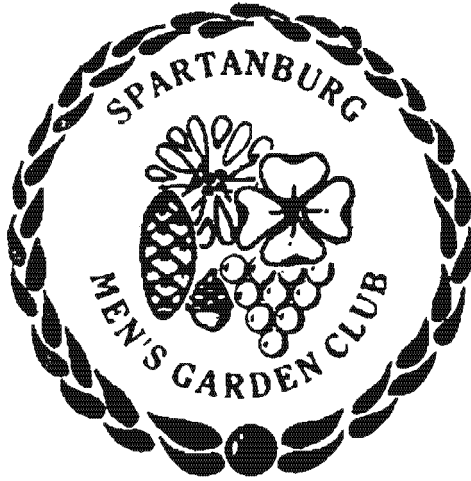


GARDENING & BEAUTIFICATION



SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Dedicated to Gardening Education
and
Community Beautification

*Gardening Service to the Community
Since 1948*

HAPPY 60TH ANNIVERSARY, SMGC!

The Spartanburg Men's Garden Club is celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2008. Established as the "Dirt Daubers" in 1948, this club has been dedicated to beautifying Spartanburg and educating the community about gardening. The Board is planning several special events to observe this significant year. Plan now to be a part of all of them!

GARDENING & BEAUTIFICATION

January 2008

Meeting: Monday, January 21 – 7:00 PM

Place: Morningside Baptist Church – Pine Street

Program: George Gunter – Propagation

Henry Pittman – Brief History of SMGC

Refreshments: TBA

SMGC Yahoo User Group: by joining our group (SpartanburgMGC) you can keep up with club happenings, ask gardening questions, and make observations that will help other members, and more! Type "Yahoo Groups" in your favorite search engine and join our group today!

There is power in knowledge!

SMGC is going to have a web site!

Karen Ward has been very busy on working on the Club's website. It should be up and running, hopefully by the end of this month. This is a great addition to our Club, and it will help us stay in touch!

Container Garden News

Thanks to these volunteers who helped with the work session in December as we potted up a very large shipment of very large trees! A group of 20 members—our largest turnout last year—made quick work of potting a variety of trees and shrubs. Thanks to Jim Bagwell, Jack Turner, Lou Adams, Nancy Williamson, Charlie Crescenszi, John Woodward, Kathleen Hinckle, Jim Ward, Ed Wilde, John Williams, Susan MacDowell, Ben Waddell, and David Kyle, Joe Rives, Linda McHam, Terrie & Pat Rourke, and Don Crowder. We will have a work session in February to begin getting the garden ready for the spring plant sale.

Litter Pick-Up

The last litter pick-up of the year was conducted in December. This Committee is currently inactive because no one has volunteered to chair it.

If you are interested in continuing this important job for the Club, please contact Linda McHam today. This work is part of our beautification of Spartanburg, and it would be a shame to let that stretch of Pine Street get ugly!

Kudzu Coalition

The Kudzu Coalition is now an independent 501C3 organization with its own officers and board of directors. It has expressed its thanks to SMGC for our role in its development. Congratulations, Kudzu Coalition! Good luck in your continued fight against the "green menace."

Street Tree Committee

Ed Wilde, reports that the Street Tree Committee is in the process of assessing Sod Father's work on phase two of the US 221 project. One of the intersections is complete, and work continues on the other two sites.

Propagation Committee

This group has been working on building propagation boxes to begin the first phase of the project. In December Joe Rives, Don Crowder, Pat & Terrie Rourke, and Linda McHam built three boxes that are located in the back section of the container garden. The first propagation session is scheduled for January 26 at the Container Garden. All members are invited to participate in this important activity. Updates and details will be sent via the Yahoo User Group, so if you haven't signed up for that, be sure to give your name and email address to Linda McHam right away.

A Moment in Time. . . did you know that SMGC was the first group to pick up litter on Spartanburg's streets – BEFORE the Adopt-a-Highway program was organized!

with our members. . . our thoughts are with Kathleen Wilde and Gisela Otto as they continue to recover from surgery, Everette Lineberger as he prepares for surgery, and Tasso and Elena Ghonis as they prepare for the birth of their first child in July.

"Even if I knew certainly that the world would end tomorrow, I would plant an apple tree today." - Martin Luther

Spartanburg Men's

Garden Club

Committee Chairs – 2007

Please contact any of these members if you're interested in serving on a particular committee.

Container Garden/Plant Sales

Dianne Fergusson & Valerie Hare

Finance

Sue Steiner

House/Facilities

Betty Ball

Recognition

Joe Rives

Landscape Evaluation

Frank Falk

Membership

Stephanie Heath

National Awards

Tasso Ghionis

Publicity

Nancy Williamson

Street Trees

Ed Wilde

Web Site

Karen Ward

Yahoo Group

Linda McHam

NONPROFIT ORG US POSTAGE PAID SPBG SC 29306 PERMIT No 155	Spartanburg Men's Garden Club 430 East Park Drive Spartanburg, SC 29302	Dr. Louis W. Adams, Jr. 155 Chandler Down Trail Inman SC 29349
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2007 Officers and Board of Directors

President

Linda McHam

Immediate Past President

Everette Lineberger

Vice President

Ed Wilde

Secretary

Tasso Ghionis

Treasurer

Ben Waddell

National Director

Jim Bagwell

Hatcher Board Rep.

Jim Bagwell

Newsletter Editor

Dianne Fergusson

Blue Ridge Region President

Don Crowder

Directors

Betty Ball

J. T. Clarke

Dianne Fergusson

Newt Hardie

Stephanie Heath

David Kyle

Joe Rives

Terry Rourke

Sue Steiner

Ed Wilde

Nancy Williamson

Harold

Wolfe

Directors Emeritus

Bob Almond

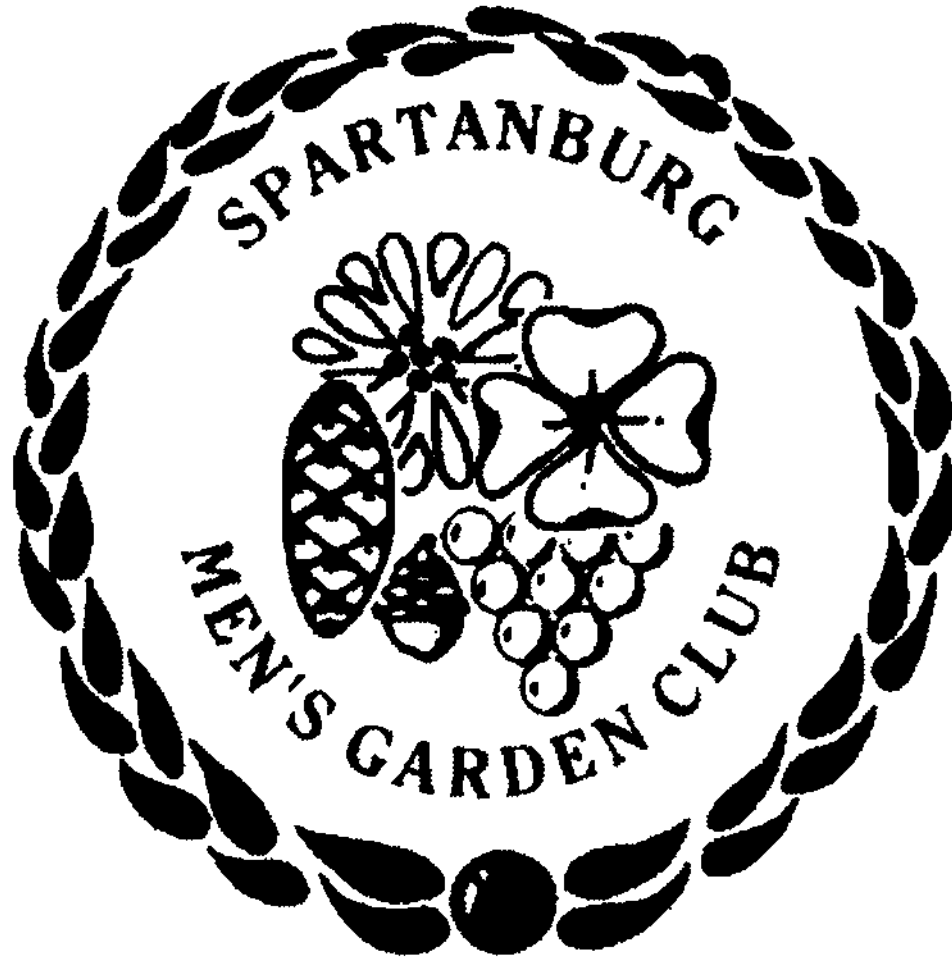
Tom Bartram

Henry Pittman

Jess Taylor

Bill Wilson

Gardening & Beautification



SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

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Gardening & Beautification

February 2008

Meeting: Monday, February 18 – 7:00 PM

Place: Morningside Baptist Church – 897 S. Pine Street

Program: Joe Mullinax – Gardens of Hawaii

Jane Turner – Brief History of SMGC

Refreshments: Martha and Wendell Tiller, Linda McHam

REMINDER: Bring your nametag to all meetings!

42 Members have joined the SMGC Yahoo User Group (SpartanburgMGC)!

You can keep up with club events, ask gardening questions, and make observations that will help other members! Type "Yahoo Groups" in your favorite search engine, or e-mail Linda McHam at LTMcHam@copper-beech.com to be added to the list.

Propagation and Pruning Events are Well-attended!

Twelve people met at Linda McHam's house on Jan. 26th to take cuttings to stick in the new propagation beds at Hatcher Garden. Cuttings of osmanthus, boxwood, viburnum, beech, magnolia, etc. were taken. Jess Taylor met us at Hatcher Garden to demonstrate various methods of propagation. He also demonstrated his "cuttings in a bucket" method. Jess has written a one-page description of this process. Copies are available (...on the web soon!).

Ed Wilde and crew had a pruning party on East Main Street on Feb. 9th. Don Oldham, Henry Pittman, Jeff Hayes, Frank Falk, Joyce and Charlie Crescenzi were the crew, and all enjoyed the spring-like weather.

Summer Trip to Don Shadow's Nursery and Zoo

Plans are being made for an overnight excursion to Winchester, TN, to visit Shadow and Mingo Nurseries (2 miles apart). Don Shadow is in the top echelon of nursery growers in the US. He also has a remarkable private ZOO! See www.shadownursery.com. It will be possible to buy plants from the Shadow nursery. The trip will be in August on a Friday-Saturday (date TBA). Overnight expenses at the Jameson Inn will be about \$75 per room. The bus rental is to be determined. Call Linda McHam at 582-1498 or e-mail her at LTMcHam@copper-beech.com to put your name on the list. After April, the tour will be opened to the Master Gardeners and the public.

Litter Pick-up

Alice Henderson has volunteered to help coordinate this effort. Call her at 579-1803 to help. It takes very little time and makes a BIG difference!

A Moment in Time. . . did you know that the first women members of SMGC joined in 1990? They were Wayne Burdell, Martha Edwards, Shirley Marshall, Sandra Powell, and Jane Turner.

New Web Site Now a REALITY! www.dirtclubbers.org

Our new web site is up and running, **THANKS to Karen Ward!** Please visit and check out the photos and all the information. More will be added based on your comments and feedback. We want this to be very useful to the Club, so take a look. Give Karen a round of **APPLAUSE** for a wonderful job!

Long Range Planning and Board Activities

The LRP Committee has been meeting regularly and has been tackling issues that need to be addressed: the possibility of a new name for the Club, the question of affiliation/disaffiliation with National, the need for more participation among the membership, and the need to be more inclusive regarding minorities. These issues will be brought to the membership for a vote later in the year after research and presentations have been made.

In addition, the Board has approved a policy change regarding disclosure of the Club's financial information. At the February membership meeting, the 2008 budget will be distributed for review. We hope that you will support the efforts of the LRP and the Board by actively participating in Club projects this year. In order to continue for another 60 years, we need **EVERYONE** to get **INVOLVED** by giving time and money. You **CAN** help! One way is to **RECRUIT** new **MEMBERS!**

Were I to wait for perfection, my book would never be finished.

Ancient Chinese proverb.

Dues for 2008 were DUE in November, 2007...

