

**President: Jim Foret**  
**Vice President: Ken Wilson**  
**Secretary: Malcolm Vidrine**  
**Treasurer: Pat Lewis**



**Publicity Chair: Jackie Duncan**  
**Web Master: Doug Miller**  
**Newsletter Editor: Charles Allen**  
**Past President: Sara Thames**  
**Education Coordinator:**  
**Margaret Frey**

## **"A PRAIRIE CHICKEN IN EVERY PLOT"**

**VOLUME 27, January 2007**

### **PRESIDENT'S CORNER:**

**hey ya'll,**

This is my first letter as president of this fine organization and things are moving so fast. This is really cool, as none of this has anything to do with my leadership or participation to this point. That new observation tower at Duralde is almost finished, every obstacle in the way cleared or overcome by sheer bull headedness and muscle, and a few sore backs. Same with the parking lot at the Eunice prairie site, decisions are being made and it is about to happen, with trail construction to follow soon after.

Ya'll are something else! i am so proud of this group. We are all busy, but this is important work and you are making it happen.

A letter this week went out to a fairly large number of us from Charles, and was particularly poignant to me. The letter focused on Marc Pastorek's newly released "artistic seed catalog", and how much good information it contains and how beautiful the catalog is. I immediately fired off an order for my own copy. I also visited Marc's web site and was thrilled at what I found. What a class act! Check it out at [www.meadowmaker.com](http://www.meadowmaker.com).

All of this caused me to reflect on the composition of the Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society. You guys live your passion. I hold Marc up as a shining example and he is not alone. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of all of this.

peace and love  
Jim Foret

### **SO YOU WANT TO JOIN US OR RE-JOIN?**

**Dues are \$20 per person, \$25 per family, and \$10 for students.**

**Make checks payable to Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society and mail to:**

**CPHPS/CO Patricia Lewis**

**RR2, BOX 194L**

**Newton, TX 75966**

# CAJUN PRAIRIE SPRING MEETING

**Saturday Apr 14, 2007**

**(Note: We are starting at Duralde and not Eunice)**

**800 AM:** Tour of Duralde Restoration Prairie. Join us at any time after 8 and we will wander around and enjoy this site until about 930. Directions: Take La 13 north out of Eunice and after crossing a bridge, go about 1.5 miles and turn left onto La 374. If coming from the north on La 13, about 6 miles south of Mamou, just past the Fire Station, turn right onto La 374. Follow La 374 west and it will take a sharp right then a sharp left. After straightening out from the sharp left, go about 0.5 miles and turn left at the first double intersection. You will be turning left onto a gravel road that is Parish Road 6-29S. Parish Road 6-29S is about 2 miles from La 13. Follow Parish Road 6-29S and it will take a sharp right and then will start a sharp left but you will not turn at the left but drive straight into the Duralde

**10:00 AM** Eunice Restored Prairies; meet at the corners of Martin Luther King and East Magnolia and enjoy the best restored prairie in the United States. This site is north of U.S. 190 and east of La 13. For those of you coming from the north on La 13, turn left (east) at the first paved road (East Magnolia) to the east after you cross the railroad tracks in Eunice. Go a couple of blocks and the prairie is on your left. For those coming from the east on U.S. 190 turn right (north) at the first red/green traffic light and follow Martin Luther King Drive for a couple of blocks and the prairie is on your left. For those coming from the west on U.S. 190, follow U.S. 190 through Eunice and after crossing a railroad track, go to the next red/green traffic light and turn left onto Martin Luther King Drive (See above). For those coming from the south on La 13, when you reach the stop sign, turn right onto Maple Ave. Follow Maple for about 3-4 blocks and at the 2nd four-way stop sign, turn left onto Martin Luther King Drive. Follow this street across U.S. 190 and see above.

**12 noon till 1245 pm**, "Nature (Plants, Butterflies, Scenes, etc.) through my camera lens" by Jeff McMillian at Jean Lafitte Center in downtown Eunice.

**1245 till 1:15 PM:** Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society meeting.

**115-3:0) PM::** Lunch on your own but a tradition is to dine at Matilda's on the east side of Eunice.

**3:00 PM-till:** Acadia Power Partners Prairie, Frey Remnant, and Malcolm's Prairie. We will meet at the newly installed Acadia Power Partners (Cleco) Prairie at 3:00 pm. Take La 13 south out of Eunice, and after crossing a bridge, go one mile and turn right into the power plant. The restored prairie will be inside the first fence you see. Then we will caravan to the Frey remnant. Get back on La 13 and turn right south and then turn right at the next double intersection onto La 370. La 370 will make several sharp curves and you will cross a bridge. After crossing the bridge, turn right at the next intersection onto La 368. Follow La 368 for about 0.5 mile and turn left onto Parish Road 7-37. Parish Road 7-37 will take a sharp left and then straighten out and run parallel to an old railroad bed. The Frey Prairie is located along this strip.

We will use the L'Acadie Inn as the headquarters for this meeting. To reserve a room, call Kelly or Lance Pitre at 337-457-5211 or 337-457-4719. Other motels in Eunice include: Best Western 337-457-2800; Howards Inn 337-457-2066; La Parisienne 337-457-4274 and the new one Day's Inn 337-457-3040. For more information, visit the website at [www.cajunprairie.org](http://www.cajunprairie.org) or email Charles Allen at [native@camtel.net](mailto:native@camtel.net) or call 337-531-7535 (day) or 337-328-2252 (home)..

# PRAIRIE PRECIS

**Trails Grant:** The design for the drainage etc is completed and we have bids from three contractors. Work will begin shortly and we should be parking on the lot at the meeting in April.

