

# *What a Wonderful World... of Gardening*



**Eighth Annual Symposium Sponsored by  
The Greater Greenville Master Gardeners Association of South Carolina  
Saturday, February 7, 2009  
at the Carolina First Center, Greenville**

*Variety is the spice of life—and the garden, too—when we look beyond the tried and true to new ideas and inspirations. This symposium embraces design concepts and plants from around the world—and the creation of southern gardens that are the best they can be.*

**The Greater Greenville Master Gardeners** invite you to their eighth annual gardening symposium to be held February 7, 2009, at the Carolina First Center just off N. Pleasantburg Drive in Greenville.

The day is divided into five sessions. Participants will hear three speakers in the morning, can choose between concurrent speakers for the after-lunch session, then will gather together for a final presentation.

For additional brochures call (864) 235-8781. Sorry, no refunds can be offered for this event.

## *Schedule*

8:00 am	Registration, Coffee, Vendor Sales
8:45	<b>Welcome, Introductions, &amp; Information</b>
9:00 - 10:00	<b>First Class Session, Garry Menendez</b>
10:00 - 10:30	Break, Vendor Sales
10:30 - 11:15	<b>Second Class Session, Arthur Joura</b>
11:15 - 11:30	Break, Vendor Sales
11:30 - 12:30	<b>Third Class Session, Scott McMahan</b>
12:30 - 1:15	Lunch, Vendor Sales
1:15 - 2:05	<b>Fourth Class Session, Concurrent Choice</b>
2:05 - 2:30	Break, Vendor Sales
2:30 - 3:30 pm	<b>Fifth Class Session, John Elsley</b>

## *Speakers and Programs*

**Garry Menendez** is a registered Landscape Architect and Associate Professor in the Department of Plant Sciences at The University of Tennessee. He teaches courses in landscape design, graphics, and professional practice and also maintains a private practice in landscape architecture. He has won numerous awards for teaching and has authored several articles featured in publications, such as *The Tennessee Gardener*, *Landscape and Irrigation*, and *Garden Guide*. To delve into more details, visit [www.garrymenendez.com](http://www.garrymenendez.com).

“Looking Past the Neighbor’s Yard: Traveling in Search of Great Design Inspiration”

Join Garry for an exciting and fun landscape design travelogue. We’ll dash through the US, Canada, and Europe, peeking into gorgeous gardens and deciding for ourselves if it is “quaint” or “quirky” that puts a smile on our faces. Take note of Garry’s step-by-step instruction on how to think like a designer or just sit back and enjoy the trip.

**Arthur Joura** has been the Bonsai Curator at The North Carolina Arboretum in Asheville, North Carolina, since the inception of the bonsai program in 1992. He studied bonsai with some of the leading bonsai authorities in the United States and was received as an official student to the Nippon Bonsai Association in Japan. He has toured extensively as a lecturer and teacher and has been featured in numerous regional and national publications for his work with the Arboretum’s bonsai collection.

In his development of the Arboretum’s collection, Arthur forges connections between the art of bonsai and the Arboretum’s mission to promote the flora and culture of the Southern Appalachians. As he says, “At its best, bonsai is living art, expressing in miniature an experience of nature.”

“Bonsai—Getting Beyond What You Think You Know”

If “funny little Japanese trees” sums up your conception of bonsai, be prepared for a revelatory experience. Find out how a thousand-year old horticultural practice from the other side of the world took root in western North Carolina, and grew to be something altogether different.

“Bonsai—Creating the Miniature World”

Learn how to build a garden that can be held in the palm of your hands. Join Arthur as he uses common red maples (*Acer rubrum*), stones, and moss, to construct a tray landscape planting in an instructive and interactive demonstration.

**Scott McMahan** is a homegrown “Georgia boy” from Decatur and an extreme plant fanatic. He has a Bachelor’s degree in English from Wofford and an Associate’s degree in Horticulture from Spartanburg Technical College. Scott was the propagator for a large wholesale grower for five years. He then worked as nursery manager of the Atlanta Botanical Garden before opening his own business in 2003. McMahan’s Nursery, located just north of Lake Lanier, specializes in hardy and unusual perennials, shrubs, and trees for the southeastern United States.

Scott has traveled to China, Japan, Bhutan, Vietnam, and many parts of the southern and northwestern United States in search of rare finds. He is excited to offer many new plants to our region, pushing the limits of what will grow in zone 7.

“Trekking with a Purpose: A Search for Rare Finds”

Ever traveled far, far away? Scott’s passport affirms his commitment to search to the ends of the earth to find the best garden-worthy plants. Join Scott for a look back at his most recent travels to Asia, as he highlights new plants, local culture, and near disasters, and a peek at some of his favorite trees, shrubs, and perennials from the nursery.

