

Gardening & Beautification

A publication of the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club, founded 1948

January 2010

Warmer Weather Prompts Volunteers to Pot up New Crop of Trees and Shrubs for Plant Sales

While the potting sessions the first week of January had to be canceled due to "Arctic Clipper" weather, a slight warming trend meant it was time to put on the jackets and hats last Tuesday, Jan. 12, for Bob Reynolds, Ben Waddell and Ed Wilde, so they could start getting some of several hundred new trees and shrubs potted up in time to sell April 24.



Bob Reynolds, Ben Waddell and Ed Wilde pot a dogwood.

A second potting session is scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 14, and a third Saturday, Jan. 16 - both at 1:30 p.m. - to take advantage of afternoons in the 50s. With hundreds more new plants still to be potted, as many members as possible are encouraged to come out during this warmer weather and help get the new plants off to a good start! For more information, email Bob Reynolds at Bobrey@BellSouth.net.

Then there are those folks who don't let bitter cold and biting wind deter them. This editor showed up Jan. 5 to photograph whoever was brave enough to pot under such conditions, but nobody was there at 2:15 p.m. Later, however, he was told by Robin Vollmer at Hatcher Garden that a lady, who by description *had to be* Gisela Otto did show up, all bundled up, "looking lost" and wondering where everyone else was.

Gisela, you're a real trooper!

MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, Jan. 18 - 7 pm
Morningside Baptist Church - 897 S. Pine St.

Club member Mort Sams presents a DVD from last year's Philadelphia International Flower Show. This year's show runs Feb. 28 - March 7. **Refreshments** will be provided by Gail McCullough, Lyn Murajada & Beth Waddell. **Members** are encouraged to bring door prizes.

Cold, Windy Arbor Day Still a Big Event in Spartanburg

Even though the morning was cold and windy, with clouds that threatened rain or snow, several dozen people came out to Converse Heights' Happy Hollow Park for a tree planting ceremony officiated by Mayor Pro Tem Linda Dogan at 10 am. This was the 28th year the National Arbor Day Foundation designated Spartanburg a Tree City.

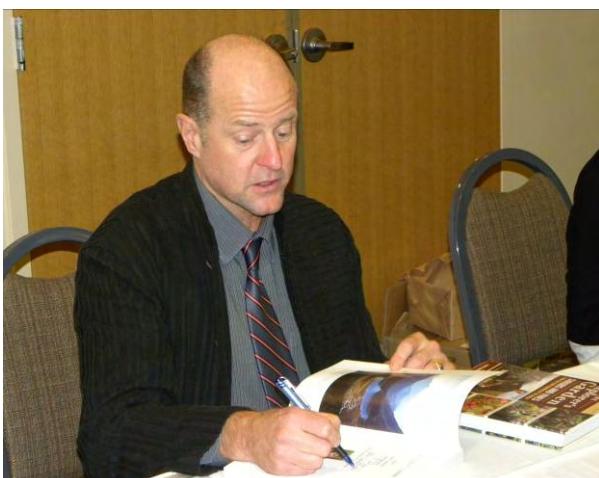


Chris Thompson, of LandArt Design, Mayor Pro-Tem Linda Dogan and Holly Welch of the SC Forestry Department, put the finishing touches on a Shawnee Brave Bald Cypress Dec. 4.

Spartanburg's other big Arbor Day event is the annual activities at USC-Upstate, which drew virtually a standing-room-only crowd this year to see Oregon nurseryman and world traveler Dan

Hinkley. Hinkley entertained several hundred in attendance at USC-Upstate's Center for the Performing Arts with an attractive slide show of both his gardens and nursery, as well as many things he's seen in his travels and a good number of humorous stories. He also spoke at a luncheon held afterwards, answering questions from the audience and acknowledging club member and friend, Linda Cobb.

The Spartanburg Men's Garden Club was once again one of the sponsors of this event.



Plantsman and author Dan Hinkley autographs one of his books after the luncheon at USC-Upstate's Arbor Day event Dec. 4

Charlie Covert had another successful litter pickup Saturday, Dec. 12th, when after a week's postponement due to rain seven volunteers braved a frosty morning to clean up the litter from our section of Pine Street which runs from Palmetto Street to McCravy Drive.

Charlie said a total of eight bags of highway litter were collected, making this highly visible entry into Spartanburg more appealing. "First impressions are lasting impressions," Charlie said. "A big THANK YOU to all for this important work."

The seven volunteers were Lou Adams, Charlie Covert, Frank Falk, Peggy Romine, Jane Turner, Ben Waddell and Ed Wilde.

Charlie said he's still waiting for the 2010 litter pick up schedule from SCDOT and will inform everyone when he gets the information. "By the way, there are still opportunities for others to participate!" he said.

Montgomerys Make Major Donation to Tree Plantings

Just prior to the end of 2009 Betty and Walter Montgomery, Jr., made a generous donation of \$1,000 to our club with the sole stipulation that the money be allocated to our tree plantings. With the Men's Garden Club already responsible for the planting of roughly 5,000 trees throughout Greater Spartanburg during the past 60 years, we can certainly always find a good use for funds like these and greatly appreciate this donation from the Montgomerys!

Street Trees Committee Chairman Charlie Crescenzi says not only was the \$1,500 goal for the replacement of dead and dying cherry trees along South Pine Street met, but they have all been replaced, and the work is wrapped up. Another matter now requires our attention, however..

The Men's Garden Club also was responsible for the planting of all the trees in the "cloverleaf" at the intersection of I-26 and US 221. A recent survey of those trees by Charlie, Ed Wilde, Henry Pittman and Don Crowder showed them to be in dire need of pruning, mulching and other work to encourage the SCDOT road maintenance crews to treat them like ornaments, rather than weeds. Charlie is planning to put together a work crew for a Saturday in late February, and we can use as many hands as possible.



Multiple suckers grow from around the trunks of two Crape Myrtles planted in one quadrant of the I-26/US 221 interchange through the efforts and funding of the Men's Garden Club.

New Members Add About 10 Percent to Club Size!

Members who joined the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club late enough in the year to be considered new members for 2010 added almost 10 percent to the club's total roster! While some of the new members have been recognized in previous newsletters, all will be recognized again at this time, prior to the listing of all other returning members who have paid dues as of Jan. 12.

New members are:

Bobotes, Barbara
 Estes, Robert
 Guzzo, Betty
 Hardegree, Beth
 Hawkins, Will
 Heatherly, Michael
 Hemphill, Tim
 Huffman, Macon & Jan
 Lindsay, Yvonne
 Parris, Kevin
 Renner, Linda
 Rives, Chris
 Towler, Ellen
 West, Matthew David



Cross Vine(*Bignonia capreolata*) in full bloom on a chain-link fence in mid-April

All photos © Jeff Hayes

Returning members who have paid their dues as of Jan. 12 are listed below. If you are not listed below, that doesn't mean you're not in the club any more, it just means we haven't received your dues yet, so please try to get a check and membership form to us as soon as possible. We prefer a new form be filled out every year, even if all you do is put your name and "no changes," so we know you haven't moved, or changed phone numbers. Checks can be mailed to SMGC Treasurer at PO Box 1502, Spartanburg, SC 29304. Renewals are \$20 for a single, \$28 for a family and \$100 for a corporate membership. Our membership application can also be downloaded or printed directly at <http://dirtdaubers.org/Shared/PDF/MembershipApplication.pdf>. Renewals can also be paid in person at any meeting.

Adams, Louis W., Jr.
 Barbee, Jim & Darolyn
 Barnes, David & Ann
 Bartram, Tom & Marianne
 Bean, Jim & Helen
 Cobb, Linda
 Covert, Charles
 Cooper-Wells, Lorraine
 Crescenzi, Joyce & Charles
 Crowder, Donald & Denie
 Falk, Frank & Marlene
 Ferguson, Mike & Vickie
 Foster, Lorelei
 Georgion, Mike & Rosalind
 Ghionis, Anastase "Tasso" and Mrs.
 Gunter, George
 Hardie, Newt
 Hayes, Jeff
 Heath, Stephanie R.
 Heller, Steve & Madolyn
 Holloway, Daniel & Meg
 Klotz, Stanley E

Lineberger, Everette & Ann
 Manly, C.Paul
 Maple, Joe
 McCullough, Robert & Gail
 McHam, Linda
 McKay, Kathy
 Montgomery, Betty & Walter Jr.
 Murajda, Lyn
 New, Virginia
 Oldham, Don
 Otto, Wolfgang & Gisela
 Patterson, Liz
 Patton, Steve
 Perrin, Edward P.
 Pittman, Henry
 Powell, Dr. Robert & Sandra
 Quillen, Earl & Cindy
 Reynolds, Dr. Bob
 Romine, Peggy
 Rourke, Terrie & Patrick
 Sams, Mortimer & Martha
 Stoltz, Dr. David & Louella

Stroupe, Margaret C.
 Stutt, Barry
 Tamm, Merike
 Taylor, Jess & Allene
 Tiller, Dr. Wendell & Martha
 Tirpak, Sylvia
 Trakas, Dr. Perry & Sophia
 Turner, Dr. Jack
 Turner, Jane
 Waddell, Ben & Beth
 Walters, Jeffery & Audrey
 Wells, Clyde & Helen
 Whitlock, Jr., Myles W
 Wilde, Edwin F. & Kathleen
 Williamson, Dr. Norman & Nancy
 Wilson, Bill & Peggy
 Wolfe, Harold & Betty
 Woodward, A. John

Corporate

USC-Upstate/Bea Walters Smith

With a Very Active Year Behind Us, The Club Looks Forward to Even More in The Year Ahead

In 2009 the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club board took a hard look at a deteriorating financial situation and resolved to turn things around. For several years the club's bank account had been declining by roughly \$3,000 each year. The consensus was the time to address this was while we still had a sizeable "cushion" in the bank, and it was tackled from all directions by a combined effort of the Finance Committee and the newly established Strategic Planning Committee. Through these efforts, we took action, with the consent of the general membership. One, we disaffiliated from the national organization, which was taking 75 percent of our membership dollars. Two, we moved the newsletter online for everyone who had an email account (which left us with less than a dozen to mail each month, taking the cost of the newsletter from \$2,200 a year to less than \$200). Three, we asked members to bring main dishes to our annual picnic, saving a couple hundred more dollars on catering. Four, we scaled back our charitable contributions.

We did incur some costs to set up our own non-profit incorporation. But in coming years that cost will not be there, and thanks to member Steve Heller's hundreds of hours of work, we kept the cost to a minimum. It turned out to be a very good thing we did cut costs, because with the economy in crisis and terrible weather this past Fall Plant Sale day, we still barely broke even for the year. We plan to continue brainstorming new ideas to save money, increase revenues and increase our membership in the new year, and welcome the input and participation of every single club member!

New officers were installed in November, and a few rotated off the board. Linda McHam stepped down as Immediate Past President after many years of invaluable service to the board, but she's still very active with the club and is the Yahoo Group administrator and chair of the Propagation Committee. Stephanie Heath, Terrie Rourke and Sue Steiner also left after several years of valiant service. Taking their places are new board members Charles Covert, Joyce Crescenzi, Joe Maple and Peggy Romine. We welcome them to the board and wish them all the best.

2010 Board of Directors

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Lyn Murajda

Treasurer

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Hatcher Garden Representative

Lorelei Foster

Editor

Jeff Hayes

Directors Emeritus:

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Henry Pittman

Jess Taylor

Bill Wilson

Directors:

Charles Covert

Charlie Crescenzi

Joyce Crescenzi

Frank Falk

Jeff Hayes

Paul Manly

Joe Maple

Gail McCullough

Steve Patton

Peggy Romine

Nancy Williamson



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Spartanburg Community College Partnership Gives Garden Club More Room to Grow



The Spartanburg Men's Garden Club board of directors met at our new location Feb. 4. Clockwise from bottom are Peggy Romine, Joe Maple, Joyce Crescenzi, Charlie Crescenzi, Bob Reynolds, Lyn Murajda, Ben Waddell and Charles Covert. Not pictured: Nancy Williamson and Jeff Hayes. Photo © Jeff Hayes

MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, Feb. 15 - 7 pm

NOTE NEW LOCATION!

