



NATIONAL WILDFLOWER RESEARCH CENTER

wildflower

March/April 1997

Volume 14, Number 2

Southwest and American Airlines Official Air Carriers for Wildflower Days

Traveling to Austin for the annual Wildflower Days Festival just got a little easier (and less expensive!). Southwest Airlines and American Airlines are offering special rates for travel to and from Austin for the Wildflower Days Festival.

To make reservations on Southwest Airlines, call (or have your travel agent call) the Southwest Airlines Group and Meeting Desk toll free at (800) 433-5368, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Eastern Time), and refer to I.D. Code R0547. Reservations must be made no later than April 3, and are subject to terms and availability.

If American Airlines serves your city, call (or have your travel agent call) the American Airlines Meeting Services Desk toll free at

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Wildflower Days Festival Wildflowers & Wildlife . . . Nowhere but the Wildflower Center!

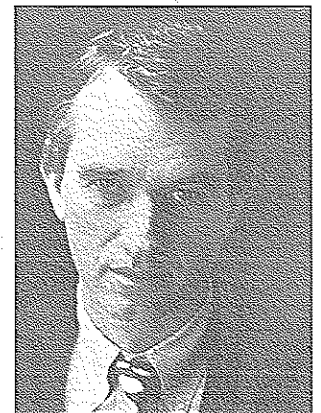
It's that time again! The Wildflower Center's annual Wildflower Days Festival is just around the corner, Saturday and Sunday, April 12 and 13. This year's theme is "Wildflowers & Wildlife." Lectures, authors, and educational activities will focus on the complex interdependence and interactions between native plants and indigenous wildlife.

Our keynote speaker this year is environmentalist and activist Robert F. Kennedy Jr., who will give a talk entitled "A

Contract With Our Future," which addresses our responsibility as caretakers of the environment for future generations.

MR. KENNEDY'S ADDRESS TAKES PLACE SATURDAY, APRIL 12, AT 1:30 P.M. AT THE WILDFLOWER CENTER

Attorney Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s reputation as a resolute defender of the environment stems from a litany of successful legal actions. He has prosecuted governments and companies for polluting the Hudson River and



*Robert F. Kennedy Jr.,
Environmental Attorney*

Long Island Sound, won settlements for the Hudson Riverkeeper, and sued sewage treatment plants to force compliance with the Clean Water Act. Hudson Riverkeeper John Cronin describes Mr. Kennedy as "a pioneer as an attorney in the area of municipal and government responsibility for environmental problems."

Mr. Kennedy
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A SENSE OF DIRECTION

Spring is always a time of renewal and anticipation for the native flora. Therefore, as I leave the Wildflower Center after 13 years as Executive Director, I reflect on the incredible growth and accomplishments of the organization and the status of the Wildflower Center's mission throughout North America and the world.

The goal of protecting and reestablishing regionally native plants in planned landscapes continues to be accepted by the public at a logarithmic rate because it makes sense and is the right thing to do for the natural world on which we ultimately depend.

Ecologically, the reestablishment of native plants in our planted areas provides critical wildlife habitat, soil holding and building, and protection for the immense genetic potential of the biodiversity that balanced ecosystems support.

Environmentally, reestablishment of native plants saves other natural resources by reducing watering, chemical use, and other traditional inputs - not to mention replacement costs for plants



David K. Northington, Ph.D., is the former Executive Director

NEW SHOES

It is with appreciation and anticipation I have assumed the role as Interim Executive Director of this remarkable organization. My appreciation of David Northington's legacy and his dedication to the mission of the Wildflower Center is profound. Dr. Northington has left impressive footprints, and his contributions will be lasting. I believe the greatest compliment the Wildflower Center can bestow upon him is to carry his work forward.

It is also with anticipation I bring my own shoes to lead during this period. During my tenure as Interim Executive Director, I will emphasize community. Each department

and program does not operate in a vacuum. Board members, staff, volunteers, members, and supporters - we need each other. I will under-gird relations which now exist and will explore additional ways we can appropriately connect.

