



UPSTATE happenings

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JUNE 2018

NEWSLETTER OF THE UPSTATE CHAPTER OF THE SC NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Upcoming Society Events

(in Bold)

**Saturday, May 19, 20,
10am to 12 & 1pm to 3,
Open House/Field Trip:
Parks Mill Rocky Shoals
Spider Lily Site on
Stevens Creek, Plum
Branch, SC**

Leader: Bill Stringer

See full article in the May newsletter, Page 3. Also available online at: scnps.org/event/statewide-parks-mill-spider-lily-site-open-house



**Thursday, June 7, 10:00am - 3:00pm
Field Trip: To Roan Mountain for the
Rhododendron Blooming Season
Meet at 8:00am, Ingles Grocery parking
lot, Landrum, SC, at Exit 1 on I-26,
Landrum, SC**

Leader: Bill Robertson, photographer

"Roan Mountain is one of the more fascinating areas I have visited; it is a series of tall grass-covered balds, featuring exceptional 360 degree views in all directions. On a clear day you can view Mt. Mitchell and the Table Rock and Hawksbill peaks at Linville Gorge.

"The trail we will be taking is the AT trail on the Tennessee side, starting at Carvers Gap, taking us through a dark forest of Red Spruce and Fraser Fir, and continuing to Round Bald. Next up is Jane's Bald, and finally to Grassy Ridge Bald. Shortly past Jane's Bald, the AT splits to the left, and we will take the right fork up to Grassy Ridge Bald. From there, we shall head behind Grassy Bald to the end of the ridge, where fantastic views of the Catawba Rhododendrons are seen from the back side of Grassy Ridge.

"The trail is approximately 6 miles round trip. Bring water and food, and always bring/wear layers as this area is completely exposed to the elements, and of course your photography gear."

For those who do not wish to hike the distance, you will be able to retrace your steps back to the parking area. Any part of this trip should be amazing.

Any questions, call Bill Robertson at (864) 244-3456 or email him at brphoto@bellsouth.net

To reserve a spot on this field trip, email Virginia Meador at vmeador@camperdown.org Please include a cell number for last minute communication.

**Wednesday, June 13, 8:00am - Noon
Workday: At the Greenhouse
180 Lakewood Dr., Greenville, SC
(See TOP of page 2.)**

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Saving Our Hemlocks

On Tuesday, June 19, the Native Plant Society will sponsor a special presentation by Donna Shearer, founder and chairman of Save Georgia's Hemlocks. It will provide

- an overview of the importance of the hemlocks,
- the invasive insect that's killing them,
- the options that property owners have for saving their trees, and
- how volunteers can help save trees on our public lands.

There will also be time to address individuals' questions about what to do for their own trees.

America's hemlocks are in danger of almost total extinction due to a rapidly spreading infestation of the hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA), an invasive insect from Asia with no local natural predator. Hemlock stands are of vital importance to wildlife, water and air quality, local economy, and basic quality of life, and their loss would create problems of enormous scope and dire consequences.

Save Georgia's Hemlocks (SGH) is a rapidly growing grassroots organization of energetic volunteers with diverse backgrounds, interests, ages, and origins, united by a common purpose: To save the hemlocks!

Over the past nine years, SGH has helped thousands of property owners and managers save tens of thousands of hemlocks. In 2012, the organization formed a partnership with the U.S. Forest Service to treat hemlocks on the National Forest; and in 2013 they began working with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to save the trees in state parks and wildlife management areas.

So far, SGH has handled almost 9,000 calls on its nationwide Hemlock Help Line, conducted almost 400 classes and presentations, trained 375 Facilitators, and treated or assisted property owners and public land managers to treat 30,000 hemlocks.

It is the vision of SGH that through preservation, conservation, and restoration, there will be a healthy population of hemlocks for future generations — come and learn how you can help save this beautiful and valuable natural resource!

The meeting begins at 7:00pm; come at 6:30 for refreshments and socializing.

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Donna Shearer

Founder and Chairman, Save Georgia's Hemlocks

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

Tues., June 19, 7:00 pm

****Camperdown Academy****
501 Howell Road • Greenville, SC

Haywood Road changes to Howell Road when it crosses E. North Street

growings on
at the GREENHOUSE

Wednesday, June 13th Greenhouse Workday

8am to Noon
(or until it gets too hot.)

