Hanson Nature Learning Center
Makeover

The Hanson Nature Learning Center has a new look and a renewed purpose. For years the Center (located beneath the Hayden Conference Center) has served as a site for many of our educational programs as well as home base for our Sprouting Wings program. While it has functioned very well in this regard, the fact that it remained closed to the public on the weekends was viewed by staff as a missed opportunity.

“With the advances in the Children’s Garden and the proximity of the restrooms we couldn’t help but notice how heavily trafficked this area is – especially on weekends,” says Associate Director Todd Steadman. “We wanted to enhance the visitor experience and also have a chance to interact with them to help them learn more about the SCBG.”

To make this work, the Center needed to be largely auto-tutorial. To that end multiple stations were established to cover subject matter such as Meadows, Ponds, Forests, and Gardens. “Instead of basing the stations on

Rainwater Harvesting

Anyone wandering behind the public restrooms by the Hanson Nature Learning Center may wonder what that huge black thing is. It’s a 3000 gallon cistern that is partially underground and was installed to collect the rainwater coming off the roof of the Hayden Conference Center and Hanson Nature Learning Center. New gutters were added to direct the runoff to the cistern then the cistern was set in place. During a workshop in early May, Dr. Cal Sawyer with Bio-Systems Engineering here at Clemson, Marguerite Porter with the Clemson Extension Service and Mitch Woodward and Wendi Hartup with the North Carolina Extension Service hosted extension agents from North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama and installed the basics of the cistern. Garden Manager James Arnold then finished the project by adding the plumbing and irrigation. The water collected will be used to irrigate the Food for Thought Garden in the Children’s Garden and enough water will be collected in an average rainfall to water that particular garden for three weeks. A workshop on rain barrels (which us more of a homeowner scale project) will be held at the Hanson Nature Learning Center on Monday, July 26.
As time goes on it becomes increasingly challenging to write a brief note about what is happening here at the South Carolina Botanical Garden. I could fill pages. Easily. So this time, instead of trying to cover what is happening here, I’d like to speak to why we are here.

For many the Garden has come to be a haven. A respite from the day-to-day. A place to connect with nature. For many it serves as a place of learning whether through our many classes or simply by walking the garden and observing and reading plant labels. For some it is a safe place to bring their children to help open up their eyes to the wonders of nature be it feeding the ducks, having a blossom touch their face or simply being here.

These are all good things. Meaningful things. In fact, our stated mission is “To serve as an interdisciplinary resource focusing on teaching, research, and outreach that advances awareness and understanding of nature and culture.”

And while our stated goals go on to cite land stewardship, community service, interdisciplinary programs, staff and facility development, and getting the word out about all we do, at our core we have yet another mission: horticultural leadership. Amidst all the other wonderful things offered here – from the Museum to historic properties to art – this key part of our mission is often overlooked. Not by us. The goal of horticultural leadership informs many of our decisions. But, I do think some visitors are so taken by all the other valued aspects of the Garden that horticulture may not receive due notice.

So, what are we doing in regard to horticulture and why are we doing it? We are a repository for rare and endangered species. Through our relationships with plant explorers and fellow plant “geeks” we collect, evaluate, and introduce taxa with ornamental and/or cultural merit. We house recognized collections of Ilex, Magnolia, Acer, Camellia, Hosta and Hydrangea species. James Arnold is working hard to map our collection and have it all entered into a database so researchers from around the world – and our own visitors – can readily locate and learn about our 8000 plants. And we work to provide habitats and planned gardens that are suitable to and exemplary of our bioregion.

So that’s a little on the what. As to why this is an important part of our mission there are many reasons. For one, we don’t fully understand the benefits of some plants and keeping them in existence may make a big difference one day. Never mind it being awfully arrogant for humans to decide a species no longer merits existence. We have the opportunity to promote economic development in South Carolina by introducing tried and true plants to the trade. We have a chance to help us all collectively go a little lighter on the earth by promoting natives which require less water, fertilizer, and pesticides – if any. Never mind the fact that we have some amazing and seldom used natives. So, there are a few of the reasons why.

