Tryon Garden Club News
June 2021

President’s Report: We’ve made a smooth transition with our new board members and structure. We held our first board meeting at the Pearson’s Falls Garden House and afterward Andy gave us a tour of the new picnic area and exit road. Thanks to Andy, Gene, volunteers and our contractors for doing such a nice job. We are also grateful for Will Kallberg’s excellent stonework. In other areas, volunteers are stepping up to help out at the Depot Garden, in preserving our history and archives, and all things to do with member engagement. I am looking forward to seeing everyone again this fall when our programs start in September. In the meantime, head up to Pearson’s Falls and enjoy our “gem”.

Beth Rounds

Upcoming Events
Exit Rd Ribbon Cutting: Plan to attend the June 17th celebration at 9:30 am at Pearson’s Falls.

Club Business
President: In addition to Beth Rounds statement at the top of page one, she reported on Marketing and Publicity for herself and Janet Peterson. Pearson’s Falls has received more five-star Google ratings and unfortunately, two one-star ratings. One person misunderstood that we don’t take new visitors past 5:00 pm in the summer. The other was on our “no pets” policies. Beth spoke with Andy, Bob and Virginia about the closing policy and has modified the Club’s social media to state that our closing is when the gatehouse closes – 5:00 p.m. As to pets, we’ve reiterated Service Dogs Only. Andy has also placed a new sign at the gatehouse that states our policy on pets. Both the PF website and rack cards have this information. Everyone will never be satisfied, but with the published information and staff, the Club will try to keep the public informed.

Upcoming events include the Exit Road Ribbon Cutting on June 17 at 9:30 am. Beth is coordinating with Janet and the Chamber on publicity. The Board and Exit Road committee members are invited, as well as Chamber staff and any contractors. The Chamber will create the article and pictures for the newspaper.

Secretary: Jackie Weedon reports that the Club has 47 new and renewing members paid in full for the 2021-2022 year. Jackie sent reminders on June 6 to 22 members who haven’t renewed. Three responded that they will not be renewing. A total of $700 has been received in donations from 12 members with their membership renewals. Jackie and Beth Rounds previously discussed making a Club yearbook that reflects our club. The board agreed that this year’s yearbook will not be prepared according to GCNC judging criteria. To do this requires a lot of work for a small award.

Treasurer: John James reported the Club will probably finish the year within 2021 budget (Budget year runs January through December). Overages in some areas will be covered by shortfalls in other areas. With the reorganized club structure complete, budget descriptions need to be adjusted. Money allocations are needed for Member Engagement, Office Supplies and tree work at PF.

Tax returns were reviewed and filed this month. If anyone is interested in looking at or discussing this report, please contact John.

Member Engagement Team: Denny Crow attended the board meeting Wednesday, June 9. The Annual Club Christmas Party date was set for Wednesday Dec. 15. President Beth Rounds suggested that the Club consider having the party at the new space at Tryon Fine Arts Center (TFAC), next to the
Library. It is a beautiful space and will accommodate our numbers easily. Special Events chair Nell Long will investigate the availability and the cost. Save the date December 15. More information about place and time will be forthcoming in September.

**The November Pearson’s Falls Anniversary**

Celebration/meeting, November 3 at 1 pm, will be handled by Joy Soderquist and the Archives committee. Hospitality will provide refreshments.

Beth Rounds and the Member Engagement Team are working on a theme that will run throughout the 2021-2022 programs.

**Outreach** is a chairmanship that is a part of Member Engagement. This position needs a written job description. Outreach isn’t just about recruiting new members, but is recruiting existing members to sign up for committees and leadership positions, too. It is also about being a liaison with the community.

**Pearson’s Falls**: Virginia Meador reported:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Visitors:</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>2,460</td>
<td>3,988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(closed 8 days)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year to Date</td>
<td>5,048</td>
<td>11,184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(closed 42 days)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gate Receipts</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>$10,185</td>
<td>$18,127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(closed 8 days)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year to Date</td>
<td>$20,566</td>
<td>$48,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(closed 42 days)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**New tables** with plaques are ready for use.

**Exit Road Gate** has been installed but a lock is needed. The fencing along the road front will be installed soon.

**Tree work** is needed and Andy Ruff is getting bids.

**Kudzu on Fork Creek Road**: An herbicide will need to be used because of the steep terrain. It doesn’t allow safe manual removal. An herbicide is needed that doesn’t kill fish. Virginia Meador and Andy Ruff are working with John Vining, and Brian Rogers and Ryan Searcy from the NC Forestry Department. The treatment time is May through early fall; unfortunately multiple applications will be needed.

(See also **From the PF Mist** on page 5.)

