January 2007 Newsletter

Hello Everyone,

'Twas the 15th day before Christmas and 15 members did not let the early morning sub 20°F temperatures keep them away from our last SCAN trip of 2006. On a fine sunny and cold (!) day, we explored Poinsett State Park (PSP) where flat pinelands are mixed with bluffs, ridges, and wet bottomlands (PSP is situated near the Wateree River in Sumter County). Flora from northern regions, like *Kalmia*, adorns the sandhills surrounding the main lake. The down slopes and bottomlands are filled with typical hardwoods including many large decades-old American Hollies. Gordon Murphy, who spent nostalgic childhood vacations swimming and camping here, introduced us to this park's history (PSP is the second oldest SC state park; Myrtle Beach State Park is the oldest). PSP is well aged and is a treasured gift of preservation, which our fast growing country needs greatly nowadays.

We proceeded in groups along Coquina Lake Trail, Hilltop Trail, and Laurel Trail near the bottomlands. The last trail is also part of the mountains-to-the-sea Palmetto Trail; 7.2 miles were recently added to the Palmetto Trail adjacent to the park along an old railroad right-a-way. Jan Ceigler, Quentin Webber, and I wish to explore this addition in the future. Highlights of the trip included sightings of an American bittern, pied-billed grebes, and red-headed woodpeckers. Lynn Smith spotted many more birds around the lake.

I noticed the pleasing absence of some invasive species like Japanese privet and honeysuckle from many areas that we visited. Other interesting events were the witnessing of raw survival in nature, like a white-eyed vireo chomping down on a cicada, and a phoebe aggressively consuming an anole. In an act of interspecies compassion, a quality that I note many naturalists easily demonstrate, Mary Douglass and Tom Jones removed a large leach from a bullfrog tadpole. Yellow-rumped warblers flitted about and some Carolina wrens made their characteristic fussing calls at our presence. We saw the coquina material remains of an 18th century mill near the lake. We found some Fuller's earth, a diatomaceous rock, under a tree fall; these are ancient remains from microscopic organisms, used in such things as absorbent cat litter and blood clotting drugs.

Gordon showed us the furrowing that a pileated woodpecker can do to a dead tree. The bird, looking for beetles, had stripped the bark off one side of this small diameter tree for about four feet. Gordon Murphy measured the marks and each were at least 4 mm wide, which indicated a woodpecker of this size. Spanish moss hung everywhere and we saw red bay and dog hobble in these bottomlands that had very clear water running through them over sandy bottoms. Wayne Grooms pointed out the skilled craftsmanship that Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) workers used with only hand tools to assemble buildings like the shelter that was on one of the bluffs. Most of these structures were made with the coquina stone and local wood and have a wonderful rustic quality typical of the Depression era when these workers built and improved many of our public parks in this country. Thanks to Fayette Yenny, Park Manager, for giving us much information during the day, and for her dedicated professional care of one of South Carolina's precious assets.

We ended the day having our dinner together, this time in nearby Wedgefield at the Batten Restaurant where some had alligator tail obtained through SCDNR. A young lady single handily waited and cooked for 9 of us. We were the only seated patrons on that cold night in this small-town eatery, hunting, fishing, and general store.

Our next meeting will be in the great indoors of the SC State Museum at the 2007 annual meeting in Columbia. We have two speakers from a well-known local university whose mascot is from the family Phasianidae (genus *Gallus*). After a slide show and board meeting all members are invited to a potluck supper at Jan Ciegler's home. We hope to see many of you on Saturday Jan 27 to begin another fun year exploring SC natural history with one of the best groups of eclectic nature enthusiasts of which I know. Thanks to all of you for your friendship and your dedication to our association.

(Jules Fraytet, SCAN President)

SCAN ANNUAL MEETING

South Carolina State Museum, Vista Room Columbia, SC January 27, 2007, All Day Event

9:30 - 10:00 AM: Socializing & Membership Drive (i.e., dues). Refreshments must be purchased.*

10:00 -10:15 AM: Introduction and Welcome, Jules Fraytet (President).

