Damon Waitt named new director

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Damon Waitt as our next director, starting April 13.

Currently, Waitt is the senior director and botanist at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin, Texas, one of the country’s most effective advocates for native plants. Waitt supervises the Center’s gardens and natural areas in addition to spearheading invasive species initiatives, education programs and conservation efforts.

“Damon brings with him extensive knowledge and experience in leading and managing a conservation-focused botanical garden that is very similar in values and mission to the North Carolina Botanical Garden,” said Carol Tresolini, vice provost for academic initiatives at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Waitt was attracted to our focus on conservation. “I would not have any interest in a botanic garden that was strictly for show,” said Waitt. “I am also drawn to the way UNC has always embraced the garden and values its contribution to teaching, research, and public service.”

Waitt also looks forward to working with the people at the Garden. “The passion for and commitment to the garden exhibited by staff, volunteers, the Botanical Garden Foundation and university is truly exceptional,” said Waitt.

“The staff and the Botanical Garden Foundation are excited about the experience and enthusiasm Damon brings with him,” said Jonathan Howes, interim director. “We are also looking forward to having a full-time director at the Garden.”

Waitt will be our third director, following Peter White’s return to academics full-time on January 1.

Waitt holds a Ph.D. in botany from the University of Texas at Austin, an M.S. in botany from Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, and a B.S. in biology from Tulane University. Waitt serves on the Invasive Species Advisory Committee for the National Invasive Species Council, is founder of the Texas Invasive Plant and Pest Council, and is past chair of the National Association of Exotic Pest Plant Councils.

Meet the North Carolina Wildflower of the Year

Fire-pink (Silene virginica), one of the most stunning native perennials of the eastern United States, has been named the 2015 North Carolina Wildflower of the Year by the North Carolina Botanical Garden and the Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc.

Wildflower of the Year cont’d on page 2 >>

C A R O L I N A
Moonlight
G A L A

Save the Date
Saturday, June 6

AMONG OUR TREES
Celebrating our Southeastern Trees
March 8 – May 15
...details pg. 13
A new chapter at NCBG
by Jonathan Howes, Interim Director

January 1, 2015, was the first day in 28 years that Peter White was not the director of the North Carolina Botanical Garden. After a remarkable period of growth in Garden resources, facilities, programs, and influence, Peter now moves full-time to the department of biology where he can devote his talent and energy to his teaching, research and writing. From his office in Coker Hall, Peter will not be a stranger to the Garden. Far from it. But his academic pursuits will be the focus of his work. All of us associated with the Garden – staff, friends, supporters, and the Foundation – join in thanking Peter for his dedicated leadership in making the Garden a true conservation garden, an invaluable resource for North Carolina and the world.

Now we look forward to the arrival of a new director, Damon Waitt, from the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center at the University of Texas at Austin. Damon was selected after a broad search that yielded a strong field of applicants for the position. He comes to our Garden with a national reputation as a leader in conservation education and with a record of success as senior botanist at the Wildflower Center. He is familiar with the work of the Garden here at Chapel Hill, and he has worked with several of our staff. This will allow him to move easily into the director’s position here, where he can build upon the work of his predecessors, Ritchie Bell and Peter White.

For me, it is a privilege to provide interim leadership during this transition period. My wife and I have been supporters of the Garden for many years, and I have served as a member of the board and as president of the Botanical Garden Foundation. I am working with the staff to assure that we are able to give to Damon a smooth-running operation with a solid financial base. I also look forward to working with you, the Garden’s devoted volunteers, friends, and supporters, because you are so important to the Garden’s success. Together, with the Foundation, the Garden, and its staff, we will welcome Damon on his first day in office on April 13. And thus will begin an exciting new chapter in the life and work of the North Carolina Botanical Garden!

Wildflower of the Year
<< cont’d from page 5

A member of the carnation, or “pink” family (Caryophyllaceae), fire-pink can be found throughout North Carolina and occurs in a variety of habitats from dry, open woods to stream banks to sunny roadsides. The name “pink” refers not to the color, but rather to the frilled edges of many flowers within this family (think of “pinking shears”). In mid-spring, fire-pink explodes with an abundance of brilliantly colored scarlet, star-shaped flowers that continue to provide a spectacular display through mid-summer.

For a Wildflower of the Year brochure and packet of fire-pink seeds, send a stamped, self-addressed, business envelope with attention to NCWFOY 2015 to North Carolina Botanical Garden, UNC–Chapel Hill, CB 3375, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3375.

The NCBG and the Garden Club of North Carolina work together to promote the use of native plants in home gardens. Each year since 1982, a showy, native perennial has been chosen and seeds of that wildflower are distributed to interested gardeners. To view a list of the past 33 North Carolina Wildflowers of the Year, visit the Garden’s website: ncbg.unc.edu/north-carolina-wildflower-of-the-year

The NORTH CAROLINA BOTANICAL GARDEN publishes this newsletter four times a year.

Editor & Layout Jennifer Peterson
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2015 North Carolina Wildflower of the Year, fire-pink (Silene virginica)
Consider This

Gimme refuge
by Johnny Randall, NCBG Director of Conservation Programs

As our wildlands become increasingly fragmented, shrink in size, and become more vulnerable to invasive species incursions, urban “natural” areas are even more important as refugia for native biological diversity. By urban natural areas I mean places that can sustain whole suites of plants, fungi, and various creatures — backyards, greenways, utility rights-of-way and easements, parks, schoolyards, and university campuses — pretty much anywhere that is not too degraded.

Much of the potential urban refugia is, unfortunately, choked with invasive plants. It is truly disheartening to stroll through most any neighborhood, greenway, or utility easement in Chapel Hill/Carrboro (and beyond) to find no native plants except for the trees! And without native plants in the herb and shrub layer, the foundation for supporting biological diversity crumbles. Please refer to a recent assessment of invasive plant abundance and ecosystem effects from the American Association for the Advancement of Science (http://tinyurl.com/USinvasives) for more information.

Many plants and animals are habitat specialists, like plants that only occur on a particular soil type and the numerous bird and large mammal species that require large areas of undisturbed wildlands. It’s the generalist plants and animals that have found a niche in the urban landscape because of their tolerance for urban life. Generalists are, nevertheless, still bound by food web dynamics, predator/prey relationships, and the ecological principles on which all organisms operate.

For example, pollinating bees require a diversity of plant species because nectar varies in quality and quantity (such as amino acid content and sugar composition and volume), and they depend on sequential flowering across their life cycle. I’m talking about hundreds of bee species — from social bumblebees to solitary mason bees — all of which also require nest sites such as cavities in dead branches and patches of bare ground.

Birds similarly depend on a variety of seeds, fruits, and insects over the entire year, but nearly all feed their young almost exclusively on caterpillars. In fact, according to entomologist and native plant advocate Doug Tallamy, Carolina chickadees feed 390 to 570 caterpillars a day to a growing clutch of four to six babies in the 16 days from when they hatch to when they fledge from their nest. That can be more than 9,000 caterpillars to make one batch of chickadees! Tallamy also shows that practically none of our native butterflies and moth caterpillars can survive on anything but native plants. So without native plants, there are no caterpillars and, therefore, baby birds go hungry. The fortuitous occurrence of native trees in many of the areas choked with invasive vines, shrubs, and herbaceous plants, provides some salvation.