But we want you to be a part of this Garden for whatever reason you choose. And there are a host of good ones. But know that we are more than a pretty face. We are doing our part to make the world a better place. Thank you for doing yours.

Onward and upward,

[Signature]
Garden Update

Master Gardener’s Plant A Row for the Hungry
Master Gardeners have adopted a small portion of the Heirloom Garden where they are growing organic produce which will be donated to the Clemson Care Center to help those in need. This is part of the Plant a Row for the Hungry Program created by the Garden Writers Association of America in 1995.

Hydrogeology Symposium
On the evening of April 1, attendees of the Annual Hydrogeology Symposium at Clemson University were hosted at a reception at the Bob Campbell Geology Museum. Hundreds of guests were there and we used the opportunity to encourage support for the Museum and to raise money for a new touch screen kiosk which we will use to offer in depth information about our collection and geology in general. The end result was a 35% increase in our membership and enough money to purchase the kiosk. Plus, everyone seemed to have a very good time.

Plant Sale Success
This year’s Spring Plant Sale proved to be our largest yielding event ever at the SCBG. Thank you to all who came out and shopped and a special thank you to all the wonderful Master Gardeners and other volunteers who worked long and hard to make it all happen. We believe that the addition of a one day “follow-up” sale and an increase in our offering of bedding plants contributed to the success. But we hope that our offering of ideally suited, yet hard to find plants at reasonable prices is what keeps our customers coming back for more.

Unity Project
On April 17, the same day as our Garden Fest (which was well attended and deemed a success), the Garden hosted close to 100 volunteers from across campus as part of the Unity Project. These young men and women were put to good use planting hundreds of annuals, clearing ivy out of the woods, spreading mulch, and eradicating privet and eleagnus, Not only were these volunteers a tremendous help to us, some of them were actually heard singing while they worked!

Passport to the Arts
On Friday, April 9, The SCBG was co-host for Clemons’s first city-wide art event. The idea resulted from a committee the SCBG formed to help elevate the stature of the Fuller Gallery at the Fran Hanson Discovery Center. The end result was a five-venue event with food, beverage, entertainment and art. Guests were transported from venue to venue via CAT busses. By all measures the event was a huge success and plans are already under way for a repeat event in Spring of 2011.

Fire Spinning at Passport to the Arts

Staff Notes
In March Christian Cicimurri was elected President of the South Carolina Federation of Museums, a nonprofit professional membership organization that represents and acts in the best interests of South Carolina’s museums. She looks forward to working with members over the next two years to raise the standards of museum practice in the state.

Over the Spring Todd Steadman was reconfirmed to the Board of Architectural Review for the City of Clemson. The Board helps determine the physical growth of Clemson. He was also renewed in his role with the Pickens’ County Outreach Board for Upstate Forever which is dedicated to preserving open land in the Upstate.
The Garden is a continuing source of inspiration for educational explorations for families, children, and adults. The diversity of habitats in its almost 300 acres (gardens, forest and woodland, pond and stream, meadows, and edge environments) include a wide array of plants, native and non-native, with a diversity of life forms from trees to annuals. These plants, in turn, provide shelter, food, and habitat for wildlife from large mammals to fungi.

Habitat diversity in the Garden forms the framework for our new interpretive displays in the Hanson Nature Learning Center for good reason; learning about natural habitats (and how they work) is key to developing a sustainable and balanced garden ecosystem, whether in a home landscape, on the scale of the Garden, or in a neighborhood or region.

Native plants support native wildlife, from the insects that feed on leaves to the birds that eat them to fruit-eating small mammals. There are endless ecological and cultural stories in the Garden to discover and share with visitors of all ages. Oaks are an excellent example; entomologist Doug Tallamy, author of *Bringing Nature Home: How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens* points out that hundreds of species of insects are supported by oaks, which in turn provide food for a variety of other animals, including nestlings of many familiar birds. (Join Garden educator Sue Watts for a fascinating look at oaks from a cultural and historical perspective in her Sept. 13 program, *Mighty Oaks*).

Many other excellent books provide inspiration for wildlife gardening; to the left are a few that I include in presentations about gardening for nature.

