Potentially blight-resistant chestnut planted in Coker Arboretum

The North Carolina Botanical Garden held a ceremonial planting of a potentially blight-resistant American chestnut seedling at Coker Arboretum on Arbor Day. The chestnut seedling is part of a unique breeding program led by The American Chestnut Foundation (TACF) to restore the American chestnut to the eastern forests of America. This tree was once one of the most important trees in the forests from Maine to Georgia and from the piedmont to the Ohio River Valley. Chestnut blight, known as the largest ecological disaster of the 20th century, struck in 1904, and by 1950, four billion trees had been destroyed. TACF hopes their program of restoring the American chestnut will serve as a template for the restoration of other species.

Discover the importance of our pollinators as the Garden illustrates their challenges and offers solutions to help secure a stable future for them.

Find program listings on pages 9-12, or online at www.ncbg.unc.edu/pollinators.

Our new director, Dr. Damon Waitt, joined the NCBG staff in mid-April. Read his first Newsletter message on page 2.

Saturday, June 6, 6-10pm
Join us for a spectacular summer evening garden party with great food, drink, live music, dancing, and a silent and live auction to support the Garden’s efforts in conservation, education, and research. Tickets available at door: $125 per person
In the Seasons to Come...

by Damon Waitt, NCBG Director

Let me start this, my first contribution to the newsletter, by thanking the North Carolina Botanical Garden, the Botanical Garden Foundation, the University of North Carolina, and the Chapel Hill community for the warm welcome to North Carolina. People, like plants, are sometimes difficult to transplant, but everyone has been so incredibly nurturing and supportive that my boots have already started to put down roots. Coming from Texas, I also thought I knew a little about Southern hospitality, but y’all have taken it to a whole new level.

Speaking of new levels, in my first week at the Garden, I addressed the staff at our first staff meeting, the volunteers at the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, the Botanical Garden Foundation at its spring board meeting, the Chapel Hill community at the 100th birthday celebration for the Sisters of Gimghoul Road (Barbara Stiles and Bernice Stiles Wade), and the University community at a wonderful reception hosted by Florence and Jim Peacock. Together, these groups are the pillars that support and sustain the North Carolina Botanical Garden. My first message to them was that we were not going to take the Garden to the next level. Together, we would determine what the next level is, then skip that level and take the Garden to a place that redefines what it means to be a university-affiliated conservation-themed botanical garden in the 21st century. More to come in the next newsletter.

Meanwhile, there are pumps that need replacing, tractors that need repair, fires that need to be put out and fires that need to be started (as in prescribed burns). To respond to these immediate and often unanticipated needs, we have established a new fund called the Director’s Fund with lead gifts from myself, Jonathan Howes, Jim and Delight Allen, and several others. I hope you will consider renewing your support of the Garden by visiting our website (ncbg.unc.edu) and making a contribution to this new fund.

As my old friend the bluebonnet disappeared in my rearview mirror, I wondered who would welcome me to North Carolina. The dogwoods and redbuds were in full bloom as I made my way over the Smokies, arriving in the piedmont just in time to see trillium, dwarf-crested iris, Atamasco lily and wild indigo put on a spectacular show. When I arrived at the Garden, North Carolina cousins of Texas phlox, Indian paintbrush and columbine, introduced themselves, only sporting slightly different names. Soon thereafter, the maples, oaks, hickories, and other hardwoods leafed out, drenching everything and everyone in photosynthesis (and pollen). And now, I am especially enjoying my strange new carnivorous compadres, the pitcher plants, sundews, and Venus flytraps.

It has been a glorious first spring in North Carolina, and I look forward to meeting and working with all of you…in the seasons to come.

A Special Thanks...

As only the third director of the North Carolina Botanical Garden, I would like to give special thanks to the people whose shoes I will endeavor to fill and whose shoulders I hope to stand on; especially Jonathan Howes, who served as interim director from January 1, 2015 to April 13, 2015, Dr. Peter White, who served as director from 1986 to 2015 and Dr. Ritchie Bell, who was the Garden’s first director, serving from 1961 to 1986. The Garden is especially grateful to vice provost for academic initiatives, Dr. Carol Tresolini, and provost James Dean for establishing the Garden directorship as a full-time position for the first time in the Garden’s 49-year history.
Pollination ecology: A long history and a hopeful future
by Johnny Randall, NCBG Director of Conservation Programs

The Saving Our Pollinators exhibit, kicking off June 15, offers a series of presentations, workshops, field trips, and other activities that will help provide information needed to help recover and sustain our forgotten pollinators. We have certainly heard the wake-up call ushering in a new urgency to ensure pollinator health for both crops and native plants, but let's take a moment to see where this call began, and why it is so important.

Although plant sexuality was not formally recognized until the late 1600s, pollination studies began at least as early as 1500 BC, based on evidence from Assyrian bas reliefs depicting the transfer of pollen from one date palm to another. It was not until the “golden age of botany” in the 1700s, however, that vast plant exploration and great advances in the understanding of plant anatomy, taxonomy, and pollination biology occurred.

Interest in pollination biology was clearly boosted in this “golden age” by Carl Linnaeus’s “sexual system” that used the number of stamens and the nature of the pistil for plant classification purposes. But Linnaeus nearly scandalized the study of botany by his human/plant sexuality comparisons!

During this same period, the scientific study of insect-mediated pollen transfer took off, led by the German theologian, Christian Konrad Sprengel. But because of his great interest in botany and pollination, he was removed as rector at the Spandau Citadel.

In 1813, Hermann Muller first observed and published on the narrow foraging range of bees and that they return to the same plants time-after-time, and occasionally day-after-day. Muller also correlated bee behavior with flower color, nectar and pollen contributions to insect diet, and the association of certain insects with particular plant communities.

Charles Darwin and Alfred Russell Wallace invigorated the study of pollination biology after they proposed that changes in species were the product of natural selection. Darwin wrote several books on pollination, but it was his 1862 text – *On the various contrivances by which British and foreign orchids are fertilised by insects, and on the good effects of intercrossing* – that solidified pollination ecology as a “proper science.”

Through much of the 20th century, pollination studies in both the crop and biological sciences plodded along only to find a tremendous swell of interest in the 1970s that continues today. It's hard to pick up a plant biology journal nowadays without finding a paper on pollination biology. But within all of the academic study and amazing discoveries on the nature of plant-pollinator interactions, an important piece was missing.