Health Sciences Building, Brisack Road
Spartanburg Community College

Program: "Room to Grow" Party - Speakers to include various faculty and staff from Spartanburg Community College plus a chance to meet and greet them.

Refreshments: Heavy hors d'Oeuvres will precede and follow this month's meeting. We hope everyone can make it and become acquainted with our new home.

The Spartanburg Men's Garden Club has a new home, new friends and new partners in its path forward in a move hailed by club president Ed Wilde as a win-win-win for the club, Hatcher Garden and Spartanburg Community College.

"We are thinking of this as a new beginning for our 62-year-old club," he says "It will give us a place to put down roots where we will have room to grow our container nursery and our educational programs."



Spartanburg Community College's Health Sciences Building is the new home for Spartanburg Men's Garden Club Meetings. A spacious room directly behind the glass doors framed by the sign provides all the room the club needs now and for the future. Photo © Jeff Hayes

"By leaving Hatcher Garden we vacate space giving them room to expand their plant propagation area and possibly add a greenhouse. Hatcher has grown and become a terrific public garden – already a regionally recognized garden. Our club is proud of our contributions to that end – approximately \$90,000 in gifts and capital improvements since 1986. We're grateful for the home they've given us and hope to continue a mutually beneficial relationship."

Spartanburg Community College president Dr. Para Jones is also enthusiastic about our club's partnership with SCC.

"We are excited to have the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club coming to campus," she says. "It will raise the visibility of both our programs and present opportunities for great dynamics between them."



SCC Horticulture teacher Kevin Parris talks about the college's Xeric Garden. Photo © Jeff Hayes



SCC President Dr. Para Jones

SCC Horticulture faculty member Kevin Parris has already worked closely with our club for some time, speaking at several meetings and recently also becoming a member. And Horticulture department chair Jason Bagwell sees great opportunities for symbiosis between the club and SCC.

"SCC will provide educational opportunities for the club membership such as classes, seminars, and classroom availability," he says. "We want to help the garden club grow and feel that their physical presence on our campus will be mutually beneficial. We see unique opportunities for interaction and collaboration. We hope our graduates will be encouraged to join the SMGC as they move forward in their lives and careers and see it as an opportunity to serve this community and develop a greater appreciation for horticulture in the years to come."

Bagwell isn't the only one who's thinking along those lines. Longtime club leader and friend to Harold Hatcher Jess Taylor, for whom the Jess Taylor Pavilion at Hatcher Garden is named, has this to say... "The movement is based so the club can grow. I think it's positive."

As someone who spent many hours working side-by-side with Harold Hatcher, helping him turn a grungy gorge into a gorgeous garden -- placing 100-pound rocks in the waterfall with just the two of them to do the work -- Jess has a special place in his heart for Hatcher Garden and sees anything that contributes to its ongoing growth as a good thing, as well.

"I think Hatcher is one of the best things that ever happened to Spartanburg and I'm a big supporter of them," he says "It was just a muddy place in the universe. Early on, 25, 30 years ago, there wasn't much out there. There's a lot of symbiosis between the Garden Club and Hatcher Garden."

Club Secretary Lyn Murajda is quite enthusiastic about the move and new partnership.

"I am excited about the club's new affiliation with the Upstate's premiere horticultural school," she says. "The possibilities for joint ventures are tremendous and I can't wait to get started!"

New Meeting Space is Only One Part of SCC Bonus!

While a spacious new meeting space and place to hold board meetings is part of the equation between the SMGC and SCC, it's far from everything. There's the even larger Tracy Gaines Auditorium on the center rear side of the campus, which the club will now be able to use for its annual November meeting, and then, of course, there is our new garden area adjacent to SCC's own sprawling horticultural complex that includes five greenhouses, an outdoor pavilion complete with rest rooms, full electric and a water fountain; and a beautifully foliated walking trail beside a creek.

At present, the area to be occupied by the club is just a flat parcel of high ground to the right of the access road into the greenhouse area. But it has more than enough room for our tool shed, plants, propagation beds and potting materials - plus ample room for parking on sale days.

Past president and member of the move committee Linda McHam says this is just an opportunity that was too good to pass up.

"The move to SCC is the culmination of several years of planning on our part," she says. "Hatcher Garden has needed our space for quite a while and SMGC finally found the ideal partners in a new joint venture. As a past president of SMGC, I know that leaving Hatcher Garden is not without sadness because of our long association there. However, time changes everything and we cannot survive by looking backward. The opportunities at SCC are simply without parallel and the timing could not have been better. We have all the space we need or want. We have opportunities, if we'll take them, for collaboration with an outstanding horticultural education program here in the upstate. We have enthusiastic partners who want us on their grounds for our capabilities. What more could you ask from a partnership? I see nothing but good that will come out of this affiliation. I am confident that our club will rally behind the move and make the club even more vital than it has been for the past 60 years."



Most of the outdoor part of SCC's Horticulture Department can be seen in this picture. The pavilion is directly behind the "Spot of Pride" sign in this picture, with a green roof. To its right can be seen a couple of sheds and several greenhouses. Behind them is an empty field with a cellular tower in the background. Part of that field is where the SMGC will house its new container garden, propagation and potting areas. Photo © Jeff Hayes

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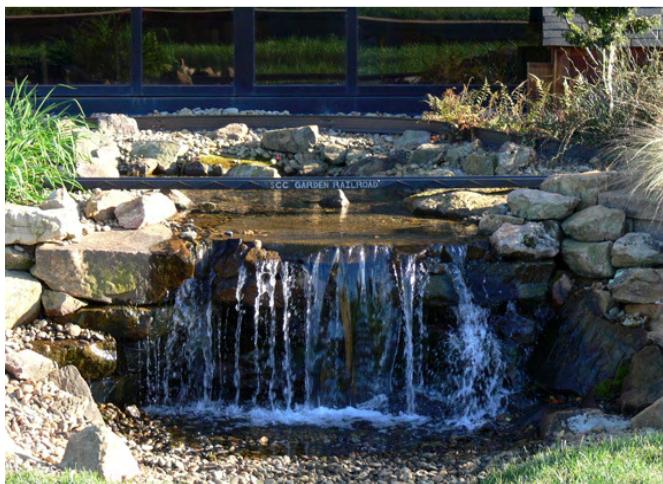
SCC Horticulture Department Chair Jason Bagwell clears brush on the new SMGC container garden site last fall. Photo © Linda McHam.



Geese fly south over the new SMGC container garden site last fall. Photo © Linda McHam.

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A little more color to round out the issue... From top left: Even the coldest winter winds and snow haven't dulled the colorful foliage on trees and shrubs along the SCC Horticultural walking trail; Four of seven club members who came out Jan. 20 to finish potting up some 550 trees and shrubs from Mingo Nursery are, from left, Don Oldham, Bob Reynolds, Linda McHam and Henry Pittman. Not pictured are Jeff Hayes, Ben Waddell and Charles Covert; Spartanburg Community College even has its own railroad, albeit a model one running over and around a small pond and garden in front of one of the classroom buildings; Even snow couldn't slow the rising bloom of *Prunus mume*, the "Peggy Clarke" flowering apricot (behind the dogwood in this picture), which is now in full bloom; SCC Horticulture Department Chair Jason Bagwell talks about some of the plants and trees on this campus, one of five Spartanburg arboreta (along with Hatcher Garden, the Milliken Research Center, USC-Upstate and Wofford College), during a tour prior to faculty member Kevin Parris' "Chasing Magnolias to China" presentation last October. Photos © Jeff Hayes

It's Never too Late to Renew Your Membership...

A quick check of our latest paid membership roll reveals a sizeable percentage of members who paid dues in 2009 still have not paid their 2010 dues. Everyone involved expects 2010 to be a banner year for the SMGC, but to be fully on board it's best to be a paid-in-full member. There will be ample membership applications available for both new members and renewals at our "Room to Grow" party and this is a fantastic opportunity for everyone to not only become acquainted with our new location and meet with old friends, but also to get more involved and learn more about both new and ongoing programs and projects.

Renewals are \$20 for a single, \$28 for a family and \$100 for a corporate membership. Applications can also be downloaded or printed directly at <http://dirtdaubers.org/Shared/PDF/MembershipApplication.pdf>.

How to Find the SCC Health Sciences Building...

Full directions and a map have already been sent to everyone, so those are not included here. Brisack Road is the frontage road that runs alongside Business I-85 in front of Spartanburg Community College. After either crossing over New Cut Road from the Interstate exit or turning off New Cut Road onto Brisack Road, the Health Sciences Building is 0.3 miles on the right and is the **final** Spartanburg Community College Campus building on Brisack Road. Parking is directly to the left.

Health & Happiness...

Club president Ed Wilde had an unusual growth on one of the fingers on his right hand that had the doctors concerned. They couldn't tell if it was cancer, or not, without removing the growth, so he recently had surgery to have it removed, forcing him to miss our February board meeting. Ed's happy to report the pathology on the growth was benign and he's recovering well.

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March 2010

Room to Grow Party a Huge Success for SMGC!

It was standing-room-only at the "Room to Grow" party the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club held at our first meeting at Spartanburg Community College Feb. 15!



With a spread of food and beverages rivaling a first-class buffet, members and guests alike heard the passion felt for the road ahead by SCC President Dr. Para Jones, Dean of Instruction Dr. Joe Sidlowski and Horticultural program director Jason Bagwell and instructor Kevin Parris, as well as club President Dr. Edwin Wilde and move Committee chair Linda McHam.

Dr. Sidlowski was particularly animated and enthusiastic in his discussion of his love of plants, talking about how he used to dig and identify

MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, March 15, 7 PM
Health Sciences Building, Brisack Road
Spartanburg Community College

Program: "My Horticultural Journey", by Spartanburg Community College Horticulture Instructor Jay Moore, who has 23 years of memories from two continents to relate.

Refreshments: Provided by Jim and Jane Turner this month. Please remember to bring a door prize.

plants as a biology professor in Arizona. Like many of us, Dr. Jones said she just loves the feel of the soil on her hands and seeing the plants sprout and grow.

Many Volunteers Needed to Help Make Relocation a Success

The club's Spring Plant Sale is coming up April 24, and as with every year, volunteers are needed to help with every shifts and clipboards will be passed around the next two meetings.

This year, however, there is much more work to be done and the club is depending on the support of every able-bodied member available during the month of May to ensure a successful relocation of plants, our utility shed, our propagation bed and all the plants growing in it.

"Our new cuttings, which have been quietly growing through the winter, will need to be potted up for the move after the sale," says Linda McHam, chairman of both the propagation committee and the move committee. "We will need to dismantle the potting frame and set it up again at SCC. Plans are being made to make this a fun event. Hot dogs and soft drinks for those who help out."

The plan is to have a cookout at SCC after each day of moving, so hungry movers can be rewarded afterwards. Club Secretary Lyn Murajda

has graciously volunteered her husband as the cook.

Members with trucks, trailers or other utility vehicles will be in particular need during the transition, so anyone who can volunteer time and/or vehicle(s) will be appreciated.

For more frequent and timely notifications than the monthly newsletter there is the Yahoo Group, through which any member may make postings and read notices and receive notifications about activities. Anyone who is not a member of the Yahoo Group but would like to join can call Linda McHam for more information at 864-582-1498 or email her at LTMcHam@copper-beech.com.

The first phase of our move to SCC should be underway very soon. Planned to be in progress already, the installation of our irrigation system by local landscape designer David Settle is simply awaiting the completion of utility work, which should be done any day.



