



# Rhexia

Paynes Prairie Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society  
May 2003

## Spring - In My Yard and Elsewhere

by T. Ann Williams

After a traumatic fall and winter, spring arrived in my yard and elsewhere with a such a vigor it wiped out all the bad memories - well, at least those not visible to the eye. Outside in my yard the scars of horror still can be seen.

Last fall the time had come for the five-year pruning of trees and shrubbery on the power line rights-of-ways. Little did I know the carnage going on while I worked indoors. When the big orange truck left for the day I had to run out to do some errands and what a shock as I went through my front gate!

I now had half-trees as very large branches had been whacked back to the trunk. Where once there was a leafy, shaded driveway with a native muscadine grape vine trained to grow across the gate, there was a scalped and trampled down catastrophe. Gone were my lacey-leafed sugarberry trees whose branches arched over the driveway from among a thicket of saw palmettos. Gone were my Chickasaw plum trees. Gone was the small, thorny Hercules-club where many a swallowtail butterfly lay it's eggs.

But now, spring is here in all its glory, thanks to the winter rains. My exotic camellias and azaleas,

planted by former owners, were magnificent this year but it's the natives that get my attention the most.

It started with the Redbuds, as always. They burst forth with their wonderful purple-pinkish flowers; then the Dogwoods joined them with exceptionally large blooms this year. Yellow Jessamine vines followed along with Coral honeysuckle and now the Oak-leaf hydrangea wants to get into the show. Now everywhere in my yard and elsewhere the natives have jumped out of the ground with vigor, ready to show their colors.



Variegated milkweed (*Asclepias variegata*)  
Photo by T. Ann Williams

Along the roadsides, colors and fragrances mingle. I couldn't resist stopping often with camera in hand, catching them unaware or posed as the wind or traffic tailwinds allowed. Blue-eyed grass, False garlic, Milkweeds, Cacti, Thistles, Coral honeysuckle, Yellow Jessamine, Black haw, Green eyes, Verbenas, Beard-tongue, Fleabane, Guara, Sand blackberry, Blanket flower, Venus' looking-glass, Smilax, Lyre-leaf sage, Tropical sage, Partridge berry, Poppy mallow, and Primrose, to name just a few.

I didn't miss many and there are many I've not listed here. Perhaps I'll be forgiven for that as sooner or later they will be.....if they're in my yard and elsewhere.

### *Proposed Bylaws: Important Information for All Paynes Prairie Chapter Members*

The Bylaws Committee has been working diligently over the past months to develop bylaws for our Chapter. The resulting document, "Proposed Bylaws for Paynes Prairie Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society," is included in this month's Rhexia for your review. If you have questions about this document you can contact the Bylaws Committee Chair Maria Minno at 375-3028 or minno@gator.net.

All members are urged to read the proposed bylaws. At our May 13, 2003 meeting, after Dr. Griffin's presentation, the Chapter will hold a business meeting to discuss and vote on the proposed bylaws. **We must have a quorum to take this vote so please plan to stay after the presentation.**

Bylaws are a much needed guide for all organizations to provide structure, clearly state our mission, and to outline the duties and responsibilities of officers. When the Bylaws have been adopted, we will proceed with appointing a nominating committee to develop a slate of new officers to be presented at the November 2003 meeting.

Bylaws Committee: Karen Ahlers, Lisa Jelks, Claudia Larsen, Jill McGuire, Maria Minno, Brian Quinn, Erick Smith, Alice Tyler and Ann Williams.

## Wildflower Planting on the Gainesville- Hawthorne Trail

By Lisa Jelks

They call us the Paynes Prairie Chapter for a reason. The Friends of the Gainesville-Hawthorne Trail (Froghat) and Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park are hosting a Native Wildflower Prairie Plant-In on Saturday, May 31.

Meet at 8:30 a.m. sharp at the park District II headquarters and ride bikes or hop on the back of the rangermobile as we set our sights on planting 200 beautiful native wildflowers, grown by members Claudia Larsen and Joe Durando.

The planting will take place next to the Gainesville-Hawthorne Trail at the intersection where it forks to go to the Alachua Lake overlook (same location as the wiregrass planting last October).

