

GPPA NEWSLETTER

May 2006

GPPA 2006 Garden Tour June 3 and 4

The 2006 GPPA tour is just around the corner and we have a fabulous weekend to look forward to. Tour chair, Robert Meaders, has done an outstanding job lining up gardens that you won't want to miss. The definition of a "Southern" garden is hard to pinpoint, but Robert has truly given us some great examples and has challenged us to use them to start a dialog about what "Southern" really is. Regardless of your preferences, you will find gardens to love on this tour. Visit our web site, www.georgiaperennial.org, to see preview pictures from the gardens. Then be sure to visit them in person to see their full beauty.

Members receive a tour ticket as a membership benefit and all tickets were mailed this week. If you do not receive yours shortly, please contact Robert at remeaders@cmmi-redlines.com. Tickets will also be on sale at a number of local nurseries and you might consider a ticket as a great gift for a gardening friend. This is a wonderful way to encourage them to become a part of GPPA. The gift of a tour ticket includes a 2006 membership in GPPA, so your friend would have many opportunities to see what we are all about.



Tour Volunteers Needed

By John Wolfinger

Do you like to yak it up with fellow gardeners as you learn something new from somebody that has done something you haven't yet tried? Then, we have the perfect opportunity for you to exercise your gift of gab, and meet some new fellow gardeners at the same time. We still have some time slots to be filled as docents for the upcoming GPPA Garden Tour on June 3rd and 4th. This will give you a chance to really snoop into somebody else's garden, have some fun, and yak it up with people who share the same love of getting your hands dirty in some good dirt. Please e-mail me at jjonww2@earthlink.net and tell me what time you would like to volunteer for this exciting weekend. Time slots are from 10:00 to 1:30 and 1:30 to 5:00 on Saturday and noon to 2:30, and 2:30 to 5:00 on Sunday. Let me know your time preference and I'll let you know what gardens need a resident host for that time slot. You can also try to phone me at 404-876-5023, but I'm not next to the phone that much, but you can leave a message on my machine. I'm usually working on some sort of a volunteer activity, out in my own garden, or playing in my neighbor's dirt.

Visit www.georgiaperennial.org for more pictures.

Grady Homes Rescue Plants On View for GPPA Tour

Last summer a number of GPPA members responded to a call for help in an effort to rescue plants growing at Grady Homes. The City of Atlanta was ready to bulldoze the entire area but had agreed to allow volunteers onto the site for a few hours to rescue what they could of the plants that the Grady Homes residents had lovingly tended for many years. They were to be relocated just a short distance away at Historic Oakland Cemetery, where they would be able to grow and multiply in order to create a historical bond between the old Grady Homes and a garden to be installed at the new complex once it was completed. It was a dreadfully hot summer day, not at all a good time to move plants, but the plants have survived and even flourished. These pictures were taken on May 4, 2006. While these same plants may not be blooming during our tour, some certainly will be.



Guided Tour Fee Waived for GPPA Ticket Holders

Oakland has been a part of Atlanta's history since 1850 and this history is interwoven into wonderful stories and interesting lore. GPPA tour ticket holders who want to learn more may waive the normal \$10 fee for the guided walking tours offered during our June tour. "Sights, Symbols & Stories of Oakland" will be offered at 10:00 and 2:00 on Saturday and 2:00 on Sunday. Twilight tours are offered at 6:30 with "Pioneers of Atlanta: The First 20 Years" offered on Saturday and "The Women of Oakland" on Sunday. Visit www.oaklandcemetery.com for details. This offer is only good on Saturday, June 3 and Sunday, June 4, 2006 so be sure to allow time.

Oakland Work Day Planned on October 12

GPPA will be organizing a perennial work day at Historic Oakland on the morning of Saturday, October 12. Our work will be part of Oakland's 2nd Saturday workday program where community volunteers work under the guidance of GPPA member Kevin Kuharic, Oakland's Restoration and Landscape Manager. Kevin will identify groups of perennials that are in need of division and our members will divide and replant them into additional areas. This event is open to the public and we hope to teach these skills to newer gardeners from both GPPA and the public. Additional details will follow later but please put this on your calendar and plan to participate.

More information on Oakland and the 2nd Saturday program is at www.oaklandcemetery.com. This is a monthly activity and Kevin would always appreciate additional volunteers. You can reach him at kevin@oaklandcemetery.com or 404-688-2107.

Thank You! to the donors for our April and May plant drawings.....

