



Membership Form ENCLOSED. Stick with SCNPS and Connect with the Natives!

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

UPSTATE happenings

MARCH 2017 NEWSLETTER OF THE UPSTATE CHAPTER OF THE SC NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Upcoming Society Events (in Bold)

Wednesday, March 1, 9am-12noon
Propagation Work Day at the
Greenhouse! • Greenville
(See complete article on Page 4.)

Fri-Sun, Mar 3-4-5, 2017, Southern
Home & Garden Show, TD Convention
Center, Greenville

Attn: All returning and NEW Booth volunteers! — Sign up online at scnps.org/events/ or at February's meeting! You can also contact Steve Marlow directly below.

You do not have to be a botanical expert. Simply greet people, hand out flyers and invite attendees to our field trips and monthly programs.

There are always a minimum of two volunteers in our booth, so you're never working alone. Shifts are 3 hours and the times are listed on the website above.

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

Email steve@marlowcreativeservices.com or call (864) 430-2604

Wednesday, March 15, 2:00pm
Rudy Mancke, Program: "Springtime in the Mountains"

Programs of the Tryon Garden Club are held at FENCE (Foothills Equestrian Nature Center), 3381 Hunting Country Road, Tryon, NC 28782. The public is invited.

Monday, March 20, Oconee Bell Boat Trip 11am - 2pm, Lake Jocassee
Meet at Devils Fork SP Visitors Center (breezeway) near boat ramp parking at 10:50 am • Cost \$35

Leader: Kay Wade

This is approximately a 3 hour pontoon boat tour to see a special community of Oconee Bells, hopefully in bloom! Some walking involved, but not strenuous.

Bring lunch, water, and a walking stick. Boots with ankle protection are also a good idea. Boat rides feel cooler than the ambient temperature, so consider that when getting ready for the day.

To reserve a spot, email Virginia Meador **by March 16th** virginia_meador@hotmail.com (Rain date: Monday, March 27th)

... continued on page 4

Stevens Creek Wildflowers

Miccousukee gooseberry, bald cypress, the rare lanceleaf trillium. Do I have your attention yet? Add in the faded trillium and over a dozen more rarely seen wildflowers and you'll have an inkling of what's in store for us on our "field trip" to **Stevens Creek Heritage Preserve**. (We'll have a sidetrip hopefully to the Parks Mill property to see the Rocky Shoals spider lilies because Dan likes to "kill two birds with one stone!")

But first to Stevens Creek. A unique niche initially written about in 1959 by Dr. Alan Radford, et al, this relic plant community was left over from the last Ice Age. With a north facing bluff and marble rock, 15 rare plants as well as the rarely-seen-in-SC Webster salamander have been found and studied there.

The "feature plant" for this field trip, however, according to Dan Whitten, would have to be the Miccosukee gooseberry, *Ribes echinellum*. With whitish or pale yellow flowers in the spring and purple spine-covered berries later in the summer, this federally threatened shrub has only been found in two areas: north Florida on Lake Miccosukee and McCormick County, SC. How strange that this fascinating plant is only found in places hundreds of miles apart. (According to one source, the disappearance of the Mastodons led to the Miccosukee gooseberry's decline. A story for another day?) In addition, soil with high calcium content creates ideal conditions for the largest population of the rare lanceleaf trillium (*T. lancifolium*), faded trillium (*T. discolor*) and southern nodding trillium (*T. rugelii*).

Being the most southern location for many northern species and the most northern location for many southern species makes Stevens Creek the ideal location for a tremendous display of a wide variety of wildflowers.

Join us at our March 21st meeting when Dan will entertain us with the help of Bill Sharpton's amazing photos of Stevens Creek and his own special rendering of his visits to another of South Carolina's Special Places.

— Betsy George

Dan Whitten

President, SCNPS Upstate Chapter
SC Statewide Certified Master Naturalist

Bill Sharpton

Photographer • Parks Mill Committee
Upstate Chapter Board Member (retired)

Tuesday, March 21, 7:00 pm

University Center: Greenville Technical College
225 South Pleasantburg Dr, Greenville

Photo above of the Miccosukee
gooseberry by Bill Sharpton

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

→ **Already renewed? Then pass along the enclosed Membership form to a friend!**

Spring Plant Sale Coming Up Soon!

