

S A V A N N A H
T R E E
F O U N D A T I O N
F A L L 2 0 0 2

Trees and
Stormwater
Management
Symposium

January 30-31, 2003

Conference Information, Pg. 3

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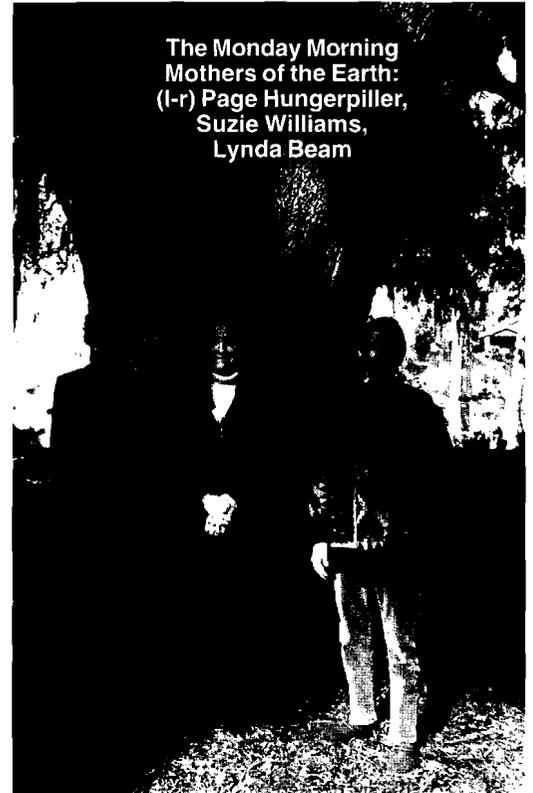
TWENTY YEARS OF TREES

Twenty years ago significant clear-cutting preceding the development of apartments along White Bluff Road moved three Savannah Ladies to decide they had to take action to protect the trees along this corridor and throughout the city. Later dubbed the "Monday Morning Mothers of the Earth" in honor of their preferred meeting time, Page Hungerpiller (who provided us with an oral history on which this article is based and who is quoted throughout), Suzie Williams and Lynda Beam didn't know that twenty years later the organization they set in motion would have over three hundred members, two full-time staff, and a significant list of accomplishments (see Twenty STF Achievements, pg. 4). They only knew that they were devastated at the destruction happening along the road that they had driven their whole lives and that they were going to do something about it.

The ladies, though passionate about trees, knew they "must be credible." While undertaking early STF activities (including incorporating the Foundation, securing the safety of the Candler Oak via a conservation easement, and helping to bring Project Learning Tree area schools) they studied, researched and learned from every source they could find. After ten years of researching and studying tree protection methods, stewardship and tree ordinances from other cities, they "marched in" to see then County Commission Chairman Tom Coleman. He "thanked them kindly," but said that his outbound commission could not pass a tree ordinance without study by the Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC).

A directive was sent for the MPC to study tree protection and Planned Unit Developments (PUDs). A committee of developers, our founders, and other appropriate people was formed, and made recommendations that formed the basis for the first tree protection ordinances. "That gave us a toe in the door" that provided a basis for the Foundation's relationship with the various groups charged with oversight of Chatham County's public trees.

The proposed widening of White Bluff Road was the catalyst that spurred early advocacy efforts by STF. Serving on the MPC committee was an empowering experience. The ladies went to work advocating the preservation of Georgia's



The Monday Morning Mothers of the Earth: (l-r) Page Hungerpiller, Suzie Williams, Lynda Beam

oldest road at the local and state level. Page ferreted out the name of the contractor who was to do the construction, called him and asked him if "he wouldn't move the job down his project list" to give them more time to gain support for a design that would save existing canopy trees and allow planting of others. The developer could not resist their appeal and allowed the Foundation time to successfully lobby for a raised median that provided room for existing and future trees. This configuration continues to be the model STF urges for thoroughfare construction in Chatham County. (See Twenty Exemplary Roads, pg. 7.)