As we strengthen our community and connections within, I also will be exploring new connections and expansion of our outreach - seeking new possibilities and potential



Martha Farmer is Interim Executive Director

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The National Wildflower Research Center is a nonprofit research and educational organization committed to the preservation and reestablishment of regionally native wildflowers, grasses, shrubs, vines, and trees in planned landscapes

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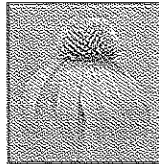
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CENTER'S ANNUAL BLACK-TIE CELEBRATION HONORS MRS. JOHNSON'S VISION



Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson's vision of national beauty through the use of regionally native plants reaches several milestones this year. The National Wildflower Research Center turns 15 years old, the Beautification of America program reaches 30 years, and Mrs. Johnson celebrates 85 years of caring about her world. We honor her vision at the Wild-

flower Center's prestigious annual black-tie Celebration (Peggy Mays, Chair), Friday, May 2, at 7 p.m. in the Wildflower Center's Courtyard.

This very special benefit provides major financial support for the Center's many educational and outreach programs, and tickets start at \$250. For more information, contact the Development Department, Monday through Friday, at (512) 292-4200.

NATIVE LANDSCAPE DESIGN INSTITUTE - "The Spirit of Place"

The Wildflower Center is sponsoring its second annual Native Landscape Design Institute from June 20 through July 3, 1997. The Institute will be led by Darrel Morrison, FASLA and former Dean of the College of Environmental Design, University of Georgia.

Topics covered include native plant community concepts, taxonomic principles and plant identification,

the aesthetics of dynamic natural landscapes, and landscape design and restoration based on native plant communities.

The course is open to advanced students in landscape architecture, professional landscape architects, and landscape designers. Cost is \$950/student. For details, contact the Registrar at (512) 292-4200 ext. 109.

Air Carriers

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(800) 433-1790 and use the Star File Number S2547LE.

American Airlines' special fares are valid for travel between April 8 and April 15, and are subject to terms and availability. When you book your American Airlines flight, you also can reserve a car for your visit through Avis. Just use code V348099.

Once you get to Austin, you may need a place to stay. The Omni Austin Hotel is offering special rates to Wildflower Days visitors. These space-available rooms may be reserved by calling (800) The-Omni and asking for the **Special Weekend Rate**. In addition, InnHome America, one of the official sponsors of Wildflower Days, is reserving a block of rooms for the festival weekend. They may be reached at (512) 326-0100.

The Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau will be happy to send you information to make your Wildflower Days Festival stay complete. Call toll free at (800) 926-2282. You can find other great city information through the Internet at www.austin360.com.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Wildflower Center and the Center's annual celebration of spring and native plants.

Festival

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graduated from Harvard University, studied at the London School of Economics, and received his law degree from the University of Virginia Law School. He also earned a masters degree in Environmental Law from Pace University School of Law.

He serves as Chief Prosecuting Attorney for the Hudson Riverkeeper and Senior Attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council. He has worked on environmental issues throughout the Americas, and has assisted several indigenous tribes in Latin America and Canada in successfully negotiating treaties protecting traditional homelands. The New York City Watershed Agreement, which he negotiated on behalf of environmentalists and New York City watershed consumers, is regarded as an international model in stakeholder consensus negotiations and sustainable development.

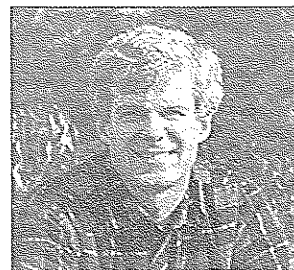
Sharing the stage with Mr. Kennedy

will be a number of nationally acclaimed authors and experts.

Craig Tufts, Chief Naturalist for the National Wildlife Federation, will discuss the NWF's Backyard Habitat Program, while noted native plant expert and author Sara Stein will talk about her new book, *Planting Noah's Garden*.

Perennial Wildflower Days guests Sally and Andy Wasowski return for another enjoyable presentation about native Texas gardens, and botanist and author James Reveal will present a lecture about the early days of botany in the United States. Folklorist Laura Martin, and a host of experts, musicians, and storytellers round out the festivities.

So, mark your calendars, pack your bags, and join us as the Wildflower Center celebrates another spectacular Hill Country spring!

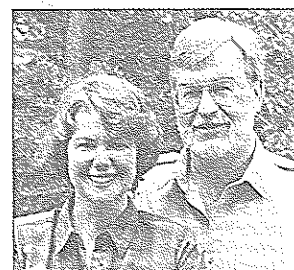


Craig Tufts



Karen Bussolini

Sara Stein



Don Stowers

Sally & Andy Wasowski

SCHEDULED SPEAKERS

Butterflies, bats, and backyard habitats are a few of the topics that will bring the world of Wildflowers and Wildlife alive during the Wildflower Days Festival weekend. Besides the Keynote Address by Robert F. Kennedy Jr., other nationally known speakers include:

Craig Tufts, Chief Naturalist, National Wildlife Federation
Sally and Andy Wasowski, authors and Texas native plant experts, Sara Stein, author and habitat gardening expert, Dr. James Reveal, botanist and author, Laura Martin, folklorist and author, Nancy Newfield, author and hummingbird expert, Janet Tyburec, Education Director and bat habitat expert, Bat Conservation International, Judith Levicoff, monarch butterfly expert, Patricia Taylor, author.

