



April 2010

Happy Spring Everyone!

Last month as I wrote my piece for the newsletter Spring had almost sprung, but now it is here in full swing. Lori's pond is full of toads and frogs providing us with a beautiful chorus each night as we drift off to sleep with the windows open and we can hear the roar of larger frogs in our neighbor's pond, located a quarter-mile from our house, each evening. The barred owls have been extremely vocal the past few evenings as well. Last weekend I found two worm snakes under one flower pot and heard the first Louisiana waterthrush of the season down at the creek. Week before last we heard our first whip-poor-will of the season. The chickadees are busy making themselves at home in the many bird boxes we have hung around the property and the phoebes that have nested on our front porch for the last several years moved in a little too slow this year to reclaim their nest as a Carolina wren has now modified the nest to its liking. Each morning and evening the turkeys are gobbling before they leave their roost over the creek and again when they return in late afternoon. All the trout lilies have finished blooming but the trailing arbutus, yellow jessamine, and serviceberry are looking great. And what would spring be without my nemesis, the carpenter bees that are relentlessly gnawing away at our western red cedar house. This week the hummingbirds returned to Cedar Creek as well as the hooded warblers. What a beautiful time of year Spring is, despite the pollen that now covers our vehicles and outdoor furniture!

Last month SCAN had a wonderful trip to The Oaks, a retirement community in Orangeburg County. They have a very nice nature trail that starts on the banks of the North Fork Edisto River, follows the edge of the wooded swamp for a way, and then climbs up along a high bluff where we had a great view of the mid-story level of the bottomland hardwood forest below. There was even a rock outcrop on the bluff. The trail then circles back through a disturbed area where evidence of old home sites was evident as chinaberry trees, peach trees, variegated cherry trees, and daffodils were seen. A portion of the trail crosses a small area that has been cleared and grubbed and a few of us stopped long enough to pick up a few pieces of Native American pottery, some with distinct patterns stamped in them.

We saw lots of birdlife along the trail and our herp folks found some really nice specimens under logs they rolled over. Two small snakes were found as the trail climbed the bluff, one ring-necked snake and a worm snake. A nice slimy salamander was found near the beginning of the trail adjacent to the wooded swamp. According to Jim Knight, the slimy salamander used to be *Plethodon glutinosus*, but that species has been split into about a dozen species, indistinguishable externally, separated only by electrophoresis. He says that our find at The Oaks is most likely *P. chlorobryonis* (based on geographical location), but that other species are likely in South Carolina. A notable highlight of the day was seeing one of South Carolina's rarer wild orchids, the southern twayblade. It is such a small plant that could easily be missed but thanks to the sharp eyes of SCAN's botanists, we didn't miss it.

A couple of SCAN members left The Oaks and visited the Albemarle Corporation's 100-acre Wood site, located on the west side of the North Fork Edisto River. This is a site that we discussed in last year's planning meeting as a potential spot for a fieldtrip. Steve Katzenberg arranged the side trip, but the walk along the trails

at The Oaks took longer to complete than expected which meant that most folks did not get to participate in the side trip.

Some of us experienced what has to be a first for SCAN. For those of you that have been joining us on our trips in recent years, you know that we have a tendency to gravitate to barbeque establishments at the end of the day to socialize and discuss the day's adventure. A group of us had problems finding the barbeque restaurant that had been selected and stopped to ask a local law enforcement officer for directions. He could not give us exact directions but instead provided us with a Police escort to the restaurant. I only wish he had turned on his lights and siren during the short drive to announce our arrival to the SCAN members that had already found the place!

Thanks to John Cely for hosting the trip to The Oaks and thanks to Steve Katzenburg for arranging the side trip to the 100-acre Wood.

Please remember to mark your calendars for a President's special in May that should be lots of fun. On May 8th and 9th we will be visiting the Marsh Furniture Heritage Preserve in Marion County. The SCDNR has invited us to stay overnight in their recently remodeled facilities at the Preserve. This should allow us plenty of time to explore additional areas that we normally wouldn't have time for on a normal trip.

This month we will be visiting the property of one of SCAN's members. Gene and Carolyn Ott have invited us to their property in Laurens County. Gene has hinted that we may find a few herps on this trip.