The Monday Morning Mothers (and Associates) Move On

Page, Suzie and Lynda have ceded their board positions with STF to a new generation of leadership but they continue to guide the organization in spirit. Their example of strong concern, knowledgeable policy suggestions, and forceful personal contact to advocate the intelligent, practicable treatment of our urban forest is invaluable as STF moves toward another twenty years working for the preservation, nurturing, and planting of canopy trees in our community.

Ceremony at Candler Oak December 7th Part of Series of Events Celebrating Twenty Years of Trees

The Whitmarsh Island tree planting (see story and pictures pg. 6) was the first event of a series that will continue until April. The events are being undertaken to highlight our twenty years of service to Savannah's urban forest and to issue a rallying cry to members of the community to take part in the next twenty. Other events planned are:

- **The Anniversary Observance at the Candler Oak, December 7th.** Among the first accomplishments of STF was securing a conservation easement for the protection of the Candler Oak, the grandest live oak in the historic district. Since receiving the easement in 1985, STF has, with assistance from the Candler/St. Joseph's Health System, provided the care needed to bring the 275-year-old tree back to good health. The observance will be held at 11:00AM, and will be followed by a guided Tree Walk across the street in Forsyth Park.
- **Stormwater Tree Planting, Baker Street, December 14.** This planting will be a cooperative effort between STF, the City of Savannah Park and Tree Department, the City of Savannah Stormwater Department, the Savannah Park and Tree Commission and neighborhood volunteers. Due to the frequent flooding of the houses there, the site was purchased by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The property was cleared and deeded to the City. This planting will demonstrate how properly placed trees assist engineered stormwater management solutions through canopy intercept, through absorption via the roots, and by conditioning the soil for greater absorptive capacity.
- **Trees and Stormwater Management Symposium, January 30-31, 2003,** Coastal Georgia Center for Continuing Education. See article, facing page.
- **Publication of the State of the Trees IV Report, early 2003.** Following in the footsteps of its three predecessors, this report will offer an assessment of how well our forest is doing. This edition will also suggest a straightforward vision for members of the community interested in working for the perpetuation of the urban forest canopy in Savannah/Chatham County. Look for the report early in the new year.
- **Arbor Week lecture by Reid Ewing,** a nationally known urbanist, who will speak on Savannah's growth, how we can plan to give our growth a more human scale in keeping with the qualities that make this city so livable, and how part of that equation will involve the consideration of trees as part of the city's infrastructure. Mr. Ewing's presentation will be held Tuesday, February 18, 2003. (Georgia's Arbor Day is Friday, February 21, 2003.)
- **Tybee Island Tree Planting, February 8, 2003.** Volunteers will plant oaks at the Jaycee Park, the Lighthouse, and Memorial Park.
- **More Stormwater Tree Plantings, March 2003.** The City has over ten more FEMA sites on which it will be installing trees. STF will partner on these plantings.
- **Pruning and mulching workshops at the Historic Savannah Foundation Garden Expo, April 4-5, 2003.**

For more information on any of these events, please contact our office at (912) 233-8733 or savstf@aol.com.



In the beginning:
Ceremony held in honor of STF's receiving easement on Candler Oak (1985)

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

In 1731 Alexander Pope wrote his famous "verse epistle" to Lord Burlington advising his friend in regard to the scope and design of his vast estate. He admonishes him to "consult the *genius* of the *place* ..."

Page Hungerpiller, "the tree lady," did exactly that in founding the Savannah Tree Foundation twenty years ago. She considered the *genius* of this place, defined most definitely by our massive but threatened tree canopy, and set out with some like-minded comrades to preserve and guard this most precious but dwindling resource.

Urban forestry was a newly defined concept in those days. Twenty years later it is an accepted and highly regarded science and one which we have attempted to understand and embrace. We have made a concerted effort over the years to educate ourselves, our members, and our policy makers of its importance, and you have consistently and generously supported our efforts.

