

The Garden's Gate

from the South Carolina Botanical Garden

August - December 2017

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Plants for the 21st Century



Spencer Waldrop, facilities manager and Carrie Baxley, resting after sculpting the new Jurassic Garden.



Papilio glaucus
Eastern Tiger Swallowtail

throughout the garden, from the pipevine trailing across the entrance arbor to the beautiful passionflower, food for pipevine swallowtail and fritillary caterpillars respectively. For people, and wildlife, this is truly a magical place.



Left to right: Ellen Swann, Sherry Waldvogel, Stephanie White, Gail Brownlee and Lesa Chandler

In July, as temperatures climb into the 90s, the butterfly garden is full of clouds of swallowtails, spotted skippers, pipevine swallowtails and more. This has been a wonderful year for butterflies! Zinnia, Cleome, Pentas and Salvia line the garden's walkways with a profusion of blooms for nectaring butterflies, hummingbirds, moths, and more. Less showy, but equally important, are the host plants scattered



Battus philenor
Pipevine Swallowtail

On most Wednesday mornings, you can find a remarkable group of dedicated women working in the butterfly garden. This group is led by Sherry Waldvogel. She is the glue that holds the group together, and she motivates them through her gentle enthusiasm and dedication. Sherry generously shares her extensive knowledge of butterflies with any interested visitors, volunteers or staff. We are very lucky that, in addition to her volunteer work, she is now a part-time member of our staff maintaining the Natural Heritage Garden Trail.



John and Carolyn Turner

The butterfly garden was the brainchild of longtime volunteers, John and Carolyn Turner, and Lisa Wagner, the Garden's former education director, and they worked passionately and tirelessly to realize their vision. From its inception in 2009, when John turned over the first shovelful of soil, this garden has become a firm favorite of many visitors and its educational value is unsurpassed.



Phoebis senna
Cloudless Sulphur
Chrysalis

Visitors are able to witness the butterfly life cycle first hand: from a butterfly laying eggs to the emergence of adults from a chrysalis. The butterfly garden is teeming with life of all kinds, and through this diversity visitors are able to see the interactions between numerous insects, and insects and plants. The recent addition of citrus plants to our plant palette brought giant swallowtails to the garden for the first time last year. From supporting monarchs on their long journey in both spring and fall, to enabling generations of many different butterflies to thrive in the garden, the butterfly garden is a treasure beyond compare. We are so fortunate to have this thriving oasis at the SCBG.



Papilio cresphontes
Giant Swallowtail Caterpillar



Battus philenor
Pipevine Swallowtail Caterpillar

All butterfly photos by Ed Pivorun.

Director's Note



Patrick McMillan



McBride Aquatic Garden
C.U. Planning and Design

Your SCBG staff have been incredibly busy this summer with five active construction projects. The McBride Aquatic Garden in the Duck Pond has a projected date for construction to begin in October, 2017, after much work with permitting, and engineering and design. This incredible feature, funded by a generous gift will take the visitor across part of the Duck Pond via an elevated walkway to an ornate gazebo and connect to a pathway leading directly into the existing Children's Garden. The experience will bring families face-to-face with giant Victoria waterlilies, ducks, turtles, and fish, and will anchor our Children's Garden on this corner.

The generous gift allowing the construction of the Susan K. Barr Pollinator Garden will transform the side of the Children's Garden adjacent to the Hayden Conference Center. Again, this enchanting and interactive space will focus on the connections we share with the myriad of pollinators around us, and provide a place for education unlike any other. This project has been initiated and we expect construction to begin sometime this winter.

The final anchor for the Children's Garden is the Treehouse - a majestic and interactive walkway taking our children into the canopy of the forest surrounding the Children's Garden. This project is completely unique and again, transformative for your SCBG and our youth. The project has achieved 70% of the funding needed to begin. We will be making a huge push this fall to reach our goal and initiate the construction project. We need your help in achieving this goal, so spread the word and help if you are able. This project completes the framing of our Children's Garden and will result in a landscape where our children can explore, connect with nature and simply play and be children.