Gloves, sunscreen, bug spray, water, and hats are recommended. Those planning to attend should contact Nancy Lasserter@bellsouth.net or call Lisa Jelks at 373-3028 so Froghat may prepare for participants.

Directions to the District headquarters: Head east on University Avenue. Turn right on SE 15<sup>th</sup> Street. Go about 3 miles (past Bouleware Springs); ignore the 90° turn to the left and continue straight on Camp Ranch Road. The headquarters office is straight ahead, though the open gate.

### **\$100 Well-Spent**

In an effort to offset the costs of producing the *Rhexia*, we're adding something new next year - sponsorships. For \$100, you can reserve a space about the size of a business card on our sponsor page in all eight issues planned for 2003-04.

Sponsorships are a great way to promote your business, honor a native-plant-loving friend or relative, or show your support for the Chapter, anonymously if you prefer. Businesses will be able to call attention to their product or service; spaces for honorariums and anonymous supporters will feature a photo or graphic of a different native plant each issue.

To make room for sponsors, the *Rhexia* will be expanded to six pages so the benefits are more than just monetary. We will have more room to print interesting articles, photos, and graphics. More space means more room for your contributions. Please feel free to submit items you find interesting for possible inclusion.

There are only 10 spaces available so don't put it off! For more information, please contact Karen Ahlers at 352-546-3560 or at gourdsandboards@hotmail.com.

## Program Notes for Tuesday, May 13, 2003 Plant ID Workshop - 6:00 pm Meeting - 7:30pm Dr. Dana Griffin Medicinal and Toxic Plants of Florida and Beyond

This will be our last program meeting until September 2003, so we hope everyone will come to Kanapaha Gardens Tuesday, May 13 at 7:30pm to hear Dr. Dana Griffin speak on "Medicinal and Toxic Plants of Florida and Beyond."

Dr Griffin, professor emeritus at



the UF Botany Department, is an expert on Florida native plants. He taught the Local Flora Botany Class for many years and authored a great identification guide used by the class called "Keys to the Common or Occasional Plants of North-Central Florida".

Dr. Griffin serves as curator of the bryophyte and lichen collection at the UF Herbarium and is always one of our most popular speakers.

A business meeting and our regular social time and plant raffle will follow the program.

Mark your calendars for the informal summer taxonomy workshops to be held on the second Tuesdays of June, July and August at the downtown Matheson Center. (See article on page 3 for details.)

## Field Trip: May 17, 2003 9am - 1pm Katharine Ordway Preserve/ Swisher Memorial Sanctuary

Hello FNPS,

Welcome back to the Ordway/ Swisher Preserve. The field trip planned for Saturday, May 17 will provide an opportunity to visit three habitat types for exploring, sandhill high pine (burned last year), upland sandhill lake fringe, and a swamp forest (the fringe of the Mill Creek Swamp). We will be in walking distance (0.5 miles) of the three sites. Mosquitoes will be active along the swamp so be pre-

pared. If anyone has specific needs, please let me know. If you would like some background information on the preserve, please visit our website at [www.ordway.ufl.edu](http://www.ordway.ufl.edu). This should be a great outing and we are looking forward to your visit.

Directions from Gainesville to the Preserve: Take SR 26 east from Gainesville to Melrose. Go through the light in Melrose staying on SR 26 until you come upon Mason Rd on the right (approx. 2.0 miles from light). Turn right onto Mason Rd and follow for approx 1.5 miles until you see the Preserve's sign and front gate on right. We will meet at the front gate at 9:00am. Allow 45 minutes for travel time.

Best regards,  
Steve Coates  
Mgr. & Research Coordinator

Time: 9Am-1pm (Rating: Easy)  
Wear sturdy shoes and bring sun and insect protection, water and a light lunch. For weather cancellation call Claudia Larsen 352-466-3880.

# Spring Plant Sale a Big Success

By Claudia Larsen

The Spring 2003 Native Plant Sale was our most successful ever with 500-600 people attending and purchasing over \$25,000 worth of beautiful native plants.

The vendors did a great job producing top-grade healthy plants and wonderful plant related products. We appreciate their continued participation in our yearly sales and the donation of raffle items.

