

August 2021

Gardening & Beautification

A Publication of the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club



Welcoming Men & Women

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Vice President Everette Lineberger
Secretary Denie Crowder
Treasurer Mary Ann Hipp

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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:

Webmaster@DirtDaubers.org

President's Corner

Have you planned your fall garden activities yet? What kind of bulbs will you be planting? I plan to plant some vegetable seed this week. Irises have been dug and will be replanted soon. As we continually are planning our garden activities, so we are preparing the Men's Garden Club for our future.

Thanks to Nominating Committee lead by Darvin Helvy, we have a good candidate slate for the year 2022. If you have interest, there is still time to become a board as we do not vote until October.

Please remember the fall plant sale is October 1 and 2. Come on out and volunteer for that event. By then we will have completed the painting of both sheds and have new signs identifying the SMGC Container Garden. Please invite friends, family and strangers to come to the plant sale. We hope to have another good sale, just like our spring sale. Be sure to remind folks you invite that fall is the best time for planting trees and shrubs.

Drew Jeffers

SMGC Speaker

August 16, 2021



"Controlling Unwanted Visitors in Your Garden"

Drew Jeffers has been the Clemson Cooperative Extension Service agent for Spartanburg County since the summer of 2016. Drew has been associated with gardening since he was a child as his grandparents were farmers in Eastern Tennessee. He majored in plants and landscaping at the University of Tennessee. After graduation Drew considered his options and decided to obtain a Master's Degree.

Drew has worked at a commercial greenhouse as a production manager for a bonsai nursery and grower for Van Wingerden International. He enjoys helping people when they call the extension office with questions. He likes it even more when he gets feedback.



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



Post Office Box 1502
Spartanburg, SC 29304
DirtDaubers.org



Spartanburg Men's Garden Club

2022 Officer/Director Member Candidates

Officers

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer

Phil Abers
Bruce Fraedrich
Denie Crowder
Mary Ann Hipp

Directors - 1st Year of Term

Linda Savioe
Will Hawkins
Phillip Marchant
Curtis Marshall

Directors - 2nd Year of Term

Mark Carlson
Charlie Crescenzi
Ben Waddell



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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.



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 McCravy 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



If you are a mushroom "geek", come to the meeting and let us know what these mushrooms are!

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



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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!



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You paid HOW MUCH for that @#%&! Tulip?

Member Musing By Charlie Crescenzi

As we all know, gardeners can sometimes get carried away. OK, they OFTEN can get carried away. Nothing gives us a better example of this than the tulip mania that swept Holland in the mid-17th Century.

Tulips had been introduced to Europe by the Dutch in the mid-1500's and soon became popular for their colorful blooms. Multi-colored tulips were especially prized. Holland had a virtual monopoly on the tulip trade and became closely associated with the flower. In fact, Holland and tulips still are a duo.

People and their desire for money were just the same four hundred years ago as they are today and pretty soon some guy wearing a ruffled collar probably said the Dutch equivalent of "greed is good." Since Holland controlled the tulip trade with Turkey, where the tulip originated, the price went up and up and up. Demand was far greater than supply and people really, really wanted them. They became the 17th C. equivalent of Beanie Babies (remember them?)

The bulbs became so prized as an investment that they were sold and re-sold without ever leaving the ground. Stories of how a particularly prized type could bring \$500,000 per bulb in our modern money are exaggerated, but they could fetch as much as \$1,000 per bulb. In the year 1637, the price per bulb increased nearly 400% By now, you may be thinking: "hey, that sounds a lot like" (fill in the blank, as we have a lot of similar crazes going on right now.)

Well, what goes up, must, as the expression states, come down. 1637 saw the peak of the tulip mania, and also the inevitable crash. By the end of the year, prices had fallen to pre-craze levels. Does this mean that former millionaires jumped out of windmills to end it all? No, we would have been in no danger of being bashed by falling wooden shoes. Some people did lose a lot of money but the stories of families being wiped out and millions being lost are mostly based on the writings of Charles Mackay about 200 years later. Mackay never let accuracy stand in the way of a good story. The moral of our story is, tulips are pretty but not THAT pretty. Spend your bitcoins more wisely.



History of the club continues on the following pages.

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Initially, Dorman High officials had reservations about the plantings on the shoulders of the campus for fear they would conflict with the massive landscape plan they were



Timothy Edwards asked that only Crape Myrtles be planted in the medians. This was a wise choice.

anticipating in cooperation with the Noble Tree Foundation. But this problem was quickly solved when school officials saw and understood the quality and magnitude of the plan; it was fully approved and supported. The rows of shoulder trees in front of Dorman are some of the project's most attractive.

