



UPSTATE happenings

www.scnps.org

MARCH 2018

NEWSLETTER OF THE UPSTATE CHAPTER OF THE SOCIETY



Upcoming Society Events

(in Bold)

Fri-Sun, Mar 2-3-4, 2018, Southern Home & Garden Show, Greenville

SCNPS has been an exhibitor at the Southern Home & Garden Show for over twelve years with the help of new and veteran booth volunteers. You do not have to be a botanical expert. Simply greet people, hand out our informational flyers and invite attendees to our field trips, monthly programs and our Plant Sale on April 21st!

Only three (3) shifts remaining:

Saturday, 10am to 1pm, 4pm to 7pm
Sunday, 12pm to 3pm.

You can sign up online at: scnps.org/event/2018-southern-home-garden-show

Before or after your shift, tour the Show for help and information on that Spring home improvement project you've been wanting to do!

Contact NPS coordinator Steve Marlow for more information:
<steve@marlowcreativeservices.com>

Tuesday, March 20, 7:00pm - 8:30pm,
Wilkins Conference Center, Roper Mountain Science Center, Greenville, SC
Program: Status Reports on Smooth Coneflower, Native Cane Restoration and Rare and Unusual Plants in the Carolinas
Speaker: David White, Ecologist
(See article this page.)

NOTE: The Wilkins Conference Center at Roper Mountain is a NEW meeting facility for the Upstate Chapter! (See map and photos on Page 2.)

Of Interest...

Wednesday, March 21, 2:00pm
David Ahrenhotz presents:

A Photographer's Look at Butterflies

Presented by the Tryon Garden Club • Open to the public
at FENCE, 3381 Hunting Country Road, Tryon, NC

Friday, March 23, 10:00am-3:30

**Boat/Hike Field Trip: Lake Jocassee/
Foothills Trail • Cost \$35 • See "LAKE
OPTION" in italics at end of write-up.**

Join Dan Whitten and Jocassee Lake Tours for a boat/hike field trip to see Waterfalls and Wildflowers.

We will meet at Devils Fork State Park boat ramp at 10:00am and go to the upper lake and jump onto the Foothills Trail at Laurel Fork Falls. From there we will hike in about 2 miles to see plenty of wildflowers including Oconee Bells.

Upon returning to the boat, we will stop by a few other waterfalls on the way back in. To sign up for the trip, call Jocassee... Lake Tours at 864-280-5501.

... continued on page 4

Come and Meet David White and his... *Plant Friends*

With status reports on select Rare and Unusual
Plants in the Carolinas

David White is deeply rooted in the Piedmont of South Carolina. He was growing up in Easley during the years that environmental concern in our country was also growing. As a Biology major at Wofford College in the 1970s, he was inspired by Dr. Gibbes Patton. David briefly considered medicine as a career, following his own father and the path of many Biology majors at Wofford, but plants called him to pursue graduate work in Plant Ecology at the University of Georgia. Today David lives on family land in Pickens, returned to forest after recovering from farming for cotton and corn.

David's passion is protecting rare plants and rare communities and supporting the sustainability of these. "Our presence in those places is important, especially those in challenging conditions," says David. He sees the effects of vegetation management, including prescribed burns, for less woody, more open habitat. David feels fortunate to be doing the work he does, often at the wildland/urban interface, at boundaries of private property.

David's career has led to a variety of projects and publications. His work has included: Roan Mountain Grassy Bald Restoration in Pisgah National Forest, Southern Pine Beetle Prevention-Thinning and Longleaf Pine Restoration in Uwharrie and Croatan National Forests, monitoring change in Southern Appalachian populations of Ramps (*Allium ricocum*), the land use history of the Savannah River Site, and prescribed fire for ecological restoration in Linville Gorge Wilderness and Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge.

Most recently, David has been involved with:

- invasive species control and River Cane restoration efforts in the Andrew Pickens District of Sumter National Forest
- botanical surveys identifying rare plants, rare communities, and invasives, on the Long Cane Ranger District of Sumter National Forest
- status survey of Smooth Coneflower in South Carolina

... continued on page 3

Dr. David White

Ecologist • Director of Data Management for CITI

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

Tues., March 20, 7:00 pm

WILKINS CONFERENCE CENTER

See
Page 2

at Roper Mountain Science Center!