This newsletter celebrates our twenty years, highlights our past accomplishments and alerts you to some of our coming events. Although we are proud of our history we realize that we have only scratched the surface.

There is much work to do for which we need your support. Please help us to do all we can to preserve and enhance our valuable urban forest, for it is "the *genius* of the *place*..."

Many thanks,

JULIA S. WHITE

Savannah Tree Foundation

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20 REASONS TO PLANT TREES

1. Trees are beautiful. (See, *Twenty Favorite Trees*, pg. 4.)
2. Trees provide shade and reduce temperature in the urban landscape.
3. Trees mitigate the heat island effect.
4. Trees reduce the use of energy and, as a result, lower the cost of air conditioning and heating.
5. Trees absorb ultra-violet radiation and carbon dioxide.
6. Trees return oxygen to the atmosphere and improve air quality.
7. Tree canopy catches and holds rain water, reducing the intensity of the flow to the ground. (This is called "canopy intercept.")
8. Tree roots stabilize soil and absorb water, thus reducing both siltation and the flow of water into canals and sewers.
9. Trees enhance the ability of the soil to absorb rain water, improving infiltration and mitigating stress on engineered drains—one study shows *10,886 tons of soil saved annually with trees in a medium sized city.*)
10. Trees filter atmospheric particulate matter. *One sugar maple, one foot in diameter, along a roadside removes in one growing season 60mg cadmium, 140 mg chromium, 820 mg nickel and 5200mg lead from the environment.*
11. Trees increase property values. *Tree amenity values are part of real estate prices.*
12. Trees reduce noise. *Trees provide "white noise," the noise leaves and branches make in the wind and associated natural sounds, that mask man-caused sounds.*
13. Trees soften the hard edges of an urban landscape.
14. Trees provide a wholesome atmosphere to aid learning and productivity.
15. Trees reduce stress and help in the healing process. Some studies show that *stressed individuals recuperate faster when viewing tree filled images.*
16. Trees serve as windbreaks, which reduce effective wind speeds.
17. Trees aid in blocking and reflecting light, which reduces eye strain.
18. Trees provide habitat for living creatures.
19. Trees provide food.
20. Trees provide marketable products.

Note: Text in italics has been taken verbatim from "Identified Benefits of Community Trees and Forests," an article by Dr. Kim Coder, Professor, Silvics/Ecology, Warnell School of Forest Resources, The University of Georgia. Coder references: "Consolidating and Communicating Urban Forest Benefits," a white paper by the Davey Resource Group.

STF to Host Trees and Stormwater Management Symposium

**A Symposium for Developers, Builders,
Engineers, Policymakers, and Regulators**

Thursday, January 30 & Friday, January 31, 2003

Coastal Georgia Center • Savannah, Georgia

\$75 per person • Continuing education credits will be available

The conference will feature presentations on the role of trees in stormwater management, both the quantification of benefits associated with this concept as well as case studies illustrating how this has been incorporated into specific types of developments.

Presenters will include: representatives from local governments (representing stormwater utility managers, engineering departments, park and tree departments); landscape architects; developers; and nationally recognized experts in the field of Low Impact Development.

The workshop will help Chatham County meet its educational and public outreach requirements of its Phase II National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems.

STF would like to thank the Sapelo Island National Estuarine Research Reserve, the City of Savannah, and the Chatham-Savannah MPC for their sponsorship.

A workshop flyer with registration information material will be mailed shortly after this newsletter. You can also call or e-mail our office for more information:
(912) 233-8733; savstf@aol.com.

Twenty Favorite Trees

***We'd like your help in creating
the best list possible***

We polled our board members for their twenty favorite trees and received some great suggestions. Still, with deadlines bearing down on us and the thought in our minds that this list might be the beginnings of a wonderful "virtual tree tour" on our web site (we are in the process of developing the site—look for it in the new year) we would like to hear suggestions from you, our members and interested readers.