This missing piece was identified by Stephen Buchmann and Gary Paul Nabhan with the publication of *The Forgotten Pollinators* in 1996, who pointed out that our pollinators are in trouble. Habitat loss for both plants and their pollinators, rampant ecosystem fragmentation, widespread pollution, and overzealous pesticide use has created a perfect storm for pollinator decline.

The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation notes that there are some 4,000 bee species in the United States and over 25,000 worldwide. Globally, over 85 percent of flowering plants are pollinated by insects, and 90 percent of these pollinators are bees, followed by butterflies, moths, beetles, and flies. Bees are so renowned as pollinators that they are called “the sparkplugs of agriculture” by agronomists.

So be sure to stop by the Garden and the Allen Education Center to discover more about our pollinators, their challenges, and solutions to help secure a stable future for them.

Would you like to know more about planting for pollinators?

Check out our Pollinator Garden brochure, available in the Allen Education Center or online at tinyurl.com/pollinatorgarden
The Gift of Summer
by Tom Earnhardt, President, Botanical Garden Foundation

Here in North Carolina, we often complain about heat and humidity in the summer months. It is, however, the same warmth and moisture that gives rise to the spectacular array of summer wildflowers and shrubs found at the Botanical Garden. But the blooms are only half the story!

Walk slowly and look closely, and you will see another dazzling show—the pollinators. The summer flowers at our botanical garden attract a tremendous variety of butterflies, moths, bees, wasps, beetles, and hummingbirds. As these pollinator animals collect nectar and spread pollen, they assure the season’s crop of seeds, berries, and nuts.

A mix of species, colors, and shapes of native flowering plants assures a greater diversity of pollinators. Around our house in Raleigh, my wife and I have common milkweed, bee-balm, butterfly weed, several types of coneflower, cardinal flower, swamp sunflower, coral honeysuckle, passion-flower, and Joe-pye-weed. We have no designated “pollinator garden” area; native flowering plants spread throughout the yard. We enjoy the flowers, but we eagerly welcome the visitors they attract—gaudy swallowtails, clumsy bumblebees, and magnificent ruby-throated hummingbirds.

No matter where you live, it is possible to have a pollinator garden. Your “garden” can be just a couple of flowerpots in your window! If you haven’t already done so, give yourself the gift of summer. The best selection of North Carolina wildflowers is available right here at the North Carolina Botanical Garden. You’ll get two shows—the blooms and the pollinators they attract—for the price of one.

The Botanical Garden Foundation, Inc. is the 501(c)3 non-profit organization that holds land for conservation and raises money for the North Carolina Botanical Garden, a part of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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The Garden has a new, full-time director! We welcome Damon Waitt, who brings experience as a botanist, horticulturist, and administrator, as well as the vision and desire to take the Garden “to a level above the next level!” With a full-time advocate and problem-solver who seeks to make our Garden all it can be, the future of the North Carolina Botanical Garden looks bright. We thank Jonathan Howes for his service as interim director and piloting the Garden through several months with his wise and caring spirit. We are grateful to have had such experienced leadership at this time of transition.

Deep cuts to balance the Garden’s budget caught us by surprise this spring, and we found ourselves without funds to hire summer interns or take care of other basic needs. The students we had selected needed to know if they had a job, and the long, hot summer ahead was looking very bleak indeed. Fortunately, the Garden has a wealth of supportive friends who came to our rescue in some very creative ways. When Jim and Delight Allen heard there might be no student interns, they delivered a check to sponsor an intern for Horticulture on the next business day. Cindy Cook, Peg Parker, and others made contributions toward a second intern to support the Horticulture staff. Eunice Brock agreed to sponsor one of the interns for Battle Park this summer, in memory of her daughter Melinda Kellner Brock. The Sisters of Gimghoul Road, Barbara Stiles and Bernice Wade, decided to make generous contributions themselves and to direct gifts in honor of their 100th birthday to the Battle Park interns. They were joined by Sandy Thompson, Randy and Cathy Lambe, the Gimghoul Neighborhood, Arthur and Migon DeBerry, Jan and Jim Dean, and others. Jonathan Howes gave in the Sisters’ honor and said we could count on him to make up the difference in the amount still needed for the $5,500 internship, allowing our new Battle Park manager, Nick Adams, to hire the interns he needs to care for our beautiful campus forest. The partially-funded Martha Decker DeBerry endowment produces some revenue for the Coker Arboretum summer internship, but we were still a long way from having enough to fund a full-time, four-month intern this summer.

David Robert, a daily visitor to Coker Arboretum and owner of the Dead Mule Club on Franklin Street, offered to host a fundraiser. We are grateful for MedDeli, 411 West, Carolina Brewery, Wine Without Borders, Country Vintners, and others for the delicious fare, and to “Mebanesville” for musical entertainment for our crowd of Arboretum friends. Checks continue to arrive in response to curator Margo MacIntyre’s letter. We may not need to take Dave up on his invitation for next year – but we might, just for the fun of it!

Damon Waitt has already met hundreds of our Garden volunteers who extend our ability to care for the Garden and provide important services. He has met University officials who can help us and has already begun visiting and making friends with people who support the Garden through their financial contributions. Dr. Waitt has established a new fund, The Director’s Fund, which will be very useful in solving the Garden’s challenges. Thank you, Damon, for making the first gift, followed immediately by gifts from Jonathan Howes, Jim and Delight Allen, and Sally Vilas and Harry Gooder to make sure our new director will have resources to accomplish his vision for the North Carolina Botanical Garden.

We are always grateful for dues and unrestricted gifts that may be spent “where the need is greatest.” This quarter, we have received numerous unrestricted gifts that have made a big difference. They include another large distribution from the Julia E. Irwin Charitable Lead Annuity Trust, and gifts from Ona and Peter Pickens, Claire and Hudnall Christopher, Cindy and Tom Cook, Sandra Henson, C.L. and Nell Morton, Joe and Tamara Rice, John and Ashley Wilson, Arthur and Migon DeBerry, Cathy and Randy Lambe, Gretchen Cozart, Gwen Silver and The Silver Foundation, Victor Nadler, Van Womack Daniel, Oliver Orr, Sylvianne Rcherche, John and Ione Coker Lee, Erica and Rene Sanchez, and many others.

Twin sisters Barbara Stiles and Bernice Wade asked for donations to fund the Battle Park intern as part of their 100th birthday celebration.

