



## Why Use Southeastern Natives in the Home Landscape

Larry Mellichamp

I am going to share some thoughts on landscaping with natives, but first some background. I knew nothing about wild plants before college in 1966, and had certainly no interest in growing them. That all changed when I took a plant identification course as a sophomore. The fundamentals of plant systematics and the use of keys were taught me by **Dr. Jim Matthews** at UNC Charlotte. There also **Dr. Herbert Hechenbleikner** took me on exotic field trips to see rare plants across the Carolinas. He was also digging wild plants to try and grow them on campus. That was my first taste of landscaping with natives; fortunately, his idea of planting a double row of hackberry trees along the main sidewalk failed.

**Dr. Ritchie Bell**, a famous UNC Chapel Hill botanist, inspired me to learn to recognize species from a distance, a technique perfected in over two dozen solo trips between Charlotte and Ann Arbor, Michigan for graduate school. I knew exactly which tree had the last clump of mistletoe on northbound I-75 and which horse pasture had the most majestic Kentucky coffee trees. I was also present as a special undergraduate student when he started the North Carolina Botanical Garden and talked about “bringing plants into the garden.”

Grad school began in 1970 not long after Earth Day. It was the “back to nature movement” with a renewed interest in ecology and the web of life. In Michigan I began to see natives used sparingly as landscape plants that I did not observe in the South. Yellowwood and bigleaf magnolia were hardy up there, as were bald cypress and sweet gum, way beyond their natural ranges. It was not until 1983 that the Cullowhee Native Plant Conference began the talk about using natives in the landscape for real, especially in the Southeast. We discovered that there were a few landscape architects who incorporated some elements of nature into their designs; and that some local nurseries were beginning to propagate uncommon natives on a larger scale, led by **Yadkin Valley Nursery**, **We-Du Nursery** and **Woodlanders**, with **Niche Gardens** not far behind. At this same time **J.C. Raulston** certainly sky-rocketed a mostly unaware public and professional enclave into the realm of finding, testing and utilizing more unusual plants than had ever been imagined. An increasing awareness of natives was all part of this movement. While being unable to recount the entire past hundred years of native plant awareness, I would be remiss in not mentioning the under-appreciate work of **Mary Gibson Henry** of Gladwyne, Pa. who knowingly discovered and brought many Southeastern natives into cultivation. An account of her work is being written by **Jean Woods** of the **NC Native Plant Society**.

As I grew professionally as a botanist, with a healthy dose of self-taught horticultural understanding, I began to talk more about planting natives and understanding them and how they fit into our regional lives. While being in charge of the young botanical gardens at UNCCCharlotte I recognized the need to grow and know our Carolina natives. I collected seeds and plants and honed the art and science of “plant, propagate, prune, and promote.” I began to give more successful public lectures, aided with influence from my grad school mentors: **Fred Case** was the first I can remember who avidly grew natives as garden plants, **Dr. Herb Wagner** taught me how to develop an idea into a story, and **Dr. Ed Voss** could not help but get me hung on puns and double meanings.



Matteuccia

Photo by Larry Mellichamp



I must admit I have no training (nor eye) for proper landscape design, and thus I have to follow my instincts for natural associations. I am thus enthused simply by the inherent beauty and interesting behavior of the plants as species. But in most cases, my message is two-fold: first, that the plants themselves are worthy articles of affection, bringing various traits to the configuration we call a landscape or a garden; and second, we then see how they help solve various landscape problems for the homeowner. I'll never forget **Ken Moore's** brazen beliefs that native plants were wonderful for any number of reasons, and that we should plant them without abandon in lieu of all other choices. **Tony Avent** has certainly offered us many choices, but his work with increased production of native trilliums, pitcher plants, gingers, and many other natives and their selections is innovative.

I am not here to tell you that you can plant only natives. Heavens no! I am not a purist. I believe in "right plant, right place." Work with Nature to solve landscape problems. There are many non-natives that are wonderful in the home landscape, some that address problems not solvable by available natives (a full sun evergreen ground cover, for example.). It is hard to replace the summer flowers of crape-myrtle or the winter fragrance of *Edgeworthia*. Of course, we do not want to plant invasive exotics like autumn olive, privet, and Japanese honeysuckle. But on the other hand, sometimes our biggest pests in a garden setting can be our own Virginia creeper, dogwood seedlings and Carolina moonseed vine. What constitutes an invasive plant is often in the mind of the beholder.