The Dabney J. Peebles Jurassic Garden is in full construction mode! This generous gift and design will allow us to transport our visitors to a landscape the likes of which Dinosaurs would have encountered. The huge, natural and age-appropriate rock carry the visitor through an other-worldly and whimsical landscape that would be similar to that found in the Triassic period dominated by several species of Scouring Rushes and large specimen Cycads and Monkey-puzzle Trees into a lush habitat similar to that of the Jurassic and Cretaceous periods when Dinosaurs dominated the land and ancient flowering plants had arrived on the scene. This landscape is really shaping up quickly and we expect to have the pathway open by winter.

This is just a snapshot of the many projects and plans for the future that are keep your SCBG moving forward and leading the charge on creating spaces that make us a "Garden for Life." We have achieved so much because of you and your support. Please spread the word and share the importance of supporting our charge to become THE world-class holistically-managed botanical garden. Thank you for all you do!

~ Patrick D. McMillan

Garden Staff

Patrick McMillan
Garden Director

Shannon Barrett
Landscape Architect

John Bodiford
Garden Manager

Kathy Bridges
Landscape Manager

Allison Jones
Education Program Coordinator

Allison Kelly
Natural Heritage Garden Manager

Trenton Miller
Collections Manager

Angel Perkins
Director's Assistant
Rental Programs & Gift Shop Manager

David Rife
Arboretum Manager

Misty Shealy
Nursery Manager

Adam Smith
Curator, Geology Museum

Rebecca Samples Smith
Garden Educator

Kendra Vincent
Garden Educator

Spencer Waldrop
Facilities Manager

Sherry Waldvogel
Horticultural Technician

Sue Watts
Education Program Coordinator

James Wilkins
Education & Resource Coordinator CEF/SCBG

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Successful butterfly gardening means:



*Provide a constant nectar source from early spring until late fall. Creeping phlox and homestead verberna in early spring and late blooming asters

and chrysanthemums in late fall.

*Provide nectar and also the plant species on which each butterfly lays its eggs. Most butterflies are very picky eaters (e.g. pipevine for pipevine swallowtails, violets and passionflower for fritillaries, milkweed for monarchs, etc.) With nectar and the right larval host plants, you will often have multiple generations of butterflies until frost.

*Be willing to “embrace the ugly.” Leave aphid covered milkweeds until the monarch caterpillars are finished with them in the late fall and have emerged from their chrysalises, or let passionflower grow in unintended places, or sicklepods occupy space for some sulphur caterpillar species.

*Make some lifestyle changes. Go to the grocery store when your prized fennel, parsley, and dill are being consumed by black swallowtail caterpillars. Don't spray pesticides on your cultivated bean leaves when they have long-tailed skipper caterpillars rolled inside them. Don't mow over every single cudweed flower or English plantain leaf in the early spring when American lady caterpillars and buckeyes are using them.

*Finally, while I strongly advocate planting as many plants native to SC as possible, the reality of our area is that habitats for butterflies are often very dispersed and butterflies have to travel farther and farther distances to find what they need to survive. Also, many of our natives only bloom for a short period of time.

Natives: spicebush for spicebush swallowtail caterpillars, native grasses for skippers, and pawpaws for zebra swallowtails

Non-natives: zinnias, butterfly bushes, abelias, lantanas, homestead verbenas, and chrysanthemums are all a good source of nectar for a long period of time and very showy

~ Sherry Waldvogel, Horticultural Technician



What a summer! Heat and humidity have been the norm, but our great group of students this summer have worked through it. The new entrance is open, with just a few details to wrap up: walkways still await a top dressing of decorative gravel, and there are a few more plants which will go in as

weather cools. The new landscape renovation at the historical Hanover house is getting close to completion, too hot to plant, but I'm told cool weather will return. A decent amount of much needed rain has been great for the Garden, but has also made for some very happy weeds. Needless to say, we are pulling weeds constantly, mulching, and watering.

The Visitor's Center in early June was the site of the Sakata annual event. Sakata develops new annuals for the garden and floral business, and we worked out a collaboration and huge donation of annual plugs and seeds, which led to their showcase event being held at the Garden this year. Breeders and growers were invited to see how annuals perform in a landscape setting. It was a huge success for a first year event, and with help from a lot of volunteers, staff and students, the Garden looked amazing.