Signs of Spring are everywhere now, but some have been around for some time. These three of several thousand blooms on a semi-mature *Prunus mume* (Peggy Clarke flowering apricot) at 106 Stribling Circle were photographed March 1, but the tree is still in full bloom and has been blooming since late January – straight through two snowstorms. Photo © Jeff Hayes



Members and guests enjoy fellowship after last month's kick-off "Room to Grow" party at our new meeting room at Spartanburg Community College. Photo © Jeff Hayes

Odds & Ends...

The Spartanburg Men's Garden Club needs two different work crews this Saturday.

The litter pick-up crew will meet in the parking lot behind the Spartanburg Chamber of Commerce at 8 a.m. to pick up roadside trash along the section of Pine Street adopted by our Club. For more information on this, call Charlie Covert at 542-3587 or send him an email at cccovert2001@yahoo.com.

Afterwards, from 1-3 the Street Trees Committee will resume work at the intersection of U.S. Hwy. 221 and I-26. As many volunteers as possible are needed to help finish that project. For more information, call Charles Crescenzi at 529-0925 or send him an email at Charliecrez@yahoo.com.

*

Spartanburg County is moving forward towards another Household Hazardous Waste collection and disposal event this April.

The project, an outgrowth of a years-long cooperative effort spurred by efforts from the local Master Gardeners Association in cooperation with city and county officials, allows any Spartanburg County resident to bring most types of hazardous waste to a collection station for safe disposal. The first collection was held in the front parking area of the County Administrative Building on North Church Street last October. This second event is scheduled for Saturday, April 17, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Boiling Springs Senior High School.

There is an organizational meeting for the HHW group March 22 at 3:30 p.m. at the County Community Services bldg.(second floor)on Fairforest Road just off I-85 and just past Cracker Barrel. Anyone who

has been involved in the past, or who is interested in becoming a new volunteer, is encouraged by group leader Jim Weeks to attend.

*

Eden Terrace on East Main Street is sponsoring a 30-minute presentation Linda McHam is giving on English Gardens Thursday, March 25.

The free event will begin with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at 5:30 p.m., followed by Linda's presentation at 6:00 p.m.

Although free, RSVP's to 579-7387 by March 15 are required in order to assure enough food and beverages.

*

The Internal Revenue Service has approved the SMGC's non-profit status.

After much hard work by club member Dr. Steve Heller in getting our application for independent non-profit status completed and off to the IRS prior to the end of 2009 – and more than a little holding our breath on the board – a letter stamped Feb. 08 2010 arrived in the mail recently confirming that the IRS has approved the status of the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club as an independent 501 (c) (3) organization, meaning that all donations to the club continue to be officially tax deductible without the need for the "umbrella" of a national non-profit organization such as the one we disaffiliated from last year.

*

Donations are coming in to help defray the cost of our move to SCC...

Not long after our last meeting the Club received an anonymous cashier's check for \$500 with a simple note congratulating us on our move. There have been other donations of \$50 and \$100, as well, from members, but much more is needed, as the moving costs are estimated at close to \$10,000.

*

Club President Dr. Edwin Wilde was honored recently by the Spartanburg County Commission for Higher Education.

Ed is a retired provost and professor emeritus of mathematics from the University of South Carolina Upstate. He was awarded by the Commission for his outstanding service at the University's annual Founder's Day event last month.



*

The Club welcomes our six newest members...

James and Regina Weeks, Grant Cobb, Allen and Clara Mackenzie and County Extension Agent George Dickert all became members since we last met. Welcome! We look forward to working towards an ever greener Spartanburg with you all!

*

And a fond farewell to one longtime member...

Last month's "Room to Grow" premiere meeting at SCC was the last time most of us are likely to see member Bob Hamilton, who is moving to Minnesota to be closer to his children.



Through the years, Bob had served the Club in many capacities and he will be missed by all who knew him.

*

WSPA's Tom Crabtree is hosting a musical benefit program for The Spartanburg Repertory Company at the Chapman Cultural Center Lobby & Theatre, 200 E. St. John St., from 6:30-9 p.m. Friday, March 26.

Hors d'oeuvres and a bar will begin at 6:30, with the musical program emceed by Crabtree beginning at 7:30.

RSVP to 909-6002, 579-0270 or lknoeppir@gmail.com.

*

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Successful Spring Plant Sales Result From the Combined Efforts of All Club Members

It's time again for the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club's annual Spring Plant Sale, our biggest fundraiser of the year. But as with every year, the success is based on as many club members as possible pitching in before and especially during the day of the sale.

To help prepare for this year's Spring Sale, **Saturday, April 24: 9 am – 3 pm**, more than a dozen volunteers came out for six potting sessions in March, when the club benefited from the generosity of our new partner, Spartanburg Community College.

We had ordered some new plants for the spring, but with the large impending expense of moving our facility were trying to keep plant expenses down, so had kept plant orders to a minimum. As it happened, however, an area nursery closed its retail operations and donated hundreds of plants to the college, which shared most of them with us and Hatcher Garden, and those made up a great deal of what were potted up and tagged during March.



Linda McHam stakes a Cryptomeria plant at one of the March potting sessions. - Photo © Jeff Hayes

MONTHLY MEETING

**Monday, April 19 - 7 pm
Health Sciences Building, Brisack Road
Spartanburg Community College**

Program: Scott Pace with Fafard will speak on soil improvement, which is anything but a "dry" subject when he talks about it, according to those who've seen his past presentations.

Refreshments: Peggy Romine and Charlie Covert will provide refreshments.

Door Prizes: Everyone who has Spring bounty is encouraged to bring a door prize.



This large group of volunteers – totaling nine, including two who are mostly hidden from view – still didn't include the entire work crew at the potting session that March day.

From left are Mort Sams, Ben Waddell, Lou Adams and Mac Davis (both hidden in the background) Don Oldham (red hat), Gail McCullough, container garden manager Bob Reynolds, Henry Pittman and John Woodward. – Photo © Jeff Hayes

NOTICE

There will be two more work days in the container garden starting at 10 am Tuesday, April 20, and Thursday, April 22. Everyone who can needs to come out and help make this final sale at Hatcher Garden a great success!

Gardening & Beautification

April 2010



Stephanie Heath helps customers pick out just the right azalea at last year's Spring Plant Sale, while Charlie Covert carries potted plants in the left, rear, and many other club members assist in varying capacities. – Photo © Linda McHam

Plant Sale manager Ben Waddell passed around a clipboard for work assignments at our March meeting and many folks signed up for one or more shifts, but there are still a number of positions to be filled – directing traffic, greeting, assisting customers, handling sales and money, helping load purchases and more. Everyone who can is encouraged to sign up at Monday's meeting.

The final [Plant List](#) for the Spring Sale is available at the blue link to the left. There are more than 120 different varieties of trees and shrubs available in more than 2,000 containers. These include in excess of a half a dozen different types of dogwoods, magnolias, crape myrtles, and cherry trees. [Flyers](#) for the sale are also available that provide additional information and can be downloaded or printed directly from the internet on most home inkjet computers, if you know of places you can put them up.

Not only is a successful sale this Spring as important as always, it's vital. The costs of the move to Spartanburg Community College and site development there are substantial, and every extra dollar from the sale is one less from our bank account. Another factor is that every plant that isn't sold will have to be *moved* to our new location between the sale April 24 and the end of May or early June when we finish our relocation. A tremendous amount of volunteers and volunteer hours will be involved in this move, and the more plants we can put in customers' hands April 24, the less work it's going to be when it comes time to move the rest of them.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the sale!

Grading and Irrigation Work Coming Along at SCC

David Settle and his assistant are making great progress at our new container nursery site at Spartanburg Community College. He's cleared all the kudzu and leveled the land with a bobcat, and is in the process of installing the irrigation system and landscape fabric. For pictures of the work in progress, click on this link: [Site Preparation](#)

Odds & Ends...

A new feature of our website's page about Spartanburg Community College is a CONTACTS section at the bottom. That includes a direct link to the college's online Faculty & Staff directory, as well as hyperlinks for the email addresses of Horticultural Department Chair Jason Bagwell, Arboretum Director Kevin Parris and Instructor Jay Moore. The link to that page is here: [SCC](#)

Charlie Covert says the March 13 litter pickup was well-attended and resulted in seven bags of trash being taken off the sides of North Pine Street. In attendance were Lou Adams, Charles Covert, Charlie Crescenzi, Newt Hardie, Gisela Otto, Ben Waddell and Tasso Ghionis, who carried his adorable little girl in a backpack while he worked.

The next litter pickup date is scheduled for June 5, with a rain date of June 12. As usual, litter-pickers will meet in the parking lot behind the Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce @ 8 a.m. For more information email [Charles Covert](#) or call his cell phone at 542-3587.

This year's Landscape Evaluation will take place beginning at 8 am May 1, the Saturday after the Plant Sale, at the conference room in the Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce. While the evaluation doesn't conflict with the plant sale this year, it is the same day as the Master Gardener Association of the Piedmont's annual plant swap, which many club members, also being MGAP members, attend. But the swap doesn't happen until mid-afternoon, so there should be plenty of time to do both. Frank Falk is in charge of the Landscape Evaluation and will be passing around a clipboard at the meeting if all positions aren't yet filled.

Membership chair Joyce Crescenzi has a very special little surprise in store for all members who attend this month's meeting. She'd also like to extend a warm welcome our two newest members, Fred and Ann Wenz.



Joyce Crescenzi speaks at last month's meeting. - Photo © Jeff Hayes



SCC Horticulture Instructor and Spartanburg Garden World owner Jay Moore was both informative and entertaining while discussing his gardening adventures at last month's meeting. - Photo © Jeff Hayes

A Sleeping Duck Gathers no Turtles???



This mallard may have been asleep on the log at Hatcher Garden March 24, but one turtle still looked like he saw a "monster." -- Photo © Jeff Hayes

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May 2010

Helpers Needed to Complete Move to New Nursery at Spartanburg Community College

Work and workers have been humming along at our new nursery site at Spartanburg Community College, but a big push is needed to complete the move by our May 31 deadline at Hatcher Garden.

The new nursery has all landscape fabric in place, after much work by club members and a few extra helpers from the Kudzu Coalition to remove kudzu. Each of thousands of kudzu crowns in the path of the fabric had to be removed by hand, rather than using a plow, because the soil needed to remain solid so the fabric could be stapled in place.

The irrigation system has been installed and David Settle is awaiting only Duke Power's electrical installation to put in the timers. The potting shed has been moved from Hatcher Garden, as well. And several work crews of 10 or more members potted up some 700 plants grown over the winter in our propagation frame prior to breaking it down so it, to can be moved to SCC.

The one big remaining job is to move some 2,000 potted plants either left over from the spring sale or newly potted from the propagation frame. As soon as Duke Power finishes the electrical hookup at SCC, which should be any day now (so the irrigation can run), we'll need as many volunteers as possible to help move those plants.

"A handful of people have been doing the majority of the work," says move committee chair Linda McHam.

"Please save time to help the club in May in every way you can. We are tentatively scheduling the final move of all container plants on Saturday, May 22nd, provided that Duke has the power hooked up at the SCC site for our irrigation system. The rain date/back-up date is Saturday, May 29th."

MONTHLY MEETING

**Monday, May 17 - 7 p.m.
Health Sciences Building, Brisack Road
Spartanburg Community College**

Program: Jack deVroomen of the Marlboro Bulb Company in Greenwood will be the speaker.

Refreshments: Charles Covert and Peggy Romine will provide refreshments.

Door Prizes: Everyone who has Spring bounty is encouraged to bring a door prize.