Charlotte Jones-Roe with the Sisters, celebrating 100 years.
Local Flora, Deaf Botanists, Type Specimens, Colombia, and Trains: A Typical Day in the Herbarium

by Carol Ann McCormick, Curator, UNC Herbarium

Each summer and fall, over a hundred undergrads learn the basics of plant identification and taxonomy from Herbarium director Dr. Alan Weakley in his Local Flora class. One lab session is devoted to a tour of the Herbarium. Students discover they can explore fungi, lichens, mosses, algae, and vascular plants from around the world simply by opening herbarium cases in Coker Hall.

Local Flora student Ellie Kravets (UNC-CH class of 2017) has now become a volunteer in the Herbarium, and she has delved into specimens collected by Herbert Huntingdon Smith. Smith and his wife, Amelia “Daisy” Woolworth were all-around naturalists, collecting insects, mammals, molluscs, birds, and plants in Brazil, Paraguay, Mexico, and the West Indies. Smith’s botanical specimens collected in Colombia piqued Ellie Kravets’s interest, and she has devoted all of her attention to them.

The UNC Herbarium has hundreds of specimens that Smith collected in Colombia. All have minimal information—a typical label is “Plants of Santa Marta, United States of Colombia Collected by Herbert H. Smith, 1898-1901,” the plant name, and Smith’s field collection number. In 1910, Herbert and Daisy were jointly offered the directorship of the Alabama Natural History Museum in Tuscaloosa. The Smith’s interests were diverse, and Herbert and Daisy were still processing the plant material he’d collected in Colombia, when Herbert (who was deaf) was killed by a train as he walked to work at the museum.

Like Herbert and Daisy Smith, Ellie Kravets’s interests include both the botanical and zoological. Ellie is back home in New Orleans for the summer, raising Mississippi Sandhill Cranes (Grus canadensis pulla) at the Audubon Nature Institute’s Species Survival Center. She has promised to keep well clear of streetcars and other trains!

“The events concerning the early naming and distribution of [Herbert H. Smith’s] botanical specimens remain sketchy. The Carnegie Museum accessioned one set of Smith’s Colombian plants containing approximately 2500 unidentified specimens. Smith arranged for most of the plant identifications to be made at the New York Botanical Garden by Dr. H. H. Rusby [and the ferns] by Dr. L. M. Underwood. Specimens sent to New York for identification by Rusby and Underwood were accompanied by carefully noted habit, habitat, and locality data, handwritten in pencil on slips of paper. These slips were subsequently mounted with the plant material.”

Alas, the specimens acquired by the UNC Herbarium lack these handwritten slips!

Since Smith collected so many plants that were new to science, his specimens from Colombia are type specimens—the botanical specimens upon which scientific names are based. In 1988, Dr. David Boufford (M.S. Botany, UNC-CH 1976) of the Gray Herbarium at Harvard University and Dr. Tina Ayers of the Bailey Hortorium at Cornell University compiled a list of Smith’s type specimens deposited in six herbaria in the United States, but not any of Smith’s specimens here in Chapel Hill. Ellie Kravets used the Boufford/Ayers list to scour the University of North Carolina Herbarium, and she found 103 type specimens! She has annotated each as an “Isotype” and moved them to the special herbarium case where we keep all our valuable type specimens. They will be among the first specimens to be imaged and databased for the virtual herbarium at sernecportal.org. Future projects include loaning Smith’s specimens to botanists to confirm the identity of the plants, and comparing our labels to those at other herbaria to glean more habitat, locality, or date information so these can be added to the specimens.

Like Herbert and Daisy Smith, Ellie Kravets’s interests include both the botanical and zoological. Ellie is back home in New Orleans for the summer, raising Mississippi Sandhill Cranes (Grus canadensis pulla) at the Audubon Nature Institute’s Species Survival Center. She has promised to keep well clear of streetcars and other trains! 

Discoveries in the Piedmont Habitat

by Chris Lihia, NCBG Habitat Gardens Curator

It’s hard to remember that only four years ago, we were still moving dirt and just beginning to plant the landscapes associated with our new buildings. Now the James and Delight Allen Education Center stands among abundant, evolving, and maturing gardens. The trees and shrubs are filling in, and the perennials are thriving and blooming. What was once Laurel Hill Road is now a piedmont habitat garden abounding with grasses and wildflowers.

When I was new to the Garden, I wondered why we had habitat gardens representing the mountains, coastal plain, and sandhills but not the piedmont, the very province in which we’re located. The answer was that the nature trail was our piedmont habitat. It wasn’t a bad answer—the woods adjacent to the garden are wonderful and a good example of our local piedmont forest full of spring wildflowers, diverse understory shrubs and lovely beech, oak, and hickories in the canopy. Nonetheless, I was always looking for space to put more piedmont species in the garden, especially some of the showier, sun-loving plants that most frequently persist on roadsides. The opportunity to have a space dedicated to piedmont plants has been a great step forward in the way the Garden exposes people to native plants and conservation gardening, and has made it possible to focus on native plants on an even more local scale.

Our work to display and conserve southeastern native plants takes in a fairly broad region with incredible botanical diversity. In our collections, you can see Florida azalea from the deep south growing side-by-side with mountain phlox from the Appalachians. Parts of the piedmont habitat narrow that scope and feature local biodiversity. Here we have the opportunity to tell a different story about native plants. In large part, the plants in this collection have been grown from seed collected nearby. There are beds displaying roadside plants of Orange, Durham, and Chatham counties, as well as areas meant to represent our surrounding woods. These spaces allow us to show off our local flora and how cultivating these plants can have a tremendous impact on biodiversity by supporting native wildlife from insects all the way up the food chain.

The piedmont habitat contains beds displaying a number of different ideas. We designed spaces to take advantage of the sun to display piedmont natives with prairie affinities, and we created shady spaces with richer soils for woodland beds. There are also spaces which are more horticultural, showing off some of our lesser known piedmont species and advocating for their use as great garden plants.

