



SCAN *South Carolina Association of Naturalists*

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

November 2021

Hello SCAN members!

Our October outing to Santee State Park started off on the chilly side, with sunny skies and temperatures in the low 60ies. It warmed up to a very pleasant mid-70ies in the afternoon. The group gathered in the sunshine for a quick description of the park by Central Regional Director Dave Kastner. Introductions were made and everyone hopped in their cars to find different trails to explore.



Attendees included:

Barbara Foster	Dave Schuetrum	Johannes	Paul Kalbach
Brucie Alexander	Glenn Quattlebaum	Stratmann	Peter Nyikos
Carol Gist	Greg Ross	Julianna Nyikos	Philoma Skipper
Caroline Eastman	Hal Giles	Kate Hartley	Ron Ahle
Claudia Stratmann	Jerry Bright	Kim McManus	Sarah Nyikos
Cynthia Giles	Jim Boylston	Leila Nyikos	Sharon Yomtob
Dave Kastner	Joe Long	Marty Kastner	Stuart Greeter
		Michael Crawford	

My group chose to explore the Sinkhole Pond Nature Trail first. The parking area is right next to several sinkholes. Formed by the dissolution of limestone subsoil, newer depressions collect rainwater and become mini-ponds with aquatic plants and wildlife. As they age and fill in, the depressions dry up and different varieties of trees begin growing in them. The ones by the parking area had some damp spots in the bottom and a few small caverns around the edges.

We moved slowly along the 0.75-mile loop. Spiders were plentiful, as were mixed flocks of blackbirds and crows, flitting among the pine trees. The limestone sinkhole pond along the trail hosted a large alligator and several juvenile alligators, along with a few turtles. Other highlights included a Ring-necked Snake and a Blue-headed Vireo.



L to R: sinkhole, American Alligator, Blue-headed Vireo

We passed several other small groups of SCANNers going the other direction on the loop trail, sharing observations and suggestions as we went by. One lucky group witnessed the mating flight of a pair of woodpeckers right after we parted ways!

The second trek of the day was on the Limestone Nature Trail. The twisty path crossed a small fingerlet off Lake Marion before taking us through a mix of pine and hardwoods. The terrain had a small amount of variation, with little ups and downs to add a bit of variety to the walk.



L to R: Golden Silk Orbweaver, Red-headed Woodpecker, Ghost Pipe, Limestone Nature Trail

We finished our explorations by walking along the road and through the picnic area to observe Lake Marion. The water was mostly calm, with a light breeze ruffling the surface.

A group of us stopped at Lone Star BBQ & Mercantile for dinner before heading home. The buffet was excellent, with delicious fried chicken and fish along with the barbecue and hash.

Our November outing is already upon us! Eastern Regional Director Jerry Bright has arranged a guided trip at the Belle Baruch Research Institute at Hobcaw Barony in Georgetown County, SC. Research Resource Specialist Bruce Pfirrmann has designed a fantastic agenda that includes walking tours, a short car trip and a boat ride over to one of the islands.

PLEASE NOTE: The trip is **November 13** and we'll be meeting at **10:00 am** to take advantage of low tide. There is a \$25 fee to cover expenses, payable by check or PayPal. Please let Mary Garland Douglass know if you are coming so we have a good headcount:

Check:
SCAN
PO Box 5651
Columbia, SC 29250

PayPal:

Go to your PayPal account

Select the Send Money option

Enter treasurer@scnaturalists.org as the recipient.

Put in the amount of \$25.00

Add a note that says Baruch Marine Field Laboratory trip

Click Send

Mark your calendar for December 11 for a trip to Lewis Ocean Bay Heritage Preserve.

See you soon!

Kim McManus

Belle Baruch Research Institute at Hobcaw Barony
22 Hobcaw Road
Georgetown, SC 29440
Georgetown County

November 13, 2021 | 10:00 am

Directions

Low tide is around 9. The Salt Marsh trail is best viewed at low tide. Let's meet at 10:00 to help us get an earlier start. We will meet at Hobcaw Barony, 22 Hobcaw Rd, Georgetown, SC. This address works with GPS receivers. From Georgetown, drive 1.3 miles east of the Waccamaw River bridge on US 17. The entrance is on the right.

What to Bring

As always bring what you wish to eat and drink. We will return to the cars at lunch so you can leave the food in your vehicles.

We will be walking in maritime forest and beaches so a change of shoes is not a bad idea, but the trails should be mostly dry. I understand the main pest is gnats but that could change with the weather. Check with the Georgetown forecast to plan your attire.

Agenda

Bruce Pffirmann with the Baruch Institute has worked out a good agenda for us. Be sure and scan through the https://sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/artsandsciences/baruch_institute/documents/siteprofile3nov14.pdf.

