



Visit the Dallas County Lepidopterists' Society website:  
[www.dallasbutterflies.com](http://www.dallasbutterflies.com)

## Future Meetings and Other Useful Info

The following are our scheduled meeting dates and locations for the rest of the year as well as some other butterfly related news items.

**September 6, 2003:** Field trip to the Bend of the Bosque Bed and Breakfast in Waco, Texas.

**October 11, 2003:** Field trip to as yet to be decided location in the Dallas area for Monarch tagging.

**November 8, 2003:** Meeting in the Auditorium of the Dallas Museum of Natural History at Fair Park. Program to be announced.

**December 13, 2003:** Meeting in the Auditorium of the Dallas Museum of Natural History at Fair Park. Program to be announced.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Texas Discovery Gardens will once again be exhibiting live butterflies in their conservatory during the State Fair of Texas. If you'd like to volunteer to help in the exhibit call Melissa Martin at 214-428-7476 x 25.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Dallas Museum of Natural History's "Butterflies of North America" exhibit is being showcased in the main lobby. This is a chance to see many of the specimens from their collection as well as original illustrations from William Howe's landmark out of print work "The Butterflies of North America".

## Next DCLS Meeting Saturday, Aug. 9th

The next meeting of the Dallas County Lepidopterists' Society will be this coming Saturday, August 9th, at 10:00 a.m. Our meeting this month will be a field trip to the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Society (8525 Garland Road, Dallas, Texas) on the borders of White Rock Lake. We will meet just inside the gates at 10:00 a.m. and walk through the gardens in search of lepidoptera. Usually the Arboretum is an oasis in the August heat and we should have no trouble finding numerous species of butterflies. There is no collecting allowed at the DABS so bring your camera and binoculars instead on this field trip. After the meeting, for those that are interested, a number of us will be having lunch at a nearby cafeteria so come and join us.

The Dallas Arboretum does charge a fee for entering the gardens: \$7.00 for adults, \$6.00 for seniors, \$4.00 for children and \$4.00 for parking.

**The Dallas County Lepidopterists' Society  
Est. 1995**

**Purpose:**

**To provide a forum where people may gather who share an interest in butterflies and moths, whether that interest takes the form of collecting, gardening, photography, study or casual observation.**

**Admission is free.**

## The Butterfly Garden: Hot Summer Time for Button Bush

by Tina Dombrowski

In the midst of the hot, dry and perhaps conservatively irrigated landscape, Button-bush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis* L.) is producing nectar rich flowers in abundance for the butterflies and other pollinators. A member of the Rubiaceae or Madder family, it is related to some very popular butterfly nectar plants, including Pentas. This large shrub is native to the southwest U.S. from New Mexico eastward to Florida, but ranges north to Canada. Primarily found along stream banks and in shallow water edges, it is adapted to terra firma and can withstand drier soil conditions.

Button-bush can grow to 18', but usually sustains a height of 10' with an equal spread. Keeping it pruned as a small tree exposes attractive fissured bark, increases flower production and tames the size of this potential 'space invader'. Plant button-bush in full sun to partial shade in any soil type; sand, clay, loam, limestone. This is one adapted plant for all occasions! The large cream-colored globose flower heads appear from June through September and are particularly favored by swallowtails and bees. A deciduous plant of unremarkable fall color, the bark texture and shape of buttonbush in the winter months can be attractive.

While easy to root from stem or root cuttings, seed germination rates are poor. The seed is eaten by twenty-five species of

birds so leave the seeds for them. Stem cuttings taken in late July to early August root successfully in damp sand or peat within four weeks.

Button-bush is also known as Spanish Pincushion, River-brush, Swampwood, Button-willow, Crane-willow, Little-snowball, Pinball, Button-wood, Pond-dogwood, Uvero and Crouper-bush. Some very imaginative vernacular names, but if you wish to know more about button-bush, do a web-search on the latin bi-nomial, *Cephalanthus*

---

## DCLS Newsletter Now Online

With this issue, the DCLS News is online! In an effort to cut back on costs the goal is to eventually have everyone receive the newsletter on line instead of mailing out a paper edition. An email will be sent to members notifying them each month that the new DCLS News is available on the DCLS website.

The advantages are that newsletters can now be longer, with more information for members and more photos without having to worry about costs of printing and postage. Also, the online newsletter will have additional photos, etc. that the print issue will not have.

If you haven't done so already, please send your email address to:

[daleclark@dallasbutterflies.com](mailto:daleclark@dallasbutterflies.com)