



**Coming Next Month: Native Plant Site Gets Permanent Protection!**

# UPSTATE happenings

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SEPTEMBER 2016 ■ NEWSLETTER OF THE UPSTATE CHAPTER OF THE SC NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

## Upcoming Society Events

**Sunday, September 11, Field Trip to Crowders Mountain State Park, Kings Mountain, NC**  
**Leader: Dan Whitten**

The features on this hike will be the Bear Oak (*Quercus ilicifolia*), whose southern most range is on top of The Pinnacle, and the view from the top (which is the best view in the Piedmont without being in an airplane). On the return hike, we will take the Turnback Trail and Fern Trail to make more of a loop hike than a straight out and back. So total mileage will be about five (5) miles. Most of the hike is moderate with the exception of a short strenuous ascent of The Pinnacle. Wear field clothing and shoes. For extra safety, snake gaiters are recommended. Bring hiking stick, lunch, water, and sunscreen.

Meet at **2:30 pm** at the visitors' center off Sparrow Springs Road. Take I-85 north towards Charlotte, then Exit 10A onto US 74 East. Take Sparrow Springs Road to the park entrance. For carpooling, Dan suggests meeting at **1:30 pm** at the Hampton Inn parking lot off of Exit 78 at I-85 and US 221 towards Chesnee.

To register for this hike, email Dan at <sdwhit10@aol.com>

**Tuesday, September 20, Greenville "Waterfalls & Wildflowers"**

**Speaker: Tim Spira - Note location!**  
(See program write-up this page!)

growings on  
at the GREENHOUSE

## Fall Plant Sale!

**Sep 30 - 1 Oct**  
**Friday & Saturday**  
180 Lakewood Dr., Greenville, SC

Join us at the Greenhouse for a GREAT selection of *plants* and terrific *prices*! The Sale is 9:00 am to 3:00 pm both Friday AND Saturday.

Watch the Society's website for a list of plants or call Miller Putnam if you want the list emailed, (864) 325-9700

## Exploring Waterfalls and Wildflowers

*"Waterfalls are natural magnets for hikers, photographers, and nature enthusiasts. Some waterfalls enchant us with their softness as water gently glides over bedrock; others impress us with the height of their falling water; still others awe us with their power. The constantly falling water, sparkling light, and swirling spray is exhilarating, soothing, and inspiring. For whatever reason, waterfalls seem to make us feel good. Exploring wildflowers (and other natural features) along the trail adds to the fun. I will discuss the lure of waterfalls, including the plants associated with the spray cliff community, as well as a selection of interesting wildflowers one might encounter on a waterfall hike in the Blue Ridge Mountains."* — Timothy Spira

**T**im Spira is a plant ecologist, native plant gardener, hiker and professor emeritus of botany at Clemson University where he taught for 22 years, retiring in May of 2015. Tim and his spouse, Lisa Wagner, currently reside in Asheville, NC. For him, there's nothing better than a walk in the woods, observing and exploring the natural world. He is especially interested in the ecology of plants and their natural communities.

In reaching out beyond the college classroom to groups such as ours, Tim strives to increase understanding and appreciation of the natural world with the ultimate goal of fostering a conservation ethic. In addition to publishing numerous articles in scientific journals he is the author of the award-winning book, *Wildflowers and Plant Communities of the Southern Appalachian Mountains and Piedmont: A Naturalist's Guide to the Carolinas, Virginia, Tennessee, and Georgia*.

In his latest book, *Waterfalls & Wildflowers in the Southern Appalachians*, Tim has combined these two favorite topics. The thirty (30) hikes described in the book are interpretative, including what one may see on the way to the waterfall: wildflowers, interesting facts about the flowers, features of natural history, and plant communities. This beautiful, full color book will be available for purchase, and Tim will conduct a book signing immediately after our meeting.

Come to our September meeting to explore waterfalls and wildflowers; what better way to spend an end of summer evening! — Susan Kyzer

**Dr. Tim Spira**

Botanist • Professor Emeritus / Clemson University • Author

Photo: Pearson's Falls  
© JK Marlow

**NOTE  
Location!!**

**Tuesday, September 20, 7:00 pm**

Reception following

J Verne Smith Technical Resource Center Auditorium on Main Campus  
Greenville Tec, 620 South Pleasantburg Dr, Greenville ←

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

## REGISTER NOW for our 20th Anniversary Symposium!

Go to our [www.scnps.org](http://www.scnps.org) homepage  
and click on "Register Now."