A big thank you to all our volunteers who worked as vendor assistants and cashiers. Many others were invaluable

in manning the FNPS information booth which netted about \$300 in book sales and raffle tickets.

More FNPS volunteers gave time to the Florida Press book tent, whose sale profits also help the FNPS treasury. We welcome 30 new members who joined FNPS at the sale.

Gary Paul, along with the staff and Friends of Morningside, make the sale site and park-a-plant convenient and efficient. We're a great team and we hope all members will plan on attending the Fall Native Plant Sale which is scheduled for October 10 and 11, 2003.

Many other spring festivals are popu-

lar in our area and we thank the following members for supplying FNPS information and selling books for us: Karen and Jim Ahlers at the Ocala Spring Festival, Jill McGuire at the Bonny Melrose Festival, and Art Carton at Silver River Park Earth Day.

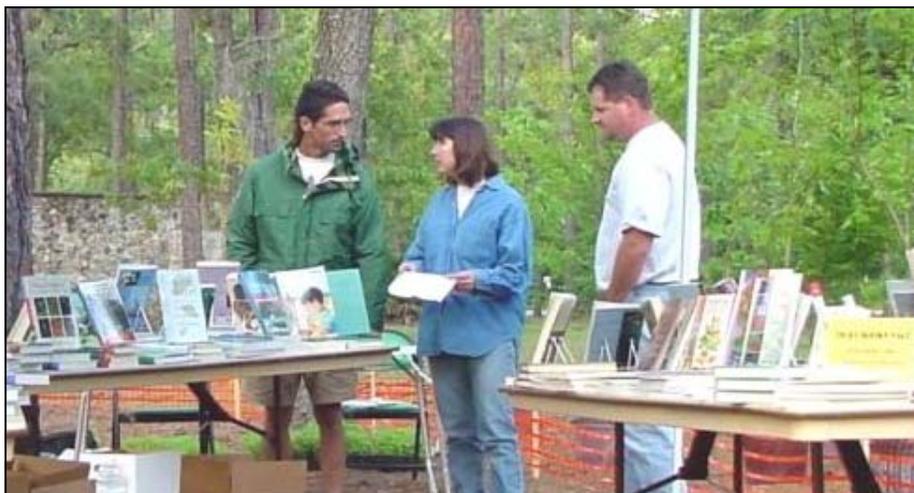
***Come one, come all!***  
**May Planning Meeting**  
**Tuesday, May 20, 2003**  
**5:30pm - 7pm**

All interested members of Paynes Prairie Chapter are invited to the May Planning Meeting. This is an informal get-together to help plan fall speakers and activities. We will also review chapter business and finances before we adjourn for the summer break. Pizza will be served!

For info or to offer comments and suggestions, please call Claudia Larsen, 352-846-1070 or [clar-sen@mail.ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:clar-sen@mail.ifas.ufl.edu)

The meeting will be held at the Environmental Horticulture Greenhouses on Hull Road behind Fifield Hall on UF campus (Remember drive 20mph on campus.)

Future planning meetings will be the third Tuesday of August and November, 2003.



Volunteers (from left to right) Joe Durando, Lisa Jelks, and Brian Quinn discuss book selling strategies at the Spring Native Plant Sale. Photo by T. Ann Williams

## April Plant ID Workshop Report

By Paul Cohen

According to Chapter member Mark Garland, who attended the April 8<sup>th</sup> taxonomy workshop meeting, *Quercus laurifolia* has tufts of hair in the axils of the veins of the leaves where as *Q. hemisphaerica* does not. He indicated that both species are deciduous. Andre F. Clewell (1985) in "Guide to the Vascular Plants of the Florida Panhandle" differentiates between the two species where as Richard P. Wunderlin (1998) in "Guide to the Vascular Plants of Florida" does not.

ID workshops are held prior to each monthly meeting at 6:00 pm. Special thanks to all those who participated in the workshop.

Nomenclature is based on Guide to Vascular Plants of Florida by Richard P. Wunderlin, University Press of Florida, 1998.

