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## LNPS Officers:

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

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

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

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

## 2013 Winter Meeting—A Good Time Had by All

It was a beautiful early Spring day when 67 members of the LNPS met at Camp Hardtner for the 2013 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 Alan Boyd, Forrest Dillemath, and Charles Allen.

Alan Boyd, the Wildlife Biologist for Weyerhaeuser here in

Louisiana, gave an excellent presentation on the “Management of Special Sites, Including Saline and Calcareous Prairies”. I was recently invited to look at some of the saline prairies on Weyerhaeuser land, and especially to see the Earthfruit (*Geocarpon minimum*), Federally-endangered plant. Weyerhaeuser is to be commended for the excellent work they are doing to preserve and manage this and other unique habitats on their land holdings.

Bob Dillemath's son, Dr. Forrest Dillemath, gave a presentation on “An Educational and Community-driven Approach to Restoring Invaded Habitats in

Louisiana”. Dr. Dillemath's study site is the Bluebonnet Swamp behind the library on Bluebonnet Drive in Baton Rouge. Dr. Dillemath's battles with Elephant Ear, a.k.a. Taro (*Colocasia esculenta*) are reminiscent of mine with privet, and I do not envy his task but am encouraged to learn of his success there.

And finally, Dr. Charles Allen gave one of his signature Louisiana wildflower presentations – this one on “The Flora of Southeast Louisiana, a Paradise of Rare and Unusual Plants” – except West Feliciana Parish, of which Dr. Allen stated “that will have to be another presentation by itself.”

LNPS raised \$685 at the always-popular plant auction. A special thanks to John Mayronne, Peter Loos, and Jeff McMillian for emceeding the auction (and making it fun as always), and to all who provided plants for the auction.

All in all the 2013 LNPS Winter Meeting was a success.

If you missed this year, we hope to see you in 2014.



Richard Johnson, John Mayronne, and Margie Jenkins share a laugh and remembrances of old times, and new ones to come





*2013 Winter Meeting—Cont.*



The intrepid field trip group (Photo courtesy Susan Allen)



Pondering a spring in early Spring.....



The always popular plant auction, this one conducted by Jeff McMillian (l), John Mayrone (c) and Peter Loos (r)



← How do we get out of this cotton-picking baygall?

Contemplating the complicated nature of graminoid biomass... →





## LNPS Business Meeting Minutes

### 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 Dillemath.

**Business:** The minutes from the 2012 meeting were read by Beth Erwin, secretary.

The treasurer's report was given by Jackie Duncan with a balance reported of \$11,585.68 (details on page 4).

**LNPS Brochures:** Bob asked for authorization to print additional LNPS brochures. On a motion by Rick Webb and a second by Peter Loos, authorization was given. The motion was amended to approve the addition of art work. Deadline for submission for printing was set at April 1, 2013

**Grant review committee:** Vice-president Bud Willis reported on the grant applications. Bayou Rebirth and Amite Elementary Magnet School were each awarded \$500 grants.

Marion Drummond motioned we award two \$500 grants for next year. Linda Chance gave the second and all were in favor. Bud Willis will chair, Marion Drummond, Brian Early, & Matthew Herron will serve on the grants committee.

**Elections** – Rosalie Overby gave a motion with a second from Charles Allen that the current slate of officers be re-elected for 2013. All were in favor. Those elected were Bob Dillemath, president; Bud Willis, vice-president; Jackie Duncan, treasurer; Beth Erwin, secretary.

Linda Chance, Charlotte Seidenburg, and Betty Miley were nominated to serve three-year positions, replacing Rosalie Overby, Dawn Allen, & Peter Loos. Terry Erwin moved nominations close. Rosalie Overby gave the second; All were in favor.

**Newsletter:** Newsletter editor Dave Moore brought up issues related to the cost of printing the newsletter in color. Bud Willis offered a motion that we publish a color email version, and black and white mail on request, Marion Drummond gave a second. The motion passed with one objection.

**2014 meeting:** On a motion from Peter Loos with a second from Marion Drummond, the group unanimously

voted to hold the meeting February 1 & 2, 2013. Annette Parker would organize a party afterward.

**Letter of support:** On a motion from Peter Loos with a second from Linda Chance, the group voted to send a letter of support at the request of Converse Griffith regarding the stewardship and use money from timber sales for other uses. The letter would be in support of improving/increasing quail habitat. This would involve removing woody plants from bogs in Vernon Parish.

