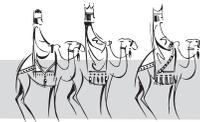




# UPSTATE happenings

NEWSLETTER OF THE UPSTATE CHAPTER  
OF THE SC NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY  
[www.scnps.org](http://www.scnps.org)

December 2019



## Upcoming Society Programs, Events & Field Trips (in Bold) ± Approximate time(s)

*Of Interest...* Wednesday, January 15, 2:00pm

**An Inventory of the Significant Natural Areas of Polk County**

Published by David Campbell with Pam Torlina

Presented by the Tryon Garden Club • Guests are welcome at FENCE, 3381 Hunting Country Road, Tryon, NC

**Tuesday, January 21, 7:00pm, Program: To the West and Back — A Journey that Surpassed All Expectations!**

Landrum Depot, Landrum, SC  
Speakers: Dan / Sherrie Whitten

**Tuesday, February 18, 7:00pm, Program: Floral Color Diversification: the role of pollinators and abiotic factors**  
Tri-County Technical College, Pendleton, SC  
Speaker: Matt Koski

**Tuesday, March 17, 7:00pm, Program: "Special Places to Explore in and around the Upstate"**  
Camperdown Academy, Greenville, SC  
Speakers: Bill Robertson/Pam Schucker  
These longtime hiking buddies will share pictures and anecdotes about some of their favorite places.

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**If You Can't Beat 'Em, ...Eat 'Em**



Dan Whitten

Golden Bamboo, *Phyllostachys aurea*, has the dubious honor of being the first of a proposed series under the above title.

Most of us know of a patch somewhere down the road apiece and some may have it on their property. If this plant grows on your land, then lots of luck getting rid of it. I'll wager that if you cut it down and staked out some sheet metal roofing over it to kill it, why it would really raise the roof!

So on Earth Day, I went out to

... continued on page 2, "Foraging On"



Come Join the Reindeer...  
...Good Food, & Great Fellowship!

- Bring finger foods to share...
- We'll provide drinks

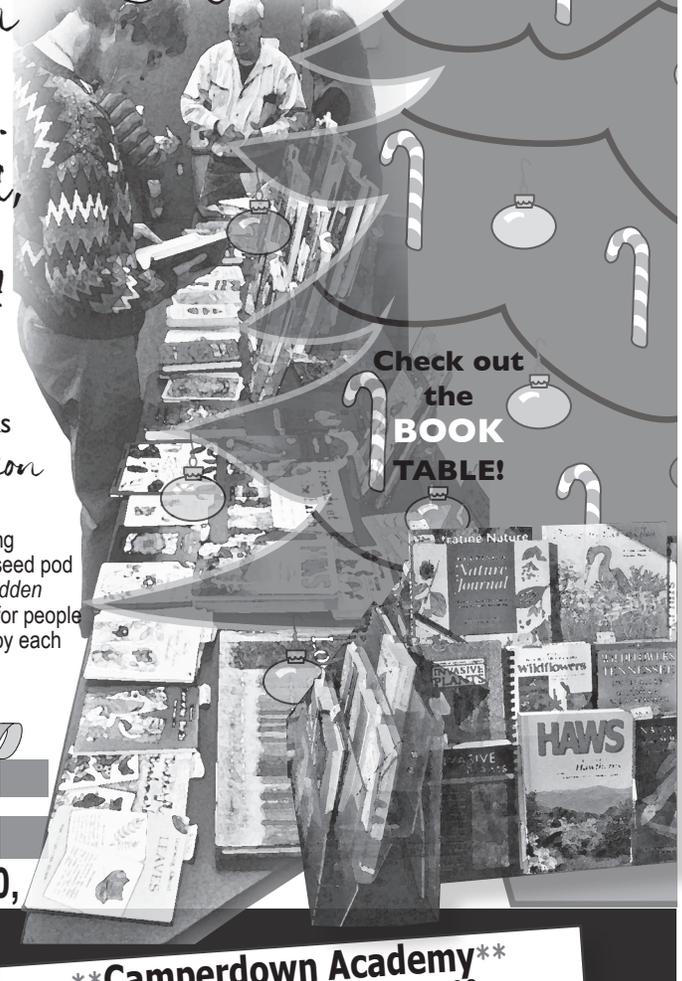
Seed Identification Activity!!

Bring a seed pod or interesting ? to show. The seeds/seed pod to put out (with the answer hidden under/beside the specimen) for people to peruse while we eat & enjoy each other's company.



