



January 2009

Greetings All,

Our final trip of 2008 took us to the McAlhany Preserve in Dorchester County. Joe Cockrell from the Charleston Natural History Society met us at the Preserve and gave us a brief history of the acquisition of the property as well as an update on previous and ongoing restoration projects. After Joe's orientation, we set out to explore. Unlike many of the SCAN group, I had never visited the Preserve before and was pleasantly surprised at the variety of habitats that occur there.

The Preserve is located along the eastern bank of the Edisto River and contains forested floodplain habitats and an interesting hardwood bluff. Also present is a nine-acre oxbow lake, which at the time of our visit, was connected to the river due to recent heavy rains in the upstate. To learn more about McAlhany Preserve you can visit <http://www.charlestonaudubon.org/mcalhany.html> or you can download aerial photography, a trail map, and other information from our SCAN Yahoo Groups site.

Thanks go to Johnny Hardaway and Wayne Grooms for hosting this trip, and a big thank you goes to Joe Cockrell for opening the preserve gate for us and giving us a brief introduction to the Preserve.

Now that tax season is upon us, it is time to fill out those state tax return forms. This year as you consider whether or not to make a "checkmark" on your tax return for a portion of your refund to be donated for a worthy cause, I would like to encourage you to select South Carolina State Parks for one of your generous donations. According to SCPRT, they only received \$33,000 from state residents through the check-off program last year whereas other states received between 10 and 20 times that amount. SCAN has relied heavily on our State Parks as destinations for our outings over the years and this is a relatively "painless" way of contributing to insure they are available to us in the future. Please encourage your friends and family to do the same.

It's hard to believe that we have come to the end of another great year of adventure and camaraderie. We have had some really great trips this year and I would like to thank all of the Regional Coordinators (RCs) for doing such a fine job of planning and scouting for us in 2008. I would also like to thank the incoming RCs for accepting the responsibility of assuring quality trips in 2009. While I am passing out the thank yous I would like to extend a special thank you to our outgoing Secretary, Ben Gregory, for the fine work he has done for us during the past two and a half years.

I look forward to seeing you at our Annual Meeting!

Gordon / SCAN President

PS. Please consider renewing your SCAN membership at this time. If you are already a member and your address information is the same, you may simply mail a check to: SCAN, PO Box 5651, Columbia, SC 29250-5651. Renewing this way will save our treasurer some much needed time at our annual meeting. Thank you.

SCAN 2009 (1):1

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF NATURALISTS

South Carolina State Museum, Vista Room, Columbia, SC

January 24, 2009; 9:30 AM – 4:00 PM

9:30 - 10:00 AM: Socializing & Membership Renewal. Refreshments may be purchased from the museum.

10:00 - 10:15 AM: **Introduction and Welcome. Gordon Murphy**, SCAN President.

10:15 - 11:05 AM: **Steve Bennett**; Steve will be discussing reptiles and amphibians of South Carolina.

11:10 - 12:00 PM: **Claudia Houck**; Claudia will be discussing the field of landscape architecture and landscape design process. She will highlight some of the projects on which she has worked, including her recent work in Egypt.

12:00 - 1:30 PM: Lunch, on your own.

1:35 - 2:25 PM: **Melissa Bimbi**; Melissa will be talking about the South Carolina Shorebird Project, which is a partnership between Federal, State, and County agencies and NGOs working together in South Carolina to achieve shorebird conservation through research, outreach and education. She will be talking about current shorebird conservation concerns and achievements for shorebirds, particularly the piping plover.

2:30 - 3:30 PM: 2008 in review; **Jerry Bright** and other SCAN photographers.

3:30 - 4:00 PM: **Annual Business Meeting**; election of 2008 officers, etc.

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

Steve Bennett is a graduate of the University of Georgia, and did his M.S. research at the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory under Dr. Whit Gibbons. Steve has been a biologist with SCDNR for 29 years, first with the Heritage Trust Program and currently with the Wildlife Section. Steve has focused on amphibian and reptile conservation issues throughout his career, including habitat protection and management, survey, research and education. The primary focus of Steve's work has been with rare, threatened, endangered and special concern species.