The nature of how gardens change and mature also brings new opportunities for interpretation and learning; for example, the development of the new Butterfly Garden last fall (special thanks to the Lake and Hills Garden Club of Keowee Key, the Master Gardeners of the Foothills, John and Carolyn Turner, and Jim and Sybil Fanning) means that a wonderful array of nectar and host plants for butterflies are now gathered in an excellent location for butterflies to flourish. Staff horticulturist Kathy Bridges’ addition of a small bog and wetland near the main entrance to the Butterfly Garden provides habitats for pitcher plants, sundews, and Venus fly-traps (as well as frogs, dragonflies, and water striders!)

It’s an encouraging time for gardening, as I’m seeing renewed enthusiasm for turning yards into gardens, growing more edibles, and tending the earth. That’s definitely a good thing.

Take time this summer and fall to spend more time in nature with others – family, friends, neighbors, children, and pets. It’s always rewarding. And join us for some of the programs that we’re offering this summer and fall from Garden Naturalists to Night Hikes.

At the Garden, the time we spend with children, families, and adults experiencing the Garden, or connecting with the natural world of gardening through our programs is an essential part of our mission. And sharing time with kids is one of the most rewarding things that we do, from our Sprouting Wings program to school field trips to storytelling in the Garden.

Thanks for your support of these programs through your memberships and participation.
11th annual International Museum Day celebration – May 15, 2010

Hundreds of visitors attended the Museum’s 11th annual International Museum Day open house on May 15th. This year’s focus on ancient technologies included numerous demonstrations and the unveiling of a new exhibit. “Native American EARTH SKILLS” focuses on the various uses of naturally occurring materials and showcases some of the Museum’s artifacts. Primitive technology specialist Roger Lindsay demonstrated the making of projectile points and wowed visitors by hitting targets with arrows, atlatl darts (type of spear thrown with a launcher), and blowgun darts. Dr. David Bradshaw also made paints of various shades of brown, orange, red, and yellow using naturally occurring iron-rich rocks and clay.

Children enjoyed making their own pottery, painting t-shirts, sieving for minerals and shark teeth, watching fossil preparation demonstrations, and having their treasures identified. Many thanks to Roger Lindsay, Dr. Bradshaw, Allison Jones, and Jessie O’Kelley for helping to make the event a huge success!

Creative Inquiry

In mid-March Christian and Dave Cicimurri travelled with three Creative Inquiry students to southwestern Arkansas. There they met with Kelly Irwin, Arkansas’ state herpetologist, to hunt for 75 million year old fossil reptiles. Over the course of three days the group excavated several sites and discovered numerous skull and jaw bones from a very large extinct marine reptile called a mosasaur. Based on the size of the jaw bones, Dave believes that the animal was around 45 feet long. The group also found various types of fossil clams and snails, and before returning to Clemson they collected fossil-bearing matrix containing the tiny teeth of sharks and other fish.

The CI students also worked hard during the spring semester to create a new Museum exhibit that focuses on the dentitions (teeth in the jaws) of sharks and rays. They hypothesized that the diets of extinct sharks and rays can be determined by using only a single fossil tooth, and to test the hypothesis they studied the tooth shapes, dentitions, and food preferences of various modern species. Look for this exhibit to be unveiled sometime later this year.

Dave recently completed a three-day mine safety training course, and he hopes that this training will help gain access to the various fossil-rich quarries located in the Lowcountry. Next semester he plans to take the CI teams to a rich Pleistocene (~250,000 years old) fossil locality in an active limestone quarry near Harleyville, SC.
July

**Wednesdays, July 14, 21, 28 (no class July 7)**

**GARDEN NATURALISTS**
Join SC Master Naturalist Sue Watts for informal natural history explorations in the Garden. Explorations focus on the natural history of plants, animals, insects, and natural history. Topics include summer birds, butterflies, meadows, insects, ponds, streams, and trees. Programs held rain or shine.

*Fee: $10 ($8 for members & volunteers) per session*
*Time: 9:00am-11:00am*
*Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center*

**Mondays, July 5, 12, 19, 26**

**NATURE JOURNALS: A QUIET CRAFT**
Spend an evening in the Garden learning about nature journals. We will cover tips and techniques to hone observation skills, provide background information about nature journals, and enable you to develop your own journal style.

