

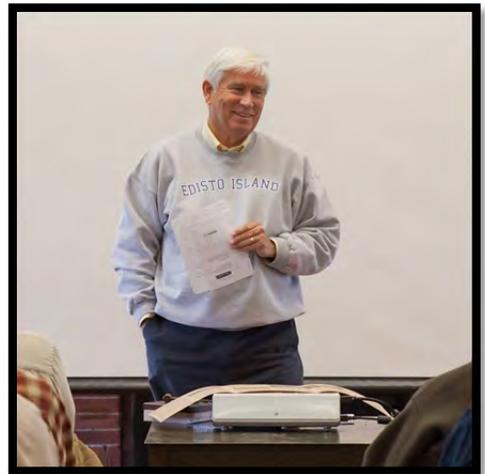


February 2016

Hello Everyone.

Last month the Annual Meeting was held at the Lake House at the Clemson Sandhills facility. Even though there was a fair amount of snow in the upstate, and a dusting in midlands, we still had 46 brave folks show up. A big thank you goes to John Cely for making the meeting place arrangements and for getting there early to make coffee for us. Thanks also to everyone that brought doughnuts and other goodies for our pre-meeting socializing. This year we had a full hour of socializing prior to beginning the meeting. The following photographs of our speakers were provided by Kim McManus.

This year is a special year for SCAN as our organization is now 40 years old. To help celebrate this special occasion, SCAN's founder, and Director Emeritus, Rudy Mancke was the first speaker of the day. Rudy explained how his interest in becoming a naturalist began at the age of nine and he was strongly influenced by the writings of John Muir. SCAN's first meeting was held on January 31, 1976. Rudy told us that he had just accepted the position as Curator of Natural History at the newly established SC State Museum and his reason for forming SCAN was to learn more about the natural history of South Carolina through a group of naturalists. He showed us a Museum newsletter with an article about SCAN's first meeting, which included a photograph of the group. A copy of the article is attached to this newsletter. Rudy finished up his talk by saying that he is very proud of what SCAN is doing.



Our second speaker of the day was Dr. Richard Darden with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Richard gave us a brief history of the Corps of Engineers, which began with the Continental Army as an engineering branch that was formed to dig canals and construct infrastructure. Maintaining navigation in rivers and harbors was the major responsibility. He spoke of how the environmental movement began in the 1960s when Rachael Carson wrote *Silent Spring*. Then in the '70s, during the Nixon administration, the Clean Water Act was passed which protects waters of the United States, including wetlands. The Corps of Engineers was given the authority to administer the Clean Water Act. Richard

explained some of the function and values of wetlands, such as flood control, providing habitat for wildlife, and water quality. He also talked about the three parameters that define a wetland which include the presence of hydrology, wetland plants, and wetland soils, which tend to be black due to the presence of organic materials. He explained that some wetlands, such as swamps and

saltmarsh, are obvious wetlands while pine savannas and hardwood flats are not quite so obvious.

The third speaker of the day was Ken Carman, Manager of Roxbury Park in Megget, South Carolina. Ken gave us a great description of a new project that he is trying to start called the Lowcountry Pollinator Park, Planetarium, and Observatory, or L3PO for short. Ken hopes to take title to a tract of land adjacent to Roxbury Park and develop flower beds and a native tree/shrub orchard to benefit pollinators. The target species are monarch butterflies, honey bees, and native bees. The flower bed layout the he has developed would provide 10 miles of rows of flowers. In order to achieve 100 percent sustainability, Ken proposes to plug up onsite drainage ditches to provide irrigation, composting toilets, using mulch as natural fertilizer and weed control, and install solar panels. The park will also have an apiary, nature center, a planetarium and observatory, and greenhouses for plant propagation. Ken also has plans for a small pond situated on the back side of the property, and staff housing. Camping facilities are also planned for Scout groups and others. The nightly camping fee will help support the facility. Ken hopes to get the project started using the Greenbelt Bank Tax, sponsorships from businesses and corporation, and individual donations. This is a very ambitious project and we hope Ken can make it come to fruition. To keep abreast of his progress, be sure to check out the L3PO website at [www.L3PO.org](http://www.L3PO.org).



