

# June 2021

## Gardening & Beautification

A Publication of the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club



*Welcoming Men & Women*

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Louis W. Adams, Jr.  
WebmasterSMGC@Use.StartMail.com

### 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 by sending your request to:  
WebmasterSMGC@Use.StartMail.com

### President's Corner

We are halfway through the 2021 SMGC year and the year has been very good so far. We have mostly returned to normal after the pandemic. We are starting to do some projects and the general enthusiasm at the club's regular meetings seems to be building.

Highlights so far include a very successful spring plant sale. In fact, it was so successful that we are struggling to rebuild our plant inventory. We are also working toward a master plan for our Street Tree Project. A few trees were planted this past winter to demonstrate how they will enhance the diversity along South Pine Street. We are also making good progress in repairing our shed at the container garden. As we work to develop projects and improve the container garden, we must address another goal for 2021. Please bring a guest to a meeting this year. We need a vibrant membership to allow the club to perform projects, work in the container garden and educate the public. See you and hopefully your guest at the meeting, June 21.

### Davis Sanders

SMGC Speaker

June 21, 2021



### "New Plants for Today's Garden"

Davis Sanders, our June 2021 speaker, majored in Biology/Education at Presbyterian College. Mr. Sanders currently works at South Pleasantburg Nursery in Greenville, where he provides sales, consultations and design. Mr. Sanders owned and operated Th'Yardman Landscaping part-time since 1988 and full time from 1991-1993 and 2003-2007.

Mr. Sanders is a Master Gardener 1988, and a Certified Nurseryman in South Carolina 1990, Alabama 1992, and North Carolina 1995. He has been a tenor with the Greenville Chorale since 2007. In pre-pandemic times he was a frequent panelist and contributor on the SCETV's program "Making It Grow." His topic is "New Plants for Today's Garden".



<https://www.facebook.com/SMGCDirDaubers/>



Post Office Box 1502  
Spartanburg, SC 29304  
**DirtDaubers.org**

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.



## 2021 Litter pickup schedule

**Sept. 18** rain date **Sept 25**

**Dec. 4** rain date **Dec 11**

Our area for litter control is Pine St. from Palmetto St. to McCravey Dr.

We meet at 8 AM in parking area behind Chamber of Commerce (off Oakland Av.)

### Renew Now 2021 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.



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Photography by Linda McHam

Hydrangea macrophylla  
'Mariesii Variegata'



Hydrangea  
macrophylla  
'Queen of Pearls'  
(remains white)

Hydrangeas, hostas,  
boxwood and  
Thuja occidentalis  
'DeGroot's Spire'



**Our Corporate Members are listed below. Please support them.**

Creekside Garden & Nursery  
Hatcher Garden & Woodland Preserve  
Piedmont Farm & Garden  
Roebuck Wholesale Nursery  
Schneider Shrub & Tree Care  
Wofford College



Post Office Box 1502  
Spartanburg, SC 29304  
[DirtDaubers.org](http://DirtDaubers.org)



## Street Tree Purchase

The Spartanburg Men's Garden Club is working to revitalize the trees planted along South Pine St. The Cherry trees are beautiful in the spring for two weeks, but do not have much interest the remainder of the year. Cherry trees are not the best tree to use along a busy street. The Club is interested in adding diversity to the current cherry tree mono-culture. The trees listed below are better adapted to growing along a busy street. They also have multiple seasons of interest with interesting blooms, good fall color and bark that is interesting in the winter after the leaves are down. The thought is to add these new trees as the cherry trees reach the end of their lives. This will obviously take money to purchase new trees. The cost of each tree from purchase to planting is estimated to be about \$100. The trees we are considering include:



**Persian Iron Wood, Parrotia**



**Oklahoma Red Bud**



**Murshino Zelcova**



**Tokyo Tower Fringe Tree**



**Kousa Dogwood**

Would you like to help us with the Street Tree Project? A \$100 donation will allow us to plant one street tree. If \$100 is too much to ask a smaller donation will still help. While we are sourcing these trees from high quality nurseries, there is a small chance that an individual tree may not perform well. However, be reassured that the tree species being chosen should thrive in this area. Let's keep Spartanburg beautiful!

