September 2023

August has passed and with September we are starting to see some cooler days after a string of above normal high temperatures. We are on the cusp of the seasonal change towards fall. With each day now we are losing around two minutes of sunlight. Many natural systems (flora and fauna) are plugged into that sunlight change.

Last month's ramble was to Lower White Water Falls up in Oconee County...near the state border. It looked to be pretty well attended. I could not make it due to abdominal problems and recent surgery.

This month we will be heading to our Northern Region to Pacolet River Heritage Preserve. Our Regional Guide for that ramble/soodle will be Rita Zollinger. Details below.

We have reserved the Saluda Shoals Auditorium in Columbia for our January Annual Meeting. How about a call for speakers? Give us your requests! Know of anyone that can keep us spellbound?

It's time to start planning for 2024! The outing planning session will be a video call the evening of October 25. More details coming soon. Start thinking of new and interesting places you'd like to explore!

Interested in doing more with SCAN? Leadership positions are open. Reach out to Dave or Gordon for more information.

On a very sad note...we have lost a close friend and SCAN member. Paul Kalbach passed away of a sudden heart attack at his home on August 30. Everyone is encouraged to attend the Celebration of Life on September 30 at Cypress Gardens in Moncks Corner. There will be a memorial service and potluck lunch, followed by soodles through the Gardens and boat rides through the swamp. Please RSVP here.

That is all...Dave Schuetrum President



Here's who attended...in no particular order.

Todd Johnston, Tom Austin, Caroline Eastman, Lee Morris, Dwight Moffitt, Mark Cujak, Rita Zollinger

Lower Whitewater Falls, August 26, 2023

Our trip to the Lower Whitewater Falls area for the Foothill Trails was, as expected, quite warm and muggy. The trail entering the area was relatively short, but we saw a very interesting phenomenon – large quantities of resin exuding from a tree at the edge of the trail. It was creating a pool at the base about the size of a dinner plate. Within the resin pool, there was an American Giant Millipede (*Narceus americanus*) and a Brown-Hooded Cockroach (*Cryptocercus punctulatus*). Amber in the making? Alas, while returning towards the parking lot hours later, neither Arthropod remained in the resin pool. I suspect someone had tried "rescuing" them.

We hiked as a group to the Whitewater River where we rested, cooled off, and nibbled on lunch. Afterward, in classic SCAN fashion, everyone scattered to various trails. While a couple SCANners headed in the direction of Lower Whitewater Falls and a couple headed back to the parking lot, my group opted to follow the Coon Branch Trail along the river. The trail promised to be less up-and-down with more tree cover than the Lower Whitewater Falls Trail.

The Coon Branch Trail runs along the Whitewater River to the Coon Branch Nature Area, which is just south of the NC/SC line. This trail was narrow in places and had a plethora of plants. At one place we debated whether a plant was Solomon's Seal or False Solomon's Seal, only to go 50 feet and find the other one! There were few birds, but some interesting insects and spiders along the path.

Around 2:15, we stopped and considered turning around. While chatting, we found a third instar Pandora Sphinx (*Eumorpha pandorus*) caterpillar studded with parasitic wasp cocoons. We did decide to turn around and head back. Later, I explored online to see what we missed – we were around 500 feet from the end of the path. It ended at the river and is home to the largest Fraser Magnolia in the state – six feet in circumference and 86 feet in height. Well... next time!

Lee Morris Western Regional Director



Tom Austin botanizing at the Whitewater River. (Lee Morris)



Hollow Joe-Pye Weed (Eutrochium fistulosum) with an Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (Papilio glaucus) and a Silver-Spotted Skipper (Epargyreus clarus). (Lee Morris)



L: Rita cooling off in the Whitewater River. R: Frost's Bolete mushroom (Exsudoporus frostii) (Lee Morris)



Pandora Sphinx Moth caterpillar (Eumorpha pandorus) with Braconid parasitic wasp cocoons. (Lee Morris)