It includes a great deal of information regarding the area and research conducted there through 2014 (the publication year). Also check out this YouTube video with a historical account and current use of the Barony at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mrzSaUMXkbA>

- **Arrival - Meet at Hobcaw Barony Discovery Center** (immediately off highway 17): Short overview of Hobcaw Barony and the National Estuarine Research Reserve, see exhibits/aquaria, speak to NERR Education Coordinator Beth Thomas.
- **Morning - Salt marsh and pine forest trail loop:** - Walk along the edge of North Inlet estuary along our educational trail, and loop through coastal mixed pine forest. Joined by NERR Stewardship Coordinator Jen Plunket (for this, and likely the remainder of the day).
- **Lunch @ the Baruch Marine Field Lab:** Likely on our screened back porch. Brief overview of the field lab, our research, history, facilities, assets. Water, restroom facilities, etc., available here.
- **Afternoon - Estuary creeks and barrier islands:** Drive to Clambank Landing through coastal pine forest and salt marsh. Birding opportunities along route. From Clambank, we'll travel via boat to either Hobcaw Beach or North Island (coastal barrier islands), passing through the salt marsh creeks of North Inlet estuary. Depending on the group size, it will likely take 2-3 trips to ferry everyone out. However, there are ample opportunities to see flora and fauna while at Clambank Landing, and while on the beaches and dunes of Hobcaw/North Island.

Dining

There are no plans to gather for the pre-COVID traditional dining. If there are any of you desiring to do so bring it up at lunch with a suggested location.

Lodging

Litchfield Beach has off season rates and Georgetown is a nice community with many historical sites and good restaurants. Come and spend the weekend.

Jerry Bright
Eastern Regional Director

**Santee State Park
Orangeburg Co., SC
October 23, 2021**

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 tomjones@scan.org
Please indicate exactly to which flora/fauna list you are referring. Thank you.

FLORA

Ebony Spleenwort
Asplenium platyneuron

Resurrection Fern
Pleopeltis michauxiana

Loblolly Pine
Pinus taeda

Bald-cypress
Taxodium distichum

Tulip-tree
Liriodendron tulipifera

Small-flowered PawPaw
Asimina parviflora

Common Pawpaw
Asimina triloba

Catbrier
Smilax bona-nox bona-nox

Bamboo-vine
Smilax laurifolia

Water Hyacinth
Piaropus crassipes

Spanish-moss
Tillandsia usneoides

Common Bushy Bluestem
Andropogon glomeratus

Splitbeard Bluestem
Andropogon ternarius

Old-field Broomstraw
Andropogon virginicus

Giant Cane
Arundinaria gigantea

Slender Spikegrass
Chasmanthium laxum

Beaked Panic Grass
Coleataenia anceps

Needle-leaf Witchgrass
* *Dichanthelium aciculare*

Silver Plume Grass
Erianthus alopecuroides

Redtop
Tridens flavus

Sweet Gum
Liquidambar styraciflua

Witch-hazel
Hamamelis virginiana

Muscadine
Muscadinia rotundifolia rotundifolia

Virginia-creeper
Parthenocissus quinquefolia

Sericea Lespedeza
Lespedeza cuneata

Red Mulberry
Morus rubra

Swamp Chestnut Oak
Quercus michauxii

Live Oak
Quercus virginiana

Common Wax-myrtle
Morella cerifera

Mockernut Hickory
Carya tomentosa

Tag Alder
Alnus serrulata

Partridge-berry
Mitchella repens

Carolina Jessamine
Gelsemium sempervirens

Trumpet-creeper
Campsis radicans

American Holly
Ilex opaca

Silverling
Baccharis halimifolia

Common Dog-fennel
Eupatorium capillifolium

Grass-leaved Golden-aster
Pityopsis graminifolia

Southern Tall Goldenrod
Solidago altissima pluricephala

FAUNA

Mabel Orchard Orbweaver
Leucauge argyroabpta

Golden Silk Orbweaver
Trichonephila clavipes

Cloudless Sulphur
Phoebis sennae

Sleepy Orange
Abaeis nicippe

Gulf Fritillary
Dione vanillae

Anglewing Butterfly
Polygonia sp.

Common Buckeye
Junonia coenia

Southern Pearly-eye
Lethe portlandia

Long-tailed Skipper
Urbanus proteus

Clouded Skipper
Lerema accius

Least Skipper
Ancyloxypha numitor

Sachem
Atalopedes campestris

Ocola Skipper
Panoquina ocola

White Checkered-Skipper
Burnsius albescens

Tropical Checkered-Skipper
Burnsius oileus

Southern Two-lined Salamander
Eurycea cirrigera

Southern Toad
Anaxyrus terrestris

American Alligator
Alligator mississippiensis

Ground Skink
Scincella lateralis

Black Racer
Coluber constrictor

Ring-necked Snake
Diadophis punctatus

Double-crested Cormorant
Phalacrocorax auritus

Great Egret
Ardea alba

Forster's Tern
Sterna forsteri

Turkey Vulture
Cathartes aura

Mourning Dove
Zenaida macroura

Red-bellied Woodpecker
Melanerpes carolinus

Red-headed Woodpecker
Melanerpes erythrocephalus

Downy Woodpecker
Dryobates pubescens

Hairy Woodpecker
Dryobates villosus

Blue Jay
Cyanocitta cristata

Tufted Titmouse
Baeolophus bicolor

Carolina Chickadee
Poecile carolinensis

White-breasted Nuthatch
Sitta carolinensis

Brown-headed Nuthatch
Sitta pusilla

Carolina Wren
Thryothorus ludovicianus

Northern Mockingbird
Mimus polyglottos

Brown Thrasher

Toxostoma rufum

Black-throated Blue Warbler

Setophaga caerulescens

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Setophaga coronata

Northern Cardinal

Cardinalis cardinalis

Eastern Towhee

Pipilo erythrophthalmus

House Finch

Haemorhous mexicanus