### Chapter Reports

The new Capital Area Native Plant Society gave their first report—Matthew Herron and Lauren Hull serve as co-presidents; home is Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center.

Goals are:

Outreach and education

Public space use of native plants

Historic plant communities and restoration.

The group meets the third Sunday of the month and is involved in plant and seed exchanges, plant ID, has a Facebook page, Google group and email address.

Betty Miley spoke of a new initiative to incorporate native plantings at the Burden Center in Baton Rouge.

**Field trip ideas for 2013** – Dave Moore offered to lead a trip to Drake Salt Works with Chris Reid.

### Announcements of coming events:

Louisiana Earth Day Baton Rouge – April 21, 2013

Society for LA Iris is having the national meeting in Dallas April 21-23.

New LA chapter of American Daffodil Society.

Southern Garden Symposium in St. Francisville, Oct 18th & 19th.

Bayou Blitz at Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve . May 17 and 18.

With a motion and second from Tracy and David Banowitz, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

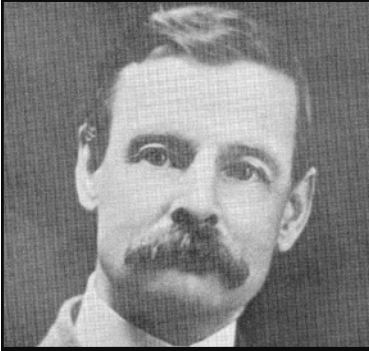
Beth Erwin, Secretary LNPS Business Meeting Minutes

### LNPS 2013 TREASURER'S REPORT

|  | 2012               | 2011                                | 2010               | 2009               | 2008               |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Beginning Cash Balance, January 1</b> | <b>\$10,095.09</b> | <b>\$10,124.15</b>                  | <b>\$10,077.11</b> | <b>\$10,658.81</b> | <b>\$9,135.98</b>  |
| <b>Dues</b>                              | \$1,867.00         | \$1,114.00                          | \$987.00           | \$1,290.00         | \$1,505.00         |
| <b>Annual meeting –</b>                  |                    |                                     |                    |                    |                    |
| Registration                             | -                  | Meeting cancelled due to ice storm. | -                  | -                  | -                  |
| Meal receipts                            | 803.00             |                                     | 358.00             | 279.00             | 935.50             |
| Lodging receipts                         | 1,385.00           |                                     | 915.00             | 770.00             | 1,440.00           |
| Camp rental                              | -                  |                                     | -                  | -                  | -                  |
| Meal costs                               | (945.00)           |                                     | (400.00)           | (329.00)           | (929.50)           |
| Lodging costs                            | (1,235.00)         |                                     | (915.00)           | (715.00)           | (1,485.00)         |
| Insurance                                | -                  |                                     | -                  | -                  | -                  |
| DJ                                       | -                  |                                     | -                  | -                  | -                  |
| King cakes                               | -                  |                                     | -                  | -                  | -                  |
| Miscellaneous costs                      | -                  | (502.50)                            | (44.35)            | (46.48)            | -                  |
| Net meeting (costs)/income               | 8.00               | (502.50)                            | (86.35)            | (41.48)            | (39.00)            |
| Interest income                          | 3.31               | 3.19                                | 3.19               | 3.18               | 10.17              |
| Donations received                       | -                  | -                                   | -                  | 2.00               | 25.00              |
| Plant auction at meeting                 | 988.00             | -                                   | 712.00             | 349.00             | 569.00             |
| <b>Expenditures</b>                      |                    |                                     |                    |                    |                    |
| Grant/donations                          | (1,100.00)         | (500.00)                            | (500.00)           | (1,000.00)         |                    |
| Memorial donation                        | -                  | -                                   | (500.00)           | -                  |                    |
| CPHPS donation                           | -                  | -                                   | -                  | -                  |                    |
| 501(3)(c) Application                    | -                  | -                                   | -                  | -                  |                    |
| T-shirts                                 |                    |                                     |                    |                    |                    |
| Sales                                    | 340.00             |                                     |                    | 260.00             | -                  |
| Costs                                    | (225.00)           |                                     |                    | (1,041.12)         | -                  |
| Newsletter costs                         | (201.08)           | (85.80)                             | (181.10)           | (398.28)           | (511.83)           |
| Brochures                                | (106.30)           | -                                   | (322.70)           | -                  | -                  |
| Award plaque                             | -                  | -                                   | -                  | -                  |                    |
| Signs                                    | -                  | -                                   | -                  | -                  |                    |
| Web page costs                           | (60.00)            | (32.00)                             | (60.00)            | -                  |                    |
| Louisiana state tax                      | (10.00)            | (7.00)                              | (5.00)             | (5.00)             | (5.00)             |
| Supplies, misc.                          | -                  | -                                   | -                  | -                  | (30.51)            |
| Bank charges/Paypal costs                | (13.34)            | (18.95)                             | -                  | -                  |                    |
| Net cash inflow (outflow) for the year   | 1,490.59           | (29.06)                             | 47.04              | (581.70)           | 1,522.83           |
| <b>Ending Balance, December 31</b>       | <b>\$11,585.68</b> | <b>\$10,095.09</b>                  | <b>\$10,124.15</b> | <b>\$10,077.11</b> | <b>\$10,658.81</b> |