180 Lakewood Drive, Greenville.

We will have a greenhouse workday on Wednesday, June 13. Believe it or not, we need to start seeds for 2019! Come out and join the Greenhouse Gang. (*We have the most fun!*) We'll work 8am to Noon or until it gets too hot. The address is 180 Lakewood Dr., Greenville (*just off Mauldin Road*). Bring water, snacks, if needed, a hat, and gloves.

Call Miller Putnam at (864) 327-9700 with questions. Email <judy_seeley@hotmail.com> to be put on the greenhouse notification list.



Hemlocks...

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When she and her husband Mark moved to Dahlonega in 2002, Atlanta native Donna Shearer realized her childhood dream — living in a log cabin in the mountains. With their home situated in a dense hemlock grove along a trout stream, it was particularly troubling when in 2005 they discovered their evergreen sanctuary was threatened by an infestation of the hemlock woolly adelgid. Rather than give up, they began researching the hemlock problem and treating the trees on their own property. The successful results motivated Donna to share the benefit of their knowledge and experience with others, and in 2009 she and a small group of volunteers founded **Save Georgia's Hemlocks**.

Donna and SGH were honored for their hemlock conservation efforts as recipients of the 2012 Cox Conserves Heroes award, which carried with it a \$10,000 grant the organization is using to continue and increase its educational and charitable service outreach.

★★★★★

UPSTATE happenings

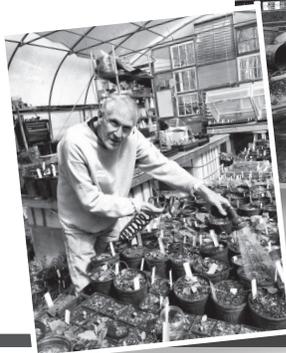
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July issue deadline is **Friday, 8 June 18**



Pictured are Dan Whitten (left), Melanie Rullman (Center), and Ric Barnet, presidents of the Upstate Native Plant Society (SCNPS), Save Our Saluda (SOS), and Upstate Master Naturalist Association (UMNA), respectively.

On May 1, 2018 we had a joint workday with Save Our Saluda, Upstate Master Naturalist Association and the Native Plant Society on an eco-agricultural project.

There is a plot of land on the N. Saluda River just south of Marietta that is owned by the Naturaland Trust and is being leased for farming. **The goal is to create a demonstration of how agriculture and water quality protection can be accomplished together.**

Twelve people joined that day to protect woody plants already planted for a riparian buffer from beaver destruction and to put more plants donated by the Native Plant Society in the ground. Great progress was made and much more work needs to be accomplished. Watch for another joint workday in the future. —Dan Whitten

Plant Sale



THANK YOU!

Thank You Wonderful Volunteers!

The Spring Native Plant sale on April 21st was a great success due to the 80 volunteers who helped grow plants at the Putnam's greenhouse and/or worked to publicize and put on the sale. From planting the first seeds to toting the last left-over plant back to the greenhouse on Saturday afternoon, it was the many willing NPS volunteers who got the job done.

Thank you all for helping send **3,068 native plants** out to local homes, for helping educate people about native plants, and for taking care of our customers with smiles and efficiency. There were no long lines this year! The sale netted **\$12,590** which will keep our upstate chapter running for another year. (In addition to the expenses of putting on the plant sale, we need funds for meeting room rental, meeting refreshments, speaker honoraria, storage, special projects like the Parks Mill Rocky Shoals Spider Lily site, education, printing, postage, field trips, advocacy, and scholarships.



Our Upstate Chapter has **238 members**, so 33% of our members worked on some aspect of the sale. That is impressive! Be sure you thank the following folks when you see them. The plant sale planning committee included: Cathy Bergin, Diane Coiner, Mary Margaret Dragoun, Betsy George, Sally Gurrie, Bob Healy, Richard Ivy, Susan Lochridge, Janie Marlow, Steve Marlow, Kitty Putnam, Miller Putnam, Bill Stringer, Ted Thern, Steve Thompson, Suzanne Valencia, and Dan Whitten, with Judy Seeley as Sale Coordinator.



