

Staying in Touch

February 2017



State Botanical Garden of Georgia
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

A monthly update for staff, volunteers, and supporting organizations

Garden Highlights

Friends gift \$20,000 to the garden

Following another successful year in terms of membership and fundraising events, the Friends of the Garden voted to give an additional \$20,000 to the garden. Half to be used at the Director's discretion, and half to the Children's Garden in honor of Director Wilf Nicholls.

Native Plant Symposium

The annual Native Plant Symposium focused primarily on trees and included some excellent presenters, a native plant sale and tree walk. There were 115 attending including ten graduates from the Certificate in Native Plants who were honored following their completion of at least 80 hours of class time, three field trips and 20 volunteer hours.



Jennifer Cruse-Sanders starts as new garden director on February 15

Dr. Jennifer M. Cruse-Sanders, vice president for science and conservation at the Atlanta Botanical Garden, has been named director of the State Botanical Garden of Georgia at UGA, effective Feb. 15, 2017.

Cruse-Sanders' experience as a senior administrator, managing people and projects while raising private funds at the Atlanta Botanical Garden, made her an ideal candidate.

Cruse-Sanders has worked at the Atlanta Botanical Garden since 2008. She was director of research and conservation before becoming a vice president. Prior to Atlanta, she spent nine years as a research associate at the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. She is a double dog, with an M.S. and a Ph.D. in botany from UGA. She earned her B.A. in botany at Boston University.

State Botanical Garden to be represented at Wintergreen green industry tradeshow and Green Life Expo

State Botanical Garden of Georgia had a booth at WinterGreen Tradeshow & Conference in Duluth, with several horticulture staff members attending educational sessions. Friends of the Garden had a booth at the Green Life Expo in Athens.

February Classes and Events

For more information or to register for classes: 706-542-6156 or botgarden.uga.edu

Saturday, February 4

Visitor Center and Conservatory

Orchid Madness: Opening Reception

6:00 – 8:00 pm, \$50

February is all about Orchids! Orchid Madness is back, and this third annual fundraiser for the Horticulture program will be bigger and better than the well-received first event last year. We will celebrate Orchid Madness throughout February, starting with this reception that includes hors d'oeuvres, live music and very special orchids on display for this evening's fundraiser for the Garden's plant collection.

Saturday, February 11

Visitor Center

Orchid Madness: Orchid Repotting Workshop

10:00 am, \$15

The Northeast Georgia Orchid Society is leading this hands-on workshop, where attendees can bring up to two plants and containers and work with an expert to repot their plants.

Saturday, February 11

Meet at fountain in front of the Visitor's Center

Full Moon Hike

7:00 – 8:30 pm, \$5/person or \$15/family

Come see the garden come alive at night! Each hike will focus on a different topic such as the moon, constellations, or nocturnal creatures. Bring family and friends of all ages along to enjoy the mysterious world of nature at night!

Tuesday, February 14

Visitor Center & Conservatory

Valentines Dinner

6:30 – 8:30 pm, \$75 per person

Can you think of a more charming place to spend Valentine's evening than a glass conservatory filled with orchids and other tropical plants? Bring a few good friends or one very special one to the State Botanical Garden to enjoy live music, a celebratory champagne toast, and a buffet dinner with beef tenderloin, grilled salmon, roasted vegetables, pasta, wine and ice tea, and decadent deserts. Make your special valentine experience one to remember. Each couple will receive an orchid plant to take home.

Friday, February 17

Meet at the Shade Garden Arbor

In 1872, an industrious newspaper editor and political leader, J. Sterling Morton, began a campaign to plant trees on Nebraska's treeless prairie. The first Arbor Day observance was on Morton's birthday, April 10, of that same year, and by 1894 every state and some foreign countries participated in Arbor Day celebrations. In 1941, Georgia chose the third Friday in February to observe Arbor Day. Join Berkeley Boone to learn about and celebrate the trees at the garden.

Arbor Day Celebration: Tree Trail Ramble

2:00- 3:00 pm, Free

Saturday, February 18

Visitor Center, Classroom 2

This course introduces Georgia's diverse natural vegetation, emphasizing basic ecological principles of plant distribution, prehistoric and contemporary influences on Georgia vegetation, major vegetation types in Georgia, and the plant species that characterize each vegetation type.

Natural History of Georgia Plants

9:00 am – 5:00 pm, \$105

Saturday, February 18

Visitor Center

Learn about orchids and their care from the Northeast Georgia Orchid Society.

Orchid Madness: Orchid Class

10:00 am, \$10

Sunday, February 19

Meet in Visitor Center, Classroom 2

Gareth Crosby will teach you the best ways to expand your fruit production in your orchard. Session 2 will focus on pest and disease management along with seasonal maintenance.