## *The Limestone Hill at Winnfield Louisiana by David Moore*

**"it was home to four ferns that have not been found – even to this day – anywhere else in Louisiana."**



Reginald G. W. Cocks

Surficial exposures of large rock masses are not a common sight in Louisiana. Sure, there is a lot of "Kisatchie Sandstone" in the Catahoula Formation – especially southwest of Natchitoches – and iron ore can be found on many upland sites, but nowhere can one find solid rock bluffs or ledges of any sizeable extent – and certainly none composed of limestone. Not here, not in Louisiana.....

However, at one time "limestone" was exposed at the surface at two Louisiana salt domes—Winnfield and Pine

Prairie, and the quarried product at each location is composed of 92 to 98 percent calcium carbonate, which is limestone.

At one time a cliff (known locally as "Chimney Rock") could even be found west of Winnfield at what is known today as the Winn Rock Quarry, and it was home to four ferns that have not been found – even to this day - anywhere else in Louisiana.

Today we know this rock bluff was composed of a limestone-like exposure of caprock that lies on top of an underground

salt dome. It was on this bluff (or nearby) that four species of ferns were last collected in the early 1900s. These ferns are black-stemmed spleenwort (*Asplenium resiliens*), maidenhair spleenwort (*Asplenium trichomanes*), Alabama lipfern (*Cheilanthes alabamensis*), and purple cliff brake (*Pellaea atropurpurea*).

Two botanists, Reginald W.S. Cocks and N.F. Peterson, last collected these four fern species over 100 years ago. Since that time the area has been extensively mined for salt and aggregate (Winn Rock), and any traces of the original geologic formations—as well as the four species of ferns—are long gone.

In 1873, the geologist Eugene W. Hilgard made the first official report of a limestone bluff at this locality. As described by Hilgard, the "limestone hill" is "on Mr. Matthews' place, S. 19, T. 11 N., R. 3 W. A pond about forty yards across, is surrounded by limestone hills and cliffs – a real escarpment, fifty to sixty feet above the

(Continued on page 6)

