

A New Volunteer Opp: The Pickens County Museum Native Plant Garden!



Saturday, April 30th
A rain garden rescue gets underway at Keowee Toxaway SP during the Water 'n' Wildlife Workday. (More on Page 2...)

UPSTATE happenings

www.scnps.org

JULY 2016

NEWSLETTER OF THE UPSTATE CHAPTER OF THE SC NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Upcoming Society Events

Wednesday, June 22, Field Trip to Glassy Mountain, Pickens County

Leaders: Dan Whitten, Bill Stringer

The loop trail is about a mile long. It starts on top of the mountain in a parking lot next to the towers visible a long way off and proceeds by switchbacks to the top of the rock face and then traverses the top of the rock and around into the woods to the East side before exiting onto the road below the summit. Walk back uphill on the road to parking lot about 1/4 mile. Lots of interesting plants including yellow buckeye, Indian hemp, white milkweed and several warm- and cool-season native grasses. What soil there is, is shallow to rock, allowing xeric plant species to exist. Meet at the parking lot behind the Pickens County Courthouse in downtown Pickens at **9am** to convoy to the field trip site. Lunch and water/drinks are recommended along with regular hiking gear. Wear grippy shoes, as some of the trail is on bare rock. To register, email <virginia_meador@hotmail.com> Include cell number. Questions? Email or call (864) 468-4160.

Saturday, July 9, Field Trip to Dupont Forest - Corn Mill Shoals Trail

Leader: Dan Whitten

We need to meet at **9am** at the parking access on Cascade Lake Rd at Cedar Mountain OR **8am** at either of the two carpool sites. We will hike out and back on Corn Mill Shoals Trail for a total distance of 5.5 miles. It is a moderate hike with a wet stream crossing usually knee deep. We can see things like sweet-fern, coppery St. Johns wort and smooth chanterelle and always something new. Bring lunch, water, hiking stick, sunscreen, and wear appropriate clothes with a change in the car would be good.

There are two carpool sites: Holly Springs Store at the intersection of Hwys 11 and 178 in Pickens, and Cherrydale Mall, Greenville, in the lot in front of Regal Cinemas Cherrydale Stadium 16 at 3221 N. Pleasantburg Dr.

To reserve for the hike. Email <virginia_meador@hotmail.com>. Please include a cell phone number for last minute communications.

Tuesday, July 19, 7:00pm, Spartanburg "New View of the Flora of the Upstate"

Speaker: Gillian Newberry, USC
(See write-up this page.)

New View of the Flora of the Upstate

If you love plants, if you love our natives, if you love discovering new facts, tidbits, data....you will love our next guest speaker.

Dr. Gillian Newberry will entertain us with her photographic accumulation of 50 years of flora found in the upstate. She has married the scientific knowledge and method with her creative artistic style. She will show us her easy-to-navigate taxonomy plant identification application where we will delve into the macro lens world to discover its secrets. Each photo has a story. With the aid of computers, she will show us how to dissect the flower to find similarities in a family, how some anthers have hollow tubes or how the flower's shape interacts with the pollinating insect to ensure survival of the species. I am sure you will discover something new as she guides us and shares her stories.

Dr. Newberry taught botany for 30 years at USC Upstate. Her passion for botany and wish to share her knowledge as we continue to learn more about our herbs is contagious. She will have her Upstate Flora Taxonomy App USB available for purchase. Cost of the drive is \$35 with \$15 dollars going to the Native Plant Society. Should you already own one of her drives, you can trade it in for a newer version at no additional charge. Bring your laptop if you would like to follow along on your own computer.

The meeting will be held in Spartanburg at USC-Upstate at the Roel Pavilion (signs are marked as Dr. Lawrence E Roel Pavilion) in the Susan Jacobs Arboretum. For GPS use 276-382 Gramling Dr, Spartanburg, SC 29303. There are restrooms and electricity on site, as well as iced water to sooth the summer's heat.

Our meeting will be preceded by a guided tour to see two different habitats of the *Hexastylis naniflora*. See the classic habitat followed by another habitat which is not recognized by literature. There are plenty of native plants along the route to enjoy. The tour will consist of 2 loops totaling 2 miles of easy walking. We will be on a dirt path so wear proper shoes and bug repellent. Tour meets 5:30 PM at the Roel Pavilion.

Take your botany to the next level. Join us July 19, 2016.

— Rita Zollinger



Dr. Gillian Newberry

Botanist • Professor of Botany (retired), USC Upstate

Tuesday, July 19, 7:00 pm

Dr. Lawrence E. Roel Garden Pavilion at the Susan Jacobs Arboretum
276-382 Gramling Drive, Spartanburg, SC 29303

For a map and more information, visit <http://www.scnps.org>

Save the Date!
SC NATIVE PLANT SYMPOSIUM

Native Plants
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COMMUNITIES...