*Fee: $40 ($30 for members & volunteers) for each 4-wk session; plus $10 materials fee*
*Time: 7:30pm - 8:30pm*
*Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center*

**Wednesday, July 14**

**BACKYARD GEOLOGY – EARTHQUAKES**
Recent earthquakes in Haiti and elsewhere in the world have lead many to think a bit more about why and how these events happen. Museum curator Chris Cicimurri will lead a discussion on earthquakes, abroad and here in South Carolina. Participants can expect to learn about how the earth’s crust moves and what that means to us.

*Fee: $8 ($5 for Museum members & volunteers)*
*Time: 10:30am – 12noon*
*Location: Hayden Conference Center*

**Monday, July 26**

**RAINBARREL WORKSHOP**
Learn how to make your own rain barrel. This workshop will take you through the process from calculating the runoff of your roof, directing the water to the barrel, how to set up a barrel (or barrels), and how to get the water where you need it. After the workshop you’ll have the information and shopping list you need to add one of these water (and money)-saving features to your own garden.

*Fee: $8 ($5 for SCBG members & volunteers)*
*Time: 9:00am – 12noon*
*Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center*

August

**Wednesday, August 13**

**BACKYARD GEOLOGY – SHOOTING STARS**
Each month the Backyard Geology series will address a different geologic topic specific to our region; this month we focus on the Perseid Meteor Shower which peaks earlier in the week. This program is a great way to learn more about meteors, especially if you can’t join us for the star gazing event in the evening.

*Fee: $8 ($5 for members & volunteers)*
*Time: 10:30am-12noon*
*Location: Hayden Conference Center*

**Wednesday, August 13**

**METEOR SHOWER GAZING EVENT – PERSEID METEOR SHOWER**
Every year thousands of shooting stars amaze stargazers around the world. Join us for a special evening as we learn about the Perseid meteor shower and the comet that started it all. Dark skies should provide excellent viewing conditions, but there are no guarantees. Curators will guide you in viewing with and without a telescope, counting and measuring meteors, and helping you understand what you’re seeing. Bring a notebook & pen, blankets, chairs, and dress for the weather. Cloudy skies or rain will cancel the event. Refreshments provided.

*Fee: $10 per family (up to 5), $7 for members & volunteers*
*Time: 9pm - until*
*Location: The Kelly Meadow*

**Saturday, August 21**

**BUTTERFLY TOUR**
Join local butterfly enthusiasts John and Carolyn Turner and members of the Carolina Butterfly Society for a butterfly oriented tour through the Garden at 10:00am on Saturday, August 21. Included on the tour will be the newly planted Butterfly Garden as well as other areas that serve as “hosts” to the many butterflies that call this part of the world home. Come out and learn more about these fascinating and beautiful creatures, the Carolina Butterfly Society, and your State Botanical Garden.

*Fee: $8 ($5 for SCBG members & volunteers) – free for members of the Carolina Butterfly Society*
*Time: 10:00am – 12noon*
*Location: Hayden Conference Center*
Thursday, August 19
FALL KITCHEN GARDENING WORKSHOP
South Carolina’s mild climate provides plenty of time to have a beautiful and productive kitchen garden almost year-round. Cool-season vegetables grown in the fall can often be more productive than in spring, with fewer insect problems and less variable temperatures. Join Lisa Wagner to discuss the wide range of cool-season vegetables, greens and herbs that can extend kitchen gardening, as well as how and when to plant them. Participants will have the opportunity to select seeds to try, sow a variety of cool-season vegetables for later transplant, and learn about succession planting and season extension. Fee: $15 ($10 for members & volunteers)
Time: 9:00am – 10:30am
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center

September

Wednesdays, Sept. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27
GARDEN NATURALISTS
The Garden is a rich composite of a number of fascinating upstate SC ecosystems. Join SC Master Naturalist Sue Watts for informal natural history explorations in the Garden with like-minded adults, using the resources of the Hanson Nature Learning Center as a springboard. Explorations are seasonal, focused on the natural history of plants, animals, insects, and natural history. Topics will include fall birds (resident and migrant), seasonal change, habitat explorations, and more. Join us for several or all explorations. There’s always something new to discover in the Garden. Program topics vary depending on weather, but programs will be held rain or shine. Fee: $10 ($8 for members & volunteers)
Time: 9:00am–11:00am
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center