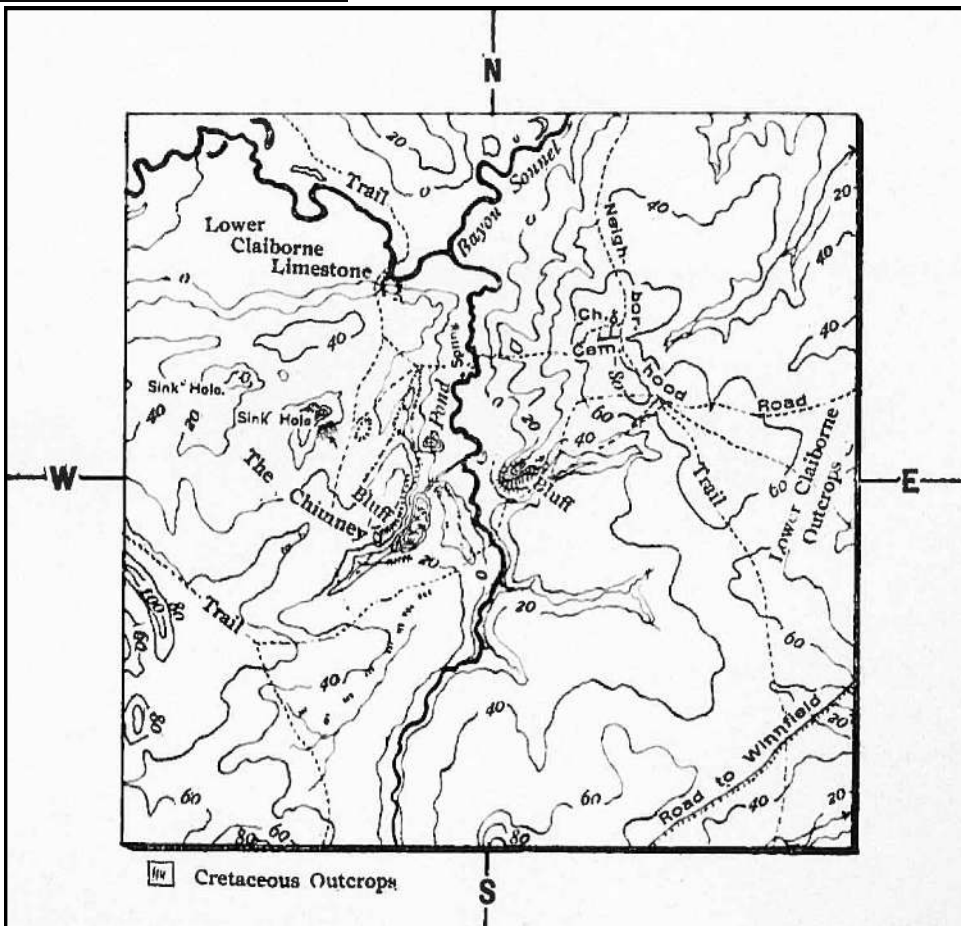


FIG. 3.—Sketch of Winnfield "Marble" quarry and surroundings. This map embraces one square mile. Elevations are denoted by contour intervals of 20 feet, commencing with 0 at the base of the eastern bluff.



Eugene W. Hilgard



*Asplenium resiliens**Cheilanthes alabamensis**Pellaea atropurpurea*

## *The Limestone Hill at Winnfield cont.*

(Continued from page 5)

drainage of the country, and the rock but scantily covered with soil on which, among other plants not usually seen in this region, the red cedar is abundant."

Gilbert D. Harris and A. C. Veatch, in "A preliminary Report on the Geology of Louisiana - 1899", wrote "Perhaps there is no locality in northern Louisiana that can excel this in features of interest, for the geologist and layman alike. Nor is it a matter of wonder that great local interest should be manifest in this high mass of dislocated, faulted, folded rocks, showing here a mere confused mass of angular boulders, there a vertical cliff of 30 feet with rocks of all shapes and sizes piled up in a sloping

talus at its base. The "Tower rock" or "Chimney" is well shown on PI. IV. The rugged, fractured character of the cliff at this place is also well illustrated.

Gilbert D. Harris further elaborated on this geologic formation in his "Notes on the Geology of the Winnfield Sheet - 1907", where he wrote "Though the vertical part of the limestone outcrop at the Chimney may not be over 30 feet, one can, by properly searching in depressions and then following the beds upwards and beyond the top of the Chimney, find between 50 and 60 feet of strata exposed."

Harris also provided evidence of a cave and stated "The bold escarpment here referred to has nothing to suggest the for-



Gilbert D. Harris

mer presence of a cave in this vicinity [sic] The very remarkable feature about this cave limestone is that in many places it is replete with minute long, hollow bones, evidently the finger bones of some species of bat. Occasional lower jaw bones are also found; sometime tiny bones of other parts of the skeleton."

With the presence of these four fern calciphiles, whose occurrence is common farther north in the limestone/dolomite hills of the Ozarks, it is easy to imagine that other rare Louisiana plants that occupy similar habitat (bloodroot, toothwort, Virginia saxifrage, false Solomon's Seal, etc) may have occurred here as well.

Some of that original rock still exists today. New Jerusalem Church cemetery is located about 1/4 miles northeast of the Winn Rock quarry. In that cemetery is a grave covered with weathered limestone rocks.

Close examination of these rocks reveals pockets and fissure that are only found in water-soluble rocks such as

LOUISIANA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

REPORT OF 1907—Plate IV



CHIMNEY ROCK, WINNFIELD "MARBLE" QUARRY, NEAR WINNFIELD, LA.

—Harris Photo.





Closeup of gravestone rock showing solution features



*Asplenium trichomanes*

## *The Limestone Hill at Winnfield cont.*

(Continued from page 6)

limestone and dolomite, and only in surface exposures. This almost certainly confirms that these gravestone rocks are from the limestone cliff area before the quarrying operations began.

Zion Church east of Packton also has similar rocks lying on the top of a single grave there.



Rock-covered gravestone at New Jerusalem cemetery, Winn Parish.

### **The Identification of or Question About Some of our Woody Plants. By: Charles Allen**

Editors Note: Dr. Allen sent me six such reports for various Genera. The others will be presented in future newsletters.