If you have not paid your dues for 2008, please do so by mailing a check for \$20 (single); \$25 (family); \$100 Corporate, to SMGC Treasurer, P.O. Box 1502, Spartanburg, SC 29304 right now! Or, you can go to our **NEW** web site: www.dirtclubbers.org and click on Membership. On the Membership page, click on the 2008 Membership Form to download a form to print out. Three of 13 Corporate members are paid; 55 of 130 Regular members are paid! We have 59 **WOMEN** and 59 **MEN** who have paid. We need your checks! Mail them today!

Garden Tips for February

It's still too early to do heavy pruning and fertilizing. Wait until mid-March or early April. Now is a good time to organize, clean, and sharpen your tools. Take your mower and blower for a tune-up before the *RUSH* begins. You'll be set to go while others are standing in line.

Spartanburg Men's Garden Club

Committee Chairs – 2008

Please contact any of these members if
you're interested in serving on a
particular committee.

Container Garden/Plant Sales

Dianne Fergusson & Valerie Hare

Finance

Sue Steiner

House/Facilities

Betty Ball

Recognition

Joe Rives

Landscape Evaluation

Frank Falk

Membership

Stephanie Heath

National Awards

Tasso Ghionis

Propagation

Don Crowder, Bob Reynolds,
Steve Patton, Joe Rives

Publicity

Nancy Williamson

Street Trees

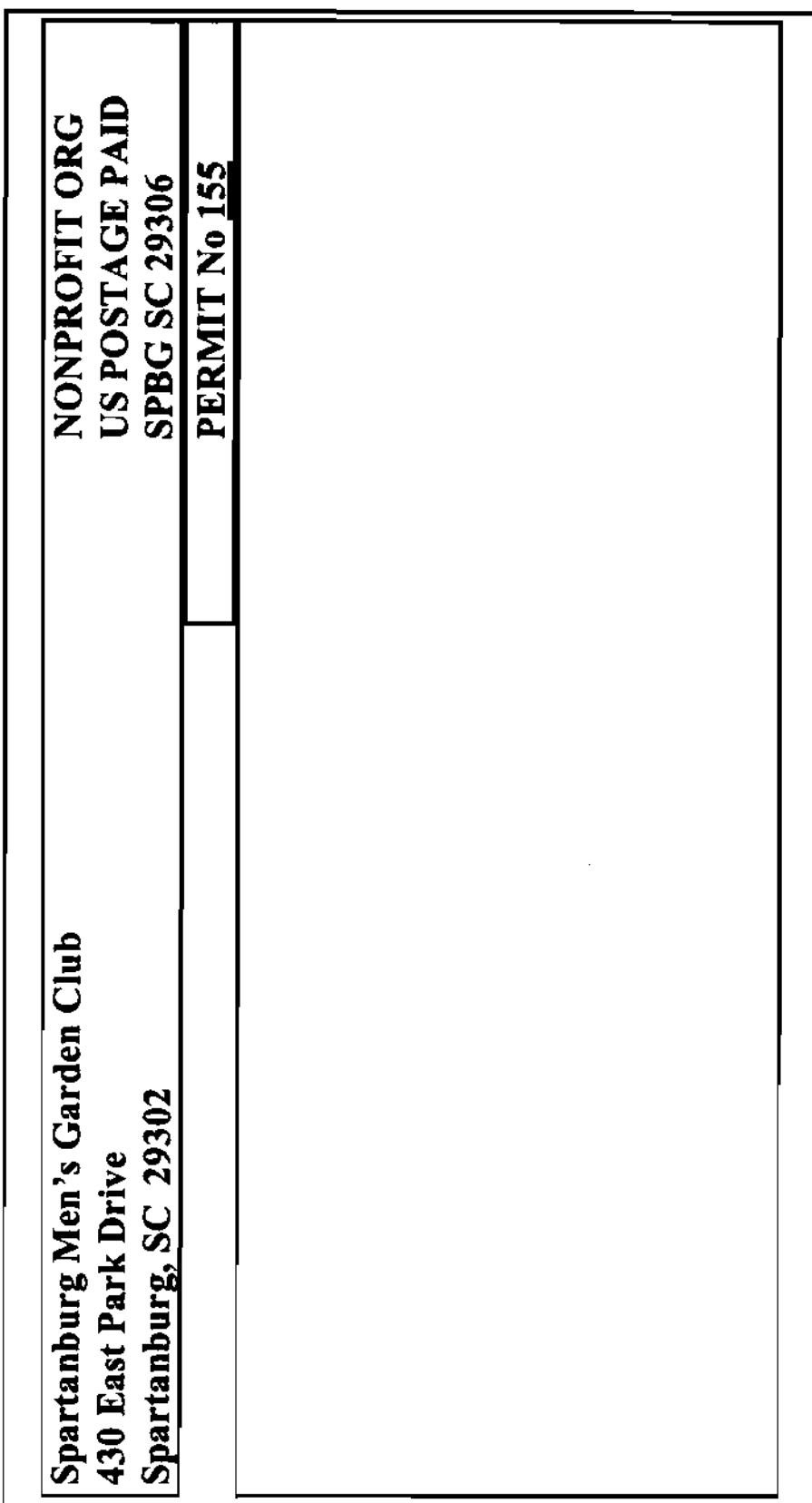
Ed Wilde

Web Site

Karen Ward

Yahoo Group

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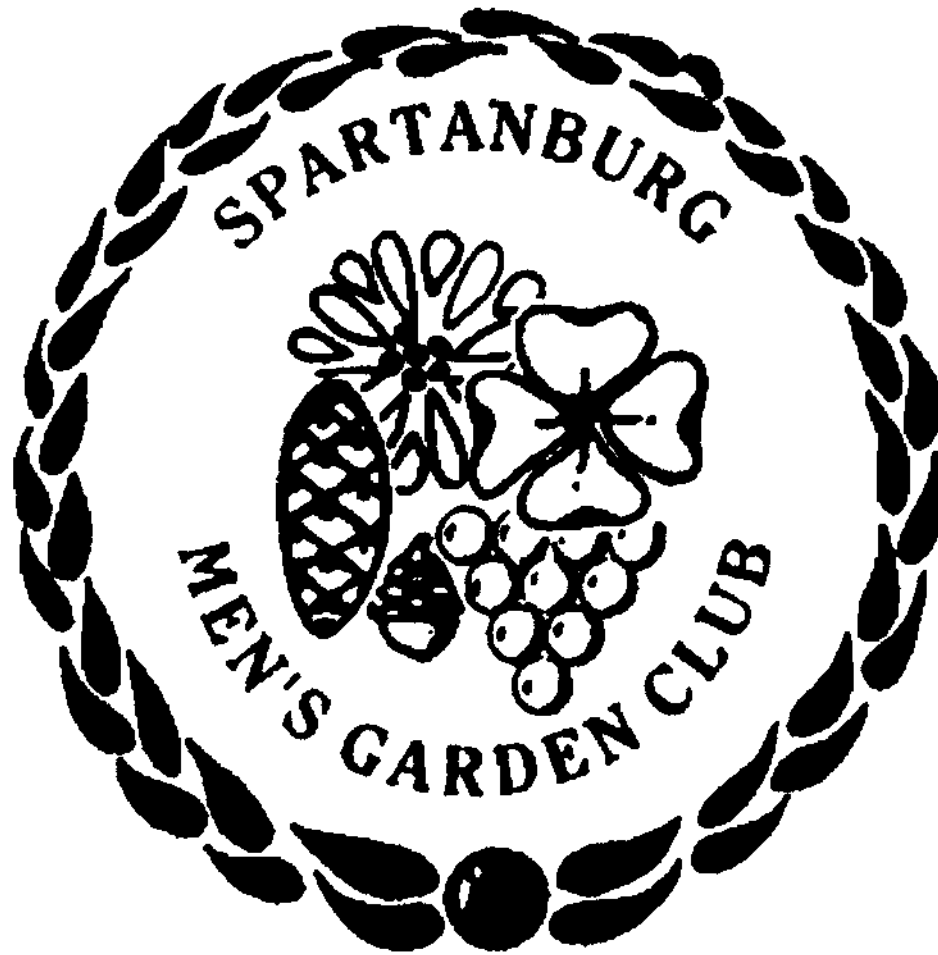
Directors

Betty Ball	Charlie Crescenzi	Dianne Fergusson	Stephanie Heath
Steve Patton	Bob Reynolds	Joe Rives	Terrie Rourke
Sue Steiner	Ed Wilde	Nancy Williamson	

Directors Emeritus

Bob Almond Tom Bartram Henry Pittman Jess Taylor Bill Wilson

GARDENING & BEAUTIFICATION



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MGC Happenings in April!

Plan now to get involved with both of these important Club activities!

April 19th – Landscape Evaluation – Be part of the team that selects the most beautifully landscaped business in Spartanburg!

April 26th – Spring Plant Sale - Come out and help the Club raise funds for our other projects and select some new plants for your garden!

GARDENING & BEAUTIFICATION

MARCH ~~January~~ 2008

Meeting: Monday, March 17 -- 7:00 PM
Place: Morningside Baptist Church – Pine Street
Program: Holly Walker of Carolina Garden World
will speak on the Cancer Garden at
Spartanburg Regional Medical Center
Refreshments: Peggy Romine & Jim Rush

SMGC Yahoo User Group: by joining our group (SpartanburgMGC) you can keep up with club happenings, ask gardening questions, and make observations that will help other members, and more! Type "Yahoo Groups" in your favorite search engine and join our group today!

There is power in knowledge!

Affiliation with TGOA/MGCA vs. Disaffiliation with TGOA/MGCA
Enclosed in this newsletter are two very important papers on these topic. Please read each of these statements carefully and reflect on the advantages and disadvantages of each position. At the May, 2008, meeting, the Club will vote, by secret ballot, on our position on this issue: whether we will remain a member club of the national association of The Gardeners of America/ Men's Garden Clubs of America or whether we will disaffiliate and form an independent club. In order to vote on this issue, you must be in attendance at the May meeting, and you must be a qualified voter, i. e. a DUES PAID member. If you've not already paid your dues for 2008, you have until April 19th, to get your dues to the treasurer at P. O. Box 1502, Spartanburg, 20304. A 2/3 majority of those qualified voters in attendance at the May meeting will determine the result of this issue.

New Name for the Club

Another issue that will also be decided at the May meeting will be whether or not to change the current name of the club to one that is more inclusive. The Club will vote, by secret ballot on our position on this issue: whether we will retain the name of Spartanburg Men's Garden Club or whether we will change that name to something more inclusive that reflects the actual membership of the club. In order to vote on this issue, you must be in attendance at the May meeting, and you must be a qualified voter, i. e. a DUES PAID member. If you've not already paid your dues for 2008, you have until April 19th, to get your name on the voting list by sending dues to the treasurer at P. O. Box 1502, Spartanburg, 29304.

SMGC Website: www.dirtdaubers.org

If you haven't yet visited our wonderful new website, you're in for a treat! Karen Ward has done a fantastic job in pulling all of our essential information together and presenting it in an attractive, user-friendly format with some really neat photos! Thanks, Karen! Be sure to check it often for updates and information.

A Moment in Time. . . did you know that in April, 1984, there were only 10 paid SMGC members? Seems that late dues problems have been with us for awhile. If you haven't paid your 2008 dues yet, be sure to get them in to Treasurer Ben Waddell (P. O. Box 1502, Spartanburg., 29304) BEFORE April 19 so you'll be eligible to vote in the two important elections at the May meeting. If you have any questions about your membership dues status, please contact Membership Chair Stephanie Heath at 576-9469 right away!

2008 Budget Information

President Linda McHam plans to distribute budget updates to the membership frequently throughout the year. And as a point of clarification on the copy distributed at the February meeting, the line labeled "Utilities-Water" contains ALL the container garden expenses; those figures do not represent our expenditures of water in any given month. We are not draining the City resources.

60th Anniversary Celebration

If you've not already done so, do make yourself a note to save the date of Thursday, November 13, for our celebration party! The Committee to plan this event is hard at work putting together plans for a memorable evening and we hope that everyone will plan to be on hand for the celebration. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Dianne Fergusson at sdsferg@bellsouth.net.

Street Tree Committee

Pruning of the street trees has been scheduled for Saturday, March 15 from 9-12. If you like to prune, or want to learn more about pruning, plan to join the group. For more information, contact Ed Wilde at 487-3959 or cfw@yahoo.com.

Landscape Evaluation

Frank Falk wants to hear from you if you're interested in helping with this important Club project scheduled for April 19. Training will be provided. Contact Frank at 574-2970 or TheFalkFamily@yahoo.com to volunteer!