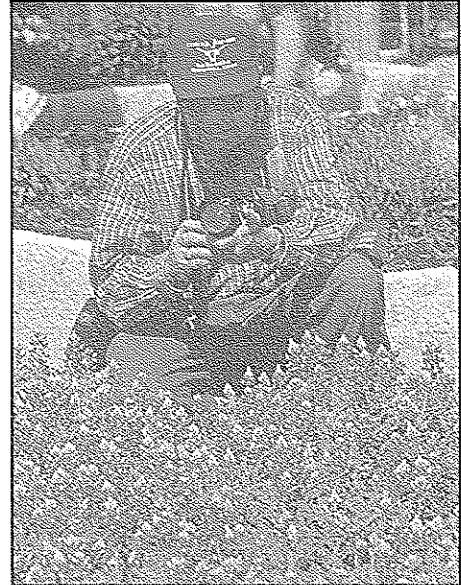
Wildflower

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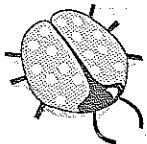
J. Fred Buerger

Experts answer questions ranging from beekeeping to buffalograss.



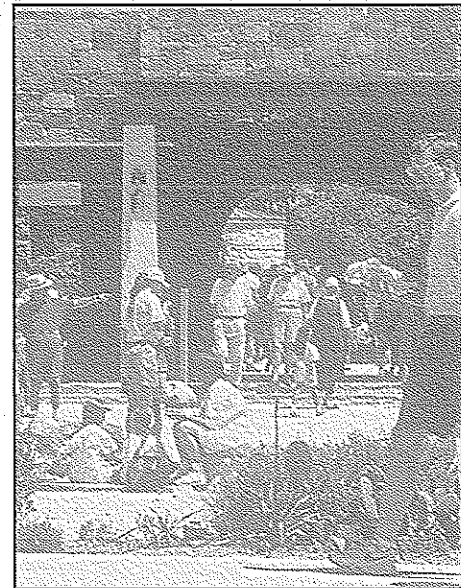
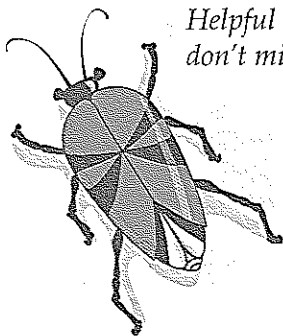
L. J. Tishman

Photographing wildflowers is one of the favorite "events."



Carl Pingry

Helpful volunteers make sure you don't miss any events.



J. Fred Buerger

Festival-goers stroll the Center's dramatic Courtyard.



not adapted to the soils and climatic extremes of their region.

Aesthetically, we gain extended seasonal color, new design options, and a regional "sense of place," instead of the homogeneous look of traditional landscapes. And this is possible with naturalistic, semi-formal, or formal garden design styles. For many, this may be one of the most compelling reasons to begin incorporating regional, propagated native plants into planned landscapes.

Whatever the reason, this "movement" is rapidly becoming the way of the future, the *immediate* future. Because it has been embraced by the mainstream, it is no longer the cause of the historic native plant enthusiast. It gives me great pride to watch as this ecologically sound and regionally appropriate (and beautiful) land ethic continues to become a permanent and positive change in the way we all live with the land. I thank *you* for being the agents of this change, as will future generations. Keep up the good work!

NEW SHOES *from page 2*

alliances and partnerships throughout North America. This focus will broaden our base of funding support, extend our circle of friends, and open doors to conversations and collaborations with organizations who could be appropriate partners in carrying out our important mission.

As one of my favorite philosophers, Dr. Seuss, reminds us, "We have brains in our heads and feet in our shoes; together we can lead . . ." the National Wildflower Research Center from strength to new strength. We look forward to the continuation of your environmental and financial support.

