



SCAN *South Carolina Association of Naturalists*

Post Office Box 5651, Columbia, South Carolina 29250-5651

December 2016

Hello Everyone.

Last month we enjoyed a really nice trip to the Bates Ferry Tract at Congaree National Park. The weather was sunny and mild, but warm enough for the mosquitoes to be out looking for a meal. Once again we had a good turn-out for the trip. Participants included Pat and Jerry Bright, Greg Ross, Jan Ciegler, Jeff Kline, Paul Kaulbach, Kim McManus, Caroline Eastman, Claire and Dave Schreutrum, Marty and Dave Kastner, Greg Mancini, Marsha and Bob Hamlin, Brussi Alexander, Carol Jaworski, Gordon Murphy, and new member, Dwight Moffit.



The trail consist of a slightly raised roadbed through the floodplain that once led to Bates Ferry and eventually the bridge over the Congaree River. Vegetation along the roadbed was typical of disturbed areas with dense herbaceous species, shrubs and sapplings, and a few invasive species. Fortunately the few invasive species observed, such as kudzu and Chinaberry trees, prefer an open areas and drier soil conditions, and appeared to be restricted to the sides of the old road. Once we got off the road and onto the floodplain, Japanese climbing fern and Chinese privet

were also spotted.

We took a side road onto the floodplain that led roughly toward the north. This road was not elevated and made access to the floodplain easier. There were lots of overcup oaks in this area and a couple of members were fortunate to find marbled salamanders, with eggs! We crossed one slough on an interesting steel bridge that was towed into place by a using a truck axle that was welded to the bottom. The axle and wheels are still in place. A short distance past this slough is another slough



with an amazing bald cypress tree growing on the edge. Dave Scheutrum informed us that this is the General Greene tree. Several cypress knees were seen that are in excess of six feet tall. The



Bates Ferry Tract was once part of the Belleville Hunt Club, of which Dave is a member. Dave is very familiar with the history of this area and provided the group with interesting historical information throughout the day. The General Greene tree provides a great photographic backdrop and after multiple folks posed and were photographed, including yours truly, we headed back to the main road that leads to the river.

Upon reaching the end of the road we walked out onto a relatively clear grassed area and were treated to a wonderful view of the Congaree River. We found several pieces of aluminum roofing material at the edge of the clearing. We all gathered around anxiously waiting to see what snakes might be found under them, but we were disappointed as each piece was flipped. We did see a robber fly eating a beetle on someones day pack, which was really neat. After resting and eating snacks by the river, we began our walk back to the parking lot. We were lucky to see a barred owl perched on a branch a short distance from the road. It sat there patiently while we watched and photographed it.



When we reached the parking lot, we decided that we had enough time to explore the floodplain on the south side of Highway 601 before heading off for dinner. We crossed under the powerlines where there were many herbaceous species, and walked a short distance along the edge. There were still some wildflowers blooming in this area including hibiscus. As you might imagine, many introduced plant species thrive here, probably due to the open habitat and the seed source when the river floods.

Dinner was had at the Calhoun House of Pizza. Thanks for everyone how joined us and a special thanks to Caroline for scouting and hosting the trip. Also, thank you Kim for the group photograph!

This month we will be heading to Vereen Memorial Park in Horry County. Unfortunately I will not be able to attend but I hope the group has a fantastic time.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the Annual Meeting on January 28th. Also, attached is the membership renewal form. Please try to mail yours in prior to the Annual Meeting.

Take care,

Gordon Murphy

Vereen Memorial Park and Gardens Horry County

Saturday, December 10
10:30

Our December field trip takes us to a quaint nature gem of a park. Vereen Park and Gardens is situated on a broad salt marsh along the Intracoastal Waterway, and has three miles of trails and a nice marsh boardwalk and fishing pier. The park features historical sites as well as a beautiful natural environment, including a stretch of the colonial-era King's Highway, and the Vereen family cemetery with Revolutionary War graves. There will be opportunities for kayaking also, if anyone wants to bring their own boat.

