February 2012

Hello fellow SCAN members.

Welcome to 2012 and a new SCAN year. It is hard to believe we have been around for 36 years and are still going strong with over 100 members.

We have all enjoyed a great four years under Gordon's excellent leadership. Four years is a long time to be the president of a voluntary organization but Gordon handled the job well with no outward signs of burnout. In the last newsletter he even wrote, "I would love to hold the position once again." If you have not had a leadership role in SCAN for a few years, step up and volunteer. The district director has the coveted job of scouting the trip and writing about site possibilities. This is definitely the most fun job in SCAN and a good starting point for a new volunteer. Team up with an existing director and enjoy the scouting experience.

It was good to see all of you at the annual meeting. Each year we have had great annual meetings and this year was no exception.

To start our morning Jacqueleine Mitchel and Miles Hayes presented some of the results of years of coastal research. Tidal wave action, hurricanes, nor'easters, rivers, jetties, dams sea level rise, etc. all play a part in the making of the coast. "Coastal heroes" (students) gathered much of the research data in dramatic weather conditions. The Q&A highlight was oil spill clean-up results and research.

Eran Kilpatrick, a former star student of Patrick McMillan, presented the results of his research to date. Study of the anuran species was of special interest since I had planned to accompany Johnny Hardaway on the frog route that would be his assignment.

Patrick McMillan talked about man's effect on nature. Some of the highlights include the effect of the US/Mexican border on migratory animals. There are 3 known jaguars in Arizona. They are all the same sex with no way to mate with those in Mexico. Another little known fact is the native American mammals were the camel, horse and dog. Deer, bison and other mammals we associate with America were all immigrants from Asia or the from the south. Patrick threw in another whammy (at least I didn't know it) when he told us that cotton is really a tree that grows up to 15 feet but has been cultivated to allow for harvesting.

We had a brief business meeting. The officer selection outlined in the last newsletter was accepted.

Gordon would like for us to visit LaMica in Panama this year. To aid his planning he needs a good head count so they can figure out a cost and arrange for our accommodations.

There are some of you that I only see at the annual meeting. I encourage you to come and join us. A few years ago Pat and I travelled west. We made a point to stay for at least 3 days and up to a week where we stopped so we could learn about the attractions in the area. We had no single night stays. We met people who could tell us things we would not have known from an overnight stay. We got to know the area and environment. Those of you who have to travel several hours to the site, come on down and get accommodations near the field trip site. Then spend a few days getting to know the area. Meet with your SCAN friends and enjoy the natural world. Then spend an hour or so in conversation with dinner.

By the way, look at our SCAN page on Facebook for some things that our SCAN members are doing. Kim Frampton McManus posted a wonderful video of a mating ritual of cottonmouths taken at Congaree National Park. Many other interesting post and outing photos are also there.

Greg Mancini, our treasurer, reports we have 20 new members. Please welcome them when you see them on our outings.

Marvin Brown
Jim Brownlee
William & Kathleen Ehmig
John Ghent
Dave & Mary Kastner
Laura Kirk
Jeffrey Kline
Linda Lee
Brian O'Cain

James & Bobbie Osborne
Win Ott
Bert Pittman
Jerry Shipes
Tonita Thompson
Ron Urban
Jan Steensen Urban
Keith Ward

Kathy Boyle and Wayne Grooms are leading our next outing to Tillman Sand Ridge Heritage Preserve. I was delighted to find a photo from our last SCAN outing there in September 2004 where the star of the show was a baby hognose snake. Every time it was turned over, it would flip back upside down again and play dead. In the photo below I think this is Claudia Rainey's hand.



Baby Hognose playing dead

Tillman Sand Ridge Heritage Preserve – Wayne Grooms and Kathy Boyle Beaufort County Meet at 10:30

William Bartram passed close to Tillman Sand Ridge HP in his crossings of the Savannah River at Purysburg (Purrysburg) in his travels to and from Georgia in the late 1700's. Apparently it was dangerous to travel overland from Augusta to Charleston directly because of Indian attacks. The eastbound road from Tillman to Jacksonboro and across the Great Pon Pon (Edisto) carried him to Charleston. As the Slash Pine is replaced by Long Needle in the upland Wiregrass areas the landscape should better approximate what Bartram might have seen.

We will walk the xeric Wiregrass and Pine area first noting some patches of Serenoa repens (Saw Palmetto) close by to Sabal minor, all to often confused one with the other. Populations of Elliotts Blueberry and Sparkleberry are heavy. After a short ways we will enter a bottomland hardwood/cypress forests on an old dirt road that transects the preserve all the way out to B&C Landing if you should wish to go that far. There are extensive patches of Satureja georgiana (identified by John Nelson) along this old road. For most of the group we can head back North through the Pine and Scrub Oak observing many Gopher Tortoise dens; many more than I expected to see. Note that there is a portion of this preserve detached to the Northwest that has not been scouted. I'm sure there might be some folks who want to investigate.