#### **Rhododendron (Azalea or wild honeysuckle)**

The early blooming, before the leaves *Rhododendron canescens* is the most common, widespread, and best known species. It is the sign of spring and flowers from mid-March to mid-April. We called it wild honeysuckle in southeast Louisiana and people were always looking to find a pure white one. Its habitat is the natural levees of small streams so even though it is in a wet area generally, it is usually growing on a dryer microhabitat within the wet area. A look at its distribution in Louisiana finds it all over the pine regions but it is noticeably absent from the Mississippi River floodplain and the marsh. Then in May, a pure white-flowered species, *Rhododendron oblongifolium*, begins to flower with the leaves already developed. The flowers are covered on the outside with glandular hairs so the flowers are very sticky. The plants are small - mostly shorter than 5 feet. It occupies a moist habitat just upslope from baygalls and bogs in central and northwest Louisiana. Then in July and August, the third species (*Rhododendron viscosum*) begins to flower and it also has white flowers. It is a taller plant and is usually found in baygalls. It has been reported from southeast, central, and northwest Louisiana. My identification and name for *Rhododendron canescens* agrees with most published works but the other two species do not follow some of the published works.

*Rhododendron canescens**Rhododendron viscosum**Rhododendron oblongifolium*This fungus mimics flowers on *Rhododendron*!

### Places to see Wild Azaleas on the Calcasieu Ranger District. By: Converse Griffith

Editors Note: Converse Griffith is the Zone Botanist for the Calcasieu and Kisatchie Ranger Districts on the Kisatchie National Forest. For more information on directions, you can call Converse at his office: 318-793-9427

Wild Azaleas (*Rhododendron canescens*) are flowering shrubs or small trees that generally bloom in March or April. Below are three areas near trails where these azaleas can be seen.

#### I. Wild Azaleas along the Valentine Lake Trail

Be advised that this is a fee area. If you start from the campground on the north shore of Valentine Lake, take the trail (marked with blue blazes) west (walking away from the fishing pier and spillway). Along the portion of the trail that borders the lake, you will see a good many azaleas right next to the trail, mostly between the trail and the lake. As the trail moves away from the lake, the number of azaleas dropped off considerably.



## II. Wild Azaleas along the Kinkaid Loop trail.

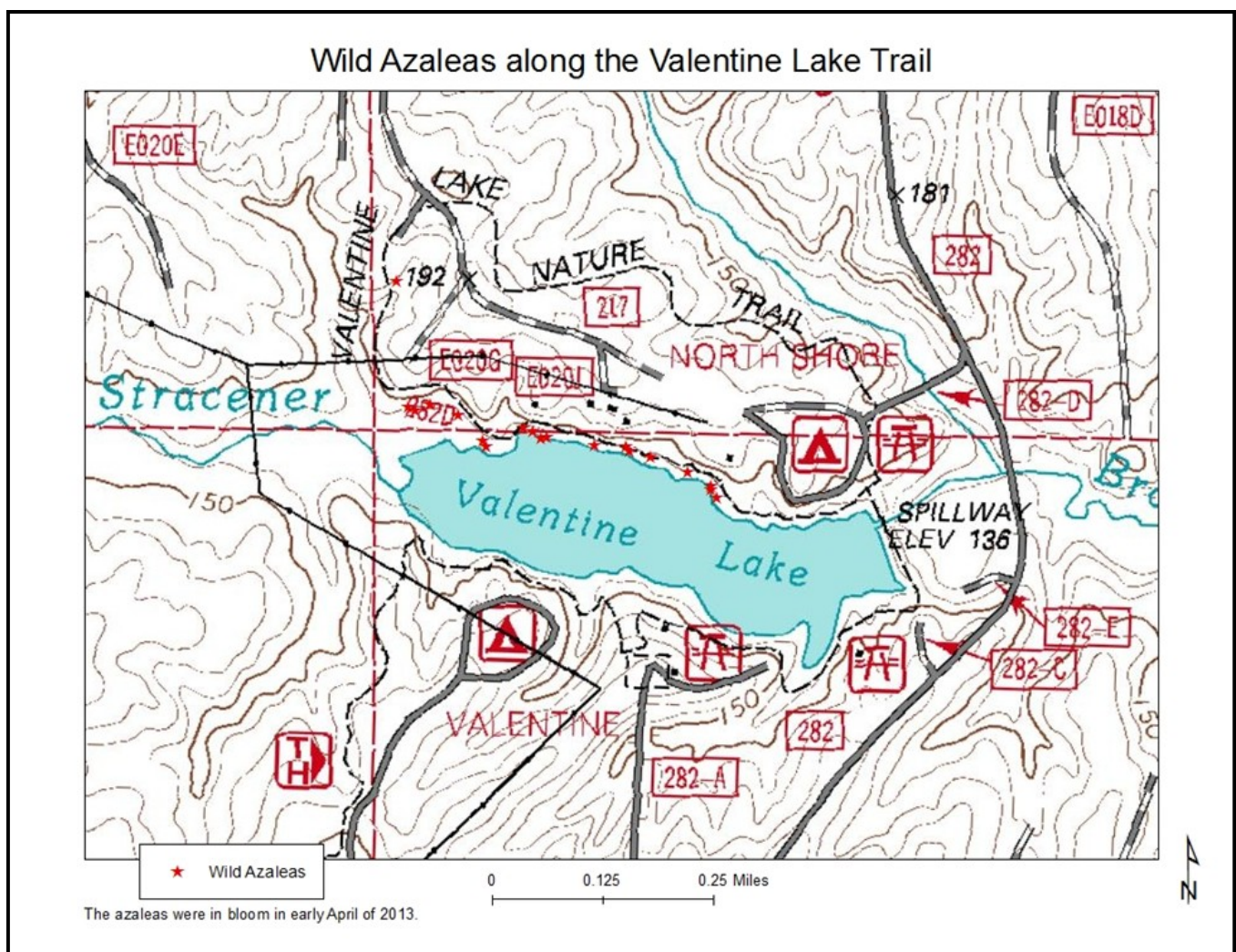
Park at the west boat ramp. Follow the trail that goes over the footbridge to the east of the boat ramp. You will see a number of azaleas along this trail. If you continue to where this trail joins the Kinkaid loop trail, take the portion of the loop trail that will take you back towards the lake. You will see a number of azaleas along the portion of the trail between the west boat ramp and the day use area.