All of these new plants and new themes have led to lots of discoveries and horticultural lessons learned. • We’ve observed that starry rosinweed (Silphium asteriscus var. asteriscus), grown from seed collected at the nearby Mason Farm Biological Reserve, is one of the most remarkable pollinator plants on site attracting myriad species over the course of its bloom period.
• We’ve seen that under the right conditions, fire-pink (Silene virginica) will seed in with abandon. We started with a few plants grown from Chatham County seed. Two years later, that original planting produced such an abundance of seedlings that we were able to spread it around in the new landscapes. Last year, we realized that we had this plant in such profusion that we would be able to collect enough seed to make it our Wildflower of the Year! • The indian-paintbrush (Castilleja coccinea), a biennial that must reseed to have a continued presence in the garden, is now self-sustaining and continues to seed in and bloom beautifully.
• We introduced three species of sunflower new to the Garden. Now I know which ones spread rapidly by runners. For the record, Helianthus microcephalus and H. divaricatus are best employed in areas where space is plentiful.

Four years have given us time to learn about gardening in our new spaces, time to experiment with new taxa, and time to work towards collecting seed and growing the species we plan to incorporate. We’ve come a long way and I look forward to where we’re going.
The end of spring is an interesting time in the Arboretum. The past couple of months have been visually exhausting. After finally saying farewell to winter—a party guest who completely outstayed its welcome, if you ask me—we’ve been rewarded with longer mornings and pleasant afternoons. Our chores of weeding and pruning and thinning have slowed a bit, and now we turn to more robust projects best accomplished when the student population is less. It’s not like we do not want to share our gardens, quite the contrary, but it is nice to tackle resurfacing a path without needing to detour the harried and the hurrying.

So, what’s looking good in the Arboretum? So glad you asked. The obvious answer would be: Daylilies! But that’s not really a fitting topic for this newsletter. Instead let’s turn our ever-curious gaze elsewhere within the garden and explore.

There is a walkway that extends from the back of Davie Hall down into the Arboretum from the southwest side that is bordered by a healthy line of southern magnolias (Magnolia grandiflora). Their ever present shading is a relief as temperatures rise to be sure, but if you happen to catch sight of the flowers…well, it’s not to be missed. I grew up in North Carolina and have always been around this plant, yet I am still bowled over by the enormous, fragrant cream white flowers.

Near the top of the Magnolia walk, on the other side of the path is a striking native tree, one of two in the Arboretum. It has frilly, white flowers that are often overlooked as so many of them are way over our heads. Find the one or two limbs that are head height and you’ll be able to enjoy the flowers of the Northern Catalpa (Catalpa speciosa). The long slender pod-like fruits that follow are held for a good while and will drop in late autumn. The second of our pair is elsewhere in the garden; I’ll leave it for you to find.

A bit lower to ground are two excellent shrubs that reliably show off this time of year. The first is the Oakleaf Hydrangea (Hydrangea quercifolia). Really, truly, no garden should be without one. Or seven, if you’ve got the room. They are a first-rate deciduous shrub in this neck of the woods. The flowers are held long and they dry beautifully. The fall leaf color can be striking as well. And of course, there’s that textured bark that gives us something to look at in January.

Second is more of a small tree, though it slowly sends out suckers to colonize an area, lending a solidly shrubby look to the plant. The Bottlebrush Buckeye (Aesculus parviflora) is a woodland native that lives at the edge of our Live Oak Lawn under the shade of red maple (Acer rubrum), live oak (Quercus virginiana), and deciduous magnolia (Magnolia x soulangiana, not native). The five parted leaf is striking. The foot-high flower spikes that festoon the plant this time of year are wonderful. Fall color can be a brilliant yellow, lighting up an understory.

To be sure, there are many more plants to see this time of year in the Arboretum. (Prickly pear cactus, Stoke’s aster, tickseed, gayfeather, coneflower, etc…) June is a great time to come by!
Adult Programs

Butterflies in Colored Pencil
Linda Koffenberger, Professional Artist
Sunday, June 28; 2–5pm
This class is an introduction to drawing with colored pencils, using one of North Carolina's many butterflies as reference. Students are given step-by-step instruction, as well as information about our native butterflies. Students can purchase drawing materials or borrow for the course. $40 ($35 Members)

Edibles on Paper: Tomatoes in Watercolor
Kathy Schermer-Gramm, Professional Artist
Saturday, July 11; 1–4:30pm
Working on pre-stretched watercolor paper, students learn to paint the waxy bloom of a blueberry, creating rich dark colors for a juicy blackberry, and an introduction to their pollinator friends. Some watercolor experience is helpful. Paint and paper included. $40 ($40 Members)

How to Paint a Cast Shadow
Patricia Savage, Professional Artist
Saturday, July 11; 1–4:30pm
Using different-sized objects and various surfaces, students will look at how shadows change with shapes and how shadows are affected by the surfaces they fall on. $40 ($35 Members)

How to Paint a Flat Wash
Patricia Savage, Professional Artist
Saturday, July 18; 1–4:30pm
Working on pre-stretched watercolor paper, students will tackle painting a large flat wash. $40 ($35 Members)

Edibles on Paper: Tomatoes in Watercolor
Kathy Schermer-Gramm, Professional Artist
Sunday, July 19; 1:30–5pm
Spending this summer getting acquainted with tomatoes! Instruction includes drawing for accuracy, painting wet into wet with saturated color, followed by dry brush to bring out the details. Some watercolor knowledge is helpful. Paint and paper supplied. $38 ($34 Members)

Drawing for People Who Think They Can't Draw
Kathy Schermer-Gramm, Professional Artist
Sunday, July 26, 1:30–5pm
This workshop shows students that drawing is a skill anyone can learn. Students progress from a blank sheet of paper to a beautiful, finished drawing. Come try, and discover that yes, you can draw! $38 ($34 Members)

Beginning Drawing
Kathy Schermer-Gramm, Professional Artist
Saturdays, Aug 1, 8, 15, 22; 1–4:30pm
This is the entry course for the Certificate in Botanical Illustration and is designed for a broad audience. Students learn the fundamentals of illustration through contour drawing, negative space, perspective, and tone. $150 ($135 Members)

Introduction to Botanical Art and Illustration
Linda Koffenberger, Professional Artist
Sunday, Aug 9; 1:30–5pm
This half-day class explores the history of botanical illustration, shows examples of various types of botanical illustrations and art, describes the coursework for the Certificate in Botanical Illustration, and introduces the instructors. $38 ($34 Members)

Impressions in Beeswax
Martha Petty, Professional Artist
Saturday, Aug 15, 10am–4:30pm
Learn techniques in encaustic painting, painting with layers of hot beeswax fused together. You will create six small paintings that will be glued together to make a larger work of images. We will also dip various plant materials in beeswax, iron onto paper, and stain with walnut ink to make a small pamphlet stitch book. Open to anyone interested in working with beeswax! Bring your lunch. $70 ($60 Members), plus $10 materials fee (cash or check) due at class

Home Gardening

Plant This, Not That for Pollinators
Mary Leonhardi, Bee Hobbyist and Master Gardener
Sunday, June 28; 2–3pm (Rain date: July 19)
Not all flowering plants are created equal in the lives of pollinating insects. This workshop will focus on which plants to add to your garden to attract bees and butterflies and which are of less interest to pollinators. Since many pollinator numbers are diminishing, find out what you can do to help! Meets at Carolina Campus Community Garden. Free, pre-registration required.