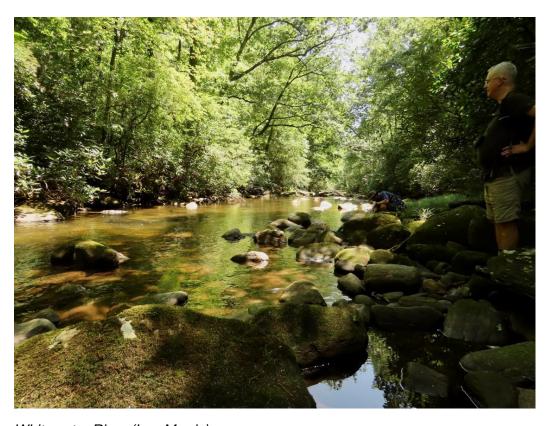
L: An American Giant Millipede (Narceus americanus) and a Brown-Hooded Cockroach (Cryptocercus punctulatus) trapped in pooling resin. R: Sawtooth Oak (Quercus acutissima) (Lee Morris)



Tom Austin has weird bootlaces! (Lee Morris)



L: Southern Lobelia? (Lobelia amoena) (Lee Morris). R: Lower Whitewater Falls (Todd Johnston)



Whitewater River (Lee Morris)

Pacolet River Heritage Preserve



Pacolet, SC Spartanburg County, SC



Saturday September 23, 2023 10:30am



Pacolet River Heritage Preserve sits along the Pacolet River in Spartanburg County. It sits in the Broad River tributary. The 278-acre site contains 2 Native American Soapstone quarries. Dating back to 3,000 to 1.100 BC in the Late Archaic period, the Cherokee and Catawba used this area during migration from the coast to the uplands.

Soapstone is a metamorphic rock consisting mainly of talc giving the rock a soapy feel. Depending on the amount of talc and other minerals it was formed with produces a rock for carving or more hard surfaces such as our modern counter tops and sinks. Soapstone's properties of carvability, heat resistance, non-absorbing, non-porous and high heat capacity were valuable to carve bowls, smoke pipes and use for boiling stones.

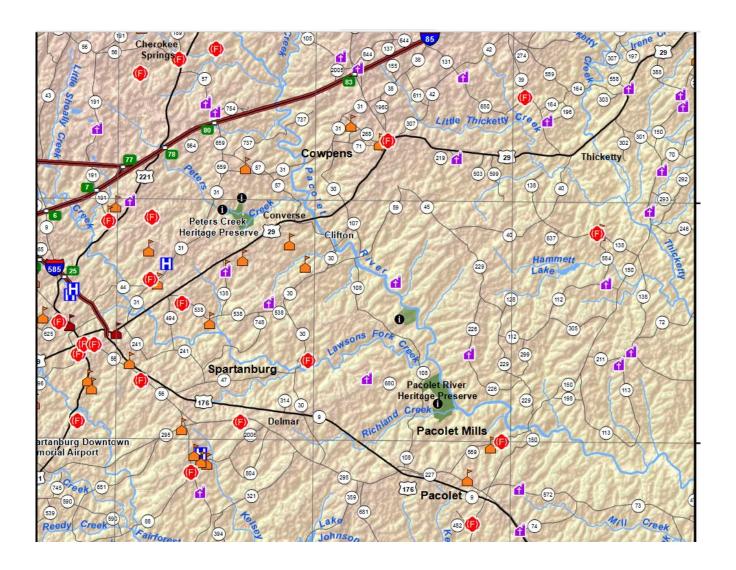
The mix of pine hardwood forests along with Pacolet River and Richland Creek provide a good ecosystem for birds, reptiles, amphibians, mushrooms and less common plants, protected moss and liverwort.

There is a main trail from the parking area to the Pacolet River where you will see an old bridge abatement. The dirt trail is approximately 2 miles in and out. There are a couple of short spur trails to explore. The elevation change from parking area to river is 125'. At SCAN's pace this is an easy trail. Some parts are wide packed roadbed to narrow paths. Please bring bug spray for chiggers and tick protection.

There are no facilities at the location so plan a pit stop accordingly. In the town of Pacolet, there is a Hardees and a Clock restaurant.

Let's explore this alluvial forest!