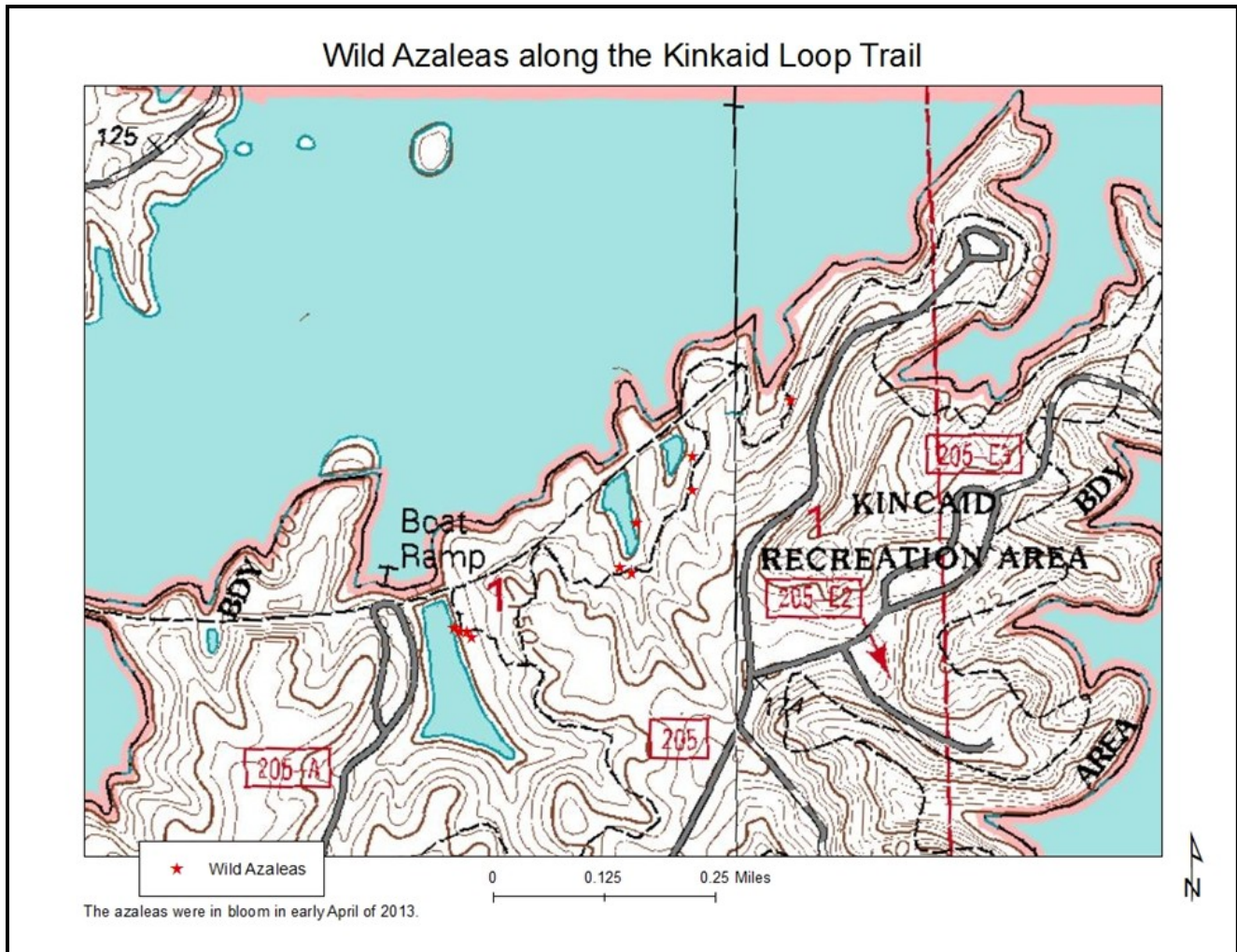
## III. Wild Azaleas on Castor Plunge Road (also known as FDR 287)

