

SCAN South Carolina Association of Naturalists Post Office Box 5651, Columbia, South Carolina 29250-5651

# February 2009

Greetings everyone,

I would like to start off by thanking our guest speakers at the annual meeting this year. For those of you who could not make it to the meeting, Steve Bennett, Claudia Houck, and Melissa Bimbi provided us with entertaining and educational presentations. Steve gave us an overview of South Carolina's herptile species, Claudia enlightened us on the landscape architect/designer profession, and Melissa gave us an overview of the South Carolina Shorebird Project.

Melissa also provided information about opportunities for citizens to support the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) research by volunteering to help researchers. As I stated at the meeting, I and other SCAN members have volunteered to help the FWS and have not only had an enjoyable time doing it, but have also learned a lot in the process. My wife and I participated in the loggerhead turtle program last summer where we assisted in locating new turtle nests, relocating nests that were in jeopardy of being flooded by high tides, and inventorying hatched nests. It was an enjoyable day spent on the beach as well as a fun learning experience. It's not too late to sign up to volunteer for this and other projects and I will post the volunteer application and other pertinent information on our SCAN Yahoo Groups site.

With the cost of postage, office supplies, and printing increasing each year, one of the topics discussed in the business meeting was options for reducing our monthly expenditures. One viable option that was discussed at both the planning meeting in November and the annual meeting to reduce newsletter production costs was the possibility of providing the newsletter via email only, to those who have computer and printer access and are willing to do so. A sign-up sheet was located at the sign-in desk at the annual meeting and several folks have already volunteered to receive their newsletter via email. For those folks that do not have computer access, a hard copy of the newsletter would continue to be mailed to you each month. If you are willing to receive your newsletter via email, please drop me a note at <u>agmurphyjr@gmail.com</u> and I will forward this information on to the appropriate folks.

Another method of communication that was established for SCAN members use last year is the SCAN Yahoo Groups site. Through the SCAN Groups site, you can sign up to receive messages posted by fellow SCAN members, view/share photographs from fieldtrips, find/post interesting links to nature related websites, and much more. The SCAN Groups site was setup such that only SCAN members can join, by invitation only, which protects your privacy and prevents you from receiving volumes of unwanted spam. Everyone should have received an invitation to join last year via email. If you did not receive an invitation, then one of two things has happened. Either we do not have your correct email address or your virus protection software has moved the invitation into your spam folder. We will be sending out invitations again soon and I would encourage everyone to sign up.

On a sad note, we lost a SCAN friend and regional coordinator the week before the annual meeting. Johnny Hardaway passed away on January 21<sup>st</sup>. Johnny will truly be missed by all who knew him.

Please join me in welcoming the new SCAN officers for 2009. Our new Secretary is Kay Hollis and our new Regional Coordinators are Peggy O'Neal and Phil Harpootlian. And once again I would like to thank the outgoing officers for the fine job they have done for us.

I hope to see you at the LaFarge quarry fossil dig later this month.

Gordon

If you have not already paid your membership dues for 2009, please consider renewing at this time. You may mail a check to the address on the attached form, Thank you so very much.

## SCAN New Membership & Renewal Form

(Members are age 15 or older)

		lways notify SCAN of house and enNew Member(s) #:				
Dues:	<ul><li>\$12.00 per calendar year due by the January annual meeting</li><li>\$5.00 per calendar year for each additional member at the same address</li><li>Note: Persons joining in July or later pay 1/2 price.</li></ul>					
Name(s):	1		2			
	3		4			
Mailing Address:		Street/PO Box				
		City		State	_ Zip Code	
Email Addresses:		1				
		2				
Phone #:	(	)		_		

Mail Renewal form to: SCAN, PO Box 5651, Columbia, SC 29250-5651

**EMAIL COMMUNICATION:** Email is a fast and reliable way for members to communicate; SCAN's Secretary is able to provide time sensitive info, early announcements, and field trip information to the membership.

FOUND: Spatula, square-tipped with wooden handle. Contact Jan (jciegler@sc.rr.com).