402 Roper Mountain Road, Greenville, SC 29615

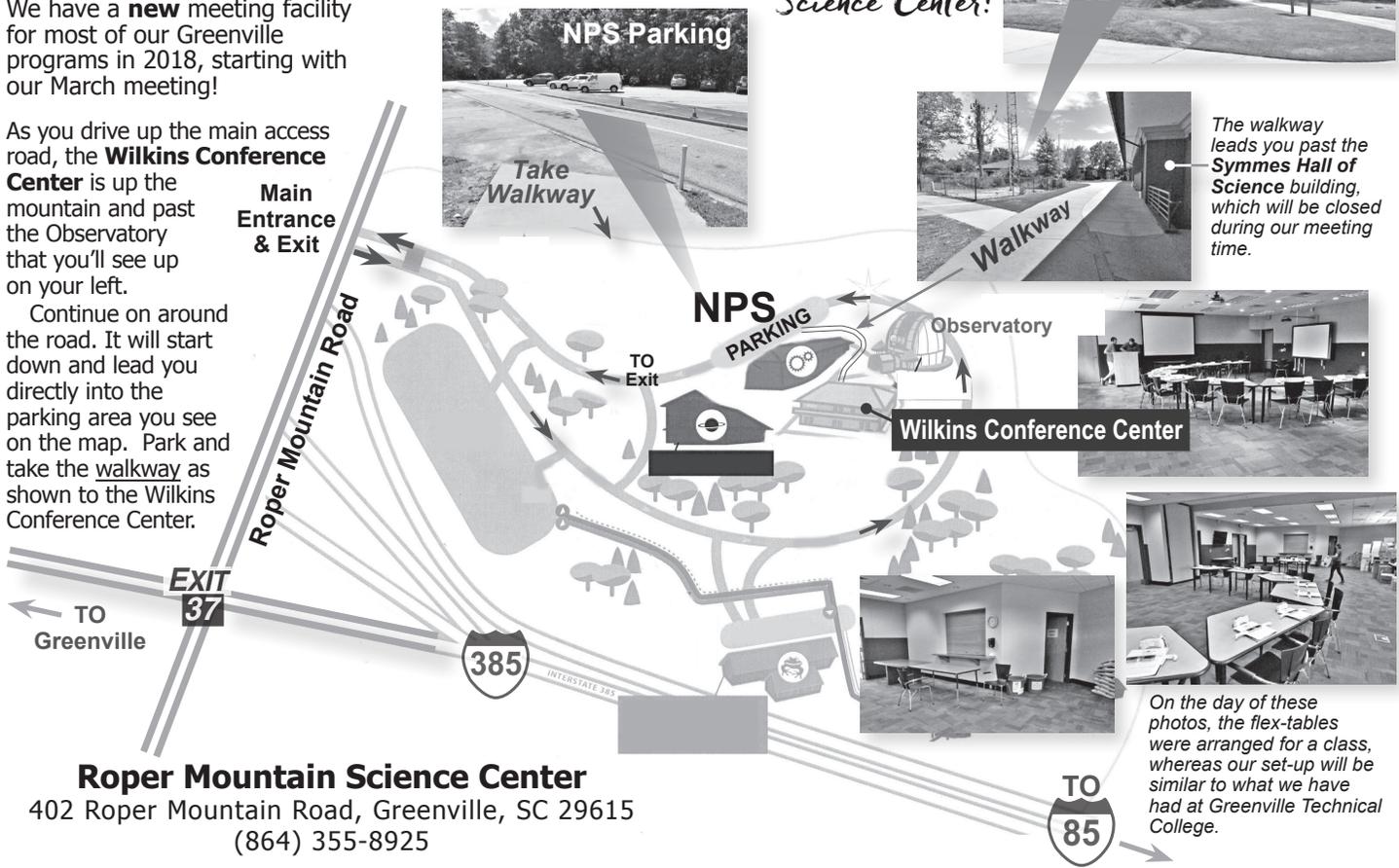
Our **NEW Greenville** meeting location is...

the **WILKINS CONFERENCE CENTER** at Roper Mountain Science Center!