Some wild azaleas are on the west side of Castor Plunge, others on the east side of the road. All of the wild azaleas indicated in the detailed instructions under 1) and 2) below are seen from the Wild Azalea trail.

### 1. Wild Azaleas on the west side of Castor Plunge Road

Turn south off of LA 488 (Twin Bridges Road) onto Castor Plunge Road. Proceed on Castor Plunge southwards for about 3.8 miles until you reach dirt road E034G on the west side of Castor Plunge Road (there is a narrow brown rectangular sign with the road designation for this road). Park on the side of E034G, and walk a short distance down the road until you see the yellow paint or diamond-shaped markers indicating where the Wild Azalea trail crosses the road. Take the part of the trail going south, away from Castor Plunge Road (if you go the wrong



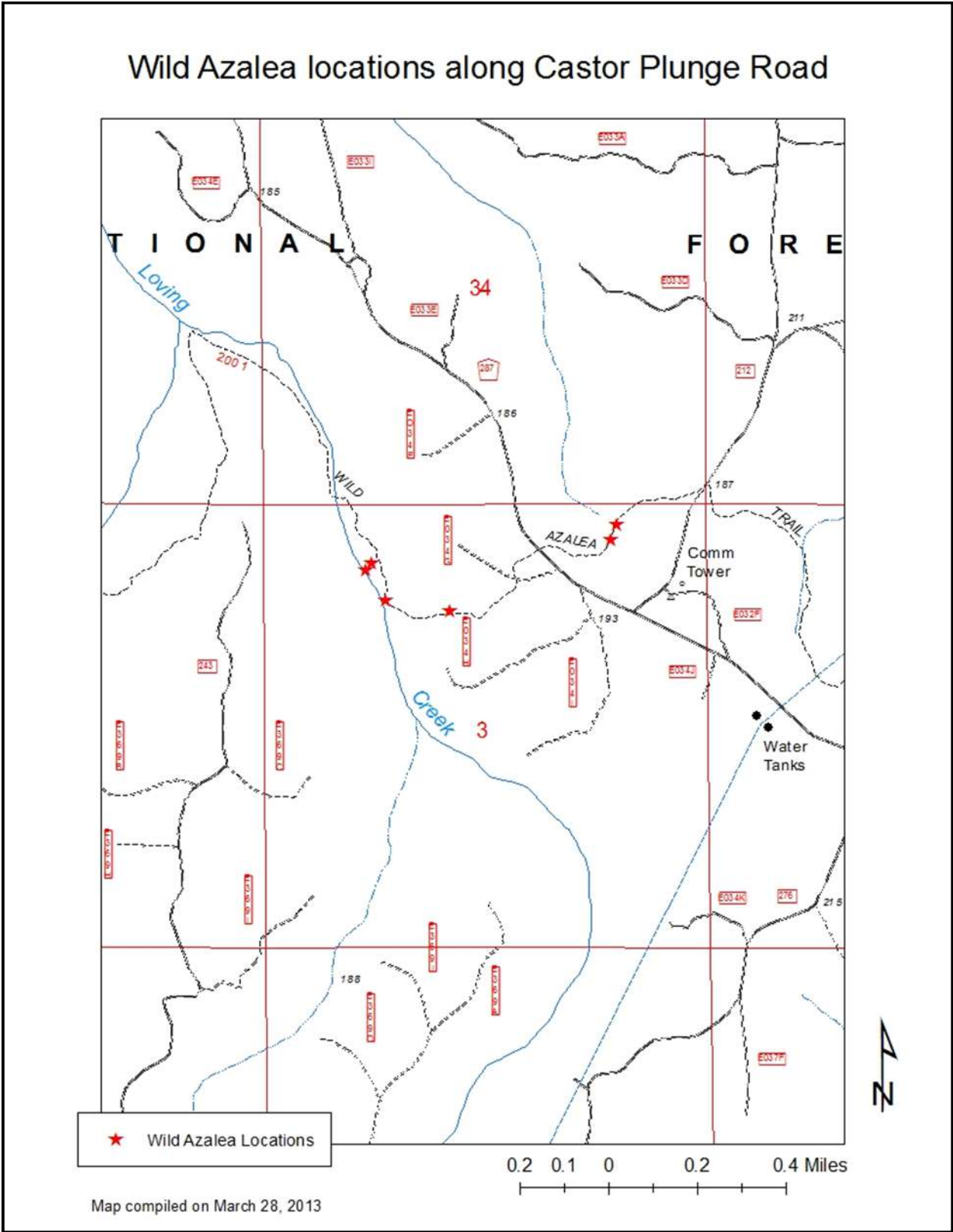


way on the trail you will shortly end up on the edge of Castor Plunge Road). As you walk down the trail, at about 0.2 miles after you left road E034G, you will come to your first wild azalea, but most of the wild azaleas are near Loving Creek, from about 0.38 to 0.5 miles down the trail from E034G. In 2013, the wild azaleas were in bloom by March 22.

## **2. Wild Azaleas on the east side of Castor Plunge Road**

Once again, turn south off of LA 488 (Twin Bridges Road) onto Castor Plunge Road (FDR 287). This time you will drive south on Castor Plunge Road for about 4 miles, until you come to road 212 (a gravel road) on the east side. You will turn onto 212, and drive 0.35 miles until you see the yellow paint or diamond-shaped markers indicating where the Wild Azalea trail crosses road 212. Park on the side of the road and take the portion of the trail going west (back towards Castor Plunge road). From about 0.23 to 0.27 miles you will see wild azaleas along the trail. In 2013, the wild azaleas were in bloom by March 25.





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## Velo Fleur Wildflower Bikeride