As usual bring food for lunch and water. There are no restrooms available.

Directions

Take a right on SC #27-119 off of US#321/#601 in Tillman, SC. Drive West on #s-27-119 disregarding the B&C Landing Road SC #27-201 on your left. You will see the DNR signage and kiosk (weigh station) on the left.

Dining

Later in the day when we leave, note that there is an Exxon station with very clean facilities back in Tillman on #321. Continue straight East on SC #336 toward Ridgeland for about 4 miles then bear right on Smiths Crossing Road (S-27-29) until you come to US#17. Make a left for a half mile and you will see the Dukes BBQ, this being the actual object of the trip.

2012 SCAN Fieldtrips

February 25 – Tillman Sand Ridge Heritage Preserve, Jasper County Kathy Boyle & Wayne Grooms

March 24 – Stevens Creek Heritage Preserve, McCormick County Martha & Bob Hamlin

April 28 – Kalmia Gardens/Segars-McKinnon Heritage Preserve, Darlington County Claudia Rainey

May 26 – Francis Beidler Forest Audubon Sanctuary (Mallard Lake), Dorchester County Kathy Boyle & Wayne Grooms

June 23 – Ashmore Heritage Preserve/Chandler Heritage Preserve, Greenville County Phil Harpootlian

July 28 – Parson's Mountain Lake Recreation Area, Abbeville County Marsha & Bob Hamlin

August 25 – Jones Gap State Park, Greenville County Phil Harpootlian

September 22 – Congaree Bluffs Heritage Preserve, Calhoun County Caroline Eastman

October 27 – Glassy Mountain Heritage Preserve, Pickens County Marsha & Bob Hamlin

November 17 – Sesquicentennial State Park, Richland County Caroline Eastman

December 8 – Little Pee Dee River Heritage Preserve, Horry County Claudia Rainey

January 26, 2013 - Annual Meeting

Donnelley Wildlife Management Area Colleton Co., SC December 10, 2011

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 iciegler@sc.rr.com. Please indicate exactly to which flora/fauna list you are referring. Thank you

referring. Thank you. Anhinga; Snakebird **FLORA** Whiteleaf Greenbrier Prunus serotina serotina **Showy Rattlebox** Anhinga anhinga Smilax glauca Bamboo-vine Crotalaria spectabilis Double-crested Cinnamon Fern Osmunda cinnamomea Smilax laurifolia Water-willow Cormorant Decodon verticillatus **Roval Fern** Sarsaparilla-vine Phalacrocorax auritus Flowering Dogwood Osmunda regalis Smilax pumila Black-crowned spectabilis Jackson-brier Cornus florida **Night-Heron** Japanese Climbing Fern **American Mistletoe** Smilax smallii Nycticorax nycticorax Lygodium japonicum Southern Magnolia Phoradendron serotinum Little Blue Heron Bracken Magnolia grandiflora serotinum Egretta caerulea Pteridium aquilinum Dahoon **Sweetbay Snowy Egret** Magnolia virginiana Ilex cassine cassine Marsh Fern Egretta thula Thelypteris palustris Swamp Bay Little Gallberry **Great Egret** Persea palustris Casmerodius albus pubescens Ilex glabra **Great Blue Heron Netted Chain Fern** White Water-lily **American Holly** Woodwardia areolata Nymphaea odorata Ilex opaca opaca Ardea herodias **Ebony Spleenwort** odorata Yaupon **Wood Stork** Asplenium platyneuron **Sweet Gum** Ilex vomitoria Mycteria americana **Resurrection Fern** Liquidambar styraciflua Muscadine White Ibis Pleopeltis polypodioides Southern Hackberry Vitis rotundifolia Eudocimus albus michauxiana Celtis laeviaata rotundifolia Gadwall **Shortleaf Pine** Common Wax-myrtle Red Maple Anas strepera Morella cerifera Pinus echinata Acer rubrum **Green-winged Teal** American Beech Rattlesnake-master **Spruce Pine** Anas crecca Pinus glabra Fagus grandifolia Ervnaium vuccifolium **Blue-winged Teal Longleaf Pine** White Oak Carolina Jessamine Anas discors Pinus palustris Quercus alba Gelsemium sempervirens Wood Duck **Loblolly Pine** Blackjack Oak **Dotted Horse-mint** Aix sponsa Quercus marilandica Monarda punctata **Hooded Merganser** Pinus taeda Cross-vine Lophodytes cucullatus **Southern Red Cedar** marilandica Juniperus virginiana **Swamp Chestnut Oak** Bignonia capreolata Virginia Rail Trumpet-creeper Quercus michauxii Rallus limicola silicicola Water Oak Campsis radicans Common Moorhen American Frog's-bit Silverling Limnobium spongia Quercus nigra Gallinula chloropus **Cabbage Palmetto** Cherrybark Oak Baccharis halimifolia **American Coot Showy Bur-marigold** Sabal palmetto Quercus pagoda Fulica americana **Papillose Nutrush** Willow Oak Bidens laevis Killdeer Scleria pauciflora Quercus phellos **Blackroot** Charadrius vociferus pauciflora Post Oak Greater Yellowlegs Pterocaulon pycnostachyum **Netted Nutrush** Quercus stellata Tringa melanoleuca * Scleria reticularis Live Oak Rough-leaved Goldenrod Lesser Yellowlegs Quercus virginiana Solidago rugosa **Tall Nutrush** Tringa flavipes St. Andrew's Cross **American Aster** Dowitcher Scleria triglomerata Hypericum hypericoides Symphyotrichum walteri * Limnodromus sp. **Giant Cane Hooded Pitcherplant** Arundinaria gigantea **Laughing Gull** Larus atricilla Sarracenia minor minor **Longleaf Spikegrass FAUNA** Chasmanthium Violet Bonaparte's Gull sessiliflorum Viola septemloba Basilica Spider (egg sac) Larus philadelphia **Black Willow Beaked Panic Grass** Mecynogea lemniscata **Ring-billed Gull Broadtip Conehead** Salix nigra Larus delawarensis Panicum anceps Maidencane **Coastal Sweet** Katvdid Turkey Vulture Cathartes aura Panicum hemitomon Pepperbush Neoconocephalus triops **Giant Plume Grass** Clethra alnifolia Glassy-winged **Bald Eagle Dwarf Huckleberry** Haliaeetus leucocephalus Saccharum giganteum Sharpshooter **Giant Cordgrass** Red-shouldered Hawk Gaylussacia dumosa (leafhopper) Spartina cynosuroides Shining Fetterbush * Homalodisca vitripennis Buteo lineatus **Common Cattail** Lyonia lucida **Potter Wasp American Kestrel** Typha latifolia Horsesugar Eumenes sp. Falco sparverius

