



December 2018

Hi Everyone.

Last month we returned to Congaree National Park to see what we could find along the newest trail at the park, Fork Swamp Trail. Those in attendance were Mary Douglass, Tom Jones, Marsha and Bob Hamlin, Kim McManus, Paul Kalbach, Sharron Yomtob, Mandy Johnson, Jan Ciegler, Dave Kastner, Clover Robichaud, and Gordon Murphy.



Fork Swamp Trail is short, only 0.6-mile in length. You might wonder, *why bother with such a short trail?* Well, it took us about two hours and forty-five minutes to complete! The trail is well maintained, and we did not have any problems that slowed our pace. So why did it take so long? The answer is that there was a lot to look at. In addition to the floodplain forest, there were open areas with herbaceous vegetation and part of the trail was along the banks of Bates Old River. One thing that is guaranteed to cause SCAN members to stop and investigate is a rotting log. We saw several species of butterflies, some salamanders, snakes, birds, fungi, and vascular plants.



After a quick lunch, we crossed US 601 and explored for a while. A powerline easement is located on this side of the highway and there were lots of birds that would not stay in the open long enough for identification, except for one winter wren that finally perched on top of a shrub for a couple of minutes. Some of the group hiked along the dirt road toward Bates old River and some of us went cross county toward the east. When you walk east of the powerlines, there are large nice trees as you head into the area labeled as Fork Swamp on the USGS topographic maps. This area looks like a great place for a future SCAN trip.

Thank you, Caroline, for scouting the trip for us!

SCAN Board members met on December 1st to develop a trip list for 2019. It was a successful meeting and I hope everyone will like the line-up of trips. Some will be new and some we have visited

previously. Kim McManus presented the list potential officers for 2019 that we will be voting on next month. The list consists of:

President – Kim McManus
Vice President – Dave Schuetrum
Secretary – Mary Douglass
Treasurer – Kate Hartley
Historian – Gordon Murphy
Database Manager – Tom Jones

Northern Regional Director – Rita Zollinger
Western Regional Director – Kathy Boyle
Central Regional Director – Dave Kastner
Southern Regional Director – Marcus Sizemore
Eastern Regional Director – Mandy Johnson

Another change we discussed, and will roll out in the next few weeks, is the option of online SCAN membership renewal using PayPal. The link will be on our website and Facebook page. Mail-in applications will still be accepted for those who prefer not to use PayPal. Please remember to renew prior to the annual meeting.

This month we were scheduled to visit Bear Branch Heritage Preserve in Aiken County. However, Kathy Boyle reported that the entrance gate is damaged and DNR will not have it repaired in time for our trip. Instead, we are heading to Aiken State Park.

See you all this Saturday!

Gordon Murphy





Group photograph courtesy of Kim McManus.

SCAN trip to Aiken State Park Aiken County December 15, 2018, 10:30AM

Change of plans! Bear Branch Heritage Preserve, our planned destination, is closed for the time being because the gate has been damaged and is now jammed shut. Instead on Saturday December 15, 10:30 AM, we'll visit Aiken State Park on the South Fork Edisto River. Aiken State Park, encompassing 1,067 acres, features pine uplands, sandhill pocosin-type wetlands, creeks, and blackwater river floodplain. Park map:



Enter the park and stop at the fee station (marked by the dollar sign on the map) to pay \$2.00 cash per person – \$1.25 if over age 65 – into a fee box. Continue a short distance and turn right at the sign for “Picnic Area / Jungle Trail / Day-use Shelter.” Park in this parking area. Restrooms are here, and the Main Pond and Jungle Nature Trail are directly ahead.

The Jungle Nature Trail is a level, easy-to-follow, three-mile boardwalk and dirt turf loop through tropical-looking wetlands, and mixed pine and hardwood forest. We will walk through dense green rhododendron, and fern that provide habitat for iridescent dragonflies, and a variety of birds, snakes, and other wildlife. At the far end of the main loop, you will see two clearly marked spur trails. Follow the short canoe launch spur trail across the park road, through a sandy oval parking area, to the dock on the South Fork of the Edisto River. Near the dock, an artesian well bubbles up through a fountain. When you return to the main loop trail, you can also walk the other, slightly longer, spur trail to the Fishing Pond. Continuing on the main trail, avoid any unmarked spur trails, and you will return to the parking area.



