



For updates and more
information, go to
www.scnps.org

UPSTATE *happenings*

APRIL 2017

LETTER OF THE UPSTATE CHAPTER OF THE SC NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Upcoming Society Events

(in Bold)

**Thursday, March 30, 3:00-5:00pm -
SC DNR Clemson Office, 311 Natural
Resources Drive, Clemson - "Skip Still
Meadow" Maintenance Day**

Help plant native grasses, remove inva-
sives, and maintain a rain garden with
project leader Bill Stringer. RSVP or ques-
tions... contact Cathy at <creas@clemson.edu> or call 864-202-5062.

**Tuesday, April 4, Field Trip: Chestnut
Ridge Heritage Preserve, 10:00am -
2:00pm, Oak Grove Road, Landrum
Leader: Dan Whitten**

Meet at the McDonalds 5050 OLD
BUNCOMBE RD near Furman, Greenville,
at 9:00am for carpooling, or meet at trail-
head at 9:45.

The perfume of Sweet Betsy (*Trillium
cuneatum*) is one of the main attrac-
tions. Other botanical beauties that are
in the area are Jack in the Pulpit, Cutleaf
Toothwort, and Giant Chickweed.

Field clothes, lunch, water, sturdy walk-
ing shoes, camera, and a walking stick are
suggested. For extra protection wear snake
gaiters. Email <virginia_meador@hotmail.com> to sign up.

**Tuesday, April 18, 7:00pm, Landrum
Depot, Landrum, SC • Program:
"Catesby, London, and 300 Years of
Carolina Botany"**

Speaker: Amy Blackwell
(See write-up this page.)

**SATURDAY, April 22, 9:00am - 1:00pm,
Annual PLANT SALE!! Conestee
Park, 840 Mauldin Rd., Greenville**

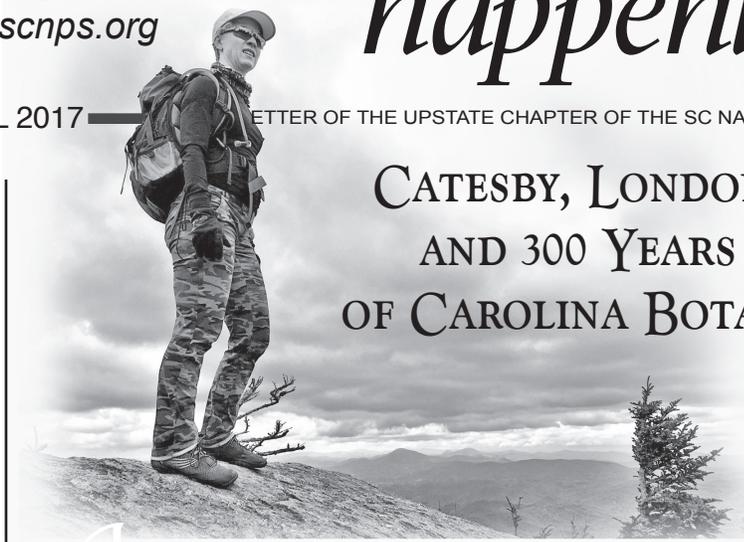
A three-minute drive south of I-85 near
the baseball stadium. Visit our website for
more information <www.scnps.org>
(Also, see Page 2... YOU can help!)

**Saturday, April 29, 9:00am - Noon
Propagation Workshop • Greenville •
Class limited to 12 • \$5 materials fee
Instructor: Miller Putnam**

Miller Putnam is offering his popular
propagation workshop again on Saturday,
April 29. This is a hands-on workshop at
Miller's greenhouse. You will learn the
basics of propagation from seeds, cuttings,
divisions, and other techniques. Learn
how to propagate plants for your own
landscape. You will go home with new
skills and some new plants!

Email <judy_seeley@hotmail.com> to

... continued on page 4



CATESBY, LONDON, AND 300 YEARS OF CAROLINA BOTANY

Amy Blackwell got interested in plants while living in a small house in Charlottesville and trying to garden in full shade. She has cultivated an assortment of plants at her home in Greenville's North Main neighborhood (for some reason, every fig tree she has ever tried to grow has suffered a violent death). Her Ph.D. in Plant and Environmental Science at Clemson was an outgrowth of the Master Gardener program she did ten years ago — its curriculum was thorough but not thorough enough. At Clemson, she worked on her dissertation with Patrick McMillan, host of the ETV program *Expeditions with Patrick McMillan*. Patrick had just taken over as director of the South Carolina Botanical Garden. Between them Patrick and Amy found ways to make the garden a scientific institution with connections ranging from Clemson undergraduates tromping through the local woods to Harvard's Arnold Arboretum to the botanical gardens of Hamburg and Leiden, with a taste of international law thrown in for good measure.