Thursday, Sept. 2
CREATING A SUCCESSFUL MIXED PERENNIAL BORDER
Combining flowering shrubs, trees, and herbaceous perennials in a border with year-round interest doesn’t have to be complicated, but requires paying attention to seasonal form, plant characteristics, and design elements. Join Director of Education Lisa Wagner to learn how to create a successful mixed perennial border that’s attractive all year. Fee: $15 ($10 for members & volunteers)
Time: 10:00am – 11:30am
Location: Hayden Conference Center

Tuesday, Sept. 7
FERN-PRINTING
In this fern-printing workshop, we will explore the variety of ferns in the Garden and, under the guidance of garden staff, gather specimens to “print” without ink. Bring a t-shirt, pillow case, cloth napkin or other white item to decorate, and a ordinary metal hammer to discover this simple, yet dramatic, craft. Fee: $15 ($10 for members & volunteers) per session
Time: 9:00am–10:30am
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center

Monday, Sept. 13
THE MIGHTY OAKS
Oaks are vital for the survival of many species of wildlife; what is less widely known is the historical importance of acorns to humans. In this informal evening program, we will visit a variety of oaks in the South Carolina Botanical Garden. On our journey, we explore the importance of acorns to Native Americans and early settlers, and learn how they turned acorns into a life-sustaining flour. Fee: $7 ($5 for members & volunteers)
Time: 7:00pm – 8:00pm
Location: Meet at the Hanson Nature Learning Center

Wednesday, September 15
BACKYARD GEOLOGY – GOLD!
Upstate South Carolina isn’t called ‘The Golden Corner’ just because it’s pretty in autumn! Learn about the history – and future – of gold in South Carolina. We’ll cover America’s first ‘Gold Rush’, discuss how to find and collect gold in the area, and learn about gold production today. Fee: $8 ($5 for Museum members & volunteers)
Time: 10:30am-12noon
Location: Hayden Conference Center

Thursday, September 16, 23, 30, Oct. 7
HOME GARDENING FUNDAMENTALS
Would you like to improve your ability to create and maintain a home garden landscape that transforms your yard into a garden? Understanding plants and their needs is key to creating a garden that’s a joy, not a chore. In this series of classes, Lisa Wagner will help you better understand your garden. We’ll integrate learning about plants and their biology with the importance of garden design, focusing on regional examples (including participants’ landscapes). Fee: $40 ($30 for members & volunteers) for 4-class series, $15 ($12 for members & volunteers) per class
Time: 10:30am – 12:00noon
Location: Hayden Conference Center

Use our NEW online registration system at www.clemson.edu/scbg or call 864-656-3405.
September 16 - Designing a Successful Home Garden
South Carolina’s mild climate and good growing conditions support a wonderful range of native and non-native plants to enjoy. Whether you have an established landscape in need of change or an open slate following new construction, applying design fundamentals from a personal perspective makes the difference between an ordinary landscape and a garden that welcomes you home.
Fee: $40 ($30 for members & volunteers) for 4-class series, $15 ($12 for members) for single class
Time: 10:30am – 12:00noon
Location: Hayden Conference Center

September 23 - Plant Selection for the Upstate
Selecting plants that will do well in your garden requires an understanding of how to match plant to site, and how to choose plants that will suit your gardening style and interests. We’ll talk about selecting plants that thrive in the Piedmont’s Zone 7 climate and are less likely to have problems with pests or diseases.
Fee: $40 ($30 for members & volunteers) for 4-class series, $15 ($12 for members) for single class
Time: 10:30am – 12:00noon
Location: Hayden Conference Center

September 30 - Working with Piedmont Soils
Depending on location, history, and maintenance, the ‘soil’ in your existing landscape may be fine for basic planting, but building soil health is usually essential for a garden to flourish. We’ll talk about selecting plants that thrive in the Piedmont’s Zone 7 climate and are less likely to have problems with pests or diseases.
Fee: $40 ($30 for members & volunteers) for 4-class series, $15 ($12 for members) for single class
Time: 10:30am – 12:00noon
Location: Nature Learning Center