Spring Plant Sale

Our big fundraiser is scheduled for Saturday, April 26, and we'll need many, many, many volunteers. Sign up at the March or April meeting or contact Dianne Fergusson at 585-0420 or Valerie Hare at 595-3735 to volunteer! There are all kinds of jobs that need to be done, so you can pick your assignment.

Kudos to the Yahoo Group – It Works!

"Thanks to everyone for the advice about adelgids. As a new member of the MGC, I am inspired by the number of people willing to help." Mary Lynn Conway

with our members. . . our condolences to Sue Steiner on the loss of her mother-in-law; our thoughts are with Sue's husband Greg, as he recuperates from a heart attack, Martha Sams and Margaret Pittman as they continue to recuperate from surgery.

**Spartanburg Men's
Garden Club**

Committee Chairs – 2008

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you're interested in serving on a
particular committee.*

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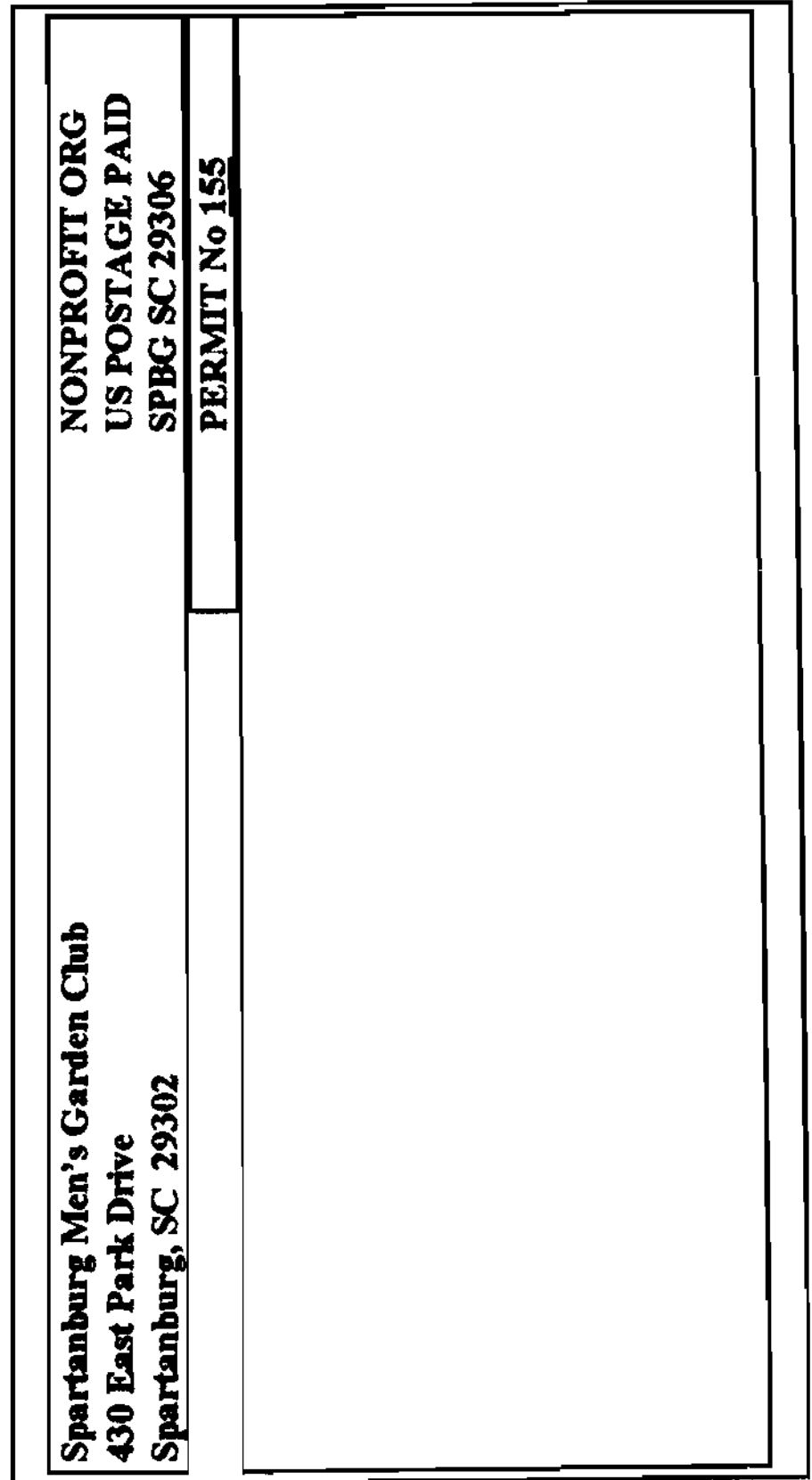
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Newt Hardie

Stephanie Heath

David Kyle

Joe Rives

Terry Rourke

Sue Steiner

Ed Wilde

Nancy Williamson

Harold

Wolfe

Directors Emeritus

Bob Almond

Tom Bartram

Henry Pittman

Jess Taylor

Bill Wilson

In Favor of Affiliation with TGOA/MGCA

A benefit doesn't always have to be tangible to be beneficial. Our affiliation with The Gardeners of America/Men's Garden Clubs of America may offer few tangible benefits of membership on a daily basis. However, this association enables us to be a part of "something larger than ourselves" and access a nation-wide gardening program whenever we choose whether personally through attendance at national conventions or virtually by logging on to the organization's very helpful website. For 55 of our 60 years, since 1953, our membership in the national organization has signaled our seriousness as a gardening organization, and our support of the national organization helps to make it a more viable and effective force for gardening in the country.

There are however, a number of tangible benefits that make affiliation advisable for Spartanburg MGC. Some of these benefit the club as a whole and others benefit only those who choose to participate in them.

- **501(c)3 Status** – This is a most important benefit that we have through our affiliation with the national organization. This status enables us to operate as a non-profit organization and to solicit tax-deductible donations from corporations and individuals and relieves us of any tax responsibilities in our fund raising. We could, of course apply for this status on our own, but such a move would cost us around \$3,000.
- **National Conventions** – These annual meetings at different places around the country provide a wonderful opportunity for members to get together and see fabulous gardens and learn more about gardening and horticulture. Members participate in the business of the club such as electing national officers and directors and get to attend educational seminars on topics of interest with nationally-known speakers.
- **TGOA/MGCA Newsletter** – This informative newsletter is sent bi-monthly to all affiliated members and posted on the website. It provides information about clubs around the country and the headquarters and contains educational articles and book reviews on gardening.
- **TGOA/MGCA Website** – This up-to-date website provides members with a great deal of information about the national organization, local clubs all over the country, and horticultural information. Members can access the website to get current information on national conventions and contests, some of which are detailed below.
- **Discount Program** – Several national retailers provide a discount to affiliated members. These include Thompson and Morgan Seed Company, Gardeners Supply/Dutch Bulbs, and Enterprise Car Rentals. Details on these discount programs are in the "members only" (password Lily) section of the website and in the newsletter.
- **American Horticultural Society Membership** – Through a revised partnership with TGOA/MGCA (effective 1/1/07), optional membership in AHS is available to members of affiliated clubs. The optional AHS membership includes subscription to *The American Gardener*, a bimonthly magazine containing useful gardening information and professional quality photography. This membership also provides free admission to more than 200 public gardens and arboreta around the country. Members may also use an 800 number or the AHS website to get answers to their particular horticultural questions. Cost is \$35 for a two-year membership which represents a half-price savings.

- **Scholarships** – Affiliated clubs are able to nominate outstanding horticulture students for these \$1000 annual awards which are sponsored by the national organization. (Spartanburg MGC has had winners!)
- **Lending Library** – This library is housed at the National Headquarters in Johnston, Iowa, and contains an extensive assortment of literature on all aspects of gardening as well as biographies of famous gardeners. A selection from this library is reviewed in each edition of the *Newsletter*. Members may obtain a copy of the list of books from headquarters or view it on the website. There is no charge other than return postage for borrowing from this library. Members may also request a copy of the “purge list” and request books that are being removed from the library to add to their own collection.
- **Youth Gardening Programs** – The national youth program emphasizes the responsibility we have for passing our love of gardening and our knowledge and enthusiasm to the next generation. These programs include the Big Pumpkin and Giant Sunflower contests.
- **Club Management Information/Support** – The national office provides brochures on organizing and managing local clubs. These brochures are also available on the website and contain information such as job descriptions of officers, program ideals, public relations and publicity ideas, suggestions for building membership and much more.
- **Regional Organizations** – The country is divided into 15 regions to provide leadership and support on a closer level; each region has, depending on its size, one or more national directors. Over the years, Regional meetings have been a great source of camaraderie and education. Jim Bagwell currently serves as our Regional Director.

As we are looking back during this 60th anniversary year of Spartanburg MGC, it is appropriate to consider the advantages of affiliation with the national organization and to consider all the benefits—both tangible and intangible—that such an association brings to us. A comment from Mr. Charles Lea, club secretary and newsletter editor in 1959 perhaps sums it up best; Mr. Lea had just returned from his first national convention.

I would like to say a word about the relationship of the National to the local club. No one can appreciate this relationship until he has attended at least one national convention. You have literally hundreds of men [and now women] scattered all over the United States meeting to give and to receive information on horticulture and gardening that you cannot get any other way except here. The national club has been set up to help the local club, and the annual dues could not purchase one-thousandth of the by-products that come from membership. A local club could paddle its own canoe along life's journey sufficient unto itself, but when you are a member of the national organization you have a feeling that you are traveling down the garden paths of life hand in hand with a group that brings to you a fellowship and information that is beyond purchase by money.

Disaffiliation from National

February 27, 2008

- I. **Money sent to National could be better used in the local Club:**
 - a. 1988: \$1,026.90 sent to National (\$1,595 in dues taken in)
 - b. 1992: \$1,101 sent to National (\$1,167 dues taken in)
 - c. 2003: \$2,300 sent to National
 - d. 2004: \$3,060 sent to National
 - e. 2005: \$2,880 sent to National
 - f. 2006: \$2,725 sent to National
 - g. 2007: \$1,307.50 sent to National
 - h. Just for the years listed above, we sent \$14,400.40 to National for dues.
- II. **As far back as 1959, we have paid partial expenses for the Blue Ridge Director to travel to the Director's meeting, or for a representative to attend the Director's Meeting at the Convention.**
 - a. In 1959, the Club paid \$50 for expenses for the secretary, Charles Lea, to attend the National Convention.
 - b. 1987: \$704 Regional Meeting expense
 - c. 1988: \$608.65 for Regional Meeting expense
 - d. 2006: \$200 for Convention Director's Meeting expense
 - e. 2007: \$300 for Convention Director's Meeting expense
- III. **Our local dues have remained at \$5.00 for decades, while the dues sent to National have increased.**
 - a. In 1957, 1958 (with 33 members), and 1959 (with 35 members), membership dues were \$4.00 per person. In 1960 dues were raised to \$5.00 per person. The Club was part of National at that time and paid National a portion of these dues. During this time, the amount sent to National was \$1.50 per local member (with dues being \$4 or \$5). The club kept either \$2.50 or \$3.50.
 - b. In 1961 and 1962, dues were \$5.00 per person.
 - c. More than 20 years ago (unknown date), the dues to National began to exceed the dues required for local membership which have remained at \$5.
 - d. Currently the dues are: single membership is \$20 (\$15 goes to National; \$5 stays with our local club); a family membership is \$25 (\$20 goes to National; \$5 stays with the local club).
- IV. **Our club is the sole member in the Blue Ridge Region** which is a subgroup of National. There are supposed to be three such member garden clubs in a single region. In the 1970's there were seven clubs in our region. Asheville, NC, disaffiliated in 2000.
- V. **Benefits from National are not perceived or utilized by the board or membership.**
As an exercise, try to list some of the benefits that our Club receives from affiliation.
- VI. **National has recognized that they are not perceived as having value. From a letter to the local president from the MGCA President-elect in September, 1988:** "As I look forward to the 1989 year, I fore-see a big job facing all of us. We need to stimulate the local clubs and their members. We need to inject greater spirit into the development of the regional concept. We need to stimulate increased interest and loyalty to MGCA by making our affiliate clubs and members feel they are proud to be a member."

