February 2007 Newsletter

Hello SCAN 2007.

The recent period of extra cold weather warmed up as we held our 31st annual meeting in the familiar indoor surroundings of the Vista room at the South Carolina State Museum under the gracious management of Jim Knight who opened up our meeting by welcoming us. Thanks again to the museum staff for providing us with these excellent meeting facilities. The museum is a wonderful setting to explore much of the themes that motivate our group's interests.

Both of our speakers provided stimulating subject matter that prompted many questions from our audience of over 60 people.

The first was Nena Powell Rice Director of the SC Institute Archaeology and Anthropology who gave us an informative review of some prehistory and history of the state, a subject that could fill hours with rich information. She also showed us some of the ongoing research at various excavation sites in the state and elsewhere. South Carolina has a very rich biological and cultural history that is still being uncovered through the dedicated and passionate work of scientists such as Nena and we appreciated her sharing the excitement she has for her work. She even used a form of a primitive spear has her pointer to her slide show rather than those ubiquitous laser pointers! Nena welcomed anybody interested in SC archaeology and volunteers to help in excavations to contact the institute at 803-777-8170 or www.cas.sc.edu/sciaa or nrice@sc.edu.

Next Dan Tufford on the research faculty in Biological Sciences at USC gave us the next talk on the very important subject of understanding and preserving our local wetland ecology and restoring these critical endangered habitats in the coastal plain. Dan showed us how many old rice farms of the plantation era that dramatically altered coastal plain swamp forests and wetlands are now being restored by humans and nature to be effective wetland ecosystems again even if the anthropogenic scars are still evident. He also talked about how prevalent, but inconspicuous water table seeps are in our area, where even in drought conditions these seeps provide a source of water to the local ecology. In an ongoing effort to map these seeps, Dan asked that if anybody is aware of such places in the SC coastal plain especially, on private land, please let him know by contacting him at 803-777-3292 or at tufford@sc.edu.

Thanks to both of our speakers for sharing their expertise and time for our meeting.

After lunch John Cely, with the creative talents of our media savvy Jerry Bright showed us photos of a recent three-week birding trip to Ecuador. We were dazzled by the breathtaking colors and variety of some of the hundreds of species of cloud forest birds. After that, Lynn also with the creative editing of Jerry did a slide show of some of the highlights of our 2006 field trips. It is fascinating to me how a photo can make the various species we observe even more intriguing, and beautiful. We live in such an enormously rich world of shapes, colors and textures, that slowing down to appreciate as much as we can absorb, is amply rewarded to those who take the time and use sensitivity to appreciate what nature has to offer.

After the board meeting where we elected our new officers, we headed for Jan Ciegler's house to indulge in good food and drink as we socialized reminisced over our adventures and made plans for future group activities.

Thanks to all our officers, regional directors and volunteers, including the constant work of our flora/fauna data base managers (Tom Jones and Mary Douglass) and the trip historian (Dee Hope) . You all make SCAN a great organization. Thanks of course also to all the members of SCAN, whose love of nature has kept the organization going for the thirty plus years since it's founding by Rudy Mancke

See you on our next trip, Jules Fraytet/ SCAN President 2007

Great Pee Dee Heritage Preserve

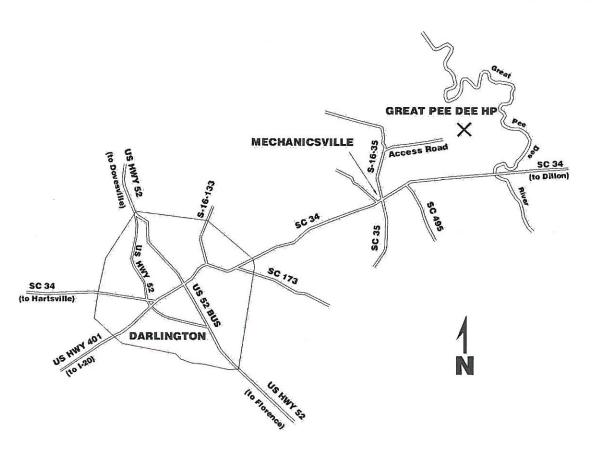
Darlington County, SC February 24, 2007 (Gordon Murphy)