The list we got, as you might expect, was a little oak heavy, so we hope you can help us round out the list with some suggestions of other beauties. (If you have favorite oaks, we want to know about those, too.) Also, the trees need not be "specimen" trees but perhaps could be trees of historic, personal, or other interest.

As a "for instance" of other approaches to thinking about favorite trees, I offer the following story. I recently attended the GUFC Annual Meeting in Decatur. The conference, which had as its theme *Bridging the Divide* [between Developers and Tree People], was excellent. There was great information and it is inspiring to be in the company of so many bright people who have chosen to dedicate themselves to urban forestry.

While there, I attended a reception at which attendees were asked to name their favorite trees. There were lots of oaks. (Since many of the arborists were from up-country, there were many Red Oaks and White Oaks, in addition, of course, to the live oak.) There were personal favorites listed. But the richly deserving prize winner was:

"MY FAVORITE TREE IS THE NEXT ONE I PLANT."

There's a thought to live by.

Frank McIntosh

A Walk in the Park

STF Board Updated on City Trees

This past spring, STF board members gathered in Forsyth Park for a briefing by City Park and Tree Arborists Bill Haws and Kevin Brown.

Key points brought out in the session were:

- The City's GIS-driven update of its tree inventory is about halfway complete. With over 100,000 trees on City property, this is a huge undertaking. The survey is looking at street frontage and parks first.
- A master replanting plan has been developed with species lists on a street by street basis. It is being implemented neighborhood by neighborhood. A significant part of the process is ensuring neighborhood cooperation.
- Hazard tree removal is based on a point system, with location being the highest factor. (The opportunity to cause harm is the most defining element of a hazard tree.) Great care is taken to provide advance notification of removal to ensure that people are adequately informed of reasons for removal.
- The City's young tree program is planting

1,100 trees a year, with two years' intensive after care—feeding, mulching and watering. Over 2,000 trees will be in the intensive care phase at any point. Mortality has declined from 40-50% a year at its worst to around 3% a year, much of which is due to vandalism.

- Savannah's forest is live oak "heavy." The City is working to enhance diversity of the forest as a defense against the horrifying possibility that some pathogen specific to live oaks should arrive in the city. Among particularly successful additions are the lace bark elm and the nuttall oak (a deciduous species native to Alabama.)
- The City is at work revising and upgrading its Tree Protection Ordinance, including ways to ensure protection during City projects.
- 65% of limb failures in the city apply to sweet gums. Part of this is due to excessive "fruit loads" which may not be an issue with future fruitless varieties being developed. (The fruit is the "balls" that make navigation so interesting on some of our streets.)
- The City has been recognized for its efforts—Georgia Forestry rated Savannah the number one Tree City in



Dale Thorpe introduces Kevin Brown and Bill Haws to STF board members

Georgia. Savannah has been a Tree City USA since 1985 and has received growth awards in 7 of the last 8 years.

- Canopy sites in many areas are just about "planted out" so the City is doing understory plantings for seasonal interest.
- The City Tree Partnership Fund which allows citizens to add a payment to their water/sewer bill has raised about \$10,000 to date.

Bill Haws remarked that he felt that one of the real reasons for the success of forestry in Savannah was the "unbelievable" levels of support by citizens. He urged everyone to "keep on doing what you're doing."

TWENTY STF ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Secured ownership of 6,500 square foot conservation easement for the Candler Oak, the largest Live Oak in the Historic District. Smallest easement in the nation, first for a tree, and recognized in the *Land Trust Exchange* "1985 National Survey of Government and Non-Profit Easement Programs." STF provides ongoing care program for the tree (1984.) Added to the Georgia Landmark & Historic Tree Register (2001).
2. Sponsored and funded Project Learning Tree Environmental Program workshop, with American Forestry Association, for Chatham County and private school teachers. A pilot curriculum project for the State of Georgia (1983).
3. Advocacy at state and local levels, during road widening projects, for protection and preservation of existing live oaks and with a median for future planting spaces on the historic White Bluff Road, from DeRenne to Windsor Forest (1984).
4. Leadership roles in drafting, approval, implementation, and in re-drafting tree protection ordinances for city and county.
5. First in the nation to produce a "State of the Trees" Report to guide urban forest policy and practices at a municipal level (1992). "State of the Trees II" (1994) and "State of the Trees III" (1998) followed.
6. Sponsored nation's first use of satellite imaging to document and analyze cause and rate of tree canopy change for an urban area (1993).

