Spring Plant Sales: April 12, 13 & 27

The 2013 Spring Plant Sale will be held on Friday, April 12 (for Friends of the Garden) from 2 to 5:30 p.m., and Saturday, April 13, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. (open to the public). A second-chance sale, open to all, will be offered on Saturday, April 27 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Featured will be dozens of never-before-offered perennials, butterfly- and hummingbird-attracting species and a wide variety of native and non-native shrubs and trees. Colorful summer annuals will be available as will organically grown vegetables and herbs. Botanical activities for kids will be offered free of charge.

A new Collector’s Corner will also be launched this spring, featuring unusual plants selected by the Garden staff (rarely found in the trade).

SCBG staff, CU Horticulture faculty and Master Gardeners will be available to answer landscaping and gardening questions and assist in your selections. A complete catalog of plant materials is available on the SCBG website.

Our semi-annual plant sales are significant fund raising activities for the SCBG. Revenues are channeled directly back into the Garden for projects and improvements. For more information, please contact me at 864-656-2458, or via email at jeanneb@clemson.edu.

~ Jeanne Briggs, Nursery Manager

An Enchanted Garden: May 11

Join South Carolina Botanical Garden staff, volunteers, and FRIENDS on Saturday, May 11 at 6 p.m. for Moonlight & Magnolias: Enchanted Garden Gala. This year’s Gala is in celebration of the many spectacular spaces within the South Carolina Botanical Garden and will help raise funds for the continued maintenance, growth, and sustainability of the Garden.

Please join us for a celebration of the Garden with special guest Charlie Williams appearing as renowned botanist Andre Michaux.

The Gala will take place at the Fran Hanson Visitor Center and will include a silent auction, live entertainment, dinner, cocktails, and the opportunity to learn about the new and ongoing garden projects enriching our community. Attire for the evening will be elegant casual.

The cuisine for the evening will feature South Carolina regional specialties, beer, and wine, supporting local producers, while providing the finest quality products. The intent of serving local food is prominent, as the garden supports the preservation of local and regional farming, as well as the environmental stewardship and value-added opportunities associated with sustainable agriculture. Music will be provided by the Clemson University Jazz Combo.

Gala tickets are available for $75 each (via the Garden’s website) and whole-table reservations can be accommodated as well. Call the Discovery Center at 656-3405 for more information. ~ Darlene Evans, Special Events Director
Director’s Message

Spring is in full swing at the Garden and surprises and new additions are awaiting your discovery. Take note of all the work that Kathy, John and our students and volunteers have done on the Class of ‘62 President’s Garden Walkway in the Heritage Gardens. The walkway is surrounded with unusual plants from around the globe. Many additions will look familiar, similar to species found here, but have their roots in eastern Asia. These are mixed with great natives too. I can’t wait to see the masses of deciduous azaleas and buckeyes that have been planted here in full bloom.

April 20 is the official opening of the mountain and piedmont forest sections of the Natural Heritage Garden! It has been so exciting to see this vision come to life. I hope you’ll be able to enjoy the hundreds of native plants that adorn these recreated natural habitats along the new permeable Geogrid trail. Lisa and Sue have been hard at work developing interpretive signs for these areas. Bring your smart phones along, because the QR codes on the new signs will connect you to more information and educational videos about the natural habitats that surround you. We still need your help to complete this ambitious project. We have started planting the Carolina bay and the longleaf pine exhibit, but we need more support to finish the coastal habitats - those pitcher plants are just waiting for the funds to complete their new home.

We’re excited about the 2nd annual Moonlight and Magnolias Gala on May 11. The event will feature our “Enchanted Garden” and highlight the many garden exhibits that work together to make this such a diverse and incredible space. We are pleased to have noted historian/naturalist Charlie Williams visiting us in his other personality as “Andre Michaux.” If you have never seen Charlie perform before, this is a real treat. Michaux was the most prominent botanist of his era to visit, reside in and work in South Carolina. Many of our most cherished Southern plants were brought by him to this country and many of our native plants were first described to the Western World by him. Expect an elegant, fun-filled evening of music, fine food and great presentations and company.