I really want to thank Sue, Carol and Keisha for stepping up to help in the Children's Garden. It's looking good, and we have some great interactive ideas to keep children occupied. Coming this fall! If you're interested in volunteering in either the Children's Garden or other areas in the garden, shoot me an email. I'd love to hear from you!!

As always, thanks to all of our volunteers and student workers. We couldn't maintain this treasure without your help. 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

Special Events

Fall Concert Series

Garden Amphitheater

7 P.M. - 9 P.M. ish

Free, donations accepted

- Sept 15 Left Lane
- Sept 22 Haitian Childrens Choir
~ a fundraiser
- Sept 29 Tropical Island Players
- Oct 6 Blackwater Social



Get daily updates on Instagram at scbotgarden and current news on Facebook.



Volunteer Opportunities

We need you! We are looking for volunteers to help us to maintain this beautiful Garden, share the Gardens with visitors old and young, prepare for the plant sales, help with special events and more. Make a valued contribution to the Garden's future, develop friendships and camaraderie, and challenge yourself by learning new skills and knowledge.

If you are interested in volunteering in grounds maintenance, please contact John Bodiford at jbdford@clemson.edu or the main office at 656-3405.

Monday, September 11

Become an interpretative guide: school groups

Can you help us share the Garden with local children? In this morning workshop, you will learn about the programs offered by the SCBG education department and how to implement them with young learners. This is an initial orientation meeting and subsequent meetings will be held at times to be decided to provide support and facilitate volunteer community building. Lunch provided. Contact Sue Watts at watts9@clemson.edu

Time: 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Fee: Free

Tuesday, September 12

Become an interpretive guide: adult tours

Would you like to meet visitors from near and far and help us share the beauty and history of the SCBG with them? In this morning workshop, content will be provided with tips and techniques on how to develop an engaging and informative tour. This is an initial orientation meeting and subsequent meetings will be held at times to be decided to provide support and facilitate volunteer community building. Lunch provided.

Time: 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Fee: Free



Fossil Hunting in North Dakota



Figure 1. Bison near Bowman, ND (left; photo by P. Brinkman) and the “badlands” that the BCGM team prospected for fossils (right; photo by A. Smith).



Figure 2. The BCGM field crew (from left: P. Brinkman, A. Brown, Z. Zuber) extracting a plaster field “jacket” containing a section of Cretaceous/Tertiary boundary sediments (left; photo by A. Smith) and BCGM curator A. Smith



Figure 3. A small dinosaur limb bone (left) and some fragments of Triceratops skull (right) discovered during the BCGM's expedition to ND (photos by A. Smith).

When most people think of North Dakota they think of bison roaming the prairie. What many people do not realize is that the “Sioux State” is also home to a wealth of fossil-laden sediments containing iconic dinosaur species such as *Tyrannosaurus* and *Triceratops* (Fig. 1). Thanks to a collaborative working agreement with the North Dakota Geological Survey and ND State Paleontologist Dr. Clint Boyd, BCGM Curator Dr. Adam Smith arranged to lead an expedition in search of fossils from the latest Cretaceous Period (~66 million years old). Accompanying Dr. Smith were Clemson students and museum assistants, Arthur Brown and Zach Zuber, as well as Dr. Paul Brinkman, a colleague from the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences (Fig. 2). This 2-week expedition marks the beginning of The Bob Campbell Geology Museum’s newly minted paleontology field program, and produced some exciting results!

After two very long days of driving Dr. Smith and crew arrived in Bowman, ND and set up base camp. The following 10 days of fieldwork led to the discovery of dozens of new fossils, many of which will go on display in the Benson Gallery during the coming year (Fig. 3). Notable finds include: theropod dinosaur teeth, claws and partial limb bones; the teeth and horns of a *Triceratops*; and many remains of turtles, crocodiles, and other reptiles. The team also discovered a partial skull of *Triceratops* on the last day of their field season, but did not have time to collect it. Dr. Smith plans to return to ND next year with a larger crew to excavate the *Triceratops* skull and bring it back to Clemson. Dr. Smith had this to say about the expedition: “One of the large blocks of rock we brought back appears to contain a dinosaur skull of some kind. We will not know for sure until we can further prepare the specimen in our lab. That specimen is particularly exciting as it may represent one of the youngest remains of a dinosaur ever collected in North America. We were also able to sample a sequence of rocks that represent the boundary between the Cretaceous Period and the Paleocene Period (i.e., the end of the Mesozoic Era and the beginning of the Cenozoic Era). This sequence

