

September 2021

Gardening & Beautification

A Publication of the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club



Welcoming Men & Women

Officers

President	Phil Abers
Vice President	Everette Lineberger
Secretary	Denie Crowder
Treasurer	Mary Ann Hipp

Directors

Will Hawkins
Mark Carlson
Charlie Crescenzi
Sami Elhassani
Jack Turner
Ben Waddell
Linda Savoie
Bruce Fraedrich

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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 by sending your request to:

Webmaster@DirtDaubers.org

President's Corner

We are now less than one month away from our fall plant sale. The plants are looking good, and we will be ready our customers. The grounds will be looking better since we will have both sheds painted before the sale. The two signs that were on the shed are being remade and will proudly announce to the public that the container garden is operated by the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club.

We have our fall plant sale announcement finished and will send it electronically to all members. Do you have friends, family or acquaintances who need plants? Our fall plant sale is the answer. Please forward our plant sale announcement to everyone you can. Let's have another great plant sale!

We hope to see you at our picnic on Monday, September 20. It will start at 6 PM. The location for the picnic is the Pavilion on the SCC campus, located behind the green houses. Bring your appetite and enjoy the company of your fellow Garden Club Members.



<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 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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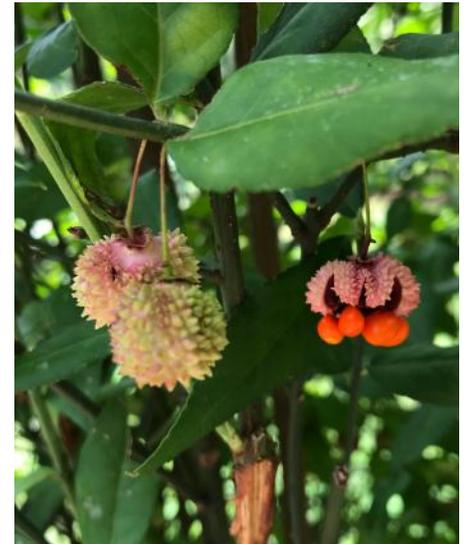
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Photography by Linda McHam



Pomegranate

Hearts-a-Bustin'
 (Euonymus americanus)



Spider Lily
 (Lycoris radiata)

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

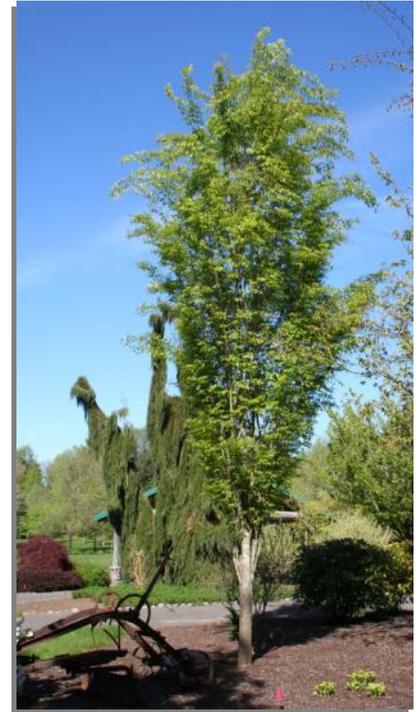
The Spartanburg Men's Garden Club is working to revitalize the trees planted along South Pine St. The Cherry trees are beautiful in the spring for two weeks, but do not have much interest the remainder of the year. Cherry trees are not the best tree to use along a busy street. The Club is interested 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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Member Musing

By Jack Turner

Let's go for a walk

Have you ever wondered what to do on an afternoon when you had a couple of hours but did not want to stay inside? During our current pandemic we found ourselves in isolation with no puzzles to work nor books to read with a bad case of "cabin Fever". This disease has one major cure and that is to get outside, to breathe some fresh air and to hear the songs of birds and insects.

We, in Spartanburg, are fortunate to have a number of outdoor facilities and of course the most popular ones are the trails, arboretums and facilities such as Hatcher Gardens. I think the most popular ones are the trails. Some, such as the Rail Trail and the ones in Hatcher Garden, are paved which makes them somewhat all season, plus they are available to persons with walking issues. Others trails, such as the Cottonwood Trail, are dirt or gravel. All of these trails are pet and kid friendly. They are used by a multiple of people from runners to walkers and from birders to botanists. It took many decades for Spartanburg to realize that this type of recreation could be enjoyed by everyone and required a very small investment of time and money.

Government organizations such as the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism have funded many of these trail systems. In Spartanburg we have others that have been built using private funds, such as the Cottonwood trail (SPACE), as well as the system in Hatcher Garden. In all cases these provide an opportunity to put on your walking shoes, go for a walk and enjoy the sight and sounds of the outdoors and breathe "fresh" air.



History of the club continues on the following pages.

5 – TREESCAPING IN CITY AND COUNTY

Henry Pittman quickly developed a preliminary plan for the two interchanges, and both the Club and the Roebuck neighbors were pleased that Spartanburg County agreed to cover the cost of this project extension as a “change order” to its original Phase I contract with Sodfather. Lisa Bollinger and Jim D’Amato were able to obtain approval from the SCDOT for the unused portion of the original TEA-21 funds to be used for Phase II. Sodfather enthusiastically agreed with the basic idea, as did the MGC board, which proposed providing up to an additional \$5,000, if needed. So Phase II was begun in the early fall of 2004.