10:15 -11:05 AM: Nena Powell Rice, M.A. <u>The pre-history and history of South Carolina</u>. Archaeologist and Director of Outreach and Development, SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina.

11:10 AM -12:00 PM: Daniel Tufford, PhD. <u>A perspective of coastal plain wetlands: Conservation, climate, habitat, and restoration</u>. Research Assistant Professor, Dept of Biological Sciences, University of South Carolina.

12:00 - 2:00 PM: Lunch on your own.

2:00 - 3:30 PM: 2006 in Review; e.g., Jerry Bright and other SCAN photographers.

3:30 - 4:00 PM: Annual business meeting and election of 2007 officers.

4:00 PM: Adjourn. Potluck supper at Jan Ciegler's home.

*Unfortunately, we cannot serve our usual refreshments before the meeting due to a procedural change at the museum.

Nena Rice Powell received her AA in Liberal Arts from Sullins College (1973), BA in Anthropology from Southern Methodist University (1975), and her MA in Anthropology from the University of Denver (1990). She has conducted archaeological field and laboratory work in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, Utah, Montana, South Dakota, Wyoming, Alaska, and South Carolina. Nena has been at the Institute for 17½ years and has served in several areas. Currently, she is Director of Outreach, South Carolina Archaeology Month Coordinator (15 years), Acting Librarian, and staff to the Archaeological Research Trust Board. She is also the editor of the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology newsletter, 'Legacy.' She works closely with the Archaeological Society of South Carolina, serves as its Treasurer and Membership Chair, and handles both sells and distribution of society publications. Nena has traveled extensively and led trips to Europe, Central & South America, the Caribbean, Middle East, China, Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, Peru, the American southwest, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Turkey, Jordan, and Egypt. (803-777-8170, nrice@sc.edu)

Dr. Dan Tufford is on the research faculty in Biological Sciences at the University of South Carolina. His research interests center on freshwater resource management and include watershed and wetland ecology, simulation modeling, and climate impacts on freshwater resources. Current projects include ecological and modeling studies of tidal freshwater and seepage wetlands and a modeling study of the impacts of interannual climate variability on water quantity and quality. In addition, he teaches courses in environmental biology and ecological modeling. Dan serves on the state advisor board for Audubon South Carolina and is the current President of Columbia Audubon Society. As a volunteer, he has worked with most of the environmental and conservation nonprofit groups in the state on a variety of issues affecting natural resources and the environment. (803-777-3292, tufford@sc.edu)

Displays: Please bring materials you think other members would like to see (or buy); e.g., books, natural history artifacts, photos, paintings, hiking equipment, GPS devices, minerals, etc. SCAN is not responsible if your material is lost or stolen.

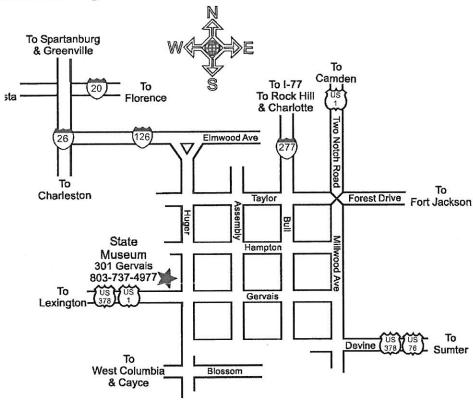
Jan's Potluck Supper Invitation. Jan Ciegler

Following the annual meeting, everyone is invited to my home for a potluck supper. I will supply drinks (soft drinks, beer, wine, coffee, tea) and utensils. Each person or couple should bring some food to share, moderate in quantity. (I don't want a lot of leftovers!) On your way to my home, you can pickup something from a grocery store or restaurant; e.g., Publix, Food Lion, Nick's Pizza, Burger King, McDonald's, Rush's (hamburgers & chicken), Bojangles, Pizza Hut, Atlantic Bread Co., Subway, Lizard's Thicket, and others. If you bring something from home, use a cooler unless the weather is cold enough to leave it in your car, as the museum has no refrigeration facilities. I'll handout maps to my home at the meeting, and you can stay as long as you wish. Look forward to seeing you. (803-796-2862, ciegler@earthlink.net)