Gardening for Pollinators
Elsa Youngsteadt, Margarita López-Uribe, April Hamblin; NC State Entomology
Saturday, Sept 12; 9:30–11:30am
North Carolina is home to more than 500 species of native bees. These beneficial insects are essential to the maintenance of our gardens and the environment. More than 85% of all flowering plants need bees or other pollinators to help them reproduce and bear fruit. This workshop will help you recognize some native bees, understand their relationships with plants, and learn how to support them with bee-friendly gardens. Appropriate for novice gardeners, but has something for everyone—including plants to take home! $15 ($10 Members)

= Native Plant Studies Certificate Program
= Botanical Art & Illustration Certificate Program
= “Saving Our Pollinators” Program
Everyone is welcome in Certificate classes! For more information: ncbg.unc.edu/certificate-programs
**Adult Programs**

### Nature Studies

**Plant Propagation**

Matt Gocke, NCBG Nursery/Greenhouse Manager  
Saturday, June 6; 9:30–11:30am

Learn the 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)

**Entomology**

Steve Hall, Landscape Ecologist  
Sundays, June 7, 14, 21, 28; 1:30–4:30pm

Learn insect family recognition and common species identification, insect ecology and conservation, basic life cycle biology, sampling techniques, and how to improve insect habitat and conservation in the urban environment. $125 ($115 Members)

**Saving Our Pollinators Kick-off Lecture**

Johnny Randall, NCBG Director of Conservation Programs  
Thursday, June 18; 7–8pm

Join us for a special lecture celebrating National Pollinator Week and the kickoff of the “Saving Our Pollinators” exhibition. There is now, more than ever, the need to better understand the biology of insect pollinators for the sake of both cultivated and native plants. This presentation covers the scientific study of pollination ecology, provides guidelines for ensuring pollinator health in the urban landscape, and offers information on what we can all do to help our native pollinators. Free, preregistration required.

**Summer Flora**

Milo Pyne, Plant Ecologist  
Saturdays, June 27, July 11, 18, 25; 9:30am–12:30pm

This course is intended for a broad audience, as well as for students who are enrolled in either of the Garden’s certificate programs. Field trips and exercises provide experience in the use of identification keys and recognition of plants in a natural setting. $130 ($117 Members)

**The Plant Pollinator Partnership and Special Importance of Bees**

Anne Lindsey, Botanist  
Sunday, June 28; 3:30–4:30pm

Enjoy a celebration of the extraordinary partnership of flowers and their animal pollinators, a relationship that has influenced the evolution of plants and their primary partners—bees, flies, butterflies and moths, beetles, birds, and mammals—for millions of years. Special attention will be given to the importance of bees to the successful reproduction of their host flowers and the significance of flowers to the lives of bees. Free, preregistration required.

**BEE-hold the Humble Pollinator! Exhibit Opening Reception**

Sunday, June 28; 4:30–5:30pm

The word “pollen” may make you think “allergies,” but pollination—the movement of plant pollen from the male part of a flower to the female part—is essential to life. Without it, there would be no apples or tomatoes, no almonds or pecans. Join us for a reception to celebrate the Garden’s new exhibit, part of the “Saving Our Pollinators” program, on the role of bees in the pollination of plants, both wild and cultivated. Be amazed at the diversity of bees and adaptations of flowers to attract their pollinating assistants. Learn about threats to these essential pollinators and what you can do to help reduce these threats and safeguard our bees.

**Common Native Bees Slideshow and Garden Foray**

Nancy Adamson, Pollinator Conservation Specialist  
Sunday, July 26; 2:30–4:30pm

Learn about some of the most common bees pollinating flowers and supporting the great diversity of our landscapes. In North Carolina, we have about 500 native species and a few introduced species, in addition to the European honey bee. Bumble bees, mason bees, mining or digger bees, sunflower bees, carpenter bees, hispid bees, and leafcutter bees are all groups you can easily recognize when you slow down and take a look. After a slideshow, weather permitting, we will walk in the Garden to see who inhabits our wonderful native plants. $15 ($10 Members)

**Pollination**

Anne Lindsey, Botanist  
Saturdays, Aug 29, Sept 12, 19, 26; 9:30am–12:30pm

This course explores the partnership of flowering plants and their animal pollinators. Included will be a study of attractant systems, breeding biology of the floral partner, aspects of the biology and behaviors of pollinators, and importance of pollination to ecosystem health and human food production. Lectures will be followed by field observations and lab work. This course has prerequisites: ncbg.unc.edu/certificate-programs. $130 ($117 Members)

**Native Seed Propagation**

Heather Summer, NCBG Seed Program Coordinator  
Saturday, Sept 12; 1:30–4:30pm

Learn seed propagation techniques for native perennials and woody plants. Topics include seed collection methods, post-collection handling, cleaning equipment and techniques, seed storage, seed sowing techniques, sowing media, cultural requirements of seedlings, and dormancy requirements. $32 ($29 Members)

**Bee Health in an Urban Landscape**

Rebecca Irwin, NC State Entomology  
Sunday, Sept 13; 2–3pm

We live in an increasingly urbanized world. This talk will describe how suburbanization of the landscape has affected bee biodiversity in Raleigh and Durham, NC, and the pollination services bees provide to wild growing plants. We will explore landscape features associated with the conservation of native bee biodiversity, and how we can use garden plantings to conserve bee health and biodiversity. Free, pre-registration required.