Adding further insult to birds, in addition to small mammals, reptiles, and amphibians, is housecat predation. There certainly isn’t space for this tangent, but please see http://tinyurl.com/outdoorcats for a recent assessment on the devastation rendered by yet another non-native species that is wholly out of place.

The essence of creating urban refugia for biodiversity conservation is to remove invasive non-native plants, limit the use of non-native plants in general, plant a diversity of regionally native plants that flower sequentially over a season, and keep your cat in the house. Start small, work smart and with intent. Don’t forget that you are doing important work for the benefit of biological diversity for the long-term.

Consult texts, and yes the Internet, on how to rehabilitate your property. I recommend The Once and Future Forest by Leslie Sauer, and Bringing Nature Home by Doug Tallamy. And visit the Botanical Garden webpage under the Plants and Gardening tab for lots of information — from how to remove our most troublesome invasive plants to what plants to include in your landscape rehabilitation.

The call to arms over invasive interloper removal and restoring a semblance to naturalness is not a trivial pursuit. We humans must take responsibility for shepherding in a new paradigm of ecological landscaping that will benefit the children of all species.

Would you like to know more about removing invasive plants?

Check out our Controlling Invasive Species booklet, available online at ncbg.unc.edu/uploads/files/ControllingBooklet.pdf

For a list of plants to avoid, please go to ncbg.unc.edu/plants-to-avoid/
Celebration flower

by Tom Earnhardt, President, Botanical Garden Foundation

Almost 60 years ago, my love of trout fishing also resulted in a lifelong passion for wildflowers. For a young angler, the most exciting day of the year was opening day of trout season, which occurred on the first Saturday in April. My father told me that the small, yellow lily found along most North Carolina streams, called the trout lily, was named to celebrate the beginning of trout season. Dad’s explanation of the flower’s name was, of course, a “fish story.” A more plausible origin of its name is that the mottled leaves of the trout lily resemble the coloration on our brook trout.

Since the mid 50s, the trout lily (Erythronium americanum), found in our mountains and Piedmont, has always signified to me that good things – warm weather, more wildflowers, and trout – are coming! The trout lilies at the North Carolina Botanical Garden and in my yard are among the first wildflowers to bloom in early March (three weeks later in the mountains). I have even seen them in late February poking through a mantle of snow.

Unlike some of our orchids and other wildflowers that are often fickle and require just the right conditions, the trout lily is a tough, dependable plant that can withstand heavy rains and extended droughts. It always blooms! This year our trout lilies will bloom to celebrate the arrival a new director, Damon Waitt, and new opportunities for the North Carolina Botanical Garden. In 2015, the celebration flower is worth the “Waitt...”
We are so fortunate to have the guidance of our friend and former Botanical Garden Foundation president Jonathan Howes as our interim director. As we anticipate the arrival of the Garden’s first full-time director, Damon Waitt, from our sister conservation garden, the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, there is a lot going on in preparation for spring. As the days grow longer and the buds swell in anticipation for the season of growth ahead, the staff is hard at work completing projects, putting budgets in order, and preparing for a season that is always a busy time for gardeners.

With this late winter Newsletter, we are happy to welcome our new and returning supporters. The Garden’s membership is growing at a healthy pace, and we now have more than 3,200 current contributors. Everyone who has made a gift of at least dues level within the last 12 months is considered an active member, and nearly half of our supporters send in an additional contribution for their favorite area or program.

We have received some extraordinary gifts in the last few months. Karla Reed’s bequest arrived as has she had planned, a generous addition the Coker Arboretum Endowment to sustain the campus garden where she devoted many hours (see photo). Many others are contributing to this fund to make sure the Coker Arboretum will always have the care it needs, including Nolan Lovins, David Robert, Jane and Mark Ritchie, David and Lallie Godschalk, and Cathy and Turner Whitted. The Coker Arboretum Endowment base is now more than $691,000. The other half of Karla’s beneficiary distribution was unrestricted and will help right away with general expenses.

Former Botanical Garden Foundation presidents Arthur DeBerry and Bill Bracey worked with Bill and Rosalie Olsen to transfer a lot in Chapel Hill to the Foundation last December. Proceeds from the sale of the real estate will support the native plant landscape improvements to the Garden’s main entry, a high priority in the coming years.

Marcella Grendler wanted to solve a recurring problem at the Coker Arboretum, and her gift has already been put to use in re-designing a walkway to make sure it won’t wash away and require staff repairs after every downpour. Marcella has also added to her previous gifts for the Horticultural Therapy Garden to allow installation of shade sails to protect clients from the sun.

Syngenta Crop Protection has made another generous gift to support the Botanical Garden’s conservation program. We are grateful to Dr. Janice McFarland and others at Syngenta, and to the Center for Plant Conservation for contributions that have helped the Garden advance its conservation mission.

Janice and Ed Swab, both biologists, have been friends of the Garden and the Herbarium. After Ed’s death in 2013, Janice decided to honor his legacy with a new fund to support field botany. The Edward C. Swab Floristics Fund for the UNC Herbarium will support the type of field botany that Ed enjoyed during his career. Michael and Julia McVaugh made a very generous addition to the fund to build a new facility for the UNC Herbarium. Anne Harris directed a large gift to Friends of the UNC Herbarium, to provide operating funds for immediate use by the Herbarium.

In addition to Karla’s gift, the Garden received very generous gifts to help where the need is greatest. Harriet and DG Martin, Paul and Mary McDougal, the Alben & Clara Bates Foundation, Gayle Unterberg, Grace Jones Richardson Trust, Stuart and Linda Paynter, the Challenge Fund, Pam and Bill Camp, and Frances and Gary Whaley and the Whaley Foundation are among our supporters who have made particularly generous unrestricted gifts since our last Newsletter.

John and Lale Burk, Larry Blanton and Candace Haigler, Bob and Molly Broad, the Swearingen Foundation and Iola Peed-Neal, Mark and Stacy Yusko, Julie English Irwin, Tom Krakauer, Cotton and May Bryan, Nan and Edgar Lawton, Jonathan and Mary Howes, Patricia and Robert Spearman, Tom and Margaret Scott, Raphe Cantor and Cynthia Madden, Scotty and David Neill, Claire and Hudnall Christopher, and John and Betty King also decided to help the Garden in this particularly helpful way with extraordinary gifts. Honorary board members Gretchen Cozart and Nancy “Teeny” Stronach sent in their gifts for general support, as did board members Sandra Brooks-Mathers and Mike Mathers, Linda and Alan Rimer...and many, many more.

The Garden also received some very helpful gifts for particular areas and programs. Muriel Easterling sent a contribution to rebuild or help replace the bridge over Meeting-of-the-Waters Creek in the natural area behind the Garden. Two new funds will help direct gifts like Muriel’s, the Piedmont Nature Trail Endowment and the Piedmont Nature Trail Expendable Fund.