I hope to see you soon,

Gordon

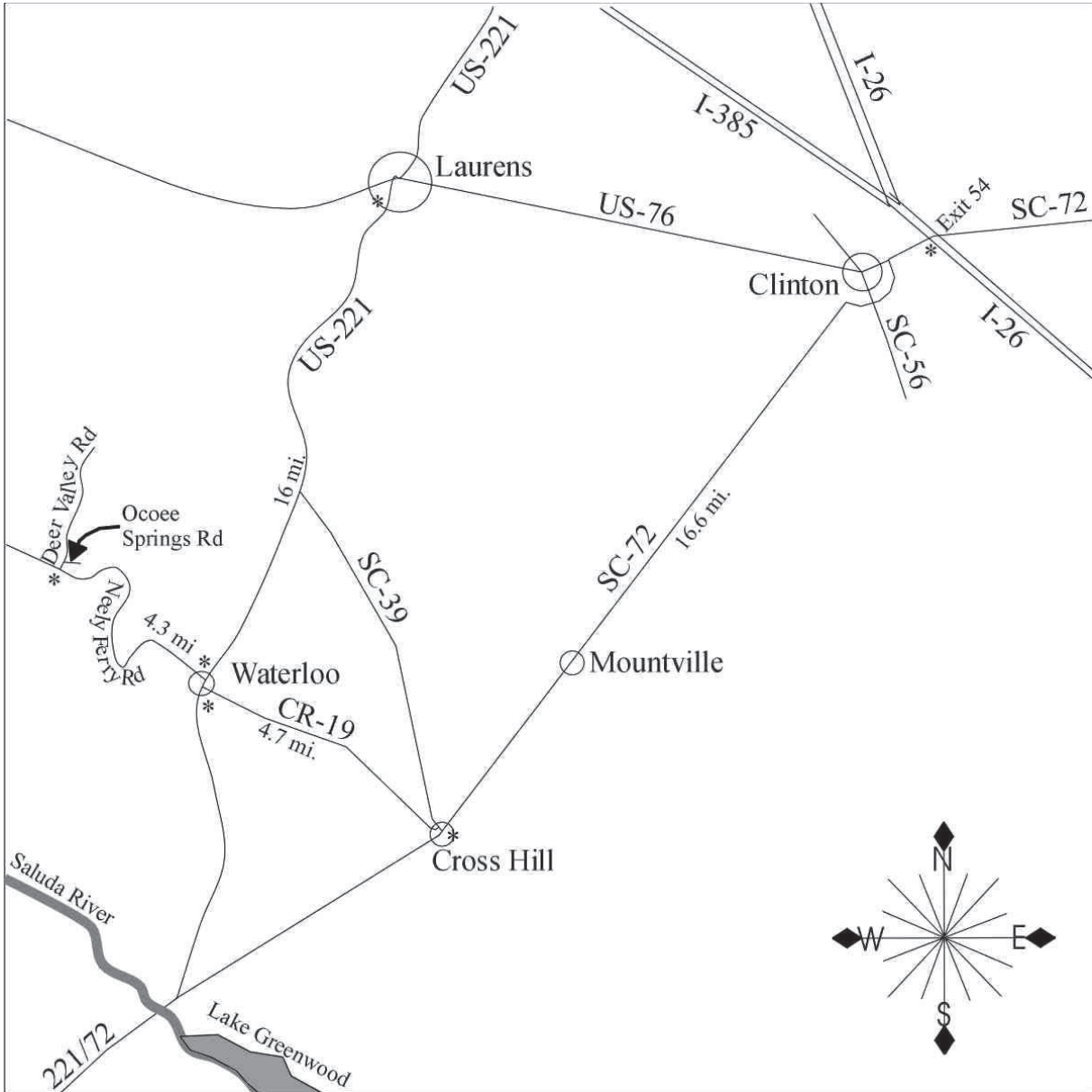
Ocoee Springs, Laurens County – 10:30

On April 24 we will have a particular treat – visiting Ocoee Springs, the home of Gene Ott and his family. This large tract includes three streams, several ponds, bluffs and lowlands, springs, and miles of well-marked trails. In April it should be perfect for finding spring flowers, reptiles, amphibians, and insects; small mammals live in the grassland. Gene has set out several frog traps, and promises a fine array of flowers at the foot of the bluffs.