For more information, check out these links:

Grandstrandmag.com/feature/a_hidden_gem
calabashtown.com/vereen-memorial-park-gardens

Regional Director **Jeff Kline** is scoping out a restaurant for us to try after our field trip is over. Since we'll be just south of the famous eating destination of Calabash, NC, I think you can probably expect to dine on some Calabash-style seafood!

Directions: The park is located right on US 17 in Little River, South Carolina, just about a tenth of a mile south of the North Carolina border.

Congaree Nat. Park, Bates Ferry Trail
Richland Co., SC
November 19, 2016

This list was produced by SCAN from sightings produced by SCAN members and is subject to revision as needed. An asterisk (*) indicates a new sighting for SCAN. Send any changes or corrections to Jan Ciegler at jciegler@sc.rr.com. Please indicate exactly to which flora/fauna list you are referring. Thank you.

FLORA

Japanese Climbing Fern

Lygodium japonicum

Ebony Spleenwort

Asplenium platyneuron

Sensitive Fern

Onoclea sensibilis sensibilis

Loblolly Pine

Pinus taeda

Bald-cypress

Taxodium distichum

Dwarf Palmetto

Sabal minor

Smooth Spiderwort

Tradescantia ohioensis

False Nutsedge

Cyperus strigosus

Giant Cane

Arundinaria gigantea

River Oats

Chasmanthium latifolium

Spanish-moss

Tillandsia usneoides

Catbrier

Smilax bona-nox

Common Greenbrier

Smilax rotundifolia

Jackson-brier

Smilax smallii

Lizard's-tail

Saururus cernuus

Coralbeads

Cocculus carolinus

Sycamore

Platanus occidentalis occidentalis

Sweet Gum

Liquidambar styraciflua

Water-elm

Planera aquatica

Winged Elm

Ulmus alata

Slippery Elm

Ulmus rubra

Southern Hackberry

Celtis laevigata

Red Mulberry

Morus rubra

Smallspike False-nettle

Boehmeria cylindrica

Sand Laurel Oak

Quercus hemisphaerica

Overcup Oak

Quercus lyrata

Water Oak

Quercus nigra

Cherrybark Oak

Quercus pagoda

River Birch

Betula nigra

American Hornbeam

Carpinus caroliniana

Common Pokeweed

Phytolacca americana

Pinkweed

Persicaria pensylvanica

Eastern Rose-mallow

Hibiscus moscheutos

Arrowleaf Sida

Sida rhombifolia rhombifolia

Violet

Viola sp.

Passionflower

Passiflora sp.

Eastern Cottonwood

Populus deltoides deltoides

Sourwood

Oxydendrum arboreum

Buckthorn Bumelia

Sideroxylon lycioides

Carolina Laurel Cherry

Prunus caroliniana

Black Cherry

Prunus serotina serotina

Hog-peanut

Amphicarpaea bracteata

Showy Rattlebox

Crotalaria spectabilis

Kudzu

Pueraria montana lobata

Scarlet Sesban

Sesbania punicea

Swamp Tupelo

Nyssa biflora

American Mistletoe

Phoradendron leucarpum

leucarpum

Possum-haw

Ilex decidua decidua

American Holly

Ilex opaca opaca

Peppervine

Ampelopsis arborea

Muscadine

Vitis rotundifolia rotundifolia

Box Elder

Acer negundo

Red Maple

Acer rubrum

Winged Sumac

Rhus copallinum

Smooth Sumac

Rhus glabra

Eastern Poison Ivy

Toxicodendron radicans radicans

Chinaberry

Melia azedarach

Carolina Jessamine

Gelsemium sempervirens

Horse-nettle

Solanum carolinense carolinense

Wild Heliotrope

Heliotropium amplexicaule

Brazilian Vervain

Verbena brasiliensis

Beautyberry

Callicarpa americana

Lyre-leaf Sage

Salvia lyrata

Chinese Privet

Ligustrum sinense

Cross-vine
Bignonia capreolata

Trumpet-creeper
Campsis radicans

Richardia
Richardia scabra

Japanese Honeysuckle
Lonicera japonica

Mistflower
Conoclinium coelestinum

Leafy Elephant's-foot
Elephantopus carolinianus

Common Dog-fennel
Eupatorium capillifolium

Climbing Hempweed
Mikania scandens

Camphorweed
Pluchea camphorata

Bearsfoot
Smallanthus uvedalius

Tall Goldenrod
Solidago altissima altissima

Goldenrod
Solidago sp.