Editor's Note: Dr. David Northington has stepped down as Executive Director of the National Wildflower Research Center. The staff of the Wildflower Center wish to express their gratitude to Dr. Northington for his commitment to the Center's mission and goals. His leadership established the Wildflower Center as one of the most respected authorities on North American native plants. While the Board of Directors conducts a national search for a new executive director, the Wildflower Center is in the capable hands of Interim Executive Director, Martha Farmer. Ms. Farmer is the founding director and developer of *Leadership Texas* and *Leadership America*. She has served as a consultant to women's leadership programs in California, Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, Tennessee, and Washington, D.C. In addition, she serves as Director of Development for *A Presidential Classroom for Young Americans*, and is a member of the Board of Directors of the *Foundation for Women's Resources*.

NEW ENGLAND

Waltham, MA: *Principles of Plant Ecology*, March 5, 12, 19 & 26, Contact: The Arnold Arboretum, 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130, (617) 524-1718.

Cambridge, MA: *Introduction to Plant Geography*, March 18, 25, April 1, 8 & 15, Contact: The Arnold Arboretum, 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130, (617) 524-1718.

Stamford, CT: *Guided Tour of the Rose Thielens Ecology Trail*, March 23, *Rebirth of Trees in Springtime*, April 20, *Making a Woodland Garden*, May 7, Contact: The University of Connecticut Bartlett Arboretum, 151 Brookdale Rd., Stamford, CT 06903, (203) 322-6971.

Millbrook, NY: *Ecological Alternatives to Lawns*, April 12, *Native Wildflowers for the Display Garden*, April 27, Contact: Institute for Ecosystem Studies, Box R (Route 44A), Millbrook, NY 12545, (914) 677-9643.

New London, CT: *Spring Wildflowers*, May 2, Contact: Connecticut College Arboretum, 270 Mohegan Ave., New London, CT 06320, (860) 439-5020.

MID-ATLANTIC

New Hope, PA: *Knowing Native Plants: Signs of Spring*, March 22, *Explore Wildflowers on Buckingham Mountain*, April 16, *Knowing Native Plants: Spring Ephemerals*, April 26, Contact: Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve, Washington Crossing Historic Park, Box 685, New Hope, PA 18938, (215) 862-2924.

Louisville & Clermont, KY: *Kentucky Wildflowers*, March 23 & April 6, Contact: Bellarmine College, Office of Continuing Studies, 2001 Newburg Rd., Louisville, KY 40205, (502) 452-8155.

Morgantown, WV: *Wildflower Walks*, April 13, 20 & 27, Contact: Core Arboretum, Box 6057, Morgantown, WV 26506, (304) 293-5201 ext. 2547.

SOUTHEAST

Atlanta, GA: *Meeting of the Georgia Native Plant Society*, March 11, *Third Annual Symposium*, March 22, Contact: Georgia Native Plant Society, Box 422085, Atlanta, GA 30342, (770) 392-9650.

Charlotte, NC: *Rhododendrons and Native Wildflowers*, April-May, Contact: University of North Carolina at Charlotte Botanical Gardens, Biology Dept., Charlotte, NC 28223, (704) 547-4055.

Memphis, TN: *Wild Flower Open Garden*, April 6, Contact: Jim Browne, Memphis Botanic Garden, 750 Cherry Rd., Memphis, TN 38117, (901) 685-1566 ext. 106.

Nashville, TN: *Wildflower Fair*, April 11-13, Contact: Cheekwood Botanical Gardens, 1200 Forrest Park Dr., Nashville, TN 37205, (615) 353-2148.

OKLAHOMA/TEXAS

Austin, TX: *Wild Basin Walk*, March 1, 2, 22, *Plant Identification*, March 9, 16, 23, Contact: Wild Basin Preserve, 805 N. Capital of Texas Hwy., Austin, TX 78746, (512) 327-7622.

Cuero, TX: *Wildflower Live Specimen Exhibit*, April 1-30, *Wildflower Excursion*, April 12, Contact: DeWitt County Wildflower Assn., Box 994, Cuero, TX 77954, (512) 275-9942.

Houston, TX: *Spring Wildflowers*, April 6, Contact: Houston Arboretum and Nature Center, 4501 Woodway Dr., Houston, TX 77024, (713) 681-8433.

Austin, TX: *Wildflower Days Festival*, April 12 & 13, Contact: National Wildflower Research Center, 4801 La Crosse Ave., Austin, TX 78739, (512) 292-4100.

NORTH CENTRAL/MIDWEST

Peoria, IL: *Leafless Tree ID Walk*, March 22, *Signs of Spring Walks*, April 13-May 18, Contact: Forest Park Nature Center, 5809 Forest Park Dr., Peoria, IL 61614, (309) 686-3360.