We are hosting many incredible education programs at both the Garden and the Bob Campbell Geology Museum. The Museum continues to grow and add new exhibits as we increase our collection of both minerals and paleontological artifacts.

The Hydrangea Garden now hosts a new group of volunteers and is receiving a serious face-lift, focusing on long-term sustainability.

Everywhere you look in the Garden, spaces are being revitalized, reimagined and growing! We have come a long way in the last couple years and have a clear path charted into the future that will increase our collections, our connection with the community and our value to the citizens of South Carolina and I want to thank you for your continued support and your valued membership as a Friend of the SCBG. Pass your love of the Garden on to those around you; we still need more participation and support in the Friends program, our most important base of support.

All the best, Patrick McMillan

The Garden’s Gate • 2
Landscape Notes

~ Eastern and Carolina hemlocks (Tsuga canadensis and T. caroliniana) have been planted below the picnic area and above the Natural Heritage Garden trail to buffer the transition and serve as a vegetative screen between the two areas.

~ The meadow pond is being transformed into a recreated Carolina bay, with plantings of titi (Cyrilla racemosa), Gordonia lasianthus, pondspice (Litsea aestivalis), fetterbush (Lyonia lucida), wax myrtle (Morella carolinensis), black gum (Nyssa sylvatica var. biflora), and swamp bay (Persea palustris). The pond dam has been planted to represent a sand bay, with numerous native oaks, along with sparkleberry (Vaccinium arboreum) and native Prunus species. New split-rail fencing delineates the trail from the pond to the meadow and prairie plantings.

~ The xerophyte garden in the Geology Museum courtyard has been expanded yet again and now supports over 60 different varieties of plants from arid habitats around the world. There are a number of additional species of Agave, Dasylirion, Nolina, and other southwestern species to plant in this area and the xeriscape garden, after PermaTill has been added as a soil amendment to encourage better drainage.

~ The renovation of the landscape below the museum is ongoing, with continued work to improve the area. The area around Mrs. Fuller’s reflection pond is also being updated.

~ Construction has begun on the Plaza (in the class of ‘62 President’s Garden), so we’re nearing completion of the long-term Heritage Garden project. Nearby, a new rock base has been added to the base of the main entrance sign.

~ Staff and students are continuing with the ongoing removal of invasives (privet, eleagnus, ivy, honeysuckle, vinca, etc.) We’re definitely making headway!

Thanks again to ALL of our volunteers and students—we could not do all of this without you.

~ Kathy Bridges, Landscape Manager

Horticulture Trade Show

SCBG staff members Lisa Wagner, John Bodiford, Jeanne Briggs, and Katie Dixson attended the SC Nursery and Landscape Association’s annual trade show in Myrtle Beach in February. Lisa did a presentation on Urban Vegetable Gardening as part of the educational sessions.

John, Jeanne, and Katie staffed the SCBG booth (featuring the Natural Heritage Garden), and all of us interacted with attendees and other vendors in the show.

~ Katie Dickson, Horticulturist & Children’s Garden Manager

Thanks!

On Saturday, March 9, students from Clemson Business and Behavioral Science Experience (better known as CBBSE) volunteered in the Children’s Garden. Faculty leaders Adam Hunter and Suerea Wooten provided lunch and support while an enthusiastic team of 30 students installed fig trees, cut back winter grasses, weeded and mulched overgrown areas, repainted the Peter Rabbit Cottage, and planted seeds, bulbs, and annuals. Several yards of pathway were also laid into place brick by brick. It was a perfect, warm day ending up with a spruced-up Children’s Garden while providing an enriching opportunity for the student volunteers.

Thank you, CBBSE!