Southern Crownbeard
Verbesina occidentalis

Bearded Tooth
Hericum erinaceus

FAUNA

Golden Silk Orbweaver
Nephila clavipes

Leaf-footed Bug
Leptoglossus phyllopus

Assassin Bug
Pselliopus barberi

Milkweed Assassin Bug
* *Zelus longipes*

Yellow-backed Robber Fly
* *Laphria affinis*

Bronzed Tiger Beetle
Cicindela repanda repanda

Dingy Ground Beetle
Harpalus pensylvanicus

Multicolored Asian Lady Beetle
Harmonia axyridis

12-spotted Cucumber Beetle
Diabrotica undecimpunctata howardi

Cloudless Sulphur
Phoebis sennae eubule

Little Yellow (butterfly)
Eurema lisa

Sleepy Orange
Abaeis nicippe

Gulf Fritillary (larva)
Agraulis vanillae

Pearl Crescent (butterfly)
Phyciodes tharos

Red Admiral
Vanessa atalanta

Lady Butterfly
* *Vanessa* sp.

Common Buckeye (butterfly)
Junonia coenia

Red-spotted Purple (butterfly)
Limenitis arthemis astyanax

Dun Skipper
* *Euphyes vestris*

Long-tailed Skipper
Urbanus proteus

White Checkered Skipper
* *Pyrgus albescens*

Tropical Checkered Skipper
* *Pyrgus oileus*

Checkered Skipper
* *Pyrgus* sp.

Southern Skipperling
Copaeodes minimus

Fiery Skipper
Hylephila phyleus

Marbled Salamander (egg)
Ambystoma opacum

Gray Treefrog
Hyla chrysoscelis/ versicolor

Southern Chorus Frog
Pseudacris nigrita

Green Anole
Anolis carolinensis

Turkey Vulture
Cathartes aura

Black Vulture
Coragyps atratus

Red-shouldered Hawk
Buteo lineatus

Red-tailed Hawk
Buteo jamaicensis

Wild Turkey (tracks)
Meleagris gallopavo

Barred Owl
Strix varia

Red-bellied Woodpecker
Melanerpes carolinus

Northern Flicker
Colaptes auratus

Pileated Woodpecker
Dryocopus pileatus

Eastern Phoebe
Sayornis phoebe

Blue Jay
Cyanocitta cristata

American Crow
Corvus brachyrhynchos

Carolina Chickadee
Parus carolinensis

Tufted Titmouse
Baeolophus bicolor

Golden-crowned Kinglet
Regulus satrapa

Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Regulus calendula

Black-and-white Warbler
Mniotilta varia

Northern Cardinal
Cardinalis cardinalis

American Goldfinch
Carduelis tristis

Raccoon (tracks)
Procyon lotor

White-tailed Deer (tracks, scrape)
Odocoileus virginianus



SCAN New Membership & Renewal Form
(Members must be age 15 or older)

Today's Date: _____

Dues: \$12.00 per calendar year due by the January annual meeting

\$5.00 per calendar year for each additional member at the same address

Note: Persons joining in July or later pay 1/2 price. Make checks payable to SCAN.

Name(s): 1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Mailing Address: **Please notify SCAN of home and email address changes.**

Street/PO Box _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Newsletters will be sent through e-mail. Please **print clearly** the preferred address or addresses.

E-mail: 1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Phone(s): (_____) _____ (Home)

(_____) _____ (Work)

(_____) _____ (Cell)

Mail form and check to:

SCAN

PO Box 5651

Columbia, SC 29250-5651