In short, without getting into the realm of invasives, my mission is to increase awareness of Southeastern natives and their potential uses in the home landscape. I also do not want to argue over what is native - to me, anything occurring here before



**Allium cuthbertii**

Photo by Larry Mellichamp

Europeans imported known-to-be foreign plants is fair game, including plants that might have been moved around by native Americans or early settlers (such as the pecan or Osage orange) as long as they are native nearby (across the Mississippi River for example, or even just into Mexico) and seem to bring something useful to our gardening palette. There are very few controversial species, I think, that we should make the effort to exclude.

#### WHY PLANT NATIVES?

1. You could have the attitude that you want only what grows natively in your own county, so it is adapted to your soil and climate, to grow without care and concern, to not dilute the genetic stock, nor confuse the native birds and bees. This would be all right, but perhaps a dull collection as you would probably be gardening on a limited piece of soil type in a limited vegetation type. You would just let whatever is there grow effortlessly. The natural world is already greatly altered and diluted, and it seems the pollinators and seed disperses have already accepted a good bit of foreign fare as we ourselves have adopted a world-wide cuisine.

2. Or you could be a delighted new disciple of **Dr. Doug Tallamy**, whose popular notion that only native plants can sufficiently supply native animals with food, clothing and shelter that allows them to flourish and enhance the performance of the web of life. I agree with this wholeheartedly, though again I am not too worried as many birds and insects have adopted foreign plants to some degree. There is no question that the diversity of insects is especially enhanced by the diversity of native plants. The biggest wasteland of all is the American lawn,



**Marshallia gram**

Photo by Larry Mellichamp





and anything we can do to lessen its grip on our real estate and our psyche would be good. (Fat chance! What then would the typical American male do with his time and money under threat of HOA rules?) If you want to grow a native lawn, consider **St. Augustine grass**. It almost never needs mowing and with global



Photo by Will Stuart

**Rhododendron canescens**

the heat and humidity (except for mountain species - that's another story), they do their things at the correct seasonal signal, and they give us a sense of place. We should be proud of our native plants, and show them off more. We should try and match native plants with the habitats we are in (hope you're not in a swamp or pitcher plant bog!). We should try and match native plants with the native animals we have - plants for food and brood. Be aware of the migration of Monarchs and humming birds and have appropriate plants for them at seasonal times. Perhaps we are doing hummingbirds a disservice by feeding them sugar water at convenient hanging fast-food outlets. Are we going to see an increase in fat little hummers bouncing around the yard before long? Make them work for their fuel by planting more red-and-yellow native plants (including Mexican Salvias) throughout the season.

So, in my talk on Saturday Sept 27 I will bring out some suggestions of perhaps less well-known natives to try in your home landscape. These will be based on my new book *Native Plants of the Southeast*, arranged by chapters according to plant group. Some will just be for fun, to see how you like them as colorful additions to a sunny or shady garden. **Salvia coccinea** is an annual from northern Florida that blooms all summer, re-seeds if you don't dead-head, and attracts humming birds. Others will provide striking structural elements, such as **Rudbeckia subtomentosa**, a spectacular full-sun perennial of commanding presence providing glorious yellow flowers for weeks during the hottest mid-summer times.



Photo by Larry Mellichamp

**Rudbeckia tormentosa**

warming is surviving farther north (no problem here in Charlotte).

3. If you believe natives work best because they are "adapted to the regional climate and never need watering, fertilizing or pruning" then you are sorely mistaken. Of course they can be just as difficult as any other plant to establish. However, you DO need to watch for summer heat tolerances and not plant species better suited to colder climates. In fact, non-natives have been selected for survival in home landscape situations for centuries, and are more likely than natives to survive after mediocre planting and neglect.

4. The best reason to plant natives is because they are...natives. They come from the Southeast, they are adapted to





Heat-tolerant ferns such as **Ostrich fern cultivar 'Fanfare'** and *Thelypteris kunthii* are wonderful if you have room for them to stretch out. **Dixie Woodfern** develops a huge semi-evergreen clump in the semi-shady woodland garden or fernery. The familiar **Cinnamon fern** has fairly the fairest fall fern foliage. Forsooth!