### Velo Fleur Wildflower Bikeride

**April 21, 2013**

**9:30 - 12:00**

Join Bike Baton Rouge and the Capital Area Native Plant Society to start your Earth Day off right with a leisurely ride around the LSU Lakes and down the levee to see spring wild flowers in bloom. The ride will start at the Baton Rouge Gallery and end Downtown for the Earth Day Celebration.

Bring your bike, helmet, and a picnic lunch to enjoy after the ride!

Meet at the Baton Rouge Gallery at 9:30am!

About: Velo Fleur is an urban bike tour meant to encourage knowledge and appreciation of common wildflowers in the open spaces around Baton Rouge. Additionally, Velo Fleur seeks to bring awareness to the need for the continued restoration of natural spaces and the bike and footpaths necessary to enjoy them safely. Please contact the Capital Area Native Plant Society at [canpsbr@gmail.com](mailto:canpsbr@gmail.com) for more information!

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<https://www.facebook.com/CapitalAreaNativePlantSociety>

## *Membership Form* (Checks payable to LNPS)

**NOTE:** Membership and donations may also be paid online at [www.lnps.org](http://www.lnps.org).

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ST: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Annual Dues:

|                |      |              |       |
|----------------|------|--------------|-------|
| Student/Senior | \$ 5 | Organization | \$25  |
| Individual     | \$10 | Sustaining   | \$50  |
| Family         | \$15 | Corporate    | \$100 |

#### MAIL TO:

**Jackie Duncan**  
**114 Harpers Ferry Road**  
**Boyce, LA 71409**

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*The Louisiana Native Plant Society was founded in 1983 as a state-wide, non-profit organization. Its purposes are to preserve and study native plants and their habitats, to educate people on the value of native plants and the need to preserve and protect rare and endangered species, to promote the propagation and use of native plants in the landscape, and to educate people on the relationship between our native flora and wildlife.*

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www.lnps.org

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