**Civic Beautification**: Jane Herman reports that Denise Barthold has been a godsend in the transition period as Jane assumes responsibility for the Depot Garden and the Civic Beautification Chair. They have met several times to familiarize Jane with the garden and exchange ideas.

---

**Work accomplished**: About 20 hours were spent this past month planting annuals and cleaning up (weeding...
and deadheading). Jane appreciates Denise, Linda Lovelace, and Kathleen Sousa’s dirty knees and gloves. They have been a big help in the garden. Jane will be contacting other committee members about becoming more involved in the Depot Garden and Civic Beautification.

**Tree work needed:** Last week Jane met with Zachary of Bartlett Tree Service to discuss the possibility of Bartlett Tree Service donating some tree pruning and an estimate for necessary non-gratuitous work. In addition, Zachary offered consultation and information regarding some diseased plants and options for dealing with the problems.

**Planning ahead:** Jane met with Juan Alvarez (from Carolina Pavers and Retaining Walls) to discuss pricing for some ongoing work (fall leaf removal, late winter mulching), as well as one-time projects (removing roots of the diseased climbing hydrangea, removing the middle lace cap begonia so the other 2 have room, etc.).

### Historical Tidbit

**Tryon Garden Club’s Herbarium/Garden House, 1952-1978:** To help TGC members get ready for the upcoming anniversary of the Club’s ownership of Pearson’s Falls and Glen, Historian Joy Soderquist and the Archival Committee had been putting together interesting facts about the Glen. The following is about the Herbarium and Oliver M. Freeman’s herbaria.

Elizabeth Webster President of the Tryon Garden Club from 1946-1952 encouraged her botanist friends, Oliver M. and Grace Freeman to retire to Tryon, NC. Freeman, a nationally known botanist, was curator of living plants at the National Arboretum in Washington DC. Freeman had a personal herbarium collection that he wanted to bring to Tryon but needed a suitable housing for it. Freeman wrote a proposal to the Club to build a Herbarium in close proximity to the newly constructed Holt Caretaker’s Cottage. In 1952 the TGC approved by ballot vote the construction of a fire and security proof Herbarium with an estimated cost of $4,300. In 1955 Freeman wrote: “Since 1952 when the Herbarium was established 5,880 collection numbers have been used which means that more than 5,000 specimens have been collected and identified. More than 1,200 of these have been mounted and filed in alphabetical order of the families.”

For 15 years Curator Freeman not only continued to collect and mount specimens with the help of Grace and TGC members but also exchanged specimens with botanists in other parts of the country. He gave lectures and conducted tours in the Glen for students and visiting clubs. In 1967 Freeman relocated to Mt. Dora, Florida for health reasons. The following years the TGC members had a difficult time protecting the Herbarium specimens from insect damage and providing proper climate control.

In 1972 Elizabeth Webster was instrumental in finding a suitable location for this Herbarium Collection of approximately 5,000 species. The TGC members voted to present it to the University of North Carolina in Asheville. The Pearson’s Falls Herbarium building was transformed into “The Garden House” in 1976-78 with funds donated by Club members Lillian and Robert Bacon. The bay windows and furnishings were added making it a more suitable space for meetings. This was the first of many improvements of the Garden House that have occurred over the years.

See Another Historical Tidbit on page 9

---

Left: Drawing of the TGC Herbarium, Jeanette Josey 1981.
Right: The Garden House today. Photo by Andy Ruff
Exit Road Project April 13-April 24, 2011. The Exit is closer to completion! Photos Left Top & Middle: The holes are dug for the Gate columns. Right Top & Middle: The Picnic area was expanded to accommodate two tables. The tables have been secured and the steps are almost complete. Bottom Left & Right: The signage. The entrance sign has been refurbished and put back in place good as new. Photos by Andy Ruff
From the Pearson’s Falls Mist

What’s Happening at Pearson’s Falls: Andy Ruff reports that May was a busy month! On Mother’s Day, Sunday, May 9 there were 262 guests. On Memorial Day Weekend there were record setting visitors, Saturday, May 29, 262; Sunday, May 30, 294; and Monday, May 31, 296 attendees. The glen was open all 31 May days—no closures.

Maintenance Report reads BUSY. Andy Ruff blew off trails, parking lots and roofs, installed parking bumpers (36 total), weedeated the entrance signs, the bus turnaround and the stinging nettle along the sidewalks and trail, chipped and trimmed branches on trails and around the parking area, inspected roofs, cleaned the ditches, moved compost, scrubbed/cleaned restrooms, extended the new picnic area, installed the new picnic tables, installed a culvert pipe in picnic area, updated and painted and installed the refurbished entrance sign.

