

UPSTATE happenings

NEWSLETTER OF THE UPSTATE CHAPTER
OF THE SC NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
www.scnps.org

June 2020



IMPORTANT NOTE

Again, out of concern for all members, customers and the public, some planned events and venues await rescheduling. The next few weeks will be telling in how many venues, businesses, schools, etc., will actually open and/or allow the general public to plan and attend such venues. We hope to return soon to the normalcy of enjoying our pastime, as well as the camaraderie of our fellow plant lovers. Our greenhouses are going strong, and there are opportunities to buy and plant what you desire in this planting season.

We are also working on our SCNPS Upstate Chapter website, along with Tiny Letters, to continue to keep you informed and provide additional information and opportunities related to our mutual hobby.

The calendar below details planned events. More information is contained in relevant articles and will be announced through Mini Notes (email) throughout the summer.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS, EVENTS & FIELD TRIPS

June 16th at 7pm: Upstate Chapter SCNPS program. See article on Page 1.

July 11 Mt. Mitchell TBD: Tentatively planned, but final decision will depend upon the current situation. See article on Page 4 for details

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Please wish a warm welcome to our new members:

Nancy Barton: Greenville
Leslie Brown: Travelers Rest
Mark Carlson Spartanburg (returning member)
Ava and Ron Chitty: Greenville
Courtney and Rob Christiansen: Ninety Six
Cassie Davis: Central
Susan Coleman Fedor: Saluda NC
Melisa Garvais: Greenville

(Continued on Page 4)

PARKS MILL LILIES UPDATE

We reported earlier that the Parks Mill Lilies Open House scheduled for May 16 had been cancelled due to COVID 19 concerns. Then on May 1, heavy rains caused a huge high-water event, with the stream running seven feet over normal level. We made a trip to the site on May 14 to inspect the damage and shoot photos for a "virtual" Open House for the website. We were pleasantly surprised that the lilies had made a significant partial recovery. They had straightened back up and had started to bloom. The plants were shorter, and the blooms were smaller and less plentiful, but it looks like a full recovery will be possible.

Watch for information soon on how to access our Virtual Parks Mill Lilies Open House 2020 on the Internet.

-----Thanks, Parks Mill Management Team



UPSTATE CHAPTER SCNPS PROGRAM

Starting this month (June 16th at 7 PM), an electronic version of an Upstate Chapter SCNPS program will be available for viewing live on the Internet. We will be sending out a Tiny Letter email a day before with the meeting ID and password. (If you're not already receiving Tiny Letters, go to the scnps.org homepage and sign up to receive email updates.) It won't be necessary to install Zoom in order to view the program. Dan Whitten and Bill Stringer will host the program, with Bill presenting on the Fig Buttercup. This will be in lieu of Janie Marlow's program on the Janie's Prairie surveys. The program will be recorded, and we will attempt to post it on our new Upstate website as well.

-----Dan Whitten

NEW STEWARDS OF SUBURBIA

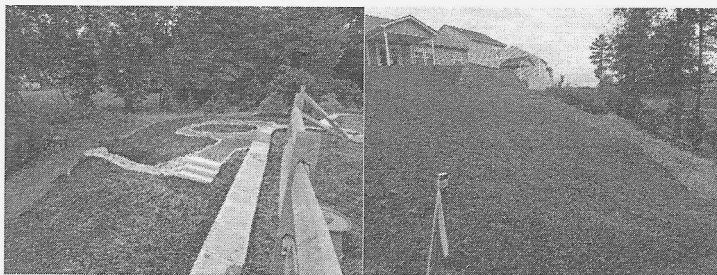
With over 50 one-on-one sales so far this year, our volunteer Sales Team made lots of new friends at the nursery and have some great new stories. In April one Upstate member, after a significant purchase of plants, sent a lovely thank you note to Amy Henderson, who facilitated the sale. In it were some truly gratifying and inspirational words that we wanted to share with you. Kyoko says what's in the heart of many of us with elegant simplicity. She promised to keep us informed on her progress at recovering nature in her suburban yard.