The Carolina Campus Community Garden received large gifts from the Fox Family Foundation, Challah for Hunger, Carly Zimmerman, and Anna Reynolds. Several of our members contributed generously to build the Fred and Virginia Houk...cont’d on page 9 >>
The inevitability of flora appification
by Alan Weakley, Director, UNC Herbarium

As I write this, it is a cold, gray January day, and the possibility of spring green seems, as it does each year at this time, an almost impossibility. The forecast on my phone app stretches out for 10 days ahead with highs ranging from 39-49°, lows from 19-38°, and a few ominous mentions of “60% chance of frozen mix.” And yet, I know by the time this is in your mailbox, it is quite likely that the harbingers of spring will be blooming – spring beauty, hepatica, trout lily, red maple – and you’ll be itching to get out botanizing (or herborizing, an older form), flora in hand.

So, in the previous paragraph I used the word “app” and my editor did not cross it out. A couple years ago, my colleague Michael Lee and I put in an application (wait, would that be an app? – no, that would not be an app – only some kinds of “applications” are “apps!”) in response to a solicitation from UNC’s Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research. We suggested that UNC develop a handheld, mobile version of the *Flora of the Southern and Mid-Atlantic States*, available at the UNC Herbarium website, herbarium.unc.edu/flora.htm. This more than 1,000 page behemoth is a comprehensive source of information on the identification, taxonomy, habitats, and distribution of the over 7,000 vascular plants that call a 14-state region of the southeastern United States home, either as natives or naturalized citizens. And, we were selected! And now, in these gray winter months we are now entering the final stretch, and by around the time you get this newsletter, the southeastern flora will be available as the FloraQuest iPhone® and iPad® app in the Apple Store. See FloraQuest.com for more information. The flora has been appified!

For some of us over the age of, well, nevermind, this involves a certain discomfort or even Luddite rebellion. We love our six-pound tomes, even if our aching backs are not so sure. We cannot type a 50 word text in 14 seconds with two thumbs. But, apification of floras is inevitable and offers some major advantages. Among them, less weight! But also, a variety of conveniences and functionalities not available in a paper flora…In the FloraQuest app, when you hit that key choice between “sericeous” and “stri-gose,” a simple tap will give you definitions. A pop-up centimeter ruler is included. The keys are geofiltered by your entered or GPS-sensed location: if you are on the Outer Banks, spruce (*Picea*), fir (*Abies*), and hemlock (*Tsuga*) are automatically “out” as reasonable possibilities, and conversely, on top of Grandfather Mountain, sea oats (*Uniola paniculata*) is discounted. If you’re keying a blazing-star (*Liatris*) in the mountains of North Carolina, there are only 10 possibilities in the key, rather than 29. The line drawings from your beloved Radford, Ahles, and Bell (1968) *Manual of the Vascular Flora of the Carolinas* are included, along with maps showing the distribution of the species, genus, or family in the southeastern United States, all of which might have meant a second volume to carry. And you can take a picture of your find, save it with your identification, and post or download it.

So, if you’re willing to use your phone or tablet to find a good restaurant in a strange town, get directions to someone’s house, check the movie reviews and times at the local octoplex, track your package’s delivery, find out when the thunderstorm will be arriving, or read a novel, why not go out and identify a plant with it?
The importance of an ant
*by Heather Summer, NCBG Seed Program Coordinator*

At least once or twice a year, I get a request for trillium or bloodroot seeds. We don't offer seeds of these beautiful spring-blooming wildflowers on our annual member's seed list because they lose viability quickly upon drying and thus do not tolerate dry storage and shipping. Seeds of this type are called recalcitrant, and this adaptation is common among eastern deciduous forest species whose seeds ripen early in the growing season. Many of these species share another interesting trait in the way their seeds are dispersed. If you have ever looked at a bloodroot capsule after it has ripened and split, you have seen dozens of mahogany-colored seeds with what appear to be little white worms attached to them. This “worm” is actually a fatty appendage called an elaiosome that is irresistible to ants.

Many of our spring ephemeral wildflower species, such as trillium, bloodroot, trout lily, spring beauty, and twinleaf, have ant dispersed seeds. This mutualistic relationship, called myrmecochory, is one of the most fascinating ways that flowering plants have evolved to disperse their seeds. While many late summer and fall fruiting shrubs and trees depend on birds for seed dispersal, low-growing spring blooming wildflowers are fairly inconspicuous when fruiting, and the probability of being detected by foraging birds is fairly low. These species have evolved an ingenious strategy to partner with ants for dispersal.

Ants are omnivorous and, although they will eat both plants and insects, they prefer the latter. Early in the growing season when there may be fewer insects available for an ant to eat, some plants take advantage of the ants' omnivorous nature by producing seeds with elaiosomes. It has been reported that the chemical composition of an elaiosome more closely resembles that of insect “blood” than plant tissue. Ants are attracted to these seeds and will carry them back to their nest, remove the elaiosomes to feed to their larvae, and then discard the intact, hard-coated seeds onto their trash piles. In addition to providing some degree of protection from seed predators, these trash piles are typically high in nutrients and can be beneficial to seed germination and seedling growth. And in return for providing a nutritious meal for the ants, the plants also benefit from the removal of the elaiosome, which can sometimes contain germination inhibitors.

With over 150 native ant species in the state of North Carolina, the potential role that ants play in plant dispersal and community composition is great. There is growing concern about how the invasion and abundance of the imported red fire ant affects native ant populations and consequently, seed dispersal. Additionally, there is concern about the effect of pesticides on ant communities and the subsequent effect on plant diversity. I recently read an account from an area of New England where some wildflower species were rapidly disappearing due to a decline in the native ant population. This decline was a result of spraying pesticides to kill gypsy moth caterpillars, yet another reason to incorporate environmentally responsible practices into your garden.

Each year, I eagerly await the arrival of spring and the excitement of spring wildflower hikes. And this spring, as you are admiring the beautiful carpets of trout lilies and spring beauties, I encourage everyone to think about those busy little ants scurrying along the forest floor spreading the seeds for future wildflowers.

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**Volunteer Appreciation Award Program**
**April 16, 2015, 11:30am**
**North Carolina Botanical Garden**

**Triangle Volunteer Appreciation Program**
**May 12, 2015, 9:30am**
**Sarah P. Duke Gardens**

Volunteers, check your e-mail in March and April for details about both programs.
A true friend
by Margo MacIntyre, Curator, Coker Arboretum

The Coker Arboretum has friends. This is evident day-in and day-out when people stop to thank us and tell us how much they like walking through or sitting in the garden, even in the cold of winter. Another way we know we have friends is when there is a need.

The most recent occurrence of a friend fulfilling a need is in the funding of the installation of an upgraded entrance to the Arboretum. Marcella Grendler, former Botanical Garden Foundation board member and volunteer extraordinaire to the Coker Arboretum and North Carolina Botanical Garden, knows of the vulnerability of the walkways. She’s seen the entrance on the west side of the Arboretum receive rainwater from campus flooding over a wall and down the walkways near the Morehead building at such speed that Chapel Hill gravel, even that which is packed and stabilized, has no chance. Marcella has witnessed our chore of removing path gravel from the stream bed and disposing of it by hand and then repairing the path.