We have a **new** meeting facility for most of our Greenville programs in 2018, starting with our March meeting!

As you drive up the main access road, the **Wilkins Conference Center** is up the mountain and past the Observatory that you'll see up on your left.

Continue on around the road. It will start down and lead you directly into the parking area you see on the map. Park and take the **walkway** as shown to the Wilkins Conference Center.



The walkway leads you past the **Symmes Hall of Science** building, which will be closed during our meeting time.

On the day of these photos, the flex-tables were arranged for a class, whereas our set-up will be similar to what we have had at Greenville Technical College.

Roper Mountain Science Center
402 Roper Mountain Road, Greenville, SC 29615
(864) 355-8925

WorkDays: Thur., March 8
Wed., March 21
April 3, 11, 17, & 18

growings on
at the **GREENHOUSE**

Things are in high gear now at the greenhouse. Scheduled workdays are shown above. Each day we work from 8am to Noon. Come when you can within those hours. If you can't make it on one of the scheduled days, contact Miller Putnam at 325-9700 to schedule a time to work individually.

We need lots of volunteers for these last few days. Remember to dress in layers, bring your water and snacks, if needed, along with gloves and a pair of cross-cut clippers, if you have any.

The GREENHOUSE needs pots again. Please check your storage area and bring us your 4 in. pots (black or green) and your 3/4 gal (trade gallon) and full gallon pots, black only.

Please do not bring other sizes or colors as we cannot use them. **DROP THEM BY** the greenhouse or bring to any meeting where Kitty or Miller Putnam or Judy Seeley will be there to take the pots.



 **Recycling makes you a good steward and keeps greenhouse costs down.**

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*
Email articles, photos (with descriptions and/or captions) and general announcements to <steve@marlowcreativeservices.com>
April issue deadline is **Friday, 9 March 18**

Spring Plant SALE

APRIL 21st
9am - 1pm

I hope your calendars are already marked! Fifteen energetic members have already joined the Planning Committee, but we still have a few positions to fill.

They are:

1. **Apprentice/back-up** to outgoing sale coordinator. Work with Judy Seeley to learn the job for next or future sales. We know how to run a sale and need to train more people to do so.
2. **Take plant inventory** both pre and post-sale: Coordinate an inventory of the plants on the ground the week before the sale, and again the week after the sale. This will require recruiting and training at least two teams of two people each for both days.
3. **Publicity leaders:** Distribute plant sale flyers, write press release and calendar listing and submit to local media. Arrange tv interview spots. Post event on local on-line calendars. Already on the team: Janie Marlow, Janice Weakland, Jessica Hossain. Coordinator needed.
4. **Special Projects:** Identify and invite presenters/demonstrations to the sale. Obtain and sell special products at the sale, such as mycorrhizae, seeds, tee shirts, etc. Open to your ideas.

Contact Judy at <judy_seeley@hotmail.com> to volunteer or inquire about these positions.

By mid-February, the on-line sign-up form for volunteers for the two days of the sale should be up on the website. Go to <www.scnps.org> Click on calendar. Go to April 21. Click on the Plant Sale and you will find a link there to the sign-up sheet. Contact the Volunteers Coordinator, Steve Thompson at <scnpsvolunteer@gmail.com> if you have questions. These sales take about 50 volunteers to run and volunteering is a great way to contribute to NPS. It is also a rewarding and enjoyable time of working with your fellow NPS members.

Special Note: Paid-up NPS members have early entry to the sale at 9:00am. Gate opens to the general public at 9:30am.

David White... Plant Friends

... continued from page 1

- Georgia Aster monitoring in Long Cane District of Sumter National Forest, and
- assessing integrity of Longleaf Pine ecosystems in Francis Marion National Forest.

At his presentation on March 20, David will be talking about some of these recent projects.

Listening to David talk about Longleaf Pines and Shortleaf Pines is like hearing a man talk about his friends. His favorite is the Shortleaf Pine (*Pinus echinata*), which he affectionately refers to as his "totem". David describes it as a "stately, beautiful tree" which he considers a keystone species of primarily the Piedmont and lower Blue Ridge.