Orchard Fruit Production/Pruning (Session 2)

1:00 – 5:00 pm, \$25

Wednesday, February 22

Gardenside Room

This is the third in a series of five hands-on units taught by a National Garden Club Master Flower Show Judge and will focus on dining table arrangements. Participants will be provided with a list of materials to bring to class. Limited to 20. Priority will be given to those participants that have completed Units 1-2. Bring a bag lunch.

Flower Arranging Unit 3: Design for Dining Table

9:00 am - 3:00 pm, \$50

Friday, February 24

Mimsie Lanier Center for Native Plant Studies 9:00 am – 1:00 pm \$50

Learn the basics of propagating native wildflowers and shrubs by seeds, cuttings, and division. Models for inexpensive grow-light systems and a propagation timeline will be provided to ensure that your seedlings are ready to be transplanted outdoors in early spring. Participants will leave with several types of seeds to propagate at home. Time and weather permitting, we may walk along the White Trail to collect woody cuttings for propagation, so please dress for the outdoors.

Native Plant Propagation**Saturday, February 25**

SBG Visitor Center, Classroom 2

This course will offer you suggestions on plants, management, and design techniques that you could use in your own gardens. An emphasis will be placed on mimicking natural systems to work with nature – not against it – and will hopefully give you a greater palette of plants and techniques for use at your own home.

Conservation Landscaping

9:00am – 1:00pm, \$50

Sunday, February 26

Visitor Center & Conservatory

Did you know that vanilla flavoring is extracted from the pods of an orchid plant? Let's celebrate the vanilla bean orchid with treats – including vanilla sundaes from Freddy's Frozen Custard.

Orchid Madness: Vanilla Sunday

5:00 pm, \$20

Monday, February 27

Visitor Center

If you are interested in volunteering at the garden, come for coffee, a breakfast treat, meet a few of the garden staff who can use your help, and see a few examples of volunteers in action.

A garden tour will be available for those curious about the garden or interested in becoming a tour guide.

Volunteer Fair

10:00 am – 12:00 pm, 11:30 tour, Free

Tuesday, February 28

Gardenside Room, Visitor Center

Jim Affolter and his wife Cathy Pringle, both UGA professors, spent this spring as part of the faculty at *Semester at Sea*, teaching college students on both a floating classroom and excursions throughout the world. Hawaii, United States, Japan, China, Việt Nam, Burma, India, Mauritius, South Africa, Ghana, Morocco: what field trips those must have been! Come hear Jim talk about this journey, starting in California, traveling east around Africa, and ending up in England. Light reception before the talk provided by Friends of the Garden.

Garden Travels: Semester at Sea:

102 Days, 11 Countries, 15 Cities, 4 Continents

7:00 pm talk, light reception at 6:30, Free

Valentine's Day



Looking for something for your special Valentine?

The **Garden Gift Shop** has a wealth of gardening and nature books, live and silk plants, candles, jewelry, and scented soaps. Our volunteers are happy to gift wrap for you.

Make Valentine's Day special with live music and a catered dinner inside our tropical conservatory. Every couple will receive a blooming orchid plant to take home.

Valentine's Dinner in the Conservatory

Tuesday, February 14

6:30-8:30 pm

Visitor Center

\$75 per person

Can you think of a more charming place to spend Valentine's evening than a glass conservatory filled with orchids and other tropical plants? Bring a few good friends or one very special one to the State Botanical Garden to enjoy live music, a celebratory champagne toast, and dinner with beef tenderloin, grilled salmon, roasted vegetables, pasta, wine and ice tea, and decadent desserts. Full menu and registration can be found on botgarden.uga.edu. Make your special valentine experience one to remember. Every couple will receive an orchid plant to take home. Advance registration required.

The valentine's dinner is not included in the Orchid Madness all-access pass.

Links

Support the Garden

Information about volunteering at the Garden, donating, or joining Friends of the Garden [here](#).



Is your group interested in a tour of the Garden?

Contact Andrea at sbgvol@uga.edu or 706-542-6195 to schedule.

The State Botanical Garden of Georgia has five venues where memorable weddings, meetings, proms, and parties take place. View these online at botgarden.uga.edu.

Contact Cris at sbgrent@uga.edu or 706-542-6467 to find out more, take a tour and reserve the perfect spot for your event.



[State Botanical Garden of Georgia website](#)

[Become a Friend of the Garden](#)

Benefits include discounts to classes, the Garden Shop, Café Botanica and plant sales, plus an informative quarterly newsletter, and discounts at affiliated gardens.

State Botanical Garden of Georgia [Facebook Page](#) and [Twitter Page](#)



State Botanical Garden of Georgia
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

2450 South Milledge Avenue – Athens, Georgia 30605

A unit of the University of Georgia Public Service and Outreach, the State Botanical Garden of Georgia provides the general public as well as UGA faculty, staff and students opportunities for recreation, events, research and learning through its natural areas, display gardens and building spaces. The State Botanical Garden is located at 2450 South Milledge Ave., Athens, one mile south of the Athens perimeter. For more information, visit botgarden.uga.edu.