When we came up with a plan that lets the water go where it needs to go without ruining the path, Marcella expressed interest in funding the project, and we accepted. Part of the new path is made of stone matching the well-known walls and pillars found around campus. The rest of the path is made of the traditional Chapel Hill gravel, since this part will not be washed out and takes a slightly different route into the garden. This many-faceted plan was ably and swiftly brought into being by William E. Smith Masonry, Inc., a.k.a. Smitty, during January.

I told Marcella that heavy rain at night wakes me up and worries me to the point that I can no longer sleep, she told me this happens to her too. That’s a friend, indeed.

Wish List

- Neuton lawnmower with extra battery
- Electric chainsaw with extra battery (inquire for details)
- Solar array to charge rechargeable batteries
- Conference registration and expenses for several to attend APGA Wildflower Conference in late March
- Tractor & bush hog for Mason Farm Biological Reserve (new or used)
- Garden hand tools
- Children’s Wonder Garden
- Student internships
- Sponsorships for K - 12 class visits
- Scholarships for summer nature camp

Please call Charlotte Jones-Roe if you would like to help the Garden by sponsoring a specific item: 919-962-9458.

Patrick Dougherty’s “Homegrown”
by Patricia Brooks

A refuge for the birds who hop around
The sculpture’s base, pecking at the ground
Or who fly inside, to see what else can be found.

An invitation to children to explore
To run inside through the arched door
To peek out the windows then hide, and run some more.

A sculpted marvel for all to see
An outdoor room made from branches of trees
A tribute to the sculptor’s creativity.

Bending Sticks: The Documentary
Thursday, May 14; 12pm
The feature-length documentary Bending Sticks celebrates the 25-year career of internationally renowned environmental artist Patrick Dougherty, who has created hundreds of monumental sculptures out of nothing more than saplings, including “Homegrown” at the NC Botanical Garden. The film follows the artist and his collaborators during a year of stick work and reveals Dougherty’s process, personal story and inspirations. The show will be followed by a conversation with some of the volunteers who assisted Patrick! Free. Preregistration required.
Certificate Courses, Spring 2015 Semester

Find out more about these classes on our website! ncbg.unc.edu/education-and-events

Certificate Courses, Spring 2015 Semester

Full descriptions of these Certificate Courses are on our website—ncbg.unc.edu/calendar/

= No prerequisites—open to all!

Native Plant Studies

Botany
Olivia Lenahan, Horticultural Scientist
Saturdays, Mar 7, 14, 21, 28; 9:15am–1:15pm
$135 ($125 Members)
See desc. pg. 11

Identifying and Controlling Invasive Plants
Neville Handel, NCBG Land Manager
Thursday, Mar 12; 1–4pm
$30 ($25 Members)
See desc. pg. 11

Spring Flora
Milo Pyne, Plant Ecologist
Saturdays, Mar 14, 28, April 25, May 9; 1:30–4:30pm
$125 ($115 Members)
See desc. pg. 11

Plant Communities of North Carolina
Alan Weakley, Director, UNC Herbarium
Tuesdays, Mar 31, April 7, 14, 21, 28; 9am–12pm; April 21; 8am–6pm
$125 ($115 Members)
See desc. pg. 11

Local Deciduous Trees
Stefan Bloodworth, Curator, Blomquist Garden of Native Plants, Sarah P. Duke Gardens
Saturdays, Apr 11, 18; 9:30am–12:30pm
$65 ($55 Members)
See desc. pg. 11

Principles of Conservation Biology
Johnny Randall, NCBG Dir. of Conservation
Thursdays, Apr 23, 30, May 7, 14; 1–3pm
$125 ($115 Members)

Piedmont Savanna Ecology
Nicole Cagle, Ecologist
Saturdays, May 2, 9, 16, 30; 9:30am–12:30pm
$125 ($115 Members)

Plant Taxonomy
Milo Pyne, Plant Ecologist
Sundays, May 3, 10, 17; 1:15–4:45pm
$125 ($115 Members)

Flowering Plant Families
Olivia Lenahan, Horticultural Scientist
Saturdays, May 16, 30, Jun 6, 13; 1–4pm
$125 ($115 Members)

Native Southeastern Medicinal Plants
Ricky Bratz, Herbalist
Sunday, May 17; 1:30–4:30pm
$30 ($25 Members)

Native Plant Propagation
Matt Gocke, NCBG Nursery/Greenhouse Mgr.
Saturday, Jun 6; 9:30–11:30am
$30 ($25 Members)
See desc. pg. 10

Entomology
Steve Hall, Landscape Ecologist
Sundays, Jun 7, 14, 21, 28; 1:30–4:30pm
$125 ($115 NCBG member)

Botanical Art & Illustration

Depth and Perspective
Patricia Savage, Professional Artist
Sundays, May 8, 15, 22, 29; 1:15–4:45pm
$125 ($115 Members)

The Art of Carbon Dust
Patricia Savage, Professional Artist
Monday, Mar 16; Tuesday, March 17; 10am–4pm
$100 ($90 Members)

Ephemerals
Linda Koffenberger, Professional Artist
Friday, Mar 20; 1–4:30pm
$40 ($35 Members)
See desc. pg. 10

Portfolio Preparation: What You Need to Know
Patricia Savage, Professional Artist
Friday, Mar 20; 1–4:30pm
$40 ($35 Members)
See desc. pg. 10

Edibles on Paper: Root Vegetables in Watercolor
Kathy Schermer-Gramm, Professional Artist
Saturday, Mar 28; 1–4:30pm
$40 ($35 Members)
See desc. pg. 10

Pen and Ink: Media Exploration
Kathy Schermer-Gramm, Professional Artist
Wednesdays, May 6, 13, 20, 27; 1–4:30pm
$125 ($115 Members)

Intermediate Watercolor for Illustrators
Kathy Schermer-Gramm, Professional Artist
Tuesdays, May 26, June 2, 9, 16; 1–4:30pm
$125 ($115 Members)

Advanced Colored Pencil
Linda Koffenberger, Professional Artist
Wednesdays, Jun 3, 10, 17, 24; 1–4:30pm
$125 ($115 Members)

Beginning Gouache
Kate Lagaly, Professional Artist
Saturdays, Jun 6, 13, 20, 27; 1–4:30pm
$125 ($115 Members)

Book Review: Teaching The Trees
Joan Maloof, Author, Ecologist
Saturday, April 11; 2–4pm

Pen and Ink: How to Paint a Flat Wash
Patricia Savage, Professional Artist
Saturday, Jul 18; 1–4:30pm
$40 ($35 Members)

How to Paint a Cast Shadow
Patricia Savage, Professional Artist
Saturday, Jul 11; 1–4:30pm
$40 ($35 Members)

How to Paint a Flat Wash
Patricia Savage, Professional Artist
Saturday, Jul 18; 1–4:30pm
$40 ($35 Members)

Advance registration is required for all programs unless otherwise indicated!
ncbg.unc.edu/calendar/