Claudia Houck attended the North Carolina School of the Arts in 1988 – 1991, where she studied visual arts, then attended East Carolina University where she graduated in 1994 with a B.S. in Environmental Health. After working as a landscape designer as well as in various environmental health jobs (such as SCDHEC) for about 12 years, she decided to return to school to get her M.S. in Landscape Architecture at Clemson University. She will be graduating this coming May and hopes to find employment in the Charlotte area.

Melissa Bimbi graduated from Clemson University with a B.S. in Wildlife Biology and is currently finishing her M.S. in Environmental Studies from the College of Charleston. Her research involves loggerhead sea turtles in-situ and relocated nest incubation environments on Cape Island, which is in the Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge. She is a coastal Endangered Species Biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Her field work mostly involves loggerhead sea turtles, piping plovers, and Wilson's plovers, but she also works with bald eagles, manatees, and wood storks.

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

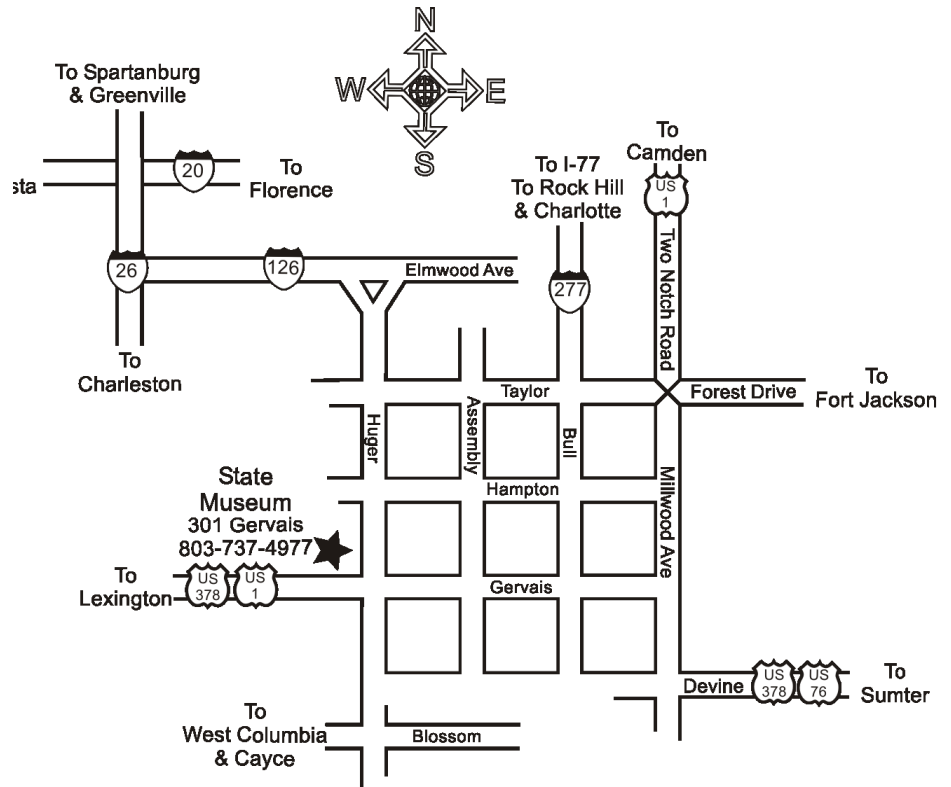
Following the annual meeting, everyone is invited to my home for a potluck supper. I will supply drinks (soft drinks, beer, wine, coffee, tea) and utensils. Each person or couple should bring some food to share, moderate in quantity. (I don't want a lot of leftovers!) On your way to my home, you can pick up 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, jciegler@sc.rr.com)