During the afternoon business meeting, Greg Mancini gave us the 2015 Treasurer's report, we discussed options for attracting new members, the progress of scanning all of the earlier SCAN newsletters to make them available to everyone, the trip schedule for 2016 (attached), and we voted on the list of 2016 officers. The following list was accepted by a majority vote.

- President – Gordon Murphy
- Vice President – Kim McManus
- Secretary – Mary Douglass
- Treasurer – Greg Mancini
- Historian – Gordon Murphy
- Database Manager – Jan Ciegler
- Northern Regional Director – Rita Zollinger
- Western Regional Director – Kathy Boyle & Wayne Grooms
- Central Regional Director – Caroline Eastman
- Southern Regional Director – Paul Kalbach
- Eastern Regional Director – Jeff Kline

Join me in thanking Greg Ross for his service as Vice President the last two years and welcoming Kim as our new VP and Jeff Kline as the Eastern Regional Director. Also, for those who missed the Annual Meeting, Kim made videos of our speakers and posted them on the SCAN Facebook page. Paul put links to the videos on our website ([www.scnaturalists.org](http://www.scnaturalists.org)).

As usual, following the day's events we enjoyed more socializing and a delicious potluck supper. Our first trip of 2016 is to Cheraw State Park. I hope to see you all there!

*Gordon Murphy*



### **SCAN INITIATES PLANS**

The first meeting of SCAN (South Carolina Association of Naturalists) was held in Columbia January 31 in association with a meeting of astronomy professors from throughout the state. Thirty-two people met together to see and discuss plans for the State Museum during the morning session.

After lunch, the astronomy group, interested in the planetarium and astronomy portion of the State Museum, met separately and examined the service potential of the installation in great detail, particularly its capacity to improve astronomical instruction at every level.

An organizational meeting was held by the SCAN group which included a discussion of ways that natural history information could be shared on a statewide basis. All agreed that this was one of their major goals and concerns, and that more people must be contacted to share in this important effort.

Recommendations included publication of vital information about the state in the form of checklists and bulletins. The first bulletin, soon to be published, concerns the vascular plants of Spartanburg County. It has been compiled by Dr. Robert W. Powell, Jr., Chairman of Converse College Biology Department, Dr. Ross C. Clark, Chairman of Erskine College Biology Department, and Dr. Conduff G. Childress, Jr.

A second SCAN meeting has been scheduled for March 13. The meeting will follow a 9:30 a.m. field trip into the Congaree forest. All SCAN members will receive a notice about the meeting; those desiring more details or program input should contact Rudy Mancke, Staff Naturalist at the Museum Commission offices.

## 2016 Field Trips

*Locations subject to change. Check the monthly newsletter, website, or Facebook page for trip details.*

### **February 27<sup>th</sup>**

Cheraw State Park - Chesterfield County  
Jeff Kline

### **March 26<sup>th</sup>**

Gene and Carolyn Ott's Farm - Laurens County  
Kathy Boyle and Wayne Grooms

### **April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Cooks Mountain - Richland County  
Caroline Eastman

### **May 28<sup>th</sup> – overnight / weekend**

Francis Marion Forest / Hellhole Bay Wilderness - Berkeley County  
Paul Kalbach

### **June 25<sup>th</sup>**

Rosebrock Park - Dorchester County  
Paul Kalbach

### **July 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Craig's Pond – Barnwell County  
(alternate Baker State Park - McCormick County)  
Kathy Boyle and Wayne Grooms

### **August 27<sup>th</sup>**

Bear Wallow Trail - Henderson and Buncombe Counties  
Rita Zollinger

### **September 24<sup>th</sup>**

Goodale State Park and Savage Bay - Kershaw County  
Rita Zollinger

### **October 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Hilton Pond - York County  
Rita Zollinger

### **November 19<sup>th</sup>**

Bates Ferry Tract - Richland County  
Caroline Eastman

### **December 10<sup>th</sup>**

Vereen Memorial Park - Horry County  
Jeff Kline

## A Call for Help from SCDNR

This call out for help is about **bats**, creatures dear to my heart (okay, pretty much everything is dear to my heart).