**Caterpillarology – The Study of Pollinator Precursors**

Mike Dunn, Naturalist  
Sunday, Sept 20; 2:30–4:30pm

Join local naturalist Mike Dunn as he shares some of the secrets of the lives of local caterpillars. Many species of butterflies and moths are important pollinators, but, in addition to plants that provide nectar, they also need host plants for their caterpillars (many are quite specific) to complete their life cycle. Learn more about the fascinating larval stage of these important pollinators and what plants can attract them to your property. There will be live specimens to observe. $15 ($10 Members)

**Jenny Elder Fitch Lecture:**

Doug Tallamy and Rick Darke  
Sunday, Sept 27; 2–4:45pm

See back cover
**Lunchbox Talks**

**Bring your lunch and join us for a free lecture!**

**Pre-registration required.**

**Sizzling Cities: Native Bee Communities and Urban Heat**
April Hamblin, NC State Entomology
Thursday, June 25; 12–1pm

Bees pollinate most of our flowering plants, including many crop species. As urbanization and climate change continue to increase, it is vital to understand how these variables influence the native bee community to predict future changes. Join us to learn about exciting new research focusing on how urban heat affects our native bee communities. **Free, pre-registration required.**

**Pollinator Habitat Restoration in NC Botanical Garden Nature Preserves**
Johnny Randall, NCBG Dir. of Conserv. Prgms
Thursday, July 9; 12–1pm

Former agricultural lands and fire suppressed woodlands often provide appropriate habitat to reconstruct the Piedmont savanna ecosystem, a habitat for important pollinator groups such as bees, flies, wasps, butterflies, and moths. The NCBG oversees the conservation and management of nearly 1,000 acres of natural areas. Learn about our restoration activities, such as monitoring pollinator diversity and abundance, creating nesting habitat, and using prescribed fire to help protect and maintain pollinator habitat. **Free, pre-registration required.**

**Native Plants for Pollinators**
Chris Liloia, NCBG Habitat Gardens Curator
Thursday, Sept 3; 12–1pm

Learn about some great native plants that will help support pollinators in your home landscape. This talk focuses on native perennials and shrubs that provide nectar and pollen throughout the growing season, host plants for butterfly and moth caterpillars to feed on, and grasses and other cover plants to provide habitat. **Free, pre-registration required.**

**Butterflies, Science, and You: Observing Butterflies as a Citizen Scientist**
Christine Goforth, Senior Manager of Citizen Science, NC Museum of Natural Sciences
Thursday, Aug 20; 12–1pm

Butterflies are some of the most well-known and best understood insects on the planet, but there are still gaps in our scientific understanding of butterflies and the role they play in our environment. You can help! By becoming a citizen scientist, making simple observations of butterflies, and reporting what you see online, you can make valuable contributions to our overall understanding of butterflies and the important pollination services they provide. Learn about the many ways that you can get involved in butterfly research and help conserve these beautiful animals well into the future. **Free, pre-registration required.**

**Honey Bee Hive Tour**
Anne Cabell, Bee Hobbyist
Sunday, June 7; 2–3pm (rain date: June 20)

Come learn about one of the world’s most fascinating insects. Bees are responsible for pollinating one third of the world’s food and produce one of the sweetest treats around. Participants explore a real live honey bee hive with hobbyist beekeeper, Anne Cabell. Meets at Carolina Campus Community Garden. **Free, pre-registration required.**

**Pollinator Garden Tours at Chatham Mills**
W ednesdays, June 10, July 8, Aug 12, and Sept 9; 5:30–6:30pm

Agriculture Extension Agent Debbie Roos will lead tours of Chatham County Cooperative Extension’s Pollinator Paradise Demonstration Garden. Free and open to the public, rain or shine. Meet on the sidewalk in front of Chatham Marketplace in Pittsboro. For more information: growingsmallfarms-gardentours. **Free, no registration required.**

**Birds and Bees, Flowers and Trees – Pollinator Hike**
Brian Bockhahn, Interpretation & Education Specialist, NC State Parks
Saturday, Aug 8; 10am–12pm

Enjoy a hike to look for our native pollinators and learn about the important role they play in the environment. Through observation and some live collection, we will learn some basic identification techniques. The pace of our hike will be slow, but be prepared for the heat and bring a hat, sunscreen, drinking water, and maybe bug spray. **Free, pre-registration required.**

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**Certificate Programs**

Are you interested in gaining greater knowledge and appreciation of the native plants of the southeastern United States? Would you like to learn how to accurately draw and paint plants or improve your skills? The Garden offers adult learners, from amateurs to professionals, two unique opportunities to learn about plants through in-depth courses taught by dedicated, expert instructors: Native Plant Studies and Botanical Art and Illustration. Both programs culminate in a professional certification. To learn more and see a full listing of fall semester courses (July – Dec 2015): ncbg.unc.edu/certificate-programs

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**Registration is Online!**

Click on Calendar & Registration to enter our secure registration site. Advance registration is required for all programs unless otherwise indicated.
**Youth & Family Programs**

**Little Sprouts**
ages 3-5 with accompanying 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

**Buzz-y Bees**
Saturday, June 20; 10–11am

**Hooray for Hummingbirds!**
Saturday, July 18; 10–11am

**Flower Power**
Saturday, Aug 15; 10–11am

**Flutter-by Butterfly**
Saturday, Sept 19; 10–11am

**Fun with Bees**
Elsa Youngsteadt, Margarita Lopez-Uribe, April Hamblin; NC State Entomology
Sunday, June 28; 1:30–3:30pm
Stop by the native bee table to get a glimpse of North Carolina’s amazing bee diversity. More than 500 species live in our state alone—from bumble bees to green bees, cuckoo bees to squash bees. Learn how native bees benefit our gardens and the environment and how to support them in your yard. Kids and adults will all find things to do and see, including games to play and specimens to examine. Each family will get to make and take home a bee nesting bundle!

Free, no registration required.

**Nature Illustration for Kids: Bees, Blossoms, and Butterflies**
ages 8-12
Bob Palmatier, Artist and Naturalist
Saturdays, Sept 26, Oct 3, 10, 17; 1–4pm
Learn to identify and illustrate our local butterflies and bees. Students will hone skills in watercolor, pen and ink, and colored pencil, using materials and techniques of professional nature illustrators to compose works of art that celebrate our pollinators! Each child will receive an art kit and conclude with two matted illustrations. $140 ($125 Members), includes student art kit

**Monarch Magic**
ages 5-10 with accompanying adult
Saturday, Oct 3; 1–3pm
It’s that magical time of year! Monarch butterflies are in the midst of their incredible journey south to wintering grounds in Mexico. Discover the amazing life cycle of this colorful insect with live specimens, learn how to tag butterflies for citizen science project Monarch Watch, and find out how you can help bring back the monarchs! Each child will receive a special plant to take home. Note: Adult chaperone required.