~ Katie Dickson, Horticulturist & Children’s Garden Manager

The Garden’s Gate • 3
One of the many things I like about working at the Garden is the diversity of activities in which I am involved. Leading nature walks and school programs, developing historical programming, and scheduling outside experts to share their talents form the bulk of my activities, but often I get to branch out. Most recently, I was able to help a local expert craftsman, Rick Owens, begin some mortar repairs to the Hunt Cabin. The daubing (the mortar on top) needed to be replaced. We mixed up mortar and red clay and I got my first lesson in hands-on historic preservation.

The Hunt Cabin has been open once a month for over a year now with historic programming, including open hearth cooking, story telling, dancing and more on the first Saturday of every month! As visitor numbers grow through the spring, volunteers are opening the cabin to the public on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, enabling many more people to visit the Cabin, learn about the Garden, and discover what’s new along the Natural Heritage Garden trail nearby. If you are interested in volunteering an hour or two on a weekend, contact me at watts9@clemson.edu.

Last fall, we embarked upon a new venture by partnering with 4-H to start a 4-H club at the Garden. The Junior Naturalist 4-H club meets twice a month for six months and our theme this year is water. The first several weeks, we had lots of direct experience, as it rained almost every meeting! Members learned about watersheds, erosion, stream and pond ecology and the properties of water. As part of this club we undertake a public service project - in May, we’ll be cleaning up part of Abernathy Park in downtown Clemson.

Cooking classes have been a wonderful addition to our palette of classes. We have made pizza, bread and butter, Moroccan food, and more. Local amateur chef Neil Calkin has been very generous with his time and expertise in volunteering to teach these classes for the Garden. Upcoming are culinary adventures in British food, mushrooms, and Spanish cuisine. The wonderful thing about these classes is that you make and then sit down to eat the food you have prepared.

~ Sue Watts, Education Program Coordinator

Children’s Garden update

The Children’s Garden has been very lucky in welcoming three new student (or recently graduated) volunteers.

These folks have pitched in with weeding, painting, preparing beds, laying bricks for pathways, and planting for springtime.

Alejandra Palomares:
Working as an au pair in the States for two years, Ale chooses to spend her free time helping out in the extended season greenhouse and in the surrounding landscape twice a week. A recent landscape architecture graduate from Leon, Mexico, with a passion for xeric plants, Ale is a knowledgeable addition to our volunteer staff!

Sevda Ozturk Sari:
Hailing from Turkey, Sevda moved to Clemson last September with her husband Mehmet while he pursues his doctorate in economics. Sevda is working on her Master’s Degree and crafting her thesis, “Analyzing earth-sheltered houses: roofs and walls as sustainable landscape construction.” Sevda volunteers in the Peter Rabbit and Food for Thought gardens, as well as the nursery head house on Volunteer Thursdays.

Austin Culberson:
A mechanical engineering student at Clemson, Austin volunteers for no other reason than to contribute to our botanical garden. He assists in carpentry and painting projects and has lent a hand in the bricking the pathways in the Ethnobotany and Butterfly Garden.

~ Katie Dickson, Horticulturist & Children’s Garden Manager
The Geological Record

Garden challenges: Bicycles and dogs

Bicycles are welcome on our main paved roads (and the loop road through the Arboretum).

This DOESN’T include our bricked paths, service road over the Duck Pond dam, nor the Natural Heritage Garden pathways. Mountain bikes are not permitted on any mulched trails or open areas, in addition to the paths mentioned.

We’re glad to share the Garden with well-behaved dogs (mine have enjoyed long walks in the Garden for many years!)

But to preserve the privilege of letting them visit the Garden, they need to be leashed (most dogs, including mine, aren’t dependable off leash, in terms of jumping up and greeting other folks, interacting with other dogs, etc.)

Many botanical gardens don’t allow dogs, for justifiable reasons. Fortunately, the Garden is large enough that we can welcome them currently, and we’d like that practice to continue.

Please help us keep the Garden dog-friendly by keeping your dogs on a leash and picking up after them.