October 7 - Understanding Plants
Discover why some plants thrive in sun and some in shade, how plant reproductive strategies differ among species (and how this affects gardening), how plants are classified, and other interesting things about plants that are helpful to gardeners. This is a program focused on a better understanding of plants as part of a garden ecosystem.
Fee: $40 ($30 for members & volunteers) for 4-class series, $15 ($12 for members) for single class
Time: 10:30am – 12:00noon
Location: Hayden Conference Center

Tuesday, September 21
CREATING A HYPERTUFA PLANTER
Create unique garden decorations using hypertufa, a versatile lightweight substitute for stone. Use plant materials, mosaic tile, glass, and carving to decorate your container, garden plaque or stepping stone - the only limit is your imagination. If you have a container you would like to use as a mold, please bring it. We will also have a variety of containers and molds to share.
Fee: $35 ($30 for members & volunteers)
Time: 9:00am-11:00am
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center

Wednesday, Sept. 22
HARVEST MOON NIGHT WALK
September is a wonderful time to experience dusk in the Garden, as day turns to night. Join naturalist Lisa Wagner to experience the sights, sounds and sensations of a full moon night. Please wear shoes and clothing appropriate for walking in the woods. Flashlights are not needed.
Fee: $7/family (up to 5) ($5 for members & volunteers)
Time: 7:00pm – 9:00pm
Location: Meet at Discovery Center parking area

Monday, Sept. 27
PLANTS OF THE CHEROKEE WORLDVIEW GARDEN
Visit the recently dedicated Cherokee Worldview Garden and learn about the complex culture of the Cherokee and the place of plants in their lives. This is a unique garden which embodies and honors the dynamic culture of the first human beings to inhabit this area. Join Garden Educator Sue Watts on a guided tour of the this important addition to the South Carolina Botanical Garden.
Time: 7:00pm – 8:00pm
Fee: $7/family ($5 for members & volunteers)
Location: Meet at the Cherokee Worldview Garden (adjacent to the Discovery Center parking area)

October 5
PLANTS FOR POLLINATORS: BUTTERFLIES, BEES, AND HUMMINGBIRDS
The Children’s Garden includes many pollinator-friendly plants in the new Butterfly Garden, the Ethnobotany Garden, and the recently renovated Pollinator Border. Learn about these plants from Lisa Wagner in an informal workshop focused on gardening for pollinators. We’ll talk about plant characteristics, look at examples, and discuss ways to support pollinators in your home garden.
Fee: $12 ($8 for SCBG members & volunteers)
Time: 10:00am – 12:00noon
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center
Children’s Programs

Thursday, Oct. 7
EVENING SKY WALK
Stars and planets are the most evident on new moon nights, clouds permitting. Join Lisa Wagner to experience the sights, sounds and sensations of a fall evening. Please wear shoes and clothing appropriate for walking in the woods. Flashlights are not needed.
Fee: $7/family (up to 5) ($5 for members & volunteers)
Time: 7:00pm – 9:00pm
Location: Meet at Discovery Center parking area

Tuesday, October 12
EXTENDING VEGETABLE GARDENING SEASONS
Interested in having vegetables year-round? All it takes is planning and simple frost protection in our usually mild winters. We’ll review seed catalogs for winter selections, discuss season extension strategies, and talk about plant rotation. Join Lisa Wagner to learn how to grow a year-round vegetable garden.
Fee: $15 ($12 for members & volunteers)
Time: 10:00am – 12:00noon
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center

Wednesday, October 13
Backyard Geology – The Prehistoric Garden
You might wonder how old an oak tree is, but have you ever wondered how old oaks – in general – are? Museum curator Christian Cicimurri will discuss the fossil history of plants, and point out many common examples of ‘living fossils’. If time allows, we may be able to take a quick walk in the garden to view some nice specimens.
Fee: $8 ($5 for Museum members & volunteers)
Time: 10:30am – 12noon
Location: Hayden Conference Center