The Great Pee Dee River Heritage Preserve is located in eastern Darlington County and protects more than seven miles of river frontage. The 2,725-acre preserve became part of the Heritage Preserve system in 1992. This preserve contains forested riparian wetlands including bottomland hardwood forest and cypress swamp; the drier portions of the preserve are planted in pine. Additionally, the preserve harbors five state listed rare species including three plant species (enchanter's nightshade, small skullcap, and Carolina whitlow-grass), one reptile (the striped mud turtle), and one amphibian (the pickerel frog). The road through the preserve leads to high bluffs overlooking the Great Pee Dee River.

In addition to the extensive natural communities, there are significant archaeological sites protected at the preserve. These include the 18th century home site of Johannes Kolb located along the oxbow lake that forms a portion of the eastern preserve boundary, as well as prehistoric sites where Native American artifacts date back 12,000 years.

The road through the preserve may be difficult to navigate depending on the amount of rain received at the preserve prior to our visit. We may need to leave some cars at the preserve boundary and carpool in vehicles with higher road clearance, such as trucks and SUVs. On recent scouting trips, the site has been very wet, **so appropriate footwear is recommended**; bring lunch, water, etc. There are no restrooms at the preserve. For those who are so inclined, there is a boat access point at the confluence of Hurricane Creek and the oxbow lake where canoes or kayaks can be launched. This is a great way to observe wildlife along the lakeshore.

To get to the preserve from Darlington, take SC 34 east for approximately 7 miles. When you get to Mechanicsville, turn left on North Charleston Road (S-16-35). Go approximately 1.6 miles and turn right onto the access road. There is an unlocked gate on the access road just as you turn off the paved road and a sign-in sheet at the gate for all visitors. The access road to the preserve passes through private property and the preserve boundary is 1.2 miles from the gate on the access road.



South Carolina Association of Naturalists. Jules Fraytet, President; Lynn Smith, Vice president; Ben Gregory, Secretary; Greg Mancini, Treasurer; Tom Jones & Mary G. Douglass-Jones, Flora/Fauna Database Managers; Dee Hope, Historian. Regional Directors: Jan Ciegler (north), Mike Turner (south), Gordon Murphy (east), Eva & Sam Pratt (west), Jerry & Pat Bright (central). Newsletter published monthly (scan_editor_brg@bellsouth.net). Yearly membership is \$12. Send check to SCAN, c/o Greg Mancini, PO Box 5651, Columbia, SC 29250-5651. Fieldtrips open to newcomers over age 15. (www.scnaturalist.org) SCAN is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) in the state of South Carolina.

Visit Archaeological Excavations at the Great Pee Dee Heritage Preserve (info, Gordon Murphy)

The 11th Annual Johannes Kolb Archaeology and Education Project will be March 12-23 at Great Pee Dee Heritage Preserve in Darlington County. On Saturday, March 17, from 9 am to 3 pm, the public is invited to tour the excavations at the Johannes Kolb Site. At the March 17 event, primitive technologist Scott Jones will demonstrate a wide variety of primitive technologies and skills, archaeologist Bobby Southerlin will demonstrate low-fired earthenware pottery construction, and re-enactor Jason Smith will portray the 18th century minister of Cashua Neck Church (Evan Pugh). Excavations will occur at the site from March 12-23. A docent will be on site every day from 9 am to 4 pm to talk with students and visitors. School groups wishing to visit may contact Sean Taylor, SC Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Heritage Trust archaeologist, at (803) 734-3753 in Columbia or by e-mail at TaylorS@ dnr.sc.gov. To learn more about the Johannes Kolb Archaeology and Education Project go to http://38da75.com. (copied, www.dnr.sc.gov/news/Yr2007/jan29/jan29_kolb.html)