**We [SCDNR] have partnered** with Clemson University and NC [Univ of NC at Greensboro and NC Wildlife Resources Commission] **to initiate in-state acoustic bat monitoring** within the NABat framework. ([http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/gtr/gtr\\_srs208.pdf](http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/gtr/gtr_srs208.pdf)) (<http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/news/592>) The purpose is to standardize some bat monitoring across the continent to gather trend data and to answer some local questions as well.

Basically, USGS laid out a grid system (10kmx10Km) over North America and then randomly numbered the grids or cells. Low numbered grids are the highest priority sites for sampling (so we don't get to choose grids we'd like to sample although that sort of sampling can be added on).

Last year was the first year of the project. Last year's sampling was good but we'd like even better coverage this summer.

**Ben Neece, the graduate student implementing the NABat acoustic sampling in SC, needs cooperating landowners for establishment of point counts in some selected cells (1st link below).** He names the cells by the closest town name and those happen to be cells or grids in which he didn't get any point counts last year.

Ideal locations would be on public land (because the plan is to revisit and sample the sites for many years) but public ownership is not mandatory. A Stationary or point count is ideally located in habitat that is abundant in the cell (ie represents the habitat well) and often includes Edge habitats (trails, forest roads, openings, cliffs). The goal is to pick up search phase calls of bats so the detectors are never set up right next to a pond, stream or pool because water attracts insects and that is where bats would feed (results in unusable feeding buzzes). But setting up near (ie on the way to those features) can be useful. The Goal is also to get the most bat diversity in that area (so setting up on forest edge or area where several community types merge is useful).

**If you know of any properties in any of the cells mapped (in link)** and could help us get access/permission to use the location that would be extremely helpful to the project.

**Ben is also looking for volunteers** to help set up and take down point counts (set up on day and taken down 4 days later)...but just helping us get access to 1-4 places in a cell would be extremely helpful.

**Here is a link to the 18 cells where no stationary points were conducted last year:**

[http://myweb.clemson.edu/~bneece/img/pts\\_needed/](http://myweb.clemson.edu/~bneece/img/pts_needed/)

They are just high resolution jpg map images. Ben also directs people to the map page on his site if they would like to zoom in to greater detail, which is here:

<http://myweb.clemson.edu/~bneece/map.php>

This link also features information on both sampling methods and shows sampling areas grouped by week. Sampling starts in May at the SE coast and then works north and inland, ending in July in the upstate.

**Please contact Benjamin Neece [bneece@g.clemson.edu](mailto:bneece@g.clemson.edu) if you do know of a possible sampling property.**

**Thank you very much!**

Mary Bunch  
Biologist/Preserve Manager  
South Carolina Department of Natural Resources  
311 Natural Resources Drive  
Clemson, SC 29631  
[864.654.6738](tel:864.654.6738) x 15  
fax: [864.654.9168](tel:864.654.9168)  
[bunchm@dnr.sc.gov](mailto:bunchm@dnr.sc.gov)



IN REPLY REFER TO:

## United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service  
Congaree National Park  
100 National Park Road  
Hopkins, South Carolina 29061



A7217

February 9, 2016

Dear Colleague,

The National Geographic Society (NGS) and the National Park Service (NPS) are teaming up for the 10th year to conduct a **BioBlitz** in national parks across the country on **May 20-21, 2016**. This year the National Park Service is proud to partner with the South Carolina State Park Service for the 2016 Wings Across South Carolina Bird Bioblitz. We hope you can be part of the South Carolina BioBlitz at **Congaree National Park**.

BioBlitz is a biological inventory in which teams of volunteers, each led by a subject matter expert, find and identify as many species as possible within a 24-hour period. The Wings Across South Carolina Bird Bioblitz is part of a national celebration of biodiversity commemorating the centennial of the National Park Service. In addition to activities at National Park Service and State Park Service sites in South Carolina, additional BioBlitzes and biodiversity celebrations will be held in more than 100 national parks across the United States.