Grasses such as **big bluestem** and **little bluestem** provide majestic clumps of structural material that will delight eyes and ears well into fall and winter. I would not be without the inspiring 5' clumping **Indian Grass** in the formal border or meadow, while **seer-sucker sedge** and **Fraser sedge** (*Cymophyllus fraseri*) always delight in the shady wildflower garden.

In a pond the gigantic **alligator-flag** (*Thalia*) will create an enormous flower-and-leaf aggregation, often providing a perch for your dragonflies to rest; where beneath the floating **water shield** (*Brasenia*) provides a slimy bud-coating that is fun to caress.

If you've been bitten by the bog redbug or stuck by the bog hat-pins, **pitcher plants**, **Venus-flytraps**, **Barbara's-buttons**, **sabatias** and **orange milkworts** will make your summer plant-viewing more fun. All you need is a dish garden for the patio with peaty-sandy soil, and you can grow these moisture loving natives right at your fingertips - but be careful: some bite!

The wildflowers are too numerous to name. Rarities like **monk's-hood** and **Cuthbert's onion** are becoming more available.

**Shooting-star** and **Twin-leaf** can soon be mixing with your **trilliums** and **gingers**. **Alleghany-spurge** is a great evergreen

ground cover and **Polemonium reptans** is a long-lived spring delight. You may not be able to grow the elusive **Oconee-bells**, but **Spigelia marilandica** from the same region is the latest hummingbird-flower craze and can grow well in a variety of setting of shade and bright light.

Don't let vines climb up your trees - keep them nearer your knees - on a trellis or fence. **Climbing aster** blooms in October-November. **Climbing hydrangea** (*Decumaria*) grows on you, as it does on a post. Native **wisteria** comes in white and blue, and there are **Lonicera sempervirens** selections that bloom all summer through (e.g. **'Major Wheeler'**).

You can't go wrong with shrubs - many are 4 -star selections with 4 seasons of interest. try **shadbush**, **blueberry**, **summersweet**, **Alabama croton**, **fothergilla**, **oak-leaf hydrangea**, or almost any **native azalea**. Many shrubs have great fall color, spring flowers, and colorful fall or winter fruits. Site them for viewing at their own particular seasonal best; in winter, many are like berryed treasures.

Native conifers are under-represented in home landscapes. Pines are viewed as fast-growing and short lived. But **Spruce Pine** (*P. glabra*) is a wonderful new suggestion for more upper South-eastern gardens (it comes natively to southeastern South Carolina) and loves part shade. Its delicate needle coverage is beautiful in a winter landscape, and its tight bark is unusual for a pine. **Pond cypress** gives you the feel of a **bald cypress**, with delicate deciduous needles, but more compact for the smaller garden. Neither needs to be in standing water, but both can toler-



**Dragonfly Thalia**

Photo by Larry Mellichamp



**Croton Alabamescens**

Photo by Larry Mellichamp





ate anaerobic soils. The rarely seen **Juniperus communis depressa** can be heat tolerant and forms a shade-tolerant evergreen groundcover.

Natives trees are most often already utilized as our larger shade trees, left from the forest when we build a neighborhood or planted early in the barren landscape. Planting a tree is a gift to the future, and some become majestic in just a few decades. Fall color and spring flowers can be spectacular. **Chalk maple** is a little-know native tree of modest stature, like southern sugar maple, but whose rich red-orange leave turn colors in early November, like a Japanese maple. **Pawpaw** gives you bright yellow fall foliage, cute spring flowers, and is the exclusive host of the zebra swallowtail butterfly. **Smoke**



Photo by Larry Mellichamp

**Cotinus obovata, Smoke Tree**

**tree (Cotinus)** has striking mixed fall foliage colors and perhaps the tiniest of dainty tree bloom. In contrast, **Bigleaf Magnolia** has the largest leaves and flowers in the temperate zone.

