A visitor’s first view of the Garden

Statuesque palmettos, sweeping walls and many South Carolinian native plants now welcome visitors to the Garden. This impressive new gate confers a true sense of arrival, excitement, and expectation to those passing through it. We have taken the gate’s wrought iron detail of a stylized palmetto as inspiration for our new emblem. These choices affirm our commitment to be The South Carolina Botanical Garden, truly dedicated to representing the people and places of our State. Along with our new gate and emblem, we have revised and refocused our core values.

Core values:

Public service: The SCBG’s primary charge is to provide an inviting, beautiful and safe environment to serve our visitors, and to increase the quality of life for all. Our main goal is to get people outside. This is critical for physical health, to foster creativity and ingenuity, for mental health, for learning about the intricacies of our living world, and to strengthen our country. If a visitor never reads a label, never reads a sign or never listens to a word from our educators, they will still experience the living world.

Nurturing life: The SCBG is committed to operating in a holistic manner that nurtures the life of all of the inhabitants of our world in a manner that best protects diversity: diversity of species, diversity of cultures, diversity of all life. Before we act we will always ask: “what is the best choice for life?”

Life-long learning: The SCBG is committed to providing world-class educational outreach and opportunities through public classes, engagement with Clemson University classes, special events and exhibit interpretation. We believe we exist to teach, but also to continue to learn ourselves. We will foster continuing education for our staff and continuously change our management goals to reflect the most recent and appropriate techniques to achieve our mission.

Promoting healthy landscapes, native plants and resource-wise plantings: As a holistic garden we strive to provide an excellent example to the public of resource-wise, healthy landscapes that foster diversity. We are committed to providing a center for learning and promoting our southeastern native plants, as well as those plants that provide valuable ecosystem services, and are well-adapted and resource-wise in our managed landscapes. We are committed to controlling and reducing the negative impact of invasive species in our ecosystem. cont’d page 11
Every time I sit down to write this update the rate of growth and the accomplishments at the SCBG become larger and larger. That's a great sign and it is largely because of you, our members, who so generously support our mission and our commitment to serve the people of South Carolina. Thank you!

The gate is finished and it is stunning! We now have a very fitting and beautiful entrance that sets a high standard for all our future projects. If you haven't seen this beautiful addition, please visit and see why we are so excited. The gate allows us to close the Garden to vehicular traffic after dark, gives increased security for our visitors, and enables us to have a much more accurate account of our visitation. This is only one of the new projects completed this year. At the Hanover House a new landscape has been installed behind this lovely 301 year old home. The walkway features plants connected to the cultures of South Carolina, and the people who made Berkeley County their home. Construction will be starting on the landscape in front of the Hanover House this spring. You might also notice a barge in the popular Duck Pond and construction starting in this area too. This is the beginning of an incredible addition: the McBride Promenade. The Promenade will allow visitors to traverse a portion of the pond to a fanciful gazebo over the water. This feature brings visitors face to face with the life of the pond, as well as providing a space for the construction of a new water lily garden.

We also are extremely pleased and proud to announce the dedication of the Susan K. Barr Memorial Pollinator Plaza in the Children's Garden. This incredibly generous gift from the Barr family and friends celebrates the life of Susan, a dear friend of mine, and of the Garden. This gift provides a place for children to explore and to experience pollinators, and to discover their importance in our lives. Together with the McBride Promenade and the Canopy Walk, these three elements will redefine this area as one the best children’s gardens anywhere.

We have also changed our logo! You might recognize the design because it is also central to our gate and now on everybody's hats and shirts! Along with the logo you will soon see much improved directional and way-finding signs throughout the Garden. Our Board and staff have worked diligently to develop a set of core values which we have adopted to guide our every move, to ensure that this remains a "Garden for Life" for everyone, and embodies the diversity that makes South Carolina such a wonderful place.

All these changes are exciting! We already have a ton of new projects in the works for the year ahead to further improve your Garden experience. Don't forget all the past successes and all the work that goes into the highly-successful plant sales, concert series, Earth Day Festival, and Forest Fest, and just keeping the Garden safe, sound and vibrant for your enjoyment. Our incredible staff deserves a pat on the back when you see them. They work so hard, and such long hours to make this place what it is. Again, I say thank you! Our friends have made this place shine and your support has driven the growth and improvements that have resulted in our parking lot being full every day!