contains the ash layer that marks the meteorite impact that was the final nail in the coffin of non-avian dinosaurs like *T-rex*”. Be sure to visit the BCGM in the coming months to see these new fossils emerging from the rocks in our fossil preparation laboratory and being added to the array of fantastic fossils already on display in the Benson Gallery.

The BCGM needs your help to meet our growing need for funds to support our ambitious research and educational efforts. Contact us at bcbgm@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.

Classes



Mondays September 25, October 2, 9, 16 **Nature Notebook for Meditation and Reflection**

Be still, in the moment, and truly observe the world around you! Join local artist, designer and educator Libby Imbody

for this four-week exploration of the art of nature journaling. Learn basic skills and tips, explore a variety of drawing, painting, and multimedia materials, and most importantly, take time for yourself each week to explore the Garden from an artist's perspective. All materials will be provided, but you may want to purchase your own sketchbook and bring any favorite drawing materials. No experience necessary! Childcare is available through the **Adventures with Peter Rabbit Program** for a small additional cost.

Time: noon – 2 p.m.

Fee: \$100 series

Mondays, September 25,
October 2, 9, 16

Adventures with Peter Rabbit!

While adults relax in the nature notebook class, children of all ages enjoy activities designed to entertain and delight! Our focus is the Peter Rabbit Garden, in this area we will garden, craft and play as the adults relax. Other participants are welcome, too.

Time: noon – 2 p.m.

Fee: \$40 series



Wednesdays

Aug. 30, Sept. 27, Oct. 25 & Nov. 15
Homeschool Days

Join us each month, for an exciting, hands-on learning experience! Themes change each class, and activities are designed for children ages five and up.

However, registration is open to all ages. Please register at least 3 days in advance.



August 30: Life Cycles

September 27: Autumn Equinox

October 25: Animals at Night

November 15: Trees in Winter

Time: 1 – 2:30 p.m.

Fee: \$5 per participant



Tuesdays, September 5, 12, 26 and October 3, 10
Lunch and Learn: Great Gardening Know-how
Tap into the extensive knowledge of Clemson's Extension Service in this lunch and learn series. Bring a bag lunch and listen to learn from Clemson experts.

September 5
Dr. Dara Park, Know your environment: how climate and soils affect plants

September 12
Kerrie Roach, Composting 101: Turn your food waste and garden refuse into garden gold

September 26
Vicky Bertagnolli, Putting out the fire! Fire ant biology and management

October 3
Mark Arena, The art of pruning trees and shrubs: a beginner's guide

October 10
Dr. Ellen Vincent, Sustainable landscape design

Time: noon – 1 p.m.
Fee: \$7
Location: Hayden Conference Center



- 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 all programs.



Clemson Experimental Forest Tours

Saturdays

Join us each month as we explore a different area of the 17,500-acre Clemson Experimental Forest (CEF). Fun and informal walks will expose you to a diversity of natural and cultural resources in the CEF. Meet educator James Wilkins (and special guests!) at a pre-determined location and carpool or follow us on the trail. Register online or by email at least 2 days in advance. Contact James at jhwilki@clemson.edu.

Time: 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Fee: \$7

Location: TBD

September 30

October 21

November 25

December 16

Full-Moon Hikes

Join naturalist James Wilkins and experience the sights, sounds and sensations of a full-moon night. Please wear shoes and clothing appropriate for walking in the woods. Flashlights not needed. Register online or by email at least 1 day in advance, jwilki@clemson.edu.

Fee: \$7 family (up to 5) \$5 members

Location: Discovery Center/Museum Parking Lot

Nut Moon – Wed. Sept. 6, 8 – 9:30 p.m.