May in Review—The Annual Meeting
New members honored at the Annual Meeting.
(Names on page 9)

More Pearson Falls
See Rock City – No...See Pearson’s Falls! A lovely retired couple from London, KY stopped by PF two weeks ago and got chatting with Gene and Andy. The Keenes found Pearson’s Falls a few years ago and come back for visit at least once a year. This couple loves our Glen so much that they had a digital print made of the falls and have affixed it to their Tear Drop camper. Beth Rounds spoke with Lynne Keenes and learned that since retiring from their education careers, they have traveled much of the U.S. with their camper and our PF pic! We couldn’t ask for better fans. Beth sent them 4 free passes, postcards and a bumper sticker.

Something to Celebrate
Bob Tobey inducted into the Second Wind Hall of Fame: At the Club’s Annual Meeting May 19 at FENCE, Bob Tobey, outgoing Pearson’s Fall Chair, was inducted into the Second Wind Hall of Fame. Incoming president Beth Rounds, Outgoing president Susan Kelley and Donna Southworth president of the SWHF made the presentation of the certificate of honor. Janet Peterson authored a very nice article in the Tryon Daily Bulletin May 23 about the presentation and about Bob’s service to the garden club and the community. Bob cares deeply about the Tryon area.
Exploring with Jim Welch

“I only went for a walk and finally concluded to stay out until sundown, for going out, I found out was really going in.”

John Muir, (1838-1914)
American Naturalist

There is not a day that I do not walk out the front door of our cabin to seek the quiet trails of Covington Woods, there to pause amid the tall white pines and yellow poplars and to be soothed and healed in a place where silence has lease. Hundreds of wildflowers and flowering shrubs and the fresh green lace of ferns show the way into the beckoning forest. Pink Lady Slippers, Catesby Trillium, Sweet Shrub and Mountain Laurels are in abundance with

violets, fire pink, galax spikes, and a congregation of delicate woodland flowers, in large and small numbers adding to the cacophony of colors.

I learned much of my appreciation of Nature from my mother in the green mountains of northern Vermont, and furthered this with the years I spent with Rudy Mancke during production of the NatureScene series. It was Sam and Eva Pratt, however, that taught me the names, both common and scientific, of the flora of our forest and gave me a deeper appreciation of all that I observe there.

Perhaps George Washington Carver (1864-1943) American botanist sums it up the best in his words,

“To those who have not yet learned the secret of true happiness, begin now to study the little things in your own back yard.”

Tryon Garden Club News June 2021
Editor: Donna Southworth, 828-286-4324, donnas.garden@aol.com
Member Outreach: Karen Hipp, 864-449-6807, thomashipp@att.net
Member Records: Jackie Weedon, 828-894-5970, weedon@windstream.net
Nurtured In Nature by Linda Eiserloh

Mr. Furry Pants Takes a Dip: It was the first beautiful day in spring in Illinois... I couldn’t resist opening up every door to have the fresh spring air flowing through the house after a long winter. The songs of birds came in with the fresh air and gave me a quiet joy which was suddenly interrupted by the sound of splashing water somewhere in the house. I checked the kitchen and the two bathrooms and then remembered that we had a jacuzzi full of water in the family room... it came with the house! I ran to check it and to my surprise there was a very wet and panicked squirrel IN the jacuzzi swimming hysterically from side to side. It was right next to the open door leading to the patio in the back so of course... the squirrel came in and probably fell into the jacuzzi looking for a drink of water.

The little guy was so panicked that when I came near one side of the jacuzzi he rapidly swam to the far side. I had a dust pan in my hand lowered into the water for him to climb on... but he didn’t get it! I tried a broom... still didn’t work! I began to feel his panic. I got a plastic pail with a handle and eventually was able to scoop him up with the water. The second he saw dry land he leaped out of the bucket and instead of going out the open door he ran up the stairs to the dining room/living room and ran in circles... panicked. I continually talked to him in a soft voice telling him to go out the front door. Suddenly he smelled air coming from the fireplace and so he ran into it looking for a way out. Of course there were ashes in there that we hadn’t gotten around to cleaning out. Remember, the squirrel was soaking wet from his head to his formerly fluffy tail. He got completely covered in ashes and THEN ran out into the living room doing more circles he covered the whole room. Of course.... there was WHITE carpeting ... it also came with the house... which we had just had cleaned. So we could see exactly where “Little Mr. Furry Pants” had been. He finally left the formerly white carpet and headed down the hall to three of the bedrooms. Now I was talking to him in a louder and more hysterical voice saying... “Go out the door. Go out the door”. I was able to close the doors on two rooms and the bathrooms, but Mr. F.P. had already gone into our son’s bedroom. Our son’s nickname that he still has in his forties was and is “Squirrel”!!!! I built a barrier of stuff about two feet high hoping to contain him and influence his pathway (“Come on... Linda... this is a squirrel!!!!!” FP had, of course, gone under the bed. I got the broom and tried to sweep him out. By now I was shouting... “Go out the door, Go out the door!” He gave me a look and then ran out the front door and up a tall tree. His friends are probably still teasing him about his most exciting adventure. I often wondered when I saw a squirrel in my yard if the was Mr. Furry Pants” and if he still wondered “ What in H... was THAT”!!! It probably seems like an unreal nightmare to him. He’s probably STILL in therapy.