# Spartanburg Men's Garden Club



Spartanburg Men's Garden Club – Organized in 1948, where local gardeners – male and female – come together to fellowship, learn and volunteer their talents to make Spartanburg a special place to live. Meetings are held on the third Monday of every month at 7PM, except there is no meeting in December. They take place in the Community Room of the Health Sciences Building at Spartanburg Community College.

## Future programs already scheduled are:

**June 21** – “New Plants for Today's Garden” with **Davis Sanders**, South Pleasantburg Nursery, Greenville

**July 19** – “The Fall Garden” to be given by our own **Phil Abers**, our President

**August 16** – “Controlling Unwanted Visitors in Your Garden” Clemson Extension Service

**September 19** – Annual Picnic - T.B.A.

**October 18** – “Gardening for Life – Transforming Your Landscape”, **Dr. Patrick McMillian**, virtual presentation

**November 15** – Annual Meeting and Installation of Officers for 2022

Be sure to put all of the above dates on your refrigerator or message board!

Check us out, <https://dirtdaubers.org>



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### Member Musing By Bruce Fraedrich

There is a lot to see and do when visiting New York City: theater, restaurants, museums, parks and landmarks to name a few of the popular venues. However, no trip to NYC is complete without a visit to the High Line. This park is built on abandoned elevated railroad tracks that once transported the majority of life's necessities into the city. By the 1980s, rail traffic gave way to trucks and tracks were no longer used. By 2000, the rusting, unsightly tracks were scheduled for demolition. A group of visionaries stepped up and convinced city officials and private donors to convert the tracks to a park. The first section opened to the public in 2009 and today the High Line is one of the most popular attractions in the city.



This linear park runs 35 blocks (1.5 miles) on the west side of Manhattan (Hudson River side) between Gansevoort Street on the south and 34<sup>th</sup> street to the North. More than 110,000 plants representing over 500 species of trees, shrubs, herbaceous perennials and grasses are planted in engineered soils beside walkways comprised of many different materials. Portions of the old railroad track and track bed were incorporated into the design. Walking two stories above busy streets, you will experience woodland forests, meadows with native wildflowers, grasslands, formal perennial gardens, water features and much more.

The gardens are exceptionally well maintained by a dedicated group of professional horticulturalists and volunteers. Artwork is incorporated into the gardens throughout the park. You may hear impromptu musicians or planned musical events in one of the outdoor venues. On one of my visits, a warm spring afternoon, I stopped to listen to performers from the Metropolitan opera practice for an upcoming event-unforgettable.



The gardens were designed to provide interest in all four seasons but spring through fall is the best time to visit. The High Line is usually open from dawn to dusk, seven days per week but check their website for details before you visit. During busy periods, reservations and timed entry may be required. Unlike most popular venues in NYC, entrance to the High Line is free.



History of the club continues on the following pages.

## 11 Interchange at US-176 and Interstate-26 - 1999

In 1998, as the Drayton Road-Isom Street project was underway, the Club began thinking of what other area might benefit from treescaping, and how it might be financed. The cooperative working relationship with the County had been not only efficient but also very enjoyable. The MGC Board encouraged the Tree Committee to seek ways to capitalize on this relationship.

The Club sent the following proposal to County Administrator Glen Breed in February, 1999, with copies to County Council Chair Karen Floyd and Planning Director Bill Lonon.

### TREESCAPING—AFTER DRAYTON ROAD, WHERE?

The 1998 cooperative tree-planting project of the County and the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club on Isom Street / Drayton Road is almost complete. There are a few more trees to be purchased and planted; we hope to complete the project and submit the final invoice for our actual out-of-pocket costs within a few weeks. Thanks for the prompt payment of the first (partial) invoice. The total cost will be well under the approved \$20,000.

As we discussed a few days ago, and as we had said to County Council when this 1998 project was approved last year, the MGC looks forward to continuing this type of cooperative street and highway treescape program with Spartanburg County. We believe it is a way for the County to get a genuine bargain in a quality tree planting program, and it allows the MGC to continue its history of street landscaping—a win-win for all.