Harvest Moon – Thurs. Oct. 5, 7:15 – 8:45 p.m.

Trading Moon – Sat. Nov. 4, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Snow Moon – Sun. Dec. 3, 5:30 – 7 p.m.



Fridays, Sept. 29, Oct. 27, Nov. 17 & Dec. 8

Story Start to Stroller Strut

We will begin with a story and then we'll set off on a Garden walk, exploring the day's theme. These free, monthly programs are ideal for preschoolers, but all ages are encouraged to join in the fun!

September 29: Smart Seeds

Oct 27: Forest Friends

Nov 17: Autumn Amble

Dec 8: Winter Wander

Time: 10 – 11:00 a.m.

Fee: FREE

Location: Meet at

Garden Amphitheater



Friday, September 15

HARVEST CELEBRATION

Why do seasons change, and what is the Autumn Equinox? Kendra Vincent will explore the answers to these questions along with how the autumn harvest has

been celebrated around the world, throughout history. We'll celebrate nature's bounty ourselves by churning butter, making fresh apple cider in an old-fashioned apple press, cooking popcorn over the campfire! We'll also enjoy seasonal, take-home crafts! Please register at least 3 days in advance.

Time: 3:30–5:30 p.m.

Fee: \$9 per participant

Friday, October 13

TAILS FROM THE GRAVE

In this creepy- cool program, we'll be haunted by the ghosts of nature's past! We'll examine skeletons and skulls and learn how they can transform from bone to stone! Children will enjoy



viewing a collection of real fossils and will create fossil casts and a creepy critter craft to take home! *Due to curing time, casts will be picked up after 24 hrs. Please register at least 3 days in advance.

Time: 3:30–5:30 p.m.

Fee: \$8 per participant



Friday, November 3

FALL COLOR WALK AND LEAF ART CREATIONS

Enjoy a walk in the garden, while learning about the ecology of fall color and leaf drop. Along the way, we'll collect materials to create beautiful works of autumn

art! Please register at least 3 days in advance.

Time: 3:30-5:30

Fee: \$5 per participant



Friday, December 1
Wintry Wreaths
 'Tis the season for wreath making! While sipping on cider and cocoa, children will learn about evergreens and conifers and the interesting history of using them in winter

decorations. We'll make lovely, fragrant evergreen wreaths to decorate our homes or give as gifts. This program is for both children and adults. Please register at least 5 days in advance.

Time: 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Fee: \$15 for small, \$25 for large



Friday, December 15
Handmade for the Holidays
 In this ever-popular program, we'll let nature's beauty inspire us as we create several seasonal crafts using natural materials from the Garden and beyond.

Alongside each craft, we will learn fun facts about the natural world. Adults accompanying children are encouraged to register as well, if interested in making projects themselves. Please register at least 5 days in advance.

Time: 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Fee: \$15 per participant



Wednesdays, September, October, November
Garden Sprouts
 Preschool children and their caregivers discover the wonders of the Botanical Garden with the guidance of Garden naturalist and educator Sue Watts. Garden Sprouts blends the Garden's unique resources with imaginative and fun ways to learn about plants and animals. In Garden Sprouts

this fall our focus is on plants and animals in other cultures around the world. Travel to distance lands through stories, customs and traditions of the past and present.

Time: 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Fee: \$4 per class/family/ \$40 series



Thursdays, Sept. 7, 21, Oct. 5, 19, Nov. 16
 Thursdays, Mar. 1, 15, 29, Apr. 12, 26, May 10, 24

Junior Naturalists

This year's Junior Naturalist Club for elementary students (ages 6-12) explores the exciting habitats of South Carolina. From the mountains to the sea, participants will learn about the animals and plants who call this State home, and the landscapes

that define South Carolina. Scholarships available - contact Sue Watts (Watts9@clemson.edu)

Time: 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Fee: \$80 fall series/ \$90 spring series/ \$150 both series



Thursdays, Sept. 14, 28, Oct. 12, 26, Nov. 9
 Thursdays, Mar. 8, 22, Apr. 5, 19 May 3, 17

Junior Gardener: Garden to Table

In this new program, participants learn how to grow and then prepare food to eat in the Food For Thought Garden.