APRIL 22nd



We need YOU

as a volunteer!

Our Spring Plant Sale is in the works for **Saturday, April 22**, with setup on Friday April 21. It takes up to 50 member volunteers to put on the sale and we need *you* to be one of them!

The plant sale is our biggest outreach event and major fundraiser of the year. Get in on the satisfaction of putting on a great event! We need folks to help a few days before the sale to label and stage the plants at the greenhouse.

On Friday we need people to help bring the plants from the greenhouse to Conestee Park, and folks in shifts all day Friday to set-up the plants and site.

On Saturday we need volunteers in shifts between 7:30 am and 4 pm to set up, run the sale, and tear it down afterwards. Details are at the website: <http://scnps.org/2017-plant-sale-volunteer/>

You can sign-up at a meeting or you can go to www.scnps.org and sign-up on line. Just go to the website, click on Activities, and then the calendar of events. Go to April 22 and you will find all the information about the sale along with a link to the sign-up form. You can also volunteer by contacting Steve Thompson, the Volunteer Coordinator for the sale, at scnpsvolunteer@gmail.com

For the plant sale planning committee, we are still looking for a Site Manager for Saturday, a Volunteer Refreshments coordinator, and people to help with publicity.

Please contact Judy Seeley at judy_seeley@hotmail.com if you can fill one of those planning positions.

UPSTATE happenings

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www.scnps.org

Dan Whitten, President
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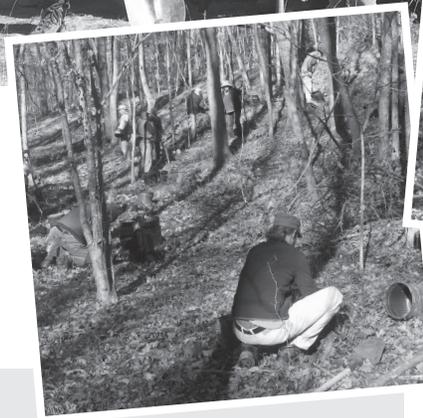
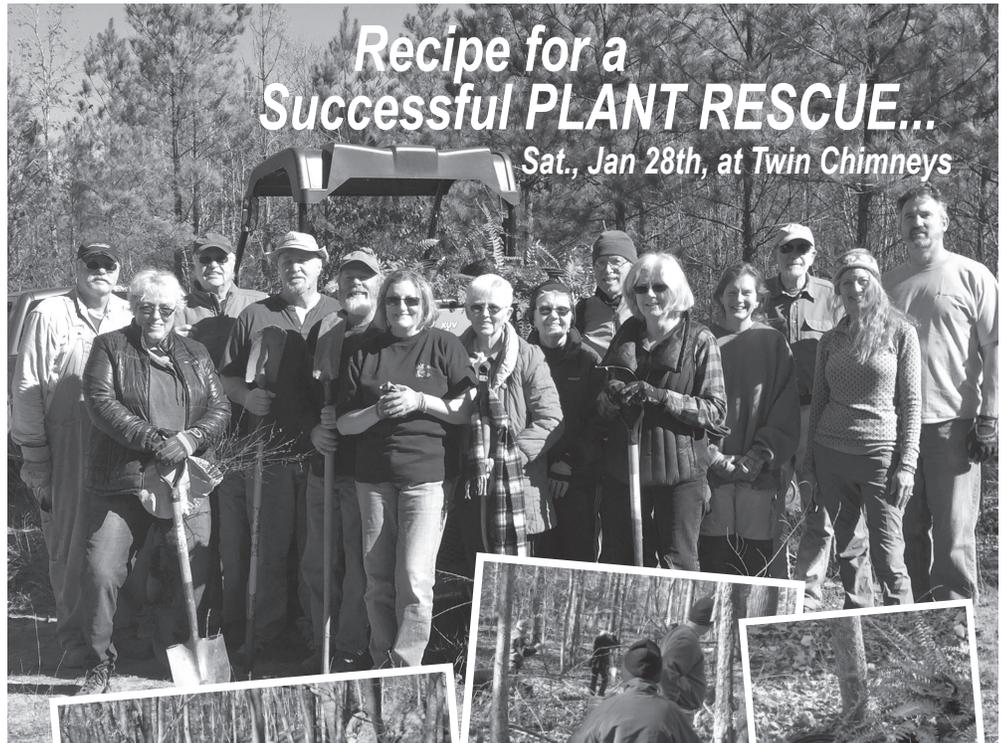
Steve Marlow, Editor