If you are able to visit the Garden regularly, please consider yourself an extension of the Garden staff in protecting our resources. Don’t hesitate to mention that dogs need to be on leash, bicycles are only allowed on main paved roads, and picking flowers and/or digging plants is not permitted either!

~ Lisa Wagner, Director of Education

Museum Update

As a compliment to our Tyrannosaurus rex skull cast, we’ve introduced an endocranial cast of T. rex to our newest exhibit. Many visitors may find it surprising that this cast is representative of the brain cavity inside a 15 to 20 feet long animal with a 4 to 5 feet long skull, since it measures only eight inches in length and three inches at its widest point. However, smaller brains were the norm for dinosaurs. Tyrannosaurus rex probably had the largest brain of any dinosaur, although it is not considered to be among the smartest.

Using the general ratio of brain mass to body mass for estimating intelligence, most scientists speculate that members of Troodon, a genus of Cretaceous, bird-like dinosaurs, were likely the most intelligent.

Even so, these dinosaurs, considered to be the smartest of all, were probably not as intelligent as modern birds or mammals. That means that the giant T. rex could probably be outsmarted by a kitten if it lived today!

We hope you’ll stop by the Museum to “get inside the mind” of Tyrannosaurus rex, and learn more about this fascinating subject!

~ Allison Jones, Curator of Education

Adopt-a-Bone Program

Do you need a special gift for any occasion? We’d like to remind you all that Velociraptor bone adoptions made in honor of friends or loved ones can make great gifts! When you adopt a Velociraptor bone, your name will be listed as part of the Velociraptor Society in our new Archosaur Exhibit. All proceeds support maintenance and creation of exhibits and educational programming at the Museum. For more information on this giving opportunity, please contact Allison Jones at 864-656-4602 or visit: http://www.clemson.edu/public/geomuseum
April

Tuesday, April 9
PLANTS FOR BUTTERFLIES AND OTHER POLLINATORS
SCBG’s Butterfly Garden (next to the Children’s Garden) is a magical place to watch butterflies from spring to fall. The key has been an exceptional diversity of nectar and host plants. Learn about plants that support butterflies and other pollinators in this morning workshop with Lisa Wagner. Many of these plants will be available for purchase at the Spring Plant Sales.
Fee: $12 ($8 for members & volunteers)
Time: 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center

Tuesday, April 16
GARDEN NATURALIST: FOREST ECOLOGY
Spend the morning exploring the forest habitats of South Carolina with SC Master Naturalist Sue Watts. The entire program takes place within the Botanical Garden on our new Natural Heritage Trail. Explore the geology, flora and fauna of each area and how these factors interact to make South Carolina habitats special. Please register in advance.
Fee: $50 ($45 for members and volunteers)
Time: 9 a.m.– 12 p.m.
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center

Saturday, April 20
MEDICINE IN THE GARDEN
Would you like to grow your own medicinal herbs and just don’t know where to start? Join Community Herbalist Robin McGee for a walk in the Garden to learn easy-to-grow medicinal herbs, common weeds for common needs, and ornamentals that we can grow for food and medicine! Please pre-register a week before class starts as space is limited.
Fee: $25 ($20 members & volunteers)
Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center

Tuesday, April 23
GARDEN NATURALIST: BIRDWATCHING WALK
Join naturalist, host of ETV’s Expeditions with Patrick McMillan, and Garden Director Patrick McMillan for an exciting morning learning to identify, observe, and listen to birds in the Garden. May is a peak time for observing seasonal migrants and learning about their ecology. Bring binoculars, field guides, and dress for the weather. Pre-registration required.
Fee: $25 ($20 members and volunteers)
Time: 8 – 10 a.m.
Location: To be announced

Thursday, April 25
SPRING NIGHT HIKE
Join naturalist Lisa Wagner for an evening hike in the garden. Experience the sights, sounds and sensations of a spring evening and see the rise of the full moon, if the weather permits. Please wear walking shoes and clothing appropriate for walking in the woods.
Fee: $7 per family (up to 5) ($5 for SCBG members
Time: 7 - 9 p.m.
Location: Meets at the Discovery Center Parking Area

