

January 2022

Gardening & Beautification

A Publication of the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club



Welcoming Men & Women

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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

With the holiday season coming to an end we are now entering the exciting time of year with our Garden Club Meetings. We hope to make this a great year with interesting presentations and a couple of field trips. Last year we were able to make some improvements to the container garden that make it more attractive to our customers. We also were able to make a change to our by-laws that reflects our commitment to our SCC partner.

With some new board members adding new ideas to compliment our experienced members, we are pleased with our 2022 leadership team. As always, our club is driven by member participation. We continually need to add new members and strive to involve our members in club activities. Please make it a goal to invite two friends (or strangers) to our monthly meetings this year. Talk about our club when the subject of gardening arises. We all need to sell our club to keep it great. Let's make 2022 our best year yet!

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE MEETING THIS MONTH IS ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 18.

Joelle Teachey SMGC Speaker January 18, 2022



"Trees Upstate"

For the January Meeting, Joelle Teachey, Executive Director of Trees Upstate, will be the speaker. Joelle will discuss the history, mission and projects of Trees Upstate. She will provide information on opportunities to get involved with this organization.



Spring Plant Sale
April 1st - 2nd, 2022
 Fri 8am-1pm and Sat 8am-1pm

Hundreds of Plants
Reasonable Prices



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



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.



2022 Litter pickup schedule

TBA

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 2022 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



Camellia japonica



Camellia sasanqua 'Setsugekka'



Camellia japonica 'Governor Mouton'

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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Member Musing

By Phil Abers

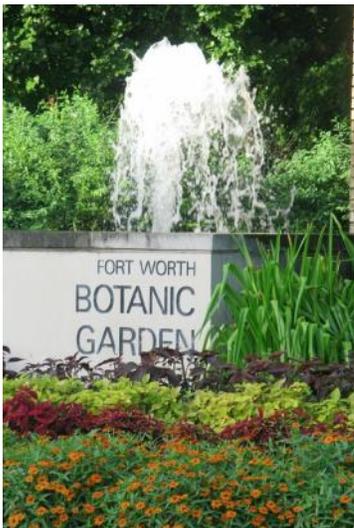
Previously, I have written about the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden. If you drive about 40 miles west on Interstate 30, you can visit the Fort Worth Botanical Garden and see two great gardens in one day! We visited the Fort Worth Botanical Garden years ago when we lived in the Dallas Area. My brother went last year and reminded me how nice the garden is.

The Fort Worth Botanical Garden was established in 1934, making it the oldest major Botanical Garden in the State of Texas. The Garden is located near downtown in the Fort Worth Cultural District. The garden contains over 2500 plant species in twenty-five specialty gardens. Besides the Garden, the Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT) is located on the property. BRIT specializes in education and research of all things plant related.

The two specialty gardens that I found most memorable are the Japanese Garden and the Rose Garden. The Japanese Garden was completed in 1973 and has winding paths around the ponds and traverses the landscape. There are 7.5 acres planted with cherry trees, Japanese maples, magnolias, and bamboo. There are also bridges and ponds filled with koi. The Rose Garden has a romantic setting and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The garden has the largest begonia collection in North American and is the only accredited begonia collection in the United States. You can also schedule a tour of the Philecology Herbarium (*philecology is a fondness for a better biosphere for the earth*), one of the largest in the US, which houses more than 1.5 million plant specimens from around the world. A tour of the BRIT Research Library with nearly 125,000 volumes of botanical books and journals can also be arranged.

Go visit the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex and the Fort Worth Botanical Garden. Fort Worth also has a couple of nice art museums and you can go visit Billy Bob's at the Stockyards (*a country music nightclub located in the Fort Worth Stockyards, Texas*).



History of the club continues on the following pages.

5 – TREESCAPING IN CITY AND COUNTY



During 2008, multiple volunteers of the Club, under the leadership of Club President Ed Wilde and Tree Chairman Charles Crescenzi, provided selective pruning to the trees. Spot of Pride, under the new leadership of Kurt Zimmerli, and with a generous donation from Mrs. Hans Balmer, arranged valuable professional maintenance of the shoulder treescape in early 2009. Good cooperation between the Club and the Spot of Pride leaders will be necessary to insure the healthy growth of these important new shoulder trees. Already, the appearance of this valuable Spartanburg highway, Interstate-85 Business, is better—and its aesthetics and quality will only improve over the years.

Additional “Minor” Treescaping and Beautification Activities

In addition to the many trees that the Club contributed to schools, parks and other public institutions through the work of Harold Hatcher, there are a number of additional treescaping activities of the Club. While they might properly be called “minor” they were—and are—important to the community.¹⁷

These include the following:

- Assistance to Mayor Sally Peake in treescaping US-29 south to Wellford.
- Work with Co Irwin and his Trees Spartanburg organization.
- Professional pruning of MGC trees on East Main and North Church streets.
- Planning and managing the Reidville Road (SC-295) treescape.
- Organizing the coalition to encourage Wal-Mart to properly plan and plant trees.
- Development of the Club's Tree Planting Bi-Fold Brochure.
- Landscaping of the Georgia Cleveland House (now St. Luke's Free Medical Clinic in the 1980s.
- Treescaping of the New Day Clubhouse near Asheville Highway in the 1990s.
- Development of, and wide distribution of Lyn Murajda's color brochure “Crape Myrtles: Four Seasons of Beauty” in 2004.

¹⁷ These other treescape and beautification activities are described in some detail in Appendix 7.

5 – TREESCAPING IN CITY AND COUNTY

While the Spartanburg Men’s Garden Club’s strong emphasis on treescaping streets and highways, beginning in 1976, may not have brought the national attention to Spartanburg as did the Club’s magnificent garden developments during Mr. Ezell’s days of the 1950s and 60s, they will be more permanent. Trees are essential not just for our enjoyment and desire for beauty, but more importantly for our environment. Their functions are well known to MGC members—they clean the air, produce oxygen, moderate temperature, control erosion, provide habitat for wildlife—and they are beautiful. The trees planted by today’s gardeners will remain long after the gardeners are gone and will provide shade and beauty for future generations.