# LaFarge Quarry Fossil Dig

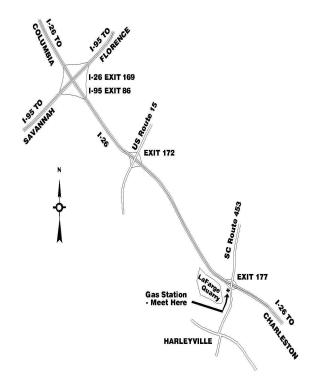
### Dorchester County, 2/28/09, 10:15AM

February's fieldtrip will take us to the LaFarge quarry to collect fossils near Harleyville, South Carolina. Jim Knight will be our knowledgeable guide for the day. According to internet sources, the quarry is in two geologic formations, the Harleyville and Cross Formations. These formations were formed during the Eocene Period, approximately 54 to 33 million years ago. Fossils collected at the quarry are marine in origin and include shark teeth, brachiopods, whale bones, turtle shell, oysters, ray teeth, scallops, and etc.

Be sure to bring small shovels or trowels for digging and something to put your fossil treasures in (such as zip lock bags). Other equipment you may want to bring include picks and hammers for removing fossils from the matrix. Rubber boots are the recommended footwear for the day and don't forget to bring lunch and plenty to drink. There are no restroom facilities in the quarry.

We will probably eat supper at Sweatman's BBQ in Holly Hill after the dig.

To get to the meeting location, take Exit 177 off of I-26 and head south on S.C. Route 453 towards Harleyville. We will congregate at 10:30, at the gas station located immediately south of the I-26 interchange (on your right when in the southbound lane of S.C. Route 453). Jim will lead us to the quarry from here. Please be prompt so that you are not left behind. Since there are no restrooms at the quarry, it is recommended that you arrive early enough to take advantage of the gas station facilities. My cell phone number is 803-260-4810.



#### **SCAN Fieldtrip Schedule - 2009**

**February 28** – Lafarge Cement Quarry (also called Blue Circle Pit) – Dorchester County (Southern Region), near Harleyville This site is a limestone quarry across I-26 from the Giant Portland Cement Quarry. Many of the same fossils are here that are in Giant, except that Blue Circle is much easier to get into. The fossils are late Eocene, with a thin Pleistocene layer on top. A treasure-trove of fossils: sea turtle, sharks, rays & other fish & various invertebrates. Recommended by Jim Knight, who has volunteered to lead us

**March 28** – Rocky Creek Tract – Chester County (Northern Region), south of Great Falls – 200 acres. This site has a variety of uplands and wetlands and six plant communities including mesic mixed hardwood forest in "coves" on the north shore, oak-hickory forest, bottomland hardwood forest, shoals & stream bars, and even a seepage bog. There are granite outcrops in the oak-hickory forest. So far, 221 plant species have been recorded, including many forest wildflowers, wetland plants, hardwood trees, and flowering shrubs. Part of this area has also recently been designated as an IBA by Audubon.

**April 25** – Nine Times Preserve – Pickens County (Western Region), north of Pickens – 560 acres. One of the largest undeveloped tracts of forests in the S.C. Blue Ridge, this preserve has 5 mountains with 7 distinct forest types. It is home to an abundance of wildlife, including herps, birds, and black bear. A recent inventory of the property identified a high concentration of federal and state rare species including peregrine falcon. A botanical survey revealed 134 native wildflower species, truly making this site the wildflower showcase of the Upstate. Obtained jointly by the Nature Conservancy (TNC) & the land trust Upstate Forever, this brand new preserve has just been opened to the public for the first time.

**May 9** (President's Special) – Crackerneck Wildlife Management Area - Near Jackson, S.C. - 10,012 acres. Crackerneck WMA is a part of the Savannah River Site and is situated along the Savannah River and northwest of Upper Three Runs Creek. Much of the upland portions of the site are managed pines, however, hidden among the pines are isolated depression wetlands ranging in habitat type from those dominated by herbaceous species to forested wetlands. A large expanse of forested swamp and bottomland are found adjacent to the Savannah River. We should see reptiles and amphibians in and around the depression wetlands and migratory birds should be abundant along the river.

May 23 – Al-We-Hav Plantation – Richland County (Central Region) On the National Register of Historic Places, this was the home of Keziah Goodwyn Hopkins Brevard during the Civil War, and then passed to the LeConte family. Also known as the Brevard House, it was built in the early 19th-century on a spring that flows into Tom's Creek. There are rhododendrons on a northeast bluff.