Buck Jones, Four Seasons Pottery, Hastings, Intown Hardware, Ladyslipper, Saul's, Twin Branch Nursery, Urban Gardener, and Wilkerson Mill Gardens

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: **Joe LeVert, Rita Randolph, Sandra Sandefur and Harvey Brickley**

JUNE MEETING
“A World of Ferns”
with Judith Jones — June 20, 7:30

Judith Jones, owner of Fancy Fronds Nursery (<http://www.fancyfronds.com>) in Gold Bar, WA is a self-taught fern specialist who has spoken throughout North America and England. She is also a contributor to the Brooklyn Botanic Garden book, *Ferns: Wild Things Make a Comeback in the Garden*. Her knowledge of ferns is extensive and she brings a fresh approach to this large group of plants. Judith will be in Atlanta to speak at the Fern Symposium at GA Perimeter College on Saturday, June 17. She will also be leading two walks through their fern collection on Friday, June 16 and will remain to speak to us on Tuesday, June 20. These events have all been planned to complement each other so take this opportunity to delve deeply into the intriguing world of ferns. Additional information on the walks and the symposium can be found at <http://www.gpc.edu/~ddonald/botgard/george3.htm>.



Private Tour of Lyndy Broder’s Garden
on Sunday, June 11 from 10:00 to 3:00

GPPA members are invited to tour GPPA past-president, Lyndy Broder’s fabulous garden in Stockbridge, GA. She has developed her garden on land that was part of her husband’s family’s extensive dairy farm and it is truly a treat for the senses. Lyndy’s commitment to GPPA would lead you to expect a beautiful garden, but what many members don’t know is that her garden is also home to hundreds of clematis which should reach their peak in early June. Lyndy is a member of the International Clematis Society (<http://dspace.dial.pipex.com/clematis/index.htm>) and contributes to the “Clematis of the Month” feature on the group’s web site. She has lectured in the US and England and will be speaking to us on July 18....a program you won’t want to miss! Between the visit and her lecture, we will have a great opportunity to learn which clematis do best in the south and new, creative ways to use them. Her address is 35 Gabrielle Court, Stockbridge, GA 30281.



Help Needed with Plant Giveaways

Help is still needed organizing the drawings at each meeting. We already have a good team but could really use a few extra hands. The plant raffle will continue each month but the door prizes will only occur when someone steps forward to make these arrangements. In the meantime, we will happily accept plant divisions for door prizes, but, because of the AHC rules against bringing plants into the building, we must know in advance so that pick-up tickets can be prepared. Contact Sara Henderson at gardenmakers@att.net if you want to help.

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**

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

June 11—Visit Lyndy Broder’s garden , 10:00 to 3:00

June 14—Visit to Smith-Gilbert Arboretum 6:00-8:30 PM

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

Garden Club of Georgia Newsletter Available

GPPA has joined the Redbud District of the Garden Club of GA and all GPPA members may receive their email newsletter. If you wish to receive it, please send your name and email information to Joy Zaiden at jzaidan@bellsouth.net. Your information will not be shared in any way.

Return Engagement at Smith-Gilbert Arboretum June 14, 6:00-8:30 pm

G.P.P.A. members will have a unique garden tour opportunity the evening of Wednesday, June 14th. We will be returning to the Smith-Gilbert Arboretum in Kennesaw. Members who were lucky enough to visit last fall will confirm that this is a very special garden. On 13 acres, the property consists of a historic plantation house and a woodland, naturalistic garden of over 3,000 plants. The perennial border will be at its peak, and the woods will be full of hosta, hydrangeas, ferns and other shade-blooming plants. New, too, is the Rose Garden, planted by Cobb Master Gardeners, consisting of over 90 plants, which will also be at its prime. The evening hours are a perfect, relaxing time to visit.

Reservations must be made, as the Arboretum is not yet open to the public and parking is limited. In order to insure fairness to all members, reservations will open at Noon on Monday, May 22. At that point it will be first come-first served for the available slots. Parking is very limited so carpooling will allow us to accommodate more members. You might want to consider meeting other members for an early dinner nearby and then carpooling from the restaurant. To make a reservation, contact Michele Browne 678-797-1020, or mnbrowne@mindspring.com.



New Members' Password....

Be sure to visit the "Members Only" area of the web site. You never know what you may find. PLEASE NOTE: *Starting June 1, 2006 the new password will be 'phlox'.*

The boards are a great way for you to contact each other and everyone is encouraged to post when you have free plants, questions to ask 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. GPPA also receives notices of gardening happenings throughout the metro area and this is where we post them. Be sure to stop by the "Out and About" discussion board to learn the latest news. If you've never visited the board, give it a try. If you need help, let us know and we'll be happy to show you how.

Tailgate Market Each Month at 6:30

Our monthly Tailgate Market will occur in the front parking lot before each meeting during months of Daylight Savings Time. Members who have extra plants are encouraged to bring them to swap, sell or share with each other. Please plan to come around 6:30 and share whatever you have. In the past we have had hand made birdhouses, 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.