## Speakers and Programs

**Flo Chaffin** is a garden expert and the owner of Specialty Ornamentals in Watkinsville, Georgia, a nursery focusing on unusual or hard to find woody plants, including over 60 species and cultivars of hydrangeas, more than 75 cultivars of conifers, and over 125 cultivars of Japanese maples. Flo earned her horticulture degree from UGA and says, “Going back to school to study under Michael Dirr was one of the scariest things I’ve ever done and the best thing I’ve ever done. I can’t wait to wake up and go to work each day.”

Flo is the past president of the Southeast Region of the American Conifer Society and has served on the national board of ACS for six years. She is a supporter of the Master Gardener program in Georgia, frequently participating in classes, sales, monthly programs and annual symposia.

### “Rocks in My Head”

For every gardener who is too busy or too tired or whose soil is too dry or space too limited, Flo will show you how to construct a rock garden with conifers, Japanese maples, and other plants, that is distinctive, beautiful, and low maintenance.

**Marian St.Clair** is an avid gardener, a free-lance garden writer, and a volunteer for both the Master Gardener and Master Naturalist programs. She contributes a weekly column and feature articles to *The Greenville News* and writes for several Master Gardener publications. In 2008, she won a Gold Award from the Garden Writers Association for her work.

A Virginian by birth and a South Carolinian since 1983, Marian loves living and gardening in the Upstate, as well as traveling and organizing tours to visit gardens around the world.

“Postcards from England”—From Cornwall to the Cotswolds, join Marian for an armchair tour of some of England’s most interesting public and private landscapes, looking for eye-catching ideas and new inspirations.

**John Elsley**, a botanist, horticulturist, and renowned plantsman, is the Director of Horticulture at Klehm’s Song Sparrow Nursery in Avalon, Wisconsin. He trained at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, and worked at Wisley, the flagship garden of the Royal Horticulture Society. He was Curator of Hardy Plants at Missouri Botanical Gardens and later Vice-President at Wayside Gardens, where he introduced many well-known plants, including the Royal Heritage hellebores, which he personally developed over a period of 15 years. Continuing his search for new and unusual plants, John works with Klehm’s internationally acclaimed breeding and introductory programs featuring peonies, daylilies, and hostas.

John has edited several books, including *The American Horticultural Society Encyclopedia of Garden Plants*. His South Carolina garden has been featured on national television.

### “A Shady Garden for All Seasons: Combining Distinctive Plants for Ornamental Interest in Southern Gardens”

John will discuss a selection of his favorite woody and herbaceous plants, many collected from around the world, that together create year-round ornamental interest in his urban shade garden in Greenwood, South Carolina.

## REGISTRATION FORM

Please send completed form and \$55 registration fee by **January 26** to Karen Stewart, 216 E. Park Ave., Greenville, SC 29601. Make checks payable to GGMG. Fee includes lunch. No refunds available. Confirmation will be sent upon receipt of the registration form.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

BOX LUNCH: Mediterranean Chicken Wrap \_\_\_\_\_ Roasted Vegetable Wrap \_\_\_\_\_

CONCURRENT SPEAKER CHOICE, SESSION FOUR (check one)

\_\_\_\_\_ Arthur Joura, “Bonsai—Creating the Miniature World”

\_\_\_\_\_ Flo Chaffin, “Rocks in My Head”

\_\_\_\_\_ Marian St.Clair, “Postcards from England”

### *Symposium Sponsor*

**The Greater Greenville Master Gardeners** is an educational, nonprofit, volunteer group that provides non-biased, research-based horticultural information to the community. Greenville Master Gardeners work in partnership with the Clemson University Extension Office as a service arm of Extension Horticulture. Projects include continuing education meetings for members, an educational symposium for members and the general public, Ask a Master Gardener events, telephone assistance at the Clemson Extension office, a plant sale, and support of several community gardens, including the Butterfly Garden and the Heritage Gardens at Roper Mountain Science Center, the vegetable garden at Project Host Soup Kitchen and Linky Stone Children's Garden. For more information, visit the Association's website at [www.greenergreenvillemastergardener.org](http://www.greenergreenvillemastergardener.org).

### *Cover Artist*

**Sarah Summers** is an Upstate artist who enjoys painting flowers and gardens, saying they add color, texture, and life to her work. Her artistic style is a combination of realism and impressionism. Before starting in oils at Julia Peter's Studio in 1999, Sarah worked with graphite and colored pencils. Her paintings have been exhibited at Bennetts' Frame and Gallery on Laurens Road.

### *Vendors*

We are pleased to present a variety of vendors offering information and an array of practical as well as decorative items for your home and garden. Included are plants, books, wildlife feeders, garden art, and much more.

**The Greater Greenville Master Gardeners Association of SC**

**Karen Stewart**

**216 E. Park Avenue**

**Greenville, SC 29601**