SCAN. Officers: Jules Fraytet, President; Lynn Smith, Vice president; Ben Gregory, Secretary; Greg Mancini, Treasurer. Newsletter published monthly (scan_editor_brg@ bellsouth.net). Fieldtrips open to newcomers over age 15. Yearly membership \$12. Send check to SCAN, c/o Greg Mancini, PO Box 5651, Columbia, SC 29250-5651. SCAN is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) in the state of South Carolina.

Directions and Map to the State Museum, Virginia Winn

Directions: I-26 south (east), exit at US 1 and follow it into downtown over the Gervais Street Bridge. The museum will be on your left. Proceed to Huger Street, turn left at the traffic light, and watch for the brown museum sign at a small side street to your left. From I-26 north (west) or 1-20 west follow I-26 to 126. Turn right onto Huger Street immediately after you cross the Broad River and watch for the small brown sign on your right. From I-20 east and I-77 north follow SC 277 south to Elmwood. turn right, then bear right to Huger Street, then watch for the small brown sign on your right.



Poinsett State Park Revisited, Chris Manuse

Following our visit of December 30, 2006 to Poinsett State Park, I returned to search for the source of the beautifully clear water in Shanks Creek. With my GPS, my explorations led to the area within the park where Poinsett Park Rd and River Rd intersect. I found a small spring that flows into the creek, which flows into Old Levi Mill Lake. Horse trails are in the area, and a rustic old distillery was beside the spring. After consulting with a friend we all know, Ben Gregory, I learned that this area has a lot of porous limestone thus a few springs popping up around the area. I was only able to explore the spring that originated inside the park (daylight restrictions). 7.5-minute topography maps of the area revealed that Shanks Creek has two parts to it, one of them being inside the park and other starting just outside. I have not been back out to explore the part of Shanks Creek that originates outside the park across River Rd. Until another day that will wait ...

Bill Carter, Past SCAN President and Treasurer

Bill Carter is a past president and past treasurer of SCAN. During an accident this past September, Bill became unconscious, broke vertebrae C1 and C2 (neck), and injured his right shoulder. He spent two months in intensive care. He is now at National Health Care in Lexington, NC learning to walk. He is in a neck brace, but not paralyzed. He is wheelchair bound, but will hopefully graduate to a walker. Bill sends his best to all of you and, if able, he will come to SCAN's annual meetings. Greg Mancini – thanks for this information. (gjmancini@aol.com)

Rock Hill Bio-Blitz, March 30-31, 2007 (Steve Fields, info)

Steve Fields and fellow staff of the Culture & Heritage Museums (CHM) will host Bio-Blitz IV on March 30-31. Once again, the event will occur at the future location of the Stans Museum of Life and the Environment on a Friday and Saturday. Camping is optional at the site on Friday night, and the CHM will provide free meals for Friday dinner and Saturday breakfast. This bio-blitz will probably be the last chance to conduct broad scale surveys at the future museum location. All SCAN members are invited. Winthrop students (in Geology 410, SC Natural History) will attend; Dr. Irene Boland and Steve Fields, a Ph.D. candidate, teach this class. Other volunteers will attend. Mark your calendars for a weekend filled with plant surveying, insect collecting, cover board tipping, bird watching, mammal trapping, and whatever you would like to collect. Friday: arrival time 2 pm, dinner 6 pm. Saturday: 5 am snacks, 7 am breakfast, 4:30 pm end. Directions: From I-77, take SC exit 83 and go west on Sutton Rd. for about two blocks. Turn left onto Grady Hope Rd. and proceed through a little neighborhood. Take the left fork onto the dirt road and you will see both an open gate and the brown CHM sign. Proceed down the dirt road past the small power line right-of-way AND past the larger power line right-of-way. Continue up the hill to the campsite. If you intend to participate, please notify Steve Fields to help him plan food quantity. (803-329-2121, ext 110, stevefields@chmuseums.org)

Patrick McMillian, Host "Expeditions," A New Nature Series Airing on SCETV

"From the winsome beauty of Lowcountry marshes to the luscious rainforests of Dominica, amazing discoveries abound as SCETV kicks of the New Year with *Expeditions*, a new nature series that premieres Sunday, Jan 14 at 7:30 pm."