Because of ticks, chiggers, and brambles, long pants and boots are recommended. Bring insect repellent, lunch, and plenty to drink; restroom available at Gene's house. Some dip-nets will be available for checking critters in the water, but you may wish to bring your own.

Directions: **From Columbia or Spartanburg**, take I-26 to Exit 54, turn west onto SC-72. Drive 16.6 miles (take Truck-72 around Clinton) to the traffic light at Cross Hill; turn right onto SC-39. Take the very first left onto County Road 19; go 4.7 miles to US-221. Turn right; go 0.7 miles to just before the Dollar General and turn left onto Neely Ferry Road. Drive 4.3 miles to Deer Valley Road. Turn right, then take immediate right onto Ocoee Springs Road (Gene Ott's property). Park near the small red house. Bathroom is available at the large white house on the hill.

From Greenville, take I-385 to Exit 9; follow US-221 through Laurens, then about 16 miles to Waterloo. At the stop sign just after the Dollar General, turn right onto Neely Ferry Road and follow directions above. Return: Because northbound I-385 is closed for construction, from Laurens follow Detour signs to I-385.



Overnight President's Special
Marsh Furniture Heritage Preserve

Marion County, SC

May 8th & 9th, 2010

10:30AM

We will meet at the information kiosk at 10:30 on the 8th. We are fortunate in that the SCDNR has invited us to stay overnight in their recently renovated facilities located at the Preserve. This will provide us with additional time to explore the Preserve at our leisure and socialize in the evening. We each need to bring linens for a bed (or a sleeping bag), and food and drink. Kitchen facilities are available and I will plan and provide an evening dinner and basic breakfast foods. I am not much of a cook so any help in the kitchen that you can provide will be greatly appreciated. All you need to bring are drinks, lunches for Saturday and Sunday, and snacks. **It will help me to plan the meals if you could let me know of your plans to attend (agmurphy@hughes.net or 803-530-2395).** With any luck, Quentin will agree to fix his delicious grits for breakfast!

Marsh Furniture Heritage Preserve is approximately 8,560 acres in size and is located along the east bank of the Great Pee Dee River in Marion County. The Preserve has a variety of habitats including bottomland hardwood forest, pine and mixed pine forests, and depression wetlands.

I expect that the mosquitoes will be out in force so you may want to be prepared with repellent.

Directions: From I-20/I-95 at Florence, take David H. McLeod Boulevard to West Palmetto Street/U.S. 76. Take a left and travel approximately 22.5 miles. Veer right onto SC 576 and go approximately 3.5 miles then turn right onto SC-41A/SC-41 Alt/SC-9. Go approximately 1.43 miles and take a right onto SC 9. Go approximately 8.2 miles and turn right onto Brothers Road (SC-692). Go approximately 0.28 miles and take the right fork onto Murray Road. Follow Murray Road for approximately 4.1 miles to the kiosk.

From its intersection with US 378 (approximately 1.1 miles east of the Great Pee Dee River), take SC 9 north and travel approximately 8.28 miles. Turn left onto Brothers Road, go approximately 0.28 miles and take the right fork onto Murray Road (SC-692). Follow Murray Road for approximately 4.1 miles to the kiosk.

**The Oaks Retirement
Community
Orangeburg Co., SC
March 27, 2010**

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

Netted Chain Fern
Woodwardia areolata

Ebony Spleenwort
Asplenium platyneuron

Southern Lady Fern
Athyrium asplenoides

Sensitive Fern
Onoclea sensibilis sensibilis

Shortleaf Pine
Pinus echinata

Loblolly Pine
Pinus taeda

Eastern Red Cedar
Juniperus virginiana virginiana

Bald-cypress
Taxodium distichum

Giant Cane
Arundinaria gigantea

Longleaf Spikegrass
Chasmanthium sessiliflorum

Annual Bluegrass
Poa annua

Spanish-moss
Tillandsia usneoides

Bellwort
Uvularia sp.