Natives	Clematis crispa	Swamp Leather Flower
	Cornus sp.	Dogwood
	Tradescantia sp.	Spiderwort
	Valerianella radiata	Corn Salad

## Plant ID Workshops - Summer Schedule

June 10, July 8, and August 12 6:30 - 8:30 at the Matheson

Plant ID Workshops are planned for the second Tuesday in June, July, and August at the Matheson Museum, 513 E. University Avenue from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Please enter through the side door.

The workshops are a Paynes Prairie Chapter forum to teach plant ID using plant keys and taxonomic information in an informal setting. It is not necessary to bring plant samples in; there are always lots of new plants for everyone to learn. If you do decide to bring a plant to share and identify, please bring leaves still attached to a stem or branch, flowers and fruit if possible.

Everyone is invited. Typically there is a good mix of beginners and amateur botanists.

The workshop is not a plant iden-

tification service. We encourage and help beginners learn the process and tools of plant identification. There are generally plenty of plant ID books available for participants, but you may bring books you prefer to use.

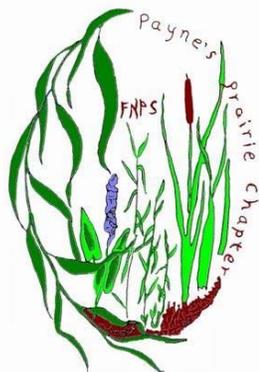
The space we use at the Matheson is a library - bugs and dirt are difficult to clean up. If your plant is potted or has soil, please bring a newspaper or something to contain a potential spill.

Parking options for the Matheson Museum:

- 1) On street parking on SW 2nd Ave. due south of the Museum.
- 2) Angle parking in front of the downtown Post Office.
- 3) Kirby/Smith lot across University Avenue.
- 4) The public library lot.

Please call Erick Smith 380-0648 if you have any questions.

Florida Native Plant Society  
 Paynes Prairie Chapter  
 Post Office Box 110670  
 Gainesville, FL 32611



### 2003 Schedule

**Kanapaha Botanical Gardens: Tuesdays, 7:30 pm**  
 May 13, 2003 Dr. Dana Griffin  
**Summer Plant ID Workshops at the Matheson**  
 June 10, 2003 July 8, 2003 August 12, 2003  
 Workshops are held from 6:30 - 8:30.

**Fall Meetings**  
 September 9 October 14 November 11  
**Fall BOD Planning Meetings**  
 August 19 November 18

**Field Trips**  
 May 17, 2003 Ordway Preserve, Melrose

**Events:**  
 May 8-11, 2003 FNPS Annual Conference, Ft. Myers  
 Fall Native Plant Sale October 10 and 11, 2003

### Paynes Prairie Chapter Officers and Committees

Co-director/Treasurer: Joe Durando (386-462-5455)  
 Co-director/Secretary: Claudia Larsen (352-846-1070)  
 Clarsen@mail.ifas.ufl.edu  
 Membership: Goldie Schwartz (352-495-3983)  
 afn49@mindspring.com  
 Wildlife Committee: Howard Jelks (352-373-3028)  
 Newsletter: Karen Ahlers, Editor (352-546-3560)  
 gourdsandboards@hotmail.com  
 Alice Tyler, Distribution

The *Rhexia* is published by the Paynes Prairie Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society. The purpose of the Florida Native Plant Society is the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

See our website at [www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org).

## Florida Native Plant Society Membership Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 TOTAL : \_\_\_\_\_ Check enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ Please charge my credit card: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (VISA/MasterCard Only): Card Type and #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Name on credit card: \_\_\_\_\_

Check pertinent category:

- Individual \$25
- Family or Household \$30
- Contributing \$40
- Not-for-profit Org. \$50
- Business or Corporate \$100
- Supporting \$100
- Donor \$250
- Library \$15
- Student (full-time) \$15

Please mail completed form to: Florida Native Plant Society, P.O. Box 690278, Vero Beach, FL 32969-0278

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendations by the state.

**PROPOSED BY-LAWS FOR  
PAYNES PRAIRIE CHAPTER OF THE  
FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY**

**I – NAME**

The name of the organization shall be PAYNES PRAIRIE CHAPTER of the FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY, hereinafter referred to as CHAPTER.