Amy, her husband Christopher, and Patrick McMillan launched the *Botanica Caroliniana* project in 2011. This has involved them visiting museums and herbaria in London, Oxford, and Paris to take digital photographs of plant specimens collected in the Carolinas in the 1700s and then seeing what they can discover. Their digital collections now include specimens from Mark Catesby (who wrote his own famous *Natural History*), John and William Bartram, John Lawson, André Michaux, and several others.

These explorers and colonists collected plants to send back to Europe, where early taxonomists such as Hans Sloane and Karl Linnaeus were assembling collections of the natural history of the world and giving new species Latin names. We are lucky that they sent everything to Europe, because those specimens still exist; if they had been stored in

Amy Blackwell

... continued on page 2

Writer • Botanist • Educator

Tuesday, April 18, 7:00 pm

→ Landrum Depot • 211 North Trade • Landrum, SC

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

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

There are many ways you can help our Upstate Chapter have a successful plant sale. The plant sale is our major outreach to the community each year and also our prime fundraiser. It is very rewarding to see several thousand native plants go off to yards and landscapes in the Upstate!

First, help spread the word about the sale. Mark the day on your calendar to shop and tell all

Spring Native Plant Sale

It's Almost Here!! 😊

your friends about the sale.

Pick up plant sale flyers at a meeting and post them anywhere you can. Give or mail them to your friends.

YOU can help!



Welcome
New Members!



- ✓ Sally Bouwman, Salem
- ✓ Mary Curtin, Taylors
- ✓ Amy Henderson, Greenville
- ✓ Brittany Henderson, Lyman
- ✓ Stephen Jones, Seneca
- ✓ Dick Schelat, Boiling Springs
- ✓ Josephine McMullen, Greenville
- ✓ Margaret Sirois, Greenville
- ✓ Suzanne Valencia, Simpsonville

UPSTATE happenings

Published monthly by the Upstate Chapter of the SC Native Plant Society
www.scnps.org

Dan Whitten, President
sdwhit10@aol.com

Steve Marlow, Editor

Please email articles, photos (with descriptions and/or captions) and general announcements to

steve@marlowcreativeservices.com

Deadline for the May issue is
Friday, 7 April 2017

CATESBY, LONDON...

... continued from page 1

Charleston, they would have turned to dust long ago.

The project's website is: <http://folio.furman.edu/projects/botanicacaroliniana/index.html>

Historic plant collections are an amazing source of field data from a time we cannot visit. The Catesby plants, for example, grew in the 1720s — before the cotton culture took over the state and irreparably changed the landscape. The collections also contain insights into history, economics, the colonial experience, and the history of science.

In her talk, Amy will share some of the exciting things she and her team have found as well as describing what it is like to collaborate with institutions in Europe. (In France it REALLY helps to speak French.) Topics will include the search for the specimen of Oconee Bells, cures for snakebite, early weeds, animals that found their way into the plant collection, and the amazing “arse weed des Américans.”

Amy Hackney Blackwell is a writer, botanist, teacher, and former lawyer. She

Go to the website, <www.scnps.org> and click on activities on the top line... then calendar... then the date **April 22nd**. There you will find the plant sale flyer that you can download and send to all your friends and contacts. **Post the sale** on Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, etc.

We still need people to price and label plants on Thurs., April 20th, at the greenhouse (180 Lakewood Dr., Greenville).

We could many more folks to move plants and set-up the sale on Friday April 21st at Conestee Park, and finally to run the sale on Saturday, April 22nd and take it all down afterwards. All the volunteer jobs and shifts are detailed on the website.

Go to the website, <www.scnps.org> and click on activities on the top line... then calendar... then the date April 22nd. There you will find a link to the volunteer form. Fill it out, hit send, and “presto!” you have volunteered. A paper form to mail in is also available at the site. Volunteers at the greenhouse or the sale may shop on Friday. (Some limits will apply) **You can also sign-up** at a meeting or by contacting Steve Thompson, the Volunteer Coordinator for the sale, at <scnpsvolunteer@gmail.com>. There is a job for everyone and we need everyone to take a job!

PS: Our plant sale “snacks” coordinator, Diane Coiner, requests that volunteers bring a reusable mug for coffee and water. Let's set a green example!

was born in New Orleans, grew up in Baton Rouge, and went to Duke University, where she met her husband, Christopher Blackwell, a professor of Greek at Furman University. Over the past two decades she has studied at the University of Paris, taught English at a high school in Japan, graduated from University of Virginia School of Law, and somehow become a writer. Her books include *Mythology for Dummies*, *LSAT for Dummies*, the *Essential Dictionary of Law*, and the *UXL Encyclopedia of Science*. She has also assisted her husband on his research, traveling to Europe to photograph ancient Greek manuscripts in cathedrals, old libraries, and palaces in England, Venice, and Spain.