7. STF among 32 U.S. non-profit tree organizations invited to attend two organizational meetings in Washington DC, for President G.H.W. Bush's "America the Beautiful" Tree Planting Program (1990).
8. Successful advocacy, with city government for developing Master Plans for Daffin Park (1993-1994), to preserve and protect live oak trees, and for 53 wooded acres of Bacon Park (1994-1996.) This resulted in relocation of a proposed soccer complex (1994-1996). Bacon Park received a special designation as a passive park, with restrictive development and use criteria.
9. Secured grant funding for a historical-archeological study and a GIS based ecological analysis of Bacon Park Forest.
10. Partnership and funding with City to provide a staff professional in Park and Tree Department to produce a Tree Inventory and Master Street Tree Plan.
11. First to develop Urban Forest Component in county-wide Disaster Management Plan that serves as a model for the USDA Forest Service. STF organized and hosted a workshop by USDA Forest Service for City, County, and MPC personnel on Hurricane Planning for the Urban Forest. STF president invited to make presentation at Mid-Atlantic regional conference on Disaster Planning.
12. Yearly citizen volunteer tree plantings for city and county parks and public rights of way that demonstrate importance of and correct methods of planting trees. Periodic surveys of all trees planted, evaluation and recording of condition of each tree, numbering over one thousand.

13. Periodic mulching and pruning workshops for county staff and general public.
14. Successful advocacy to keep damaging Christmas lighting from being installed in live oaks in downtown squares (1989) and Daffin Park (1997).
15. Partnership with Chatham County to retree the widened portion of Waters Avenue between Stephenson and Montgomery Cross Roads. STF secured permission from property owners to plant trees in public easement.
16. Served on delegation with Chatham County officials who met with Georgia D.O.T. officials in Atlanta, to advocate for improving road building criteria for better tree protection during construction in Chatham County.
17. Member Chatham County Tree Coalition (1993 - 2000), formed under auspices of Union Camp Corporation, and responsible for distribution of numerous hardwood trees grown by Union Camp for placement on public spaces. Now responsible for distribution of trees grown by International Paper.
18. Participated in forming Georgia Urban Forest Council; board representatives for many years.
19. Provided educational programs with local, regional and national speakers on tree care, planting and urban forest topics for homebuilders, developers, landscape architects, government staff and officials, students and the general public.
20. Developed a "Tree Walk" for Forsyth Park and the Candler Oak, giving history of Savannah's urban forest, tree identification. Conducted for groups on request.

T W E N T Y T H O U G H T S O N T R E E S

1. *The best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago. The second best is now.*
ANONYMOUS

2. *The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn.*
RALPH WALDO EMERSON

3. *To exist as a nation, to prosper as a state, and to love as a people, we must have trees.*
THEODORE ROOSEVELT

4. *By means of trees, wildlife could be conserved, pollution decreased, and the beauty of many landscapes enhanced. This is the way, or at least one of the ways, to spiritual, moral, and cultural regeneration.*
E.F. SCHUMACHER

5. *The eastern United States is probably the greatest meeting place of people and forests in the world. The region is two-thirds forested but, at the same time, heavily populated.*
LEON S. MINCKLER

6. *A man does not plant a tree for himself. he plants it for posterity.*
ALEXANDER SMITH

7. *If a tree dies, plant another in its place.*
LINNAEUS



8. *You will find something more in the woods than in books. Trees and stones will teach you that which you can never learn from masters.*
ST. BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX

9. *There is something nobly simple and pure in a taste for the cultivation of forest trees.*
WASHINGTON IRVING

10. *People who will not sustain trees soon live in a world which cannot sustain people.*
BRYCE NELSON

11. *Civilization begins when we plant trees in whose shade we know we will never sit.*
ANONYMOUS

12. *The tree which moves some to tears of joy is in the eyes for others only a green thing which stands in the way.*
WILLIAM BLAKE

13. *The groves were God's first temples.*
WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT

14. *In the woods we return to reason and faith.*
RALPH WALDO EMERSON

15. *He that plants trees loves others besides himself.*
ENGLISH PROVERB

16. *What glorious sunsets have their birth In cities fouled by smoke! This tree—whose roots are in a drain Becomes the greenest oak!*
WILLIAM HENRY DAVIES

17. *No Shade tree? Blame not the sun, but blame yourself.*
CHINESE PROVERB

18. *God has cared for these trees, saved them from drought, disease, avalanches and a thousand straining, leveling tempests and floods; but he cannot save them from fools."*
JOHN MUIR

19. *I think that I shall never see A billboard lovely as a tree. Perhaps, unless the billboards fall I'll never see a tree at all.*
OGDEN NASH

20. *Trees are sanctuaries. Whoever knows how to speak to them, whoever knows how to listen to them, can learn the truth.*
HERMAN HESSE

Many of these quotes are from: *By Means of Trees*, Compiled by Robert Ricard, University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension Service



(MORE THAN) 20 WAYS YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

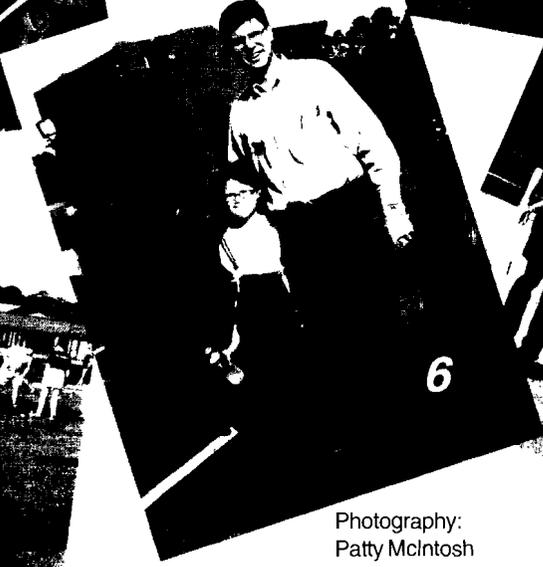
- Plant trees on your own property, making them a landscape priority. Choose trees that when mature will provide the largest canopy the site can accommodate.
- Learn how to plant a tree properly to ensure its long healthy life.
- Learn about basic tree care through a wealth of information available. The Savannah Tree Foundation can help.
- Know your soil and drainage situation. Get a soil sample before you plant.
- Plant native species that will adapt better to our soils and climate.
- Plant the right tree in the right place.
- Mulch your trees properly for protection from equipment, to enrich soil and to conserve moisture.
- Apply adequate amounts of water—always complying with local restrictions.
- If you are building a house, be sure to plan tree retention and tree planting early on in the site design process.
- Before remodeling or building projects, protect your trees properly.
- When a problem appears, call a certified arborist for help.
- Encourage your friends, church, school or neighborhood to plant trees.
- Participate in Savannah Tree Foundation tree plantings.
- Encourage your community group, professional organization or garden club to host a program on urban forestry and tree issues.
- Educate yourself—attend workshops and seminars on urban tree topics and issues.
- Encourage your children to appreciate the benefits of trees in cities.
- Stay informed about projects that will affect trees: roads, large-scale development, canal widenings, schools, etc.
- Familiarize yourself with local tree protection ordinances.
- Learn about the benefits of trees on a community-wide basis.
- Let your elected officials know that you consider trees a valuable part of the community infrastructure.
- Attend public meetings where land use issues affecting trees will be discussed and deliberated.
- Find out whom to call in this community about specific tree issues. A short list of names and numbers is on the back page of this newsletter.
- Join the Savannah Tree Foundation. A membership form is on the back page as well.