Advance registration is required for all programs unless otherwise indicated!
ncbg.unc.edu/calendar/

Spring 2015 NCBG Newsletter 9
Ephemerals
Linda Koffenberger, Professional Artist
Friday, Mar 20; 1–4:30 pm
Students learn about native plants that flower in early spring and receive detailed instructions and demonstrations to complete a small drawing of an ephemeral plant species native to North Carolina. No prerequisites, and no supplies needed. $40 ($35 Members)

Natural Colors Workshop
Rebecca Cope,
Certified NC Environmental Educator
Saturday, Mar 21; 1–4pm
Celebrate the spring equinox when red, orange and yellow pigments are visible in the surrounding trees and garden plants, and before the green chlorophyll of summer masks their colors. Learn the origins of natural colors, how we perceive them, what they mean to us, and all that we can create from them. Participate in hands-on painting activities. Use natural pigments and other materials to make homemade paint and create a cave-style painting to take home! Fee includes materials and supplies. $38 ($34 Members)

Edibles on Paper:
Root Vegetables in Watercolor
Kathy Schermer-Gramm, Professional Artist
Saturday, Mar 28; 1–4:30 pm
Get acquainted with root vegetables! Instruction will include drawing for accuracy, painting wet into wet with saturated color followed by dry brush to bring out the details. No prerequisites, although some watercolor knowledge is helpful. $40 ($35 Members)

The Craft of Woodturning
Michael Thompson, Forester, Woodscrafter
Sunday, Mar 29; 3–4:30 pm
As a former forest manager, Michael Thompson appreciates the trees of the southeast in their native habitat. Upon retirement, he shifted his appreciation to using wood as material for wood turning and the creation of fine art pieces, especially from burl wood (wood grown in a deformed manner). He explains his art of woodturning through demonstration. A number of his pieces will be on display. Free. Preregistration required.

Celebrating Trees:
A Woodwind Concert
Village Band
Sunday, Apr 12; 4:15–5pm
Join us for this special woodwind concert! Local musicians will entertain us with music inspired by nature as well as selections from the best-loved pieces for woodwind ensembles. Free, but preregistration required.

Reading Nature Poetry
Sherman K. Poulteny, Poet, Writer, Physicist
Sunday, Apr 19; 2–3pm
Sherman K. Poulteny, poet, writer, and physicist, reads his own poetry as well as nature and tree poems by important poets. He has won prizes for poems in various contests and he continues to publish annual chapbooks of poems. Free. Preregistration required.

Sketching Among Our Trees
Kate Lagaly, Professional Artist
Thursday, Apr 23; 1–4pm
Students learn how to create tree sketches using contour line and shading techniques. Sketching is a great way to become acquainted with our southeastern forest and trees. Supplies provided. $40 ($35 Members)

Landscape for Life
JoAnn Overton, Landscape Designer, Trained Landscape for Life Instructor; and guest speakers
Saturdays, Mar 7, 14, 21, 28, Apr 11; 9:30–11:30am
Harness nature’s power to create a healthy, beautiful home landscape. Landscape for Life shows you how to work with nature in your garden, no matter where you live. Conventional gardens often work against nature, but even one home garden can begin to repair the web of life. It’s possible to create a great-looking garden that’s healthier for you, your family, your pets, the environment, and that saves you time and money. $150 ($140 Members)

Home Landscape Design Workshop
JoAnn Overton, Landscape Designer
Saturdays, Apr 18 and 25, 9:30–11:30am
Learn how to approach a landscape design project and how to implement a plan with sustainable materials. Participants will be given a list of native plants of this area frequently used in home landscapes. Specific topics will include analyzing the property for wind and sun orientation, a functional flow, and treating special features of your landscape. The concepts of sight line, public and private areas and “rooms” will be discussed. $50 ($45 Members)

Shiitake Mushroom Growing Workshop
Aaron Moody, Geologist and Avid Gardener
Sunday, Mar 22; 1–3pm (Rain date: Mar 29)
Location: Carolina Campus Community Garden (CCCG)
Learn how to grow shiitake mushrooms by preparing logs with mushroom plugs for the CCCG and tasting delicious samples of mushroom dishes. Please bring a charged cordless drill, if possible. Children are welcome. Free. Preregistration required.

Urban Landscaping for Wildlife
Chris Moorman, NCSU Prof./Coord., Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology
Wednesday, May 13; 12pm
See desc. pg. 13

Native Plant Propagation
Matt Gocke, NCBG Nursery/Greenhouse Mgr.
Saturday, Jun 6; 9:30am–12:30pm
Students learn fundamentals of vegetative propagation and techniques for propagating southeastern native plants by means of stem and root cuttings. Class includes hands-on propagation and a tour of the vegetative propagation facilities of NCBG. $30 ($25 Members)
**Hikes & Tours**

**The Giants Among Us Walk**  
Alan Moore, Eastern Region Urban Forestry Specialist, NC Forest Service  
Tuesday, Mar 24; 1–2pm, Coker Arboretum  
Learn about the North Carolina Champion Big Tree program. Participants learn how a tree becomes a champion and how to take tree measurements by re-measuring four champion or co-champion trees at the Arboretum. $15 ($10 Members)

**White Pines Restoration Walk**  
Matt Rutledge, Assoc. Manager of Stewardship, Triangle Land Conservancy (TLC)  
Wednesday, Apr 1; 2–4pm  
Join us for a tour of TLC’s White Pines Preserve to explore its unique population of white pines, the easternmost occurrence by almost 80 miles. Located on steep bluffs at the confluence of the Rocky and Deep rivers, the preserve is home to a unique micro-climate that has allowed these trees to thrive. Learn more about the habitat, history, and ongoing restoration efforts. Free. Preregistration required.

**The Trees in Our Forest Walk**  
Steph Jeffries, Teaching Assist. Prof., NC State Dept. of Forestry and Envir. Resources  
Tuesday, Apr 28; 1pm  
Join us for an ecological hike on the Piedmont Nature Trails. Learn to identify some of our common Piedmont trees and their habitat preferences as well as how to read the forested landscape. Along the way, discover that with keen observation and a little practice, you too can see the forest with the trees! $15 ($10 Members)

**Plant Communities of North Carolina**  
Alan Weakley, Director, UNC Herbarium  
Tuesday, Mar 31; Apr 7, 14; 9am–12pm; Apr 21; 8am–6pm  
Learn about North Carolina’s rich diversity of plant communities. Variations in climate and soil types across the state as well as other factors have resulted in the creation of distinctive regions. Class sessions include nine hours of lecture and a full day field trip. No prerequisites. $125 ($115 Members)

**Local Deciduous Trees**  
Stefan Bloodworth, Curator, Blomquist Garden of Native Plants, Sarah P. Duke Gardens  
Saturday, Apr 11, 18; 9:30am–12:30pm  
Do you want to identify the deciduous trees in your backyard gardens and neighborhoods? This class will spend time walking in the Garden or on the Piedmont Nature Trails, learning common trees, how to identify them, and understanding why they grow where they do. No prerequisites. $65 ($55 Members)

**Mother’s Day Tree Walk at Mason Farm**  
Ed Harrison, Naturalist  
Sunday, May 10; 2–4:30pm  
Take your mother for a walk around the Mason Farm Biological Reserve’s “old farm trail,” which travels through some 260 years of cultural and natural history. We will focus on native trees and discuss how the Garden’s intense management of both field and forest benefits local biological diversity conservation. $15 ($12 Members)

**Priceless Gem Tours**  
Each year, UNC Visitors’ Center offers tours in the “Priceless Gem Series” to highlight the landmarks that make UNC’s campus special. This April, we are partnering with them to offer two such tours that will focus on the grand trees of UNC. Registrants will be notified of meeting place. Free. Preregistration required.