**We are currently recruiting field biologists, naturalists, and volunteers** to participate in the Wings Across South Carolina Bird Bioblitz, and we invite you to join us! We are excited to have your help in documenting the state's bird biodiversity and in sharing your knowledge about and enthusiasm for nature with students, teachers, and the general public.

Sign up here to serve as a scientist or naturalist during the Bioblitz in order to confirm your interest, availability, area of expertise, and other details:

[https://nationalgeographic.formstack.com/forms/national\\_parks\\_bioblitz\\_2016\\_south\\_carolina\\_scientist\\_registration](https://nationalgeographic.formstack.com/forms/national_parks_bioblitz_2016_south_carolina_scientist_registration) Scientist/naturalist registration will close April 22, 2016, so we have time to map out the schedule and location of inventory opportunities. The sooner you register, the better we are able to accommodate your needs and maximize your involvement with this great event.

**Please forward this email to any colleagues who might be interested in volunteering.** We hope to have as many scientist/naturalists as possible leading student and public groups.



In addition, if you are interested in volunteering to support the event in ways other than as a scientist/naturalist, please sign up at the following link to confirm your area of interest and availability: [http://nationalgeographic.formstack.com/forms/national\\_parks\\_bioblitz\\_2016\\_south\\_carolina\\_volunteer\\_registration\\_form](http://nationalgeographic.formstack.com/forms/national_parks_bioblitz_2016_south_carolina_volunteer_registration_form)

We will be in touch to follow up with more details in the weeks and months ahead. In the meantime, feel free to contact Congaree National Park Volunteer Coordinator Greg Cunningham at [Gregory\\_Cunningham@nps.gov](mailto:Gregory_Cunningham@nps.gov).

Again, please share this opportunity with your colleagues and others who might wish to join the adventure.

Thanks you for your consideration. We hope you will be a part of the 2016 Wings Across South Carolina Bird BioBlitz!

Sincerely,

J. Tracy Stakely, Superintendent  
Congaree National Park

**Cheraw State Park**  
**Saturday, February 27, 2016**  
**10:30 AM**

On Saturday February 27<sup>th</sup> we will meet at 10:30 AM at the Park office of Cheraw State Park located just 3 miles south of Cheraw, SC. This is located on Lake Juniper, a beautiful lake background for our time there. We will be exposed to several hundred red cockaded nesting trees located throughout this beautiful park. It's nestled amongst a platform of a golf course, campground, horse trail and a wonderful four mile trail through a well managed long leaf pine forest. There are multiple habitats to be exposed to and possibilities for kayaking and canoeing. There is a very nice boardwalk around the end of the lake made by impounding Juniper creek.