$15 ($13.50 Members); no fee for accompanying adult

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**Saving Our Pollinators**

= “Saving Our Pollinators” program

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**Summer Concert with The Village Band**
Sunday, June 21; 3pm
Join us for a summertime concert at the Garden. Pieces for this performance will include *The Liberty Bell March* (J. P. Sousa), *Lincolnshire Posy* (Percy Grainger), *Gallop* (Dmitri Shostakovich), *The Eighties* (John Higgins, a medley of pop tunes), and more! Free, no pre-registration required.

**“Bee, I’m Expecting You” Poetry Reading**
Jeffrey Beam, Poet
Sunday, July 19; 3–4pm
Viva la bumble bee! “Bee – I’m Expecting You” is North Carolina poet Jeffery Beam’s celebration of the pollinator responsible for every third bite of food we eat. This popular reading of bee poems finds Beam reading from his own *Life of the Bee*, as well as poems by numerous poets throughout history, including Pablo Neruda, Sylvia Plath, and Virgil. $10 ($8 Members)

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Venus flytrap (*Dionaea muscipula*) blooming in at the Garden. The North Carolina Botanical Garden is home to a diverse collection of carnivorous plants, including flytraps, pitcher plants, and sundews.
Healing and Hope Through Science

Healing and Hope Through Science (HHTS), a program of the North Carolina Botanical Garden, brings hands-on science and nature activities to kids and teenagers at UNC and Duke Children's Hospitals and provides activities for pediatric outpatients twice a month at the Garden. The program’s mission is to empower pediatric patients with the wonders of nature and science through multi-sensory learning experiences that promote joy and well-being. HHTS serves over 1600 pediatric patients each year. For more information, please visit: www.wonderconnection.org

Help Celebrate Healing and Hope Through Science

WonderFest 2015
September 26, 2015, 5:30-9:30pm

Bring your friends and family for an evening of live music, food, and family-friendly science activities at the NC Botanical Garden!

Save the Date!

“I really like doing science activities. It’s fun to help my little sister, too.”
—Healing and Hope Through Science student

Notes from the William L. Hunt Archives

by Ken Moore, NCBG Assistant Director Emeritus

Garden benefactor William L. Hunt envisioned a library at the North Carolina Botanical Garden that would become recognized as a regional resource for the study of botany, horticulture, landscape design, and garden history.

Among Hunt’s rare book treasures housed at the Garden is a set of the Botanical Register, issued to subscribers from 1815 to 1847. The full title of this publication is: “The Botanical Register: consisting of Coloured Figures of Exotic Plants cultivated in British Gardens; with their History and Mode of Treatment.” This year is the 200th anniversary of the first volume of this prestigious British horticultural publication.

Of special note is the inclusion in this first volume of three perennials native to North Carolina: yellow passionflower, Passiflora lutea, (introduced into England by Mark Catesby in 1714); spotted monarda, Monarda punctata (cultivated in England in 1714) and a former North Carolina Wildflower of the Year, butterfly-weed, Asclepias tuberosa, (first cultivated in England in 1690 at Hampton Court).

The text accompanying the beautiful illustration of butterfly-weed is extensive and practical. One snippet, for example: “Generally raised from imported seed. Requires to be placed in a warm, dry, sheltered border of light mould. When its tuberous root has become large, it does not bear transplanting well.” Oh, how well do we old timers who have tried in vain to relocate a mature specimen of butterfly-weed know this to be true!!
Thank you to all who support the Garden, especially to the many whose membership dues and gifts were received in the period from January 27, 2014 to April 29, 2015.

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- Jonathan and Mary Howes
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- Sally Vilas and Harry Gooder
- Family of Judy Ransbury

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Summer 2015  NCBG Newsletter  15
Volunteer Appreciation 2015

We gathered in April to recognize our dedicated and hardworking volunteers. The North Carolina Botanical Garden would not be able to do all it does without the support of these generous and caring individuals.

Volunteers and staff enjoyed a festive lunch together.

Nancy Hillmer was honored by Chris Liloia for 43 years of volunteer service at the Garden.

Paola LaPoint was honored by Barbara Wendell for 30 years of volunteer service at the Garden.

Erma Stein was honored by Matt Gocke for 33 years of volunteer service at the Garden.
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Gimghoul Area
Homeowners Association
Harriet Holderness and James Luebchow
Charlotte Jones-Roe and Chuck Roe
Cathy and Randy Lambe
Harriet and D.G. Martin
Miriam Rabkin and Thomas Hardy
LaDonna S. Rader
Priscilla Taylor
Robert Warren
Barbara L. Stiles and Bernice Stiles Wade
In honor of their 100th Birthday, for General Support
The Association of Carol Woods Residents
Peter S. White
Peg Parker, for General Support and Horticulture Fund
Carol Ann McCormick and Mark A. Peifer
Willow Hill Preschool
Diana Whittinghill Steele, for Battle Park Endowment and Forest Theatre
John B. Wilson
Eleanor Lamb

IN MEMORY OF
Myrtle Rae Wollard Alligood
Employees of Target D430 and D454
C. Ritchie Bell
Richard C. Kennedy, Jr., for UNC Herbarium Endowment
William Chambers Coker
Thomas S. Kenan III, for Coker Arboretum Water Feature
Priscilla Freeman
Alan and Maxine Stern
Elizabeth Fudge
Chris Delaney
The Kramer Family
Carol Manzon
Geri W. MacQueen
Bob Gordon
The Family of Bob Gordon, for Coker Arboretum Improvement Fund
Lee and Bob Matthews
Phyllis H. Burns
Scott McLean
Danny, Ann, Shell, and Loretta Crotts
Peter Tryon Nielsen
Anne Whitlock Nielsen
(J.E.) Bert O’Connell
Harriet J. Smith
Ronald Wayne O’Quinn
Faye L. O’Quinn
Evelyn “Robby” Osborne
The Osbornes
Karla Reed
Brenda B. Lazarus
Dorothy Sorrill Roe
Sandy and Judy Steckler, for Conservation
Wivi Sternbach
Chapel Hill Garden Club

