



SCAN *South Carolina Association of Naturalists*

Post Office Box 5651, Columbia, South Carolina 29250-5651

March, 2006 Newsletter

Greetings SCAN

We had a great turnout of 29 people including new members for our first SCAN trip of 2006 at the Wannamaker Audubon preserve in Calhoun County. Being close to Columbia helps of course. In spite of the steady light rain that descended upon us (which Wayne Grooms said was not a good sign for me on our first trip as president!!) after we started the exploration of this interesting preserve, we persevered as we usually do it and finished about 2:30 PM. SCAN members live up well to the spirit of being naturalists by enthusiastically examining the attractions of these places despite the contingencies of capricious climatic conditions!

After Jerry Bright, our leader on this trip, handed out some very good color topographic maps (whose ink blurred on mine by trips end!) with clearly marked trails, we as usual went off in different groups in varying speeds and in this case different directions. Our detailed oriented botanists and data base managers Tom and Mary and others took up the rear and try to document as much as possible of the flora that is observable. The rest of us pursued a combination of flora and fauna, or just enjoy the pleasure of like minded individuals who enjoy the social aspects of our group in an outdoor setting.

The group I ended up with paused for a while around the bluffs and bottom lands of Lyon Creek which runs approximately through the middle of this property to do some bird watching. We were able to see or hear 4 species of woodpecker, Kinglets, White Throated Sparrows with their haunting songs "Oh Sweet Canada-canada-canada"(That is one of various mnemonic interpretations) and our group and others saw and heard numerous wood ducks flying around the woods near the water. John Cely was able to attract a number of secretive birds by doing a good imitation of a screech owl!

The preserve consists of hardwood bottoms, upland pines and some plantation pine areas, with northern slopes of the bluffs over Lyon Creek harboring such higher elevation species as Mountain Laurel. The trails are well marked by colored blazes and well maintained. I am grateful for special places like this that conservation organizations like Audubon acquire and maintain to protect ecological diversity.

Since our group was not all in one pack we finally exited the site in different times with some staying on the trails till the last moment even as the rain soaked us thoroughly and the temperatures decreased to make quite a chilly afternoon. One of members even got down, muddy and wet in the flood plains of the creek to find a few fresh water mussels. Jan Ceiglar found a water beetle in the floodplain and some others through the preserve

Mike Turner, one of newest members and I were on the side of the highway SC6 where we had parked the cars and he spotted what he thought was a small crawfish at first on the asphalt. It turned out to be a mole cricket which was a first for both of us. The little guy really exercises his frontlegs in climbing over my hands as I held him and displayed the appendages that are used so amply to dig through the wet clay. I let him go back into a wet ditch.

Intense blue Houstonia (blueets) were blooming on the grassy sides of the road where we entered the preserve along with purplish colored Henbit (*Lamium amplexicaule*) part of the mint family. (That and Dead Nettle (*Lamium purpureum*) cover fields and unfertilized lawns regularly in early spring) Also blossoming Bradford pears near the caretaker's building (reverting back to the rootstock forms) that had escaped from else where or planted to this site let us know that this year spring was already showing signs of re-appearing.

Our complete species list is included for your further study as usual.

After we got everybody back to the cars most of us proceeded back to St Matthews to eat at the House of Pizza (and greek style food) getting gratefully warmed up and dry after our stimulating day. The food and service was very good and and the conversation animated.

This month our next trip is to Goodale State park and Savage Bay Heritage Preserve in Kershaw County. Lynn Smith and Quentin Webber will be leading it. I hope many of you can join us again on this trip and perhaps the weather will be a bit more sunny and warmer hopefully since there will probably be exploration into the wet areas at Savage Bay.

Take care
Jules Fraytet, President

Goodale State Park
(\$2.00 or a Park Passport needed)
And
Savage Bay Heritage Preserve
March 25, 2006
10:30 a.m.