Twentieth STF Planting Held at Whitemarsh Island Schools

An enthusiastic and efficient gathering of over 125 volunteers helped plant over 100 trees at Islands and Marshpoint Elementary and Coastal Middle schools at Whitemarsh Island on November 9. Students, teachers, principals, parents of students, STF volunteers (including contingents from International Paper, Savannah College of Art & Design, Savannah Electric, TREES, Inc., Seeds and Weeds Garden Club, Youth For a Clean Environment) enjoyed a beautiful morning putting in live oaks on the high ground and bald cypresses around the banks of the schools' retention ponds. (See Trees and Stormwater Symposium bullet in Celebration article, pg. 2.)

As with all STF plantings, this was a team effort. International Paper Company provided nursery services to get young trees ready for the planting. Low Country Machinery provided a JCB skid steerer with which Savannah Forestry Equipment dug holes, cultivated soil and distributed mulch around the large planting site. Savannah Electric provided the mulch. The Southside Fire Department watered the trees and will continue to provide water during the next two critical years when they are getting established. The Chatham County arborist researched the site to indicate locations for planting. The schools' parent-teacher organizations organized their forces prior to the event and worked tirelessly during the planting. Thanks, everyone.

1. Mary Meade Sipple, Connie Darbyshire, Bill Saxman, Planting Committee Co-Chairs Susan Carter and Kim Murray, and friend; 2. Youth for a Clean Environment (YFACE) showed up in force; 3. International Paper Forestry Services VP Ken Munson was part of large, hardworking IP group; 4. I'm ready to rake that mulch when you're done planting; 5. Our friends from Trees, Inc. pitched in as crossing guards; 6. We got Austin Kennedy (Savannah Forestry Equipment) to stop augering and toting mulch just long enough to get a picture with daughter Falls; 7. Groups from all three schools were out in force; 8. It was a three-ring circus at Whitemarsh. When the dust cleared, we had planted over 85 oaks and 30 bald cypresses.



Photography:
Patty McIntosh

Tree Questions?

For Questions About...

Call...

Number

Public Trees within City Limits	Park & Tree Department	651-6610
Public Trees in Chatham County	County Arborist	652-7800
City Land Clearing & Tree Protection Ordinance	Landscape Coordinator	351-3470
County Land Clearing & Tree Protection Ordinance	County Arborist	652-7800
Trees on Private Property	Georgia Forestry Commission	748-4924
Tree Trimming Near Utilities & Lines	Savannah Electric	944-3546
Location of Underground Utilities & Lines	Utility Locator Line	1-800-282-7411

Please call or email us, too.
 We need to know what's going on and we will try to help.
 233-8733 • savstf@aol.com

WHAT?!

I'm Not a Member Already?!
 I care about preserving,
 protecting and planting trees! I'll
 join as a:

- Friend \$35
- Sponsor \$100
- Patron \$250
- Benefactor \$500
- Champion \$1000
- Other \$ _____

M E M B E R S H I P F O R M

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

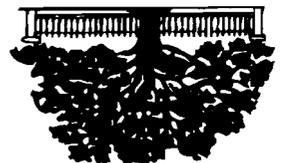
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

email _____

A check made payable to Savannah Tree Foundation for \$ _____ is enclosed.
 Please mail membership form and check to: Savannah Tree Foundation
 3025 Bull Street • Savannah, GA 31405

Savannah Tree Foundation
 3025 Bull Street
 Savannah, GA 31405



20 EXEMPLARY ROADS & STREETS

This list highlights roads with trees planted either on the sides, or in a median, or in some cases, both. STF supports the four-lane road with a raised median as the model that best accommodates tree preservation and tree planting. Where this model is overscale—for instance, on two-lane roads—we urge tree planting on one or both sides.