Prefer a little less walking? The one-way loop road, shown on the map as a line with arrows, is a good way to see the park by car. When scouting last week we took this road and made stops at the Children’s Pond and the Fishing Lake. At the Children’s Pond we noticed a plant that looked like *Isoetes* (not quite visible in the photo above). Who will take a closer look??

At the Fishing Lake, a larger body of water, a stand of dead trees appears to be a result of beaver activity. A variety of birds seemed to be attracted here as well, so birders may want to spend some time at this site.

How to get there:

Aiken State Park

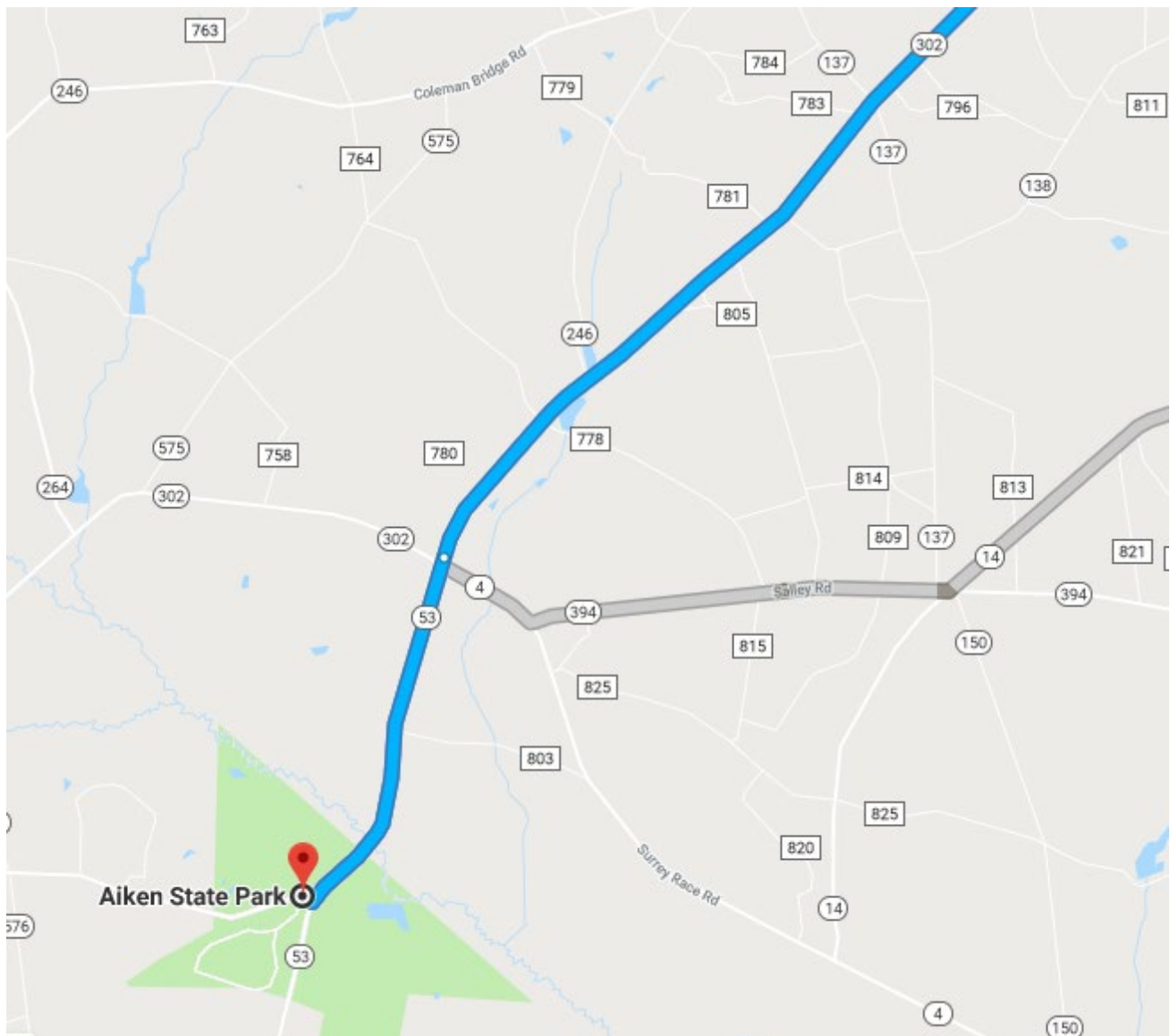
