



Sandhills
Horticultural Gardens

The Bloomin' News

Sandhills Community College

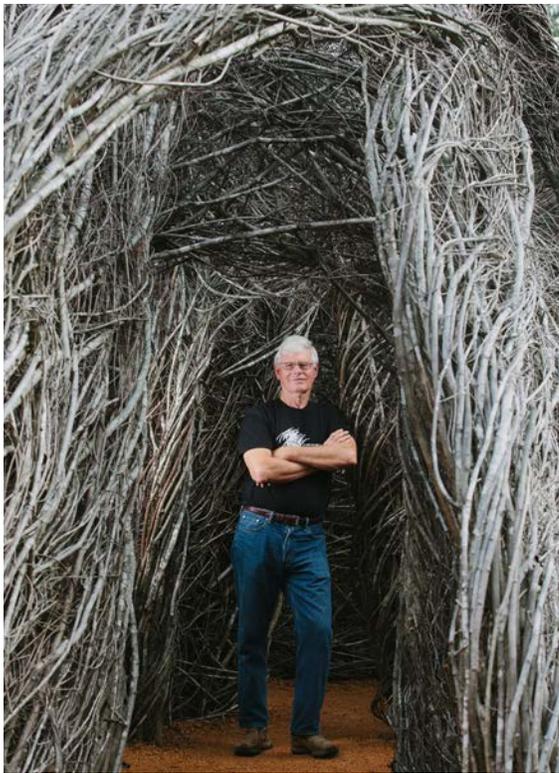
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Winter 2020

*The Sandhills Horticultural Society - dedicated to the support of the Sandhills Horticultural Gardens since 1987.
Please help the Gardens grow by becoming a Society member.*

Patrick Dougherty

Sandhills Community College and the Sandhills Horticultural Society are honored and thrilled to announce that in early June, 2021, the world-renown



Patrick Dougherty

artist with Sandhills roots, Patrick Dougherty, will be on campus to install one of his unique sapling sculptures. The sculpture is planned for placement on the lawn behind the Ball Visitors Center during the first three weeks of the month.

Patrick Dougherty was born in Oklahoma but grew up in Southern Pines, where he roamed the woods as a child. In the early 1980's his love of nature, his evolving knowledge of primitive building techniques, and his carpentry skills combined to create a unique artistic form—he began to build sculptures using tree saplings as his material.

In 1982, his first work, Maple Body Wrap, was included in the NC Biennial Artists' Exhibition,

sponsored by the NC Museum of Art. The next year, he held his first one-person show, Waitin' It Out in Maple, at the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art in Winston-Salem. These early single pieces were conventional, pedestal-mounted works, but his vision quickly evolved into monumental-scale environmental works. These required saplings by the truckload.

Over the last thirty years, he has completed over 300 temporary, sight-specific works. He has achieved international acclaim, and his art can be seen across the United States and worldwide—from Japan to Brussels. Locally, his work is featured at the Cape Fear Botanical Gardens in Fayetteville, the NC Museum of Life and Science in Durham, and the Sarah P. Duke Gardens at Duke University.

Mr. Dougherty resides in Chapel Hill. He holds a BA in English from UNC Chapel Hill and an MA in Hospital and Health Administration from the University of Iowa. He also engaged in post-graduate work at the UNC Chapel Hill Art Department. He is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship and a grant from the Pollock-Krasner Foundation in New York.

He is the author of *Stickwork*, an artist's monograph published by Princeton Architectural Press in



2008 Catawampus: Los Angeles Arboretum and Botanic Gardens, Arcadia CA, Photo: Michelle Gerdes



2009, and his work and career are featured in books published in France, Italy, and Germany. Over sixty periodical articles featuring his sculptures have appeared in American publications ranging from local newspapers to national-circulation magazines. The Sandhills Horticultural Society is delighted that he has agreed to add, on its grounds, an example of his impressive and unique environmental art. His work can be enjoyed on the website: www.stickwork.net.

The Sandhills Horticultural Society is seeking funds to assist with the installation. Donors may make checks to The SCC Foundation/Dougherty Project and mail them to 3395 Airport Road, Pinehurst, NC 28374: Attention Germaine Elkins.



1997 Savannah
College of Art and
Design,
Savannah GA
Photo: Wayne Moore

Preparing Your Garden for Spring Vegetable Planting

Johanna Westmen

Some of my favorite vegetables come from spring planting. Lettuces, radishes, carrots and peas come to mind when I think of spring vegetables. There are many more vegetables that can thrive in your spring garden with just a little bit of planning and preparation.