Catbrier
Smilax bona-nox

Whiteleaf Greenbrier
Smilax glauca

Sarsaparilla-vine
Smilax pumila

Jackson-brier
Smilax smallii

Southern Twayblade
Listera australis

Crane-fly Orchid
Tipularia discolor

Tulip-tree
Liriodendron tulipifera

Southern Magnolia
Magnolia grandiflora

Sweetbay
Magnolia virginiana

Swamp Bay
Persea palustris

Sassafras
Sassafras albidum

Lizard's-tail
Saururus cernuus

Little Brown Jug
Hexastylis arifolia

Bloodroot
Sanguinaria canadensis

Fumitory
* *Fumaria officinalis*

Sweet Gum
Liquidambar styraciflua

Southern Hackberry
Celtis laevigata

Mockernut Hickory
Carya alba

Black Walnut
Juglans nigra

Common Wax-myrtle
Morella cerifera

American Beech
Fagus grandifolia

White Oak
Quercus alba

Southern Red Oak
Quercus falcata

Laurel Oak
Quercus laurifolia

Swamp Chestnut Oak
Quercus michauxii

Water Oak
Quercus nigra

Cherrybark Oak
Quercus pagoda

Post Oak
Quercus stellata

Tag Alder
Alnus serrulata

Common Chickweed
Stellaria media

Violet
Viola hirsutula

Primrose-leaf Violet
Viola primulifolia

Black Willow
Salix nigra

Hairy Bittercress
Cardamine hirsuta

Watercress
Nasturtium officinale

Spotted Wintergreen
Chimaphila maculata

Coastal Doghobble
Leucothoe axillaris

Swamp Azalea
Rhododendron viscosum

Sparkleberry
Vaccinium arboreum

Elliott's Blueberry
Vaccinium elliotii

American Persimmon
Diospyros virginiana

Horsesugar
Symplocos tinctoria

Serviceberry
Amelanchier sp.

Parsley-piert
* *Aphanes australis*

Chickasaw Plum
Prunus angustifolia angustifolia

Peach
Prunus persica

Black Cherry
Prunus serotina serotina

Eastern Redbud
Cercis canadensis canadensis

Flowering Dogwood
Cornus florida

Water Tupelo
Nyssa aquatica

Hearts-a-burstin'-with-love
Euonymus americanus

American Holly
Ilex opaca opaca

Yaupon
Ilex vomitoria

Muscadine
Vitis rotundifolia rotundifolia

Red Maple
Acer rubrum

Eastern Poison Ivy

Toxicodendron radicans radicans

Southern Carolina Crane's-bill
Geranium carolinianum carolinianum

Devil's-walking-stick
Aralia spinosa

Carolina Jessamine
Gelsemium sempervirens

Beautyberry
Callicarpa americana

Henbit
Lamium amplexicaule amplexicaule

Water-starwort
Callitriche heterophylla heterophylla

Chinese Privet
Ligustrum sinense

Wild Olive
Osmanthus americanus

Woolly Mullein
Verbascum thapsus

Squawroot
Conopholis americana

Partridge-berry
Mitchella repens

Japanese Honeysuckle
Lonicera japonica

Green-and-gold
Chrysogonum virginianum

Elephant's-foot
Elephantopus tomentosus

Common Dandelion
Taraxacum officinale

FAUNA

Centipede
* *Scolopendra sp.*

Common Sanddragon
Progompus obscurus

Woodland Ground Beetles
Lophoglossus gravis
Piesmus submarginatus

Vivid Metallic Ground Beetle
Chlaenius aestivus

Clown Beetle
Platysoma carolinum

Patent-leather Beetle
Odontotaenius disjunctus

Hide Beetle
Trox tuberculatus

Click Beetle
Melanotus sp.

Darkling Beetle
Uloma mentalis

Blister Beetle
* *Lytta polita*

Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
Papilio glaucus

Henry's Elfin (butterfly)
Callophrys henrici

Spring Azure (butterfly)
Celastrina ladon

American Snout (butterfly)
Libytheana carinenta

Red-spotted Purple (butterfly)
Limnitis arthemis astyanax

Juvenal's Duskywing
Erynnis juvenalis

Horace's Duskywing
Erynnis horatius

Slimy Salamander
Plethodon "glutinosus"