VII. Reporting to National requires time spent by several members.

- a. Spade and Trowel pins requires time spent by Secretary
- b. New officers must be reported to National by the Secretary
- c. Membership fees must be collected by the Treasurer and Membership Chairman and paid to National by November each year. However, a large percentage of local members do not pay their dues until January, February, or March which requires several additional months of reporting to National.

VIII. Revenue and Expenses of National's Funds

- a. In 1987:
 - i. Revenue: \$98,175 (dues brought in \$86,800)
 - ii. Expense: \$50,000 for The Gardener Magazine; \$28,000 in salaries; \$9,650 for the Newsletter; \$6,300 for equipment, maintenance, etc.; and included a net operating loss of \$24,000.
- b. In 2006:
 - i. Revenue: National had (approximately) \$59,250 revenue from dues; the calendar brought in \$7,800 and merchandise brought in \$4,000. For total revenue of \$73,000.
 - ii. Expense: National paid \$25,500 to AHS for including our clubs in their mailing; \$16,400 went to salaries; \$5,150 paid for production of the calendars; \$5,000 for the newsletter; \$2,250 for utilities; \$3,000 for insurance; \$2,000 for equipment, maintenance and depreciation; \$1,000 for property assessment for a subtotal of \$60,300. The remaining \$12,700 went to committees, merchandise, software, postage, taxes, telephone, travel, web site, and includes a \$3,600 operating loss.
 - iii. 49% of the total revenue for National in 2006 was spent on publications (AHS magazine, calendar, and newsletter).

IX. Disaffiliation Costs and Procedure

- a. Cost: \$1,750 to create a new corporation with a 501 c 3 status. Add an hourly rate to file articles of merger (estimated \$500-1,500). Total worst case: \$3,250.
- b. Process (from Art McQueen, a local attorney and Club member):
 - i. SMGC membership approves a vote to disaffiliate from National.
 - ii. Leaving the existing corporation (SMGC) as is for the moment, we create a new corporation with a new name (to be decided), new bylaws, etc., and apply to the IRS for a new 501 c 3 status.
 - iii. We MERGE the old corporation (SMGC) with the new corporation, which will result in the old corporation disappearing into the new one.
- c. Time: average is about 6 months.
- d. Life Memberships under National: Approximately four members have this status. They pay no dues to National but pay \$5 per year to SMGC. They could remain members of National (at-large basis). Our local club could pay their dues locally for the remainder of their lives. Regular members could be "at-large" members.
- e. Disaffiliation costs approximates the cost of paying dues to National for one year.

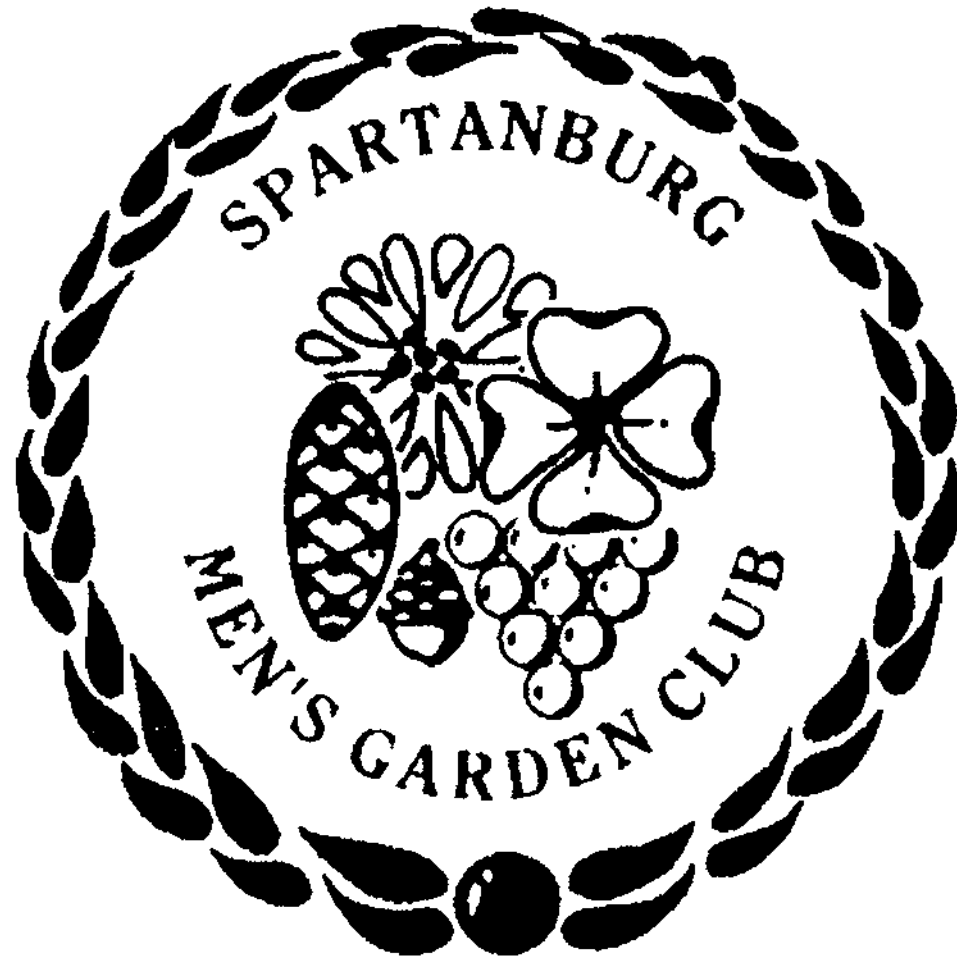
X. Our resources are dwindling for many reasons.

It may come to a choice of supporting National or Hatcher Garden.

XI. It is possible to disaffiliate from National and re-join at a later time.

Several clubs have done this.

Gardening & Beautification



SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Dedicated to Gardening Education
and Community Beautification

Gardening Service to the Community Since 1948

Our Spring Plant is April 26! Call Dianne and Valerie to volunteer. We need you! Two important votes will be in May! Attend the meetings so that you will be informed.

Gardening & Beautification

April 2008

Meeting: Monday, April 21 – 7:00 PM

Place: Morningside Baptist Church – 897 S. Pine Street

Program: **Stephen Compton (Clemson)** – Department of Plant Industry and Invasive Species of Concern
Everette Lineberger – Brief History of SMGC

Refreshments: **Steve Patton and Stephanie Heath**

REMINDER: Bring your nametag to all meetings!

46 Members have joined the SMGC Yahoo User Group (Spartanburg MGC)!

You can keep up with club events, ask gardening questions, and make observations that will help other members! Type "Yahoo Groups" in your favorite search engine, or e-mail Linda McHam at LTMcHam@copper-beech.com to be added to the list.

Plant Sale coming up on Saturday, April 26!

Our Spring Plant Sale will soon be here. Dianne Fergusson and Valerie Hare have the nursery area loaded with high quality plants ready to be SOLD! Tell your friends and neighbors that this is an opportunity to add great plants to their collection! Call Dianne at 585-0420 to volunteer; we need you!

Community Garden Spots: Bob Reynolds, Henry Pittman, Frank Falk and Tasso Ghionis updated the Claude Sherrill Garden at Hillcrest with roses.

Ed Wilde and crew had a pruning party along Drayton and from Main to Pine Street on March 15th. Joyce and Charlie Crescenzi, Ed Wilde, and Faye Guest were the crew.

Summer Trip to Don Shadow's Nursery & Zoo, August 15 and 16!

Plans have been made for an overnight excursion to Winchester, TN, to visit Shadow and Mingo Nurseries. See www.shadownursery.com. It will be possible to buy plants from both nurseries. Overnight expenses at the Jameson Inn will be \$75 per room. The bus is \$60 per person. Call Linda McHam at 582-1498 or e-mail her at LTMcHam@copper-beech.com. The trip is open to the public! Bring a friend!

Landscape Evaluations are Saturday, April 19th

Frank Falk is arranging our city-wide landscape evaluation. Approximately 40 entries have been received and many members have volunteered to help.

Don't have experience? If you want to participate, you will be assigned to someone who has been a judge before. Call Frank Falk (574-2970). It takes a Saturday morning and you get to see some of the best landscapes in the city!

Litter Pick-up

Alice Henderson and crew made a litter pick-up in March. Give Alice a big “thank-you” when you see her! This keeps Spartanburg clean and green!

A Moment in Time. . . This month in 1988 (20 years ago!) the newsletter reported that SMGC directors proposed a building, security enclosure, and open shed be erected at Hatcher Garden. Jess Taylor prepared drawings and a material list with an estimate of \$2,500-3,000 for the materials. Also, Harold Hatcher reported that the Fairforest Tree Bank was filled with plants for the upcoming plant sales.

Procedure for Membership Votes in May:

There are two votes for the membership to decide in May. The first vote will be on whether the local club remains affiliated with the National organization. Position papers were distributed in the March newsletter and are now posted online at our web site. The vote will come in a motion stated as follows:

Motion: I move that the Spartanburg Men’s Garden Club disaffiliate from The Gardeners of America/The Men’s Garden Clubs

(TGOA/MGCA) of America on December 31, 2008. A second will be required and there will be a brief period for questions and answers. The vote will be a YES or NO on a secret ballot.

The second vote will be whether the Club should change its name. There will also be a motion for this vote: **Motion: I move the Spartanburg Men’s Garden Club change the name of the Club.** Again, a second will be required and there will be a brief period for questions and answers. The vote will be a YES or NO on a secret ballot. There will be a short program during the count and the results will be announced at the meeting. Contrary to our earlier statement, Robert’s Rules says that a member who joins (in person) on the evening of the vote is able to vote. You must be present and paid to vote.

Dues for 2008 were DUE in November, 2007...

You can now go to our new web site: www.dirtclubbers.org and click on Membership to print an application. Ask a friend to join!

Long Range Planning Goals

The LRP committee and the board are discussing ways to involve the entire board and membership in our plant program which includes 1) propagation, 2) the container nursery located at Hatcher Garden, and 3) our spring and fall Plant Sales. These sales are critical to the life of our Club. Without them, our income would be dependent on dues or donations (only 17% of our income). The plant sales represent 83% of our funds! All three areas need to work seamlessly together to keep our costs low and our profits high, as well as providing good experiences for our members. Every member will be asked to sign up for at least one area. There will be opportunities for the Club to meet in the nursery at Hatcher Garden. June will be our first meeting there, and the Board is excited about our new direction! We hope you will be, too!

Spartanburg Men's Garden Club

Committee Chairs – 2008

Please contact any of these members if
you're interested in serving on a
particular committee.