~ Patrick
As I write this, we are having our second spring of the year! In early March we experienced amazing weather, and the plants were all preparing for a beautiful show. A sudden deep freeze put a stop to that, but plants are very resilient, and are now putting out another spring showing. The Garden staff spent a lot of time covering and protecting those plants we could, and I feel as though it paid off for us. Spring has sprung, again. The next few weeks will be a bustle of activity as we switch from winter annuals to our spring and summer show of color. I’m excited for the change of color and the opportunity to freshen up the plantings.

There are many changes taking place in the Garden, and we are all working very hard to install new landscapes at both the Hanover House and the new entrance. Irrigation upgrades are also being done as time permits, to help us be more conservative with our watering.

Our student workers have gone above and beyond helping with these projects, as well as volunteer and community service students from the University. Just in the month of March we have had unpaid student helpers work over seven hundred hours. It takes a little organizing, but it’s well worth all of the help these students have given to the Garden. Many are business students volunteering for class credit, and others are doing community service to expunge their record of minor infractions. All of them have been wonderful to work with, and whether mulching, hand weeding or helping plant, they seem to enjoy the opportunity to get outside and help make a difference. I would also like to welcome our new volunteers who have been helping in the Conifer, Xeriscape, Visitor’s Center and Display Gardens. I can’t thank our volunteer and student help enough—what a wonderful way to get outside and help make a difference. Thank you!

~ Kathy Bridges, Landscape Manager

First Friday Walks with David Bradshaw
October - March 9 a.m.
April - September 7 a.m.
Each one is a unique adventure!
Meet at the Caboose Parking Area

Those of us who work on the Natural Heritage Trail were quite busy expanding the Sandhills section during the winter months. Clemson’s Pee Dee Research and Education Center (PDREC) located in Florence hosted a native plant rescue during February. Several of us were fortunate to attend the event and collected a number of diverse species for the SCBG.

Sandhills are found across the state, roughly from Aiken through Columbia and up through Chesterfield. It is the meeting point of the Coastal Plain and the Piedmont. The Sandhills mark the sand dunes and former coastline of the prehistoric Atlantic Ocean. There is no hotter, drier place in the Carolinas, and many of the plants found here would be well-adapted to grow in deserts. But not all of this region is dry - streams rush forth from the base of these hills and hold wondrous shows of carnivorous plants such as pitcher plants and sundews. The Sandhills are a treasure few venture into but that everyone should experience.

In the Sandhills section of our trail, we strive to illustrate the plants, ecological processes and the connection of that ecosystem with humankind. The following is a list of the species we transplanted in the SCBG: Coreopsis major (greater tickseed), Helianthus atrorubens (purple disk sunflower), Liatris pilosa (shaggy blazing star), Liatris squarrosa (scaly blazing star), Pityopsis graminifolia (narrowleaf silkgrass), Sericocarpus tortifolius (whitetop aster), Symphyotrichum concolor (eastern silver aster), Vernonia angustifolia (tall ironweed), Atriplex stricta/Aristida beyrichiana (wiregrass), Schizachyrium scoparium (little bluestem), Sorghastrum nutans (slender indiangrass), Ageratina aromatica (lesser snakeroot), Tephrosia virginiana (goat’s rue), and Lespedeza capitata (roundhead lespedeza). I am pleased to write that the majority of these plants are already beginning to show new growth this month. Come walk the Natural Heritage Trail soon and see what’s blooming!

~ Allison Kelly, Natural Heritage Trail Manager

Watch for the Sandhills Exhibit to burst into flower this summer.

New life: red oak leaves and spider

We are thrilled to be the beneficiary of Sydney Weeks’ Silver Girl Scout Project for Troop # 2851. Check out the boxes by the Hunt Cabin and in the Discovery Center for fun family activities to do together. She did extremely professional work.
Special Events

Spring Concert Series Finale
Friday, May 5
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Amphitheater

The Melody Garden
Spring Family Sing-Along
~Celebrating Mothers~

Guitar, ukulele, banjo, hands-on percussion instruments, and dancing in the beautiful Garden!