Key to the model's success is commitment to integrating trees or tree planting spaces in the earliest stages of planning and development. One component of planning is retaining landscape architects in the planning process to review sites and plans for opportunities to retain existing trees and to identify tree planting spaces.



1. White Bluff Road
2. Wormsloe entrance
3. Victory Drive
4. 37th Street
5. Windsor Road
6. Science Drive
7. Oglethorpe Avenue
8. Liberty Street
9. Bonaventure Road
10. Bull Street
11. Columbus Avenue
12. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard
13. Royal Oak Drive (Mayfair)
14. Washington Avenue
15. Skidaway Road, SSU to Eisenhower
16. Abercorn, north of DeRenne Avenue
17. Atkinson Avenue (Gordonston)
18. Numbered streets in Ardsley Park
19. Kensington & Magnolia Park canopies
20. Bluff Drive



Roadways Update

STF has long advocated road design standards maximizing opportunities for tree preservation and protection with a tree survey as a required first design step and further to provide ample space for new planting sites through the use of a median and/or protected rights-of-way.

Stephenson Avenue: Despite extended efforts in favor of a four-lane and median configuration (and City/County staff recommendations and City/County resolutions in favor of that plan), in 1997 the county commission voted for three lanes, with a center turn lane. Insufficient right-of-way was reserved on the north for any plantings.

Therefore, last summer STF called together representatives from City Park and Tree, County Engineering, and SEPCO to determine tree planting opportunities on Stephenson's south side. The group worked out a plan to plant smaller tree species that will not conflict with utility lines. Over 90 spaces were identified and will be planted by the City and SEPCO after the County completes roadway construction.

Middleground Road: Slated for widening using proceeds from the 1993 - 1998 Special Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST). Meetings this summer confirmed previous agreements that the medians will be available for canopy tree planting.

Skidaway Road: Slated for widening with intersection improvements and



East-West Corridor could significantly impact Kensington Park

enhancements for pedestrian and bicycle transit (also from SPLOST 93-98 funds). It is still in its environmental impact review (EIR). STF will have the opportunity to participate in the project's Field Plan Review (FPR), which will provide a final pre-construction chance to negotiate for tree retention, protection and post-construction planting opportunities.

Victory Drive: The Chatham Urban Transportation Study (CUTS) long-range plan includes the widening of Victory Drive from 4 to 6 lanes from Truman Parkway to Johnny Mercer Boulevard. The project is proposed for inclusion on the SPLOST ballot for 2003-2008. STF strongly object to the project and has requested of the County and MPC that it not be included in a SPLOST ballot. We object to the enormous impact it would have on the existing trees—some memorials and others of considerable historic significance. Victory Drive is not just another road but a defining element in this community.

White Bluff/Coffee Bluff Road: Slated for widening and improvements. The project is in EIR. There is an opportunity here for STF input during the FPR process. With the road's narrow right-of-way and the proximity of many large trees, this roadway poses a great many concerns.

East-West Corridor: Consultants have recently made presentations on a proposed final form for the long-awaited corridor. The seeming first preference is a limited access "parkway" connecting I-516 to the Truman Parkway. The connector would be paralleled by access roads and would require flyovers at several major intersections.

Jimmy DeLoach Parkway, Phase II: This roadway is planned for large medians that would readily accept canopy tree plantings. This roadway has the potential to serve as a model for future Westside development. STF will continue to advocate that it be built with a treed future in mind.

At one point, funding for landscape planning and implementation was a part of project costs within SPLOST ballots. Unfortunately, that was not the case in the 1993-1998 SPLOST and this important omission continues to cause problems as we seek roadways in keeping with the community's tradition. STF strongly urges the inclusion of adequate funding for planting in all future roadways. Only by adequate pre-planning for trees and their funding can we have roads that are amenities to our community rather than unsightly concessions to utility.