Container Garden/Plant Sales

Dianne Fergusson & Valerie Hare

Finance

Sue Steiner

House/Facilities

Betty Ball

Recognition

Joe Rives

Landscape Evaluation

Frank Falk

Membership

Stephanie Heath

National Awards

Tasso Ghionis

Propagation

Don Crowder, Bob Reynolds,

Steve Patton, Joe Rives

Publicity

Nancy Williamson

Street Trees

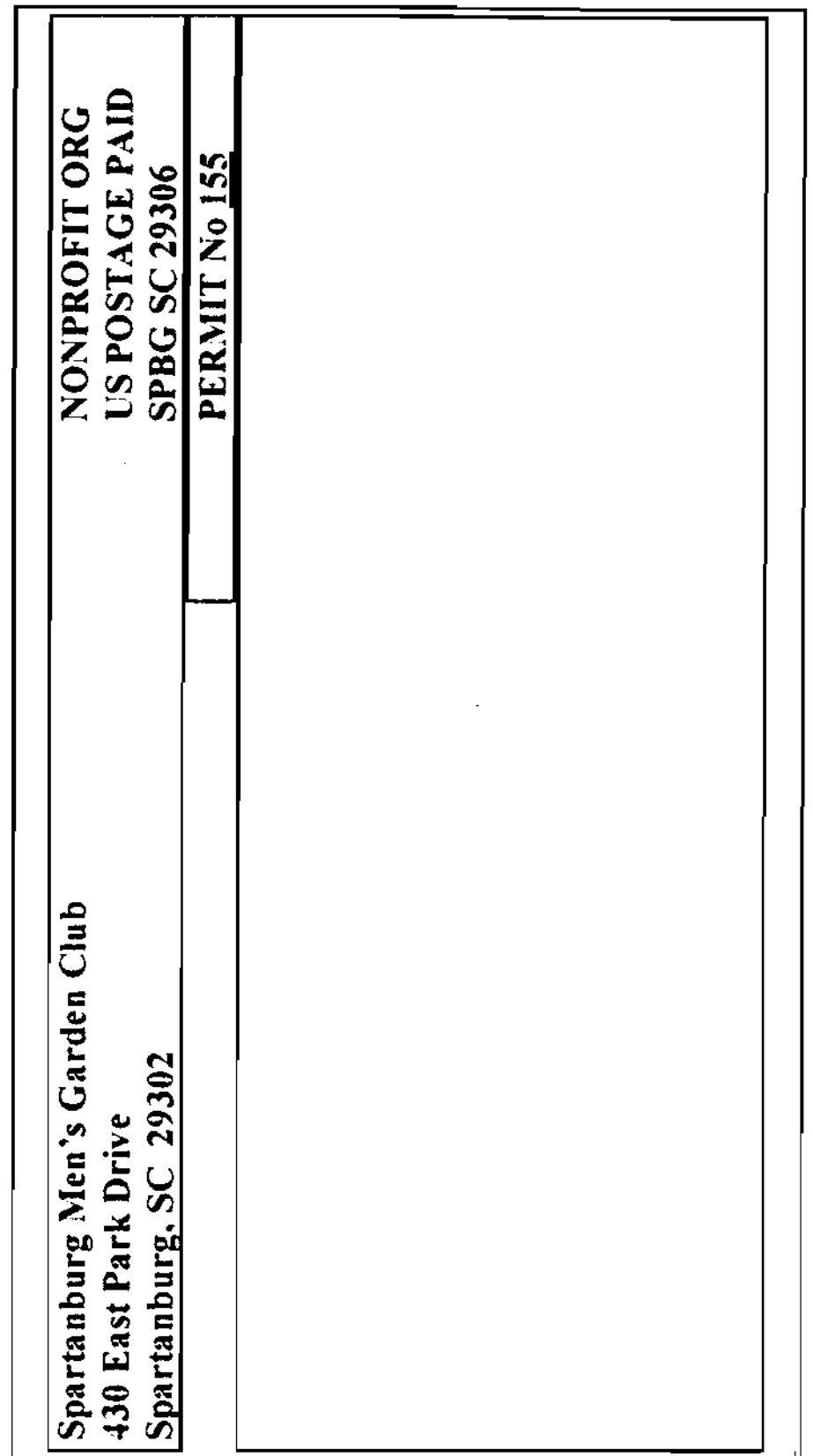
Ed Wilde

Web Site

Karen Ward

Yahoo Group

Linda McHam



2008 Officers and Board of Directors

President

Linda McHam

Immediate Past President

Everette Lineberger

Vice President

Ed Wilde

Secretary

Tasso Ghionis

Treasurer

Ben Waddell

National Director

Jim Bagwell

Hatcher Board Rep.

Jim Bagwell

Newsletter Editor

Dianne Fergusson

Blue Ridge Region President

Don Crowder

Directors

Betty Ball

Charlie Crescenzi

Dianne Fergusson

Stephanie Heath

Steve Patton

Bob Reynolds

Joe Rives

Terrie Rourke

Sue Steiner

Ed Wilde

Nancy Williamson

Directors Emeritus

Bob Almond

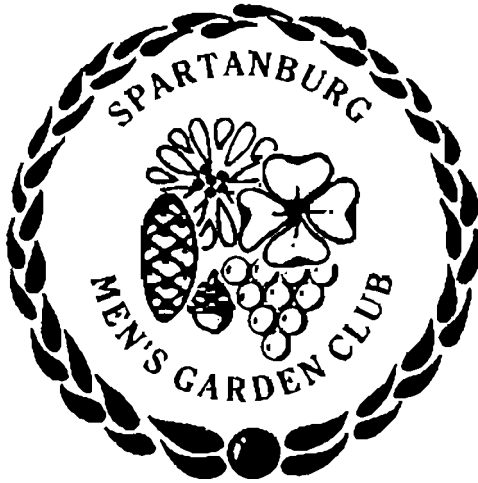
Tom Bartram

Henry Pittman

Jess Taylor

Bill Wilson

Gardening & Beautification



SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Dedicated to Gardening Education
and Community Beautification

Gardening Service to the Community Since 1948

Happy 60th Anniversary, SMGC!

The Spartanburg Men's Garden Club is celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2008. The Board is planning several special events to observe this significant year. Plan now to be a part of them.

Gardening & Beautification

May 2008

Meeting: Monday, May 19th – 7:00 PM

Place: Morningside Baptist Church – 897 S. Pine Street

**Program: Linda McHam – New Directions for the SMGC:
Where do we go from here?**

Refreshments: **Martha & Mort Sams, Charlie & Joyce Crescenzi**
REMINDER: Bring your nametag to all meetings!

46 Members have joined the SMGC Yahoo User Group (SpartanburgMGC)!

You can keep up with club events, ask gardening questions, and make observations that will help other members! Type "Yahoo Groups" in your favorite search engine, or e-mail Linda McHam at LTMcHam@copper-beech.com to be added to the list.

The Spring Plant Sale was a Great Success!

Dianne Fergusson and Valerie Hare made the most of their final sale and took in over \$13,000. This is one of the better results we've had in the last few years. Our expenses will run nearly half of this amount because we are buying most of our stock rather than growing it ourselves as we used to do. However, things change, and the Club is changing too. Special thanks for help with the sale goes to Steve Patton, Frank Falk, Bob Reynolds, Stephanie Heath, Nancy Williamson, Lou Adams, Alene Taylor, and all the others who helped during the day.

Summer Trip to Don Shadow's Nursery and Zoo

Fifteen people have signed up for the trip to Tennessee; unless we have another 20 or so MORE signed up in the next week (by the May membership meeting), we will have to cancel the trip. If you are interested, please call Linda McHam at 864-582-1498 as soon as possible.

10 Years Ago (1998): The spring sale consisted of supplying plants for the Board of Realtors Plant Sale; our 20th Fall Plant Sale began on Oct. 17th and ran through Thanksgiving on Saturday mornings.

New Web Site: www.dirtdaubers.org

Our new web site is up and running, THANKS to Karen Ward! Please visit and check out the photos and all the information. More will be added based on your comments and feedback. We want this to be very useful to the Club, so take a look.

Two Votes taking Place at the May Meeting

There will be two votes for the membership to consider at the May meeting. The first vote is a motion to disaffiliate from the National organization. You must be a PAID member, and present at the meeting, in order to cast your ballot. In addition, there will be a second motion to change the name of the Club to a more inclusive name. Again, you must be a PAID member, and present at the meeting, in order to vote. Remember, you may join at the opening of the May meeting and still cast a ballot. These two issues will decide our direction as the Club moves forward into its second 60 years of service to the Spartanburg community.

Long Range Planning: New Direction for SMGC

Continuing discussions in the LRP committee center on reformatting the Plant Sale and Container Nursery. Dianne and Valerie did a mighty job bringing the effort up-to-date with organization, streamlining and more, but the job is still more than two, or even a handful of people can manage. In April, the board agreed that it would take the entire BOARD and the MEMBERSHIP to make the project one that can be maintained. The Plant Sale generates the bulk of our income: 91%. If we were to depend only on dues, most of our significant programs would have to be dropped. It is important that we find a way to make the Plant Sale easier to sustain, and the Board believes that it will take the full involvement of the Club. We also think that by doing this, our programs will become more focused on education and will encourage more people to participate in Club activities.

If you attend the monthly meetings, you know that approximately 45 people are there each month out of our 155 total members. These 45 are the members who do the lion's share of the work of the Club. When you look around the room, you also realize that one-third of the members have been there for more than 20 years! With one more look, you notice that our group is "graying", which is why it is vital that we attract members who are interested in a higher level of participation in Club activities. Why not take time now to mark your calendar and join us at our next meeting in May, or at our June meeting, which will be held at Hatcher Garden? It's the third Monday each month. See you there!

Dues for 2008 were DUE in November, 2007...

If you have not paid your dues for 2008, please do so by mailing a check for \$20 (single); \$25 (family); \$100 Corporate, to SMGC Treasurer, P.O. Box 1502, Spartanburg, SC 29304 right now! Or, you can go to our NEW web site: www.dirtdaubers.org and click on Membership. On the Membership page, click on the 2008 Membership Form to download a form to print out. Currently, there are 155 members (singles and couples) as well as 11 Corporate members.

Spartanburg Men's

Garden Club

Committee Chairs – 2008

Please contact any of these members if you're interested in serving on a particular committee.

Container Garden/Plant Sales

Board & Membership

Finance

Sue Steiner

House/Facilities

Betty Ball

Recognition

Joe Rives

Landscape Evaluation

Frank Falk

Membership

Stephanie Heath

National Awards

Tasso Ghionis

Propagation

Don Crowder, Bob Reynolds,

Steve Patton, Joe Rives

Publicity

Nancy Williamson

Street Trees

Ed Wilde

Web Site

Karen Ward

Yahoo Group

Linda McHam

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
SPBG SC 29306
PERMIT No 155

Spartanburg Men's Garden Club
430 East Park Drive
Spartanburg, SC 29302

MS. LINDA MCHAM
1010 ANDREWS FARM RD
SPARTANBURG SC 29302-2810

2008 Officers and Board of Directors

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Linda McHam

Immediate Past President

Everette Lineberger

Vice President

Ed Wilde

Secretary

Tasso Ghionis

Treasurer

Ben Waddell

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Jim Bagwell

Hatchler Board Rep.

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Blue Ridge Region President

Don Crowder

Betty Ball

Charlie Crescenzi

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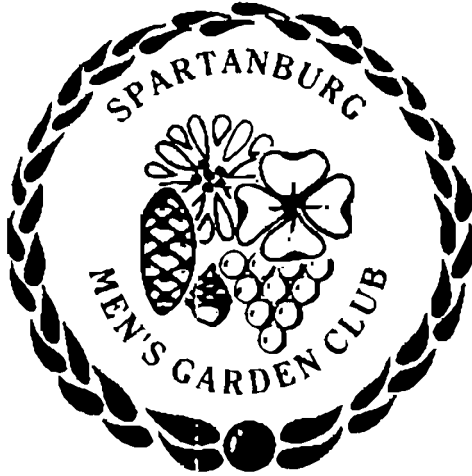
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GARDENING & BEAUTIFICATION



SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Dedicated to Gardening Education
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*Gardening Service to the Community
Since 1948*

New Style Meeting on Monday, June 16
Join us at 7:00pm in the Container Nursery at
Hatcher Garden for this month's meeting! This
will be a "hands-on" informational meeting about
the operation of the Container Garden and plant
sales and more. See details inside!

GARDENING & BEAUTIFICATION

June 2008

Meeting: Monday, June 16 -- 7:00 PM

Place: The Container Nursery at Hatcher Garden

Program: The "Signature Project" – Propagation, Container Nursery and Plant Sales

Please note the **CHANGE OF LOCATION** for the June meeting. We will meet in the Container Nursery at Hatcher Garden. The Board will present an overview of the Club's "Signature Project" and This project which be led by three committees of the board—Propagation, Container Garden, and the Plant Sales—will need support and participation from the entire membership to be successful. You will have the opportunity at the meeting to sign up for a committee to work with for the coming year. Another part of the program will provide a panel of experts—Linda Cobb, Everette Lineberger, Linda McHam, Bob Reynolds, and Jess Taylor—to identify any "mystery plants" from your garden; please bring cuttings from any plants you need to identify. Steve Patton will lead a work session to pot seedlings; if you have any you'd like to donate, please bring them to the meeting. A members-only plant sale of available stock will conclude the meeting.

Disaffiliation with National Organization

A vote on this topic was taken at the May membership meeting. The vote was 34 for disaffiliation and 22 against disaffiliation with 56 members voting. A total of 38 votes was needed to pass the motion, so the motion failed. The Club will remain affiliated with the national organization of TGOA/MGC.

New Name for the Club

A vote on whether to adopt a new name for the Club was also taken at the May membership meeting. Of the 56 members voting, 23 voted to change the name and 33 voted to retain the current name. A total of 38 votes to change were needed to pass the motion, so the motion failed. The Club will continue to be known as Spartanburg Men's Garden Club.

Elderhostel Program/Philadelphia Flower Show

Mort and Martha Sams want to share the news about this wonderful trip that they're planning to take in March, 2009, and hope some fellow members will consider joining them. Elderhostel Program # 9070SVX will include the Philadelphia Flower Show. The cost is \$583 per person for couples with an additional charge for single rooms for the three-day program.

