

The Clod-Hopper



Volume 35 Edition 11 Gardeners of Wake County, Inc. – Raleigh, NC

November 2016

November Speaker – Chris Glenn



JC Raulston Arboretum is a magical place. The late JC Raulston, a near legendary figure in horticulture, founded the arboretum in 1976 to “introduce, display, and promote plants that diversify the American landscape.” Visiting the arboretum is like taking a botanical tour around the world.

You see interesting plants from a wide variety of environments that are growing well right here in Raleigh, NC.

Chris Glenn is the programs and education coordinator at the JC Raulston Arboretum. It’s a position that he’s held for 17 years. He’s worked for every director other than J. C. Raulston and has seen many changes through the years. Chris coordinates the adult/lifelong education program at the Arboretum and coordinates many of the annual programs. He’s expanded the education program from one that mostly offered lectures to one that offers classes, courses, tours, trips, workshops, demonstrations, conferences, symposia, and educational opportunities for professionals in addition to offering lectures (now three lecture series).

In addition, Chris has a variety of other responsibilities. He’s the editor and creator for the Arboretum’s educational publications (Friends of the JC Raulston Arboretum Newsletter, JCRA e-Update, etc.). As the JCRA’s Web site administrator, he’s worked on several versions of the Arboretum’s Web site and has greatly added to the site’s features. One of the Arboretum’s primary goals is to share as much information as possible and much of that is done through the Web site. For instance, the Arboretum’s Web site includes every newsletter issue, detailed information about all of their plants, over 270,000 photographs, hundreds of hours of lecture and tour videos, and much more. And, he provides technical support to JCRA staff, volunteers, and visitors.

Chris received his B. S. in horticulture and floriculture in 1992 from Texas A&M University. He was the first known student at A&M to graduate with this double major which was the result of taking an extra horticulture class every semester. He graduated with a 4.0 GPA in his horticulture classes. In 1999, Chris received his Master’s degree from NC State University - also in horticultural science. His first professional horticultural experiences were two internships at the Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando. While working on his Master’s degree, he worked at Atlantic Avenue Lawn and Garden Center (now Atlantic Avenue Orchid and Garden where he was their perennials department manager for the majority of his ten years there.

Chris’ talk to the garden club will focus on the ways we can take advantage of what the arboretum offers to make us smarter and better in being involved in our favorite activity.

CLUB MEETINGS

Meetings are at 7:30pm at the JC Raulston Arboretum every 3rd Tuesday. Refreshments at 7:00 pm. On Nov 15, Christopher Todd Glenn will be talking about Arboretum Helps for the Home Gardener.

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BOARD MEMBERS

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 Treasure **Norman LaRusch**
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 Charlotte Newby Raleigh

Moonlight in the Garden – JC Raulston



November 11 and 12 from 6:00-9:00 the Arboretum will be hosting a Moonlight in the Garden event. Thousands of luminaries will guide your way through this artistic lighting display courtesy of our friends at Southern Lights of Raleigh, Inc.

Kelly Francis fireflies will greet you from the live oaks at our front gate, setting the creative flavor of the exhibit ahead. Warm cider, fire pits, food trucks, and live entertainment will delight your senses as you stroll the garden enjoying a crisp November evening and the magic of a nighttime garden.

On November 4th we're planning a magical autumn evening for our members - a catered affair with scrumptious heavy hors d'oeuvres, along with beer and wine. On general admission nights dinner items will be available for purchase from the flavorful line up of food trucks.

Don't miss this chance to explore the JC Raulston Arboretum after dark! It's the first time in over a decade that we've opened our gates for an evening stroll.

Entertainment and Food Truck Line Up – Remaining Dates:

November 11 – Andrew Chastain and American Meltdown
 November 12 – Cicada Rhythm and Chirba Chirba

Cost: Public nights: \$10.00 for members, \$15.00 for nonmembers, and \$5.00 for children under 12.

Registration: Tickets are available online, in advance at the JC Raulston Arboretum (reception desk in the Ruby C. McSwain Education Center), and at the pedestrian gate during event hours. The last tickets will be sold at 8:30 PM each evening.

Cancellation: All ticket sales are final. No refunds are available for this event, but tickets can be transferred to another night as long as a written request (via email to eepeters@ncsu.edu) is received three business days prior to the event. This event is rain or shine.

Gardening Ideas – Laine Thomas

Three weeks ago we took a walk at Hemlock Bluff Nature Preserve in Cary. It is absolutely beautiful! There are five trails, about a mile each, with many overlooks and boardwalks along a stream. All of the paths are covered in deep wood chips so they feel squishy and soft under your feet. Steven loved this idea so he decided to do the same thing with all of our paths through the garden. Our local arborist, Leaf & Limb, agreed to deliver a truckload of woodchips for free. The truck that arrived was absolutely gigantic!! They dumped a pile of chipped juniper that was two car lengths across and about 10 feet tall. We spent the better part of two weeks hauling wood chips. Our garden paths are soft and beautiful and the whole garden smells like Christmas. I do wonder whether a mass of ever-green woodchips will affect the soil and surrounding plants. But we are experimental gardeners, so we will learn something either way.



***Sculpture in the Garden*, North Carolina Botanical Garden, Chapel Hill. ncbg.unc.edu.**



Through December 11, *Sculpture in the Garden* showcases dozens of original works by North Carolina sculptors throughout the Garden, exquisitely illuminating the bond between art and nature. Stop by the Garden to view this exhibit. Better yet, stop by a few times to see how nature's changing backdrop brings new perspectives to each piece throughout the season. Free. 919-962-0522.

Gardeners of Wake County Awards Banquet

December 13, 2016

Cash bar from 6:00 to 7:00 with cocktail snack of mixed nuts and cheese straws.

Buffet dinner beginning at 7:00 with club awards and program to follow.

Salads:

Tossed salad with dressings Fruit salad Pasta salad

Entrees:

Broiled garlic and butter shrimp London broiled with mushroom sauce Turkey and dressing

Vegetables:

Lemon asparagus Sugar snaps and red peppers

Starches:

Parsley potatoes

Desserts:

Chocolate cake Key lime pie

Coffee, tea and water

Rolls and butter

Price:

\$20.00 per club member \$20.00 per first club member's guest \$40.00 per additional guest

Location:

NC State University Club across Hillsborough Street from the JC Raulston Arboretum.

DEADLINE FOR SIGNING UP OR REQUEST FOR REFUND IS DECEMBER 1, 2016

Norman LaRusch

106 Thresher Court
Cary NC 27513

Membership Renewal

It is hard tracking everyone down and getting membership renewed. Please help Barbara out by bringing her a check or the membership dues and making sure she has all your membership information updated. Thanks!! The membership application is attached for your convenience.

Membership Application

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (h) _____ (w) _____ (cell) _____

Email _____ Occupation _____
(if retired, state former occupation)

Gardening Special Interests _____

Hobbies _____

Membership dues are \$30 for individuals and \$45 for families in the 2017 Calendar Year. Make checks payable to Gardeners of Wake County. Mail application and check to:

Barbara Brown, Membership Chairman
517 Wyndham Drive
Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526-7706