"We purchased a new house in a Spartanburg County subdivision and moved from Virginia in February of 2019. We don't have acres of land like some, but we are passionate about seeing what nature does and appreciating it in every part of our life. We are surrounded by neighbors who mostly believe in manicured gardens with ornamental flowers and no weeds, no bugs. I grew up in Japan where meadows with dandelions and clovers are considered pretty and having a lawn around the house is not a common practice. My husband and I believe we can make a difference even though we are limited in what we can do to bring back the nature in our yard. If we can do it, then so many people in the US who live in subdivisions with HOAs can also do it.

When we moved in, all we had was the front yard with a few plants and a sloping backyard with a vast lawn and short retaining wall and no plants. In our attempt to create a suburban native landscape we visited with Ms. Lyn Pesterfield of Boiling Springs, who proved to be a storehouse of inspiration and innovation (see video at <https://youtube/Sj3JTdcx0Yo>). We also decided to invite Jon Fritz to help us develop a plan and together we came up with a fantastic design solution that would put us on a path to achieving our expectations while falling within the HOA regulations."

"In this process we've learned that we need to change our minds and our eyes before changing our landscape. To appreciate what we already have instead of spending countless hours and paying a high price pursuing what we don't have, and we cannot get, and in which process destroying what little we have left. It always amazes me to see how effortlessly nature works out by itself where it is and in its own timing. Nature is diverse, every plant has its meaning, every event has its purpose, all things work together, even death, and it is peaceful all together. Can we live that way, too?"

-----Kyoko Niwa Pinson



OUR INCREDIBLE GREENHOUSE VOLUNTEERS

We entered 2020 with about 3000 plants in various stages of development at our nursery. After forming a new steering committee to manage greenhouse and nursery operations we set a goal to grow or procure some 5000 plants for this year's spring sale. With a semi-crazed scramble in the two months of the year, we spent over \$7,000 on some 1500 plants and propagated from seed, root or stem, and/or up-potted from digs and rescues, another 1000 plants. We met our goal with room to spare. Just in time to cancel the sale due to the Coronavirus!

Normally we sell about 2/3 of our inventory in the spring sale, so this year we had to make some hasty modifications to the nursery in order to maintain that level of inventory through the heat of the summer.

Concerned about failing to meet one of our Society's core values of providing hard-to-find native plants to our community, the team was not satisfied to rest on its laurels until a fall sale. So we developed a process to facilitate sales during the 'Lock-Down'. So far this year the team has managed over 40 transactions totaling almost 1,200 plants for a net income of over \$8,500. There remain over 4,000 plants in inventory! It's probably worth mentioning here that our expenses for the year have already been met, so every future plant sale will go towards supporting other important Society projects.

We can't say too much about our incredible volunteers. It takes a tremendous amount of effort to meet this challenge, but if you try to praise our volunteers, to a one they'll tell you they not only enjoy the work but also draw a tremendous amount of reward and satisfaction from the work itself. Our volunteers work mostly alone or in small numbers, so it seems a tranquil enterprise; it's lovely in the nursery in the mornings and around dusk this time of year. If you want some quality time outdoors, and want to make a difference in our world, we invite you to reach-out to Doug.Lockard@email.com (864-908-4461), Judy_Seeley@hotmail.com (864-855-6396), or Kay Stafford (703-350-8774) to talk about fun and interesting opportunities available with the Greenhouse Team.

A very special thanks to Miller & Kitty Putnam, Susan Lochridge, Judy Seeley, Kay Stafford, Becca Foss, Cathy McCurdy, Doug Pratt, Kathy Harrington, Margaret Causey, Mary Margaret Dragoun, Pam Barbour, Diane Creaton, Jon Fritz, Amy Henderson, Bill Stringer, Tom Simpson, Cathy Bergin, Ruth Benson and Virginia Meador all of whom have been particularly active during this challenging period.

-----Doug Lockard, Secretary, Greenhouse Steering Committee



PLANT SALES FOR JUNE 2020

REMINDER: Dear Members: The Upstate Greenhouse Steering Committee has worked out a temporary, limited way for members only to purchase plants from the greenhouse. It must be done by appointment. Link to plant list and prices is: <https://scnps.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/SCNPS-Upstate-Price-List-11Apr20.pdf>

The article below explains the new greenhouse access process:

After a successful sales month in May, the Greenhouse Gang and the Maintenance & Operations Team are prepared for sustained sales operations throughout Summer and Fall, while we are hosting an unusually high number of plants. Normally we would have sold 75% of our plant inventory during the Spring Sale; however, this year due to the cancellation, we have a full house. When times are safer the next public sales will be planned.