May 13th
10:30-11:30
SC Botanical Garden
Amphitheater
$8/FAMILY

Tuesdays & Thursdays
Yoga Classes
Join Melissa Powell, RYT-200 for mindful, breath-led yoga classes appropriate for both beginners and more experienced yogis.
Time: 8:45-10 a.m.
Fee: Pay-what-you-can, with a suggested amount $5 to $15.
Location: Fran Hanson Discovery Center Lawns (inside in bad weather)
NEW EXHIBITS

The Geological Record

The renovation and re-organization of the Bob Campbell Geology Museum has opened up a considerable amount of space for new exhibits. Several new displays have been added since the end of 2016 and several more will be unveiled over the course of the new year! The new exhibits on “Giant Flightless Birds” and “Pterosaurs” mentioned in the last edition of the Geological Record, are now on display in the Benson Gallery and new exhibits on “Paleozoic Sea Creatures” and “Synthetic Minerals” are now open for public viewing.

The new Paleozoic Sea Exhibit features crinoids, blastoids, trilobites, hybodont sharks and an array of bizarre creatures from Earth’s distant past. The BCGM is the only place in the upstate you can see real examples of these extinct animals! Additionally, the BCGM recently added 8 more specimens to our exhibit on meteorites, including four from right here in SC! Finally, work continues on Triceratops dinosaur, ancient rhinoceros, and crocodile fossils in our “Fossil Preparation Lab” exhibit. Our student fossil preparators can be viewed working in the lab most weekday afternoons.

Please help the BCGM grow to meet the needs of the Upstate community. Contact us at bcgm@clemson.edu to discuss the projects we have planned and how you can contribute. Also see our Facebook page and our website (www.clemson.edu/geomuseum) for details regarding upcoming special exhibits and events.

Our curator has plans to add several more exciting new exhibits in the near future. Dr. Smith has commissioned an artist to build a life-reconstruction of Eoraptor, one of the earliest known dinosaurs. This new model will be an integral part the museums planned exhibit on “What Is and What Is Not a Dinosaur”. This early Triassic Period dinosaur was much smaller than its relatives that appear later in the Cretaceous Period, and had 5 digits on each hand (later dinos reduced this number to 2 or 3).

Finally, 3 new displays on “The Use of Fluorescent Minerals in Everyday Life”, “SC Rocks: From the Mountains to the Sea”, and an interactive display focused on “Radioactive Minerals and their Amazing Properties” will be coming soon to the BCGM!

TIGER-THEMED EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

April 15
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

This first family-friendly event is slated to become a yearly highlight. 2017’s festivities feature tiger-themed activities including: pictures with the Clemson Tiger Mascot from 1 - 2 p.m., music with Ms. Rebecca’s Melody Garden from 12:30 - 1 p.m. and 2 - 2:30 p.m., Earth-friendly sweet treats and kid-friendly fare for sale by local vendors, FREE tiger-themed face painting, games and activities, Tiger-themed crafts (all $5.00 or less), tables featuring kid-friendly activities from more than a dozen local clubs and conservation organizations; and much more!
Friday, June 9

Garden Creativity: Red, White & Indigo; the dye that gave America the blues
You probably take the blue in your favorite jeans for granted now, but it was once prized by slave traders, spiritual leaders, and royalty alike. Join Allison Jones and Kendra Vincent to enjoy learning about the history of indigo and create a set of 3 beautiful indigo-dyed tea towels, just in time for summer entertaining! Bring an apron and/or be sure to wear clothes that you can get messy in.

Please register 5 days in advance.
Fee: $23 per person (10% member discount)
Time: 2 - 4 p.m.
Location: Nature Learning Center

Friday, July 7

Creek Critters
Enjoy the coolness of the creek, in every sense! Join Allison Jones and Kendra Vincent to become citizen scientists, taking an up-close look at some of the creek’s smallest and coolest residents, recording our findings and learning their significance. Please wear shoes that can get wet and dirty. Please register at least 3 days in advance.

Fee: $7 (10% member discount)
Time: 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.
Location: Nature Learning Center

Friday, Aug 11

Backyard Butterflies
In this program, join Allison Jones and Kendra Vincent to learn about the fascinating life cycles and habits of butterflies, and we’ll find out how to identify butterflies common to our area as well their caterpillars. We’ll observe these enchanting creatures in the Butterfly Garden and discover ways to attract butterflies to our own back yards. You’ll even take something home to get your butterfly garden started!