ROCKY MOUNTAINS

Riverton, WY: *Rare Plant Workshop*, March 4-5, Contact: Wyoming Native Plant Society, 1604 Grand Ave., Laramie, WY 80270, (307) 745-5026.

Missoula, MT: *Meeting of the Clark Fork Chapter of the Montana Native Plant Society*, March 13, May 8, Contact: Tulli Kerstetter, Box 6444, Bozeman, MT 59771, (406) 586-3057.

Kalispell, MT: *Meeting of the Flathead Chapter of the Montana Native Plant Society*, March 19, Contact: Tulli Kerstetter, Box 6444, Bozeman, MT 59771, (406) 586-3057.

SOUTHWEST

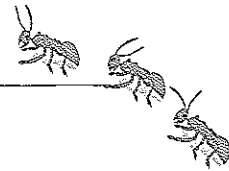
Tucson, AZ: *Arizona Wildflower Festival*, April 6, Contact: Tohono Chul Park, 7366 N. Paseo del Norte, Tucson, AZ 85704, (520) 742-6455.

CALIFORNIA

Davis, CA: *Plants of the Channel Islands*, March 30, Contact: Davis Arboretum, University of California, Davis, CA 95616, (916) 752-4880.

Lancaster, CA: *Lancaster Poppy Festival*, April 12-13, Contact: Lancaster City Hall, 44933 N. Fern Ave., Lancaster, CA 93534, (805) 723-6077.

For more native plant-themed events across North America, check out the *Native Plant Event Directory* at www.wildflower.org (the Wildflower Center's official web site)



Drive Yourself Wild

If you're planning a road-trip this spring and have some time to spare, consider calling these numbers to find the best wildflower displays along your route. If you are traveling through Texas, the Wildflower Center's Wildflower Hotline runs from March 16 -

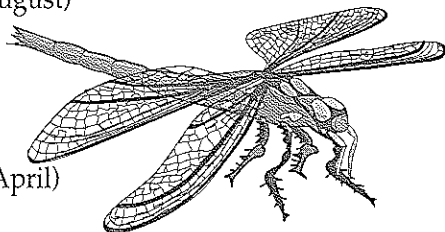
May 31, and may be reached at (512) 832-4059. If you know of hotlines not listed here, please send these to **NWRC, Wildflower Hotlines, 4801 La Crosse Avenue, Austin, TX 78739**. We'll be sure they make next year's list.

U.S. FOREST SERVICE NATIONAL WILDFLOWER HOTLINE

Wildflower and native plant events on public lands
(800) 354-4595 (April - August)

ARIZONA

Phoenix: Desert
Botanical Garden
(602) 481-8134 (March - April)



CALIFORNIA

Pasadena area: Theodore Payne Foundation
(818) 768-3533
San Diego area: Anza Borrego Desert State Park
(619) 767-4684

NEW ENGLAND

The New England Wild Flower Society
(508) 877-6574
(24-hour recording of what is in bloom at the Garden in the Woods near Boston; a good guide to what is in bloom around New England)

OHIO

Ohio Department of Transportation, Debbie Brown
(614) 644-7151

PENNSYLVANIA

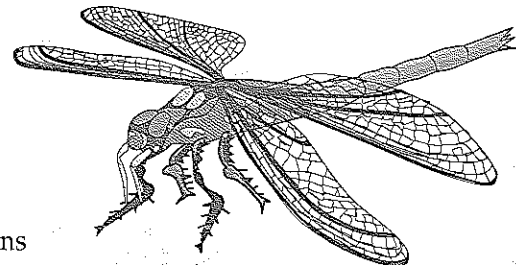
Wildflower Walks at State Parks, Gretchen Leslie
(717) 772-9101

TEXAS STATEWIDE

National Wildflower Research Center
(512) 832-4059 (March 16 - May 31)
Texas DOT Wildflower Reporting Service
(800) 452-9292

LOCAL

Lake Buchanan/Inks Lake Hot Line
(512) 416-5700
Washington
County
(800) 225-3695



UTAH

Red Butte Gardens
(801) 581-4747 (April - September)



NATIONAL WILDFLOWER RESEARCH CENTER
4801 LA CROSSE AVENUE, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78739

- 🌸 General Information, (512) 292-4100
- 🌸 *Wild Ideas: The Store*, (512) 292-4300
- 🌸 Membership, (512) 292-4200
- 🌸 Official Web Site, www.wildflower.org



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