Saturday, April 27
CULINARY ADVENTURES:
TOADS, SHEPHERDS AND MORE
April 23 is the day of the birth and death of Shakespeare, and St. George’s day, the patron saint of England, so we’ll celebrate English food in this hands-on workshop. Toad in the hole? Shepherd pie? Mushy peas? Spotted Dick? Delve into the curious world of English cooking as we make and eat a British feast.
Fee: $35 ($30 members and volunteers)
Time: 4 – 6 p.m.
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center

May

Saturday, May 18
CULINARY ADVENTURES: SPANISH DELIGHTS
Join local amateur chef Neil Calkin as we dive into the culinary delights of Spanish food. Construct a paella, a feast for a group, make tapas (small bites which reflect seasonal fare), and add some fruity sangria. In this hands-on workshop, we’ll make and then eat a meal that will get us dancing flamenco!!
Fee: $35 ($30 members & volunteers)
Time: 4 – 6 p.m.
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center

Friday May 24
INTRODUCTION TO IKEBANA
Join Judy Koepnick, Instructor 3rd Grade, Ikenobo School of Ikebana, to learn about ikebana, or Japanese flower arranging. Japanese flower arrangement creates harmony with line, rhythm, and color, and emphasizes flowers and plants in their natural state. Ikebana uses seasonal materials that can be found in any garden, but compared to western style arranging differs in the interpretation. Bring a low wide container and clippers. All floral material will be provided.
Fee: $25 ($20 members & volunteers)
Time: 1 – 3 p.m.
Location: Carriage House

For complete program and event information, please visit the Garden’s events calendar: http://www.clemson.edu/public/scbg/calendar.html
Thursday May 30
**MAKE DECORATIVE STEPPING STONES**
Back by popular demand, Barbara Chapman will teach the science and artistry of making a decorative stepping stone. Play with concrete and delicate foliage to make a work of beauty for your garden. Please register at least one week in advance.
*Fee: $35 ($30 members & volunteers)*
*Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.*
*Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center*

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**Family and Youth**

**April**

*Saturday, April 6*

**HUNT CABIN OPEN HOUSE: SPRING FEVER**
This month’s Hunt Cabin Open House is all about welcoming spring. From sweeping out the cabin, to doing the laundry and celebrating new life, hands-on activities will draw families into the world of the Hunt family, especially that of the children.
*Fee: Free*
*Time: 12 – 4 p.m.*
*Location: Hunt Cabin*

**Mondays, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27**

**GARDEN SPROUTS**
Children discover the wonders of the Botanical Garden alongside a caregiver and with the guidance of Garden naturalist and educator Sue Watts. In this nature-based program for preschoolers, a new theme is introduced each week with new discoveries, songs to sing, and engaging activities to captivate young minds. Garden Sprouts blends the Garden’s unique resources with imaginative and fun ways to learn about plants and animals. Please pre-register.
*Fee: $5 ($4 members & volunteers)*
*Time: 10 – 11 a.m.*
*Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center*

**Wednesdays, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 8, 15, 22, 29**

**THE SECRET GARDEN CLUB**
In this after-school program for elementary students, we reveal the secrets of plants as we plant, care for, and harvest from the Food For Thought Garden. Many of our everyday vegetables have fascinating histories and have made intriguing journeys. In addition to discovering the social history of plants, children will learn the basics of vegetable gardening from South Carolina Master Gardener Sue Watts.
*Fee: $7/session $50/series ($6/session $40/series members & volunteers)*
*Time: 3:30 – 5 p.m.*
*Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center*

**Friday, April 19**

**BATHTUB BOTANY**
Make an Earth Day gift for yourself or someone special in this fun family program. We will share amazing ways that people have used plants throughout history and help you make your own soap and hand salve using plant materials to add scent, color and soothing properties. Please register at least 3 days in advance.
*Fee: $8 per person ($7 members and volunteers)*
*Time: 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.*
*Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center*