Freshwater Muscle Survey, Pee Dee River Basin in South Carolina, T. W. Savidge

The freshwater mussel fauna of North America (the richest in the world) consists of approximately 297 species and subspecies. The greatest species diversity occurs in the southeastern United States. The Pee Dee River Basin is a major drainage of the southeastern US, and the second-largest river basin in South Carolina. Prior to this survey, 27 species of freshwater mussels were reported for the Pee Dee River Basin in North and South Carolina, more than in any other river basin in the two states. The survey, reported here, was conducted in 2005 & 2006, during which 23 species were recorded. Three of these species (the box spike, Pee Dee lance, and laceolate elliptio) were not previously reported, which brings the total number of species in the basin to 30. The highest number of mussel species (12) occurred at a site in the Great Pee Dee River. Some of the colorful common names of these mussels are Carolina slabshell, yellow lampmussel, rayed pink fatmucket, eastern floater, creeper, and Atlantic Southern rainbow. The fish hosts for several of the mussel species are unknown. (copied, *Freshwater Mussel Surveys of the Pee Dee River Basin in South Carolina*. T. W. Savidge. 1-3-2006) (www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/southcarolina)

Laurel Wilt Disease or Extinction of Red Bay Trees in the Southeast, Richard M. Bryant

Mortality of red bay trees (*Persea borbonia*) in coastal locations in SC, GA, and FL is spreading rapidly, resulting in the death of nearly all red bay trees in the infected areas. The cause of the disease is a fungus (*Ophiostoma* sp.) vectored by an Asian ambrosia beetle (*Xyleborus glabratus*). Both the beetle and the fungus are recent introductions (approx. 2002) into the United States. At the present time, there is no known method to halt the spread of this disease. Turkeys, quail, deer, songbirds, and bears eat red bay seeds. Larvae of the palamedes, Schaus, and spicebush swallowtails utilize red bay leaves as a host. Additionally, red bay leaves are used as an herb in cooking. (copied; Bryant's full paper was presented at a workshop on the decline of red bay trees on January 18, 2007 at Jekyll Island, GA.) (info, Gordon Murphy)

Southeastern Wildlife Exposition (info, Ben Gregory)

Now in its 25th year, the Southeastern Wildlife Exposition (SEWE) in Charleston has grown to be the largest event of its kind in the nation, attracting over 500 artists and exhibitors from around the globe who present their offerings to over 40,000 attendees. A three-day celebration (Feb. 16-18, 2007) of nature, it has earned an excellent reputation. SEWE hosts the world's foremost experts in wildlife and nature art, as well as conservation research and environmental education. The SEWE is the largest annual event to take place in South Carolina. (copied, www.sewe.com)

SCAN 2007 Fieldtrip Dates and Sites

- Jan 27: Annual Meeting, SC State Museum, Columbia, Jules Fraytet
- Feb 24: Great Pee Dee Heritage Preserve, Darlington County, Eastern Region, Gordon Murphy
- Mar 24: Heggies Rock, Columbia County, GA, Central Region, Jerry Bright
- Mar 30/31: President's Special, BioBlitz, York County, Jules Fraytet
- Apr 28: Jackson's Place, Spartanburg County, Northern Region, Jan Ciegler
- May 26: Pacolet Falls, Polk County, NC, Western Region, Eva/Sam Pratt
- Jun 23: Rich Woods (along Enoree River), Laurens County, Western Region, Eva/Sam Pratt
- Jul 28: Blue Wall Passage of Palmetto Trail, Spartanburg/Greenville County, Western Region, Eva/Sam Pratt
- Aug 25: Mepkin Abbey, Berkeley County, Southern Region, Mike Turner
- Sep 22: Lynchburg Savanna, Lee County, Central Region, Jerry Bright
- Oct 27/28: Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge, Chesterfield County, Overnight to Cheraw State Park, Northern Region, Jan Ciegler
- Nov 17: Little Pee Dee State Park and Little Pee Dee State Park Bay Heritage Preserve, Dillion County, Eastern Region, Gordon Murphy
- Dec 8: Lafarge Quarry, Dorchester County, Southern Region, Mike Turner
- Jan 26, 2008: Annual Meeting, SC State Museum, Columbia, Jules Fraytet

Odonata of Union County, SC (info, Lynn Smith)

Worthen, W.B., & C.M. Jones. 2007. Odonata survey of Union County, South Carolina. Argia 18(4)" 32-33. Dr. Worthen (Furman University, Greenville, SC) may be able to send you a reprint (worthen@furman.edu).