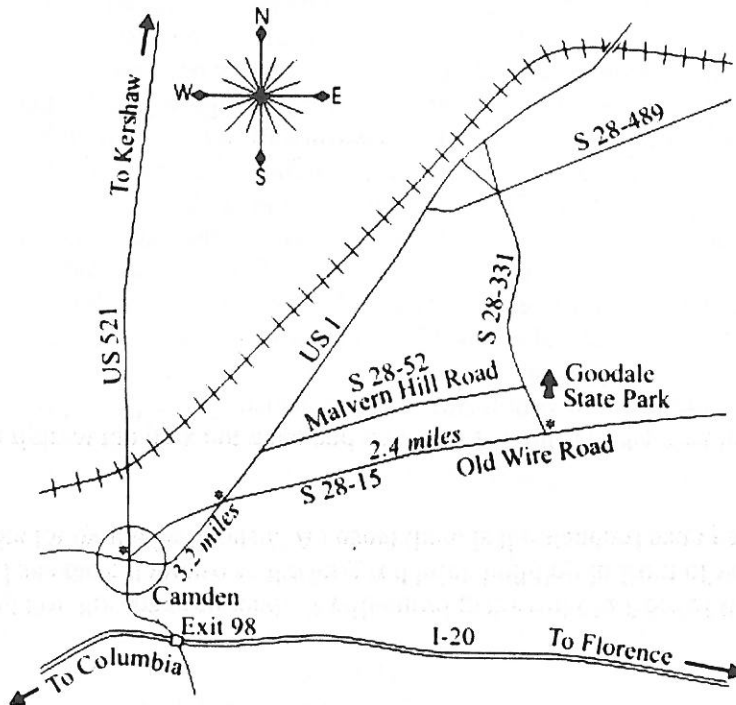
Located east of Camden, this park has an old millpond turned cypress-filled lake that seems to be full of interesting critters. The park is located on classic sandhills habitat; therefore the lake and the large creek which serves it are sand bottomed. The back of the dam and an area near the headwaters are populated with good stands of Atlantic White Cedar (*Chamaecypar*). The upper area hosts a great blue heron rookery. Some of the water at the two overflows has a strong current so there is a wide range of habitats for all sorts of critters. The long dam makes a great trail, plus a new trail goes through the higher elevations of the park through the classic sandhills and skirts the lower wetter areas, providing a wide variety of flora as well. There is a delightful canoe trail on the lake which you may wish to paddle before 10:30. Note however that the park does not open until 9:00 a.m. It is the trail we paddled as a President's special trip this past May.

Bring your lunch, sunscreen and plenty of water; we will probably eat at the cars.

After lunch we will head to a nearby Carolina Bay, Savage Bay. The bay is surrounded by the classic sand rim; the bay itself is mostly wooded with cypress and a few other aquatic trees. To explore the edge of this bay bring insect repellent and water resistant footwear.

Directions: From Exit 98 (US 521) on I-20 head north to Camden. In the center of town turn right onto US 1 North toward McBee. You will be turning east, but US 1 runs east-west through town. Drive 3.2 miles on US 1 to Old Wire Road (S28-15) and bear right. There is a sign to NR Goodale State Park at that intersection. Go 2.4 miles and turn left onto S28-331, Park Rd. The Park entrance is a few hundred feet ahead on the right. To get to the office and restrooms (former bathhouse) stay straight on the entrance road. It will curve to the right in front of the community building, and descend a short hill. You will see the bathhouse as the long red brick building in front of you with the lake in the background. Please park in the lot by the bathhouse. As usual there is the standard state park admission fee of \$2.00 or a Park Passport needed.

To go on to Savage Bay, turn right at the park entrance and continue 1.6 miles to the first intersection (Cheraw Road). Turn sharp right here. Go another 1.7 miles and turn left onto SR28-835 (Drakeford Road). Watch for the sign for Savage Bay on the left. Turn left onto the dirt track and continue until you must turn. Turn right then park off the track in this area. *(Be aware of deep sand in this last intersection.)*



Wannamaker Preserve, Calhoun Co., SC, February 25, 2006

This list was produced by SCAN from sightings supplied by SCAN members and is subject to revision as needed. (*) 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 which flora/fauna list you are referring to. Thank you.

| | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| FLORA | | | |
| Ebony Spleenwort <i>Asplenium platyneuron</i> | Mockernut Hickory <i>Carya tomentosa</i> | Swamp Bay <i>Persea palustris</i> | Eastern Poison Ivy <i>Toxicodendron radicans radicans</i> |
| Southern Wood-fern <i>Dryopteris ludoviciana</i> | Pignut Hickory <i>Carya glabra</i> | Sassafras <i>Sassafras albidum</i> | Hearts-a-burstin'-with-love <i>Euonymus americanus</i> |
| Christmas Fern <i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i> | Tag Alder <i>Alnus serrulata</i> | Yellow Corydalis <i>Corydalis flavula</i> | Boxelder; Ash-leaved Maple <i>Acer negundo</i> |
| Resurrection Fern <i>Pleopeltis polypodioides michauxiana</i> | Beech <i>Fagus grandifolia</i> | Draba <i>Draba brachycarpa</i> | Red Maple <i>Acer rubrum</i> |
| Eastern Mosquito Fern <i>Azolla caroliniana</i> | White Oak <i>Quercus alba</i> | Hairy Bitter Cress <i>Cardamine hirsuta</i> | Red Buckeye; Dwarf Buckeye <i>Aesculus pavia</i> |
| Shortleaf Pine <i>Pinus echinata</i> | Post Oak <i>Quercus stellata</i> | Bitter Cress <i>Cardamine pensylvanica</i> | Supple-jack; Rattan-vine <i>Berchemia scandens</i> |
| Loblolly Pine <i>Pinus taeda</i> | Scarlet Oak <i>Quercus coccinea</i> | Climbing-hydrangea <i>Decumaria barbara</i> | Virginia-creeper <i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i> |
| Eastern Red Cedar <i>Juniperus virginiana virginiana</i> | Spanish Oak; Southern Red Oak <i>Quercus falcata</i> | Sweet-gum <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i> | Muscadine; Bullace <i>Vitis rotundifolia</i> |
| Giant Cane <i>Arundinaria gigantea</i> | Water Oak <i>Quercus nigra</i> | Indian Strawberry <i>Duchesnea indica</i> | St.-Andrew's-cross <i>Hypericum hypericoides</i> |
| Longleaf Woodoats <i>Chasmanthium sessiliflorum</i> | Willow Oak <i>Quercus phellos</i> | Pear <i>Pyrus communis</i> | Thorny Elaeagnus; Silverberry <i>Elaeagnus pungens</i> |
| Spanish-moss <i>Tillandsia usneoides</i> | American Elm <i>Ulmus americana</i> | Southern Crabapple <i>Malus angustifolia</i> | Devil's-walking-stick <i>Aralia spinosa</i> |
| Soft Rush <i>Juncus effusus</i> | Winged Elm <i>Ulmus alata</i> | Hawthorn <i>Crataegus sp.</i> | Water Pennywort <i>Hydrocotyle ranunculoides</i> |
| Rush <i>Juncus coriaceous</i> | Sugarberry; Hackberry <i>Celtis laevigata</i> | Black Cherry; Wild Cherry <i>Prunus serotina</i> | Wild Chervil <i>Chaerophyllum tainturieri</i> |
| Greenbrier; Bullbrier <i>Smilax rotundifolia</i> | False Nettle <i>Boehmeria cylindrica</i> | Scarlet Firethorn <i>Pyracantha coccinea</i> | Swamp Tupelo; Swamp Blackgum <i>Nyssa sylvatica biflora</i> |
| Fringed Greenbrier; Bullbrier <i>Smilax bona-nox</i> | Mistletoe <i>Phoradendron serotinum</i> | Flowering Quince <i>Chaenomeles speciosa</i> | Flowering Dogwood <i>Cornus florida</i> |
| Sawbrier; Greenbrier <i>Smilax glauca</i> | Heartleaf <i>Hexastylis arifolia</i> | Redbud; Judas-tree <i>Cercis canadensis</i> | Spotted Wintergreen <i>Chimaphila maculata</i> |
| Sweet-scented Smilax <i>Smilax smallii</i> | Common Chickweed <i>Stellaria media</i> | Cranesbill; Wild Geranium <i>Geranium carolinianum</i> | Mountain-laurel; Mountain-ivy <i>Kalmia latifolia</i> |
| Crane-fly Orchid <i>Tipularia discolor</i> | Windflower <i>Thalictrum thalictroides</i> | Trifoliolate Orange <i>Poncirus trifoliata</i> | Sourwood <i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i> |
| Common Wax-myrtle <i>Morella cerifera</i> | Tulip-poplar; Yellow-poplar <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> | Chinaberry <i>Melia azedarach</i> | Sparkleberry <i>Vaccinium arboreum</i> |
| Pecan <i>Carya illinoensis</i> | Sweetbay <i>Magnolia virginiana</i> | American Holly <i>Ilex opaca</i> | Elliott's Blueberry <i>Vaccinium ellii</i> |
| Shagbark Hickory <i>Carya ovata</i> | Umbrella-tree <i>Magnolia tripetala</i> | Smooth Sumac <i>Rhus glabra</i> | Persimmon <i>Diospyros virginiana</i> |

Wannamaker Preserve, Calhoun Co., SC, February 25, 2006

This list was produced by SCAN from sightings supplied by SCAN members and is subject to revision as needed. (*) 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 which flora/fauna list you are referring to. Thank you.

Japanese Privet; Ligustrum
Ligustrum japonicum

Chinese Privet; Ligustrum
Ligustrum sinense

Yellow Jessamine
Gelsemium sempervirens

Beautyberry; French-mulberry
Callicarpa americana

Common Henbit
Lamium amplexicaule

Shade Mudflower
Micranthemum umbrosum

Trumpet Vine; Cow-itch Vine
Campsis radicans

Partridge-berry
Mitchella repens

Small Bluets
Houstonia pusilla

Japanese Honeysuckle
Lonicera japonica

Black-haw; Nanny-berry
Viburnum prunifolium

American Elderberry
Sambucus canadensis

Common Dandelion
Taraxacum officinale

Butterweed
Senecio glabellus

Elephant's-foot
Elephantopus tomentosus

Dog-fennel
Eupatorium capillifolium

Heterotheca
Heterotheca pinifolia

FAUNA

Northern Mole Cricket
Neocurtilla hexadactyla

Searcher; Ground Beetle
Carabus vinctus

Bombadier Beetle
Brachinus sp.