I look forward to meeting with you, showing some of the great photographs by my co-author photographer **Will Stuart**, and sharing some of my favorite native plants with you who are among the best gardens in the state. ☞

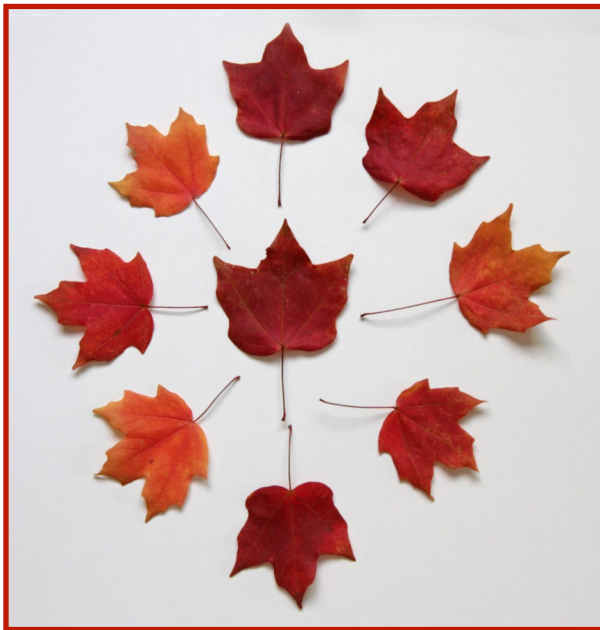


Photo by Will Stuart

**Acer luocoderm**

## **OUTSTANDING PUBLIC PLACES TO SEE NATIVE PLANTS OF THE SOUTHEAST**

- Bloomquist native garden at Sarah P. Duke Gardens in Durham, NC
- Brookgreen Gardens, Murrell's Inlet, SC
- Clemson Botanical Garden, Clemson, SC
- Coker Arboretum, Chapel Hill, NC
- Corneille Bryan Native Garden at Lake Junaluska, NC (a gem of a garden)
- Daniel Boone Native Gardens, Boone, NC
- Daniel Stowe Botanical Gardens, Belmont, NC
- Highlands Biological Station Botanical Gardens, Highlands, NC
- JC Raulston Arboretum, Raleigh, NC (especially cultivars)
- Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Richmond, VA
- North Carolina Arboretum, Asheville, NC
- North Carolina Botanical Garden, Chapel Hill, NC (especially wild types)
- The Botanical Gardens at Asheville, NC
- The National Botanic Garden in Washington, DC (a remarkable new display garden)
- Univ. of N.C. at Charlotte's Van Landingham Glen, Charlotte, NC ☞





## Tribute to Norman Beal

Bobby J. Ward

Norman Beal died July 11, 2014, age 82, in Sanford, N.C., where he had moved three years ago to be near his brother and sister, as his health declined. He had been a member of the Piedmont Chapter of NARGS for many years. His Raleigh garden, called Greystone, which he left behind had become a mecca for out-of-town visitors and was ranked as one of the best in the Triangle. Greystone had been included on numerous garden tours since he began developing it in the late 1980s, having retired as horticulturist for the city of Newport News, Virginia.

Driving to his garden on New Bern Avenue in east Raleigh you might miss it altogether, as it was hidden by crape myrtle (*Lagerstroemia indica*) and holly (*Ilex 'Nellie R. Stevens'*) with cars zooming pass, making parking awkward and at times unsafe. Norman transformed the three-acre garden of old fashioned azaleas and clipped holly edges into a complex garden of mixed borders, raised beds, rock garden, specimen woody plants, annuals and perennials, and, for a while, a small wall built of old newspapers, having learned about the method from a NARGS lecture. He had alarmed the neighbors in the shaded neighborhood when he felled tall pines in the old garden to gain sunlight he needed. And when he ran out of space, he gardened on his neighbors' adjacent land including the golf course property behind. Scattered among the beds were large rocks as design features and hence the name "Greystone" took sprout as the garden evolved.

Norman also added a pond and a gazebo and surrounded it with evergreen dogwood (*Cornus kousa* subsp. *angustata*, now *C. elliptica*) and native pond cypress (*Taxodium ascendens*). He built a large mound, from golf course spoil, which he named "Mt. Mitchell nana" and mounted, trophy-like, a large stag horn fern and tongue fern (*Pyrrhosia lingua 'Cristata'*) over a meditation bench. Over time he developed a collector's garden with rare and unusual woody plants, a mini-arboretum of sorts, with fine specimen plants.