Recognition Committee

Due to a lack of participation of the membership in completing the accounting records required by this program, this program has been discontinued. Do not send any more reports to Joe Rives. The Board is considering another type of program to recognize the efforts of volunteers in the Club.

A Moment in Time. . . did you know between 1983 and 1986, the SMGC gave away over 5,590 trees to county schools, civic groups, and neighborhood associations. These trees were grown in Mr. Hatcher's nursery and in a nursery in Fair Forest that was a partnership of SMGC and the City's Department of Parks and Recreation. This is just a part of the impact that SMGC has had on the beautification of Spartanburg that we are celebrating in our 60th year!

60th Anniversary Celebration

If you've not already done so, do make yourself a note to save the date of Thursday, November 13, for our celebration party! The Committee has selected the Piedmont Club for the site of this gala evening. Tickets will cost \$20 each for members and guests. Invitations with the all important reply cards will be mailed in early October. The evening will include a cocktail hour with a slide show (see below) and music, the fabulous Piedmont Club buffet dinner, and an entertaining program with special presentations. We hope you will plan now to join in the celebration of the accomplishments of our outstanding Club!

Street Tree Committee

Thanks to **Newt Hardie**, a one-man pruning party, for his work on the SMGC plantings along South Main. He removed suckers and some fairly heavy sprig growth from the trunks of some of the trees and in doing noted that a dozen or so Yoshinos are well beyond their prime and are deteriorating. The committee will follow up with the City and devise a plan for the removal and replanting in the fall. For more information, or to volunteer with this committee, contact **Ed Wilde** at 487-3959 or efw4@yahoo.com.

Spartanburg Lures Another National Horticultural Convention

The National Junior Horticulture Association will hold its national convention in Spartanburg in October, 2008. According to **Henry Pittman**, this is a direct result of the positive experience of the TGOA/MGA national convention here in 2006. Between 150-200 participants are expected, and we'll need to help!

Litter Pick-Up

A great volunteer turnout Saturday for SMGC litter pickup made quick work of cleaning our section of Pine Street. Thanks to 15 volunteers, and **Lou Adams** who headed it up, it only took an hour to complete the work, finishing well before the hot temperatures. Special thanks to **Newt Hardie** who spread the word to Kudzu Coalition volunteers. Five were Coalition volunteers. It helps when volunteer organizations help each other!

Landscape Evaluation Winners

APARTMENTS/HOTELS/MOTELS First Place White Oak Estates
BRANCH LIBRARIES First Place Spartanburg County Library - Chesnee
PUBLIC SERVICE - SMALL First Place Spartanburg Water System
PUBLIC SERVICE - LARGE First Place Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System
PROFESSIONAL First Place [TIE]Pediatric Evening Clinic [First Time Entry]First Place [TIE]Champion Investment Corp. Inc.
COMMERCIAL - B First Place Integral Solutions
COMMERCIAL - A First Place Denny's
INDUSTRY First Place Kusters Zima Corporation

with our members. . . our thoughts and good wishes are with **Norm and Bobbie Schloss** as Norm recuperates from hip and knee problems occasioned by a fall on June 7; our condolences to their families on the deaths of **Raymond Tesser** and **Betty Wakefield** this spring.

Spartanburg Men's

Garden Club

Committee Chairs – 2008

*Please contact any of these members if
you're interested in serving on a
particular committee.*

Container Garden/Plant Sales

The Board

Finance

Sue Steiner

House/Facilities

Betty Ball

Landscape Evaluation

Frank Falk

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Stephanie Heath

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Web Site

Karen Ward

Yahoo Group

Linda McHam

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SPBG SC 29306
PERMIT No 155

Spartanburg Men's Garden Club
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Spartanburg, SC 29304

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Betty Ball

J. T. Clarke

Dianne Fergusson

Newt Hardie

Stephanie Heath

David Kyle

Joe Rives

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Sue Steiner

Ed Wilde

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Harold

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Directors Emeritus

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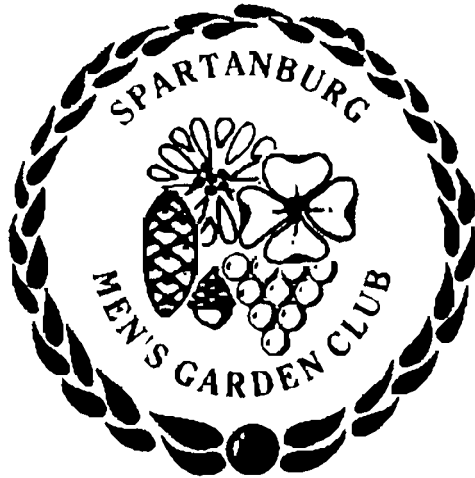
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GARDENING & BEAUTIFICATION



SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

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Since 1948*

Working Meeting - Monday, July 21

Join us at 7:00pm in the Container Nursery at Hatcher Garden for this month's meeting! We'll meet under the Jess Taylor Pavilion if it rains.

The focus will be the three committees of the Signature Project to plan for the Fall Plant Sale.

Details inside.

GARDENING & BEAUTIFICATION

July 2008

Meeting: Monday, July 21 -- 7:00 PM

Place: The Container Nursery at Hatcher Garden

Program: The "Signature Project" – Propagation, Container Nursery and Plant Sales – Planning for the Fall Plant Sale

Refreshments: Ben and Beth Waddell

Please note the CHANGE OF LOCATION for the July meeting. We will meet in the Container Nursery at Hatcher Garden. If it's raining,--what a happy thought!--we'll meet under the Jess Taylor Pavilion. The three committees of the Club's Signature Project will meet (everyone is asked to select one of the three committees to work with) to brainstorm and plan for the fall plant sale. Some people will be working in the Container Garden, weather permitting, to do weeding or other needed chores, so please wear gardening clothes.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

It will soon be time to renew your membership in Spartanburg Men's Garden Club. Stephanie Heath, Membership Chair, will have membership forms available at the September, October, and November meetings. Our dues to National are due January 1, so it's important that everyone get their renewal checks in as soon as possible. Dues are \$20 per member or \$25 for a family membership of two people at one address.

BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED!!!!

The Nominating Committee has been hard at work locating new officers and board members for 2009, but more board members are needed. If you would be willing to serve on the SMCG board, please let Terrie Rourke, Chair of the Nominating Committee, know as soon as possible. You can reach Terrie by phone at 574-6354 or via email at TerrieRourke@msn.com. The Nominating Committee will present a slate in August, so give some thought to serving the Club by being a board member and contact Terrie to volunteer.

60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Don't forget to make yourself a note to save the date of Thursday, November 13, for our celebration party! The event will be held at the Piedmont Club and promises to be a wonderful evening of socializing and celebrating for the Club. If

you have pictures from Club activities that Linda McHam can use in the silent slide presentation she's preparing that will be running during the cocktail hour, please get them to her as soon as possible. She'll scan them to go on the CD and get them back to you. Tickets for the evening are \$20 per person.

A Moment in Time. . . did you know that many of the beautiful tree plantings around Spartanburg are the results of efforts of the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club, for example, East Main Street, South Pine Street, the I-26 interchanges, Drayton Avenue and others? These are just a part of the impact that SMGC has had on the beautification of Spartanburg that we are celebrating in our 60th year!

CHAPMAN CENTER SCIENCE CENTER GREENHOUSE

Last year President Linda McHam passed along a request that originated from Dr. David Kusher at Wofford College for someone to take responsibility for the mini-greenhouse in the Science Center at the Chapman Cultural Center.

SMGC member **Joyce Heathwood** responded to the request and shortly thereafter filled the greenhouse with vegetable plants, as suggested by Mr. Green at the Science Center. She has been tending the greenhouse ever since. She invites SMGC members to visit the Science Center to view the garden display. There is no charge for admission to the Science Center on Saturdays.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LINDA COBB!!!!

Linda Cobb is the recipient of the 2008 Golden Quill Award presented by MGCA at the national convention in June. This award is given to one whose continuing original writing contributions, on more than a community-level, have encouraged gardening as a valuable and worthwhile activity, particularly if those writings have advanced the art and hobby of gardening as a national avocation.

DUES INCREASE UNDER CONSIDERATION

The Board is discussing increasing LOCAL dues from \$5 to \$15 to offset administrative costs of the Club such as the newsletter printing and postage and other administrative items. The proceeds from the plant sales fund our Club projects. Local dues have not been increased since the late 1950s. Such an increase will require a change of bylaws which will have to be approved by the membership. If such a change is approved, an increase in dues would take effect in 2010.

SMGC RECOGNIZED BY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

At the June meeting, Henry Pittman presented a plaque that Habitat for Humanity gave SMGC. It says " Presented in appreciation of your outstanding contribution to the Spartanburg Habitat for Humanity, June 2, 2008."

*Spartanburg Men's
Garden Club
Committee Chairs – 2008
Please contact any of these
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The Board

Finance

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MCHAM, LINDA 1010 ANDREWS FARM RD SPARTANBURG SC 29302-2810	

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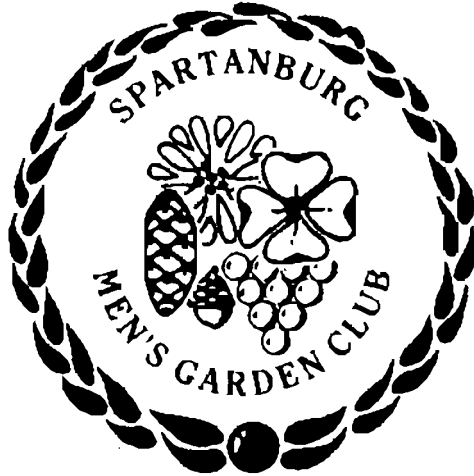
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GARDENING & BEAUTIFICATION



SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

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**Save the date for the Annual Picnic
Monday, September 15**

A fun evening of good food and fellowship in lovely Hatcher Garden. The Club will furnish Mutt's bar-b-que, drinks, and paper products. Members are asked to bring side dishes and desserts. Sign up at the August meeting.

GARDENING & BEAUTIFICATION

August 2008

Meeting: Monday, August 18 – 7:00 PM
Place: Morningside Baptist Church – 897 South Pine Street
Program: George Dickert – Clemson Extension Office will speak on pest control; following his presentation, the three Signature Project committees will meet to continue planning for the Fall Plant Sale. (You may pests—properly contained—for identification.)

Refreshments: Meg Holloway & Betty Ball

60th Anniversary Celebration – Photos needed!!! If you have pictures from Club activities that Linda McHam can use in the silent slide presentation she's preparing that will be running during the cocktail hour, please get them to her as soon as possible. She'll scan them to go on the CD and get them back to you.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

It is now time to renew your membership in Spartanburg Men's Garden Club. Stephanie Heath, Membership Chair, will have membership forms available at the September, October, and November meetings. Our dues to National are due January 1, so it's important that everyone get their renewal checks in as soon as possible. Dues are \$20 per member or \$25 for a family membership of two people at one address.

OFFICERS and BOARD MEMBER PROPOSED ROSTER for 2009

The Nominating Committee proposes the following list of officers and board members for 2009. The election will be held at the October meeting and nominations for the remaining board positions (three two-year directors) will be accepted from the floor; any candidates so nominated must have agreed to serve prior to nomination.

President – Ed Wilde

Vice President – Bob Reynolds

Treasurer – Ben Waddell

Secretary – Lyn Murajda

Directors – One Year – Sue Steiner, Jeff Hayes

Directors – Two Year – Nancy Williamson, Steve Patton, Paul Manly

Don't forget to make yourself a note to save the date of Thursday, November 13, for our 60th Anniversary celebration party! The event will be held at the Piedmont Club. Invitations will be mailed in early October.

A Moment in Time. . . did you know that in 1988 the Spartanburg Men's Garden club sponsored and maintained 11 flower beds around town, in addition to their work with the tree bank and other landscaping projects? We can be very proud of the history of Club in the beautification of Spartanburg as we celebrate our 60th Anniversary and make plans to continue this important legacy.

CHAPMAN CENTER SCIENCE CENTER GREENHOUSE

Apologies to Joyce Cresenzi for the mistake with her name in the information about the Chapman Center Science Center Greenhouse in last month's newsletter. From Joyce: "At our monthly meeting last evening, I was pleased to elaborate on the paragraph in our newsletter that noted our terrarium project at the Chapman Cultural Center's Science Center. I mentioned the correction of my last name - Cresenzi, not Heathwood - but I also wanted to advise you that for the next year, admission to the Science Center (located on the second floor of the East Building) is free. What an incentive to visit the Cultural Center." Thanks for the great work, Joyce!