Predacious Diving Beetle
Thermonectus basillaris basillaris

Wood Duck
Aix sponsa

Red-bellied Woodpecker
Melanerpes carolinus

Northern Flicker
Colaptes auratus

Downy Woodpecker
Picoides pubescens

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Sphyrapicus varius

Pileated Woodpecker
Dryocopus pileatus

Blue Jay
Cyanocitta cristata

Tufted Titmouse
Parus bicolor

Brown-headed Nuthatch
Sitta pusilla

Golden-crowned Kinglet
Regulus satrapa

Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Regulus calendula

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Poliophtila caerulea

Northern Mockingbird
Mimus polyglottos

Black-and-white Warbler
Mniotilta varia

Northern Cardinal
Cardinalis cardinalis

Eastern Towhee
Pipilo erythrophthalmus

White-throated Sparrow
Zonotrichia albicollis

Beaver (gnaw mark)
Castor canadensis

Just a note from the Secretary,

A number of SCAN members have not registered their email address with us. I am asking you to please do so if you have one. We do not share our membership information with other organizations and ask that our members honor this policy when we send out our contact information.

We have started notifying our membership of activities and events that may be of interest to them via email. A good example is the Ivory-billed Woodpecker advanced ticket sales that we emailed out in February.

If you have an email address, would you please send it to me at vewinn@sc.rr.com. Also please make sure I know from whom it's really coming, since some email addresses are really strange.

I am trying to make sure our SCAN membership is informed of things as quickly as possible. Your help would be appreciated.

Virginia Winn

PS: If you haven't paid your dues yet, please do so soon. This will be your last newsletter and I will send out our contact list the first of next month.

Dear SCAN Members,

My son is working on a freshwater molluscan survey of the Atlantic and Gulf Coast drainages of the Southeastern states. He is primarily focused on DNA sequencing as a tool in differentiating the various species of clams and snails, and has recently been working with a colleague on the smaller fresh water snails, especially the Hydrobiidae, a family of minute, 1 to 4 mm snails. Their preliminary surveys in South Carolina have been promising, but there is a lot of survey work remaining. We would like to invite any and all SCAN members who are willing to become involved to check their local waterways, whether ponds and lakes, headwater springs, or established streams, note precise locality data, and send samples to Alabama for identification. Also, seasonal sampling is important. Sometimes a hydrobid species will be abundant during one month, then seemingly disappear from the locality for the rest of the year.

Attached please find David's instructions.

Yours, Lyle Campbell
SCAN member and Trip leader

Freshwater Mollusks Research Volunteers Needed

Freshwater mollusks in South Carolina range from unionid bivalves over 10 cm long to snails with adult sizes under a centimeter. Adult hydrobid snails may be 2 mm or less. Different collecting techniques will be appropriate for different species.

The smaller species, including many snails and sphaeriid clams, as well as juveniles of larger species, can often be collected using a "panning" method. You need a light-colored bucket, plastic tub, etc. that is deep enough to dunk rocks and sticks in, but shallow enough to easily see small things on the bottom. It should be lightweight enough to carry around easily, but sturdy. Shake rocks, roots, sticks, leaves, bottles, and other things from the water into the tub, swirling vigorously to wash animals off of the object. Handfulls of leaves from the bottom of a stream are often good, but avoid getting large amounts of sediment. Be sure to wash the top and bottom of the rocks-sometimes different things live in different places. Remove leaves and other more or less floating debris, large rocks, etc., pour out most of the water, and inspect the remaining material for small snails and clams, not to mention assorted arthropods, worms, and other animals. To collect them, swish a little water around and pour the animals into a jar or other hand container.

Larger species can generally be collected by hand or by sieving or netting (dragging a net along the bottom often works well.) Some, including the unionid clams and viviparid snails often bury themselves. Live specimens are preferred, but dead shell can document the presence of a species. Muskrats often will leave a pile of freshly eaten shells at a favorite picnic spot near their dens.

Preserving for identification: Specimens can be shipped live, if the weather is not freezing or so hot as to heat up the post office trucks. Most species ship well in cold water (i.e., in water on ice), out of water in a cool, damp setting (wrapped with wet paper towels or rags, frozen, or preserved in ethanol (after preserving the specimen in 95% ethanol, large specimens can be shipped in zip-closure bags with paper towels or rags soaked in ethanol. That avoids postal worries about shipping liquid alcohol.

Send your finds to me at the university and we'll try to figure out what you found.

Dr. David Campbell
425 Scientific Collections Building
Department of Biological Sciences
Biodiversity and Systematics
University of Alabama
Box 870345
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0345