Greenhouse and sale volunteers include Suzanne Alwine, Nick Anastos, Joe and Joanne Barnett, Kelby Beezer, Betty Bishop, Patricia Brandes, Peggy Brock, Cynthia Bunton, Karen Burnett, Brenda Cleveland, Jim Corey, Ed Davidson, Ed Fenton, Rebecca Foss, Susan Fretz, Denise and David Frick, Julius Gunter, Velma Guyton, Alice Guzick, Kathy Harrington, Amy Henderson, Patti Hester, Asa and Brenda Hill, Lisa Holbrook, Cheryl and Steve Holding, Jessica Hossain, Rick Huffman, Jane and Stan Hurt, Steve Jones, Jenny and Richard Kingman, Abby Lawson, Doug Lockard, Lynne Lucas, Virginia and Don Meador, Marge Moon, Meg Pearson, Erica Pickering, Lisa Rouhselange, Dick Schelat, Bill Sharpton, Tom Simpson, Ann and Steve Smith, Dale Stone, Betty Thern,

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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.



Team shoppers at April's
Spring Plant Sale!

Upcoming Society Events

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Tuesday, June 19, 7:00pm,
Program: *Saving Our Hemlocks*
Greenville, SC
Speaker: *Donna Shearer*

Tuesday, July 17, 7:00pm,
Program: *A Look at Carolina Butterflies!*
Landrum Depot, Landrum, SC
Speaker: *David Ahrenholz, MD*



No Program / Meeting in August...
Enjoy all the remaining days of Summer!

Tuesday, September 18, 7:00pm,
Program: *Special Plants of the
Jocassee Gorges • Greenville, SC*
Speaker: *Patrick McMillan, Ph.D*

Tuesday, October 16, 7:00pm,
Program: *Being a Native Plant Advocate*
Greenville, SC
Speaker: *Bill Jones, owner of Carolina
Native Nursery, Burnsville, NC*

Tuesday, November 20, 7:00pm,
Program: *Ethnobotany, How Native
Plants are used in Malaysia*
SWU, Central, SC
Speaker: *Dixie Dramel, Botanist/
Curator of Clemson Herbarium*

Tuesday, December 11, 7:00pm,
Christmas Social/Party!
Greenville, SC

***** Founder of the Kudzu Coalition and Trees Coalition dies



Newt Hardie

This month our trees lost one of their strongest allies — Newt Hardie died on May 5, 2018. He was 83. His last presentation to the Native Plant Society was in January 2017, in Landrum, entitled "If a Tree Could Talk..."

A longtime employee with the Milliken Company, Hardie will perhaps be best remembered for his efforts to protect native trees from invasive species, especially kudzu. In fact, it is said that Newt worked harder after he retired than most people do their entire lives.

In 2004, Hardie founded the **Kudzu Coalition**, a group that pioneered herbicide-free kudzu removal. Kudzu Coalition later expanded to become the **Trees Coalition**, a non-profit organization that, through Newt's fundraising efforts, grew to include paid landscapers as well as committed volunteers. Through Newt's leadership the organization educated and inspired communities to care for trees, especially those planted along streets.

Newt was incredibly gifted as a visionary and an organizer of human energies. The Coalitions included garden clubs, local and regional conservation groups, neighborhood associations, churches, businesses, and colleges, and together their efforts have made a lasting impact on Spartanburg's streets, parks, and green spaces. An inspiration to us all.

Plant Sale

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Karen Thompson, Tammy Tucker, Ali Von Hofe, and Morgan Williams. From the Clemson Natural Resources Graduate Student Association, we had Stephen Harris, Sam Silknetter, and Katie Teets. Riverside High School students Rayne Skilliu and Morgan Williams also came to help. We also had volunteers from the current Master Gardeners class at Clemson. *(My apologies if I missed anyone)*

Our style of "flash mob" four-hour plant sale takes a lot of coordination and teamwork. All **80 of you volunteers** innovated, worked together, smiled, and GOT IT DONE! It was a joy to work with each of you.



Judy Seeley
Plant Sale
Coordinator
(retired)

PS: We have an opening for a 2019 plant sale chair or co-chairs! 😊