

GPPA NEWSLETTER

April 2006

Planting Party at the History Center Saturday, April 8



For a delightful gardening experience, join us the morning of Saturday, April 8, 2006 from 9-12:00. We will help the gardens staff at the Atlanta History Center plant an area along the path from the Tullie Smith House to the bridge over the newly renovated streambed. This will be a small way for us to show the History Center how much we appreciate their generosity in allowing us the use of McElreath Hall for our monthly meetings. It should also be a great opportunity to enjoy a terrific gardening experience with a group of most knowledgeable gardeners.

Please park in the deck as if you were coming to a meeting and we will meet on the sidewalk just outside McElreath Hall. Be sure to wear gardening clothes and bring your gloves, knee pads, etc. Tools will be provided but it would be helpful if you brought a trowel and/or shovel just in case we don't have enough to go around.

Many plants have already been donated, but we still need more. If you have plants to donate, please contact Travis Spilker, Manager of the History Center Gardens and discuss your contribution with him (404.814.4072). Linda Copeland will coordinate the effort. Please contact her at 404-351-3344 or lcopeland@mindspring.com if you have any donations or questions.

Plants Still Needed for History Center Garden

- Creeping fig [*Ficus pumila*]
- Japanese tassel fern [*Polystichum polyblepharum*]
- Autumn fern [*Dryopteris erythrosora*]
- Variegated Solomon's seal [*Polygonatum odoratum* 'Variegatum']
- Cardinal flower [*Lobelia cardinalis*]
- Golden variegated sweet flag [*Acorus gramineus* 'Ogon']
- Lily-of-the-valley [*Convallaria majalis*]

FINAL NOTICE! DUES ARE PAST DUE

All 2006 dues are past due and members who do not renew by April 1, 2006 will be dropped from the roster. Please be certain to get your dues in so that you don't miss anything. Dues are \$30 and a check can be mailed to GPPA, PO Box 13425, Atlanta, GA 30324.



Trillium Garden Visit Saturday, April 15

Those of you who missed our wonderful, March meeting have another chance! David Mellard generously invited all GPPA members to visit his personal garden on April 15, from 11:00AM until 2:00PM. David's talk was fantastic and, if only a fraction of his beautiful slides were taken in his garden, we are in for a treat! The weather is always a fickle friend but he hopes this date will give us a chance to see the majority of his extensive collection at their peak. The address is: 3409 Regalwoods Drive, Doraville. We hope to see you there!



Piccadilly Farm Picnic Sunday, April 30

Sam and Carleen Jones of Piccadilly Farms have invited us for a pot-luck picnic at their nursery on



Sunday, April 30, starting at 3:00. The nursery is located in Bishop, GA, just outside of Athens and is well known for hellebores, conifers, hosta and many other wonderful plants. We will have the opportunity to tour the extensive and beautiful gardens on the property and spend an enjoyable afternoon with friends. The nursery will be closed to the public this day but Sam assures me that we will be able to shop if we wish.

Reservations are not needed but please plan to bring a covered dish to share and your preferred beverage. Paper goods and ice will be provided. There is a large, covered pavilion with tables and chairs for us to use and plenty of parking. The nursery's address is 1971 Whippoorwill Rd., Bishop, GA 30621 and directions can be obtained from www.mapquest.com or by calling 706-769-6516.

Thank You! to the donors for our March plant drawings.....

Intown Hardware
854 N. Highland Ave., NE
Atlanta, GA 30306
404-874-5619

Urban Gardener
347 Boulevard, SE
Atlanta, GA 30312
404-529-9980
www.theurbangardener.com

Please be sure to take a moment and thank these merchants for their support whenever you visit their nursery. We want them to know how much we appreciate them and need your help telling them. We also want to thank the individuals who personally donated specimen plants.....**Jim Harrington, Sandra Jonas and David Mellard**

APRIL MEETING

“The New Southern Landscape” or “Atlanta goes Tropical...”

with Joe LeVert — April 18, 7:30

This program by Joe LeVert, who is Past-President of the Southeastern Palm Society and has been landscaping and gardening in Augusta, Georgia for the past 25 years, will emphasize the use of palms, cold-hardy citrus, and subtropical perennials that all thrive in Georgia. According to Joe, “the South has risen again and there is a renewed sense of adventure in gardening and landscaping that truly reflects the reality of growing plants in an area that can get pretty chilly in winter, but is hot as hell in the summer; an area where practically no one on earth is worthy of bragging that they have more humidity than we do.” He will share with us his choices for plants that thrive in the “clayey or sandy, hot or cold, but always humid South.”