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**June**

**Saturday, June 15**

**GARDEN NATURALIST: FABULOUS FUNGI**
Join Julia Kerrigan, CU Assistant Professor of Mycology and co-founding member of the South Carolina Upstate Mycology Society (SCUMS), to learn about mycology. Begin in the classroom with an introduction to the kingdom Fungi and learn the basics of how to search for, collect, and identify fungal specimens. Spend the rest of the morning on a mushroom foray in the Garden putting your new skills into practice.
*Fee: $20 ($15 members & volunteers)*
*Time: 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.*
*Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center*

**Saturday, June 15**

**CULINARY ADVENTURES: A MELANGE OF MUSHROOMS**
Mushroom soup, marinated mushrooms and more fun with fungus! Follow Julia Kerrigan’s mushroom foray with a cooking workshop devoted to this versatile and tasty ingredient. Local amateur chef Neil Calkin will showcase a variety of fungi as you make and eat a mushroom meal.
*Fee: $35 ($30 members & volunteers)*
*Time: 12 - 2 p.m.*
*Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center*

**GARDEN COACHING: LANDSCAPE CONSULTATION**
Would you like to improve your home landscape with some personalized guidance? Have Director of Education Lisa Wagner help you think through your garden challenges in a two hour design consultation at your property. Sessions are tailored to individual needs, whether a general assessment or individual questions. For more information, please contact Lisa at lwagner@clemson.edu or call 864-656-3679.
*Fee: $145 ($125 for SCBG members and volunteer) as a contribution to SCBG Education Programs*
*Time & location by arrangement*

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The Garden’s Gate • 7
Use our ONLINE REGISTRATION SYSTEM at www.clemson.edu/scbg to register.
Please preregister for all programs - call to check for last minute availability.

Saturday, April 27
HANSON NATURE LEARNING CENTER OPEN HOUSE
SEED STARTERS
In this open house, visitors will learn about the vast variety of seeds: big, small, smooth, spiky, light and heavy. We'll discover how seeds travel, how humans use seeds, and much more. Plant seeds to start your own small flower or vegetable garden. Many other hands-on activities will introduce you and your family to the magic of seeds.
Fee: Free
Time: 12 - 4 p.m.
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center

May

Friday, May 3
READY, SET... GROW!
Where do plants come from? We'll begin the program with the delightful story of Mrs. Rumphi and continue learning about how a plant begins and what they need in order to grow. Each participant will plant a seed window, and will enjoy watching germination at home. We'll also create one of a kind art using the sun's energy!
Fee: $5 per participant ($4 members & volunteers)
Time: 2 - 4 p.m.
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center

Saturday, May 4
HANSON NATURE LEARNING CENTER OPEN HOUSE: SPRING FLOWERS
By May, spring flowers are well-along. Drop by to learn about some of our fascinating and beautiful spring flowers. Take a scavenger hunt sheet and head out on a journey of discovery in the Garden. We'll have coloring sheets and other hands-on activities for all ages.
Fee: Free
Time: 12 - 4 p.m.
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center

Friday, May 17
DIARY OF A WORM
In this program, we'll dig deep to uncover the interesting lives of worms! Children will enjoy taking an up-close look at real worms and will learn to appreciate all that these wiggly little critters do for us! While playing a game, we'll learn about compost and each participant will create his/her own miniature worm bin to take home! Please register at least 3 days in advance.
Fee: $7 per participant ($6 members & volunteers)
Time: 2 - 4 p.m.
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center

June

Saturday, June 1
HUNT CABIN OPEN HOUSE
By June the weather's warming up, but it's cool inside the cabin. Visit with the Hunt Cabin children, brought to life by local actors, learn about their world, and the surrounding countryside in the mid-nineteenth century.
Fee: Free
Time: 12 – 4 p.m.
Location: Hunt Cabin