South Carolina Association of Naturalists: Gordon Murphy, President; Pat Bright, Vice-president; Ben Gregory, Secretary; Greg Mancini, Treasurer; Jan Ciegler, Flora/Fauna Database Manager; Dee Hope, Historian, Regional Directors: Jan Ciegler (north); Johnny Hardaway & Wayne Grooms (south); Chris Manuse (east); Lynn Smith & Claudia Houck (west); John Cely (central). Newsletter published monthly; contact Ben Gregory, scan_editor_brg@bellsouth.net or 704-372-8532. Yearly membership is \$12. Send check to SCAN, P.O. Box 5651, Columbia, SC 29250-5651. Fieldtrips are open to visitors; children must be over age 15. SCAN is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) in the state of South Carolina. (www.scnaturalists.org)

SCAN 2009 (1):2

Directions and Map to the South Carolina 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 I-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.



SCAN New Membership & Renewal Form

(If you are already a member and your address information is the same, you may simply mail a check to the address below. Thank you.)

Today's Date: _____ New Member(s) #: _____ Renewing Member(s) #: _____

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
 (Persons joining in July or later pay 1/2 price.) (Members must be at least age 15 or older.)

Name(s): 1. _____ 2. _____
 3. _____ 4. _____

Mailing Address: Street/PO Box _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email Addresses: 1. _____
 2. _____

Phone #: (_____) _____

Please mail renewal form to: SCAN, PO Box 5651, Columbia, SC 29250-5651
 Thank You!

All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory Initiative, Stan Hutto

The South Carolina State Park Service is undertaking an exciting and challenging new initiative, the establishment of a statewide All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory (ATBI) on state park properties. This project was proposed and is supported by SC State Park Service Director Phil Gaines and will result in a comprehensive inventory effort having multiple benefits. These benefits include collecting and organizing important base-line data needed to make informed resource-based management decisions, strengthening ties with the scientific/research community by creating networking opportunities and promoting a greater sense of public appreciation and stewardship of state park natural resources.

Our goal is to have an ATBI process in place by the year 2010. This project will include creating an information database and developing the framework for data collection, research project development, and specimen identification. In order to best accomplish this, we are inviting members of the conservation and scientific community to participate in our planning effort. To date, we have garnered advice from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee State Parks and through a small advisory group consisting of resource professionals, researchers and citizen scientists who reflect different areas of expertise and regional representation from within the state. From these initial steps we are now ready to move forward with this important initiative.

We are planning a meeting for all interested persons who would like a stake in the development of this ATBI process on Thursday, February 26, 2009 at Lake Greenwood State Recreation Area near the town of Ninety Six. We consider this meeting to be an important step in our planning process and will be an excellent opportunity for you to gain insight into our efforts and provide input into the process. If you are interested in the project but unable to attend this meeting, please let us know and we will keep you informed of the project's progress and offer additional means for your input. Please consider joining us in this process. More details will follow shortly as the meeting agenda is developed. **Stan Hutto**, Resource Management Biologist, SC Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism, 1205 Pendleton St., Columbia, SC 29201, Phone: (803) 734-0532, Fax: (803) 734-1017, shutto@scprt.com

An Impact Crater in Northeast South Carolina Inferred from Potential Field Data,

Pradeep Talwani, Eric Wildermuth, and Chris D. Parkinson, Department of Geological Sciences, University of South Carolina, 701 Sumter St., Columbia SC 29208.

A comparison of recently acquired gravity data with aeromagnetic data for northeastern South Carolina revealed the presence of coincident circular anomalies near Johnsonville. These ~11 km diameter circular lows meet the geophysical criteria for those associated with buried complex impact craters. Within the magnetic low is a northwest-southeast structure enclosed by two concentric "moat-like" lows to its northeast and southwest. The pattern of surface streams passing above the structure is also consistent with the interpretation of a buried impact crater. Fortuitously, a drill core was available from a borehole drilled within these lows. The core includes ~10 m of Paleozoic crystalline Piedmont basement. Petrographic analysis of basement samples from the core revealed indications of shock metamorphic textures, including ballen texture in quartz, and transformation of some feldspar grains to diaplectic glass, supporting the interpretation of the existence of a buried impact crater.