Private Tour of *Plants In Print* Exhibit Offered before the April 18 Meeting

Plants in Print: The Age of Botanical Discovery, is a traveling exhibit from the collections of the Chicago Botanic Garden in collaboration with the United States Botanic Garden, and features 34 rare, exquisitely illustrated books dating from 1483 to 1888.

Join us for a private tour of this wonderful exhibit of botanical art. The History Center staff will be giving us a special tour at 6:30 PM before our April meeting. For more details about the exhibit, be sure to visit <http://www.plantsinprint.org>.

Tailgate Market Resumes

With the return of Daylight Savings Time, our monthly Tailgate Market will resume in the front parking lot before each meeting. Members who have extra plants are encouraged to bring them to swap, sell or share with each other. Even the most common plant can be exciting to someone and we all love a bargain. So, whether you have divisions of proven plants, extra seedlings or wonderful nursery stock, please come around 6:30 and share what you have. In the past we have had hand made bird-houses, custom stepping stones and outgrown gardening books so non-plant items are included, but please restrict these to hand-made or personally owned, garden related items.



Help Needed with Door Prizes

Sadly, there were no door prizes in March and this will continue unless we can put together a team to coordinate the plants and other items won by members at the meetings each month. We are also happy to accept plant donations if you have anything you are willing to share. Because of the AHC rules against bringing plants into the building, please let us know in advance so that pick-up tickets can be prepared. Contact Sara Henderson at gardenmakers@att.net if you want to help.

GPPA SPRING GARDEN TOUR June 3 & 4 *“Gardens With a Southern Accent”*

The Georgia Perennial Plant Association is hosting a tour of gardens in metro Atlanta June 3 & 4. The theme of the tour is “Gardening With a Southern Accent,” and the selected gardens will exhibit each gardener’s individual expression of what a Southern garden means to them. Final gardens are being added to the list, from small to large, sun to shade gardens, with lots of ideas to inspire you in your own garden. There will be something of interest for all gardeners!

The tour will be open on June 3 from 10:00 AM until 5:00 PM and June 4 from 12:00 noon until closing at 5:00 PM. GPPA members will be admitted to the gardens free with their tickets; tickets will be distributed to the general membership at the May 16, 2006 general monthly meeting. If you are not there to pick up your ticket, it will be mailed to you after that date.

Pass the word along to your gardening friends, this is a tour not to be missed! Give a ticket to a gardening friend who is not yet a member of GPPA and have them join you for the tour. The gift ticket will include free membership for an individual for the coming year: a gift from you that keeps on giving!

Any questions can be directed to Robert Meaders, tour chairman, at 404-634-7378.

Smith-Gilbert Arboretum Visit June 14

Members who participated in our fall visit to the Smith-Gilbert Arboretum in Cobb County were so enthralled that they urged us to plan a return visit. Dr. Gilbert has graciously agreed and we are invited to return June 14 from 6 to 8 PM. The summer border will be at its peak and the hydrangeas should be in full bloom. Michelle Brown will be coordinating the visit and there will be more information in next month. If you have questions, please contact Michelle at 678-797-1020 or mnbrowne@mindspring.com.

PLEASE Stay In Touch....

Spring is here and there are gardening events everywhere! The notices we get are far too numerous to list here, but all are posted to the *Out & About* board at the GPPA Discussion boards. If you know of an event that is not listed, please post it or send it to me to post— Sara Henderson, gardenmakers@att.net—Gardeners love to visit with other gardeners and we want to help you find these activities.

The boards are also a great way for you to contact each other and everyone is encouraged to post when you have free plants (it is time to divide many things!) or you want to invite others over to see what you’re doing, to see a special plant at its peak or learn a new skill.

Be sure to visit the “Members Only” area of the web site. You never know what you may find. The password is still ‘daisy’.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

April 8— Workday at the History Center 9:00AM to Noon

April 15— Visit to David Mellard’s garden 11:00AM until 2:00PM

April 18—GPPA meeting, - Tour of *Plants In Print* at 6:30 and “Hardy Tropicals” with Joe LeVert at 7:30

April 30—Potluck picnic at Piccadilly Farms starting at 3:00

May 16—GPPA meeting, “Containing the Unusual” with Rita Randolph 7:30— Members’ tour tickets will be available for pick-up.

June 3 & 4 - GPPA Garden Tour “Gardening with Southern Accent”

June 14—Visit to Smith-Gilbert Arboretum 6:00-8:00 PM

June 20—GPPA meeting “A World of Ferns” with Judith Jones 7:30