Please email articles, photos (with descriptions and/or captions) and general announcements to steve@marlowcreativeservices.com

Deadline for the April issue is **Friday, 10 March 2017**

Recipe for a Successful PLANT RESCUE...

Sat., Jan 28th, at Twin Chimneys



- Pick one frigid January day; set aside
- Mix together 15 or so genuine & willing native plant volunteers at the rescue site
- Haul in one heavy, front-end loader
- Scatter 25 dozen 1 and 3 gallon pots over a wide area of the landscape
- Dig, pot & load; dig, pot & load for 2 hours, then smile all the way home — well done!



Dear Native Plant Society Member,

I have recently come across an unusual and totally *painless* way to make monetary donations to the Native Plant Society as we go about our daily lives. Many of us are familiar and use the online giant, Amazon.com, but did you know there is a version of Amazon called **smile.amazon.com**? Smile. Amazon is a program that has been set up to enable you, the purchaser, to have a small fraction of your purchase price be donated to the non-profit of your choice.

To use this feature when buying something from Amazon, just sign into smile.amazon.com. Go to your settings under your name and find Smile Amazon. Follow their directions and

choose **SC Native Plant Society** from their list of non-profits. All the prices will be the same under Smile.com

Once you sign up, your selected non-profit (SC Native Plant Society) will show up in the banner at the top. At any given time, you can click on the SCNPS's name and see how much you are donating. It won't be much, but if we get enough people to use Smile.com, it will be a nice tidy sum for the Society and it will be painless.

— Miller Putnam

smile amazon com

Certificate *in Native Plant Studies...*



...is an on-going program beginning with **Basic Botany**, a pre-requisite to all the other courses.

Here is the 2017 Certificate schedule of courses through the first half of the year:



- March 11 — **Basic Botany**
- March 15 — **Native Plant Propagation**
- March 18 — **Basic Horticulture**
- April 1 — **Mountain Plant Communities**
- April 8 — **Medicinal Plants**
- April 15 — **Spring Herbaceous Plant I.D.**
- April 29 — **Principles of Sustainable Landscaping**
- June 10 — **Tree Identification**
- June 17 — **Ferns**
- June 24 — **Natural Plant Communities**

☞ Register early! Classes are limited.
To register, go to:
<http://www.clemson.edu/public/scbg/education/certificate-program.html>

★★★★★

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES AT



HIGHLANDS BIOLOGICAL STATION
An Inter-Institutional Center of the University of North Carolina
265 N. 6th St., Highlands, NC 28741 TEL: (828) 526-2602

Hello All,
Highlands Biological Station is a great place for in-depth study of flora, fauna, and natural communities.