Eastern Mud Salamander
Pseudotriton montanus

Squirrel Treefrog
Hyla squirella

Upland Chorus Frog
Pseudacris triseriata feriarum

Slider Turtle
Trachemys scripta

Green Anole
Anolis carolinensis

Five-lined Skink
Plestiodon fasciatus

Eastern Worm Snake
Carphophis amoenus

Ringneck Snake
Diadophis punctatus

Turkey Vulture
Cathartes aura

Red-shouldered Hawk
Buteo lineatus

Osprey
Pandion haliaetus

Great Horned Owl
Bubo virginianus

Belted Kingfisher
Ceryle alcyon

Red-bellied Woodpecker
Melanerpes carolinus

Pileated Woodpecker
Dryocopus pileatus

American Crow
Corvus brachyrhynchos

Fish Crow
Corvus ossifragus

Tufted Titmouse
Parus bicolor

Carolina Chickadee
Parus carolinensis

White-breasted Nuthatch
Sitta carolinensis

Carolina Wren
Thryothorus ludovicianus

Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Regulus calendula

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Poliophtila caerulea

Hermit Thrush
Catharus guttatus

Blue-headed Vireo
Vireo solitarius

Northern Parula
Parula americana

Black-and-white Warbler
Mniotilta varia

Yellow-rumped Warbler
Dendroica coronata

Pine Warbler
Dendroica pinus

Northern Cardinal
Cardinalis cardinalis

Eastern Towhee
Pipilo erythrophthalmus

White-throated Sparrow
Zonotrichia albicollis

Virginia Opossum (bones)
Didelphis virginiana

Eastern Mole (tunnel)
Scalopus aquaticus

Coyote (scat)
Canis latrans

White-tailed Deer (tracks, bones)
Odocoileus virginianus

THE OAKS (March 27, 2010)

















**Wateree Floodlands
Memorial Forest
Kershaw Co., SC
February 27, 2010
Addenda**

FAUNA

Fire Ant

Solenopsis sp.

Dacetine Ant

Strumigenys sp.

Black Garden Ant

* *Lasius* sp.

Ants

Proceratium sp.

Formica sp.

* *Ponera* sp.

Wrinkled Bark Beetle

* *Omoglymmius
americanus*

Pedunculate Ground Beetles

Dyschirius sp.

* *Clivina* sp.

Minute Ground Beetles

Mioptachys flavicauda

Tachys sp.

* *Serranillus* sp.

Water Scavenger Beetle

Cercyon sp.

Feather-winged Beetles

Nossidium sp.

Ptenidium sp.

* *Nephanes* sp.

Ptinellodes sp.

Ptinella sp.

Acrotrichis sp.

Round Fungus Beetle

* *Ptomophagus* sp.

Antlike Stone Beetles

Euconnus sp.

* *Chelonoidum* sp.

* *Eutheia* sp.

Shining Fungus Beetle

* *Caryoscapha* sp. (?)

Large Rove Beetles

Philonthus sp.

Pinophilus sp.

Unmargined Rove Beetle

Thoracophorus costalis

Proteinine Rove Beetle

* *Megarthrus* sp.

Ocellate Rove Beetles

Proteinus sp.

Omalium sp.

Megalopsid Rove Beetle

* *Megalopinus* sp.

Euaesthetid Rove Beetles

* *Euaesthetus* sp.

* *Edaphus* sp.

Crab-like Rove Beetles

Bolitobius sp.

* *Ischnosoma* sp.

Tachinus sp.

* *Tachyporus* sp.

Coproporus sp.

Sepedophilus sp.

* *Cilea* sp.

Water Skater (Rove Beetle)

Stenus sp.

Obscure Rove Beetles

* *Phanerota fasciata*

Deinopsis rapida (poss.)

* *Oligota* sp. (?)

Shining Fungus Beetles

Scaphisoma sp.

Baeocera sp.

Toxidium compressum

Toxidium gammaroides

* *Tmesiphorus costalis*

Patent-leather Beetle

Odontotaenius disjunctus

Aphodiine Dung Beetle

Ataenius sp.

Flower Scarab Beetle

* *Valgus canaliculatus*

Dry-fungus Beetle

* *Sphindus americanus*

Silken Fungus Beetles

* *Caenoscelis* sp. (?)

Cryptophagus sp.

Cylindrical Bark Beetle

Cerylon sp.

Minute Tree-fungus Beetles

* *Octotemus* sp.

Cis sp.

* *Sphindocis* sp.

False Darkling Beetle

* *Holostrophus bifasciatus*