Over the years I made numerous visits to Greystone, including a spring rock garden picnic and attending our rock garden chapter board meetings when Norman served as chair from September 1993 until January 1997. And when I did, I always saw plants new to me. Perhaps it was the first time I saw blooming (in early December) *Narcissus 'Rijnveld's Early Sensation'* or the almost-in-bloom *Cercis reniformis* with hanging clusters of wisteria-like blossoms, or the variegated *Zelkova serrata*, or perhaps the shockingly gaudy coneflower, *Echinacea purpurea*

'Razzmatazz'. He had the first purple-leaved *Albizia julibrissin 'Summer Chocolate'* I had seen locally as well as weeping hackberry (*Celtis sinensis 'Green Cascade'*). One of his neighbors had a bed of old-fashioned gooseneck daffodil (*Narcissus moschatius*) and when I admired them he got permission for me to dig some for my garden.

Norman had a plantsman's keen eye and spotted fine forms that he passed along to nurseries and friends. I checked with Tony Avent and together we came up with at least ten plants that Norman selected. One, a variegated red maple (*Acer rubrum 'Candy Ice'*, sometimes sold as 'Snow Fire'), which he found in southwestern Virginia, was introduced by Woodlanders in South Carolina. Plant Delights Nursery has offered selections from Norman, including *Di-antibus plumarium 'Greystone'*, a white-flowering form of 'Bath's Pink'; *Ipheion uniflorum 'Greystone'*, which has large, white flowers; and *Kniphofia 'Sally's Comet'*, a South African red hot poker with bright yellow flowers that originated in Sally and Pat Patterson's garden in Sanford, two of Norman's close friends. Bustani Plant Farm in Stillwater, Oklahoma, offers *Cestrum 'Greystone Gold'*, with pale yellow flowers, which the owners got on a visit to Norman's garden in 2009. A plant Norman gave me years ago was his *Chryso-gonum virginianum 'Greystone Gold'*. And Tony tells me that



Photo by Bobby Ward

*Teucrium 'Greystone'* has just been picked up by one of the giant wholesalers.





Other plants that bear his hand are *Asarum minus* 'Blue Swirl', *Verbena canadensis* 'Greystone Daphne' and *Verbena canadensis* 'Lilac Time'.

Norman was generous with plants, frequently thrusting one into a visitor's hand to try it, or bringing plants to our rock garden meeting when he was a more regular attendee.

Once in the early days of the Internet, Norman called me and asked if I could find for him seeds of a couple of plants. I found them at J. L. Hudson Company in California and ordered them for him. When they arrived I took them to him and found him rototilling a bed, ripping out old hellebores to replant with new selections he had gotten from Pine Knot Farms in Virginia. He offered to pay me the few dollars cost of the seeds, but I refused. So he suggested it was time for his ice cream break and invited me inside and while there explained to me the best way he had found to get clivias and Christmas cactus to bloom—leaving them outside during cool nights to get autumn chill to induce bud set. His coffee table was stacked with local catalogs from Plant Delights, Camellia Forest, and Woodlanders, and mail order from Yucca Do, Heronswood, and others.

While visiting Big Bloomers Flower Farm in Sanford, since Norman's death, I saw *Salvia coccinea*



Photo by Bobby Ward

'Norman Beal's Orange' with a sign suggesting that both butterflies and hummingbirds love the plant. But sadly, in another greenhouse at Big Bloomers was a bromeliad with the note, "Hold for Norman Beal."