1145 State Park Rd, Windsor, SC 29856

Phone: 803-649-2857

Email: aiken@scprt.com

Coordinates (WGS84): 33.550582, -81.489362

From the junction of US-178 and SC-302 in Pelion, follow SC-302 southwest for 20 miles. At the junction with SC-4, continue straight (don't turn to follow SC-302) and follow SC-53 to the park entrance on your right.



Where to eat:

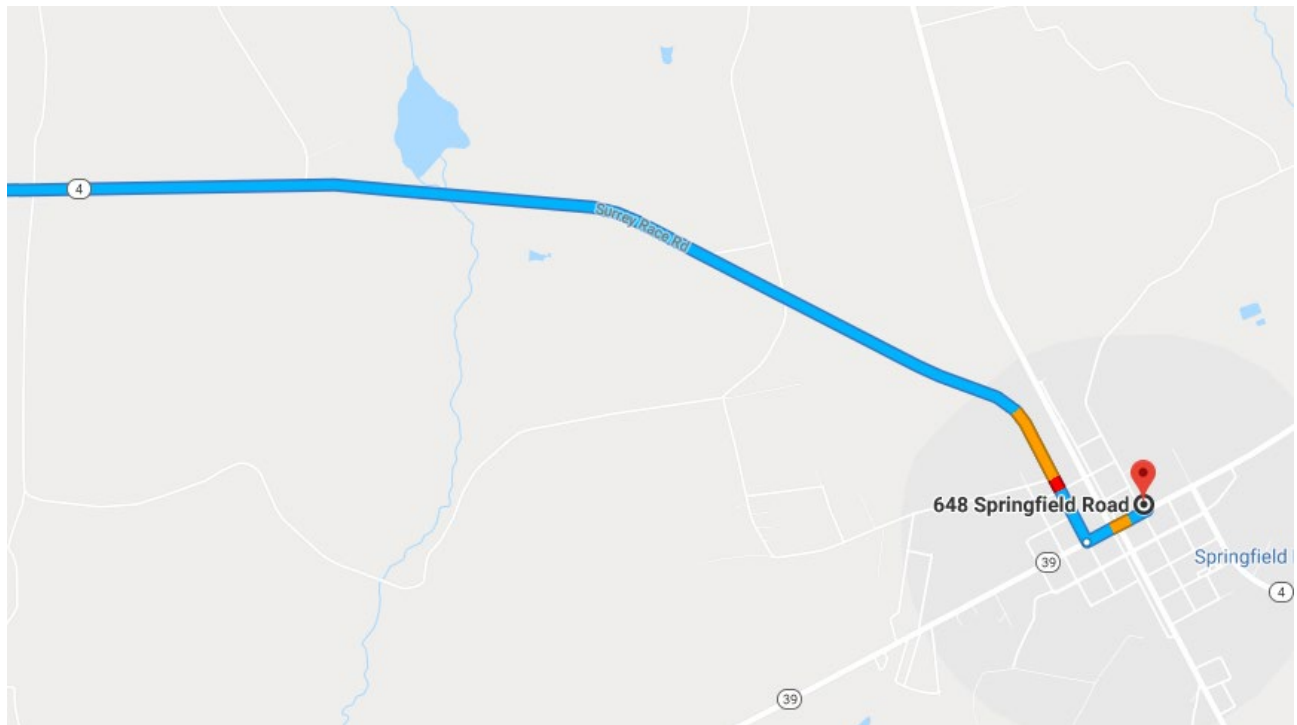
Goodland's BBQ

648 Springfield Road, Springfield, SC

Phone: 803-258-3511

Email: goodlandbbq@gmail.com

Return to the junction of SC-302 and SC-4. Turn right onto SC-4 and go 13.4 miles southeast. At the junction with SC-39, turn left and go 0.2 miles to Goodland's BBQ.