"Before the large scale land use change to agriculture and destructive logging practices, it was part of the very common oak-pine forest and woodland ecosystem when fire and native grazers helped maintain open woodland and prairie-like conditions, in which several of our present-day rare plants likely were more common: Smooth Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea laevigata*), ↓



Georgia Aster (*Symphytrichum georgianum*), ↓



and Sunfacing Coneflower (*Rudbeckia heliopsidis*). - [no photo]

— Merike Tamm

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

Spring Plant SALE APRIL 21st



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

Electronic Service Requested.

Upcoming Society Events

... continued from page 1

LAKE OPTION: If you're not wanting to hike, come along for a leisurely tour of Lake Jocassee. We'll cruise deep into the native habitat of *Shortia galacifolia* to explore the explosion of Spring in the Jocassee Gorges. 11:00am to 2:00pm, **Cost: \$35** per person. Email <vmeador@camperdown.org>

Saturday, March 24, 10:00am-12:30'ish

Field Trip: Station Cove • Off Hwy 11 in Oconee County, SC
Leader: Dan Whitten

In late March and April, it is difficult to walk into the Cove without stepping on a wildflower. The largest populations of little sweet betsy (*Trillium cuneatum*) and acute-leaved hepatica — thousands of plants in both cases — are found here.

Large colonies of mayapple and glade fern and one of the densest colonies of blue cohosh in the state all occur here. The rare walking fern, single flowered cancer-root, Gleason's white trillium, a large population of Canada violet, showy orchis, and numerous other interesting wildflower species are also here.

Found on an outlier of the Brevard Belt where the parent rock is amphibolite, the soil pH here is around 6.2 making it possible for seldom seen species in our red clay. The canopy here is also interesting. There is a remnant of an old-growth forest (140 to 175 years old) near the lower falls. Mature basswood, tulip poplar, white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), and yellow buckeye (*Aesculus flava*) are present.

We will meet at the Holly Springs Store dirt parking lot at 9:00 (Hwy 11 & 178). To register, contact Virginia Meador at <vmeador@camperdown.org>

Tuesday, April 17, 7:00pm,

Program: Photos from Fascinating Trips! Landrum Depot, Landrum, SC

Speaker: Bill Robertson, photographer

Join Bill for an evening travelogue to several very photogenic places — some close, some afar! Visit <www.brphoto.net>

SATURDAY, April 21, 9:00am - 1:00pm

Annual Spring PLANT SALE!! **Conestee Park, 840 Mauldin Rd., Greenville, SC**

A three-minute drive south of I-85 near the baseball stadium. Visit our website for more information <www.scnps.org>

We are changing the sale entry rules this year to give 2018 paid members a special chance to make purchases and to encourage new people to join NPS.

The gate will open from **9:00 to 9:30am** for **PAID MEMBERS ONLY**. At 9:30 the gate will open for the general public. The sale will be open to *everyone* until **1:00pm**.

Saturday, May 19, 11:00am

Field Trip: Parks Mill Rocky Shoals Spider Lily Site on Stevens Creek • Plum Branch, SC

Leaders: Bill Stringer, Dan Whitten

South Carolina Native Plant Society in collaboration with the Naturaland Trust group has been able to preserve a wonderful creek full of rocky shoals spider lilies in McCormick County. Stevens Creek is a large, clean stream that eventually flows into the Savannah at Augusta.

Another interesting aspect of the site is an early 20th century water powered grist mill. We are getting a lot of interest in the site by other groups. For more info, go to:

<<http://scnps.org/rocky-shoals-spider-lily-site-protected>>

What started out as a field trip by the Upstate Chapter is evolving into a larger event to include SCNPS statewide as well as other environmental groups. Scheduled for Saturday, May 19, at 11:00, this should be the peak bloom period for this spectacular plant.

More details are pending, but this announcement is a heads-up for you to save the date for what is sure to be a wonderful event. An event description, map, and driving directions will be made available by mid-March. Email <vmeador@camperdown.org>