Go Wild for Nature (info, Christopher Manuse)

On 5-5-2007, the South Carolina Chapter of The Nature Conservancy will hold its *Go Wild for Nature* celebration at the Webb Wildlife Center, located near Garnett in Hampton County by the Savannah River (11am registration; 12pm, lunch & speakers, 1:30pm activities begin). Activities included are: reptiles of SC by Meg Hoyle, nature walks with Rudy Mancke, Dr. Doug Rayner, Dr. John Nelson & others, a children's perspective of the natural world by conservation ecologist Colette DeGarady, skeet shooting at Palachucla WMA, red-cockaded woodpecker colony tours with Dr. Maria Whitehead, kayak among cypress & tupelo with naturalist guide Chris Crowley of Coastal Expeditions, children draw their favorite SC bird in a contest, enter to win a kayak, face painting, balloon bounce, making bird feeders. (copied, ww.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/southcarolina)

Santee National Wildlife Refuge, Activities for 2007 (info, Ken Boni)

2/21-22 Comprehensive Conservation Plan (public meeting); 3/24-25 Ćelebration of Wildlife and Living History; 4/14 Butterfly Walk w/ Billy McCord; 4/22 Birding & Hiking; 6/16 Bird Walk w/ Josh Arrants. The Celebration of Wildlife and Living History on March 24 & 25 from 9am to 4pm will feature the following: guided nature and bird walks, wildlife signs and track making, fisheries exhibits and games, owl prowl walk (Saturday evening), kids scavenger hunts, wildlife exhibits, hands-on reptile program, Revolutionary War period demonstrations of camp life & music, primitive skills demonstrations, weaving, colonial games, militia encampment displays, 'hawk throwing,' archery, fire starting, guided history tour & walk of the Fort Watson site at the Santee Indian Mound, book signing and talks with noted Revolutionary War author Christine Swager, and lantern history walk (Saturday evening). A special performance by the USAF Heritage Aire Celtic Music Ensemble will occur on Sunday afternoon. Fort Watson was the only British fort built on an Indian Mound, and the first British fort taken by General Francis Marion's Patriots and Colonel 'Light Horse' Harry Lee's Legion. Their victory was celebrated at Maham's Tower on 4/23/1781. (copied, www.santeerrefugefriends.org)

Expeditions with Patrick McMillian, SCETV, Sundays at 7:30pm

2/18 Dominica Rainforest; 2/25 Fumeroles and Volcanoes; 3/4 Salamander Mimicry; 3/25 Oconee Bells; 4/1 Sea Turtles; 4/8 Swan Lake; 4/15 Haunt of the Ghost Orchid; 4/22 Walking Catfish and Diving Birds.

Nature Photography (info, George Xenakis)

Bill Robertson, nature photographer, will show his amazing collection of nature images taken throughout the southeast at the next meeting of South Carolina Native Plant Society. McAlister Square, Multipurpose Room #2, 225 N. Pleasantburg Dr, Greenville, SC, 2/20/07, 7:30pm, visit www.scnps.org.

Patrick McMillian, South Carolina's Special Places

Patrick will give his presentation on the natural treasures of SC that you can find nowhere else. Southern Wesleyan University, Founders Hall, Central, SC, 3/20/07, 7:30pm, visit www.scnps.org.

SCAN Officers Elected for 2007

The following officers were approved by the membership at the SCAN annual meeting on 1/27/07: President, Jules Fraytet; Vice president, Lynn Smith; Secretary, Ben Gregory; Treasurer, Greg Mancini; Regional Directors: Jan Ciegler (north), Mike Turner (south), Gordon Murphy (east), Eva & Sam Pratt (west), Jerry & Pat Bright (central). Numerous individuals suggested the following positions should be official: Fauna & Flora Database Manager (Tom Jones & Mary G. Douglass-Jones) and the Historian Position (Dee Hope).