To illuminate how much work was yet to be done, and how many other obstacles were to be disposed of, one by one, Pittman sent the following Email to Glen Breed, County Administrator, on 11-19-02. All of these items were properly disposed of, one by one:

TO: Mr. Glenn Breed **CC:** Kelly Banks, Bob Almond, Jim
FROM: Henry Pittman D'Amato, Don Crowder, Jim Ritchie

A quick summary of the needed actions re treescaping of US-221:

1. Plan approved by SPATS Committee for \$1 00,000—80% Federal, 20% local.
2. Men's Garden Club committed \$5,000 and Roebuck Improvement Assn committed \$15,000 to cover the 20% local match.
3. County Council approved being the "Sponsor" of the project, but without obligation for ongoing maintenance.
4. Jim Feda, SCDOT Dir, of Maintenance, agreed for DOT to continue maintenance after planting. (This was the result of multiple meetings and requests for DOT partnership from many local sources—thanks!)
5. To be done (not sure of the order in which these should be done):
 - a. A number of changes need to be made to the plan re Mr. Feda's request — I will do.
 - b. A review of the plan with US-221 adjacent property owners and update should be held re Mr. Feda' request —Kelly Banks will organize.
 - c. Submit the standard Encroachment Permit to SCDOT noting the maintenance agreement. —You and County (I will help as needed)
 - d. A planting contract needs to be written for the project implementation to begin Nov. 2003 and completed no later than Feb. 2004. — You and the County should do ASAP (I will assist as needed re details.)
 - e. Bids for the contract received and contractor selected —You and the County
 - f. SPATS federal funds clarified as necessary - -You and Jim D'Amato
 - g. Determine if the landscape plan and other local work will serve as "in kind" local contributions —You, etc.
 - h. Advise when the \$20,000 from MGC and Roebuck I. A. should be contributed — You
 - i. Determine how the contract will be monitored and supervised. I assume this will be a proper responsibility of the County. I and MGC members will volunteer assistance as needed. — You and County

Pls advise if this looks like a reasonable plan for action.

The City may provide some assistance on this, but the primary participants are the County, the SCDOT, the MGC and the Roebuck Improvement Assn.

Thanks for all your help and support.

Adjacent property owners were invited via Kelly Banks' Roebuck Improvement Association letter to attend a review and discussion of the plans at a meeting in Roebuck Baptist Church in April. A significant number of people attended and most enthusiastically approved. One-on-one discussions turned the few negatives into positives.

It was not until May, 2003, that the DOT Encroachment Permit submitted by the county's Senior Transportation Planner, Jim D'Amato, was approved by SCDOT's Fred Fleming. And in September, the final and official approval of the federal "TEA-21" grant for the anticipated \$100,000 project was approved by the SCDOT.

So, it was time to start implementation. Again with much help and input from the Club, the County's Eddie Speed developed a contract and submitted it for bids in August. In order to maximize the survival of the trees and minimize the DOT's maintenance responsibility, Don Crowder and Jess Taylor helped modify the contract requirements to include not a one-year, but a three-year warranty and maintenance requirement. This modification specified

watering during the summers, replacing any dead or weak trees along with fertilizing, pruning, and any other necessary maintenance at the end of each of the three years. The idea was to insure healthy, established plants at the end of the three-year contract when maintenance responsibility would be transferred to the SCDOT.

Charles Reid's local and popular landscape firm, Sodfather Inc., was the low bidder and received the contract. His people attended the required pre-bid conference along with county officials Speed and Lisa Bollinger, and Club members Almond, Taylor and Pittman. Sodfather was awarded the contract for \$64,250—considerably lower than anticipated. This left funds for the later planted Phase II, landscaping of the two interchanges, at SC-295 and at I-26.

A very satisfying status review was held with Kelly Banks and other RBI members with Lyn Enderby, Almond, Taylor and Pittman. There was a great feeling that the project was finally ready to be implemented and would be a great asset to the Roebuck Community.



Club members helped stake the planting sites, and planting by the Sodfather group began in late 2003 and was completed early in 2004. The contract listed 367 trees: 50 Willow Oaks, 42 October Glory Red Maples, 33 London Planetrees, 56 Kousa Dogwoods,

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47 Oklahoma Redbuds, and 139 Crape Myrtles (Miami, Sioux, Tuskegee, Acoma, Hopi, Zumi and Dynamite Red). As expected, a number of modifications were made in the field and the total may have expanded to near 400 trees.

During over five years of planning and executing, and with dozens of trips to the site and to various meetings, Pittman generally managed the project for the County and the RBI. As expected, many MGC members gave valuable help. Kelly Banks' participation and the encouragement and support of the Roebuck group were essential, as was the ongoing support of Lisa Bollinger of the County's SPATS Planning Committee and of Fred Fleming, Maintenance Manager of the local SCDOT. Charles Reid and his Sodfather crew provided care and replacement over the required three years of the contract.

A dedication ceremony was held under a tent on the road side in front of Arthur State Bank in June. The program is shown below.¹²

**DEDICATION OF THE
US-221 TREESCAPE PROJECT OF 2004**

*A joint project of the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club, the Roebuck
Improvement Association, Spartanburg County and the SCDOT*

June 4, 2004
5:00 PM

Welcome and Opening Remarks
Henry Pittman
Spartanburg Men's Garden Club

Comments
Kelly Banks
Roebuck Improvement Association

Comments
Lisa Bollinger
Spartanburg County

Comments
Fred Fleming
South Carolina Department of Transportation

Comments
Bob Almond
Spartanburg Men's Garden Club

Comments
Jim Ritchie
South Carolina Senator

Closing Prayer of Dedication
Fred Thompson
Roebuck Improvement Association

400 trees to enhance this highway, this community and his state

Obviously, this was a joyous occasion for the four sponsors of the project (The Spartanburg Men's Garden Club, The Roebuck Improvement Association,

¹² The only documented remarks available from the dedication are those of Pittman. Although it, very properly, didn't express the great frustration in getting the project approved, it is a reasonable summary of the project. It is shown in Appendix 33.