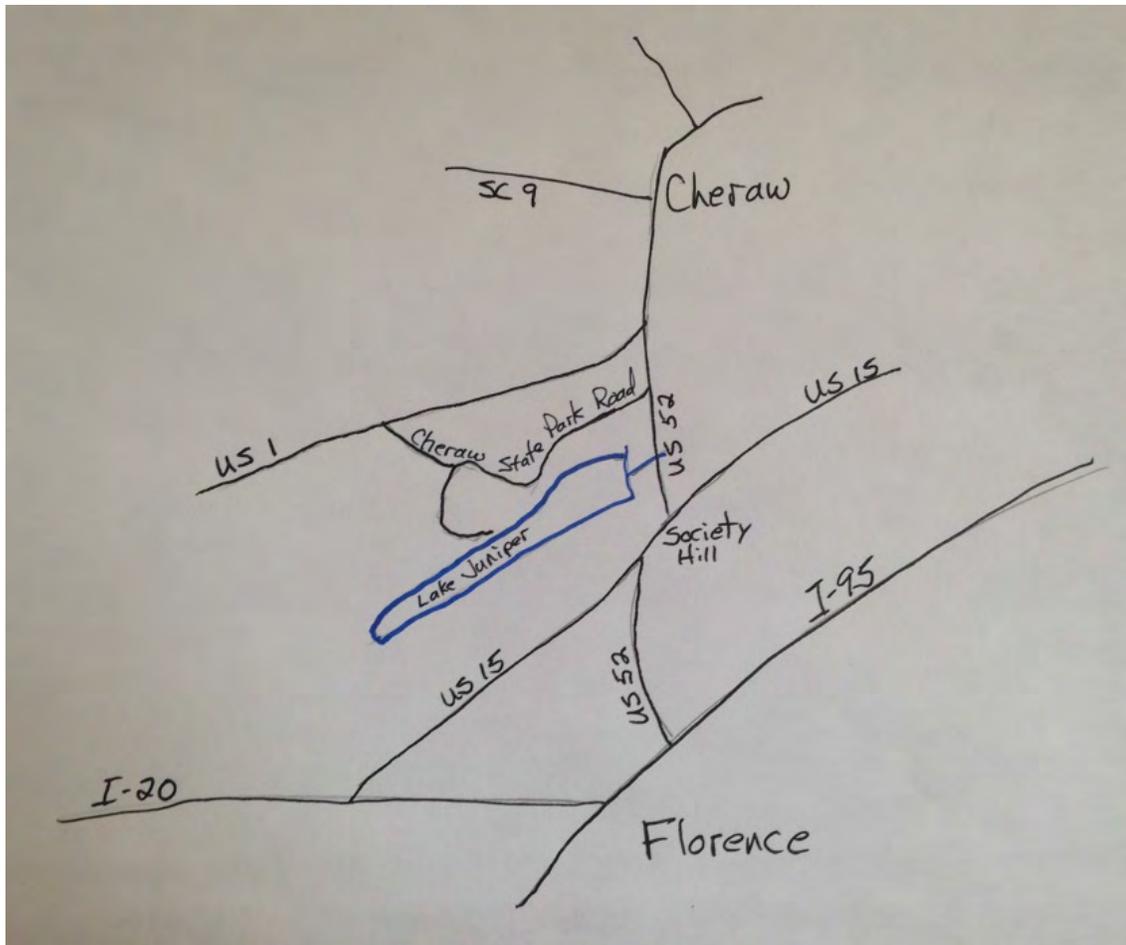
The primary trail is a loop of approximately four miles of moderate exertion, if that. I have reserved a cabin for Friday and Saturday night that can be shared easily for those in need of such. If you would like to share the cabin, which sleeps four, give me a call at 843-442-5000. Camping spaces are available and are very nice.

Directions: Easy ones - 3 miles South of Cheraw on Hwy 52. From I-20 take US 15 to Society Hill or from I-95 take Hwy 52 to Society Hill. Take Hwy 52 north from Society Hill and drive approximately 10.1 miles and look for the Park entrance on the left.

Coordinates: 34.647491, -79.894272

Dinner will be at Hooks Barbeque just west of town (3566 Hwy 9). Dinner starts at 4:30. The food was quite good when I was there.

Jeff Kline



Manor Road

Jean Laney Harris Blvd.

-  Campground
  -  Community Building
  -  Pro Shop
  -  Primitive Group Camping
  -  Equestrian Camping
  -  Park Office
  -  Picnic Shelter
  -  Restroom
  -  Cabin
  -  Residence
  -  Playground
  -  Beach/Swimming Area
  -  Boat Ramp
  -  Golf Course Hole
  -  Comfort Station
  -  Dumping Station
  -  Trash
-  Road
  -  Boardwalk
  -  Equestrian Trails
  -  Turkey Oak Trail
  -  Mountain Bike Trail



# CHERAW

STATE PARK

To Cheraw

To Florence

HWY1

HWY52

Main Entrance

Campground Entrance

To H. Cooper Black

Cabin Creek

Lake Juniper

Camp Juniper

Camp Forest

Private Property



**Huntington Beach SP**  
**Horry Co., SC**  
**December 12, 2015**  
**Addenda**

**FAUNA**

**Scorched Mussel**

*Brachidontes exustus*

**Blood Ark**

*Lunarca ovalis*

**Crested Oyster**

\* *Ostrea equestris*

**Southern Surfclam**

\* *Spisula raveneli*

**Northern Quahog Clam**

*Mercenaria mercenaria*