SCAN Membership Renewal, 2007

Membership dues are \$12 per member; \$5 for each additional member at the same address.		
Member #1: Additional Members:		
Address:		
Amount Enclosed:	Contact Information (phone, email)	
Has any of your contact inf Interest/Expertise:	formation changed from last year?	
If you are between the age	s of 15-17 you will need a form to sign and to bring to each fieldtrip.	

Poinsett State Park - Sumter Co., SC - December 09, 2006

The following list for Poinsett State Park was produced by SCAN from sightings supplied by SCAN members

Bamboo-vine and is subject to revision as needed. An asterisk (*) indicates a new Smilax laurifolia sighting for SCAN. Send any changes Common Greenbrier 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

Southern Grapefern

Sceptridium biternatum

Cinnamon Fern

Osmunda cinnamomea

Royal Fern

Osmunda regalis spectabilis

Bracken

Pteridium aquilinum

Netted Chain Fern

Woodwardia areolata

Ebony Spleenwort

Asplenium platyneuron

Southern Lady Fern Athyrium asplenioides

Christmas Fern

Polystichum acrostichoides

Resurrection Fern

Pleopeltis polypodioides michauxiana

Shortleaf Pine

Pinus echinata

Longleaf Pine

Pinus palustris

Lobiolly Pine

Pinus taeda

Eastern Red Cedar

Juniperus virginiana virginiana

Bald-cypress

Taxodium distichum

Giant Cane

Arundinaria gigantea

Slender Spikegrass

Chasmanthium laxum

American Cupscale

Sacciolepis striata

Spanish-moss

Tillandsia usneoides

Curlyleaf Yucca

Yucca filamentosa

Catbrier

Smilax bona-nox

Whiteleaf Greenbrier

Smilax glauca

Smilax rotundifolia

Red-berried Greenbrier

Smilax walteri

Small Green Wood Orchid Platanthera clavellata

Cranefly Orchid

Tipularia discolor

Tulip-tree

Liriodendron tulipifera

Southern Magnolia

Magnolia grandiflora

Sweetbay

Magnolia virginiana

Swamp Bay

Persea palustris

Sassafras

Sassafras albidum

Little Brown Jug

Hexastvlis arifolia

Broadleaf Pondlily

Nuphar advena

White Water-lily

Nymphaea odorata odorata

Sycamore

Platanus occidentalis occidentalis

Witch-hazel

Hamamelis virginiana

Sweet Gum

Liquidambar styraciflua

Winged Elm

Ulmus alata

American Elm

Ulmus americana

False-nettle

Boehmeria cylindrica

Mockernut Hickory

Carya alba

Pignut Hickory

Carya glabra

Common Wax-myrtle

Morella cerifera

White Beech

Fagus grandifolia caroliniana

White Oak

Quercus alba

Scarlet Oak

Quercus coccinea

Southern Red Oak

Quercus falcata

Sand Laurel Oak

Quercus hemisphaerica

Laurel Oak

Quercus laurifolia

Sand Post Oak

Quercus margaretta

Water Oak

Quercus nigra

Post Oak

Quercus stellata

Black Oak

Quercus velutina

Tag Alder

Alnus serrulata

American Hornbeam

Carpinus caroliniana

Alligator-weed

Alternanthera

philoxeroides

St. Andrew's Cross Hypericum hypericoides

Coastal Sweet Pepperbush

Clethra alnifolia

Mistletoe

Phoradendron serotinum Dwarf Huckleberry

Virginia-willow

Itea virginica

Climbing-hydrangea

Decumaria barbara Red Chokeberry

Sorbus arbutifolia

Hawthorn

Crataegus sp.