"Host and co-creator Patrick McMillian is joined each week by co-host Nancy Neal and a guest expert, as they take viewers on scenic outdoor adventures. Excursions to locations in the exotic Caribbean as well as destinations closer to home provide the foundation upon which *Expeditions* presents informative and entertaining explanations of environmental issues. From the Valley of Desolation in Dominica to the secret lives of bats in the Nantahala Mountains of North Carolina, this is not an average walk in the woods."

"Episode one, Shell Rings: A 4000 Year-Old Mystery, is a look at the intricate collection of shell rings along the South Carolina coast. Constructed by an ancient Native American civilization these mounds of oyster shells were one the largest man-made structures in the Western hemisphere. This journey uncovers clues to the purpose and origins of this ecological anomaly that forever changed the Lowcountry landscape."

"McMillian hopes that SCETV viewers, through this series, can see the connection between man and his world. "Virtually every drug ever developed has its origin in plants and animals. If we're destroying natural resources faster than we can research them, we're doing ourselves a disservice. Plus, plants and animals are just so amazing!" says McMillian."

"Expeditions is a weekly series created by Clemson University Video Production Services. Each program explores intriguing facets of nature in order to provide science-based insights for viewer explorers that promote environmental awareness and conservation practices." (Press Release, SCETV, Columbia, SC; contact Dana McCullough at 803-737-3212, dmcculough@scetv.org) (Gordon Murphy – thanks for bring this information to our attention!)

Wildlife Management Areas of South Carolina

The November-December issue of the *South Carolina Wildlife* magazine includes a 15-page special bonus section entitled *Get Into the Great Outdoors!*, *S.C. Department of Natural Resources' Wildlife Management Area Program*. This section includes a list and a map of all the wildlife management areas.

E-Mail Project, Ben Gregory

I have initiated an email project to reach members with time-sensitive material via their email addresses. For example, I emailed a few members about the 'wildlife management' article (see above). I found the article in December, but our December newsletter had been mailed already. Overall, utilizing email has great potential; e.g., it may offer a quick way to reach members if a fieldtrip has been shifted to another site. If you would like to get updates via email, please send your email address to me at scan_editor_brg@hotmail.com. All emails will be sent blind carbon copy (bcc), which means no one else will see your address. I will try to publish all email updates in our newsletter.

Rare American Chestnut Trees Discovered, Elliott Minor, AP, May 19, 2006

"A stand of American chestnut trees that somehow escaped a blight that killed off nearly all their kind in the early 1900's has been discovered along a hiking trail not far from President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Little White House at Warm Springs, (GA)."

Wollemi Pine, One of the World's Oldest and Rarest Plant Species

David Noble in New South Wales, Australia, discovered *Wollemia nobilis* (Araucariaceae) in 1994. Know previously only from fossil records (oldest record is 90 million years), this species was presumed extinct for about 2 million years and was probably extant with dinosaurs. Less than 100 adult trees exist in the wild, and one may be over 1000 years old. The largest wollemi pine is 131 ft tall with a 2 ft trunk width. Wollemi's are beautiful trees with unusually dark green foliage, bubbly bark, and multiple trunks. They are now being propagated and cultivated around the world. Relatives include the Norfolk Island pine and monkey puzzle pine, which are not pines but conifers, just like the wollemi pine. (Copied and paraphrased from wollemipine.com)

SCAN Membership Renewal, 2007

Membership dues are \$12 per member; \$5 for each additional member at the same address.	
dditional Members:	
Address:	
Amount Enclosed:	Contact Information (phone, email)
	ormation changed from last year?
Interest/Expertise:	
If you are between the age	s of 15-17 you will need a form to sign and to bring to each fieldtrip.
Please mail to: South Caro	lina Association of Naturalists P.O. Roy 5651 Columbia SC 20250-5651

Cowpens National Battlefield - Cherokee Co., SC - November 18, 2006

The following list for Cowpens National Battlefield was produced by SCAN from sightings supplied 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 & Mary Garland Douglass-Jones at prestoea@bellsouth.net. Please indicate exactly to which flora/fauna list you are referring. Thank you.