June 27 – Brosnan Forest – Dorchester County(Southern Region), east of St. George, S.C. - 12,488 acres. This site includes more than 6,000 acres of excellent longleaf pine habitat, and encompasses much of the headwaters of the ACE Basin. It has over 75 red-cockaded woodpecker colonies, the largest number on privately-owned land in North America. Pine snakes, a threatened species, have been found on the property. Most of the larger long leaf pines in Brosnan are about 110 years old--guaranteeing a diverse biota. The property is designated an Important Bird Area by the American Bird Conservancy & National Audubon Society. After more than 160 years, owner Norfolk Southern designated the tract as a conservation easement in 2008, the largest conservation gift in the history of South Carolina.

July 25 – Pisgah National Forest Pink Beds Picnic Area – Transylvania County, N.C. (Western Region), near Brevard Pink Beds is an unusual forested upland bog. The area is extremely rich in mountain plant material and fauna. SCAN saw the federally-threatened & beautiful swamp pink (*Helonias*) there, which is the area's raison d'etre. Many good trails are found throughout the forest. The Pink Beds Loop Trail is 3 miles but sometimes shorter when beavers are active. Flora includes forest wildflowers, a husge assortment of trees, flame azalea & much more. Great for invertebrates, and birds such as least flycatcher, black-throated blue warbler, blackburnian warbler, chestnut-sided warbler, black-throated green warbler, blue grosbeak & much more.

**August 22** – Chestnut Ridge Heritage Preserve – Spartanburg County (Northern Region), near Gowensville, S.C. Habitats on these 1,881 acres vary from early successional forest, left from clear cutting by the previous owner, to mature upland & cove hardwoods. Ridges are separated by the upper South Pacolet River, which is creek-like in its dimensions here. Numerous rock outcrops jut out of the rugged Chestnut Ridge & Squirrel Mountains. Harbors the federally endangered wildflower white irisette, *Sisyrinchium dichotomum*.

**September 26** – Carolina Sandhills NWR (Wallace Tract) – Marlboro County (Eastern Region), east of Cheraw On the east bank of the Great Pee Dee River, this site has second-growth Upper Coastal Plain floodplain forest, early successional fields/hardwood forests and a powerline right-of-way. Has typical brownwater river bank trees such as ash, boxelder, sweet-gum, hackberry, river birch, etc. Northern waterthrush is seen in fall, as well as gemmed satyr & southern pearly-eye butterflies. Mississippi kites & Swainson's warblers should be common breeders here. Neo-tropical migrants should be looked for as well.

October 10 (President's Special) - Bull Island - Charleston County (Southern Region), near Awendaw, S.C.

The maritime forest that once covered this classic barrier island was destroyed by Hurricane Hugo, but it is regenerating nicely. A diversity of animals, especially birds, enjoys minimal human disturbance here. The beach is naturally excellent for finding seashells and other marine life washed ashore. Wading birds, waterfowl, shorebirds, osprey, pelicans, kestrels and plenty of songbirds abound along with alligators, fox squirrel, bobcat, and otters.

**October 24** – Wateree Passage of the Palmetto Trail – Sumter County (Central Region), near Wedgefield, S.C. This section of the Palmetto Trail goes from Poinsett State Park to the Wateree River, 7.3 miles. Half of that length it goes along surprisingly high and beautiful bluffs of the State Park and Manchester State Forest, and the other half through the extensive floodplain of the river. The result is a remote place with an astonishing variety of geological features, habitats, flora, and fauna.

November 14 – Ridgehope – Darlington County (Eastern Region), near Mechanicsville, S.C. There are trails and a boardwalk through bottomland forests and wooded swamps here. Privately owned.

**December 12** – Donnelley Wildlife Management Area – Colleton County (Southern Region), near Green Pond, S.C. Maritime forest is the primary habitat here, but also longleaf pine upland, bottomland hardwoods & freshwater impoundments. Bald eagles, osprey, river otters, wild turkey, deer, songbirds & wading birds inhabit this large & remote area. A former rice plantation, freshwater impoundments now serve as habitat for migratory waterfowl and abundant alligators. Many of the trails follow atop the system of dikes. Within the ACE Basin Refuge - Combahee River Unit.

January 23, 2010 - Annual Meeting

**Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Control Conference / Silent Auction Items,** Sudie Daves Be sure to mark on your calendar the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council conference to be held in Georgetown, SC, **May 13-15 2009**. We are currently accepting abstracts for platform and poster presentations. More details about the conference are posted on the SC-EPPC and SE-EPPC website: http://www.seeppc.org/2009/s

Since everyone is probably a native plant enthusiast and dislikes exotic invasive plants, **I am asking you for assistance in finding Silent Auction items** for the upcoming Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council Symposium. We will have a silent auction to raise money in order to help pay for the symposium and to help SC EPPC with our goals of exotic plant education, data collection, and eradication.