Club member Lou Adams cuts one of many kudzu crowns from our new nursery site in preparation for laying more landscape fabric several weeks ago. - Photo © Jeff Hayes



Ed Wilde, Will Hawkins, Peggy Romine and Ben Waddell form an assembly line potting plants last Tuesday. - Photo © Linda McHam

Light Spring Sale Figures Offset by Lower Costs

It takes more than a little rain to keep Spartanburg's savviest gardening customers away from some of the best deals around – and supporting two worthy organizations, to boot.

A light morning drizzle followed by a torrential downpour that began about 2 p.m. put a bit of a damper on Spring Sale figures this year, contrasted with prior years, but profits are close to the same, thanks to the generous gift of plants from our new partner, according to sales manager Ben Waddell.

"We had a very successful plant sale on Saturday, April 24th despite a few showers during the day," Ben says. "So far, the plant sale revenue is around \$7,500. The really great thing about this revenue figure is that a large number of plants were donated to SMGC earlier this year, so a much higher percentage of profit was realized on the total sale. So far this year, the club has spent very little money on the plants we have for sale. Thanks goes out to all the volunteers that showed up to work and make this sale a success!"



Peggy Romine and Bob Reynolds help two customers pick just the right purple beautyberry from amongst several that are still largely dormant at the Spring Plant Sale April 24. – Photo © Jeff Hayes

For more pictures of the Spring Plant Sale, click the following link: <http://dirtdaubers.org/Albums.html>

A copy of last month's soil preparation presentation by Scott Pace of Fafard is available in at the following link: http://dirtdaubers.org/Shared/PDF/GardeningHelp/Landscape_Soil_Preparation.pdf



SMGC board member Linda Cobb ran the megaphone all morning at the Hatcher Garden side of the Spring Plant Sale, exhibiting the continuing commitment of members to the club's long history and partnership with Hatcher Garden. Some club members even did "double duty," working both sales. - Photo © Jeff Hayes



Hatcher horticulturist Jeff Hall and board member Jim Bagwell presented SMGC Board Member Emeritus Tom Bartram (inset) with a plaque honoring him with Hatcher Garden's new Thomas W. Bartram Trail at Hatcher's Twilight in the Garden event held May 6 and attended by some 300 contributors. - Photo © Jeff Hayes

Odds & Ends...

Membership chair Joyce Crescenzi wants to let all members know there are now SMGC business cards available for any member who wants some. Please feel free to pick some up at Monday's meeting at the membership table.

She'd also like to extend a warm welcome our newest member, Barbara Richardson.

The next litter pickup date is scheduled for June 5, with a rain date of June 12. As usual, litter-pickers will meet in the parking lot behind the Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce at 8 a.m. For more information email cccovert2001@yahoo.com or call his cell phone at 542-3587.

The Knock Out roses planted by the club in the community garden across from the Eastside Publix supermarket, 1905 East Main St., are in full bloom at present and looking great!

Steve Heller is due another round of applause for all his hard work preparing our 501(c)(3) paperwork prior to submitting it to our attorney. An anticipated attorney fee of \$1,500 has ended up being reduced to a final bill of only \$825 due to all the extra work Steve did, thus requiring much less work and billable hours by attorney Bill Strickland.

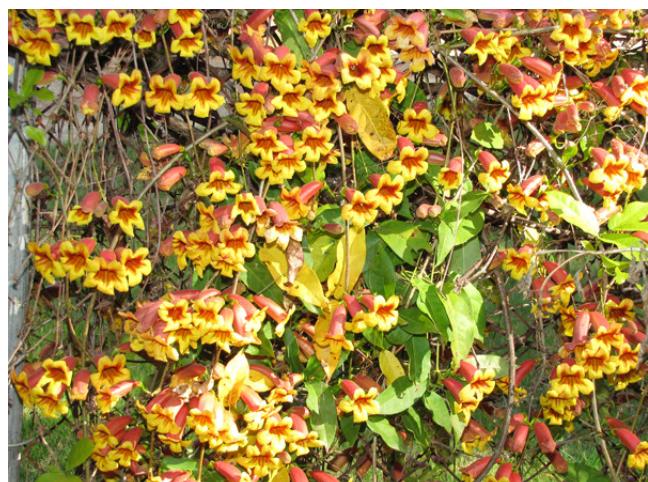
Health & Happiness...

Ed Wilde's wife, Kathleen, fell and broke her leg, but is recovering. On a personal note, I ran into them as they were leaving the doctor's office and Kathleen appeared to be feeling well and in good spirits.

Henry Pittman's wife, Margaret, had some minor injuries as the result of a car accident and is recovering.

We wish Kathleen and Margaret a speedy recovery and the best of health and happiness to all!

The Bloom's a Boom!



This tight cluster of blooms covering a chain-link fence is just one small part of the thousands of blooms on a semi-mature Cross Vine (Bignonia capreolata) April 18. The vines - which can grow up to 50 or more feet long - bloom in clusters like this every April. - Photo © Jeff Hayes

A Really REALLY Big Pink Azalea!



This huge pink azalea – or is it a cluster of pink azaleas? – photographed on April 23 may be fighting a seedling oak tree or two for dominance, but it certainly appeared to be winning the battle, along with countless oohs and ahhs of drivers who passed it by. - Photo © Jeff Hayes

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June 2010

New Nursery Move Completed, Finishing Touches Now Underway

Pots are in place, irrigation timers are watering plants as they sleep – even the propagation frame is reassembled and awaiting new cuttings.

All that and much more happened at the new SMGC nursery site in the Spartanburg Community College horticultural area during the month of May, wrapping up just prior to Memorial Day. The biggest push took place May 21, after David Settle was finally able to finish all the irrigation installation following the red tape involved with getting a power meter hooked up and inspections completed.

From 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. that afternoon, close to a dozen volunteers used their trucks and/or trailers – including a 12-footer this author borrowed from former County Agent Charlie Gray – to move roughly 90 percent of the potted plants and empty pots at our old site to our new one, with a break at noon for hot dogs chips and homemade chili, courtesy of Lyn Murajda and her husband, Douglas, fresh grilled under the outdoor pavilion in the horticulture area.

The original plan was to stop for the day at that point, but several of us were still ready for more, so those of us who stayed for lunch made one more trip to Hatcher Garden and brought another load, which helped greatly diminish what remained to be removed. — *Continued on Page 2...*



Ron Romine, Phillip Jeter, Ed Wilde and Kathy McKay spend one of very few idle moments of May 21 evaluating what to do next in their plant moving venture. Romine and Jeter aren't even club members. Ron was "filling in" for his wife, Peggy, who's on the board and was at work, and Jeter was helping him.

Photo © Jeff Hayes

MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, June 21 - 7 p.m.
Health Sciences Building, Brisack Road
Spartanburg Community College

Program: SCC Horticultural Department Chair Jason Bagwell will speak about his horticultural interests: Turf, soils and greenhouses, with questions and answers afterwards.

Refreshments: Lorelei Foster and Gail McCullough will provide refreshments.

Door Prizes: Everyone is encouraged to bring a door prize.



Terrie Rourke, Linda McHam, Lou Adams, Ron Romine, Phillip Jeter, Ed Wilde and Bob Reynolds savor a hard-earned lunch prepared by Lyn Murajda and her husband, Douglas May 21. — *Photo © Jeff Hayes*



Jack Turner, Linda McHam and Don Crowder unload some of the last pots at the new SMGC nursery site May 25. — *Photo © Jeff Hayes*

Nursery Move Completed, Help Needed to get New Site Finished

Continued from Page 1 - By the end of that first day, roughly 90 percent of those potted plants had been moved.

A second move date was set up for the following Tuesday, when just four workers showed up. But with so few plants, plus potting soil and half of the propagation frames remaining to be moved it, was still a job that took only the morning to finish. That Friday – Memorial Day Friday – Club President Ed Wilde and a couple other members went back to the old site at Hatcher Garden to make sure nothing was missed (other than a huge load of sand the club paid for, but which was way more work to move than anyone cared to attempt, and so was donated to Hatcher Garden), and turned over our keys to that nursery area to Hatcher Garden officials.

The new site looks great, with plenty of room for more plants than we had at Hatcher (and a propagation bed set up and ready to start again, with room for another one, when we have the workers and cuttings to fill it). Move co-chairman and propagation chairman Linda McHam said she will be starting new stem-cutting propagation sessions later this month, working through the summer and into the fall, as time, work crews and new cuttings are available.

Nursery director Bob Reynolds is also busy with potting sessions getting plants that need to be repotted moved into larger pots before they become root bound or begin to suffer other effects of needing larger pots. He had two potting sessions beginning at 8 a.m. this past week, and is **asking anyone who can to come out and help with two more this coming week on Tuesday and Thursday, June 22 and 24, starting at 8 a.m.**, as well. You don't need to bring any tools, other than maybe garden gloves, if you like using them.

Lou Adams is also asking for a group of "kudzu irregulars" to help remove kudzu that borders the active part of our nursery and continues to threaten engulfing it during the active growing season. To sign up for that or for more information, Lou may be reached via email at: LouisWAdamsJr@charter.net

There is also still "finishing touch" work to be done to make the new site a "home" for the club. Grass seed was recently purchased and needs to be sown. The move committee, co-chaired by Linda McHam and Don Crowder is in charge of this, but may want or need some help. They have also set up one concrete picnic table under the shade trees beside the nursery. More tables may be on the way, and it's a certainty anyone who has this sort of thing to volunteer would be welcome to at least make an offer. Tables and chairs also still sit outside the storage building, awaiting a good washing down before they can be put back into storage.

So anyone who would like to help "our club" settle in our new home should come out to the new nursery location and put in a few hours as he or she can. There should be plenty of announcements and requests for help at Monday's meeting. Don't be shy about signing up or asking where and when you can help.



Patricia deVroomen, wife of Marlboro Bulb Company co-owner Jack deVroomen (last month's speaker), holds the lily cultivar her husband named after her, "Patricia's Pride," at the bulb company's Memorial Weekend sale May 29. Beside her are pots of another cultivar they named, "Pride of Abbeville," named in honor of the historic Abbeville Playhouse (Patricia is an amateur actress who appears in plays there).

Photo © Jeff Hayes



Tasso Ghionis, Peggy Romine and Litter Pickup Committee Chairman Charles Covert were only three of eight hard-working volunteers who popped up in the Chamber of Commerce parking lot at 8 a.m. June 5 to pick up litter on our section of Pine Street... Charlie Crescenzi, Gisela Otto, Newt Hardie and two other members of the Kudzu Coalition who aren't even club members, also showed up to put in a good morning's work! – *Photo © Jeff Hayes*



A VIEW TO GARDEN FOR... This view from the SCC Horticultural Pavilion shot during the nursery move lunch break May 21 showcases only a small part of the beautiful plantings in the horticultural garden area. The Health Sciences Building, where club meetings are held, can be seen in the upper right of the picture. Our new nursery area is a couple hundred yards behind where this picture was shot. —Photo © Jeff Hayes

Odds & Ends...

Membership chair Joyce Crescenzi wants to make sure all members have a current club membership badge. Since members are now responsible for keeping up with their membership IDs, it's possible some of us have either lost them, or they've become the worse for wear. Any member who needs a new badge may email Joyce at jcheathwood@yahoo.com.

Patricia deVroomen, wife of last month's speaker, Jack deVroomen, has a "quick-and-easy" way to plant flower bulbs that doesn't require so much digging or soil preparation, which she passed along to us via Lyn Murajda.

"I use Round Up typically (and sometimes I don't even do the weed kill)," she says. "Leave a day or 2 if possible, then lay down cardboard or several layers of newspaper. Wet with a hose also helps keep it in place - or use a few stones if it is windy. Throw the bulbs over, cover them with topsoil or dirt of some kind, then mulch and water - that's it. If you are in a hurry to plant just put down the paper or cardboard throw on the bulbs cover with dirt; water and mulch or mulch a few days later when you have time or even wait until the bulbs are through and mulch around them."