Friday, October 15
NATURE DISCOVERY HIKE: FALL FRUITS AND SEEDS
Discover the interesting world of fruits, cones and seeds in a fall walk in the Garden with Lisa Wagner. We’ll examine the variety of fruits produced and how they differ, as well as learning about their natural history, dispersal, and connections with wildlife.
Fee: $7/family (up to 5) ($5 for members & volunteers)
Time: 12:00noon – 1:00pm
Location: Meet at Caboose Parking Area

Friday, October 22
FALL COLOR WALK
Take a walk with botanist Lisa Wagner to learn more about the ecology of fall color and leaf drop. During the walk, we’ll enjoy fall colors in the Garden and focus on the variety of tree and shrub leaves and talk about the species-distinct differences.
Fee: $7/family (up to 5) ($5 for members & volunteers)
Time: 12:00noon – 1:00pm

Special Events

Saturday, October 9
FAIRY HOUSE FESTIVAL
Join Education staff in the Children’s Garden for a family event filled with imagination and creativity. Participants will collect and use natural materials to create ‘fairy houses’ or habitats for imaginary animals in this special program.
Fee: $10/family ($7 for members & volunteers)
Time: 10:00am – 12:00noon
Location: Children’s Garden (start at Hanson Nature Learning Center)
Penstemon (Beardtongue)
*Penstemon digitalis*
Figwort family (Scrophulariaceae)
Native to the Eastern U.S.
Sun to part shade
Moist to dry soil
- An evergreen perennial (from a basal rosette) with flowering stems 3-4 ft. high
- Flowering May-July
- An attractive and tough addition to perennial borders and wildflower meadows
- ‘Husker’s Red’ is an excellent cultivar with reddish foliage

Joe-Pye weed
*Eupatorium fistulosum*
Sunflower family (Asteraceae)
Native to the Eastern U.S.
Full sun
Moist soil
- A great native plant for butterflies
- Purple inflorescences, flowering August-October
- Up to 7 ft. tall in moist soil
- ‘Dwarf’ selections are available; look for ‘Gateway’ and ‘Little Joe’
George Sherman & Mary Jane
Sturwold-Sherman
Benjamin & Lois Sill
Regina Smith
Tony & Diane Sosnowski
Scott Toussaint
Ray & Fran Turner
Norman & Lois Walters
Joanne Reifenstuhl Webbenhurst
Thomas & Ellen Zuercher

Hosta Members ($35/yr)
Carol Allen
Betty Ambrose
Teresa Anderson
Barbara Armstrong
James & Patty Arnold
William & Kathy Bearss
Shirley Bennett
Ayme Black
Dorothy Boone
George & Joan Booth
Mary Bowman
Patricia Brandes
Joyce Brickett
Ann Brown
Robert Brown
William & Barbara Budan
Annette Burdette
Verner Burkett
Peri Bush
Margaret Cannon
Lorraine Caufden
Cindi Cheek
Betty Clausen
Lorraine Comingo
DAR - Andrew Pickens Chapter
Kathleen Davis
Perino Dearing
Patty Dee
Lois Delaney
Lacy Dick
Minnie Sue Douglas
Maxie Duke
Cile Dunkelberg
Caitlyn Dyckman
Mac Ellenberg
Susan Ercolini
Donna Eskridge
Jennifer Fennell
Lee Fenstemaker
Mike & Lisa Ferny
Nora Field Nooral
Martina Flynn
Tom Fransen
B. Lynn French
Julia Frugoli
Sara Gable
Karim Gaither
Sara Gambrell
Donald Gardner
Patsy Garrison
Abigail Gehman
John & Barbara Gerkens
Michael Giebner
Denise Godwin
Kathryn Gravely
Sandra Gray
Stanford Grist
William Hall
Fredi Hallman
Bill Hamel
J. Hammer
Patricia Harmon
Patricia Harris
Millie Havbecker
Elizabeth Hawthorne
Katie Healy
Michael Hennes
Tom Henry
Eleanor Herr
Sarah Heyer
Bonnie Holaday
Phyllis Horton
Dick & Anita Hudgings
Susan Jaisler
Dori Jamison
Martha Jeffries
Donna Jones
Ryan Jones
Kay Jordan
Pam Kamp
Mary Ann Keiper
Claire King
Ken Koschnitzki
Mary Kurz
Julie Lamp
John Landers
Mary Lanning
Ashleigh Lassiter
Helen Lewis
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Judith Lovering
Mary Marchant
Cindy Marks
Lou Ann Martin
Gail Mars
Kimberly Masters
Marty McDonald
Sharon McManus
Holly McPhee
Mary Middlemas Bryant
Elizabeth Morris Jones
Diana Mullikin
Jeanne Overly
Talle Parker
Tammy Prucka
Lucy Rasula
Sandra Risold
Christine Robinson
Cynthia Rodgers
Roger Ruszkowski
Barry & Martha Sample
Jenny Sanders
Pat Schweitzer
Susan Scott soyars
Barbara Somogy
Marian St. Clair
Kate Stevens
Coral Stone
Debra Strange
Jo Stubbs
Anna Summers
Audrey Swart
Gloria Syme
Mary Ann Taylor
Ellie Taylor
Susan Temple
Ann Todd
Edith Triguel
Loes Trelostra
Frances Tucker
Meg Walworth
Ellen Warren
Charles Webb
Susie Wells
Dorothy Williams