Rita Zollinger Northern Regional Director



From US 176/SC 9, turn (east) onto Bethesda Road (S-42-680). Cross Goldmine Road onto Nature View Lane. At the fork, bear right onto Lucky Lane. Lucky Lane becomes a gravel road. Drive to the end of the road and park in the parking area.

Location: 445 Lucky Ln Spartanburg, SC 29302

Latitude: 34.931 Longitude: -81.778

Google maps link https://goo.gl/maps/qJqutmXtZUfgUrM2A

Lower Whitewater Falls Trail Oconee Co., SC August 26, 2023

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 Kim McManus at

scnaturalists76@gmail.com. Please indicate exactly to which flora/fauna list you are referring in the subject line of your message. Thank you.

LICHENS

Cladonia coniocraea Cladonia incrassata Cladonia sp. Usnea strigosa Porpidia albocaerulescens

FLORA

Peat Moss

Sphagnum sp.

Haircap Moss

Polytrichum sp.

Fern Moss

Thuidium delicatulum

Common Running-cedar

Diphasiastrum digitatum

Southern Grapefern

Sceptridium biternatum

Bluntlobe Grapefern

Sceptridium oneidense

Hay-scented Fern

Dennstaedtia punctilobula

Ebony Spleenwort

Asplenium platyneuron

Southern Lady Fern

Athyrium asplenioides

New York Fern

Amauropelta noveboracensis

Christmas Fern

Polystichum acrostichoides

Pitch Pine

Pinus rigida

Eastern White Pine

Pinus strobus

Virginia Pine

Pinus virginiana

Eastern Hemlock

Tsuga canadensis

Heartleaf

Hexastylis sp.

Tulip-tree

Liriodendron tulipifera

Fraser Magnolia

Magnolia fraseri

Sassafras

Sassafras albidum

Jack-in-the-pulpit

Arisaema triphyllum

Common Wild Yam

Dioscorea villosa

Whiteleaf Greenbrier

Smilax glauca

Indian Cucumber-root

Medeola virginiana

Downy Rattlesnake-orchid

Goodyera pubescens

Cranefly Orchid

Tipularia discolor

Dwarf Crested Iris

Iris cristata

False Solomon's-seal

Maianthemum racemosum

Solomon's-seal

Polygonatum biflorum

Solomon's-seal

Polygonatum sp.

Common Cattail

Typha latifolia

Rush

Juncus dichotomus

Woolly Bulrush

Scirpus cyperinus

Old-field Broomstraw

Andropogon virginicus

Hill Cane

Arundinaria appalachiana

Slender Spikegrass

Chasmanthium laxum

Open-flower Witchgrass

Dichanthelium laxiflorum

Witchgrass

Dichanthelium sp.

Crab Grass

Digitaria sp.

Yard Grass

Eleusine indica

Japanese Stilt-grass

Microstegium vimineum

Panic Grass

Panicum sp.

Dolls'-eyes

Actaea pachypoda

Yellowroot

Xanthorhiza simplicissima

Sweet Gum

Liquidambar styraciflua

Witch-hazel

Hamamelis virginiana

Muscadine

Muscadinia rotundifolia

rotundifolia

Virginia-creeper

Parthenocissus quinquefolia

Mimosa

Albizia julibrissin

Hog-peanut

Amphicarpaea bracteata

Common Partridge-pea

Chamaecrista fasciculata

fasciculata

Common Sensitive-plant

Chamaecrista nictitans nictitans

Naked Tick-trefoil

Hylodesmum nudiflorum

Sericea Lespedeza

Lespedeza cuneata

Black Locust

Robinia pseudoacacia

Korean Clover

Kummerowia stipulacea

Red Clover

Trifolium pratense

White Clover

Trifolium repens

Cinquefoil

Potentilla sp.

Multiflora Rose

Rosa multiflora

Smooth Blackberry

Rubus canadensis

Common Dewberry

Rubus flagellaris

Pennsylvania Blackberry Rubus pensilvanicus

Oriental Silverleaf

Elaeagnus umbellata

Red Mulberry

Morus rubra

Greenfruit Clearweed

Pilea pumila

American Chestnut

Castanea dentata

Sawtooth Oak

Quercus acutissima White Oak

Quercus alba

Scarlet Oak

Quercus coccinea

Rock Chestnut Oak

Ouercus montana Red Oak

Ouercus rubra

Black Oak

Quercus velutina

Mockernut Hickory

Carya tomentosa

Tag Alder

Alnus serrulata

Yellow Birch

Betula alleghaniensis

American Hazelnut

Corylus americana

Hearts-a-burstin'-with-love

Euonymus americanus

Wood-sorrel

Oxalis sp.