Deep-Sea Coral Reefs, Bruce Henderson

Ancient, deep-sea coral reefs off the Southeastern coast from North Carolina to Florida should be protected, a federal fisheries board says. The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, meeting this week in Wilmington, scheduled public hearings on designating the pristine reefs as "habitat areas of particular concern." **The 23,000-square-mile area is believed to be the world's largest contiguous deep-water coral ecosystem.** Fishing for deep-water shrimp and golden crabs would be allowed within some of the protected areas.

Public hearings will be held in Charleston on Jan. 26, in New Bern on Jan. 27, and in Georgia and Florida in early February. The council is expected to give final approval to the designation at its March meeting in Jekyll Island, Ga.

Found in dark, cold waters 1,200 feet or more deep, the fragile coral mounds have been explored only in the past decade. Fishing trawlers have damaged similar reefs around the world. The Bush Administration has reportedly considered protecting the reefs as a national monument, but has taken no action. (Charlotte Observer, 2B, 12-6-08)

**Botany Bay Island
Charleston Co., SC
October 25, 2008**

FLORA

Southern Red Cedar

*Juniperus virginiana
silicicola*

Salt-cedar

Tamarix ramosissima

Seaside Oxeye

Borrchia frutescens

Columned Stinkhorn

Clathrus columnatus

FAUNA

Marsh Periwinkle; Mud

Snail

Littorina irrorata

Knobbed Whelk (shell)

Busycon carica

Lettered Olive (shell)

Oliva sayana

Atlantic Augur (shell)

Terebra dislocata

Ribbed Mussel

Geukensia demissa

Transverse Ark (shell)

Anadara transversa

Stiff Pen (shell)

Atrina rigida

Eastern Oyster

Crassostrea virginica

Jingle Shell (shell)

Anomia simplex

Fallen Angel-wing (shell)

Barnea truncata

Northern Quahog Clam

Mercenaria mercenaria

Fiddler Crab

Uca sp.

Sand Grasshopper

Spharagemon sp.

Keeler's Spurthroated

Grasshopper

Melanoplus keeleri

Rusty Bird Grasshopper

Schistocerca rubiginosa

Field Cricket (juvenile)

Gryllus sp.

Bee Assassin Bug (juvenile)

Apiomerus sp.

Assassin Bug

Psellipus sp.

Red Imported Fire Ant

Solenopsis invicta

Progressive Bee Fly

Exoprosopa sp.

Roseate Skimmer (dragonfly)

Orthemis ferruginea

Oval Leaf Beetle

Paria fragariae kirki

Palmetto Tortoise Beetle

Hemisphaerota cyanea

Broad-nosed Weevil

Sitona lineatus

Cloudless Sulphur

Phoebis sennae eubule

Little Yellow (butterfly)

Eurema lisa

Gulf Fritillary

Agraulis vanillae

Common Buckeye

Junonia coenia

Little Wood-satyr (butterfly)

Megisto cymela

Monarch (butterfly)

Danaus plexippus

Long-tailed Skipper

Urbanus proteus

Eufala Skipper

Lerodea eufala

Pied-billed Grebe

Podilymbus podiceps

Brown Pelican

Pelecanus occidentalis

Double-crested Cormorant

Phalacrocorax auritus

**Yellow-crowned Night-heron
(juvenile)**

Nycticorax violaceus

Little Blue Heron (juvenile)

Egretta caerulea

Snowy Egret

Egretta thula

Great Egret

Casmerodius albus

Great Blue Heron

Ardea herodias

Wood Stork

Mycteria americana

Common Moorhen

Gallinula chloropus

Ruddy Turnstone

Arenaria interpres

Herring Gull

Larus argentatus

Turkey Vulture

Cathartes aura

Bald Eagle (juvenile)