For the health and safety of volunteers, its necessary to close the Greenhouse to all but a small crew for the near future. Access to the property will be restricted to the Maintenance & Operations Team and Greenhouse Steering committee. Because it is important to continue to provide plants to members during these difficult times, some of the Steering Committee have been facilitating sales to members on a case-by-case basis.

If you would like to purchase any plants this season, you can reach out to one of those listed below to make a request. We ask your patience and flexibility in working with these volunteers as their priority will be ensuring a safe transaction for all concerned. The link to the price list is above. The contacts below will also have a copy of the price list and can e-mail it to you in PDF.

Kathy Harrington, 864-310-1144, pharmkat1965@gmail.com

Amy Henderson, 914-649-6779, amyjoygarden@gmail.com
Susan Lochridge, 864-380-3673, needlespirits@gmail.com
Doug Lockard, 864-908-4461, doug.lockard@email.com
Kitty Putnam, 864-313-8434, kitty.putnam@gmail.com
Miller Putnam, 864-325-9700, millerputnam@gmail.com
Kay Stafford, 703-350-8774, kay.stafford4450@gmail.com



The Greenhouse in May

JUDY AND TOM STILL STAY BUSY!

Since we have been spending so much time at home lately, I've decided to get in touch with you, some of my cherished people, to see how you are doing. Being home so much gives you a new perspective about what is important. As Tom says, it is not the "things" you have but the people in your circle, however physically close or distant. We would love to hear back from you to know how you are doing and keeping occupied.

Tom and I have been spending much of our days out in the yard. Tom has even started weeding with determination to make the front flower beds look neat again, after a year of pretty much neglect. I come along behind him to look for missed weeds, put down some Preen, and layer on the mulch. I have also been taking photos of the flowers in and around our yard as they have put out their blooms, to my delight. I am not much of a photographer with my cell phone, but these will give you an idea of how lovely SC native plants are. In chronological order of blooming these include: Iris verna (Dwarf Violet Iris), Iris cristata (Dwarf Crested Iris), Lonicera sempervirens, (Coral Honeysuckle), and Phlox subulata (Moss Phlox). Hope you enjoy them. We certainly are, along with the birds frequenting our feeders.

-----Cheers, Judy and Tom Seeley



Iris verna



Iris cristata



Lonicera sempervirens



Phlox subulata

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

UPSTATE Chapter

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06/08/2020

DOUG LOCKARD
MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES: 01/31/2021
306 W FARIS RD
GREENVILLE SC 29605-3005

NEW MEMBERS (cont.)

- Pam Harrison: Taylors
- Emily Holt: Greenville
- Linda Hughes: Greenville
- Hilary Huskey: Taylors
- Cathy Zaden Lea: Greenville
- Barbara McKinney: Easley
- Kim Naquin: Greenville
- Nan and John Papalia: Travelers Rest
- Richard Roberts: Greenville
- Elaine and Peter Robson: Pelzer
- Karen Rokosny: Pickens
- Pam Shucker: Greenville
- Susan Smith: Easley
- David and Ellen Suarez: Greenville
- Ray Ward: Brevard, NC
- Donna Yarborough: Greer

MAKE YOU OWN VENUES

In this month of June, businesses are cautiously opening, and opportunities to attend public venues, and outdoor locations will continue to increase. As we have seen, some beaches and parks are opening and even the Blue Ridge Parkway is reopening to the public in some places.

The SC Dept. of National Resources (SCDNR) continues to update information on state parks and related topics. Check their website occasionally to see what is opening up and what any restrictions might be and make some plans to start visiting great outdoor spots as soon as you feel safe doing so.

Our President, Virginia Meador, came up with the following suggestion for a single person or small group "park and walk:" Pearson's Falls is located in the foothills of Western North Carolina off Hwy. 176 between Tryon and Saluda. This wildlife and bird sanctuary include 268 acres of native forest, granite, spring-fed streams and a moderate 1/4-mile trail to a 90-foot waterfall. There are over 200 species of rare wildflowers and plants. There are also mosses, lichens, shrubs and trees in this glen, which is classified as a deciduous climax forest.