**Seed Duralde Grant:** The Society received a grant for \$12,000 from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Foundation to harvest seeds from Eunice and plant them in strips at Duralde. This would greatly enhance the species diversity at Duralde. The grant calls for hiring seed harvesting commercially and also some hand collecting to catch the missed species. And, also includes monies to pay the Society for the seeds and to get the seed bed prepared at Duralde.

**Duralde Tower:** The tower is about 95% complete. The only remaining parts to be installed are the ballisters.. Ken Wilson and Kent and Sonnie Milton will contact the Society members via email when the dates and times are set.

**Marc Pastorek's Seed Catalog** Marc has a new seed catalog out with lots of info on how to plant a prairie and other useful info.

## UPCOMING EVENTS 2007

**Feb 9-11** Louisiana Native Plant Society annual meeting. Details at [www.nativeventures.net](http://www.nativeventures.net) or email Tracey Banowetz: [banowetz@bellsouth.net](mailto:banowetz@bellsouth.net) .

**March 17;** Friends of the Louisiana State Arboretum, north of Ville Platte,. Contact Jim Foret [possumforet@hotmail.com](mailto:possumforet@hotmail.com). or <http://www.friendslaarb.org/news.html>

**March 15-18;** 49th Annual Caddo Conference, Magnolia, Arkansas  
[http://www.saumag.edu/organizations/arkansas\\_archeological\\_survey/2007caddconf.htm](http://www.saumag.edu/organizations/arkansas_archeological_survey/2007caddconf.htm)

**March 22-25,** Big Thicket Scientific Conference. <http://www.bigthicketsc.org/>

**March 30-April 1.** Annual CCC (Columbia-Catahoula-Copenhagen) tours talks food etc. contact Charles Allen [native@camtel.net](mailto:native@camtel.net). The speaker will be David Lewis with a topic of mushrooms. The schedule will probably be a Friday afternoon tour of an area just north of Columbia and a Saturday morning jaunt into the Catahoula National Forest. The Saturday afternoon walk will be along the nature trail and then the feast at the Schepis. And, plans call for a visit to Copenhagen on Sunday morning.

**April 6-7-8:** tours from Allen Acres. Events are still being planned but will include a Friday (April 6) afternoon tour and another tour on Saturday (April 7) morning. A bon fire and night hike to see fireflies (lightning bugs) and possibly foxfire and to hear owls are planned for both Friday night and Saturday night. This is Easter weekend so there will be a hike along the Ouiska (Whiskey) Chitto on Sunday morning and an Easter Egg hunt on Sunday afternoon at Allen Acres. contact: Charles Allen [native@camtel.net](mailto:native@camtel.net) 337-328-2252.

**April 14** Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society Meeting in Eunice. Contact Jim Foret at [possumforet@hotmail.com](mailto:possumforet@hotmail.com) or Charles Allen [native@camtel.net](mailto:native@camtel.net). also see details in this newsletter

**June 14-17.** Annual BBBB (Bogs, Birds, Butterflies etc plus this year Broadleaved Barbara's Buttons) in the Fort Polk area. More details later. Charles Allen [native@camtel.net](mailto:native@camtel.net)

Minutes: Fall meeting of the  
Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society  
August 26, 2006

The meeting was called to order by the president, Sara Thames, at 11 am at the Jean LaFitte Center in Eunice, LA.

Dawn Allen-Newman (NRCS) presented the program on NRCS CREP for the Cajun Prairie region.

The minutes of the previous meeting were presented to the group. Peter Loos motioned for the approval of the minutes and Margaret Frey seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously accepted.

Pat Lewis presented the Treasurer's Report. The society currently has \$2046.30 in the checking account and \$20,049.10 in the savings account. Charles Allen motioned for the approval of the report, and Peter Loos seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously accepted.

Charles Allen presented a project proposal on a 'servitude grant' for a 123 acre wetland mitigation bank. Charles Allen proposed the following resolution: Be it resolved that the society participate in the servitude grant. The resolution was seconded by George Broussard. The motion received approval with one 'nay' vote. The executive committee will review the paperwork for the grant.

Announcements from Charles Allen:

Additional signage will be placed at the Eunice Prairie location.

An article on the Eunice Prairie will appear in an Environmental Science textbook.

Survey work is done on the parking lot, a local contractor is to do the lot, and trails are to be cement.

Duralde seed harvesting grant, ca. \$10,000, has a date of August 28, 2006 for our notification of acceptance and funding.

## DELAWARE PUNCH

It is logical to associate Delaware Punch to the state of Delaware but hold on. When we were at the Eastern Native Grass Symposium in Pennsylvania, we drove a few miles so we could visit Delaware. We stopped at a gas station and asked for a Delaware Punch. We were disappointed to be told that he had never heard of it. So an on-line search produced the following:

Delaware Punch is a fruit-flavored soft drink. Its formula uses a blend of fruit flavors, with grape being the most prominent. It is non-carbonated and caffeine-free. Delaware Punch was created by Thomas E. Lyons in 1913. The brand is currently owned by Coca-Cola. It is difficult to find, but is still sold in some grocery stores in Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas, and some restaurants in Houston. Delaware Punch concentrate can be purchased from several online soft drink retailers. The bottled form is sold in Guatemala and Mexico, but is currently banned in the United States due to a coloring agent, allura red, used. Delaware Punch was commonly sold at the New Orleans drug store chain K&B, before it was bought by Rite Aid in 1997. Delaware Punch is named for the Delaware grape from which its flavor is derived. The grape is native to Delaware County, Ohio, and the drink therefore has no affiliation with the state of Delaware.