Must register at least 3 days in advance.
Fee: $7 (10% member discount)
Time: 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.
Location: Nature Learning Center
Use our ONLINE REGISTRATION SYSTEM at www.clemson.edu/scbg to register.
Please preregister for all programs - call to check for last minute availability.

Nature Center Open House
Time: 1 - 4 p.m.
Fee: $5 suggested donation per family
This is a drop-in, come when you like, and stay as long as you want.
For information contact Sue Watts, watts9@clemson.edu

Saturday, May 6
Insect Discovery
Now things are really beginning to hop in the Garden! Discover more about the life cycles and habits of bees, butterflies, beetles and more! Hands-on activities will introduce young and old alike to the fabulous worlds of insects and the Clemson Entomology Club, Master Naturalists and the Butterfly Garden Volunteers will be on hand to help.

Saturday, June 3
Dragonflies and Damsel Flies
Meet the acrobats of the air – dragonflies and damselflies are aerial experts living around ponds and along streams. Discover the fascinating life cycle of these ethereal creatures and their important role in the environment through hands-on activities. Guided tours for dragonfly and damselfly spotting will be offered every half hour from 1.30 to 3.30 p.m.

Saturday, July 1
Life in the pond
In this open house, we’ll take a deeper look at the duck pond and its inhabitants. We’ll meet the many frogs, fish, birds and insects that rely on the pond and discover how important the pond is to them. Guided tours for a close-up pond exploration activity will take place every half hour from 1.30 to 3.30 p.m.

Hunt Cabin Open House
Time: 1 - 4 p.m.
Fee: $5 suggested donation per family
This is a drop-in, come when you like, and stay as long as you want.
For information contact Sue Watts, watts9@clemson.edu

Saturday, April 29
Spring Fever!
In this drop-in, experience some of the rites of spring. Listen to local storyteller and musician H. Dean Watson. Take a walk down our Natural Heritage Trail to learn about spring tonics and other medicinal plants. Enjoy some sassafras tea.

Saturday, May 27
Fun days, school days and work days
Explore the life of children in the 19th Century. From games they played, to school lessons, and the chores they were expected to complete, life in the past was very different for children. Experience the Game of Graces, play with a Jacob’s Ladder and trundle a hoop. Make your own game to take home.

Saturday, June 24
Indigo Blues
Discover the importance of indigo dye to the early history of South Carolina. We will have an indigo vat set up for you to make your own indigo dyed cloth (cloth provided). Enjoy a blueberry treat to carry on the true-blue theme of the day.

Saturday, July 29
Keeping cool
As temperatures rise, keeping cool becomes paramount. Decorate your own fan to keep cool and learn about the importance of birds to the creation of nineteenth century fans. Enjoy a refreshing glass of lemonade as you sit by the waterfall.

• Unless otherwise noted, all programs meet in the Hanson Nature Learning Center, in the basement of the Hayden Conference Center.
• The code for the Friends program discount is now: FRIENDS2017.
• Friends and volunteers receive a 10% discount on programs.
June 12 - 16, 2017

**Garden Explorations**

An exciting summer day camp adventure. Garden Explorations brings nature discovery to life. Children explore the Garden's habitats through many fun hands-on activities and discover the wonders of the natural world. This year we are excited to offer an optional day on Lake Jocassee with upstate naturalists and SCBG staff.

**Suggested ages 6 - 12 yrs**

5 Half days at Garden  
Time: 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.  $90/session 
4 Half days Garden/1 full lake day* 
Full day at Garden  
Time: 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.  $180/session 
4 Full days Garden/1 full lake day* 
*Lake day goes until 4 p.m.

July 17-21

**Great Green Adventure**

In this camp we'll focus on hands-on exploration of the outdoors and ways to connect to and protect the natural world. From day to day, campers will become gardeners, artists, ethnobotanists, field biologists and conservationists all while learning about the importance of teamwork, sustainability, and having loads of fun!

**Suggested Age: 6-12**

Half Day: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
$90/session

June 19 - 23

**Garden Creativity**

In this camp for children creativity reigns! The garden is both our palette and media. Craft, paint, draw, and explore many dimensions of the creative spirit. Learn about famous artists who were inspired by the natural world. Kids are encouraged to experiment and to tap their natural creativity as they paint, sketch, mold clay and assemble natural materials into works of art.