Note: The restaurant accepts cash or check only, no cards!

Hope to see everyone next weekend!

-- Kathy Boyle
phone 803-603-6466



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

**Fork Swamp Trail, Congaree NP
Richland Co., SC
November 10, 2018**

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 Tom Jones at prestoea@gmail.com. Please indicate exactly to which flora/fauna list you are referring. Thank you.

FLORA

Cinnamon Fern

Osmunda cinnamomea

Japanese Climbing Fern

Lygodium japonicum

Ebony Spleenwort

Asplenium platyneuron

Southern Lady Fern

Athyrium asplenoides

Sensitive Fern

Onoclea sensibilis sensibilis

Resurrection Fern

*Pleopeltis polypodioides
michauxiana*

Loblolly Pine

Pinus taeda

Bald-cypress

Taxodium distichum

Dwarf Palmetto

Sabal minor

Giant Cane

Arundinaria gigantea

River Oats

Chasmanthium latifolium

Wild-rye

Elymus virginicus

Giant Plume Grass

Saccharum giganteum

Smut Grass

Sporobolus indicus

Spanish-moss

Tillandsia usneoides

Catbrier

Smilax bona-nox

Whiteleaf Greenbrier

Smilax glauca

Common Greenbrier

Smilax rotundifolia

Common Pawpaw

Asimina triloba

Lizard's-tail

Saururus cernuus

Sweet Autumn Clematis

Clematis terniflora

Coralbeads

Cocculus carolinus

Sycamore

Platanus occidentalis occidentalis

Sweet Gum

Liquidambar styraciflua

Water-elm

Planera aquatica

Winged Elm

Ulmus alata

American Elm

Ulmus americana

Slippery Elm

Ulmus rubra

Southern Hackberry

Celtis laevigata

Smallspike False-nettle

Boehmeria cylindrica

Water Hickory

Carya aquatica

Shagbark Hickory

Carya ovata

American Beech

Fagus grandifolia

Laurel Oak

Quercus laurifolia

Overcup Oak

Quercus lyrata

Swamp Chestnut Oak

Quercus michauxii

Water Oak

Quercus nigra

Cherrybark Oak

Quercus pagoda

Willow Oak

Quercus phellos

River Birch

Betula nigra

American Hornbeam

Carpinus caroliniana

Jumpseed

Persicaria virginiana

Curly Dock

Rumex crispus crispus

St. Andrew's Cross

Hypericum hypericoides

Spotted St.-John's-wort

Hypericum punctatum

Eastern Rose-mallow

Hibiscus moscheutos

Eastern Cottonwood

Populus deltoides deltoides

Swamp Cottonwood

Populus heterophylla

Carolina Willow

Salix caroliniana

Black Willow

Salix nigra

Eastern Gum Bumelia

* *Sideroxylon lanuginosum
lanuginosum*

American Persimmon

Diospyros virginiana

Horsesugar

Symplocos tinctoria

Green Hawthorn

Crataegus viridis

Black Cherry

Prunus serotina serotina

Showy Rattlebox

Crotalaria spectabilis

Sesban

Sesbania herbacea

American Mistletoe

*Phoradendron leucarpum
leucarpum*

Poosum-haw

Ilex decidua decidua

American Holly

Ilex opaca opaca

Yaupon

Ilex vomitoria

Peppervine

Ampelopsis arborea

Virginia-creeper

Parthenocissus quinquefolia

Summer Grape

Vitis aestivalis aestivalis

Muscadine

Vitis rotundifolia rotundifolia

Box Elder

Acer negundo

Winged Sumac

Rhus copallinum

Eastern Poison Ivy

Toxicodendron radicans radicans

Chinaberry

Melia azedarach

Carolina Jessamine

Gelsemium sempervirens

Climbing Dogbane

Trachelospermum difforme

Horse-nettle

Solanum carolinense carolinense

Turnsole