Please contact me if you have any items to donate or if you have auction item ideas on which I could pursue. Item ideas include art, books, native plants, garden or plant removal tools, field trips, etc. Thanks so much for any donations or ideas! *sudie.daves@sc.usda.gov, cell 803-664-0806* 

# **Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Control Conference – Presentations,** Sudie Daves **Conference Title: Creating Sustainable Landscapes for the Future**

This conference will be held from May 13 – 15, 2009 in Georgetown, SC.

Presentations are being accepted until January 16, 2009. Featured topics include, but are not limited to:

- (1) Current Research in Invasive Plant Control and Restoration,
- (2) Building Communication and Consensus among Key Players,
- (3) Screening Species for use in Biomass Production,
- (4) How to effectively work with retailers and the nursery industry to prevent the sale of invasive species,
- (5) Building Cooperative Weed and Invasive Management Areas,
- (6) Early Detection and Rapid Response Efforts.

Please send an abstract ( <1 page) including title, brief description of the talk, and name of presenter via email to mmalone@tnc.org

#### Addenda--Botany Bay Charleston Co., SC October 25, 2008

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 Jan Ciegler at jciegler@sc.rr.com. Please indicate exactly to which flora/fauna list you are referring. Thank you.

#### FLORA

**Resurrection Fern** Pleopeltis polypodioides michauxiana **Loblolly Pine** Pinus taeda **Cabbage Palmetto** Sabal palmetto Watermeal Wolffia columbiana **Black Needle Rush** Juncus roemerianus **Giant Cane** Arundinaria gigantea **Saltgrass** Distichlis spicata Wild-rye Elymus virginicus **Sweet Grass** Muhlenbergia sericea Saltmarsh Cordgrass Spartina alterniflora **Common Cattail** Typha latifolia **Spanish-moss** Tillandsia usneoides **Spanish Dagger** Yucca aloifolia **Dune Greenbrier** Smilax auriculata

**Red Bay** Persea borbonia Sassafras Sassafras albidum **Marsh Clematis** Clematis crispa **Red Mulberry** Morus rubra **False-nettle** Boehmeria cylindrica **Black Walnut** Juglans nigra **Common Wax-myrtle** Morella cerifera Live Oak Quercus virginiana **Common Pokeweed** Phytolacca americana Mexican-tea Dysphania ambrosioides **Dwarf Glasswort** Salicornia bigelovii **Perennial Glasswort** Sarcocornia pacifica Salt-marsh Water-hemp \* Amaranthus cannabinus **Carolina Sea-lavender** Limonium carolinianum Passionflower Passiflora incarnata **Creeping Cucumber** Melothria pendula pendula **Carolina Willow** Salix caroliniana Saltwort Batis maritima **American Persimmon** Diospyros virginiana **Carolina Laurel Cherry** Prunus caroliniana **Common Sensitive-plant** Chamaecrista nictitans nictitans

Coral Bean Ervthrina herbacea Wild Indigo Indigofera caroliniana **Bicolor Lespedeza** Lespedeza bicolor White Sweetclover Melilotus albus Sesban Sesbania herbacea **Flowering Dogwood** Cornus florida Yaupon Ilex vomitoria **Popcorn Tree** Triadica sebifera Peppervine Ampelopsis arborea Virginia-creeper Parthenocissus quinquefolia Muscadine Vitis rotundifolia rotundifolia **Red Maple** Acer rubrum Winged Sumac Rhus copallinum **Poison Oak** Toxicodendron pubescens Chinaberry Melia azedarach **Devil's-walking-stick** Aralia spinosa Swallow-wort Seutera angustifolia **Creeping Frogfruit** Phyla nodiflora Beautyberry Callicarpa americana **Dotted Horse-mint** Monarda punctata **Common Skullcap** Scutellaria integrifolia

