

January 2018

Gardening & Beautification

A Publication of the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club



Welcoming Men & Women

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Gardening & Beautification is the newsletter of the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club. It is published monthly except in December, and is available to the public free of charge.

Sign up for the emailed newsletter at [DirtDaubers.org](mailto:Newsletter@DirtDaubers.org) or send your request to Newsletter@DirtDaubers.org.

From Don Crowder:

I look forward to serving you once again as President of the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club. The Board meeting last week was very productive with excellent input from the members. This seems to be a really good and interactive Board, and I look forward to serving with them this year. If there is anything that you would like to tell me or request, please do so.

I would also like to thank Darvin Helvy for leading the Club the past two years.

He did an exceptional job. THANK YOU, DARVIN!!!

SMGC Speaker January 16 , 2017

Drew Jeffers,

Clemson Cooperative Extensions Service

"Learning Opportunities with the Cooperative Service"

Drew Jeffers has become the new agent for Clemson Cooperative Extension Service in Spartanburg County. He has been on the job as the new Horticulture and Natural Resources agent for six months.

Jeffers has an interesting background when it comes to plants. His grandparents were farmers and he grew up in the Knoxville area in east Tennessee. When he was 13 years old, he became interested in the biology of plants and wanted to learn more about gardening and crop production.

He majored in plants and landscaping at the University of Tennessee. He said he enjoyed the plant science course along with landscaping and decided to go into agriculture.

After graduation, he was undecided what direction to pursue. It was 2008 and in the middle of the recession, so Jeffers went back to college and obtained a master's degree. His first job was selling trees and shrubs at Stanley Greenhouses in Knoxville. During that time, Jeffers learned how people bought plants and helped the company develop a soil mix. He also learned how to grow plants in nursery greenhouses.

All of this experience led him to love herbaceous perennials. Jeffers moved on and became a production manager for a bonsai nursery. Taking care of bonsai was like growing perennials in reverse in that you did not fertilize and you kept them in very small pots.

After a few years, he took a job as a grower for Van Wingerden International in Mills River, N.C., and later was offered a job in integrated pest management at Costa Farms in Asheville.

He said he enjoys helping people when they call his office. He likes it even more when people follow up to let him know how things turn out.

Jeffers has started a Master Gardener class, which held its first session on Tuesday. The class meets from 5:30 to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays and will last for 17 weeks.





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Founded in 1948 as the "Dirt Daubers" the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club welcomes men, women and corporate members with an interest in nature.

As well as sharing gardening interests, the club has planted over 5,000 trees in Spartanburg, assists with many area beautification projects, teaches a gardening class to the public, and conducts a twice-yearly Tree & Shrub sale.

Photos taken by Linda McHam this past February at Hidcote Manor Garden in England.



The Stilt Garden is one of the most distinctive plantings of "Carpinus betulus" anywhere, especially the pruning.

PLEASE NOTE

This month's meeting is on **TUESDAY**, the 16th at 7:00pm due to the Martin Luther King holiday - SCC will be closed on Monday.

Crocuses and peonies are starting to come up.



Hellebores also start blooming in February.



The yew garden is under-planted with spring bulbs.

Renew Now

2018 Membership

Single \$20 Family \$28 Student \$5
Corporate \$100

Forms are located at
DirtDaubers.org/Membership
and will be available at the next general meeting.

Bring check or cash & completed form to Joyce Crescenzi.