In the fall session, kids enjoy the summer bounty of the garden by harvesting and preparing summer vegetables in simple, delicious recipes. They also learn how to plant a garden and learn about the nutritional power of fall greens. In the spring session, we'll plant a summer garden and harvest and eat from our fall vegetables.

Time: 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Fee: \$80 fall series/ \$90 spring series/\$150 both series

Nature Center Open House: 9 a.m. - noon
Hunt Cabin Open House: 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

\$5 suggested donation

Come for a while, or stay as long as you like.

Saturday, September 16

Nature Center Open House: Meeting Mammals
 Hunt Cabin Open House: Apples in the Upstate

Saturday, October 14

Nature Center Open House: Giants of the Forest
 Hunt Cabin Open House: What's in the Pot?

Saturday, November 4

Nature Center Open House: Going Nuts & Being Seedy!
 Hunt Cabin Open House: Chestnuts

Full - look for spring classes



The Melody Garden
“We are the music makers,
and we are the dreamers
of dreams.” -Arthur
O’Shaughnessy. How about
we make music AND dream!
Multi-instrumentalist and
songwriter, Rebecca Smith,
will inspire you and your
seedling or sprout to sing
and dance to nature-themed music. Imaginations will
soar as your child learns to sing in tune and move to
rhythm. Each class ends with an instrument petting zoo!
Suggested Ages: Under 6 years

Cost: For 10 weekly classes between Aug 28 and Nov 13:
\$80 for 1 child, \$150 for 2 children, \$200 for 3+ children;
(Children under 1 yr are free).

Mondays, September 18 - November 6

Afterschool Nature Art & Music

Creativity will soar in this fun-filled afterschool art
and music class! Children will enjoy nature-based art
projects with certified elementary art educator Libby
Imbody from Walhalla Art Works, and live music and
movement with multi-instrumentalist and children’s
songwriter Rebecca Smith. Each class is half art, half
music- all with a central nature theme inspired by the
beauty of the Garden. Grades K5-5th, Drop off.

Time: 4 - 5:30 pm

Fee: \$200/8 week semester



Friday, September 22

Preschool Magical Musical Hike

Join multi-instrumentalist and
children’s songwriter Rebecca Smith
for a magical musical nature hike
around the Garden! Hike will include
short woodland trails, so no strollers
please. Stops will include the duck
pond, children’s garden, Hunt cabin,
and secret fairy houses! Musical
instruments provided for this fun-
filled hike!

Suggested ages: 3-6yrs

Time: 11 a.m. - noon

Cost: \$8/child



Summer Scenes ~ Educational Programs



SCBG Friends & Museum GeMS

Patron

Anonymous
Robert Baker and Susan Smiley-Baker
David C. Barr
Bob Di Bebella
David and Eranda Bradshaw
Glenn W. Franklin
Gwendolyn and Richard Heusel
Charlotte Otto
Robert Otto
Carol Savage
Susan and David Wilkins

Magnolia

Anderson County Master Gardeners
Mike and Charlotte Davis
Lindsay Goodman
Rebecca B. Hartness
Robert G. Hartness
Dori and Carl Helms
Robbie and Kevin Hughes
Richard L. Roche
Tim and Cathy Scott
Dianne E. Stanko
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Frances Vasen Garden Club
Robert and Peggy B. Wood

Maple

Peter and Jane Brazy
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Elaine T. Freeman
Mike and Virginia Haas
Heather and Glenn Hilliard
Rob and Claudia Hubbard
Lake and Pat Jameson
Lewis and Mary Jones
Rus and Sharon Kingman
Les Love
John T. McCarter
John and Gayle McGregor
Richard and Isabel Millward
Frazer S. M. Pajak
Chris and Jeannine Prattini
Elisa K. Sparks
Sarah and George Todd
Barbara A. and John R. Patterson

