo State Park** so consider bringing your sketchbooks or water colors and creating the first image of a spring/fall sequence of pictures beginning with the April fieldtrip.

Limestone, Wild Ginger, and Salamanders by Tom Mann, Zoologist, MS Natural Heritage Program

During my Sandhill presentation to the MNPS in fall of 2010, I emphasized the importance of deep, excessively well-drained sand to a number of rare animal species for which I survey (gopher tortoises, Florida Harvester Ants, oldfield mice, and others) and noted that I rely on the presence of certain plants -- turkey oak (*Quercus laevis*), various *Opuntia* (paddle cactus) species, pinewoods milkweed (*Asclepias humistrata*) among them-- as indicator species for the right sort of soil, particularly in places for which soil maps have not yet been published. Discovery can work in the other direction too; one might notice a conspicuous tortoise burrow from the road, stop to examine the surroundings, and discover less conspicuous rare plants and animals.



Until 2011, the MS Natural Heritage Program knew of only one population of wild ginger (*Asarum canadense*) in Hinds County (pictured above). Ron Wieland, my former colleague at the MMNS, discovered it in 1998, associated with an extensive outcrop of Glendon limestone along the Natchez Trace. I was unaware of this until an Auburn graduate student discovered a population of Webster's salamanders at the same site. I have conducted surveys for Webster's salamander for years, and from central Mississippi to extreme southwest Mississippi have always found the species associated with rock (typically sandstone or siltstone), and had not noticed any rock in this area. But when I entered the woods to seek more of the salamanders, it turned out that here and there, one can find a good bit of rock.

James Starnes (MDEQ Geology Section) told me of another outcrop of the Glendon in SW Madison County. On 15 March 2009, I drove up to investigate the Madison outcrop for the presence of Webster's salamanders, and promptly found them (the only known population in Madison County) and one newly emerged *Asarum canadense* plant. This remains the only known record for this species in Madison County. I have since found an additional Hinds County population of *Asarum* on a Glendon outcrop along the Natchez Trace. I have not yet noticed *Asarum* foliage at this site this year, but would expect it to emerge very soon given that most of my other phenological indicators are weeks earlier than usual. Those of you with natural *Asarum* populations associated with limestone on your property or elsewhere are asked to keep an eye out for Webster's salamanders, too. From late fall through early spring these 3" long amphibians may be found under small fallen limbs on the forest floor. The tail is round in cross-section, and is usually orangish or reddish on top. There may or may not be a stripe of similar hue along the center of the back.

Foxfire, the Highlight of a Night Hike by John Guyton, Ed. D.

My first experience with foxfire was a rather large bright stick glowing in the dark that I found at Camp Lakes Stephens, near Oxford Mississippi, during a summer camp. I was lagging behind my group and had pocketed my flashlight and was using the tree top silhouettes to follow the trail when I noticed a brightly glowing stick under a bush. After raking it out with a crutch and examining it I was both delighted and puzzled. I carried it with me and when I caught up with my group at the campfire my counselor told me it was called foxfire but he had no explanation for how it worked. That night after writing a card home, by the light of the stick, the counselor placed it high on the wall where everyone enjoyed it for the rest of the week.

Foxfire is a term for phosphorescent fungi infected wood that glows in dark. On humid summer nights the white to blue or green bioluminescence is given off by threads of fungi on rotting wood known as foxfire. If you are hiking with a flashlight you may miss it. Small flies, attracted to the light, assist in spreading the spores, and the fungus benefits from their feces. Other insects in the area, including fungal gnats that eat the spores, are attracted to the light and so are their parasitic wasps. The tiny wasp lay their eggs in the adult gnats or their eggs. The wood rotting fungal bioluminescence results from the oxidation of luciferin, a process similar to that in fireflies and glow-worms. Aristotle was familiar with foxfire and Mark Twain refers to it in *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, "rotten chunks that's called 'foxfire' that just makes a soft kind of glow when you lay them in a dark place." Beowulf used foxfire when describing an ominous place. Foxfire has long been used to mark night trails, incorporated into special boxes made by woodworkers and attached to the back of night hikers clothing so they can follow each other on silent night hikes.

Mississippi Native Plant Society Application

The organization dedicated to the study and appreciation of native wildflowers, grasses, shrubs and trees. Join Today!

New member ____ Renewing ____ (note any changes below)

Name _____

Address _____

PO or Street Address City Zip Code

Email _____ Phone _____

Individual or Family \$10 Student \$7.50 Sustaining \$15

Contributing \$35 Life \$125

Newsletter preference Email or Regular mail (USPS)

Return form to Dr. Debora Mann, 114 Auburn Dr. Clinton, MS 39056-6002

Mississippi Environmental Education Alliance Application, The state affiliate of the NAAEE

Name _____ New ____ Renewing ____

Organization _____

Address _____

PO or Street Address City Zip Code

Email _____ Phone _____

Individual \$15 Student \$5 Family Institution or Business \$50

Life \$150 Patron > \$150

Committee interest: Strategic Planning, NCLI, Conference, Awards

Communication, Climate Change, MEEA Board

Return application with check to MEEA c/o Angel Rohnke, MS Museum of Natural Science, 2148 Riverside Dr., Jackson, MS 39202

MS Native Plant Society

mississippinativeplantsociety.org

Coastal Plains MNPS meets every 4th Monday in Gulfport. Contact President Edie Dreher at 228-864-2775 or mail to 100 24th St., Gulfport, MS 39507.

Join MNPS, MEEA or both!

MS Environmental Education Alliance

eeinmississippi.org

The Mississippi Environmental Education Alliance conducts an annual fall conference and occasional workshops.

MNP&EE

Mississippi Native Plants & Environmental Education is the quarterly newsletter of the Mississippi Native Plant Society & the Mississippi Environmental Education Alliance.

Deadline for Articles
Winter - November 10
Spring - February 10
Summer - May 10

Fieldtrips

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March 17 Jackson Area - Easter Lilies Everywhere!

April 28 Tishomingo Area - Adult & Youth Fieldtrip

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