National Garden Club Update

National has gone Digital: An email from Darene Honeycutt, Garden Club of North Carolina President, reports that the National Garden Clubs, Inc. has gone 100% digital. All contact with the organization must be done online.

For the Good of the Order

Magnolia Fraseri: Usually the flowers on the Magnolia fraseri are not this big and beautiful but on one of the three young trees by Jim Welches garage, this blossom was special! Photo and comment from the Pinnacle Falls, Zirconia, NC June 2020 Newsletter. Photo by: Jim Welch

Deer Safe Plants: Deer resistant plants are bulbs and perennials that deer usually will not eat, often because of the plant’s texture, toxicity, taste or fragrance. No plant is 100 percent deer proof. While deer usually prefer tender, smooth plants, like hostas, daylilies,
English ivy, fruits and clovers, they will eat deer resistant plants if they are hungry enough.

Selecting deer resistant perennials and bulbs, like daffodils, involves much the same process as choosing other flowers. First, evaluate your site and pick plants that will grow in your hardiness zone and in the light the site provides, such as full sun, partial shade or full shade. Next consider the plant's mature height and spread. Select plants with the flower or foliage color that you desire. Finally, take note of their bloom times.

If deer frequently visit your neighborhood, you can reduce the likelihood of the deer turning your garden into a buffet table by inter-planting deer resistant plants among your other bulbs and perennials or plant all deer resistant perennials and bulbs.

Even if planting deer resistant flowers, you must protect the young flowers when the plants are first establishing and have tender shoots. Use deer repellents for plants or cover with chicken wire.

Editor’s note: The source of this article has long been lost. It’s still good advice.

Van Bourgondien Company recently published a list of plants to plant that are deer resistant—not in any particular order:

- Astilbe
- Begonia
- Bleeding Heart
- Bletilla streata
- Brennera
- Calla lily
- Cardoon (Globe artichoke)
- Coladuims
- Colocasia esculenta
- ahoia
- Dahlia
- Echiacea
- Erynum
- Foxtail lily
- Gladiolus
- Hardy geranium
- Hellebores
- Japanese Iris
- Kniphofia
- Lupinus
- Oriental poppy
- Ornamental grass
- Ostrich Fern
- Oxalis Viangularis
- Peony
- Persicarea
- Polyphyllus (orchid)
- Poppies
- Ranunculus
- (Persian Buttercup)
- Sage
- Saponaria ocymoides
- Siberian iris
- Virginia blue bells

New Members Introduced at the Annual Meeting:

Pictured on page 6 are Susan Blake, Skip Crowe, Dave DeLancey, Richard McHenry, Eldred Hudson, Grady Nance, Sally Roden, Bob Rossier, Rosalie Rogersn, and Susan Taylor.

Not pictured are Kathleen Nance, Mary Chapman, and Will Kallberg.

Another Historical Tidbit

Photos At Pearson’s Falls

A fire of unknown origin caused considerable damage to the property at Pearson’s Falls. Many of the early spring blossoms were destroyed in the lower part of the glen, but the fire veered away before it reached the Lightner Ledge and the falls that left the major part unharmed.

At the time of writing the forest was still burning furiously higher up on the mountain and it is hoped that the wind will keep it away from the falls.

There is a strong probability that a careless picnic party was responsible for leaving their fire burning in one of the fire-places. It is lamentable that people can be so grossly negligent in so small a thing as putting out their picnic fire. Wont they realize that a tiny spark, even from a cigarette can do untold damage to wild flower beauty—precious timber and to wild animals and bird life.—Conducted.

Thanks John Vining for this interesting tidbit of historical significance. From the Tryon Daily Bulletin, Wednesday, April 8, 1942.

Quote of the month: “A Garden includes so much more than plants. The entire environment can bring together a design and make it a more inviting place to spend time.” Jennifer Leight, Editor Harden Hacks

Tryon Garden Club News June 2021
Editor: Donna Southworth, 828-286-4324, donnas.garden@aol.com
Member Outreach: Karen Hipp, 864-449-6807, thomashipp@att.net
Member Records: Jackie Weedon, 828-894-5970, weedon@windstream.net