OCTOBER 7-9, 2016

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Greenhouse
Work Days

July 13 & 21
Aug 10 & 18

There is plenty to do at the greenhouse this summer. Plants need to be potted up, weeded, and re-arranged, and we need to install landscape fabric along the drip line. Come out and help put the plants in good shape for a fall greenhouse plant sale!

We will start at **8:30am** each day and work until about Noon. Bring gloves, hat, water, sunscreen and your green thumb. If you plan to attend, please email Miller Putnam at <millerputnam@gmail.com>.

The greenhouse is at 180 Lakewood Dr., Greenville, about a mile from Conestee Park.

☞ We also need sets of **mini-blinds** to cut up into plant identification stakes. Let Miller know if you have any old blinds to donate or bring them to the next meeting.

From Bill Stringer... The South Carolina Native Plant Society has suffered a tragic loss in the passing of Wayne Grooms of the Midlands Chapter. Born in Australia and raised on the edge of Four Holes Swamp, Wayne was very active in SCNPS and SCAN, organizing, leading and interpreting hikes to natural areas. His favorite spot was Peachtree Rock, where he generously and skillfully led so many tours over the years. He was an avid self-taught botanist, a Master Naturalist, and an active participant in protecting and restoring native plant communities. Those who have hiked with Wayne also know that he could not pass up a good swimming hole. His admiration for all things natural was transparent, spontaneous, and contagious.

Wayne was doing what he loved best, enjoying the wonderful world of nature, when he was struck by a rattlesnake. Although deaths from snakebite are extremely rare, Wayne was one of those

Upcoming Society Events

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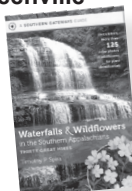
Wednesday, August 10, Field Trip to Rich Mountain, Oconee County
Leader: **Bill Stringer**

No Program in August!
Enjoy the remaining days of summer!

Saturday, September 10, Field Trip to King's Mountain - Will feature the Bear Oak (*Quercus illicifolia*)
Leaders: **Bill Stringer**

Tuesday, September 20, Greenville "Waterfalls & Wildflowers"
Speaker: **Tim Spira**

(Tim Spira's new book by the same title as his program will be available for purchase at the September meeting.)



Saturday, September 24, Field Trip to Jones Gap/Eva Russell Chandler HP
Leader: **Dan Whitten**

★★★★★★

tragic cases. It is a terrible reminder that the unthinkable can happen, and that snake boots or gaiters are options worth considering. Gaiters can be worn with any sturdy boot and are usually more comfortable than knee-high boots in hot weather.

The answer is not to kill every dangerous thing in our natural habitat. Instead we need to protect ourselves so that we can co-exist with the dangers in nature.

The Nature Conservancy is creating a memorial kiosk to install at Peachtree Rock in honor of all that Wayne Grooms contributed to that preserve. When the weather is cooler, look for an announcement about its installation and a tribute day to Wayne at Peachtree Rock. To learn more or find out how you can help, contact Colette DeGarady at <cdegarady@tnc.org> or call 843-937-8807 x-15.

Volunteer Opportunity

Did you know that for the past ten years, volunteers from the Native Plant Society and the Master Gardeners of the Foothills have been caring for a beautiful native plant garden at the **Pickens County Museum** in Pickens? For six years, Diane Coiner has been the "Fearless Leader" of this volunteer effort sending out monthly reminders, coordinating work and communications with the county staff. Diane has newly "retired" from the job. Thank you Diane for all your fine leadership, instruction, and wit.

We are looking for some new volunteers to keep the garden looking good. The group meets on the first two Tuesday mornings each month to plant, weed, spread mulch, and keep the garden looking inviting for visitors to the museum.

Volunteering at the museum is a great way to learn about native plants as you work with them in all seasons, from sprouts in the spring through bloom time and into seedtime. It is also a great way to meet other members and develop friendships. There is nothing like a little weeding, chatting, and laughing together to create a bond. Please consider helping on one or two Tuesdays each month.

Sally Guerre, a Master Gardener, is the new coordinator for the group. Please contact Sally at <sgurrie@att.net> or Judy Seeley at <judy_seeley@hotmail.com> with any questions or to be put on the notification list.



Know what?

These young workers at the **Water 'n' Wildlife Workday** in April are the leaders of tomorrow!

Fruit of their labors: a puddle dish, bluebird and toad houses