— Rita Zollinger

WORK SESSIONS:
March 22, April 5, 12, & 19 (Wednesdays)

growings on at the GREENHOUSE



Things are budding, burgeoning, and starting to bloom at the greenhouse...

With the Plant Sale coming up in less than four weeks on **April 22**, we have stepped up the workdays at Miller and Kitty's greenhouse.

There are **Wednesday morning sessions** from 9am to Noon on March 22, April 5, April 12, and April 19. We will be putting the plants on the dripline in order, weeding and sorting plants, and grooming all the lovely natives to be at their best for "Showtime!" on Saturday, April 22.

Join the "Greenhouse Gang", to dig in the dirt, laugh, talk, and get the jobs done...

Please let Amy Henderson know which workdays you plan to attend: <amyjoygarden@gmail.com>

APRIL 22nd

**PLANT
SALE**



**to ALL our VOLUNTEERS
who worked the SCNPS booth at
the Southern Home & Garden Show
in Greenville!**

Jeff Beacham, Jo Anne Conner,
Dan DeWitt, Mary Margaret Dragoun,
Donna Evins, Carol Granger, Steve &
Cheryl Holding, Jan Jackson, Donna
Jones, Richard & Jenny Kingman,
Carrie Lucas, Virginia & Don Meador,
Jane Pilzer, Judy Seeley, Bill Sharpton,
Michael Simpson, Bill Stringer,
Merike Tamm, Ted & Bette Thern,
and Dan Whitten.

Much appreciation to Christi Bruner of
Carolina Wild for providing the fine
display of native plants!

★★★★★

Volunteer Opportunity

The Pickens County Museum native plant garden volunteers will work on Tuesday, April 4, Saturday, April 8, and Tuesday, April 11 from about 9am to Noon. The address is 307 Johnson St, Pickens, SC 29671. Contact coordinator Sallie Gurrie with questions, <sgurrie@att.net>.

Upstate NPS members on TV

Bill Stringer and Judy Seeley will be on TV twice in April to talk about the April 22 plant sale and about NPS activities. Watch for them (or record and watch later) on the WYFF News 4 *Today Weekend* show on Saturday, April 15. Then, *Making It Grow* on Tuesday, April 18 at 7:00pm on South Carolina ETV.

Solid SCNPS Supporter Retiring

Mary Bunch, Preserve Manager for DNR, is retiring in April! Her dedication and commitment to controlling invasives in the many heritage preserves, plus her study and work with bats barely begin to scratch the surface of Mary's outstanding career with the SC Department of Natural Resources.

**South Carolina
Native Plant Society**
PO Box 491
Norris, SC 29667
Upstate Chapter

Non-profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
GREENVILLE, SC
PERMIT NO. 618



Electronic Service Requested.

Upcoming Society Events

... continued from page 1

sign up. Call Miller at 864 325-9700 with any questions. Location: **180 Lakewood Drive, Greenville.** Preference will be given to current SCNPS members.

Saturday, April 29, 9:00am - 1:00pm
Water, Wildlife, & Wildflower Project Day
Keowee-Toxaway State Park, 108 Residence Drive, Sunset, SC.

Help with planting native plants at the park. RSVP or questions: Contact: Cathy at <creas@clemsun.edu> or 864-202-5062

Saturday, May 13, Field Trip: Parks Mill Site, McCormick County
Coordinator/Leader: Bill Stringer

We will visit the Parks Mill site on Stevens Creek where the rocky shoals spider lilies (*Hymenocallis coronaria*) should be in full bloom!

This is a statewide event. Other chapter members in the piedmont and low-country will be joining us to see one of nature's most spectacular botanical treasures! (Details pending)

Tuesday, May 16, 7:00pm, SWU, Central Program: "Wildflowers of Georgia"
Speaker: Linda Chafin, State Botanical Garden of Athens, GA

Tuesday, June 20, 7:00pm, Greenville Program: Ferns Speaker: Virginia Meador



© 2017 R. Huffman

We rescued approximately 40 pinxter bloom native azaleas and a large quantity of Christmas ferns. The azaleas ranged from 8 feet tall down to 18 inches. A total of 18 volunteers participated in the half-day rescue.

Michelin will use a portion of the azaleas in the landscaping of the distribution center, appropriately named the Azalea Project.

Another rescue is scheduled for March 18th. On this rescue, river cane will be added to the harvest.

The rescue site is a spring fed stream. This is a wooded area and the Michelin distribution center will cover the upper portion of the stream.

— Bill Sharpton



© 2017 JK Marlow