Friday, June 7
HIGH FLYING AVIAN ADVENTURE
Birding is a great way to enjoy the outdoors, improve observation skills and just have fun! We'll learn how to locate and identify common birds, see and hear them on a Garden walk, and finish by creating nature journals and recording the day's findings! We will provide children's binoculars, but please feel free to bring your own binoculars if you have them. Please register at least 3 days in advance.
Fee: $6 per participant ($5 members & volunteers)
Time: 10 - 12 p.m.
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center

June 17 - 21
GARDEN EXPLORATIONS SCIENCE DISCOVERY CAMP
Join us for an exciting summer day-camping adventure for children ages 6-12. Garden Explorations brings science discovery to life. Why do butterflies like to visit certain flowers? Follow the path of a raindrop! What lives in the garden's ponds and streams? Discover the answers to these questions and others by participating in inquiry-based nature-based activities. The camp is based on SC science standards. Bring a sack lunch each day.
Fee: $100 ($90 members & volunteers)
Time: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center

Friday, June 21
MAKING SCENTS OF INSECTS
Take a close-up look at bees, butterflies and more on a garden insect investigation. Through various games and activities, we'll discover the amazing adaptations of insects and the valuable roles they play in our lives. You'll also decorate a pot and plant a flower to attract beneficial insects to your yard! Please register at least 3 days in advance.
Fee: $7 per participant ($6 members & volunteers)
Time: 2 – 4 p.m.
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center
Friday, July 12
AQUATIC ADVENTURE
Explore the wonders of water! We'll travel through the water cycle in a fun game, create an edible aquifer and make a splash in the pond. Each participant will make and take home a rain stick and water cycle wrist band. Please register at least 3 days in advance.
Fee: $7 per participant ($6 members and volunteers)
Time: 2 – 4 p.m.
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center

Saturday, June 29
HANSON NATURE CENTER OPEN HOUSE:
BUZZY BEES
Honey bees, carpenter bees, mason bees and more...
In this open house, learn about the diversity of bees, how we are dependent upon them and the challenges bees face today. Hands-on activities will introduce visitors to the intricate world of bees.
Fee: Free
Time: noon- 4 p.m.
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center

Friday, August 9
TOPS & BOTTOMS: THE STORY OF BEAR AND HARE
Do you ever wonder what exactly that green stuff is on your plate? Enjoy hearing Janet Stevens’ story Tops and Bottoms and learn about the variety of plant parts we eat. Children will learn through various activities - including a fruit and veggie taste test, Veggie Patch Bunko, Veggie Twister and a stroll through the Food for Thought Garden.
Please register at least 3 days in advance.
Fee: $6 per participant ($5 members and volunteers)
Time: 2 – 4 p.m.
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center

Friday, August 23
SUNDOWN SAFARI
Enjoy the plentiful sights and sounds of late summer as you stroll through the garden in the cool of the early evening. We’ll take a look at interesting summer foliage, look for signs of wildlife and listen to the symphony of summer sounds. We’ll also enjoy a story by the pond!
Fee: $4 per person ($3 members and volunteers)
Time: 6:30 – 8 p.m.
Location: Hanson Nature Learning Center

Unless otherwise noted, youth and family programs meet in the Hanson Nature Learning Center (lower level of the Hayden Conference Center: # 7 on the Garden Map)
Spring Concerts in the Garden Series

The South Carolina Botanical Garden is hosting the Second Annual Spring Concerts in the Garden series, featuring exciting and varied musical offerings from local artists. Join us for this FREE series in the Garden Amphitheater Friday nights at 7 p.m.

For detailed information about the performers, please visit our website.

March 29 – Katie & Larry
Katie and Larry met during a musical gig at Brown Street Club in downtown Greenville, SC. From there they began a strong musical connection. Their music continues to evolve and expand in all the genres.

April 5 – Christopher Branch
A powerhouse singer/songwriter who takes his cues from his South Carolina forerunners Edwin McCain & Hootie & the Blowfish, Christopher also lets his own simple & unique songwriting styles shine through.