## Piedmont Chapter Speakers 2014-2015

September 27, 2014

**Larry Mellichamp** (Book Sale)  
"Lesser-Known Native Plants of the Southeast"  
UNC-Charlotte  
Biology Department  
Charlotte, NC 28223

October 18, 2014

**Judy Glattstein**  
"Little Bulbs for the Rock and Woodland Garden"  
334 Creek Rd.  
Frenchtown, NJ 08825

November 8, 2014

**Joseph Tychonievich** (note : two lectures)  
"Rock Garden Nation: Rock Gardens & Rock Gardeners"  
& "Plant Breeding for the Home Gardener: How to Create Unique Vegetables and Flowers" (Book Sale)  
(formerly with) Arrowhead Alpines Rare Plant Nursery  
1268 N. Gregory Rd.  
Fowlerville, MI 48836

January 17, 2015

**Brienne Gluvna Arthur**  
"Woody Winter Wonderland"  
*Growing a Greener World* (TV show)  
7624 Troy Stone Dr.  
Fuquay Varina, NC 27526

February 14, 2015

**Tim Alderton**  
"Wildflowers of the Croatan National Forest"  
JC Raulston Arboretum  
NC State University  
Box 7522  
Raleigh, NC 27695-7522

March 14

**Brian Jackson**  
"Horticultural Adventures in Global Gardens and Glens"  
NC State University  
Horticultural Science  
130 Kilgore Hall  
Raleigh, NC 27695-7609

April 18, 2015

**Andrew Bunting**  
"Plant Hunting in Northern Vietnam"  
The Scott Arboretum  
408 Vassar Ave.  
Swarthmore, PA 19081

May Event—date and place to be determined



## Annual Picnic at The Unique Plant

On May 17th members of the chapter gathered at the home and gardens of Joann Currier, otherwise recognized as The Unique Plant Nursery, for our annual Spring picnic. Despite the popularity of this weekend for many other garden events, we had a good turnout to enjoy this wonderful garden. Below are a few photos by Kirtley Cox and Joann to give you a glimpse of a garden worth visiting. Having seen the development of the garden in recent years, the editor asked Joann and Sebastian to share their story with us which follows. ❧



Photo by Kirt Cox



**Opuntia x 'Red Gem'**

Photo by Joann Currier



Photo by Kirt Cox



Photo by Joann Currier



Photo by Joann Currier



# Nursery and Garden Development at The Unique Plant

By Joann Currier

Growing up in Indiana in an extended family of farmers, I was always interested in growing plants especially for the landscape. As a child I would devote hours to looking at a Better Homes and Gardens landscaping book and dream of making our yard like those in the pictures. Most of my relatives were of the mindset “if you can’t eat it why grow it”, so my desire to have a beautiful garden was squelched. In college I decided to go into nursing and practiced for 20 years but always enjoyed creating a garden.

We moved to Chapel Hill in the early ‘90s to a wonderful 3.5 acre country property with a barn, two pastures and a riding ring. I settled into my mini farm with horses, sheep, chickens and a vegetable garden. (My family was so proud!) The plantings around the property were sparse, so with help I began landscaping around the house and beyond. In my spare time between nursing, raising children and taking care of animals, gardening was my passion. After needing to postpone my job temporarily, I went to work at a local garden center and really enjoyed it. A year later I decided that I would start a nursery at my home.

In 1996 I founded The Unique Plant, Inc initially offering perennials and Japanese Maples. I wanted to sell the best landscape plants available that did well in our area from local growers. My inventory quickly blossomed into shrubs, trees, conifers, ornamental grasses and anything new or hard to find. I began some small display gardens so people could see how to use these great plants. In 2002 I was fortunate to be joined by Sebastian Hamilton who has