**Tuesday, Dec. 10,**

**7:00 pm**



Check out the **BOOK TABLE!**

**\*\*Camperdown Academy\*\***  
65 Verdae Commons Dr • Greenville, SC

ACROSS Laurens Road from Bradshaw Mazda (2512 Laurens Rd)



# Foraging On with Dan Whitten

a patch nearby that had been partially cut down along the roadside because of encroachment of vehicular traffic. There were shoots of all sizes sprouting up. I cut down with my pruning shears all I could and saved the ones 8 to 14 inches in height (#1) in my reusable shopping bag.

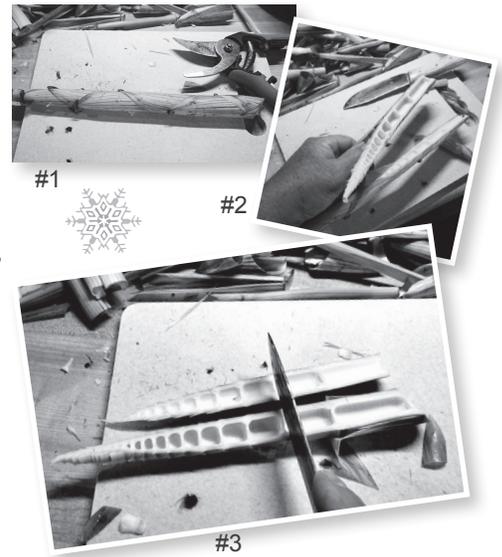
At home I began the canning process of boiling jars and lids and rings, heating up some White Vinegar mixed with equal parts water and slicing the shoots lengthwise (#2). I stuck my thumb below the point of the tender growth and worked down the stem separating it from

the leaf material. These jointed halves went into a large pot that I covered with water and brought to a boil. I poured the water off and began stuffing into jars all that they will hold. I also cut off any internodes over 1 inch long (#3) deciding they would be too tough. When the jar was crammed full, I spooned in about 1/8 cup sugar and poured the vinegar and water mixture to the top and sealed.

After a week or so on the shelf, pickled bamboo was ready to serve. One of my grandsons ate almost a whole jar of it last year while the rest of us hurried to grab a piece or two.

My hope is that this appetizer catches on, and one day we will have a problem finding any from which to make snacks.

—DW



**South Carolina  
Native Plant Society**  
PO Box 1311  
Chester, SC 29706



UPSTATE Chapter



Photo: Doug Lockard

Sign up for our next Greenhouse **Propagation Workshop**, Sat., Dec. 7th. (See details below.)



## Greenhouse Propagation Workshop

Saturday, Dec 7th - \$5 Materials fee

Class limit: 12

Miller Putnam is offering his hands-on propagation workshop on **Sat., Dec. 7th, 9am to Noon** at the Greenhouse, 180 Lakewood Drive, Greenville.

Learn about seed sprouting, taking cuttings, making divisions and a variety of other propagation techniques you can use at home. Preference given to Upstate members who signed up to be Plant Propagators for plant sales.

Email <judy\_seeley@hotmail.com> to reserve a spot. Call Miller at (864) 325-9700 with questions. Go home with *new skills and some new plants!*



## Do you know what Tiny Letters are? Do you follow the SCNPS Facebook page?

I keep asking Society members if they get the **Tiny Letters** that we send out regularly by email, and folks often give me a blank look. **Tiny Letters** are notices of upcoming SCNPS events. They are a great way to learn about special events, field trips, meetings, and other spontaneous activities. You should be signed up to receive these notices and reminders.

However, if you're NOT receiving them, you're missing out! It only takes a minute to get plugged in. Go to the NPS website at <<https://www.scnps.org>> On the Home page, below the moving photos, it says "Receive our email notices." Put your email address in the box just below, and you will start receiving **Tiny Letters**. (It's possible

they may go to your spam, so be on the lookout for them.)

— Judy Seeley <judy\_seeley@hotmail.com>

### \*\*Plant Keepers Update\*\*

After numerous discussions and thoughtful consideration, it has been decided to retain all of the plants leftover from the Fall Sale at the SCNPS Nursery for the winter months. A training workshop was held on Nov 4th for volunteers to help maintain the plants in that location through the winter and until the Spring Sale. We're still looking for a few volunteers that can work one shift per month, and another workshop is planned. Please contact <[Doug.Lockard@email.com](mailto:Doug.Lockard@email.com)> (864)-908-4461, if you'd like to attend and help out.

For those that expressed willingness to be a Plant Keeper at their homes, THANK-YOU, and we'll be back to you before the Spring Sale to organize the summer maintenance.