So, if the County is pleased with the results of the Isom Street / Drayton Road project, we propose that County Council add a \$20,000 item in its new budget for a similar project for later in 1999. We will look for suitable sites, and request the County to suggest sites; we can make a joint decision on the planting location later this spring or summer. Again, the MGC will—

1. prepare the plan
2. work with the County on getting the plan approved
3. purchase the trees
4. arrange for their planting and mulching
5. manage the project in general
6. invoice the County for only our actual out-of-pocket expenses:  
(maximum \$20,000)

Please let us know how you and Council would like to proceed with this proposal. At any time, I will be glad to meet with you or others to ride Isom Street and Drayton Road and evaluate this project, or to review it, or to review the proposed project.

This proposal was approved. Breed reported in early April that the proposed \$20,000 was in the budget for another joint project, yet to be identified. The Club's July, 1999, newsletter included this report.

Thanks to the efforts of Henry Pittman and Hollis Taylor, we have been notified that County Council has approved another tree planting to be financed during the present fiscal year. It's evident that Council approved of the job we did on Drayton Road—and the relative low cost. We need input from our membership as to location of the next effort in the County. The US-176 / I-26 cloverleaf interchange near Inman has been

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mentioned as well as a stretch of US-221 near Roebuck. Direct your ideas to Jim Bagwell, Henry and Hollis.

This was a very active year for MGC-related treescape projects. The massive pruning on East Main and North Pine, the replacement of Yoshino Cherries on South Pine, and replacement of October Glory Red Maples on N. Pine Extension, plus the multiple tree replacements on Drayton Avenue were all accomplished in 1999.

After this approval of funds by the county and ongoing discussion by the Club's board on the next tree project, the Club decided to accept the US-176 / I-26 challenge. But there was strong feeling that priority should also be given to trees on US-221 south of the city.

A proposed plan was developed by Pittman and Bill Lonon, Director of Planning for the county, who executed the SCDOT Encroachment Permit. The Club again approved purchase of container plants from Phillips and a planting agreement with Belue.

The October "Gardening and Beautification" newsletter reported, "The sizeable plantings to be funded by Spartanburg County at the intersection of 176 and I-26 will begin in early November. Some 130 trees including Pine, Trident Maple, Red Sunset Maple and London Plane Trees are planned."

December 1999 saw the planting of 144 trees. Total cost to the County was approximately \$5,000. The January 2000 newsletter provided more information about the project.

**TREE PLANTINGS.** Our tree planting program under Henry Pittman was in high gear during November and December. The County financed our planting of 144 new trees at the large intersection of I-26 and US 176 toward Inman: 26 Red Sunset Maple, 19 October Glory Maple, 3 Trident Maple, 37 Willow Oak, 49 Loblolly Pine, 10 Yarrowood London Plane trees. Along Drayton Road between N. Pine and E. Main, 42 replacement trees were installed to update this earlier planting (13 maples, 26 Kousa Dogwood, and 3 Bald Cypress). Also, our Club financed the planting of 10 replacement October Glory Maples at the intersection of routes 176 and 56.

In recent years our Club has been responsible for the planting of over 1500 trees in and around Spartanburg plus the 2,270 trees on the I-85 bypass project.

The completed interchange at US-176 and I-26 is quite handsome. While, as expected, a number of the trees have been lost due to poor irrigation, and some lost due to inadequate opening of the dense root ball of the container plants, most have survived and provide an enhancement to this important entry into Spartanburg from the Asheville area. The SCDOT is maintaining this interchange.

### 12 SC-295, Southport Road - 2002

As the Club's Drayton Road-Isom Street project was being completed in 1999, the SPATS<sup>9</sup> Road Enhancement Committee was discussing the SCDOT's plan for five-lane widening of Southport Road (SC-295) between Reidville Road (SC-296) and its intersection with South Church Street Extension (US-221). Both the committee and the DOT project

<sup>9</sup> The county's "Spartanburg Area Transportation Study" committee. The "Road Enhancement Committee" is actually a sub-committee.