When asked directly about not putting any soil down on the cardboard prior to putting the bare bulbs on it, Patricia swore she does it that way. Others may feel more comfortable putting a few inches of soil down first, however, and then on top of the bulbs, as well, even though Patricia says that's not needed.

Odds & Ends...

Dr. Allen Mackenzie has agreed to speak at the July 19 meeting on the fascinating and highly useful topic: "Good Bugs, Bad Bugs."

Dr. Mackenzie has taught entomology in the Master Gardener class for many years.

"He has a collection of mounted insects that is the best that I have ever seen," says Joe Maple, who asked him to speak to the club.

The University of South Carolina-Upstate is hosting a preview of the new Dr. Lawrence E. Roël Garden Pavilion at 10 a.m. Friday, June 25.

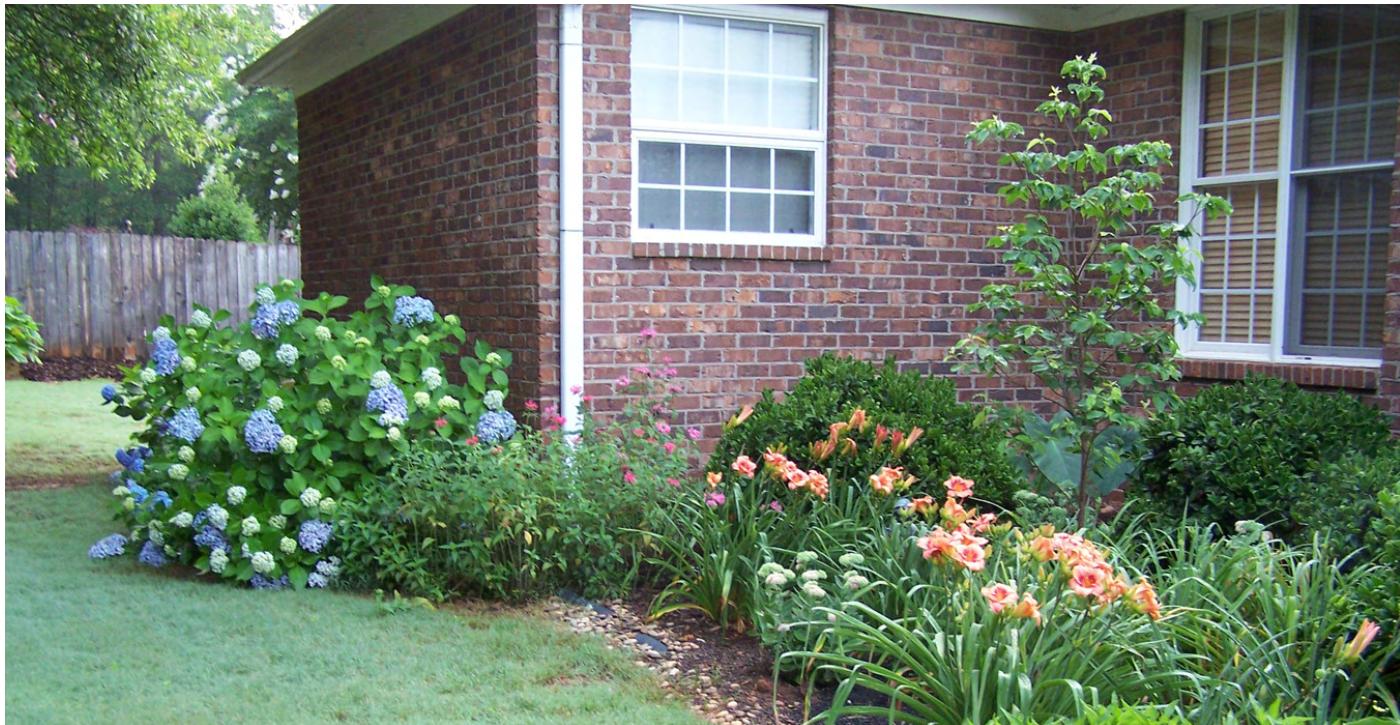
The Roël Pavilion construction site is located in the Susan Jacobs Arboretum across the creek from the P. Kathryn Hicks Visual Arts Building. Parking is available in the lot adjacent to the Arboretum.

To attend, R.S.V.P. to Bea Walters Smith at 864-503-5235 or bwsmith@uscupstate.edu by June 23.

Webmaster Lou Adams has posted several new links to photos and other content on our webpage, including the following about, in order, 2009 club accomplishments, photos of the move to Spartanburg Community College, Photos of Community Garden Spots sponsored and maintained by the Men's Garden Club, and a revised, annotated map of the SCC campus detailing SMGC meeting and nursery locations.

<http://dirtdaubers.org/Shared/PDF/Accomplishments.pdf>
http://dirtdaubers.org/Albums_SpartanburgCC.html
http://dirtdaubers.org/Albums_SpartanburgCC.html
http://dirtdaubers.org/Shared/PDF/SCC_Map.pdf

HIT US WITH YOUR BEST SHOT!



Beginning this month, *Gardening & Beautification* invites club members to submit your best gardening photos each month for inclusion in that month's issue. Digital photos may be submitted via email to JeffAHayes@aol.com. Printed photos are also eligible; email for details. Digital photos should be sent in their original full size, and limited to no more than 5 photos per submission. Above is a photo of Lyn Murajda's flower border behind her home. – Photo © Lyn Murajda

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July 2010

New Plant Propagation Well Under Way at SMGC Nursery; Kudzu Battle Progresses

Work settling in to our new nursery is moving along, as some crews are busily massacring kudzu while others have already filled almost half the propagation beds with fresh tree and shrub cuttings. — *Continued on Page 2...*



Bob Reynolds sprays kudzu with Milestone as Rob Freeman drives a 4-wheeler loaded with solution. - Photo © Lou Adams

MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, July 19 - 7 p.m.
Health Sciences Building, Brisack Road
Spartanburg Community College

Program: Dr. Allen MacKenzie will speak on the topic, "Good Bugs – Bad Bugs," with an extensive collection of bugs that he has personally collected from trips all over the world, both dead and alive.

Refreshments: Mort and Martha Sams, and Charlie Crescenzi, will provide refreshments.

Door Prizes: Everyone is encouraged to bring a door prize.



Joe Maple, Henry Pittman, Tasso Ghionis, Ben Waddell, Peggy Romine, and Tasso's 8-year-old nephew, Dylan Hendry, and 13-year-old stepson, Vladimir Zotov, work on propagating plants from cuttings July 10. - Photo © Linda McHam

Propagation, Kudzu Battle, Other Nursery Work Under Way...

Continued from Page 1 - Landscaping and grass planting has been done, as well – all within the first month since the new nursery was established.

Kudzu removal got started in earnest with the establishment of the new Kudzu Irregulars group by Lou Adams within the club on June 24. Rob Freeman of Freeman Gas donated time, equipment and materials to help treat several acres with Milestone herbicide, which specializes in killing pines, elms and legumes, the type of plant kudzu is. Many more photographs of the extensive work done that day, as well as the winners from the May 1 Landscape Evaluation, are at this link: <http://dirtdaubers.org/Albums.html>

Within a week of the initial mowing and application of herbicide, kudzu irregulars began going out to do other work in preparation of removing dead kudzu (or re-spraying any that hadn't died after two weeks). Volunteers tilled ground to help level it, picked up rocks, laid out more landscape fabric and more. Linda McHam and Don Crowder also had a work crew out to till and plant grass around the utility buildings. They have also installed a refrigerator in the potting shed so work crews can bring water and keep it cold when they work. The club will keep some bottled water in the refrigerator for workers, as well.

Linda McHam held two propagation sessions July 9 and 10, with members bringing a variety of shrub and tree cuttings and a total of 865 cuttings being started. She will be scheduling another session for late July or early August. Propagation and potting sessions are taking place in the shade under the trees beside our nursery area, from which Don Crowder has pruned the lower limbs, both improving their looks and health, and making it easier to work under them.

With this much work and this many different projects ongoing, it's fairly obvious a great deal of volunteer labor is needed. And quite a few volunteers continue to come out – although the club could certainly use some fresh help, as many of them are the same people just about every time. However, it's also important that the *right* work gets done, and most of the current projects are being coordinated by someone who knows what's already been done and what remains to be done in any given area. There have already been two instances where a well-meaning volunteer just showed up and did work that turned out to be "the wrong thing" because it wasn't part of the plan. To avoid such unnecessary work or duplication of labor, it's best to contact the four primary club work activity organizers before starting any new job.

For kudzu work, email [Lou Adams](#). For propagation bed work, email [Linda McHam](#). For plant nursery work (potting, pruning), email [Bob Reynolds](#). For construction and utility issues, email [Don Crowder](#).



Linda McHam runs a tiller from a lawn tractor in early July, preparing soil beneath trees next to the propagation beds for raking and leveling. A good number of large rocks were also able to be removed by hand after this process. - Photo © Lou Adams



About a week after the large June 24 spraying, it's already obvious where the "line of demarcation" ended (it had to end somewhere, and actually extended a good bit past the actual nursery boundary to give the nursery a "buffer zone.") – Photo © Lou Adams

Gardening & Beautification

July 2010



A QUIET TIME... Ed Wilde and Linda McHam appear absorbed in thought as they stick cuttings July 9. – Photo © Don Crowder

Odds & Ends...

Membership chair Joyce Crescenzi wants to let renewing members who may not have paid their dues for some reason yet - as well as those who have been considering joining the club - know that anyone joining after July 1 who pays the \$20 single membership, \$28 family membership, or \$100 corporate membership will be considered a paid member for the rest of 2010, as well as a renewed member for 2011. Membership applications are available for download at our website: [Membership Application](#)

The Club would also like to welcome new member Rodney Bogan, and welcome back renewing corporate member Kohler.

Picnic coordinator Terrie Rourke is gearing up for this fall's picnic. This year, people with a last name that begins with the letters A-H are asked to bring *desserts*; those with last names beginning with I-R should bring *entrees*; and those with last names starting with S-Z should bring a *salad* item.

The picnic will be held in the SCC Horticultural area pavilion at 6 p.m. Sept 20, and since this is a covered area complete with rest rooms and a kitchenette there is NO rain date. For more information, call Terrie at 574-6354.

Creekside Garden Center will be hosting a program on pest management by Clemson Extension agent George Dickert at 10 AM, Saturday, July 17. The Garden Center is located at 1940 Drayton Rd. For directions or more information, call 582-2234.

Gardening Tips, by Harold Page

Keep planting annual flowers this week. Watering new plants and seeds at this time of year is a necessity. Plant collards and Brussels sprouts. Continue to fertilize the vegetables on the six week schedule. Keep flowers deadheaded and ripe fruit removed from vegetables to assure the longest possible harvest. Removing spent flowers from annuals, perennials, shrubs and trees is called deadheading. Deadheading conserves a plant's energy by redirecting it to the production of more flowers. It takes more energy for plants to set seed than anything else.



Dr. Allen MacKenzie, this month's speaker, is a retired M.D. specializing in arthritis.

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HIT US WITH YOUR BEST SHOT!



Gardening & Beautification invites club members to submit your best gardening photos each month for inclusion in that month's issue. Digital photos may be submitted via email to JeffAHayes@aol.com. Printed photos are also eligible; email for details. Digital photos should be sent in their original full size, and limited to no more than 5 photos per submission. Above is a photo of Henry Pittman's flower bed at the back of his yard. Henry said the hydrangeas at far right – one of many bushes propagated by Jess Taylor – are so blue this year because he added aluminum sulfate early in the season. – Photo © Henry Pittman

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August 2010

New SMGC Nursery Completed; Black Landscape Fabric Laid, Room to GROW!

Hard, steady work by the "Kudzu Irregulars" comprised of Lou Adams, Bob Reynolds, Peggy Romine, Ben Waddell, Ed Wilde, Don Crowder and several other regular nursery volunteers has gotten our new nursery area cleared and covered with more than twice as much landscape fabric as the area currently covered with potted plants.