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Spartanburg County, and the South Carolina Department of Transportation), and must have been gratifying for the contractor—Charles Reid and his Sodfather managers, Kerry Collins and Eddy Keenan.

A very complimentary letter shortly after the dedication from local residents Allen and Clara Mackenzie said, in part, “We who live in Roebuck and environs owe you and the Club a vote of thanks for making our area more beautiful and humane. Since very little advanced planning is done by county officials, the efforts of private groups have to come forward...We will work to keep this gateway to the city from becoming another with signs....And we will urge the trimmers to not ‘murder’ the crape myrtles!” Indeed, private/public initiatives are important in improving our community.

The Roebuck group has developed two small garden spots along the highway with small, neat signs which state that the highway beautification resulted from the partnership of their Improvement Association and the SMGC.

The survival rate of the shoulder and median trees of this section of US-221—called Phase I—was satisfactory and the result is an attractive five miles of highway beautification. Sodfather replaced multiple trees that failed during the three years of warranty. During the last year of warranty, it was decided to shift some Crape Myrtle replacements from this Phase I to the Phase II project, the two interchanges.

The shoulders and medians of this five mile section of US-221 are maintained by the SCDOT and they will improve in appearance every year as the trees mature. US-221 is a quality throughway of the Roebuck community, a fine Spartanburg entrance/exit and a significant enhancement of a South Carolina highway. The Club is rightfully proud of this project!

14 US-221 Phase II - 2004-2009 Interchanges on South Street Extension at SC-295 and I-26

Since the total cost of treescaping the five miles of medians and shoulders of US-221 called Phase I was considerably lower than the original anticipated \$100,000, the Club seized the opportunity to use the approximately \$29,000 of unexpended funds to landscape the two anchors, i.e. the clover leaf interchanges at each end. On the north end is the SC-295 (Southport Road) Interchange and on the south end the large Interstate-26 Interchange. The former was partially landscaped as part of the 2002 SPATS SC-295 treescape project which the MGC managed. The latter had NOT been landscaped and presented a poor Spartanburg entrance and exit.

Spartanburg Men's Garden Club

Proposed Resolutions

Articles of Incorporation (Board and Members)-

WHEREAS, Article 6(b) of the Articles of Incorporation for the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club (the "Club") provides that upon dissolution of the Club, the remaining assets of the Club shall be distributed to "The Spartanburg County Foundation (a 501(c)3 corporation)"; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Board to change the foregoing designation to the Spartanburg Community College Foundation, which is also a 501(c)3 organization in compliance with the requirements incumbent on the Club;

NOW THEREFORE, in furtherance of the foregoing, the following resolutions are hereby adopted:

RESOLVED, that Article 6(b) of the Articles of Incorporation of the Spartanburg Men's Club be and the same is hereby amended by deleting The Spartanburg County Foundation therefrom and substituting therefore the Spartanburg Community College Foundation so that after amendment, said Article 6(b) shall read as follows:

"Upon dissolution of the corporation, consistent with law, the remaining assets of the corporation shall be distributed to: the Spartanburg Community College Foundation."

RESOLVED FURTHER, that Articles of Amendment consistent with the foregoing be prepared, executed and filed with the South Carolina Secretary of State by the President of the Club.

Bylaws (Board and Members)-

WHEREAS, Article XII of the Bylaws of the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club (the "Club") provides that upon dissolution of the Club, the remaining assets of the Club shall be distributed to "The Spartanburg County Foundation, a 501(c)3 corporation"; and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Board to change the foregoing designation to the Spartanburg Community College Foundation, which is also a 501(c)3 organization in compliance with the requirements incumbent on the Club, said funds to be divided equally between the Jimmy Painter Horticultural Scholarship Fund, the Donald R. Crowder Book Fund, and the Arboretum Fund;

NOW THEREFORE, in furtherance of the foregoing, the following resolutions are hereby adopted:

RESOLVED, that Article XII of the Bylaws of the Spartanburg Men's Club be and the same is hereby amended by deleting The Spartanburg County Foundation therefrom and substituting therefore the Spartanburg Community College Foundation so that after amendment, said Article XII shall read as follows:

"The Board, by a two-thirds affirmative vote, may recommend that the Club be dissolved. Such recommendation shall be submitted in writing to all members and voted upon at a special meeting called for that purpose. A two-thirds affirmative vote of the members present at this special meeting shall result in the dissolution of the Club. After all financial obligations have been paid, the remaining assets shall then be transferred to the Spartanburg Community College Foundation, a 501(c)(3) Corporation, said funds to be divided equally between the Jimmy Painter Horticultural Scholarship Fund, the Donald R. Crowder Book Fund, and the Arboretum Fund. "