Pineweed

Hypericum gentianoides

St. Andrew's Cross

Hypericum hypericoides

Dwarf St.-John's-wort

Hypericum mutilum

Sweet White Violet

Viola blanda

Southern Three-lobed Violet

Viola palmata palmata

Round-leaf Yellow Violet

Viola rotundifolia

Common Blue Violet

Viola sororia

Violet

Viola sp.

Black Willow

Salix nigra

Chamber Bitter

Phyllanthus urinaria urinaria

Alternate-leaved Seedbox

Ludwigia alternifolia

Common Evening-primrose

Oenothera biennis

Eastern Poison Ivy

Toxicodendron radicans radicans

Eastern Red Maple

Acer rubrum rubrum

Buffalo-nut

Pyrularia pubera

Longbristle Smartweed

Persicaria longiseta

Snowy Hydrangea

Hydrangea radiata

Flowering Dogwood

Benthamidia florida

Alternate-leaf Dogwood

G : 1 L : C !

Swida alternifolia

Southern Swamp Dogwood

Swida foemina

Spotted Touch-me-not

Impatiens capensis

American Persimmon

Diospyros virginiana

Galax

Galax urceolata

Mountain Sweet Pepperbush

Clethra acuminata

Pipsissewa

Chimaphila maculata

Mountain Laurel

Kalmia latifolia

Mountain Doghobble

Leucothoe fontanesiana

Sourwood

Oxydendrum arboreum

White Rosebay

Rhododendron maximum

Sparkleberry

Vaccinium arboreum

Blueberry

Vaccinium sp.

Large Buttonweed

Diodia virginiana

Partridge-berry

Mitchella repens

Poorjoe

Hexasepalum teres

Morning-glory

Ipomoea sp.

Ash

Fraxinus sp.

English Plantain

Plantago lanceolata

Woolly Mullein

Verbascum thapsus thapsus

Virginia Bugleweed

Lycopus virginicus

Mazus

Mazus pumilus

American Holly

Ilex opaca

Southern Lobelia

Lobelia amoena

Indian-tobacco

Lobelia inflata

Common White Snakeroot

Ageratina altissima

Common Ragweed

Ambrosia artemisiifolia

Common Elephant's-foot

Elephantopus tomentosus

Fireweed

Erechtites hieraciifolius

Common Dog-fennel

Eupatorium capillifolium

Hyssopleaf Eupatorium

Eupatorium hyssopifolium

Eupatorium

Eupatorium sp.

Common Heart-leaved Aster

Eurybia divaricata

Hollow-stem Joe-pye-weed

Eutrochium fistulosum

Purple-node Joe-pye-weed

Eutrochium purpureum purpureum **Cudweed**

Gamochaeta sp.

Brazilian Cat's-ear

Hypochaeris chillensis

Spotted Cat's-ear

Hypochaeris radicata

Cutleaf Coneflower

Rudbeckia laciniata

Licorice Goldenrod

Solidago odora

Rough-leaved Goldenrod

Solidago rugosa

Goldenrod

Solidago sp.

American Aster

Symphyotrichum sp.

Devil's-walking-stick

Aralia spinosa

Sanicle

Sanicula canadensis

Snakeroot

Sanicula sp.

Small Chanterelle

Cantharellus minor

Polypore

Nigroporus vinosus

Frost's Bolete

Exsudoporus frostii

Painted Slipperycap

Suillus spraguei

Voluminous-latex Milky-cap

Lactarius volemus

Milkcup

Lactarius sp.

Rosy Russula

Russula rosacea **Brittle-gill**

Russula sp.

Chocolate Tube Slime

Stemonitis sp.

FAUNA

Button Snail

Mesomphix sp.