**II – PURPOSES**

The purposes of the CHAPTER are:

1. To be in common with the purpose of the Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS), which is the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida, with an additional emphasis in North Central Florida.
2. To provide information to local governmental officials, businesses, educators, and the public at large on the protection, management, and restoration of native plant ecosystems through ongoing distribution of knowledge, by means of periodic publications, conferences, workshops, plant sales, and general meetings.
3. **Activities.** Activities of the CHAPTER shall help foster the educational and scientific goals of FNPS in connection with preservation, conservation, and restoration of native plants and native plant communities in Florida.
4. **Duties.** The CHAPTER shall be responsible for representing FNPS in the local area, initiating programs and actions consistent with the goals of FNPS, and shall at all times be in compliance with FNPS Bylaws pertinent to chapters. (See Appendix A, FNPS Bylaws, Article 9, Chapters.)
5. **Reporting.** Reports about and documents related to new CHAPTER programs and activities shall be promptly forwarded to and reported to the FNPS Board by the Chapter Representative.

**III – MEMBERSHIP**

CHAPTER members shall be all the FNPS members who are assigned to the CHAPTER by FNPS, and they shall retain all rights and privileges as provided for FNPS members in the FNPS Bylaws. CHAPTER members may participate in all CHAPTER activities and shall have a vote in all CHAPTER business matters during regular monthly general membership or special meetings and the Annual Meeting. CHAPTER members may and are encouraged to attend all CHAPTER Board of Directors meetings as interested persons only.

**IV – OFFICERS and ELECTED POSITIONS**

1. There shall be five (5) officers of the CHAPTER. A President, Vice President, Secretary, and Chapter Representative shall serve for a term of one (1) year and not more than three (3) consecutive terms; a Treasurer shall serve for a term of two (2) years and not more than three (3) consecutive terms.
2. Officers shall be elected by majority vote of the members attending the Annual Meeting. Only members of the CHAPTER may be officers.
3. Officers may not hold more than one office per term. Officers may serve in other capacities, for example, newsletter editor or a committee chair
4. Only CHAPTER members may vote on any CHAPTER business/issues during general membership or special meetings, and the Annual Meeting.
5. A vacancy in the office of an officer shall be filled at a meeting of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may receive a nomination from any CHAPTER member. A majority of Directors casting votes shall be sufficient to elect. The term of any officer so elected shall be the unexpired term of the officer who created the vacancy.
6. The removal of an elected officer may only be done by majority vote at a general membership meeting. However, an officer may be requested to resign at any time on the affirmative vote of a two-thirds majority of the Board of Directors whenever, in its judgment, the CHAPTER will be best served thereby.
7. The officers and their duties are:

- a) **PRESIDENT.** The President shall serve as the principal officer representing the CHAPTER; as the convener of meetings, both general membership and special; preside at all meetings; serve ex-officio (with vote) on all committees except the Nominating Committee; may appoint committee chairs; and shall perform such other duties as are usually and customarily considered appropriate for the presiding officer.
- b) **VICE-PRESIDENT.** The Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President when the latter is absent or incapable of serving. The Vice-President may also be assigned special duties at the pleasure of the President. The Vice-President shall advise the President on matters pertaining to parliamentary procedures according to Roberts Rules of Order, current edition.
- c) **SECRETARY.** The secretary is the recording officer of the CHAPTER and the custodian of its records (except those pertaining to the CHAPTER'S financial affairs). The secretary shall also be responsible for such correspondence as shall be required in the transaction of the CHAPTER'S affairs.
- d) **TREASURER.** The treasurer shall receive and hold funds deposited with him/her and shall pay them out on the order of the CHAPTER as authorized by the President. The treasurer shall provide interim reports at each general membership meeting and a full financial report shall be given to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

The treasurer shall supervise or execute and be responsible for the following:

- i) Supervise financial operations of the CHAPTER;
- ii) Keep and maintain complete, accurate, and up-to-date accounts of all financial transactions of the CHAPTER, including assets, liabilities, receipts, and disbursements;