**The Noble Grove Tour**  
Tom Bythell, UNC Campus Forest Manager; and Jill Coleman, UNC Landscape Architect  
Friday, Apr 3; 3pm  
This walk around campus will explore the beauty, history, and future of UNC’s heritage trees.

**Springtime in the Coker Arboretum**  
Grant Parkins, NCBG Nat. Sci. Educator  
Friday, Apr 24; 3pm  
Come see the unique trees and beautiful wildflowers that make the Coker Arboretum a “Haven in the Heart of Chapel Hill.”

**Ecology & Sustainability**

**Botany**  
Olivia Lenahan, Horticultural Scientist  
Saturdays, Mar 7, 14, 21, 28; 9:15am–1:15pm  
Learn the basic principles of botany. Class time is divided between lectures and examining/dissecting samples, and includes opportunities for observing examples in the Garden. No prerequisites. $140 ($125 Members)

**Identifying and Controlling Invasive Plants**  
Neville Handel, NCBG Land Manager  
Monday, Mar 12; 1–4pm  
Through classroom and field demonstrations, students learn methods to identify invasive species and effectively remove them under various scenarios. No prerequisites. $30 ($25 Members)

**Spring Flora**  
Milo Pyne, Plant Ecologist  
Saturdays, Mar 14, 28, Apr 25, May 9; 1:30–4:30pm  
Field trips and exercises provide experience in the use of identification keys and recognition of plants in a natural setting. No prerequisites. $125 ($115 Members)

**Diversity and Natural History of the American Oaks**  
Paul Manos, Professor, Duke University, Department of Biology  
Thursday, Mar 26; 12pm  
Join us for a presentation that will emphasize the patterns of species diversity in oaks, exploring the interface between the structure and function of traits and the significance in the natural history of this important genus throughout various woodlands of the Americas.

**Protecting our Forests from Pests and Diseases**  
Daniel Stern, Sentinel Plant Network Manager, American Public Gardens Association  
Tuesday, Mar 31; 12pm  
Learn about the impact serious pests and diseases have on forest health, some of the major threats to our southeastern native trees, and what you can do to help prevent their introduction and spread.

**The Biochemistry of Spring**  
Stefan Bloodworth, Curator, Blomquist Garden of Native Plants, Sarah P. Duke Gardens  
Wednesday, Apr 8; 12pm  
We delve into subtle climatic cues and the complex biochemical reactions they trigger which make possible the bursting buds and myriad shades of new, green leaves on the plant species all around us each.

**Anticipating Fall Color: What, Why, and Wow!**  
Johnny Randall, NCBG Dir. of Conservation  
Wednesday, Apr 22; 12pm  
Johnny will explore the physiological, ecological, environmental, and biogeographical factors of leaf color change in anticipation of fall. This presentation complements and the earlier presentation on The Biochemistry of Spring.

**Restoring the Mighty Giant: Creating Resistance to Two Pathogens**  
Tom Sailer, Southern Regional Science Coordinator, The American Chestnut Foundation (TACF)  
Thursday, Apr 23; 12pm  
Join us for a talk focusing on the TACF’s efforts to use genetic breeding to successfully produce a chestnut tree that has resistance to the soil pathogen Phytophthora cinnamomi. Up until a century ago, American chestnut was considered one of the most prominent foundation species throughout the eastern hardwood forests until disease resulted in their functional loss.

**Urban Landscaping for Wildlife**  
Chris Moorman, NCSU Prof./Coord., Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology  
Wednesday, May 13; 12pm  
See desc. pg. 13
Youth & Family classes related to the “Among Our Trees” exhibit are listed in brown.

Blazing-Stars: Afterschool Nature Club (ages 6-8)
- Thursdays, Mar 5 – Apr 30 (8 sessions; no class 4/2); 3:30 – 5:15pm

Calling all young nature enthusiasts! Join us for this afterschool series designed to connect children to plants and nature. We’ll explore the many wonders of the spring season — from salamanders to budburst to migrating birds. Hands-on activities, nature hikes, games, and crafts make learning fun and engaging. This program offers an exciting complement to your child’s science education. This is a drop-off program. $120 ($105 Members)

Bluets: Preschoolers Exploring Nature! (ages 4-5)
- Wednesdays, Mar 18 – Apr 29 (6 sessions; no class 4/1); 1:30 – 3:30pm

Learning comes naturally for preschoolers during this popular, fun-filled series that fosters a sense of wonder for the natural world and love for science and learning. Preschoolers will ‘dig in’ to the vegetable garden, dip in the pond for tadpoles, observe birds up-close, and more. Healthy snack provided. This is a drop-off program. $105 ($95 Members)

Little Sprouts (ages 3-5 with adult)
- Share a morning of discovery with your little sprout and nurture their natural curiosity for the living world. Each class includes hands-on indoor and outdoor activities for you and your child to learn about plants, animals, and nature. Play games, take a short hike, make a craft, hear a story, and more. One adult per child please. $10 ($8 Members) per child/adult pair Saturday, March 28; 10–11am / Spy Spring Saturday, April 25; 10–11am / We Love Trees Saturday, May 30; 10–11am / Who Lives in a Pond?

Nature Illustration for Kids: Life among the Hardwoods (ages 8-12)
- Saturdays, Apr 25 – May 16 (4 sessions); 1–4pm

Our eastern hardwood forests support an incredible diversity of plant and animal life, often hidden from us under a carpet of leaves or beneath logs slowly returning to soil. Walk the Garden’s forest trails with sketchbook and artist’s pencil in hand as tree buds open and wildflowers emerge, and learn how to compose paintings and illustrations of this natural beauty using professional art materials and techniques. Each student will conclude class with at least two matted illustrations. Course taught by naturalist and children’s book illustrator Bob Palmatier. $140 ($125 Members), incl. student art kit and use of professional supplies

Meet the Trees Family Hike (ages 6-10 with adult)
- Saturday, Apr 18; 1:30–3:30pm

Grab your hiking shoes and join us on a scavenger hunt through the gardens and Nature Trails to meet the trees of the Piedmont forest! Whose twigs were used as early toothbrushes, where did those spiky seedpods come from, which tree roots were originally used to make root beer? Learn fun tree lore and how to identify some of our most common trees. We’ll end our time by making leaf presses to take home. Dress for the outdoors. Fee, per child: $10 ($8 Members); no fee for accompanying adult

Spintops: A Wood Turning Demonstration for Families
- Frank Penta, Woodcrafter
- Sunday, May 3; 2pm

A spintop is a toy spun rapidly on the ground, balanced on its tip. These wooden toys have been the pleasure of children since long ago. In a fascinating transformation of a block of wood into a functional item, Frank Penta will demonstrate the art of woodturning for families and each child will go home with a spintop! Free, but preregistration required.

