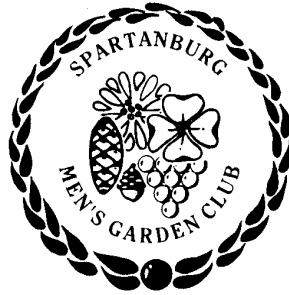


GARDENING & BEAUTIFICATION

Published Monthly by the

Spartanburg Men's Garden Club



SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Dedicated to Gardening Education
and
Community Beautification

*Gardening Service to the Community
Since 1948*



Gardening & Beautification

JUNE 2005

Meeting Date: Monday, June 20, 2005, 7:00 PM (Note the time!)

Program: “*Old Field Succession in the Piedmont*” by Dr. Bob Powell. “Botany Bob” is the retired Chairman of the Converse College Botany Department, a long term member and leader of our club and a noted speaker and community leader.

Place: The Rampey Center on USC-Upstate campus (See map on back page.)

Do: Come; bring a friend and maybe a door prize plant.

Kudzu Control. Newt Hardie and his group of “kudzu controllers” continue at high speed not only demonstrating, but actually controlling this noxious invasive plant in multiple City locations. See the demonstration plot behind the “Y” on S. Pine St.. *Call Newt (582-0990) or Barbara Daniels (591-3600) for schedule.*

Treescape Opportunities. Through the courtesy of Dr. John Keith who has closed his large nursery in N. C., we are the recipient of hundreds of quality 3-gallon large-growing trees--oaks, maples, planetrees, magnolias--in our nursery. Many will be sold this fall, but there are opportunities for the club to be generous with local schools, Habitat for Humanity and other properties needing enhancements. *Give suggestions to your officers.*

“Mayfest” at Hatcher. This celebration of Spartanburg’s ‘open to the public’ garden was a success. Thanks to Betty Ball for our MGC booth, and to Tasso Ghionis, Mike Georgian, Marianne Bartram, Don Crowder and, I imagine, others.

Plant Nursery. Harold Wolfe reports plants are in good condition. Even with the almost 600 Keith-contributed-plants, we need to supplement for the annual Fall Plant Sale. The new irrigation is a super addition to the nursery—thanks to Don Crowder and Jeff Hall. *Potting Session sign-up will be available at the meeting.*

New Members. None this month, but 2005 dues continue to flow in slowly from old members. We now have 142 ‘memberships’ with some 190 ‘members. *WOW, what a potent source of Spartanburg beautification!*

Health and Happiness. While we remember Betty Wolfe and Mike Georgian as they undergo some health problems, we celebrate the good health of many others.

Hatcher Garden will be the recipient of a new *Walter Soderburg Ericaceae Garden*, courtesy of a significant contribution by his family. Walter was not only a mainstay of the MGC for decades, but was a work partner for Harold Hatcher during the early days of the garden's creation. (And of course, you know *Ericaceae* is the plant family including azaleas and rhododendrons)

Litter Pick-Up was completed on our assigned N. Pine Street on Saturday, but the only participants were Susan MacDowell, her daughter Maegan, Don Crowder and Jim Bagwell. A huge thanks.

Crape Myrtles and Southern Living. Senior Garden Editor Steve Bender and his photographer will be back in town in July to follow-up for the article on Spartanburg's Crape Myrtles—the good and (unfortunately!) the bad. We still have a long way to go in teaching good CM selection and maintenance--“*Crape Murder*” is still a copious unpunished crime.

Landscape Evaluation. Mike Georgion and Bob Almond report a near record project—43 commercial landscapes were surveyed, ranked and constructive criticism given in advance of awards presentations.. While this cooperative project--run with the Chamber of Commerce--is one of our finest, our 21 volunteers were hardly enough to handle it properly. *More member volunteers next year, please!*

Tree Projects. US-221 work is still under way. This will be a significant highway enhancement. 85-Business treescaping is uncertain at this time. Our 1989 Natchez Crape Myrtles on E. Main will be in full bloom soon—*take a look.*

Field Trip to the S. C. Botanical Garden in Clemson is being planned for July by Betty Ball. This will include Dr. Bradshaw's Heritage Vegetable Garden of which he spoke in November. *Plan to sign up at the meeting.*

2006 TGOA/MGCA Calendars are available from Tasso at \$5. *Great gifts!*

TGOA/MGCA Convention. We were well represented in Palm Beach this month by the Linebergers, Crowders and Bagwells. Not only enjoyable and educational, it was extremely helpful as we plan the 2006 Convention here in Spartanburg. We expected to follow Mr. Milliken's admonition last year to spread the word on how so many organizations—private and public—are working to “enhance the enhancements” there. More—a lot more—on this later. *Get prepared to work!.*

We are getting great help and cooperation from both the City and the Chamber and hope to have some 200 members from across the country visit Spartanburg next April. Don Crowder is chair of the convention committee. He will be calling on many of us for essential help and work for this undertaking.

Propagation Training by Jess Taylor will again be available Details at meeting.

National. See the WebSite at TGOA-MGCA.org The member password is LILY.

Refreshments will be courtesy of Pam Rice, Doris Beasley and Valerie Hare.

EDITORIAL. *How blessed we are to be part of a club with some 190 members—possibly the largest, and potentially the most influential, of the national affiliates. And like most organizations of volunteers, we have three unofficial types of members—some who only want to support the club with their membership, some who will occasionally attend a meeting, and (fortunately) some who will really work to support the club’s objectives. All three are important and essential. How much more we could do to improve our community if there were, someday, a higher percent of “workers”. Will you step forward?*

5-12-05, HP, Assistant Editor

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Directions to the John Rampey Center at USC-Upstate

1. US-176 to Valley Falls Road
or
2. Milliken Road parallel to 85-Business and
across bridge