April 12 – UnderTeaux
UnderTeaux is an exciting blues band from Clemson, SC, who have played together since 2005 (formerly The Hoodoo Hounds). Their musical influences vary, but include pre-war urban blues and post-war Chicago styles. UnderTeaux has recorded several original songs whose lyrics deal with traditional blues themes such as crossroads, tribulation, mojos and black cat bones.

April 19 – CU String Ensemble (The Disorderly Conductor and a Case of Domestic Violins)
Disorderly… is a student ensemble at Clemson University that plays music from both the contra dance and English Country Dance traditions.

April 26 – CU Jazz Ensemble
Join Monty Craig and his musicians in the amphitheater for a relaxing evening of jazz and entertainment.

Snacks and beverages will be available for purchase at the Garden Gazebo during the concerts. (No outside alcoholic beverages are permitted.)

Gardeners’ Notebook:
American Beech
Fagus grandifolia

American beech in forest understory

American beech is a long-lived, shade-tolerant native tree common in rich cove forests, river bluff forests, basic mesic forests, and northern hardwood forests.

Fire supression over the past century has seen a dramatic increase in beeches - the persistent leaves provide a reminder of their presence in winter, before they fall off at the time of leaf expansion.

Squirrels, chipmunks, deer, birds, and bears are among the animals that actively forage for beech nuts in the fall. Blue jays frequently cache the nuts and disperse the seeds.

American beech trees make an excellent additions to woodland gardens. Even though slow-growing, young trees are quite attractive!

– Lisa Wagner, Director of Education

The Garden’s Gate • 10
Thank you for making generous donations between 11/11/2012 and 3/3/2013. New donors are listed in green - welcome! All members at the Patron, Magnolia, Camellia and Sapphire levels are joint members of the Garden and Geology Museum.

Garden FRIENDS
Patron Members ($1000)
Holly Parrott

Magnolia Members ($500)
Brian Brown & Nagel
Cushman
Bill & Bonnie Ledbetter
Susan Smiley-Baker
T. Carter Thomasson, Jr.
J. David Wertz
Dana Anderson & Joe Culin
Joseph and Faye Bailey
Felicity Henderson
John Kelly
Felicity Henderson
J. David Wertz
T. Carter Thomasson, Jr.

Magnolia Members ($500)
Holly Parrott

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We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact Membership & Gifts manager Allison Jones at 864-656-4602 or allisoo@clemson.edu with any corrections.

The Garden's Gate • 11
Wildflower ecology:
Pink Lady’s Slipper Orchid

Lady’s slipper orchids are among the most unusual and prized plants in the Southeast. Conspicuous vein-like lines and a sweet odor direct large bees (mainly bumblebees) to a small opening in the large pink pouch. Once inside, bees first brush against the stigma (which is built like a comb to remove pollen), and then an anther (which contains a sticky mass of pollen), after which they exit through a small opening at the base of the flower. If a bee visits another lady’s slipper, the stigma rakes off the previously deposited pollen, resulting in pollination, and the anther pastes a fresh load of pollen onto the bee’s thorax.

However, because no actual reward is provided, pollinator visitation rates are very infrequent and fewer than 5 percent of the flowers typically mature fruit. If a flower is pollinated, the resulting fruit contains thousands of tiny wind-dispersed seeds. Very few seeds find the right combination of microclimate, soil, and symbiotic fungus to germinate and establish a new plant. The very shallow root system typically doesn’t penetrate the mineral soil but rather resides in the organic matter immediately above it. Periodic fire and other disturbance factors generally benefit this species as it grows best under a fairly open canopy. It’s best to simply enjoy this plant in its natural setting as wild orchids are nearly impossible to transplant successfully.

Tim Spira, CU botany professor and author of Wildflowers and Plant Communities of the Southern Appalachian Mountains and Piedmont

Cypripedium acaule
Pink Lady’s Slipper