Much of this involved continual kudzu hacking, raking, hauling off cart after cart of roots, vines and rocks, and raking to make the ground smooth for the fabric. This was slow, agonizing work – often in broiling sun with temperatures in the 90s – and everyone who did this deserves the appreciation of the entire club!

MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, August 16 - 7 p.m.
Health Sciences Building, Brisack Road
Spartanburg Community College

Program: Dixie Damrel, curator of the herbarium at Clemson University, will present the program on plants seen on her trip to Indonesia.

Refreshments: Ben and Beth Waddell will provide refreshments.

Door Prizes: Everyone is encouraged to bring a door prize. Don't have one? Pot one up.



Bob Reynolds plowed up grass and broke up kudzu crowns and roots with a tiller pulled behind a lawn tractor one recent smoldering morning, as Lou Adams followed behind with a rake, as soon as the choking dust settled a little. Directly behind Bob and to the far left of Lou are two as-yet un-used sprinkler heads, set up and in place awaiting landscape fabric and potted plants and the turn of their blue plastic knob as the nursery expands into new territory through propagation, donations and plant purchases. - Photo © Jeff Hayes

2011 SMGC Officer Nominations Are Ready for October Vote

The following have agreed to serve on the SMGC board for a period of two years starting in January 2011 and will be nominated at the August meeting prior to the October election meeting.

Earl Quillan, Tim Hemphill, Peggy Wilson, Gail McCullough.

The following will be nominated to serve as officers for a period of one year starting in January 2011 and will be nominated at the meeting prior to the election meeting.

President: Bob Reynolds, Vice President: Joe Maple, Secretary: Lyn Murajda, Treasurer: Ben Waddell, Immediate Past President: Ed Wilde.

The following will serve out the remaining year of their two-year term on the board: Charles Crescenzi, Joyce Crescenzi, Frank Falk, Jeff Hayes, Peggy Romine, Charles Covert.

At the election meeting, nominations will be accepted from the floor, if the nominee has agreed to serve.

All officers will be sworn in at the annual meeting in November, which will be held in SCC's Tracy Gaines Learning Resource Center auditorium this year, *not* at the Barrett Room of the Spartanburg Downtown Library, as has been the case for many prior years.

Health & Happiness

Club member Jim Rush is doing better and recovering at home after a long stay at Restorative Care following a fall several months back. Cards may be sent to him at 709 Black Wolf Run, Spartanburg, SC 29306.

Club member John Woodward has been very ill in Spartanburg Regional's Intensive Care unit after a heart attack. He was on a ventilator for several days. John is now much improved and was in a regular Heart Center room awaiting cauterization surgery when Henry Pittman visited him Sunday. Henry said he was upbeat about his prospects for heart cauterization surgery this past Monday, which was past deadline, so results weren't in as this issue was produced. John has other health issues including kidney and back problems.

We wish Jim and John the speediest of recoveries and best of health in the future.

On a sad note, club friend and nationally-known garden-writer Jim Wilson, The Victory Gardener, passed away Aug. 1. All our hearts go out to his friends and family.

Odds & Ends

The next scheduled litter pick-up is Sept. 18, with a rain date of Sept. 25. The group meets in the parking lot behind Chamber of Commerce at 8 a.m. sharp. Our area is Pine Street from Palmetto Street to McCravey Drive.

The Club's History book, which includes numerous photographs in addition to text written by Henry Pittman and edited by Dianne Fergusson, has been submitted to the printer and we are awaiting a proof to review and approve.

Most plants that needed to be repotted have been, and to date an additional 63 cuttings have been stuck in the propagation bed, bringing total stuck cuttings to 928. There is room for several hundred more cuttings, however, and more work will need to be done in the nursery prior to the plant sale, Oct. 9, so volunteers are always welcome. Bob Reynolds is in charge of the nursery; Linda McHam manages propagation.

Lou Adams posted a photo album of the nursery work completion here: <http://dirtdaubers.org/Albums.html>



This shady section of nursery is used for potting and propagation now that excessive undergrowth has been removed. - Photo © Lou Adams



These relatively small kudzu crowns Lou Adams put next to his boot toe Aug. 3 for comparison are the tip of the iceberg. - Photo © Lou Adams 2

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Club Members will Vote on Approval of the Changes (in red) at the October Meeting

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2.4 to promote community beautification through charitable, educational, literary and scientific means.

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HIT US WITH YOUR BEST SHOT!



Gardening & Beautification invites club members to submit your best gardening photos each month for inclusion in that month's issue. Digital photos may be submitted via email to JeffAHayes@aol.com. Printed photos are also eligible; email for details. Digital photos should be sent in their original full size, and limited to no more than 5 photos per submission. Above a bumble bee has leg sacks full of nectar and pollen as it collects even more from Goldenrod (Solidago) blossoms one recent late summer day. – Photo © Jeff Hayes

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Peggy Romine

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Come Grow With Us!



Gardening & Beautification

A publication of the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club, founded 1948

September 2010

September Picnic Meeting to be First Held Under SCC Horticultural Pavilion

It's time for the Men's Garden Club's annual September picnic! This will be the first held at Spartanburg Community College, and for the first time ever we have a covered space large enough for the entire club, so there's no rain date.

This year, people with a last name that begins with the letters A - H are asked to bring *desserts*; those with last names beginning with I - R should bring *entrees*; and those with last names starting with S - Z should bring a *side* item. Drinks, cups, plates and utensils will be provided, as usual.

The picnic Horticultural area pavilion has its own rest rooms and a kitchenette we can use, plus tables and chairs. There are more chairs and tables in our potting shed just up the hill, if we need them. For more information, call Terrie at 574-6354.

We look forward to seeing all of you Monday!

ANNUAL PICNIC!

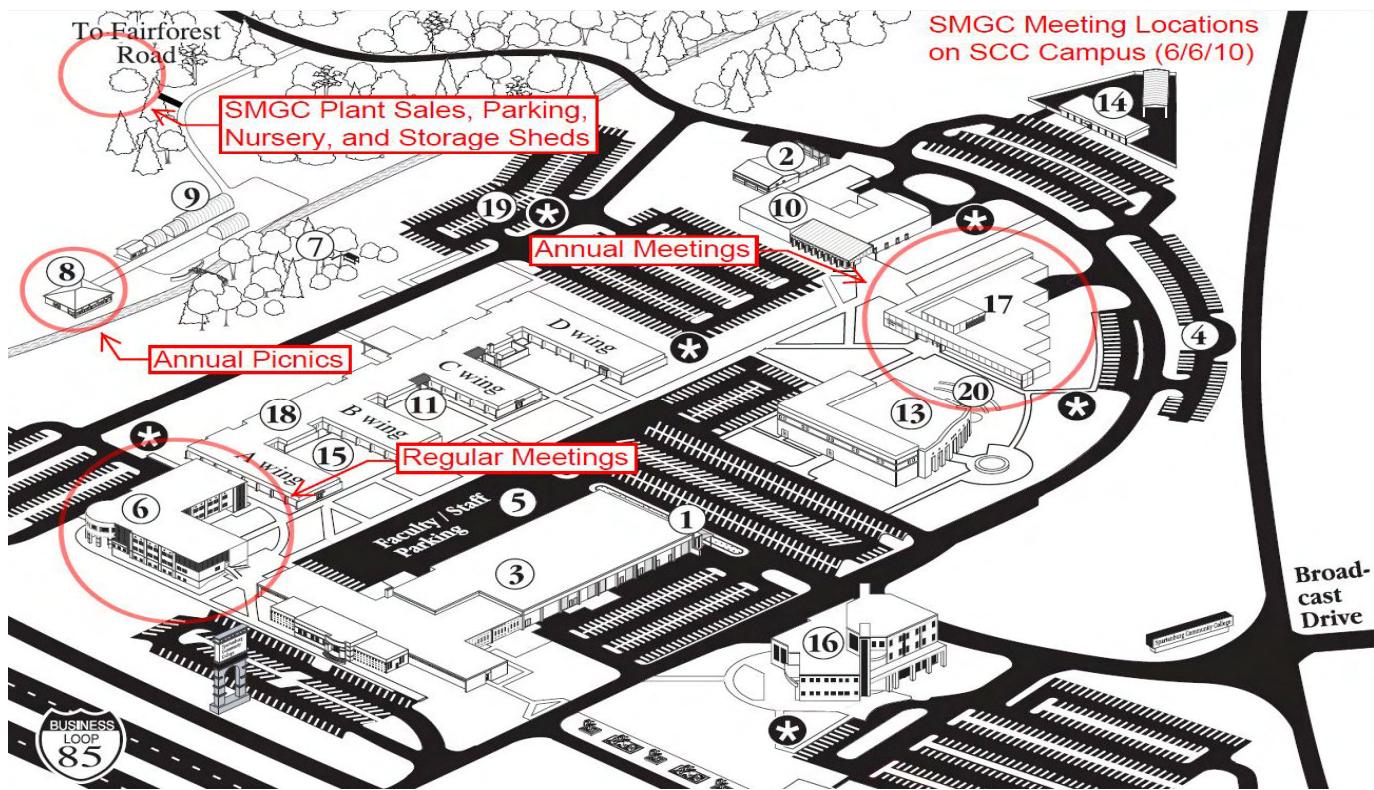
Monday, September 21 - 6 p.m.
HORTICULTURAL AREA PAVILION
Spartanburg Community College

NOTE EARLIER TIME AND DIFFERENT LOCATION!

Last Names beginning with the letters **A - H**
Bring Desserts.

Last Names beginning with the letters **I - R**
Bring Entrees.

Last Names beginning with the letters **S - Z**
Bring Side Items.



This crop of the map posted on our website shows all of the SCC Campus, including our regular meeting space, the location of the picnic (Number 8) and our nursery and plant sale, as well as the building that will host our annual meeting in November (Number 17). There wasn't room to include the Key to which all the numbers refer, which is why it's cropped out, but the entire map is available on the website.

NOW is the Time to Renew Your SMGC Membership!

He who hesitates may not be lost, but it's often the case he'll end up late, or forgetting. And since September is time to renew memberships, it's best to go ahead and do it now.

Membership chair Joyce Crescenzi will have a table set up for membership renewals at the picnic this coming Monday. Single memberships are still \$20; family memberships are still \$28; and there's a new category of student memberships at just \$5, each. Renewing members will be shown their old membership application to verify all information and make any changes that are necessary, so new membership applications will need to be filled out only when needed.

Members who prefer to renew by mail may do so by mailing a check for the appropriate amount to the SMGC Treasurer at P.O. Box 1502, Spartanburg, SC 29304. But since some checking account names don't always match the names on our membership rosters, if you choose that option Treasurer Ben Waddell asks that you also download a membership application from the following page on our website, [Membership Application](#), print it out, fill it out and include it with your check to avoid confusion on his end. Printed applications are also available at the membership table at all meetings, including this Monday's picnic, for those who need to update their information.

Men's Garden Club Finally Gets its Official 'Adopt-A-Highway' Sign

The next scheduled litter pick-up is this Saturday, Sept. 18, with a rain date of Sept. 25. The SMGC has been in charge of the quarterly litter pickup along a stretch of North Pine Street and part of South Pine for several years, but our sign has been missing until recently. Litter pickup chairman Charles Covert said the sign is now on display on North Pine near the Chamber of Commerce building.

The group meets in the parking lot behind Chamber of Commerce at 8 a.m. sharp. Our area is Pine Street from Palmetto Street to McCravey Drive.