YAHOO GROUP MEMBERS

Those members in our SpartanburgMGC Yahoo Group who did not register with Yahoo will not be able to access the Calendar feature. You must join Yahoo and register with a Yahoo email address (ymail.com, yahoo.com, or rocketmail.com). Those of us who registered with Yahoo last year with our own email addresses can access the Calendar. Yahoo revised their admission practices so that you must have a Yahoo email to use all the features they provide.

DUES INCREASE UNDER CONSIDERATION

The Board is discussing increasing LOCAL dues from \$5 to \$15 to offset administrative costs of the Club such as the newsletter printing and postage and other administrative items. The proceeds from the plant sales fund our Club projects. Local dues have not been increased since the late 1950s. Such an increase will require a change of bylaws which will have to be approved by the membership. If such a change is approved, an increase in dues would take effect in 2010.

with our members. . . Congratulations to **Tasso Ghionis and his wife** on the birth of their daughter, **Katerina Anastasia Ghionis**, born on Thursday, July 24th and congratulations to **Terrie and Patrick Rourke** on the birth of their grandson, **Grayson Rourke**, born on July 28.

"If we keep a green bough in our heart, the singing bird will come."

-Chinese Proverb

Spartanburg Men's

Garden Club

Committee Chairs – 2008

Please contact any of these members if you're interested in serving on a particular committee.

Container Garden/Plant Sales

The Board

Finance

Sue Steiner

House/Facilities

Betty Ball

Landscape Evaluation

Frank Falk

Membership

Stephanie Heath

National Awards

Tasso Ghionis

Publicity

Nancy Williamson

Street Trees

Ed Wilde

Web Site

Karen Ward

Yahoo Group

Linda McHam

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2008 Officers and Board of Directors

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Immediate Past President

Everette Lineberger

Vice President

Ed Wilde

Secretary

Rep.

Tasso Ghionis

Treasurer

Ben Waddell

National Director

Jim Bagwell

Hatchler Board

Jim Bagwell

Newsletter Editor

Dianne Fergusson

Blue Ridge Region Director

Jim Bagwell

Directors

Betty Ball

J. T. Clarke

Dianne Fergusson

Newt Hardie

Stephanie Heath

David Kyle

Joe Rives

Terry Rourke

Sue Steiner

Ed Wilde

Nancy Williamson

Harold

Wolfe

Directors Emeritus

Bob Almond

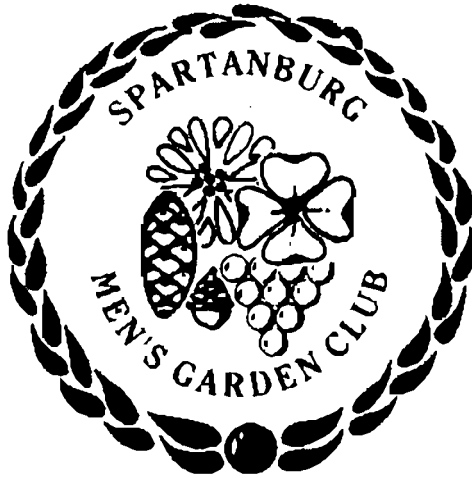
Tom Bartram

Henry Pittman

Jess Taylor

Bill Wilson

GARDENING & BEAUTIFICATION



SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Dedicated to Gardening Education
and
Community Beautification

*Gardening Service to the Community
Since 1948*

**Join us for the Annual Picnic
Monday, September 15**

A fun evening of good food and fellowship in lovely Hatcher Garden. The Club will furnish Mutt's bar-b-que, drinks, and paper products. Members are asked to bring side dishes and desserts. See inside for details.

GARDENING & BEAUTIFICATION

August 2008

Meeting: September 15, 2008 -- 6:00 PM

Place: Hatcher Garden

Program: Annual Picnic

60th Anniversary Celebration – Photos needed!!! If you have pictures from Club activities that Linda McHam can use in the silent slide presentation she's preparing that will be running during the cocktail hour, please get them to her as soon as possible. She'll scan them to go on the CD and get them back to you.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

It is now time to renew your membership in Spartanburg Men's Garden Club. Stephanie Heath, Membership Chair, will have membership forms available at the September, October, and November meetings. Our dues to National are due January 1, so it's important that everyone get their renewal checks in as soon as possible. Dues are \$20 per member or \$25 for a family membership of two people at one address.

OFFICERS and BOARD MEMBER PROPOSED ROSTER for 2009

The Nominating Committee proposes the following list of officers and board members for 2009. The election will be held at the October meeting and nominations for the remaining board positions (three two-year directors) will be accepted from the floor; any candidates so nominated must have agreed to serve prior to nomination.

President – Ed Wilde

Vice President – Bob Reynolds

Treasurer – Ben Waddell

Secretary – Lyn Murajda

Directors – One Year – Sue Steiner, Jeff Hayes

**Directors – Two Year – Nancy Williamson, Steve Patton, Paul Manly,
Gail McCullough**

Don't forget to make yourself a note to save the date of Thursday, November 13, for our 60th Anniversary celebration party! The event will be held at the Piedmont Club. Invitations will be mailed in early October.

“If we keep a green bough in our heart, the singing bird will come.”

-Chinese Proverb

A Moment in Time. . . did you know that the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club began planting trees and shrubs in public spaces in 1976? Now more than 30 years later, we're still planting trees! Plan to join us on November 13 at our celebration of more than 60 years of service to Spartanburg!

ANNUAL PICNIC – MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15!

Do plan to join us out at Hatcher Garden at the Jess Taylor Pavillion on Monday, September 15, for our annual picnic. The Club is furnishing the bar-b-que, paper products, and drinks. If you weren't at the August meeting to sign up for your dessert or side dish, please call Betty Ball at 486-0838, and she'll let you know what's needed.

FALL PLANT SALE – OCTOBER 18

Everyone in the Club is needed to help make the Fall Plant Sale a success. This will be the first attempt to make this a "group" effort, so we want it to be a success. The profits from the plant sales enable us to continue our beautification and education work in the community.

CONGRATULATIONS, MARY LYNN CONWAY

Mary Lynn Conway, SMGC member, was honored recently with the dedication of a bench at Hatcher Garden commemorating her more than three decades of service to the League of Women Voters.

DUES INCREASE UNDER CONSIDERATION

The Board is discussing increasing LOCAL dues from \$5 to \$15 to offset administrative costs of the Club such as the newsletter printing and postage and other administrative items. The proceeds from the plant sales fund our Club projects. Local dues have not been increased since the late 1950s. Such an increase will require a change of bylaws which will have to be approved by the membership. If such a change is approved, an increase in dues would take effect in 2010.

PROJECT LEARNING TREE FUNDED

The Board voted to donate \$500 to Hatcher Garden to fund the Project Learning Tree program through the Watershed Ecology Center for the 2008-09 school year. This program brings hundreds of elementary school children to Hatcher Garden to learn about the importance of trees and environmental stewardship.

PROPAGATION COMMITTEE MEETING

The Propagation Committee of the Signature Project will meet at Jess Taylor's house at 224 Mansfield Drive on Saturday, September 13, at 9:30am, to learn more about Jess's home propagation system.

with our members, . . . our thoughts and concerns are with Susan McDowell and her family during Meredith's hospitalization, with Norm and Bobbie Schoss as Norm recuperates from surgery.

*Spartanburg Men's
Garden Club
Committee Chairs – 2008
Please contact any of these
members if you're interested in
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HISTORY / ARCHIVES FOR SMGC / LT MCHAM 1010 ANDREWS FARM RD SPARTANBURG SC 29302-2810	

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Steve Patton

Bob Reynolds

Joe Rives

Terry Rourke

Sue Steiner

Nancy Williamson

Directors Emeritus

Bob Almond

Tom Bartram

Henry Pittman

Jess Taylor

Bill Wilson

Spartanburg Men's Garden Club

Brief History

The Spartanburg Men's Garden Club (SMGC) was started in 1948 by a small group of civic-minded men who wanted to support Mr. W.O. Ezell's beautification efforts in Spartanburg. Over the years, various leaders have emerged to continue Mr. Ezell's vision.

Harold Hatcher continued the story of progress by donating his garden to the citizens of Spartanburg through the Spartanburg County Foundation after years of his personal investment. The Men's Garden Club continued their support of Harold Hatcher at Hatcher Garden & Woodland Preserve. They branched out in the 1980's by beginning the highly successful Plant Sale that was held at various locations until it was moved to Hatcher Garden. A dedicated group of men were responsible for the success of the Plant Sale: Jess Taylor, Dick Look, John Nevison, Walter Soderberg, Winston Hardegree are just a few who come to mind. In 2000, Hatcher Garden began offering annuals and perennials for sale to complement the trees and shrubs sold by SMGC.

Henry Pittman and his Street Tree Program, through the SMGC, has been another leader who has carried on the progress. The Street Tree program has propagated other green organizations in Spartanburg: Spot of Pride (Hans Balmer), Circle of 100 (anonymous donors), Noble Tree Foundation (Roger Milliken, Mike Dirr, Richard Webel, and other local leaders), in addition to many other groups.

Women joined the SMGC in 1990 and have continued to make their presence felt by serving on the Board of Directors since 1997. Linda McHam was co-chair of the 2006 National Convention, and she is the current and first woman President of the club.

We celebrated our 60th anniversary in 2008. We are excited about the changes being made as we head into our next 60 years. Get involved: we can make things better for our neighbors and the planet!

----- Cut Here -----

2009 Membership

Yes, I (we) wish to support the work of the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club, a 501 (c) 3 organization, with my (our) membership.

Dues: () Single \$20 () Family \$28 () Corporate \$100

Contribution: \$ _____ Check Number: _____ Date: _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____ () New Member () Renewing Member

Would you like a receipt? () Yes () No

American Horticultural Society Magazine (they will bill you): \$35 for two years () Yes () No

If you are a new member, name of the person who invited you: _____

Your Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: () _____

Please provide your email address if you would like to join our Yahoo Group: Yes No

Email (1) _____ Email (2) _____

If you are a Corporate Member, please give the name of the representative/contact for SMGC:

Preferred Telephone number (business or home) () _____

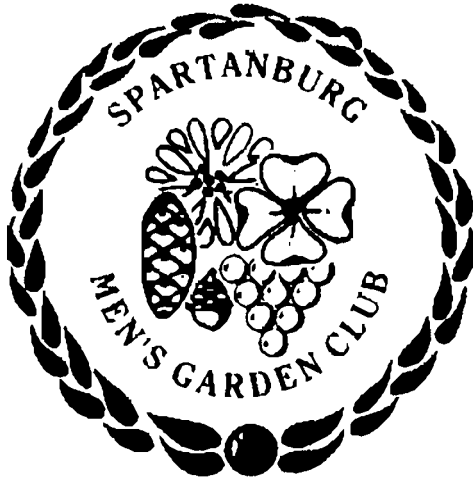
Please mail to: SMGC, Treasurer, P.O. Box 1502, Spartanburg, SC 29304

SMG Club activities for 2008 included the following:

- Revised board manuals which now include; bylaws, history, organizational chart, board responsibilities, meeting dates, membership roster, program areas, legal documents, financial information, minutes, goals, publications, budgets, and more!
- Continued Budgetary process and reports
- Purchased a mail box for the Club and Treasurer's use
- Revamped the Container Nursery at Hatcher Garden as well as the Plant Sale: outstanding performance by Dianne Fergusson and Valerie Hare in this area
- 47th year of Landscape evaluations for the community
- Linda Cobb, a member, won the Golden Quill National Award for outstanding horticultural journalism
- The Club web site became a reality: www.dirtdaubers.org Visit us online!
- The Yahoo Group for SpartanburgMGC has grown to 54 members
- Litter Pick-up Program worked to clear Pine Street/I-585
- Provided monthly educational programs to the membership
- Furnished a monthly newsletter to the membership (approx. 130)
- Maintained two Community garden spots: Claude Sherrill Memorial and W.O. Ezell entrance on Hwy 29 near the Old Steeple Restaurant; renovation was carried out this year
- Held our annual picnic at Hatcher Garden in September
- Donated \$350 for the Don Shadow Program in December at USC-Upstate
- Donated \$3,500 for the Operating Fund at Hatcher Garden
- Donated \$50 to the Cancer Garden at Spartanburg Regional Health Care
- Initiated a complete revision of the Plant Sale by dividing the Club into three areas: Propagation, Container Nursery, and Plant Sale Days with the goal of having the entire Club participate in the plant sale development and process throughout the year
- Met twice in the container nursery at Hatcher Garden for working meetings
- Built three propagation boxes at the container nursery for member use
- Held potting/weeding sessions at the container nursery
- Voted on continuing affiliation with the National Organization; the vote carried
- Voted on whether to change the name of the Club to a non-gendered name; the vote failed
- Received a plaque from Habitat for Humanity for our "outstanding contribution"
- Pruning parties were scheduled in the spring for Drayton Avenue and from Main to Pine
- Assisted the National Junior Horticultural Association's convention in Spartanburg in October at the Marriott. 150-200 young people attended the convention
- Planned a 60th anniversary celebration for the Club to be held November 13th

Don't forget: fill out your Membership Renewal Form and mail it in!