FLORA

Common Ground-pine

Dendrolycopodium obscurum

Common Running-cedar

Diphasiastrum digitatum

Southern Grapefern

Sceptridium biternatum

Netted Chain Fern

Woodwardia areolata

Virginia Chain Fern

Woodwardia virginica

Ebony Spleenwort

Asplenium platyneuron

Southern Lady Fern

Athyrium asplenioides

Christmas Fern

Polystichum acrostichoides

Shortleaf Pine

Pinus echinata

Eastern White Pine

Pinus strobus

Loblolly Pine

Pinus taeda

Virginia Pine; Scrub Pine

Pinus virginiana

Eastern Red Cedar

Juniperus virginiana virginiana

Rush

Juncus coriaceus

Broomsedge

Andropogon elliottii

Splitbeard Bluestem

Andropogon ternarius ternarius

Giant Cane

Arundinaria gigantea

Wild-rye

Elymus virginicus

Golden Bamboo

Phyllostachys aurea

Bent-awn Plume Grass

Saccharum brevibarbe

contortum

Yellow Indiangrass

Sorghastrum nutans

Formosa Lily

* Lilium formosanum

Indian Cucumber-root

Medeola virginiana

Asparagus

Asparagus officinalis

Blackberry-lily

* Iris domestica

German Iris

Iris germanica

Catbrier

Smilax bona-nox

Whiteleaf Greenbrier

Smilax glauca

Common Greenbrier

Smilax rotundifolia

Cranefly Orchid

Tipularia discolor

Tulip-tree

Liriodendron tulipifera

Dwarf-flower Heartleaf

Hexastylis naniflora

Yellowroot

Xanthorhiza simplicissima

Nandina

Nandina domestica

Sycamore

Platanus occidentalis

occidentalis

Sweet Gum

Liquidambar styraciflua

Mockernut Hickory

Carya alba

Pignut Hickory

Carya glabra

Black Walnut

Juglans nigra

White Oak

Quercus alba

Scarlet Oak

ariel Oak

Quercus coccinea

Southern Red Oak

Quercus falcata

Blackjack Oak

Quercus marilandica

marilandica

Water Oak

Quercus nigra

Willow Oak

Quercus phellos

Red Oak

Quercus rubra

Post Oak

Quercus stellata

Tag Alder

Alnus serrulata

American Hornbeam

Carpinus caroliniana

Common Pokeweed

Phytolacca americana

Common Climbing Buckwheat

Fallopia scandens

St. Andrew's Cross

Hypericum hypericoides

Mistletoe

Phoradendron serotinum

Shepherd's-purse

Capsella bursa-pastoris

Virginia-willow

Itea virginica

Wild Strawberry

Fragaria virginiana

Dewberry

Rubus flagellaris

Multiflora Rose

Rosa multiflora

Red Chokeberry

Sorbus arbutifolia

Downy Serviceberry

Amelanchier arborea

Black Cherry; Wild Cherry

Prunus serotina

Honey Locust

Gleditsia triacanthos

Sericea

Lespedeza cuneata

Chinese Wisteria

Wisteria sinensis

Everlasting Pea

* Lathyrus latifolius American Holly

llex opaca

Winged Sumac

Rhus copallinum Smooth Sumac

Rhus glabra

Eastern Poison Ivy

Toxicodendron radicans

radicans

Hearts-a'burstin'-with-love

Euonymus americanus

Boxelder; Ash-leaved Maple

Acer negundo

Red Maple
Acer rubrum

Muscadine: Bullace

Vitis rotundifolia

English Ivy

Hedera helix

Queen Anne's-lace; Wild Carrot

Daucus carota

Flowering Dogwood

Cornus florida

Silky Dogwood Cornus amomum

Cornus amomum

Spotted Wintergreen
Chimaphila maculata

Azalea

Rhododendron sp.