Volunteers Needed for Plant Sale Saturday, Oct. 9

Our Fall Plant Sale is a couple weeks earlier than in past years, and will be partially manned Friday, Oct. 8, in addition to the regular sale Saturday, Oct. 9, to correspond with the SCC Horticultural Department's annual fall plant sale. Plant sale manager Ben Waddell will need 3 volunteers to sell to "spillover" customers from the SCC sale Friday and a minimum of 21 volunteers to work Saturday in 2 shifts: 8:30 am – Noon and Noon – 3:30 pm. Volunteer clipboards will be at the picnic. Participation of the whole club is needed to make the sale a success. Publicity chair Nancy Williamson will also have sales flyers and posters at the picnic for members to pick up and distribute wherever they can.

Linda McHam says our propagation frame is almost full now. If successful, this may add 1,500 or more plants next spring.



Ben Waddell, Linda McHam, Bob Reynolds and Don Crowder stick cuttings the morning of August 21. Henry Pittman, Ed Wilde and Jeff Hayes were also at this session. Several other club members have also volunteered time and cuttings. – Photo © Jeff Hayes

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HIT US WITH YOUR BEST SHOT!



Gardening & Beautification invites club members to submit your best gardening photos each month for inclusion in that month's issue. Digital photos may be submitted via email to JeffAHayes@aol.com. Printed photos are also eligible; email for details. Digital photos should be sent in their original full size, and limited to no more than 5 photos per submission. Above club Secretary Lyn Murajda's front border presents a neatly maintained and tasteful mix of annuals, perennials, shrubs and small trees. – Photo © 2010 Lyn Murajda

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Gardening & Beautification

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October 2010

Gunter's Gardens to Host October Meeting

Club member and longtime Master Gardener George Gunter will host the October meeting at his nursery, Gunter's Gardens, speaking on the topic of fall and winter gardening, including winter container planting.

"I might even do a demonstration," he says.

For anyone who hasn't been there, Gunter's Garden's is at 315 Caldwell Circle. Turn left off Reidville Road (S.C. 296) just past Fowler Bros. Cleaners, about 2 miles past I-26 if, coming from Spartanburg.

Following is a link to a Google Map of the Gunter's Gardens location: [Gunter's Gardens](#)

Gunter's Gardens is currently open 9-5 Mondays-Saturdays. Members who would like to arrive early for the meeting to shop should arrive at 6:30 p.m., as the nursery will be closed for dinner break from 5-6:30 p.m.

The Men's Garden Club is supplying chairs for anyone who doesn't have them, but for your comfort and to save extra effort, everyone who can is requested to bring his or her own chair. Please call or email program chairman Bob Reynolds at 583-3943 or BobRey@BellSouth.Net to let him know, so he can have an estimate of how many chairs need to be brought from our nursery.

MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, October 18 - 7 p.m.

Gunter's Gardens, 315 Caldwell Circle

Coming from Spartanburg, turn left off Reidville Road onto Caldwell Circle, just past Fowler Bros. Cleaners. Nursery is 0.2 miles on the right.

Program: Owner George Gunter will speak on Fall and Winter Gardening.

Refreshments: Linda McHam and Nancy Williamson will provide refreshments.

Door Prizes: Instead of a door prize, try to bring your own chair, if you can.



Peggy Romine and Giesela Otto pickup litter on South Pine Street Sept. 18.



"A" marks the spot of Gunter's Gardens in the map above, which is the same map that will be accessed by anyone who clicks the link in the newsletter. The major difference if you click the link is that you can zoom out, move around, and get directions from your home. - Photo © Google

2011 SMGC Officers Will Be Elected At This Month's Meeting

The following have agreed to serve on the SMGC board for a period of two years starting in January 2011: Earl Quillen, Tim Hemphill, Peggy Wilson, Gail McCullough.

The following will be nominated to serve as officers for a period of one year starting in January 2011 and will be nominated at the meeting prior to the election meeting.

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At this month's meeting, nominations will be accepted from the floor, if the nominee has agreed to serve.

All officers will be sworn in at the annual meeting in November, which will be held in SCC's Tracy Gaines Learning Resource Center auditorium this year, *not* at the Barrett Room of the Spartanburg Downtown Library, as has been the case for many prior years.

Health & Happiness

Longtime club member Dr. Jack Turner's mother, Margaret Mary Cary Turner, 92, passed away Friday, Oct. 1. Mrs. Turner had lived the final few years of her life with Jack and his wife, Jane, both active club members, and they said she always really enjoyed and appreciated the club and our activities and meetings when she was able to attend. The Turner family held a beautiful memorial service for Mrs. Turner at the newly dedicated Dr. Lawrence E. Roel Pavilion at USC-Upstate at 4 p.m. Saturday, October 9 – the first official event at the new Pavilion, and it filled it to capacity.

Memorials may be made to the Arboretum at USC Upstate, 800 University Way, Spartanburg, SC 29303. The family is at the home.

Membership Renewal Still a Top Priority Throughout Fall Months

Some members renewed at our September picnic, but a great many renewals are still unprocessed at this point, according to membership chair Joyce Crescenzi. We've kept the fees the same as in past years by adopting our own non-profit status, with single memberships still at \$20 per year, \$28 for a family membership and a new category of only \$5 for a student membership.

Treasurer Ben Waddell is asking each renewing member use an application, however, for processing purposes, but if no information has changed since last year, that member can just write the name(s) on the application and the words (on file) below them, along with checking the appropriate dollar amount when including his or her check. Applications will be available at the membership desk at this month's meeting, as always, and can also be downloaded or printed directly from the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club website at the following link: [Membership Application](#)

Tickets Now For Sale For Annual USC-Upstate Arbor Day Event

Tickets have gone on sale for the Friday, Dec. 3, Arbor Day event held each year at USC-Upstate, which is sponsored in part by the Men's Garden Club. The featured speaker this year is Ken Druse, a nationally known garden expert, award-winning author, newspaper columnist and radio host. This year's event will include two tree dedications – one in Spartanburg at 9 a.m. and one on campus at 10 a.m., with Mr. Druse speaking in the Humanities and Performing Arts Center at 11 a.m., followed by a lunch and question-and-answer session at Noon in the Campus Life Center Ballroom. Then an additional activity will be available for those who wish to learn more about pruning – a pruning workshop from 1:30-3 p.m. at the Roël Garden Pavilion.

Tickets are \$10, each, for just the Speaking Presentation and Lunch, or \$25 for those who'd also like to attend the pruning workshop. For full details or to purchase tickets online, follow this link: [Arbor Day](#)

First Plant Sale at New Location Meets Expectations

"We feel our first sale at our new location was successful and met our expectations," says Don Crowder, co-chair of the relocation committee. "We knew that moving to a new location would have a negative effect on the initial sale, but we feel the turnout was good, especially considering the state of the economy. The total revenue was slightly better than our last spring sale, but there are too many variables to make a true comparison. The committee who did the vast majority of the planning for this sale are critiquing ways to improve all aspects of future sales."



Bob Reynolds answers questions from a customer as Peggy Romine soaks up his knowledge. – Photo © Jeff Hayes



Linda Cobb spent the morning spreading her Gospel of Gardening through a megaphone as she identified different plants throughout the nursery and how they benefit the landscape while a helper held up a flag to identify where they were. Joe Maple sat nearby to help with his vast knowledge of plants. – Photo © Jeff Hayes



Charles Covert helps a customer with his plant selection. This retired holistic health care provider now works full-time at a nursery, so he's well-versed in things horticultural. – Photo © Jeff Hayes



Giesela Otto and Ben Waddell manned the sales table to help customers who were ready to check out. – Photo © Jeff Hayes



Heavy plants were no burden for customers to load, as able-bodied members like Don Crowder and Grant Cobb were always available to help load cars, trucks and trailers. – Photo © Jeff Hayes

Packed Picnic Pampers Palates

Our September Picnic meeting was a rousing success, with 72 counted in attendance at the SCC Horticultural Pavilion and more entrees, side items and incredible desserts than anyone knew how to eat, although some of us tried – truly, we did!



Ann and Everett Lineberger chat with Harold Wolfe, Bill Wilson talks with an old friend and many others take time to talk before eating.



Some are already enjoying their meals as others are just making the vain attempt to sample some of everything available on the buffet table.

USC-Upstate Garden Pavilion Dedicated



Katie Hicks, Dr. Larry Roél, Dr. Jack Turner and USC-Upstate Chancellor Dr. John Stockwell participate in the ribbon-cutting ceremony at the dedication of the Dr. Lawrence E. Roél Garden Pavilion Oct. 4.

Henry Pittman's History Book is Big Hit!

Club historian, board member emeritus and long-time member, officer and active worker bee Henry Pittman finally had his day of glory Tuesday, Oct. 5, at Hub City Books with the official Book Signing of his book, *And The Trees Remain The Spartanburg Men's Garden Club... An Unofficial History*.

The book, a work three years in the making – along with the diligent editing assistance of club member Dr. Dianne Ferguson – was published by the club and sells for \$13.95. The initial press run was 250, with all net proceeds going back to the club. More than 30 of those copies were signed and sold by Henry at Hub City Books at the book signing Oct. 5, which Hub City executive director Betsy Teter says is a pretty good response.

Books can be purchased at any club meeting or event. There is also a picture of the book on the bottom, left side of the main page of our website. Clicking that picture leads to a second page where excerpts from the book may be linked from, as well as an order form for the book and a variety of other club-related merchandise, such as an apron, shirts, a hat and an embroidered logo.

Books can also be purchased through the Hub City Book Store at 186 West Main Street, and Henry signed several extra copies before leaving Oct. 5.

Here is a direct link to the Garden Shop page on our website: [Garden Shop](#)



Henry Pittman appears in high spirits as he autographs a copy of his book for fellow emeritus board member and living SMGC legend Jess Taylor at Hub City Books Oct. 5 – Photo © Jeff Hayes

Picnic photos and litter pickup photo, Page 1, also © Jeff Hayes. USC-Upstate Pavilion photo provided by the university.

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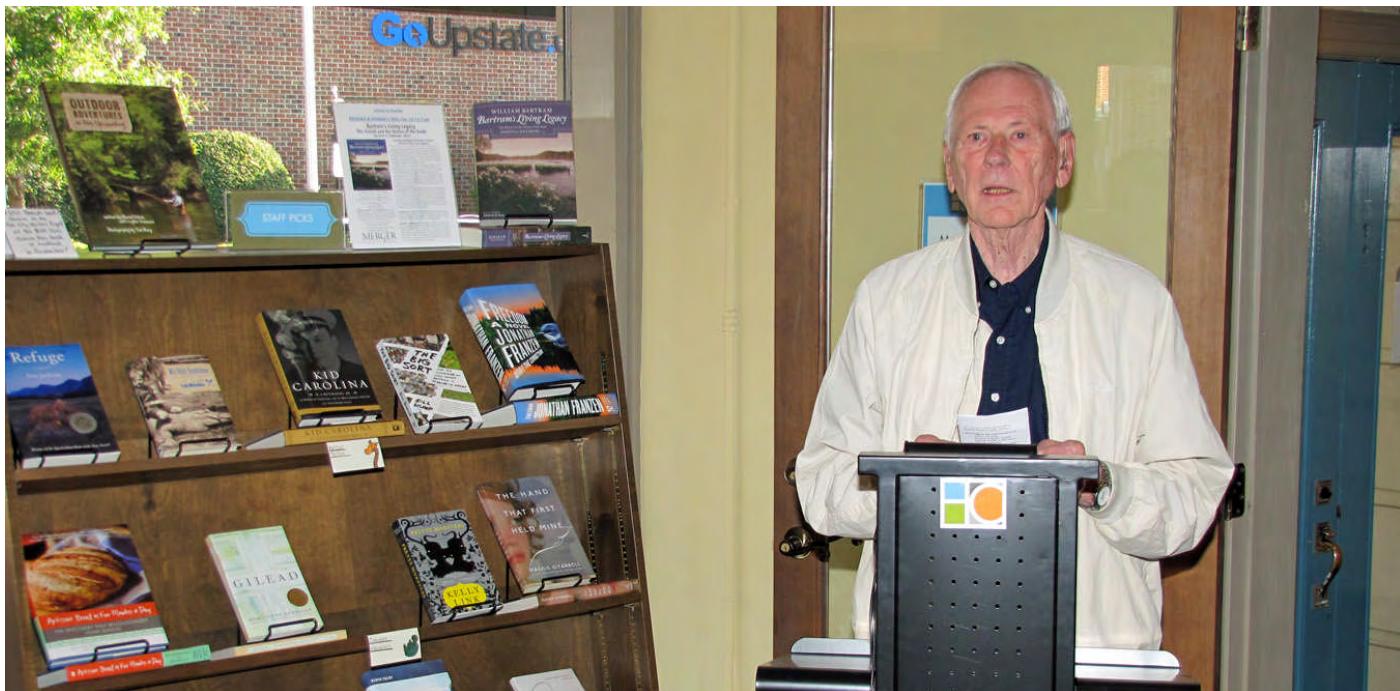
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November 2010

SMGC to Offer Beginner Community Gardener Class at SCC This Spring

Joe Maple is excited, and he's not the only one!