**Japanese Privet** Ligustrum japonicum **Chinese Privet** *Ligustrum sinense* **Purple-foxglove** \* Agalinis fasciculata Trumpet-creeper Campsis radicans **Common Ragweed** Ambrosia artemisiifolia **Groundsel Tree** Baccharis glomeruliflora Horseweed Conyza canadensis **Common Dog-fennel** Eupatorium capillifolium Flat-topped Goldenrod Euthamia caroliniana **Dune Camphorweed** Heterotheca subaxillaris **Southern Maritime** Marsh-elder *Iva frutescens frutescens* **Dune Marsh-elder** Iva imbricata Melanthera Melanthera nivea **Climbing Hempweed** Mikania scandens **Fragrant Rabbit-tobacco** Pseudognaphalium obtusifolium Southern Seaside Goldenrod Solidago sempervirens mexicana Long-stalked Aster Symphyotrichum dumosum **Perennial Salt-marsh Aster** Symphyotrichum tenuifolium Southern Frostweed Verbesina virginica

laciniata

Addenda--McAlhany Nature Preserve Dorchester Co., SC December 13, 2008

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#### FLORA

Bracken Pteridium aquilinum **Ebony Spleenwort** Asplenium platyneuron **Christmas Fern** Polystichum acrostichoides **Resurrection Fern** Pleopeltis polypodioides michauxiana **Shortleaf Pine** Pinus echinata **Spruce Pine** Pinus glabra **Loblolly Pine** Pinus taeda **Bald-cypress** Taxodium distichum **Dwarf Palmetto** Sabal minor **Mud-midgets** Wolffiella gladiata **Blue Sedge** Carex glaucescens **Giant Cane** Arundinaria gigantea Longleaf Spikegrass Chasmanthium sessiliflorum **Spanish-moss** Tillandsia usneoides

**Common Atamasco-lily** Zephyranthes atamasca **Curlyleaf Yucca** Yucca filamentosa Catbrier Smilax bona-nox Whiteleaf Greenbrier Smilax glauca Sarsaparilla-vine Smilax pumila Jackson-brier Smilax smallii **Tulip-tree** Liriodendron tulipifera Southern Magnolia Magnolia grandiflora Sweetbay Magnolia virginiana **Swamp Bay** Persea palustris Little Brown Jug Hexastylis arifolia Sweet Gum Liquidambar styraciflua **American Elm** Ulmus americana **Red Mulberry** Morus rubra **Mockernut Hickory** Carya alba **Pignut Hickory** Carya glabra **Common Wax-myrtle** Morella cerifera **American Beech** Fagus grandifolia White Oak Ouercus alba Southern Red Oak Quercus falcata Sand Laurel Oak Quercus hemisphaerica Laurel Oak Quercus laurifolia **Swamp Chestnut Oak** Quercus michauxii

**Chinquapin Oak** Ouercus muehlenbergii Water Oak Quercus nigra **Cherrybark Oak** Quercus pagoda Willow Oak Quercus phellos Post Oak Quercus stellata **River Birch** Betula nigra **American Hornbeam** Carpinus caroliniana **Prickly-pear Opuntia** humifusa **Loblolly Bay** Gordonia lasianthus St. Andrew's Cross Hypericum hypericoides Ti-ti Cyrilla racemiflora **Spotted Wintergreen** Chimaphila maculata **Shining Fetterbush** Lyonia lucida **Piedmont Azalea** Rhododendron canescens Sparkleberry Vaccinium arboreum **Elliott's Blueberry** Vaccinium elliottii **Buckthorn Bumelia** Sideroxylon lycioides Horsesugar Symplocos tinctoria **Climbing Hydrangea** Decumaria barbara Virginia-willow Itea virginica Water Tupelo Nyssa aquatica Blackgum Nyssa sylvatica Hearts-a-burstin'-with-love Euonymus americanus

**Possum-haw** Ilex decidua decidua **American Holly** Ilex opaca opaca Sebastian-bush Ditrysinia fruticosa Supplejack Berchemia scandens Muscadine Vitis rotundifolia rotundifolia **Red Maple** Acer rubrum **Eastern Poison Ivv** Toxicodendron radicans radicans Swamp Water-pennywort Hydrocotyle ranunculoide **Carolina Jessamine** Gelsemium sempervirens **Beautyberry** Callicarpa americana **Chinese Privet** Ligustrum sinense Wild Olive Osmanthus americanus Squawroot Conopholis americana **Cross-vine** Bignonia capreolata **Trumpet-creeper** Campsis radicans **Buttonbush** Cephalanthus occidentali Partridge-berry Mitchella repens Small-leaf Viburnum Viburnum obovatum **Grass-leaved Golden-aster** Pityopsis graminifolia latifolia Long-stalked Aster Symphyotrichum dumosur