- iii) Deposit all money and other valuables in the name and to the credit of the CHAPTER, with such depositories as approved by the Board of Directors;
- iv) Disburse CHAPTER funds as approved by the President or Board of Directors;
- v) File all financial reports required by local, state or federal laws;
- vi) Provide all needed copies of reports to grantors or allied organizations;
- vii) Annually permit an informal overview of treasury records by two CHAPTER members, one of which may be on the Board of Directors;
- viii) Perform other duties as delegated by the members, the Board of Directors or these bylaws, in keeping with state and federal laws; and
- ix) Send monies collected for Memberships to the proper FNPS office.

e) **CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE.** The Chapter Representative shall serve as an officer of the CHAPTER, as a member of the CHAPTER's Board of Directors, and as the Chapter Representative. Upon election to this position the Chapter Representative automatically becomes a member of the FNPS Board of Directors (Ref. FNPS Handbook, Pg. 7). The Chapter Representative shall attend or assign a voting proxy to attend all board meetings of the Florida Native Plant Society, and report back to the CHAPTER at subsequent Board of Directors and general membership meetings of the CHAPTER. Reports about and documents related to new CHAPTER programs and activities shall be promptly forwarded to and reported to the FNPS Board by the Chapter Representative. The Chapter Representative shall keep the CHAPTER advised of any changes to FNPS Bylaws and Handbook so that the CHAPTER may make any necessary changes to its bylaws for the purpose of the CHAPTER maintaining at all times compliance with FNPS rules and obligations for chapters.

#### V – MEETINGS

1. The CHAPTER shall hold no fewer than six (6) general membership meetings per year with one of those six (6) being the CHAPTER's designated Annual Meeting.
2. General Membership Meetings of the CHAPTER shall be held monthly from September through May of the following year at a place and time to be designated in the written notice of the meeting to the CHAPTER's general membership.
3. The Annual Meeting shall be the general membership meeting held in November, at which time the annual reports of the President, the Treasurer, and all standing and special committees shall be presented. At this meeting, the Nominating Committee shall present the slate of candidates for office and the election of officers shall proceed, with installation of officers at the following meeting.
4. Special Meetings may be scheduled by the President, upon the advice of the Board of Directors, for any purpose germane to the interest of the CHAPTER, with no fewer than five (5) days notice as to place, time, and reason for the meeting to be given to the general membership.
5. Twenty-five (25) members shall be required for a quorum.

#### VI – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS** shall consist of all CHAPTER officers plus standing committee chairs. Each shall serve for a period of a minimum of one year. A simple majority of Directors shall be required for a quorum, and all motions shall pass by simple majority. Meetings shall be held at a time and place as the President shall decide. The duties of the Board of Directors shall be:

- i) To exercise the authority of the CHAPTER between meetings;
- ii) To advise the President in the appointment of special committees to pursue special projects, special areas of interest to the CHAPTER membership, and special events germane to the CHAPTER'S purposes;
- iii) To appoint the Nominating Committee;
- iv) To meet, as necessary, at a time prior to the general meeting and review all current business matters pertaining to the CHAPTER and its membership, with subsequent recommendations being presented at the following regular business meeting of the CHAPTER; and
- v) To appoint a Bylaws review committee as necessary.

#### VII – STANDING COMMITTEES

The President may create standing committees with ratification by the Board of Directors or the Board may create standing committees. Whoever creates a committee has the duty to establish and change its goals. Either the Board or the President with approval of the Board has the power to terminate a committee or to end an appointment to that committee.

#### VIII – AMENDMENTS

The power to amend these bylaws shall be vested in the membership. Proper notice, written or published, of the proposed amendments shall be given to the membership at least two weeks prior to any action on amendments, and a two-thirds majority vote of those members in attendance at the designated meeting is required to approve any such amendment(s).

#### IX – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

For all meetings, the President may invoke the rules contained in the current edition of *Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, in all cases to which they are applicable, as long as they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the CHAPTER may adopt.

#### X – RATIFICATION

These bylaws shall become effective immediately upon adoption by a two-thirds vote of the general membership present at the meeting in which the vote is taken. A quorum for a meeting for the purpose of adopting CHAPTER bylaws shall be no less than 25 CHAPTER members.