Starting February 8th, our Club will be conducting a class in basic gardening concepts every Tuesday evening from 6-8 p.m. for ten weeks. Joe came up with the idea as a way to increase the club's outreach and to educate more people on the joys of gardening. He developed the course curriculum based on his Master Gardener experience, and has lined up an impressive roster of instructors, including Jason & Kevin from SCC, and other club members and gardening experts. The cost is \$140 and includes Dr. Bob Polomski's latest reference book, "Month by Month Gardening in the Carolinas," along with a free one year membership in the Club. SCC has agreed to host the class and to handle registration for the Club's course, as part of their Continuing Education program. Space is limited to 24 students, so register now if you're interested. Call SCC at 592-4402 or click here [Community Gardener 101](#) for a link to the registration form online.

ANNUAL MEETING!

Monday, November 15 - 7 p.m.

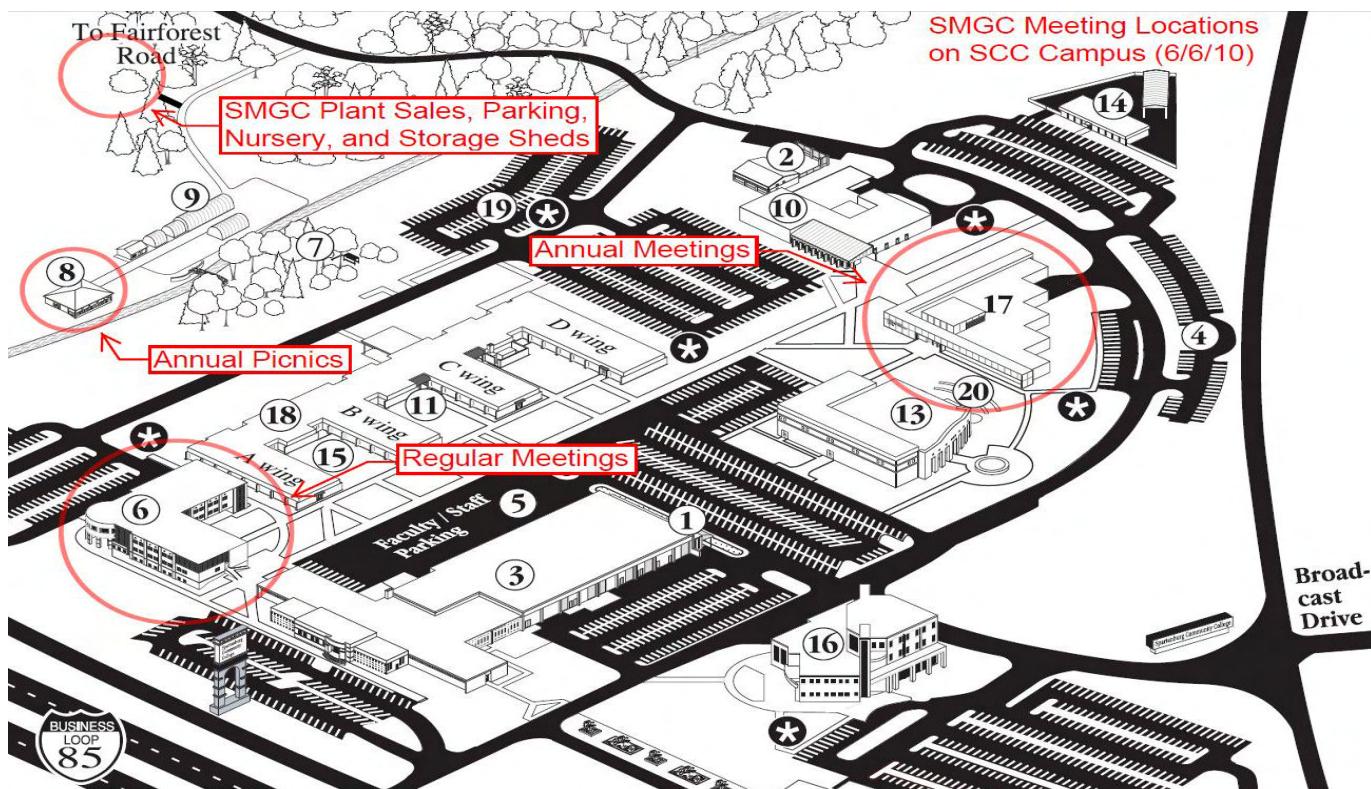
Tracy J. Gaines Learning Resource Center
Spartanburg Community College

NOTE DIFFERENT LOCATION!

Speaker Joe Maple will do a presentation about the upcoming gardening course being offered by the club through SCC as a Continuing Education class.

Refreshments: A variety of club members have signed up to bring sweet or salty snacks for a large spread, as is the custom for our annual meeting, along with both cold and hot beverages.

Door Prizes: As always, anything members can bring is appreciated.



This crop of the map posted on our website shows all of the SCC Campus, including our regular meeting space, as well as the building that will host our annual meeting this month (Number 17).

NOW is the Time to Renew Your SMGC Membership!

He who hesitates may not be lost, but it's often the case he'll end up late, or forgetting. Although renewals have been in process now for two months, a quick glance at the membership database shows 68 paid members for 2011 through Oct. 31. We had 137 paid members for 2010. Since several of those paid for 2011 are new members, this means somewhat less than half of our paid members have renewed, so far. Please renew now.

Membership chair Joyce Crescenzi will have a table set up for membership renewals at the Annual Meeting this coming Monday. Single memberships are still \$20; family memberships are still \$28; and there's a new category of student memberships at just \$5, each, in addition to Corporate Memberships. Renewing members are asked to fill out a new application but need put only their names on it if no information has changed.

Members who prefer to renew by mail may do so by mailing a check for the appropriate amount to the SMGC Treasurer at P.O. Box 1502, Spartanburg, SC 29304. But since some checking account names don't always match the names on our membership rosters, if you choose that option Treasurer Ben Waddell asks that you also download a membership application from the following page on our website, [Membership Application](#), print it out, fill it out and include it with your check to avoid confusion on his end.

Final Litter Pickup of the Year Scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 4

The next scheduled litter pick-up is Saturday, Dec. 4, with a rain date of Dec. 11. The group meets in the parking lot behind Chamber of Commerce at 8 a.m. sharp. Our area is Pine Street from Palmetto Street to McCravey Drive.

Volunteers Needed to Help Pot up Rooted Cuttings

Linda McHam's propagation committee is continuing to meet and pot up cuttings taken and stuck last summer. They will meet Thursday at 9:30 am at SCC at the nursery and spend about 2 hours removing plants from the trays and putting them into pots.

A prior potting session last Friday resulted in 150 potted plants from a total of 160 stuck cuttings for a 94% success rate in the first batch of cuttings – cuttings stuck only four months prior! The photo below is from the SMGC web page Linda McHam took last Friday. That and eight other photos can be viewed at the following link: [Propagation Potting Photos](#)



Ed Wilde and Don Crowder marvel at how very long the roots have grown from what were just bare stems only four months ago on rooted buddleia (butterfly bush) cuttings at the SMGC nursery last Friday, Nov. 5. – Photo © Linda McHam

Arbor Day Event to Include Extras This Year

The University of South Carolina Upstate Alumni Association hosts an annual Arbor Day Celebration the first Friday in December, which is South Carolina Arbor Day. This year's event falls on Friday, Dec. 3, and the 2010 featured speaker is Ken Druse. The Spartanburg Men's Garden Club is a co-sponsor of this event, as in past years, and is donating 20 of the trees that will be given away as door prizes.

An author, photographer, lecturer and radio host, Ken Druse has contributed to nearly every garden and home design magazine in America. He is probably best known for his books, which the New York Times called "bibles for serious gardeners."

The American Horticultural Society chose his book, *The Passion for Gardening*, as best book of the year; and the Wall Street Journal recommended it as one of the "five garden books to own."

In his 17th and most recent book, *PLANTHROPOLOGY: The Myths, Mysteries, and Miracles of My Garden Favorites*, Ken shares his uncommon expertise and passion for plants in a talk that will amaze, educate, and inspire. Ken knows that every plant has a story, and these tales can capture the imagination of people, and with hope tomorrow's conservationists - kids. For example, Ken shows how explorers once - and still do - race across the globe like Indiana Jones in search of rare specimens. He explains the dynamics of color and insects, fragrance and memory. He reveals what the seeds of a sunflower have in common with the stars in the Milky Way! And tells how plants in art once initiated a social movement.

Fans can also find Ken anytime on his podcast and public radio show *Ken Druse Real Dirt*, through their computers and iPods (kendruserealdir.com).

In 2004, The Garden Club of America awarded Ken The Sarah Chapman Francis medal for lifetime literary achievement.

Schedule

9:00 a.m.

*Tree dedication with the City of Spartanburg
USC Upstate's Johnson College of Business and Economics*

*This is the only event taking place in downtown Spartanburg. All other events take place on the main USC Upstate campus.

10:00 a.m.

*Tree dedication at Susan Jacobs Arboretum
USC Upstate Main Campus*

11:00 a.m.

*Ken Druse's Presentation
Humanities & Performing Arts Center*

12:00 noon

*Lunch with Ken Druse (Q&A session and door-prizes)
Campus Life Center Ballroom*



Ken Druse

1:30-3:00 p.m.

*Pruning Workshop
Dr. Lawrence E. Roël Pavilion*

Tickets are available at the following link: [Arbor Day Tickets](#)

Or call Bea Walters Smith at USC-Upstate at 864-503-5235

\$10 each for presentation/lunch

\$25 each for presentation/lunch/workshop

Each workshop participant will receive a pair of Corona shears and plant.

*Only two tickets prices are available. To attend the pruning workshop only, the cost is \$25.

Excellent Deals Still Available on Fragrant Daffodils, Miniature Blue Iris

The club still has 10 bags, each, of "yellow cheerfulness" and mixed white and yellow fragrant daffodils (25 bulbs to a bag) for \$10, and about 50 10-bulb bags of miniature blue Iris Dutch Reticulata, at 3 bags (30 bulbs) for \$10, which will be available at the meeting or can be purchased from Lyn Murajda at her home at 426 Chippendale Lane in Sterling Estates in Boiling Springs.

HIT US WITH YOUR BEST SHOT!



Gardening & Beautification invites club members to submit your best gardening photos each month for inclusion in that month's issue. Digital photos may be submitted via email to JeffAHayes@aol.com. Printed photos are also eligible; email for details. Digital photos should be sent in their original full size, and limited to no more than 5 photos per submission. Above club member Jan Huffman holds one of her "Kelvin Floodlight" Dahlia blooms from this year. At 7.5", Jan says this bloom is actually "on the small side" for a dahlia known to produce blooms as large as 10 inches!

Photo © 2010 Jan Huffman

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