**Suggested ages: 6 -12 yrs**

Half day: 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
$90/session

July 31 - Aug. 4

**Time Travelers**

Live the past! History comes alive in this week long camp. Join us at the Hunt Cabin to learn survival skills needed in the 19th Century. Learn how to build a cabin, cook on an open hearth, track animals, make period clothes and more! In this camp, children will be immersed in South Carolina's history and learn about the people and cultures that make up the diversity of our state.

**Suggested ages: 6 -12 yrs**

Half day: 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
$90/session

June 26-30

**Mountains to Sea**

In this camp, children will journey from the mountains to the sea, discovering the plants, animals and people who have called these spaces home throughout our state's history. Participants enjoy daily hikes in the Garden, games and hands-on activities as well as visits to nearby historical sites. Take home projects will include hand-dyed shirts, pottery and more!

**Suggested ages: 6-12**

Half Day: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
$90/session 
Full Day: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
$180/session 
Aug 7-9

**Things with Wings Mini-Camp**

The Garden is home to a variety of fascinating, flying creatures! From bugs to birds and beyond, campers will learn about nature's winged wonders through hikes, games, crafts and more fun!

**Suggested Age: 5-10**

Half Day: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
$55/session

Drop-off for all camps is 8 a.m. - 9 a.m. All camps begin at 9 a.m. sharp. Become a Friend of the Garden and save 10% on camp.
The Certificate in South Carolina Native Plants was launched in July 2015 to a huge, positive response statewide. After almost two years, over one hundred and fifty people are enrolled in the program. The Certificate is a fruitful partnership between the South Carolina Native Plant Society (SCNPS) and the South Carolina Botanical Garden (SCBG) to raise awareness about South Carolina’s native plants. The program introduces students to South Carolina’s rich botanical heritage through hands-on field-based classes taught by professionals in the field. Students learn about native plants, their vast diversity, natural plant communities, and the habitats that define South Carolina. Participants also discover the significant benefits of native plants to ensure biodiversity, and to improve soil, water and air quality. Additionally, they are taught the importance of sustainable and appropriate development, and become aware of conservation issues facing native plants and plant communities.

Within the program, the core courses give a solid understanding of the native plants of South Carolina. Basic botany provides the foundation to the Certificate, and all participants attend this day-long introduction. Basic horticulture and sustainable landscaping enable students to develop skills and techniques to nurture native plants and recreate natural landscapes and plant communities. Four additional courses are taught along the Natural Heritage Trail within the SCBG. The ability to be able to traverse many of the state’s key plant communities in a day makes the Trail a truly unique and valuable teaching tool. On the Trail, participants explore the natural plant communities, trees, and spring and fall herbaceous plant identification. Our electives are growing in number and diversity. One of the first electives was taught by Tim Lee, expert naturalist and ranger at the Mountain Bridge Wilderness. Under his tutelage, participants were initiated into the magical and complex world of ferns. Other electives included propagation, container planting and rain gardens.

We’ve added classes in other geographic locations to explore localized plant communities in depth. Dr. Bruce Sorrie, a botanist with over 30 years of botanical experience and author of *Wildflowers of the Sandhills Region*, led a group to investigate the Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge. Tim Lee took a group to explore mountain plant communities in the Mountain Bridge Wilderness. As the program grows, we hope to increase the number and diversity of certificate classes across the state.

We have been astounded and pleased by the enthusiasm for native plants we have seen across the state, and beyond. Participants have included people of all ages and from all walks of life. We are particularly thrilled by the number of professionals in environmental fields taking the class, who can then possibly integrate what they learn into their work. Home gardeners, too, can be a lynch-pin for the development of ecologically rich and diverse habitats throughout the state. To register, visit our website or contact Sue Watts at watts9@clemson.edu.