Pitcherplant Moth (larva)

* Exyra semicrocea

Podilymbus podiceps

Pied-billed Grebe

Barred Owl

Strix varia

Belted Kingfisher

Ceryle alcyon

Symplocos tinctoria

Aronia arbutifolia

Red Chokeberry

Black Cherry

Spanish-moss

Catbrier

Tillandsia usneoides

Smilax bona-nox

Red-bellied Woodpecker Melanerpes carolinus

Red-headed Woodpecker Melanerpes

erythrocephalus

Northern Flicker Colaptes auratus

Downy Woodpecker Picoides pubescens

Hairy Woodpecker Picoides villosus

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Sphyrapicus varius

Pileated Woodpecker Dryocopus pileatus

Eastern Phoebe
Sayornis phoebe

American Crow
Corvus brachyrhynchos

Fish Crow
Corvus ossifragus

Carolina Chickadee
Parus carolinensis

Tufted Titmouse

Baeolophus bicolor White-breasted Nuthatch

Sitta carolinensis

Brown-headed Nuthatch *Sitta pusilla*

Carolina Wren

Thryothorus ludovicianus

Marsh Wren

Cistothorus palustris

Sedge Wren

Cistothorus platensis

Golden-crowned Kinglet
Regulus satrapa

Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Regulus calendula

Eastern Bluebird
Sialia sialis

Hermit Thrush

Catharus guttatus

American Robin

Turdus migratorius
Northern Mockingbird

Northern Mockingbird Mimus polyglottos

White-eyed Vireo Vireo griseus

Yellow-rumped Warbler
Dendroica coronata

Pine Warbler
Dendroica pinus

Common Yellowthroat Geothlypis trichas

Northern Cardinal Cardinalis cardinalis

Eastern Towhee

Pipilo erythrophthalmus Henslow's Sparrow Ammodramus henslowii

Savannah Sparrow

Passerculus sandwichensis

Song Sparrow

Melospiza melodia

Chipping Sparrow Spizella passerina

Dark-eyed Junco Junco hyemalis

White-throated Sparrow Zonotrichia albicollis

Swamp Sparrow

Melospiza georgiana

Eastern Meadowlark Sturnella magna

Red-winged Blackbird

Agelaius phoeniceus

Brown-headed Cowbird Molothrus ater

American Goldfinch

Carduelis tristis