If you planted some type of cover crop this fall, you need to till that crop under about the first week in January. This will give your garden time to break down some of the plant material before you actually begin planting. If you did not plant a cover crop, you can go ahead and till or turn over your garden at this point. If you have done a soil test you have a general idea of the pH of and can use this opportunity to put some lime out, if needed. Most of the native soil in our region has a relatively low pH so even without a soil test, you can rest assured that some application of lime will be needed if none has been made recently. Even though it can take as long as three to six months for the lime to react, this application can adjust your pH for any future plantings in this garden. If you are tilling to prepare for planting, it is also the time to add any amendments such as compost so that it can be mixed in with your garden soil. Depending upon the type of soil you have, organic matter can help increase nutrient retention and water retention.

Once you have tilled, limed and added any amendments you are ready to begin thinking about the design of your garden. The design is going



to be determined by the type of vegetables you are planting in the spring. If you plan to grow garden peas, you will need some type of structure for them to twine and grow upon. There are varieties that can be grown as bush type as well, so be sure to look for them when you are ordering if your garden is not big enough to support some type of structure. Planting seed crops such as carrots and radishes will require a seed bed that is relatively smooth and debris free so these small seeds will germinate without difficulty. Other crops such as lettuces and broccoli, which can be purchased as small plants, will not be as particular as those of seeded crops.

There are many wonderful spring vegetable crops that we can grow here in the Sandhills. Ones that I have grown in the past and have been successful with are potatoes, peas, carrots, radishes, lettuce, onions, kale, spinach, cabbage, and kohlrabi. Others (that I have not been too successful at) are beets, cauliflower and rutabaga. That doesn't mean you are not able to grow them - it means I need advice from those of you that have been successful!! So, please, send me your secrets and I will be glad to share mine with you as well.

Winter Garden Tips

- Winter is a great time to plant trees and shrubs to become more established before summer heat.
- Now is the best time to take soil samples and send through your cooperative extension service for testing.
- Recycle your Christmas tree and other greenery into a wildlife habitat.
- Remember to prune your fruit trees and grapes this winter.

*Happy
Gardening!*

Landscape Gardening Instruction in the Age of COVID 19

Hilarie Blevins

As I write this article, Thanksgiving is just around the corner and the world has been adjusting to the new normal of the last eight months. Let's face it – we all can agree that nothing is normal. Over this time period, I've been asked time and again how in the world we are educating students in a curriculum that is dependent on hands on learning and face to face interaction. All I can say is where there's will, there's a way.

In early March, just like every other educational institution in America, we went to total virtual learning. I'll be honest, the learning curve was steep for students and faculty alike. Positive attitudes and lots of patience saw us through. Virtual learning continued through the summer semester. I think that we have all become much more tech savvy through this experience. We have learned to facilitate virtual meetings, become experts on YouTube and have learned to look for creative "classroom" resources to supplement the virtual experience.



I would like to give a huge THANK YOU to the faculty, staff, and volunteers for doing their best to maintain the Gardens and facilities while students were learning remotely. This is no small feat as our Gardens rely on student learning for maintenance. Due to these efforts the Gardens have remained open to the public for the duration of the COVID 19 experience. We have seen an enormous influx of visitors. For this, we are thankful.

As August and the fall semester rolled around, we looked optimistically towards the future and the possibility of having student back on campus. Social distancing requirements reduced our classroom capacities and a few classes became hybrid BUT we could move forward and have

students on campus. We have strict mask wearing guidelines in place on campus and our maintenance department is taking sanitation very seriously. What a joy to have students back in our building and in the gardens! The reunion was amazing. Students seem to have missed us as much as we have missed them. Fingers crossed that we can maintain this level of connectedness throughout the spring.



As always, any contributions to the Sandhills Horticultural Gardens will help us with these upgrades and continued improvement of the Gardens.

Thank you for your support.



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Find us on:

 SCC Landscape Gardening, Horticultural Society & Horticultural Gardens

 scc_landscape_gardening

A Gift That Keeps On Giving

Your gift of a Sandhills Horticultural Society membership includes a FREE subscription to Better Homes and Gardens magazine. In addition to BH&G a membership includes many more on-going benefits. Such as . . .

- Free Garden Seminars
- A discount at the student's spring and fall plant sales
- Access to Horticultural Trips
- Bloomin' News quarterly newsletter
- Use of the Ball Garden Visitors Center for garden related events
- Reciprocal admission to over 200 gardens throughout North America
- A member discount on Horticultural Society workshops and programs
- Continuing educational opportunities

The most important benefit of membership is support of the Sandhills Horticultural Gardens. Membership dues and Society sponsored programs provide the funds required for the planned development and maintenance of the Gardens.

Gift Membership Information 2020-2021

Name of Membership Recipient _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email Address _____

Please make checks payable to: SCC – Sandhills Horticultural Society.

____ Individual \$25.00 ____ Family \$45.00 ____ Individual Life \$350.00

Buyer's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email Address _____

Enclosed is a check in the amount of _____

We will send a card to acknowledge your special gift. Message you want included:

Mail to:

Sandhills Community College, Attn: Ginny Ferguson, 3395 Airport Road,
Pinehurst NC 28374