Native Plants  
connect  
COMMUNITIES...



OCTOBER 7-9, 2016

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Native Plant Society  
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Upstate Chapter

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## Upcoming Society Events (in Bold)

... continued from page 1

Of Interest: Wednesday, September 21, 2:00 pm  
Program: "Nature, Poetry, and Nature Scene Travel," sponsored  
by the Tryon Garden Club  
Presenters: Ceille Baird and Jim Welch  
Location: Foothills Equestrian Nature Center (FENCE), 3381 Hunting  
Country Road, Tryon, NC 28782. Open to the public.

### **Saturday, September 24, Field Trip to Jones Gap / Eva Russell Chandler HP**

**Leader: Dan Whitten**

Meet at **8:45 am** at the carpool site at the intersection of SC 11 and US  
276 where 276 starts up the mountain towards Caesar's Head.

We will begin the hike at **9:10 am** at the Raven Cliff parking area.  
We will do a 4.4 mile loop hike going down the Coldspring Branch Trail  
and back up the Bill Kimball Trail. The hike is rated strenuous, but we  
will be going slow and observing nature as we go. Highlights include a  
diversity of ferns and possibly a few orchids along the way. We'll also  
make a 30-minute stop at Chandler HP to see Grass-of-Parnassus and  
other rare plants in a 1/2 mi. loop. We should return to the cars by  
about **2:30 pm**.

Bring lunch, water, hiking stick, sunscreen, and wear snake gaiters  
for extra protection. To reserve the hike, email <[virginia\\_meador@  
hotmail.com](mailto:virginia_meador@hotmail.com)>. Please include a cell phone number for last minute  
communications.

### **Tuesday, October 4, Pressly Heritage Garden, Erskine College, Due West, SC**

**Leaders: Eva Pratt, Dr. Jan Haldeman**

**Lunch at Moffat Dining Hall at 12 noon, cost \$7.00**

Meet Dr. Haldeman at side entrance of dining hall at **1:00 pm** to begin  
tour of campus trees and the Garden (beside Science Center), an easy  
walk from the dining hall.

To carpool, meet at **11:00 am** at the Home Depot parking lot, 1339  
South Pleasantburg Dr. (near Augusta Road), Greenville. To reserve the  
garden tour, email <[virginia\\_meador@hotmail.com](mailto:virginia_meador@hotmail.com)>. Please include a  
cell phone number for last minute communications.

**Tuesday, October 18, Roel Pavilion, USC Upstate, Spartanburg**  
**"Plant-Animal Interactions: The Impact of Invasive Plants  
on Amphibians"** - (Directions to Roel Pavilion in next newsletter)  
**Speaker: Melissa Pilgrim, PhD.**

**Tuesday, November 15, 7:00pm, SWU, Central, SC**  
**Program: "Mountain Nature: A Seasonal Natural History  
of the Southern Appalachians"**  
**Speaker: Jennifer Frick-Ruppert, Professor at Brevard College**

## USC Upstate Presents New Field Guide E-Book about Southern Piedmont Species

The University of South Carolina Upstate recently launched  
the *Field Guide to the Southern Piedmont*, an e-book  
that features images of more than 700 common organisms  
found in the Piedmont region of South Carolina, North  
Carolina and Georgia.

A collaborative project from USC Upstate professors  
Dr. Jonathan Storm, Dr. Briget Doyle, Julie Smoak, Melissa  
Storm and student Rachel Furman, this guidebook, which  
can be found at <http://www.uscupstate.edu/fieldguide/>,  
was created as a resource for outdoor enthusiasts, schools,  
and parks and recreation organizations.

"I wanted the field guide to cover the entire gamut of  
what someone might encounter in nature," said Storm,  
associate professor of biology. "We also wanted to create a  
free resource that would provide a simple way for users to  
identify and learn about nature."

An 18-month endeavor, the field guide is divided into  
15 categories and highlights amphibians, birds, insects,  
mammals, reptiles, fungi, plants, rocks and even slime  
molds. Photos, sound clips and hyperlinks to additional  
information are also included.

Designed for use on a tablet, the field guide is available  
to download onto any electronic device. For optimal per-  
formance, download the pdf and open it within an e-book  
app on your tablet or smart phone, or save it to  
your computer.

"I hope the field guide will help people develop an  
interest in nature and get outside," Storm said. "Hopefully  
it will help educate the next generation of biologists and  
nature lovers growing up here in the Piedmont."

growings on  
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or afternoon, call Miller Putnam  
at (864) 325-9700