After much conversation and design plan adjustments, the final plan was completed. It included improvements to the earlier SC-295 Interchange plantings of the 2002 SC-295 “SPATS” project by adding triple Red Cedars on the banks at the bridge (as was done on the I-85 Bypass project) along with Junipers, Abelia and Love Grass, plus Yoshino Cherries, Crape Myrtles, and Pines in the flat areas, plus mulch spread around all the plants.

The I-26 Interchange had no existing landscaping. The plan for it included the same plants on the banks (triple Red Cedars, Junipers and Spireas) with Maples, Willow Oaks, Kousa Dogwoods, groups of triple evergreen Arborvitae, and mulch. The plans for both interchanges required groupings of trees to be mulched together as large beds to facilitate easy and efficient mowing and maintenance by the SCDOT.

Phase II was not executed efficiently and effectively because, to some degree, of funding questions which arose with the multiple changes in the planting plan, and also because the local DOT maintenance group did not clear the banks of weeds as requested. Unfortunately installation did not get underway until March of 2005. It was only partially

GREEN THUMBS BEAUTIFY HIGHWAY 221

By TERESA KILLIAN, Staff Writer

A willow oak, a Kousa dogwood and about 400 other trees did not grow overnight along Highway 221 near Roebuck—a stretch of highway that leads visitors into Spartanburg from the south.

Four years of planning and fund-raising preceded the extensive landscaping project between I-26 and Highway 295.

On Friday, a dedication ceremony celebrated the project's success through a collaboration of the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club, Roebuck Improvement Association, Spartanburg County and the state Department of Transportation.

The garden club initially prepared a design with an estimated \$100,000 price tag, said longtime club member Henry Pittman.

They sought sponsorship from Spartanburg County in order to qualify for government grants available for enhancement projects. Spartanburg County agreed to support the project but with the provision that the county not be responsible for 20 percent of the matching funds or ongoing maintenance.

The garden club raised one-fourth of the local match needed through fund-raisers such as plant sales, Pittman said.

The Roebuck Improvement Association contributed about 25 percent, and Roebuck area businesses committed the remaining funds needed within a matter of weeks, said Kelly Banks, past president of the association.

“They saw the value of what we were trying to do,” Banks said of the ease with which he and Jimmie Dunbar of Lanford-Dunbar Funeral Home acquired financial commitments.

The local match, approval from the state transportation department and DOT's agreement to maintain the landscaped highway propelled the project forward.

Charles Reid's Sodfather landscaping company won the bid to do the work.

“Everyone who looks at 221 know~ we are on the verge of exploding development from a residential and business standpoint,” Banks said.

This kind of beautification project sets the tone for what will bloom there, he said. “It should make this a more attractive setting.”

From The Spartanburg Herald-Journal June 5, 2004

5 – TREESCAPING IN CITY AND COUNTY

completed by April, so the ideal and proper winter planting period was missed. However, in

INVOICES PAID SODFATHER 2005		
<u>US-221 at Interstate-26</u>		
7 Willow Oak	\$224	\$1,568
12 Arborvitae	83	990
24 Kousa Dogwood	52	1,245
600 Parsoni Juniper	11	6,367
12 Yoshino Cherry	118	1,415
12 Eastern Red Cedar	75	900
145 Abelia	9	1,282
1 HydroSeed		
1 Mulch	1,603	
TOTAL		\$17,965
<u>US221 at SC-295 (Southport Rd.)</u>		
12 Sioux Crape Myrtle		
360 Parsoni Juniper		
3 Yoshino Cherry		
9 Eastern Red Cedar		
1 Hydroseed		
1 Mulch		
Sub Total		\$14,576
15 Pine Trees		916
85 Abelia		995
TOTAL		\$16,487
Total at \$ I-26 & SC-295		\$34,453
Total Trees	106	
Total Shrubs	1,190	

that the three-year contract called for regular watering and care, there was little concern about the late planting. Nevertheless, considerable plant loss occurred during the summer of 2005. This loss, plus the incomplete initial planting, resulted in some confusion and disagreement on how the plantings would be completed.

The total paid to the contractor by Spartanburg County in 2005 was \$34,453 for the Phase II installation. This included the 106 trees and 1,190 shrubs planted and the love grass attempts.

This cost exceeded the available funds, so a fundraising campaign was initiated by Dr. Dianne Fergusson and Pittman. They sent letters and made personal contacts with neighborhood businesses and property owners. Contributions from Tom Moore Craig, Jordan Oil, Roebuck Builders, Roebuck Wholesale Nursery, Peggy Wilson of Weichert Realty, Jerry Wyatt and Fergusson totaled \$2,550. These funds, plus an additional \$3,000 contribution from the club, when added to the remaining TEA-21 funds fully paid the contractor.

There were multiple meetings with and considerable discussion between Sodfather, County Engineer Mike Garrett, and Ed Wilde, Don Crowder, Charles Crescenzi and Pittman about proper completion of this project. Under Crowder’s leadership, compromises on both sides resulted in Sodfather agreeing to add specified new plants at I-26 during the ’08-’09 winter and to divert many Crape Myrtles (which were to be replaced on the shoulders or medians to complete Sodfather’s Phase I responsibility) to the I-26 Interchange. All of these added plants were to have a one year replacement warranty. So, late in 2009 and early 2010, the final contract planting and maintenance work was done and the contract was completed. Ongoing maintenance will be SCDOT’s responsibility, but with a watchful eye of the Men’s Garden Club leaders.