Family Gardening Series: Herbs (ages 5 & up with adult)
- Saturday, May 9; 10–11:15am

It’s thyme to plant herbs! Enjoy a morning learning about and planting some favorite sweet and savory plants – like rosemary, mint, and chives – in the vegetable garden, and create an herb basket to take home for Mother’s Day. Fee, per child: $8 ($6 Members); no fee for accompanying adult

Family Gardening Series: Pizza Garden (ages 5 & up with adult)
- Saturday, April 11; 10–11:15am

Join us in the vegetable garden for a pizza planting party! We’ll learn how to add all the ingredients — basil, oregano, tomatoes, and peppers — to grow a “pizza garden,” and send you home with some delicious plants to add to your backyard. Enjoy harvesting and tasting too! Fee, per child: $8 ($6 Members); no fee for accompanying adult

Vernal Pool Wonders (ages 5 & up with adult)
- Sunday, Mar 8; 1:30–3:30pm

Chorus frogs, dragonfly larvae, and spotted salamanders … oh my! Nature is waking up in the Garden’s vernal pools. These nurseries are swimming with life in early spring. Peek into the ponds with dip nets, meet live critters, and learn about the wonders and mysteries of life in a vernal pool. Dress for the outdoors. Fee, per child: $10 ($8 Members); no fee for accompanying adult

Family Gardening Series: Diggin’ Spring Vegetables (ages 5 & up with adult)
- Saturday, Mar 14; 10–11:15am

Learn which vegetables to grow in spring and help us get the garden ready for planting! Children will help prepare beds, plant seeds, learn how to make recycled pots to take home, and enjoy a story. Fee, per child: $8 ($6 Members); no fee for accompanying adult

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Summer Nature Camp 2015

Registration is OPEN!

Camps are filling fast!

Space still available for:

The Secret Lives of Bugs (ages 8-10)

Did you know that one out of every three bites of food we eat depends on bees? Or that dragonflies begin their lives underwater? Discover the weird and wonderful world of beetles, grasshoppers, butterflies, and slugs, and the important role “bugs” play in nature. Campers will hone naturalist skills while sweep netting in the meadow, dipping for aquatic insects at the pond and stream, identifying pollinators, making bug traps, and more. Guest naturalists and field trips will enrich our nature study and fun! $270 ($240 Members) For more info or to register: ncbg.unc.edu
Discover the impact of our native trees through exhibits and special events!

Exhibit Opening: “A Passionate Observer”
Diane Kent, Professional Artist
Sunday, Mar 8, 2pm
See desc. on back cover

Arborescent! An appreciation of the trees of the southeastern United States
Alan Weakley, Director, UNC Herbarium
Sunday, Mar 15; 2:30pm
See desc. on back cover

Spring Flora
Milo Pyne, Plant Ecologist
Saturday, Mar 14, 28, Apr 25, May 2; 1:30–4:30 pm
See desc. on pg. 11

Leopold Bench Building Workshop
Jim Fickle, NCBG Master Volunteer
Sunday, Mar 22; 2–4pm
During this workshop, participants build a Leopold bench to take home. Rough finish pine wood will be cut to size for assembly by the participants. $80 ($70 Members)

The Giants Among Us Walk
Alan Moore, Eastern Region Urban Forestry Specialist, NC Forest Service
Tuesday, Mar 24; 1–2pm, Coker Arboretum
See desc. on pg. 11

Diversity and Natural History of the American Oaks
Paul Manos, Professor, Duke University, Department of Biology
Thursday, Mar 26; 12pm
See desc. on pg. 11

The Craft of Woodturning
Michael Thompson, Forestier, Woodscrafter
Sunday, Mar 29; 3–4:30pm
See desc. on pg. 10

Like us on Facebook to play Tree Trivia Tuesday and win fabulous prizes!

Making a difference through exhibits and special events!

Sunday, Mar 29; 3–4:30pm

Celebrating Trees: A Woodwind Concert
Village Band
Sunday, Apr 12; 4:15–5pm
See desc. on pg. 10

Reading Nature Poetry
Sherman K. Poultoncy, Poet, Physicist
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See desc. on pg. 10

Anticipating Fall Color: What, Why, and Wow!
Johnny Randall, NCBG Dir. of Conservation Programs
Wednesday, Apr 22; 12pm
See desc. on pg. 11

Restoring the Mighty Giant: Creating Resistance to Two Pathogens
Tom Saielli, Southern Regional Science Coordinator, The American Chestnut Foundation
Thursday, Apr 23; 12pm
See desc. on pg. 11

On Arbor Day:
Blight-resistance Chestnut Trees
Grace the Coker Arboretum
Tom Saielli, Southern Regional Science Coordinator, Triangle American Chestnut Foundation
Friday, Apr 24; 1pm
Join us for a ceremonial planting of potentially blight-resistant American chestnut seedlings at the Arboretum. Saielli discusses the history and ecology of the American chestnut during the planting event. Free. Preregistration required.

Tree Climbing!
Piedmont Recreation Climbers
Saturday, Apr 25 (rain date: May 9); 10am–2pm
Did you ever want to climb high up in a tree, but were afraid to? The Piedmont Recreation Climbers will demonstrate safe tree climbing with ropes. The climbers will facilitate those who want to climb up a tree in a safe and secure manner. Registration required. Signed waiver required to climb. $15 ($12 Members)

Trees in our State Forests
Clemmons State Forest
Saturday, Apr 25; 12–2pm
NC Forest Service staff will provide hands-on demonstrations about state forests, tree rings, and the longleaf pine. Free.

The Trees in Our Forest Walk
Steph Jeffries, Teaching Assist. Prof., NC State Dept. of Forestry and Environmental Resources
Tuesday, Apr 28; 1pm
See desc. on pg. 11

Expressive Painting: Watercolor Trees
Bev Dyer, Professional Artist, RN
Sunday, May 3; 2–4pm
See desc. on pg. 10

Meet Roy Underhill
Sunday, May 3; 4pm
Roy Underhill of PBS fame runs the Woodwright’s School, devoted to revealing the pleasures of hand-tool working in wood. Roy entertains us with stories of his school, woodworking practices, and his travels. $15 ($10 Members)

The Longleaf Pine Forest in the American South
Lawrence S. Earley, Writer and Photographer
Tuesday, May 5; 7pm
Sponsored by UNC’s Institute for the Environment
Covering 92 million acres from Virginia to Texas, the longleaf pine ecosystem was one of the most extensive and biologically diverse ecosystems in North America. Today these forests have declined to a fraction of their size, threatening a variety of species. Conservationists have proclaimed longleaf restoration a major goal, but is it too late? $15 ($10 Members)

Mother’s Day Tree Walk at Mason Farm
Ed Harrison, Naturalist
Sunday, May 10; 2–4:30pm
See desc. on pg. 11

Urban Landscaping for Wildlife
Chris Moorman, NCSU Prof./Coord., Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology
Wednesday, May 13; 12pm
Chris discusses basic wildlife habitat requirements, the unique challenges posed to wildlife in the urban environment, and simple strategies to maximize habitat quality through landscaping with native trees and plants. Free. Preregistration required.