MATCHING GIFTS
Becton Dickinson—matching the gift of Pamela Timmons for Mason Farm Endowment and General Support
Chevron “YourCause, LLC”—matching the gift of Linda Laferty
Corning—matching the gift of Chirsty C. Lilley for Coker Arboretum Endowment
Exinon Mohl Foundation—matching the gift of Jane Lamm
GlaxoSmithKline—matching the gift of David R. Brooks
IBM—matching the gift of Anthony Amtriano and Jack Alphin
Intel Foundation—matching the gift of John E. Bishop
Merck—matching the gift of Dorothy A. Hammett
Sherwin-Williams—matching the gift of Jim Schmidt for the Horticulture Fund
Texas Instruments—matching the gift of Kathryn A. Peters
Wells Fargo—matching the gift of Sandy Thompson for the Battle Park Fund

IN-KIND GIFTS, GENERAL
Ken Moore and Kathy Buck—holiday wreath of native redbay
Linda and Lawrence Curcio—holiday flower arrangements
Irregardless Café and Catering—gift certificate
Betty Block James—botanical and horticultural books
Charlotte Jones-Roe and Chuck Roe—frames, mats, and supplies
James Deveraux Joslin—Ford F150 Pickup Truck
Jimmy and John Marino—DR Power Wagon
Bill and Rosalie Olsen—land gift

IN-KIND GIFTS, DEAD MULE FUNDRAISER
David Robert, Host and Owner of Dead Mule Club—food and hospitality
401 West Italian Cafe
Carolina Brewery & Grill
Country Vintners
Mediterranean Deli
Wine Without Borders
Mebanesville (music)
New Battle Park Manager

Congratulations to Nick Adams, our new Battle Park manager! Nick is no stranger to Battle Park, having served as the park’s assistant for three years. He has hit the ground running, completing the construction of the Melinda Kellner Brock Terrace, organizing workdays, and managing Forest Theatre.

Weakley receives Star Award

Alan Weakley, herbarium director, won the 2015 Star Award from the Center for Plant Conservation for exemplary service to further our knowledge of plants. His work and exceptional skill in documenting the flora of the southeastern United States is what prompted the selection of Weakley as this year’s winner. The award was presented at the Center for Plant Conservation’s national meeting, and recognizes individuals who demonstrate the concern, cooperation, and personal investment needed to conserve imperiled native plants. Past award winners include Johnny Randall, director of conservation programs, and Peter White, former director of the Garden.

Southeastern flora? There’s an app for that!

The FloraQuest app makes the 1,000+ page Flora of the Southern and Mid-Atlantic States available on your mobile device. Now information about the identification, taxonomy, habitats, and distribution of over 7,000 vascular plants that call a 14-state region of the southeastern United States home can be used with the swipe of a finger! Find it on iTunes!
Sometimes a wonderful opportunity comes along, such as our upcoming pollinator exhibit, and we just have to find funds to sponsor it. **Tom Krakauer** made the first gift for the pollinator exhibit, and others joined him. An excellent proposal to the **Burt’s Bees Greater Good Foundation** by Nancy Easterling and Anne Lindsey brought a positive response, and friends added their contributions to complete the funding for the exhibit. **Fran and Gary Whaley and the Whaley Family Foundation**, **Anne Fleishel Harris**, **Glenda Parker Jones**, **Cindy and Tom Cook**, **Missy and Sam Rankin**, and **Barbara Driscoll** were among those who quickly stepped up to make sure we could host this upcoming event that is so closely related to the Garden’s mission.

To make sure everyone would be able to enjoy the recent **Evelyn McNeill Sims Lecture**, **Nancy and Ed Preston** made a generous gift to sponsor this year’s lecture. The event honors Nancy’s late mother, who loved wildflowers for more than a century.

**Cindy Cook** made sure the wildflower program had the resources to print more brochures for this year’s popular seeds of *Silene virginica*. Cindy also joined others in contributing to the new Horticulture Fund and providing support for student cashiers in the Garden Shop. **Barbara Roth**, whose gifts for years have helped Mason Farm, made another gift to help improve the Garden’s entry landscape. The **family of Bob Gordon** made a generous gift to help improve the stream corridor in Coker Arboretum, where Bob spent countless hours taking on the most difficult jobs. **Diana Wittinghill Steele** designated her gift to help restore Forest Theatre and Battle Park. To make sure we have what we need to raise funds and participate in the upcoming UNC campaign, **Florence and Jim Peacock** made another contribution to build development capacity and opened their lovely home to host a get-to-know-you party for our new director, introducing Damon and his lovely wife, Sara, to the Botanical Garden Foundation board and other Garden supporters.

Other donors made gifts that will continue to give in the future: **Oliver Orr**, who for many years cared for the trails in the Coker Pinetum, directed his gift to build the Natural Areas Endowment. **Charles and Nancy Norwood** made their gift to the Coker Arboretum Endowment, so that our campus garden would always have the care it needs. **Sandy Thompson, Edwin and Harriet Poston, and others** added their gifts to the growing endowment for Battle Park, where the beautiful Melinda Kellner Brock Terrace will soon be complete.

This spring, several Garden members have let us know of their plans to include the Garden in their wills so that their support will continue even after they are no longer here to help as volunteers and sponsors.

With new leadership and energy, we are looking forward to becoming an even better Conservation Garden and showplace for native plants.

We are grateful for all of you who make it possible.

**Jeanie Johnson**
Director of Development
919-962-9458
jonesroe@unc.edu

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**Leave a Legacy...**

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. unclegacy.org
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!

Jenny Elder Fitch Lecture
Sunday, September 27, 2-4:45pm
The Living Landscape

Rebuilding Nature’s Relationships, Doug Tallamy
The Living Landscape: Designing for Beauty and Biodiversity in the Home Garden, Rick Darke

Tallamy will explain why plants evolved in concert with local animals to provide for their needs, why these specialized relationships determine the stability of local food webs, and why it is important to restore life to our residential properties. Then, Darke with explore the richness of life through the richness of the landscape’s layers. From ground cover to canopy, Darke will suggest ways to conserve, create, and manage home gardens that are beautiful, diverse, joyfully livable, and double as homes for wildlife. Book signing 1-1:45pm, prior to the lecture. Books for sale in our Garden Shop. Free. Preregistration required.

Garden Hours
Weekdays Year-round: 8 am – 5 pm
Weekends through May: Saturdays 9 am – 5 pm, Sundays 1 pm – 5 pm
Weekends June–August: Saturdays 9 am – 6 pm, Sundays 1 pm – 6 pm

In the Pegg Exhibit Hall through June 14
Fragile Flora: North Carolina Rare Plants by Torey Wahlstrom