Camellia

John and Josephine Allen
Mark J. Arena
Maranda and Curtis Arnold
Betty B. and Earle H. Ambrose
William and Marcia Banholzer
Susan Batizy
Jeffrey and Brenda Barton
James and Mary Blass
Nancy and George Bennett
Istvan Bogнар
Mary R. Boswell
Larry and Mary Bowman
Joel and Rowena Boylan
Thomas and Sharon Brosnan
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T. and Libby Brown
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John and Marilyn Bullock
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Steve and Marty Bynum
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Robert and Karen Ellis Kenneth and Roberta Elrod
Dwayne and Lucy Eubanks
Scott Finrock
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Robert and Pamela Fjeld
Foothills Garden Club
Ronald and Martha Franklin
Jan and Anita Fredman
Nancy B. Gara
Bettina B. George
Paul M. Gettys
Ken and Donna Glenn
Charlie and Emily Gooding
Clyde and Frances Gorsuch
Russ and Kelly Hardee
Nancy Hassid
Robert and Catherine Healy
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Paul T. Holmes
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Cathy L. Robinson
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Charles E. Ryan
George W. Sharpton

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James and Barbara Williams
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Wallace and Susan Wood
James and Kathleen Wright
Bill and Sandra Yates

Holly

Dorota M. Abramovitch
AmazonSmile Foundation
Ron and Toni Anderson
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Michael and Ruthann Asche
Antoine and Susan Asselin
Daniel L. Bare
William and Janet Beckwith
Michael J. Bennett
Edward Binic and Linda Alston-Binic
F. and Linda Bisterfeld
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Farrell and Ann Brown
Donna Brycki
Allston and Manella Calhoun
Stephen and Alix Carney
Donald and Joy Chamberlain
Ron and Ava Chitty
Clemson Garden Club
James and Dottie Corey
Susan M. Creamer
Chris Cribb and Kate Troelstra
Deborah L. Dalhouse
Carrell Dammann
Dixie and David Damrel
Clinton L. Dickey
George and Cile Dunkelberg
Patricia M. Dodge
Chuck and Mary Elder
John and Cherie Estridge
David and Connie Finger
Nancy Foster
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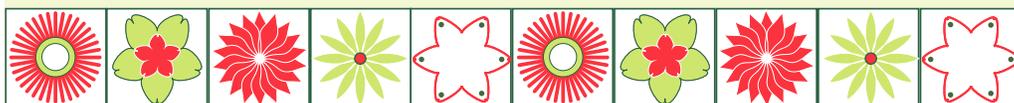
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Plants for the Twenty-First Century



Franklinia alatamaha
Franklin Tree

I am taken aback by the beauty of the *Franklinia alatamaha* Franklin tree) every summer and fall. When most trees have long since finished blooming, the Franklin tree decides to put on a show in July and August with its Camellia-like, cup-shaped, 5-petaled, sweetly-fragrant, white flowers (to 3" diameter) bloom. Pollinators love the flower as well! Then the show continues in autumn when its long (up to 5"), glossy, dark green leaves turn striking shades of orange, red, and purple.

The *Franklinia alatamaha* has an incredible history that dates back to the 1700's when early American botanists John and son William Bartram discovered the tree growing along the Altamaha River in southeastern Georgia in 1765. *Franklinia* has never been observed growing anywhere other than along the banks of the Altamaha. William Bartram collected seeds from that site in 1773 and took it back to the Bartram's garden in Philadelphia where it was successfully grown and named after his father's friend, Benjamin Franklin. By 1803, it was determined that the tree was extinct in the wild. All plants currently in existence are derived from the seed collected by Bartram.

Franklinia grows 10 to 25 feet tall with slightly smaller width and has an airy, open habit. It may be grown as a single-stemmed tree or multi-stemmed shrub and is in the Theaceae (tea) family. Plants prefer organically rich, moist, well-drained soils in full sun, though prefer some afternoon shade in the hot southeast. *Franklinia* is difficult to transplant once established because of its sparsely fibrous root system and is intolerant of drought. It is susceptible to *Phytophthora* root rot and can benefit from a slightly raised planting area where poorly-drained clay soils are present. *Franklinia* is an excellent specimen tree and should be planted where people will pass it frequently. Here at the SC Botanical Garden, our *Franklinia* trees grow near the Carolina Bay exhibit on the Natural Heritage Garden Trail.

~ Article and photo by: Allison Kelly