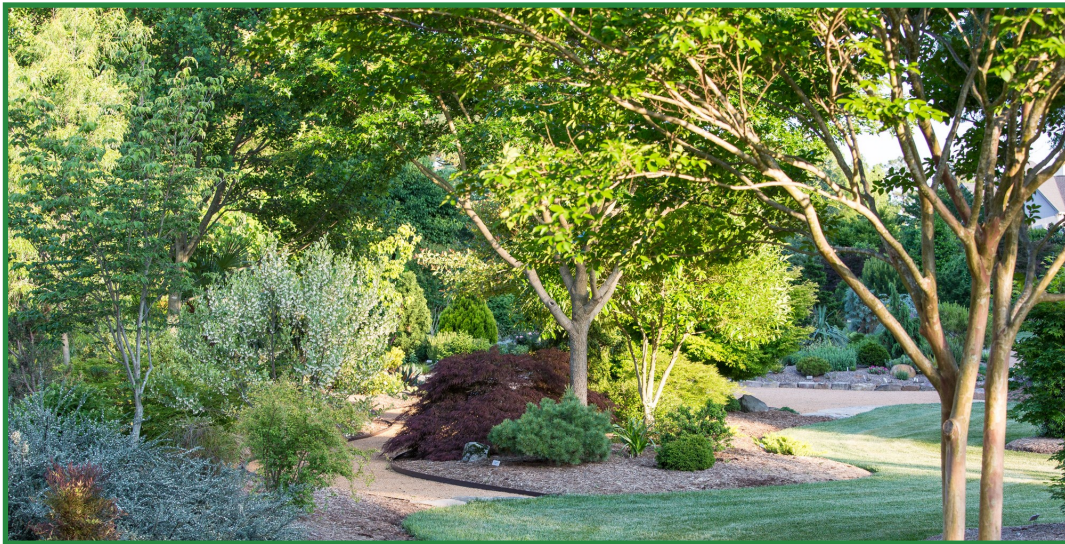


Photo by Kirtley Cox

superb design skills and could help me in the nursery. With my children growing up and moving away, I sold the horses and the two large pastures became open for planting. Together in the last 12 years we have created extensive gardens and mixed borders of trees, shrubs, conifers, grasses, perennials, annuals, and bulbs. The garden includes over 1000 cultivars of woody plants, featuring 120 different selections of *Acer palmatum* and *Acer japonicum*. In addition we have over 240 different conifers including the species *Abies*,

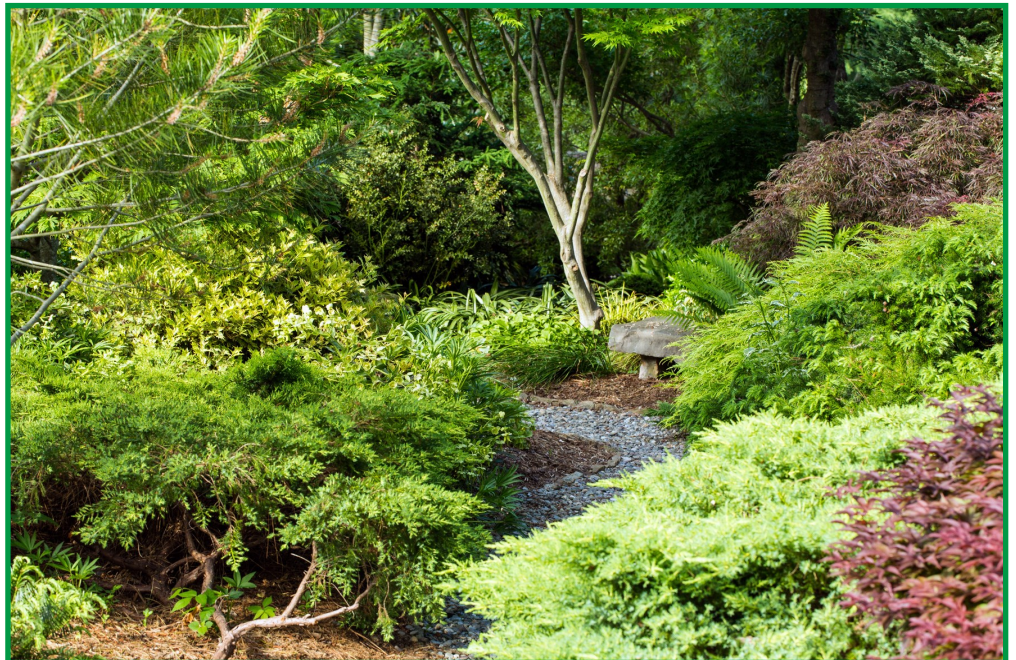


Photo by Kirtley Cox



Cedrus, Cephalotaxus, Chamaecyparis, Cryptomeria, Cunninghamia, Cupressus, Juniperus, Picea, Pinus, Taxodium, Taxus, Thuja, Thujopsis, and Tsuga.