General Donations
James Arnold in memory of Rodger Carpenter
Jane Cholminsky in memory of Rodger Carpenter
Clemson Garden Club in honor of Nat Bradford
Clemson Garden Club in memory of Beverly Buzzell
Foothills Garden Club
Alice Gesek in memory of Rodger Carpenter
John & Kathleen Garton in memory of Carol Barton & Mary Bircheneough
Roger & Martha Grant in memory of Carol Barton & Mary Bircheneough
Robert & Carol Lund
Betsy Stone

Museum GeMS
Emerald Members ($250/yr)
Lawrence Murdoch

Sapphire Members ($100/yr)
E. Jerry & Jean Greene
Jeffery Johnson
Cathleen Reas Foster
John Twitty

Ruby Members ($50/yr)
Ray & Myrtle Gilespie
Nina Marshein
Ed & Sara Penn
Bill Quarles

Amethyst Members ($35/yr)
Mark Adkins
Drew Baird
Tom Brasse
Martha Carr
Denise Chew
Charles Coney
Robert Craig
Thomas Donn

We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please call Christian Cicimurri at 864-656-4602 or e-mail cmcici@clemson.edu with corrections.
specific subjects – such as birds, trees, etc.,” Lisa Wagner, Director of Education shares, “for each station there will be a range of materials on display to help people gain a deeper understanding of various habitats. Printed material that tells visitors more about what is happening in these habitats seasonally or topically will also be available at each station.

In addition, the entire inside perimeter of the Center was lined with cabinets to store materials and most of the walls have been faced with pegboard allowing displays to be easily and regularly updated to reflect the season and new focus. “It’s great to have so much additional storage,” says Allison O’Dell Director of Sprouting Wings.

While much of the interpretive material is tactile and organic, the tools of the digital age were applied as well. The Master Gardeners donated the funds required to purchase a new projector and blinds were added to the windows and a pull down projection screen was permanently mounted to facilitate programs. A new flat-screen monitor was installed for the “BirdCam” and a touch screen has been installed which will allow visitors to access information about a wide range of garden and nature related topics. The touch screen system is still in the “alpha” stage and new content will be added as funds and time allow.

Without doubt the focus of this renovation was on the content but we also used this opportunity to address aesthetics. The floor was repainted, new tables and chairs purchased, track lighting added, and ceiling fans were added to the patio outside the Center.

With the work on the interior completed we are ready to open the doors. The plan is to have the Center open to the public from mid-March to mid-October from 10:00 – 4:00 on Saturday and 1:00 – 4:00 on Sundays, our peak visitation times. At the time this newsletter is going to press, we are still uncertain of the funding required to have a student in the Center during these hours, but we have had great interest from Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists expressing a willingness to volunteer to make this great asset accessible to the public. A hearty thank you is due to Fran and Bob Hanson for their generosity in making all this happen.

(continued from p. 1)