Black Cherry; Wild Cherry

Prunus serotina

Carolina Cherrylaurel

Prunus caroliniana

Redbud; Judas-tree

Cercis canadensis

Chinaberry

Melia azedarach American Holly

llex opaca

Possumhaw Holly

llex decidua

Winterberry; Black-alder

llex verticillata Inkberry; Bitter Gallberry

llex glabra

Sweet Gallberry

llex coriacea

Winged Sumac

Rhus copallinum

Eastern Poison Ivy Toxicodendron radicans

radicans Hearts-a'burstin'-with-love

Euonymus americanus

Acer rubrum

Red Maple

Muscadine; Bullace

Vitis rotundifolia

Water Loosestrife

Decodon verticillatus

Swamp Tupelo; Swamp

Blackgum

Nyssa sylvatica biflora

Water Tupelo

Nyssa aquatica

Flowering Dogwood

Cornus florida Mountain-laurel; Mountain-

ivy

Kalmia latifolia

Fetterbush

Lvonia lucida

Dog-hobble

Leucothoe axillaris

Sourwood

Oxydendrum arboreum

Trailing-arbutus; Mayflower Epigaea repens

Gaylussacia dumosa

Sparkleberry

Vaccinium arboreum Elliott's Blueberry

Vaccinium elliottii

Low-bush Blueberry

Vaccinium tenellum Swamp Blueberry

Vaccinium virgatum

Black Highbush Blueberry

Vaccinium fuscatum

Horse-sugar; Sweetleaf

Symplocos tinctoria

Yellow Jessamine

Gelsemium sempervirens

Dodder

Cuscuta sp.

Beautyberry; French-

mulberry

Callicarpa americana **Common Henbit**

Lamium amplexicaule

Shade Mudflower Micranthemum umbrosum

Woolly Mullein

Verbascum thapsus

Turtleheads

Chelone glabra **Trumpet Vine; Cow-itch**

Vine Campsis radicans

Cross-vine

Bignonia capreolata

Partridge-berry

Mitchella repens

Poinsett State Park – Sumter Co., SC – December 09, 2006

Bedstraw: Purple-bead Galium hispidulum Japanese Honeysuckle Lonicera iaponica Possumhaw Viburnum Viburnum nudum Elephant's-foot Elephantopus tomentosus Paederine Rove Beetle Dog-fennel Eupatorium capillifolium **Pussy-toes** Antennaria plantaginifolia Stiff-leaved Aster Aster linariifolius Heterotheca Heterotheca graminifolia

FAUNA

Thread-legged Bug Emesaya brevipennis Minute Ground Beetle * Paratachvs oblitus **Minute Ground Beetle** * Polyderis laevis **Woodland Ground Beetle** Agonum moerens

Paederine Rove Beetle Achenomorphus Corticinus Paederine Rove Beetle * Thinocharis sp. Paederine Rove Beetle * Scopaeus sp. * Lobrathium emarginatum Paederine Rove Beetle * Homaeotarsus cinctus Pinophiline Rove Beetle Pinophilus latipes Spiny-legged Rove Beetle * Bledius sp. **Shining Fungus Beetle** * Baeocera sp. Short-winged Mold Beetle * Rhexius schmitti **Short-winged Mold Beetle** * Custotychus minor

Short-winged Mold Beetle * Nearctitychus sternalis **Short-winged Mold Beetle** * Cylindrarctus sp. Sap Beetle Epuraea sp.

Silken Fungus Beetle Cryptophagus croceus Minute Fungus Beetle Holopsis sp. **Bullfrog (Tadpole)** Rana catesbiana Yellow-bellied Slider Chrysemys scripta Pied-billed Grebe American Bittern **Great Blue Heron** Ardea herodias **Wood Duck** Aix sponsa Red-bellied Woodpecker

Sayornis phoebe

Podilymbus podiceps Botaurus lentiginosus Melanerpes carolinus Red-headed Woodpecker Melanerpes erythrocephalus Northern Flicker Colaptes auratus **Downy Woodpecker** Picoides pubescens Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Sphyrapicus varius White-throated Sparrow **Eastern Phoebe**

Tufted Titmouse Parus bicolor Carolina Chickadee Parus carolinensis White-breasted Nuthatch Sitta carolinensis Carolina Wren Thryothorus Iudovicianus **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** Regulus calendula **American Robin** Turdus migratorius **Northern Mockingbird** Mimus polyglottos White-eyed Vireo Vireo griseus Yellow-rumped Warbler Dendroica coronata **Northern Cardinal** Cardinalis cardinalis **Eastern Towhee** Pipilo erythrophthalmus Song Sparrow Melospiza melodia **Dark-eyed Junco** Junco hyemalis

Zonotrichia albicollis

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