Sourwood

Oxydendrum arboreum

Sparkleberry

Vaccinium arboreum

Cowpens National Battlefield - Cherokee Co., SC - November 18, 2006

Elliott's Blueberry

Vaccinium elliottii

Black Highbush Blueberry

Vaccinium fuscatum

Persimmon

Diospyros virginiana

Chinese Privet; Ligustrum

Ligustrum sinense

Glossy Privet

* Ligustrum lucidum

Yellow Jessamine

Gelsemium sempervirens

Woolly Mullein

Verbascum thapsus

Turtleheads

Chelone glabra

Cross-vine

Bignonia capreolata

Partridge-berry

Mitchella repens

Japanese Honeysuckle

Lonicera japonica

Coral-berry; Indian Currant

Symphoricarpos orbiculatus

Arrowwood

Viburnum dentatum

American Elderberry

Sambucus canadensis

Willowleaf Lettuce

* Lactuca saligna

Common Dandelion

Taraxacum officinale

Dog-fennel

Eupatorium capillifolium

Rabbit-tobacco; Everlasting

Gnaphalium obtusifolium

Frost Aster

Aster pilosus

Aster

Aster dumosus

Heterotheca

Heterotheca graminifolia

Bitterweed

Helenium amarum

Ox-eye Daisy

Chrysanthemum

leucanthemum

Common Horseweed

Conyza canadensis

canadensis

Witches'-butter

Tremella mesenterica

FAUNA

Wolf Spider

Lycosa sp.

Katydid

Amblycorypha sp.

Chinese Mantid (egg mass)

Tenodera aridifolia sinensis

Goldenrod Ball Gall (fly)

Eurosta solidaginis

Small Carrion Beetle

Catops sp.

Rove Beetle

* Rugilus opaculus

Rove Beetle

* Coproporus sp.

Rove Beetle

* Sepedophilus beckeri

Rove Beetle

* Sepedophilus sp.

Short-winged Mold Beetle

* Tmesiphorus carinatus

Horned Passalus Beetle

Odontotaenius disjunctus

Click Beetle

Melanotus americanus

Silken Fungus Beetle

* Cryptophagus croceus

Seven-spotted Lady Beetle

Coccinella septempunctata

Minute Hooded Beetle

* Holopsis sp.

Minute Brown Scavenger Beetle

* Stephostethus sp.

Cylindrical Bark Beetle

* Paha laticollis

Darkling Beetle

Platydema erythrocera

Hickory Girdler Beetle

Oncideres cingulata

Bark Weevil

* Pseudopentarthrum simplex

Pine Sphinx

* Lapara coniferarum

Fall Webworm Moth

Hyphantria cunea

Great Blue Heron

Ardea herodias

Turkey Vulture

Cathartes aura

Northern Harrier; Marsh Hawk

Circus cyaneus

Red-shouldered Hawk

Buteo lineatus

Wild Turkey

Meleagris gallopavo

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Melanerpes carolinus

Northern Flicker

Colaptes auratus

Downy Woodpecker

Picoides pubescens

American Crow; Common Crow

Corvus brachyrhynchos

Tufted Titmouse

Parus bicolor

Carolina Chickadee

Parus carolinensis

Winter Wren

Troglodytes troglodytes

Carolina Wren

Thryothorus Iudovicianus

Eastern Bluebird

Sialia sialis

Hermit Thrush

Catharus guttatus

American Robin

Turdus migratorius

Northern Mockingbird

Mimus polyglottos
Cedar Waxwing

Bombycilla cedrorum

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Dendroica coronata

Pine Warbler

Dendroica pinus

Song Sparrow

Melospiza melodia Field Sparrow

Spizella pusilla
White-throated Sparrow

Zonotrichia albicollis