**Graduates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carl Cole, Charleston, SC</th>
<th>Kris Littman-Koon, Columbia, SC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nancy Bryant, Bluffton, SC</td>
<td>Gale Brownlee, Central, SC</td>
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<td>Gale Rahn, John’s Island, SC</td>
<td>Betsy Russell, Columbia, SC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kitty Putnam, Greenville, SC</td>
<td>Dale Stone, Simpsonville, SC</td>
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<td>Sherry Waldvogel, Norris, SC</td>
<td>Joyce Holcombe, Easley, SC</td>
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<td>Richard Ivy, Fair Play, SC</td>
<td>Diane Peterson, Trenton, SC</td>
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<td>Robert Meaders, Hartwell, GA</td>
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Patrick McMillan teaching Fall Herbaceous Plant ID

Dr. Bruce Sorrie teaching Sandhills Exploration Elective.

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The Garden’s Gate • 9
Forest Fest 2017

The second annual Forest Fest in the Clemson Experimental Forest was another success. On a VERY busy Saturday with festivities surrounding the Spring Football Game, the SCBG Spring Plant Sale and numerous other local events, more than five hundred people came out to the Lake Issaqueena Area to celebrate and support the Clemson Experimental Forest. At various stations around the Lake, families and friends of the Forest enjoyed guided hikes and creek explorations, learned to identify birds, wildflowers and trees, held snakes and other creek critters and even got to paddle around in a canoe, kayak or paddleboard.

Thank you to all who came out in support of the wonderful resource that is the Clemson Experimental Forest! Special thanks to all of the dedicated volunteers who helped make the event so much fun!

~ James Wilkins, Education & Resource Coordinator CEF/SCBG
Our Friends Program is of incredible importance to us. It is so critical for us to have you as our supporters and cheerleaders. You may have noticed some changes in the Friends program recently. The whole program is receiving an overhaul, beginning with your membership card, which now is rather beautiful with an image of the Carnivorous Plant Exhibit. As we transition the system, however, we are facing some delays in the university system. Please be patient with us, and let us know if you discover any issues with your membership. We are diligently working to smooth the path towards a more efficient system than ever before. Please contact Angel Perkins at perkin8@clemson.edu with any concerns, mark your email: Friends.

Our Core Values, Continued from page one

Fostering research: The SCBG is committed to fostering collaboration and research on horticulture, sustainability, biodiversity management, taxonomy, conservation, environmental science and any other mission-centered related field using our grounds, our organisms and our talent. Research must be in line with the mission, vision and goals of the SCBG.

Educating people on the importance of individual choice in all we do: Everything we do at the SCBG eventually ends up being about the lasting impact every one of us has on the world around us forever. We live the legacy we leave. All aspects of our work are centered on the importance of making responsible choices and the interconnection of man and the rest of the world. You are important. “Throw down a shell and change the world” is a motto of the Natural Heritage Garden and an important lesson for all of us.

Thank you
South Carolina Botanical Garden
Board of Directors
for all your hard work
on the Garden’s behalf

Bob DiBella
Donna Donnelly
Mary Elder, Chair
Gwen Heusel
Richard Heusel
Heather Hilliard
Frazer Pajak
Dabney Peeples
Marcia Radakovich
Carol Savage
Joe Turner

Past Members:
Yvonne Morris

Our new shirts are available at the Gift Shop!
Support us and look stylish too. The shirt feature our new, elegant emblem.

Unisex crew-neck t-shirts are available in three colors (sizes SM - XXL) and a purple, feminine-cut V-neck option is available, too (sizes SM - XL).

$18
For this plant focus I wanted to discuss one of our showiest spring flowers, the California poppy. Each year around April, a large swath of the hillside in the Southwestern Collection here at the SCBG glows with masses of bright orange blooms thanks to this spring blooming annual. The California poppy’s scientific name is *Eschscholzia californica* and it is closely related to the true poppy species that are in the genus *Papaver*. While this plant is small in stature and has a short lifespan, it makes a big impact in mid-spring. California poppies are nearly impossible to transplant, and prefer gritty, well-drained soil. Since these plants must be grown from seed in situ, it is important to understand the life cycle of this plant. This all begins in January when the seeds scattered in previous years begin to germinate, slowly growing into rosettes of lacy leaves that are a beautiful frosty blue-green. With warming temperatures the seedlings grow more rapidly until one day they all explode in bloom. As the temperatures begin to change from warm to hot, the poppies set seed with long, bean-like fruits that pop open, throwing seed in every direction to prepare for the next year’s bloom. The California poppy has been one of the stars in this years California desert super-bloom.

~ Trenton Miller, Collections Manager