Photo by Joann Currier

areas to create the “bones” of the garden. Of course, more small boulders were placed in the garden itself and along the path for structure. Drought tolerant perennials such as Salvia and



Photo by Kirt Cox

agave and Tulipa were included. But the main rock garden are hardy cacti with a number of Hesperaloe and other hardy succulents. Most hardy species of Echinocereus, Opuntia, and plants we prepared raised sloping beds with lots of PermaTill to provide the best drainage possible. Under the canopy of two pines that provide dryer conditions we are growing Aloe aristata and other species that cannot tolerate our wet winters. Small decorative Pocono gravel is the top dressing for the rock garden. We have had excellent success with most of these interesting plants. Visitors to the nursery are usually surprised that so many different cacti can be grown in our region.



Photo by Joann Currier

**Escobaria missouriensis**

If you would like to visit the garden and nursery we are open Friday & Saturday 10-5 and Sunday 1-5 or by appointment. Tours can also be arranged. ☺

Although a small scree area existed, missing was a rock garden which I always wanted to try. In the large pasture where we had grown perennials and grasses, we began with 60 cubic yards of ½ topsoil and ½ Chapel Hill gravel. We started sculpting the soil and developed mounded beds with a curving path through the center. I decided that we needed some rock steps to get up to the path and asked a local stonemason, Dick Henry, to place large boulders for steps and in other strategic areas. We began by planting some drought tolerant shrubs and conifers in prominent

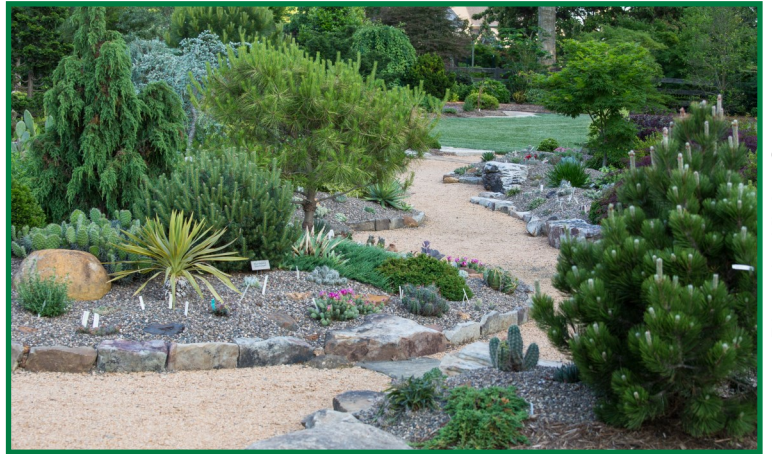


Photo by Kirtley Cox



Photo by Joann Currier

**Echinocereus triglochidiatus**

Agastache were added along with some key ornamental grasses. Zephyranthes, Habranthus, Eucomis and different species Narcissus. The majority of the plants in the garden are of Agave, Manfreda, and other species of the cacti are cold hardy. For these



Photo by Joann Currier

**Echinocereus reichenbachii**

## NARGS Piedmont Chapter Meeting

JC Raulston Arboretum  
Ruby McSwain Education Building

September 27, 2014 9:30 am

**Larry Mellichamp**

“Lesser-Known Native Plants of the Southeast”  
UNC-Charlotte, Biology Dept.  
Charlotte, NC

*The Trillium*, Newsletter of the Piedmont Chapter  
The North American Rock Garden Society  
1422 Lake Pine Drive, Cary, NC 27511

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### OTHER SIGNIFICANT POSITIONS:

Sept. Plant Sale Manager: Kirtley Cox  
Refreshments: Gwen and Maurice Farrier

### Food Goodies to Share

If your last name begins with the letter below,  
please consider bringing something to share.

Sept. A—C	Jan. He—L
Oct. D—F	Feb. M—O
Nov. G—Ha	March P—S
	April T—Z

## Chapter Annual Fall Plant Sale

**Our September 27 meeting** and plant sale is nearly here, so take the time to get your contributions divided and potted up. Good plants of all sizes, shapes and maturity are needed. Bring plants in clean pots and label each pot; we may not have time to do it that morning. Please print the label information.

### Note New Time

In a change from past years, we are starting before the meeting. The sale will begin at 9:00 AM and continue until Noon. We will start receiving plants at 8:30 AM, but will eagerly welcome your contribution whenever you arrive.

For more information, contact Kirt at 919-489-7892(H) or by email at kirtley@ncrrbiz.com .