Haliaeetus leucocephalus

Northern Harrier

Circus cyaneus

Red-tailed Hawk

Buteo jamaicensis

Osprey

Pandion haliaetus

Common Ground-dove

Columbina passerina

Belted Kingfisher

Ceryle alcyon

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Melanerpes carolinus

Northern Flicker

Colaptes auratus

Downy Woodpecker

Picoides pubescens

Pileated Woodpecker

Dryocopus pileatus

Eastern Phoebe

Sayornis phoebe

American Crow

Corvus brachyrhynchos

Carolina Chickadee

Parus carolinensis

Brown-headed Nuthatch

Sitta pusilla

Carolina Wren

Thryothorus ludovicianus

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

Poliptila caerulea

Eastern Bluebird

Sialia sialis

Northern Mockingbird

Mimus polyglottos

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Dendroica coronata

Northern Cardinal

Cardinalis cardinalis

Red-winged Blackbird

Agelaius phoeniceus

Eastern Mole (sign)

Scalopus aquaticus

Bottle-nosed Dolphin

Tursiops truncatus

McAlhany Nature

Preserve

Dorchester Co., SC

December 13, 2008

FLORA

Gemmed Amanita

Amanita gemmata

FAUNA

Crab-shaped Spiny-back

Gasteracantha

cancriformis

Green Lynx Spider (juvenile)

Peucetia viridans

Black-sided Pygmy

Grasshopper

Tettigidea lateralis

Mischievous Bird

Grasshopper

Schistocerca damnifica

Carolina Mantis (egg case)

Stagmomantis carolina

Bald-faced Hornet (nest)

Dolichovespula maculata

Patent-leather Beetle

Odontotaenius disjunctus

Cloudless Sulphur

(fragment)

Phoebis sennae eubule

Marbled Salamander

Ambystoma opacum

Slimy Salamander

Plethodon glutinosus

Green Anole

Anolis carolinensis

Turkey Vulture

Cathartes aura

Red-tailed Hawk

Buteo jamaicensis

Wild Turkey (sign)

Meleagris gallopavo

Barred Owl

Strix varia

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Melanerpes carolinus

Northern Flicker

Colaptes auratus

Downy Woodpecker

Picoides pubescens

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Sphyrapicus varius

Pileated Woodpecker

Dryocopus pileatus

Eastern Phoebe

Sayornis phoebe

American Crow

Corvus brachyrhynchos

Carolina Chickadee

Parus carolinensis

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Regulus calendula

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

Poliptila caerulea

Hermit Thrush

Catharus guttatus

Northern Cardinal

Cardinalis cardinalis

Nine-banded Armadillo

(burrow)

* *Dasypus novemcinctus*

Beaver (gnaw mark)

Castor canadensis

White-tailed Deer (sign)

Odocoileus virginianus

**Kings Mountain
State Park
York Co., SC
November 15, 2008**

LICHENS

Cladina sp.

FLORA

Common Ground-pine

*Dendrolycopodium
obscurum*

Common Running-cedar

Diphasiastrum digitatum

Royal Fern

*Osmunda regalis
spectabilis*

Ebony Spleenwort

Asplenium platyneuron

Sensitive Fern

*Onoclea sensibilis
sensibilis*

Christmas Fern

Polystichum acrostichoides

Shortleaf Pine

Pinus echinata

Loblolly Pine

Pinus taeda

Virginia Pine

Pinus virginiana

Eastern Red Cedar

*Juniperus virginiana
virginiana*

Broomsedge

Andropogon sp.