Native Plant Propagation
Matt Gocke, NCBG Nursery/ Greenhouse Mgr.
Saturday, June 6, 9:30am–1:30pm
See desc. on page 10

In the DeBerry Gallery...
A PASSIONATE OBSERVER

PAINTINGS OF TREES.
BY DIANE KENT

...details on back cover

Spring 2015 NCBG Newsletter 13
Thank you to all who support the Garden, especially to the many whose membership dues and gifts were received in the period from October 24, 2014 to January 26, 2015.

**GENERAL SUPPORT**

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Rebecca Dotterer
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Jackson Dule Jr. and
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Anne Hill
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John and Marilyn Dutton

Spring 2015—NCBG Newsletter 17
Welcome, Andrew! Andrew Wilson, our new horticultural technician, was born and raised in Pittsboro, NC, and has always been inspired by the natural world. Before joining the Garden, Andrew studied biology at UNC Asheville, worked on a sustainable farm and in an orchid greenhouse. He is currently also a massage therapist. Andrew lives with his wife and young daughter in a house built in the 1780s. In his free time, he likes to take photographs, cook, sew, play in the yard, do woodworking projects, and anything else creative. He has an interest in mushroom cultivation and enjoys discovering arrowheads and quartz crystals in local construction sites.

Welcome, Aren! Aren Blake, our new horticultural technician, was born and raised in Gloucester, NC, where he played music, and worked on aquaculture projects and carpentry with his dad. After graduating from UNC-Greensboro with a B.A. in Sociology, he began international development/aid work, taking him to Malawi. He to increase local food security by providing Malawian farmers with the resources they need to move toward low-input, diversified, and nutritious agricultural better suited for the local climate. After leaving Malawi, he continued his work and learning in Thailand, then returned to North Carolina. In his free time, Aren works to start his own agroforestry project, Carolina Forest Gardens, based outside of Siler City.

Alan Weakley, director of the UNC Herbarium, has been named the 2015 Morse Botany Fellow by the NatureServe Network for his long-standing and ongoing dedication to plant conservation. His fellowship work will focus on Conservation Status Assessments for high-priority species across the Southeast that have been designated “vulnerable” (G3) under the NatureServe status ranks. Whereas G1 (“critically imperiled”) and G2 (“imperiled”) species are more readily seen as conservation priorities, G3 species can oftentimes be overlooked or undervalued in typical conservation projects. Many of these species haven’t been reviewed in decades. Weakley’s fellowship will also include work to help NatureServe promote and advance the use of taxonomic concepts in botanical data aggregation.

New Board Members
<< cont’d from page 4

Chapel Hill Public Library Foundation, where she led the Foundation’s capital campaign for a new library. She retired this past year.

Chip Callaway graduated from the College of Architecture at N.C State University with a master’s degree in landscape architecture. Chip founded Callaway & Associates in 1980, specializing in residential, hospitality, and historic garden design. Over the past 30 years, Chip and his design staff have designed nearly 1,000 gardens, ranging in size from large estates to small patios. Chip was a Foundation board member in the early 90s, including serving as vice president for two terms.

Harriet Martin grew up in the midst of her father’s large Conway, SC, garden that was a nursery of many different species. Harriet first became a board member in 1989 and has served as secretary and vice president, in addition to serving on the executive committee at various times. Harriet had taken a year’s sabbatical from the board while continuing to remain on the board affairs committee and agreed to return to the board in this very important transition period for the Garden.

Coming to the DeBerry Gallery
May 15 - June 14
North Carolina Rare Plants
by Torey Wahlstrom
Sustainability Internship Endowment: Pam and Bill Camp, Virginia Houk herself, and Nancy Chewning.

The Nature Explorers Summer Camp Scholarship Fund received a contribution from William and Julie Coleman.

The Battle Park Endowment Fund continues to grow, thanks to gifts from Sandy Thompson, Brad and Cheryl Briner, Mike and Elston Miles, David and Lallie Godschalk, the Earl N. Phillips Foundation and a long list of others (see gift list). The Battle Park endowment base has grown to more than $221,000 and will help fund the care Battle Park needs and deserves. If you haven’t hiked the trails of Battle Park lately, plan to visit the beautiful Melinda Kellner Brock Terrace this spring. Douglas Tilden, who volunteers tirelessly in Battle Park and Forest Theatre, along with his wife Roberta, a regular volunteer and reception ambassador at the Garden’s main desk, presented a pump system for Forest Theatre in honor of former manager Stephen Keith.

Becky and Munroe Cobey made an addition to the Jim Todd Living Plant Fund. This endowment remembers Becky’s father and generates money annually for the purchase and installation of plants in the Garden landscape.

The Children’s Wonder Garden received gifts from the Grace Jones Richardson Trust, The Whaley Family Foundation, Jan and Jim Dean, James Vernon, the Coca-Cola Foundation matching the earlier gift of Stephen and Sandra Rich, and many others. The Grace Jones Richardson Trust also furnished a generous contribution for Healing and Hope Through Science.

We are grateful for all gifts that help the Garden improve its collections and accomplish its mission.

Charlotte Jones-Roe
Director of Development
919-962-9458
jonesroe@unc.edu

If you would like to speak with someone about making a special gift to the Garden, call Charlotte Jones-Roe at 919-962-9458 or UNC’s gift planning experts at 800-994-8803.

Leaving a Legacy...
How to know if your Dues are Due?

Check your membership renewal month & year, posted above your name and address. Use enclosed envelope to renew! THANKS!

showing in the DeBerry Gallery . . .

March 8 - April 29

A Passionate Observer

paintings by Diane Kent

Reception: Sunday, March 8, 2pm

"There has never been a time in my life when I haven’t been interested in the natural world, and felt the compulsion to draw what I observe."

Please join us for Diane Kent’s art exhibit reception celebrating our native flora, including many of the wonderful trees in our gardens. Diane presents her passionate observations of nature and the North Carolina mountains where she wandered, collected, and painted.

16th Annual Evelyn McNeill Sims Lecture

March 15, 2:30pm

Arborescent! An appreciation of the trees of the southeastern United States

Alan Weakley

Director, UNC Herbarium

Why do we have such a diversity of trees in the southeastern United States? Why are they here, and where did they come from? Where are they going? What effect do they have on our lives? We will explore the evolutionary history of the trees of the southeastern United States, and their aesthetics, economics, and medicinal uses.

Every spring the Garden offers a lecture focusing on native plants, their conservation and ecology. The lecture series was initiated in 2000 with a gift from Botanical Garden Foundation board member Nancy Preston to honor her mother, Evelyn McNeill Sims. Free. Preregistration required.