Heliotropium indicum

Moss Vervain

Glandularia pulchella

Brazilian Vervain

Verbena brasiliensis

Beautyberry

Callicarpa americana

Common Blue Curls

Trichostema dichotomum

Polypremum
Polypremum procumbens

Water Ash
Fraxinus caroliniana

Green Ash
Fraxinus pennsylvanica

Chinese Privet
Ligustrum sinense

Cross-vine
Bignonia capreolata

Trumpet-creeper
Campsis radicans

Lobelia
Lobelia elongata

Poorjoe
Diodia teres

Partridge-berry
Mitchella repens

Richardia
Richardia scabra

Mistflower
Conoclinium coelestinum

Leafy Elephant's-foot
Elephantopus carolinianus

Elephant's-foot
Elephantopus tomentosus

Common Dog-fennel
Eupatorium capillifolium

Coastal Dog-fennel
Eupatorium compositifolium

Common Camphorweed
Heterotheca latifolia latifolia

Butterweed
Packera glabella

Southern Tall Goldenrod
Solidago altissima pluricephala

Smooth Goldenrod
Solidago gigantea

Licorice Goldenrod
Solidago odora odora

Hackberry-leaf Goldenrod
* *Solidago rugosa celtidifolia*

Long-stalked Aster
Symphotrichum dumosum

Ironweed
Vernonia noveboracensis

FAUNA

Crab-shaped Spiny-back
Gasteracantha cancriformis

Spotted Orbweaver
Neoscona domiciliorum

Marbled Orb-weaver
Araneus marmoreus

Labyrinth Spider
Metepeira labyrinthea

Orchard Orbweaver
Leucauge venusta

Brownish-gray Fishing Spider
Dolomedes tenebrosus

Carolina Wolf Spider
Hogna carolinensis

Green Lynx Spider
Peucezia viridans

Carolina Mantis
Stagmomantis carolina

Brown Marmorated Stink Bug
Halyomorpha halyis

Wheel Bug
Arilus cristatus

Red Imported Fire Ant
Solenopsis invicta

Thread-waisted Wasp
Ammophila sp.

Honey Bee
Apis mellifera

Gum Bumelia Gall Midge
* *Bruggmanniella bumeliae*

Patent-leather Beetle
Odontotaenius disjunctus

Multicolored Asian Lady Beetle
Harmonia axyridis

Cloudless Sulphur
Phoebis sennae eubule

Little Yellow (butterfly)
Eurema lisa

Sleepy Orange
Abaeis nicippe

American Snout (butterfly)
Libytheana carinenta

Gulf Fritillary
Agraulis vanillae

Pearl Crescent (butterfly)
Phyciodes tharos

Anglewing (butterfly)
Polygonia sp.

American Lady (butterfly)
Vanessa virginiensis

Red Admiral
Vanessa atalanta

Common Buckeye (butterfly)
Junonia coenia

Hackberry Emperor (butterfly)
Asterocampa celtis

Dun Skipper
Euphyes vestris

Long-tailed Skipper
Urbanus proteus

White Checkered Skipper
Pyrgus albescens

Clouded Skipper
Lerema accius

Fiery Skipper
Hylephila phyleus

Ocola Skipper (butterfly)
Panoquina ocola

Evergreen Bagworm Moth
Thyridopteryx ephemeraeformis

Ornate Bella Moth
Utetheisa ornatrix

Velvetbean Caterpillar Moth
* *Anticarsia gemmatalis*

Spotted Dusky Salamander
* *Desmognathus conanti*

Bronze Frog
Lithobates clamitans clamitans

Green Anole
Anolis carolinensis

Brown Snake; DeKay's Snake
Storeria dekayi

Turkey Vulture
Cathartes aura

Black Vulture
Coragyps atratus

Red-bellied Woodpecker
Melanerpes carolinus

Blue Jay
Cyanocitta cristata

American Crow
Corvus brachyrhynchos

Carolina Chickadee
Parus carolinensis

Winter Wren
Troglodytes troglodytes

White-throated Sparrow
Zonotrichia albicollis

Raccoon (tracks)
Procyon lotor

White-tailed Deer (tracks)
Odocoileus virginianus