Giant Cane

Arundinaria gigantea

Switch Cane

Arundinaria tecta

Whiteleaf Greenbrier

Smilax glauca

Jackson-brier

Smilax smallii

Crane-fly Orchid

Tipularia discolor

Tulip-tree

Liriodendron tulipifera

Umbrella Magnolia

Magnolia tripetala

Little Brown Jug

Hexastylis arifolia

Yellowroot

Xanthorhiza simplicissima

Sweet Gum

Liquidambar styraciflua

False-nettle

Boehmeria cylindrica

Mockernut Hickory

Carya alba

American Beech

Fagus grandifolia

White Oak

Quercus alba

Scarlet Oak

Quercus coccinea

Southern Red Oak

Quercus falcata

Blackjack Oak

*Quercus marilandica
marilandica*

Rock Chestnut Oak

Quercus montana

Cherrybark Oak

Quercus pagoda

Willow Oak

Quercus phellos

Red Oak

Quercus rubra

Gray Oak

Quercus rubra ambigua

Post Oak

Quercus stellata

Tag Alder

Alnus serrulata

American Hornbeam

Carpinus caroliniana

Poor Man's Pepper

*Lepidium virginicum
virginicum*

Spotted Wintergreen

Chimaphila maculata

Trailing Arbutus

Epigaea repens

Mountain Laurel

Kalmia latifolia

Coastal Doghobble

Leucothoe axillaris

Sourwood

Oxydendrum arboreum

Azalea

Rhododendron sp.

Sparkleberry

Vaccinium arboreum

Galax

Galax urceolata

American Persimmon

Diospyros virginiana

Foamflower

Tiarella sp.

Agrimony

Agrimonia sp.

Red Chokeberry

Aronia arbutifolia

Five-fingers

Potentilla canadensis

Black Cherry

Prunus serotina serotina

Blackberry

Rubus sp.

Eastern Redbud

*Cercis canadensis
canadensis*

Black Locust

Robinia pseudoacacia

Wisteria

Wisteria sp.

Silky Dogwood

Cornus amomum

Flowering Dogwood

Cornus florida

Blackgum

Nyssa sylvatica

Hearts-a-burstin'-with-love

Euonymus americanus

American Holly

Ilex opaca opaca

Muscadine

*Vitis rotundifolia
rotundifolia*

Box Elder

Acer negundo

Red Maple

Acer rubrum

Eastern Poison Ivy

*Toxicodendron radicans
radicans*

Common Periwinkle

Vinca minor

Cross-vine

Bignonia capreolata

Bedstraw

Galium sp.

Partridge-berry

Mitchella repens

Japanese Honeysuckle

Lonicera japonica

Mapleleaf Viburnum

Viburnum acerifolium

Elephant's-foot

Elephantopus sp.

Common Dog-fennel

Eupatorium capillifolium

Hawkweed

Hieracium sp.

Grass-leaved Golden-aster

Pityopsis aspera adenolepis

Rosinweed

Silphium sp.

Licorice Goldenrod

Solidago odora odora

Common Dandelion

Taraxacum officinale

Beech Sooty Mold

* *Scorias spongiosa*

Variable Russula

Russula variata

Purple Russula

* *Russula lepida*

FAUNA

Black Widow

Latrodectus mactans

Northern Widow

Latrodectus variolus

Carolina Locust

Dissosteira carolina

Field Cricket

Gryllus sp.

Stink Bug

Meneles insertus

Wheel Bug

Arilus cristatus

Beech Blight Aphid

*Grylloprociphilus
imbricator*

Ichneumon Wasp

* *Oecotelma* sp. (?)

Dusky Lady Beetle

Scymnus cervicalis

Gulf Fritillary

Agraulis vanillae

Redbreast Sunfish

Lepomis auritus

Green Anole

Anolis carolinensis

Canada Goose

Branta canadensis

Pileated Woodpecker

Dryocopus pileatus

American Crow

Corvus brachyrhynchos

Tufted Titmouse

Parus bicolor

Carolina Chickadee

Parus carolinensis

Carolina Wren

Thryothorus ludovicianus

Golden-crowned Kinglet

Regulus satrapa

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Regulus calendula

Cedar Waxwing

Bombycilla cedrorum

Northern Cardinal

Cardinalis cardinalis

Gray Squirrel

Sciurus carolinensis