White-lip Globe

Mesodon thyroidus

Whitelip
Neohelix albolabris

American Giant Millipede

Narceus americanus-annularis complex

Ray Spider

Theridiosoma radiosa

Spiny-backed Spider

Micrathena gracilis White Micrathena

Micrathena mitrata

Green-legged Orbweaver

Mangora maculata **Orbweaver**

Neoscona sp.

Triangulate Orbweaver

Verrucosa arenata

Carolina Locust
Dissosteira carolina

Pinetree Spurthroat G'hopper

Melanoplus punctulatus

Wood Cockroach

Cryptocercus punctulatus

Wood Roach

Parcoblatta sp.

Brown Marmorated Stink Bug

Halyomorpha halys

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

Adelges tsugae

Annual Cicada

Tibicen sp.

Witch Hazel Cone Gall (aphid)

Hormaphis hamamelidis

Braconid Wasp

Apanteles sp.

Velvet-ant

Dasymutilla sp.

Carpenter Ant

Camponotus sp.

Northern Paper Wasp

Polistes fuscatus

Bumblebee

Bombus impatiens

Red-footed Cannibal-fly

Promachus rufipes

Common Whitetail

Plathemis lydia

Eastern Tiger Swallowtail

Pterourus glaucus

Cloudless Sulphur

Phoebis sennae

Little Yellow

Pyrisitia lisa

Red-banded Hairstreak

Calycopis cecrops

Summer Azure

Celastrina neglecta

Silver-spotted Skipper

Epargyreus clarus

Long-tailed Skipper

Urbanus proteus

Clouded Skipper

Lerema accius

Fiery Skipper

Hylephila phyleus

Lace-winged Roadside Skipper

Amblyscirtes aesculapius

Herpetogramma Moth

Herpetogramma sp.

Large Lace-border Moth

Scopula limboundata enucleata

Pandora Sphinx Moth

Eumorpha pandorus

American Toad

Anaxyrus americanus

Southeastern Five-lined Skink

Plestiodon inexpectatus

Common Five-lined Skink

Plestiodon fasciatus

Eastern Garter Snake

Thamnophis sirtalis

Wild Turkey

Meleagris gallopavo

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Archilochus colubris

Downy Woodpecker

Dryobates pubescens

Hairy Woodpecker

Dryobates villosus

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Sphyrapicus varius

Common Raven

Corvus corax

Tufted Titmouse

Baeolophus bicolor

Carolina Chickadee

Poecile carolinensis

White-breasted Nuthatch

Sitta carolinensis

Carolina Wren

Thryothorus ludovicianus

Eastern Bluebird

Sialia sialis

Brown Thrasher

Toxostoma rufum

Cedar Waxwing

Bombycilla cedrorum

Red-Eyed Vireo

Vireo olivaceus

Northern Waterthrush

Parkesia noveboracensis

Northern Cardinal

Cardinalis cardinalis

Chipping Sparrow

Spizella passerina

House Finch

Haemorhous mexicanus

American Goldfinch

Spinus tristis

NEW SPECIES

Aquarius remigis

Aquarius remigis

Flaming Gold Bolete

Aureoboletus auriflammeus

Lilac Bolete

Boletus separans

Bristle Fly

Cholomyia inaequipes

Parasitic Braconid Wasp

Cotesia congregata

Moss Bell

Galerina hypnorum

Leaf Miner Fly

Homoneura fuscibasis

Lactifluus hygrophoroides

Cynipid Wasp Gall

Kokkocynips rileyi

Hygrophorus Milkcap

Minnow

Leuciscinae sp.

Agaric Fungus

Mycetinis opacus

Horned Parasitic Cobweaver

Neospintharus trigonum

Stonefly

Perlidae sp.

Bog Haircap Moss

Polytrichum strictum

Dotted Renia Moth

Renia salusalis

Grove Earwort

Scapania nemorea **Bristly Greenbrier**

Smilax tamnoides

Stemonitopsis typhina

Stemonitopsis typhina

Velvet-footed Pax

Tapinella atrotomentosa

Southern Foamflower

Tiarella austrina

Wand Mullein

Verbascum virgatum