GARDENING & BEAUTIFICATION



SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Dedicated to Gardening Education
and
Community Beautification

*Gardening Service to the Community
Since 1948*

CALLING ALL CLUB MEMBERS!!!!

**Your help is needed on Saturday, October 18,
from 8:00am – 3:00pm for the FALL PLANT SALE!**

**Please give as much time as you can to this
important project. Whether you want to be a
greeter, a cashier, a parking attendant, or a sales
assistant, we can use your help! Details inside**

GARDENING & BEAUTIFICATION

October 2008

Meeting: October, 2008 -- 7:00 PM

Place: Morningside Baptist Church – South Pine Street

Program: “21 English & Scottish Gardens in 10 Days” – Linda McHam

Refreshments: Linda McHam & Nancy Williamson

60th Anniversary Celebration on November 13 – Invitations are out and responses are coming in! Remember that the invitation includes members and guests! If you haven't already mailed your reply card and check, please take a moment to do so before the deadline of October 31. If you prefer to save a stamp and bring your check to the meeting on October 20, we'll be happy to collect it then. We hope that everyone is planning to join us for this wonderful evening of fun and celebration! (And if you didn't receive an invitation, please contact Dianne Fergusson at 585-0420.)

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

It is now time to renew your membership in Spartanburg Men's Garden Club. Stephanie Heath, Membership Chair, will have membership forms available at the September, October, and November meetings. Our dues to National are due January 1, so it's important that everyone get their renewal checks in as soon as possible. Dues are \$20 per member or \$28 for a family membership of two people at one address.

OFFICERS and BOARD MEMBER PROPOSED ROSTER for 2009

The election will be held at the October meeting and nominations for the remaining board positions (three two-year directors) will be accepted from the floor; any candidates so nominated must have agreed to serve prior to nomination.

President – Ed Wilde

Vice President – Bob Reynolds

Treasurer – Ben Waddell

Secretary – Lyn Murajda

Directors – One Year – Sue Steiner, Jeff Hayes

**Directors – Two Year – Nancy Williamson, Steve Patton, Paul Manly,
Gail McCullough**

“He who plants a tree plants hope.” -Lucy Larcom

A Moment in Time. . . did you know that in the 1950s and 60s, Spartanburg was depicted in postcards and color brochures as "The City of Flowers," due in large part to the work of early SMGC members like Mr. W. O. Ezell, W. P. Rich, Charles Lea, Carl Seldon and others? Plan to join us on November 13 as we celebrate heritage of more than 60 years of horticultural excellence in Spartanburg!

ANNUAL PICNIC – MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15!

The annual picnic at Hatcher last month was a great success, and the much-needed rain held off just long enough. Many thanks to Betty Ball for her usual efficient job on this picnic and the many previous picnics she has arranged for the Club over the years!!!

FALL PLANT SALE – OCTOBER 18

Everyone in the Club is needed to help make the Fall Plant Sale a success. This will be the first attempt to make this a "group" effort, so we want it to be a success. The profits from the plant sales enable us to continue our beautification and education work in the community. If you've not already signed up for the sale and want to volunteer for a specific time, or if you have any questions about the sale, please contact **Ben Waddell** or **Linda McHam**. Or just come out to the nursery at Hatcher Garden on the 18th and pitch in! We need everyone's help to make this a success!

SMGC AT THE FAIR

The Club was represented at the Piedmont Interstate Fair in the Agriculture Building with a display and membership materials. Thanks to **Dianne Ferguson** for preparing the display.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Please join us in welcoming new member **Charles Convert**. We hope Charles will be at the October 20 meeting so that we can all help welcome him to the Club.

DUES INCREASE UNDER CONSIDERATION

The Board is discussing increasing LOCAL dues from \$5 to \$15 to offset administrative costs of the Club such as the newsletter printing and postage and other administrative items. The proceeds from the plant sales fund our Club projects. Local dues have not been increased since the late 1950s. Such an increase will require a change of bylaws which will have to be approved by the membership. If such a change is approved, an increase in dues would take effect in 2010.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HENRY PITTMAN

Through Henry's good efforts, another national horticultural convention was held in Spartanburg October 10-12. The Junior Horticultural Association of American brought more than 150 students and parents to town for the 3-day meeting. This impressive group of young people shared their considerable knowledge of horticulture and enjoyed touring some of Spartanburg's own horticultural displays.

STREET TREE COMMITTEE

The Street Tree Committee, under the able leadership of **Ed Wilde**, is investigating options for the maintenance of the Business I-85 plantings.

Spartanburg Men's

Garden Club

Committee Chairs – 2008

Please contact any of these members if you're interested in serving on a particular committee.

Container Garden/Plant Sales

The Board

Finance

Sue Steiner

House/Facilities

Betty Ball

Landscape Evaluation

Frank Falk

Membership

Stephanic Heath

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Post Office Box 1502
Spartanburg, SC 29304

FERGUSON, DIANNE
430 E PARK DR
SPARTANBURG SC 29302-3238

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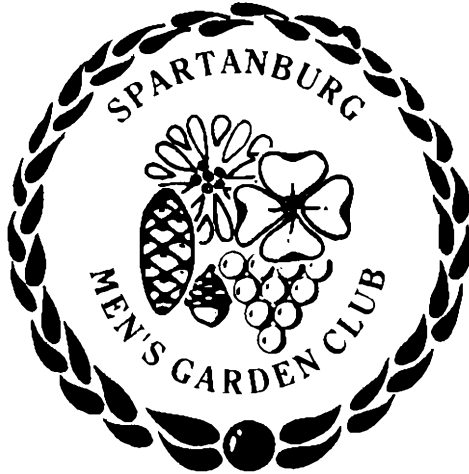
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GARDENING & BEAUTIFICATION



SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

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Since 1948*

ANNUAL MEETING – MONDAY, NOV. 17, 2008

7:00PM

**BARRETT ROOM – MAIN LIBRARY
RICKY MCABEE OF ROEBUCK WHOLESALE
NURSERY WILL BE FEATURED SPEAKER**

GARDENING & BEAUTIFICATION

November, 2008

Meeting: November 17, 2008 -- 7:00 PM

Place: Barrett Room – Main Library – Church Street

Program: “Gardening with Drought-tolerant Plants & Trees”

Ricky McAbee – Roebuck Wholesale Nursery

Refreshments: All Club Members

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

It is now time to renew your membership in Spartanburg Men’s Garden Club. Stephanie Heath, Membership Chair, will have membership forms available at the November meeting. Our dues to National are due January 1, so it’s important that everyone get their renewal checks in as soon as possible. Dues are \$20 per member or \$28 for a family membership of two people at one address. We will be purging our mailing list in December BEFORE we pay national dues, so be sure to get your dues in NOW!

ADDITION TO BOARD

New member **Lorelei Foster**, a member of the Board of Trustees of Hatcher Garden, has been proposed as a Director for the SMGC Board to serve as the liason with the Hatcher Board of Trustees. We will vote on Lorelei’s nomination at the January meeting.

REFRESHMENTS FOR ANNUAL MEETING

Our policy has been to have all members bring contributions for the refreshments for the annual meeting. If you did not sign up at the October meeting to bring some cookies, please contact **Betty Ball** at 486-0838 to let her know what you will be bringing to the annual meeting on November 17.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome new members **Earl & Cindy Quller, Lorelei Foster, and Clyde and Helen Wells**. We hope they will plan to join us at the annual meeting so that we can all welcome them!

ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION

Guest speaker for the Arbor Day Celebration at USC Upstate will be Don Shadow of Tennessee. Bea Smith will be at the annual meeting to sell tickets for the luncheon for \$8. There are a total of 20 tables in the room and we have four tables (8 per table). We have 33 names on the list to sit at the tables, so it's going to be first come, first served (no personal name tags - just SMGC). You must purchase a ticket to have lunch at the reserved tables. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

If you cannot attend the annual meeting to purchase a ticket, check with local garden centers or contact Bea Smith at USCU.

A Moment in Time. . . did you know that membership in the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club has ranged from 12 to 177 during its 60 years of existence? Let's aim for that higher number as we begin our 61st year of service to Spartanburg! If you've not paid your dues, send them in today, and consider asking a friend, family member, neighbor or co-worker to join us!

FALL PLANT SALE – OCTOBER 18

The fall plant sale was held on October 18. Gross sales were approximately \$7800 (remember we have to deduct our expenses from that amount to determine our approximate profit). Thanks to all who came out to help with the sale on October 18. Plans are already underway for the spring sale. **Bob Reynolds** will be in touch soon concerning a potting session for some new plants! Plan now to be a part of the Club's "Signature Project" for 2009.

DUES INCREASE UNDER CONSIDERATION

The Board is discussing increasing LOCAL dues from \$5 to \$15 to offset administrative costs of the Club such as the newsletter printing and postage and other administrative items. The proceeds from the plant sales fund our Club projects. Local dues have not been increased since the late 1950s. Such an increase will require a change of bylaws which will have to be approved by the membership. If such a change is approved, an increase in dues would take effect in 2010.

STREET TREE COMMITTEE

The Street Tree Committee, under the able leadership of **Ed Wilde**, has met with the Spot of Pride organization, county officials, and the Department of Transportation concerning plans to maintain the trees planted by the Club along Business I-85 and the I-26 interchanges. Plans are being made for a one-time involvement of the Club in the maintenance of these plantings.

60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The party to observe the 60th anniversary Celebration of SMGC was held on Thursday, Nov. 13, at the Piedmont Club. The Planning Committee thanks the Club for the enormous response to this event!

THIS EDITOR'S LAST EDITION

Dianne Fergusson says goodbye as Editor with this edition. She has really enjoyed editing the newsletter for the past two years. She looks forward to continued involvement with the Club in other areas. **Linda McHam** will take over as Newsletter Editor beginning with the January edition. Remember there will be **no newsletter, no Board meeting, and no Membership meeting in December.**

with our members. . . our get well wishes to **Stephanie Heath**, our very capable membership chair, as she recuperates from surgery.

Spartanburg Men's

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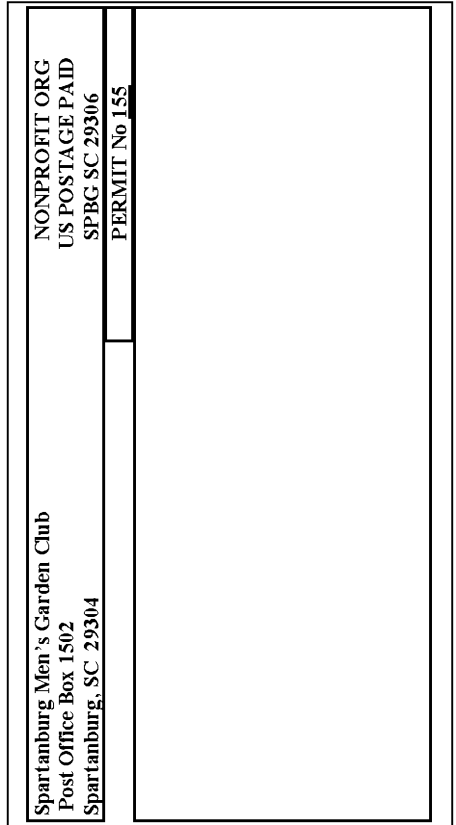
Ed Wilde

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