2017 Schedule Accredited Courses

- **Creatively Communicating Biology & Ecology** (May 8-13) with Dr. Hannah Rogers, Columbia University
- **Darwin and the Origin of Species: A Field Course** (May 8-20) with Dr. James Costa, Western Carolina University & HBS
- **Landscape Conservation of Amphibians** (May 15-27) with Dr. Bill Peterman, The Ohio State University
- **Grasses (Poaceae) of the Southern Appalachians** (May 22-27) with Dr. Paul McKenzie, US Fish & Wildlife Service
- **Biology & Identification of Ferns** (May 29-June 3) with Dr. Joey Shaw, University of Tennessee-Chattanooga
- **Flora of the Blue Ridge** (June 5-17) with Dr. Paul Manos, Duke University
- **General Ecology** (June 12-24) with Dr. Thomas Martin, Western Carolina University
- **Conservation Biology in the Field** (June 26-July 8) with Dr. Peter White, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
- **Introduction to Southern Appalachian Fungi** (July 17-29) with Dr. Rich Baird, Mississippi State University & Jay Justice, Arkansas Mycological Society
- **Forest Ecosystems of the Southern Appalachians** (July 24-August 5) with Dr. Stephanie Jeffries, North Carolina State University, Dr. Alan Weakley, UNC-Chapel Hill, & Dr. Julie Tuttle, Duke University

- **Southern Appalachian Mayflies, Stoneflies, & Caddisflies** (July 31-August 12) with Dr. John Morse, Clemson University
- **Wetland Plant Communities** (August 7-12) with Dr. Dwayne Estes, Botanical Research Institute of Texas & Austin Peay State University

Workshops (Not for credit)

- **Wildflowers and Waterfalls** (May 1-5) with Dr. Timothy Spira, Clemson University
- **Mountains Piled Upon Mountains: Exploring western North Carolina through William Bartram's Travels** (May 15-20) with Brent Martin, The Wilderness Society
- **Macrophotography: A Bug's-Eye View of Nature** (June 5-9) with Dr. Kefyn Catley, Western Carolina University
- **Gardening with Native Plants in Highlands** (July 10-14) with Dr. Larry Mellichamp, University of North Carolina-Charlotte
- **Rain Garden Design** (July 17-18) with Russell Funderburk, Highlands Botanical Garden
- **Mushrooms of the Carolinas** (August 14-18) with Alan & Arleen Bessette & Michael Hopping
- **Tree Identification** (October 18-20) with Russell Funderburk, Highlands Botanical Garden

For more information, GO TO:
<http://highlandsbiological.org/summercourses/>



South Carolina
 Native Plant Society
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 Norris, SC 29667
 Upstate Chapter

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Upcoming Society Events

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Tuesday, March 21, 7:00pm, University Center, Greenville Technical College, Greenville, SC

Program: "Stevens Creek HP and Parks Mill on Stevens Creek"

Speakers: Dan Whitten/Bill Sharpton
 (See write-up Page 1.)

Tuesday, April 4, Field Trip: Chestnut Ridge Heritage Preserve, Old Grove Road • Leader: Dan Whitten

(More information next month.)

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

Speaker: Amy Blackwell

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 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, 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

Friday, June 23, Field Trip: Ferns at Pearson's Falls, Saluda, NC

Leader: Virginia Meador

Saturday, July 8, Field Trip: Mt. Mitchell to see the Purple Fringed Orchids
Leader: Rick Huffman

On February 8th, an enthusiastic crew of greenhouse volunteers potted up ferns, planted seeds, and moved plants at the Putnam greenhouse. It was great to see both regulars from the GG (Greenhouse Gang) and four new volunteers! Next date is **Wednesday, March 1** (See article at right.)



March 1st
Greenhouse Propagation WORKDAY!
 at the **growing** on
 the **GREENHOUSE**
Plants are growing...

...and popping up at the Putnam greenhouse in anticipation of the April 22 Spring Plant Sale. The plants want to prosper, but they need a little TLC from NPS volunteers. Join the Greenhouse Gang on **Wednesday, March 1**, between 9am and Noon. (Come later than 9 if you need to!) We will be potting up divisions of donated plants, possibly starting seeds, learning how to run the irrigation system, and moving plants to the upper garden.

There are jobs for all skill levels and volunteering is a great way to learn propagation techniques. We also need you to donate divisions of native plants from your property. Bring them on March 1st



or let Miller Putnam know what you have to share at <mill-erputnam@gmail.com>

Amy Henderson is our Greenhouse Volunteers Coordinator. Contact her at <amyjoygarden@gmail.com> to sign up for March 1 or to be put on the notification list for the Greenhouse Gang!