



June 2011

Hello Everyone,

I look forward to afternoon and evening thunderstorms this time of year because the tree frogs and toads converge on Lori's decorative pond to breed. The noise emanating from the pond is almost deafening at times. In the past we have had a couple of large red belly water snakes living in and around the flower beds that will move into the pond to capitalize on the frog and toad orgies. But this year there seems to be an over abundance of these snakes and they are making a noticeable dent in the frog and toad population. I have decided that it is time to intervene and have started a water snake relocation program, whereby I visit the little pond each night, with flashlight in hand, remove the snakes, and release them in the creek at the far corner of our property. I am sure that they will eventually find their way back to the pond, but maybe this relocation effort will relieve some of the pressure on the frogs and toads. While I'm on the subject of thunderstorms, as the storms move into the area, each time there is a clap of thunder, I hear wild turkeys vocalizing down by the creek. Life in the country is always entertaining!

May was a busy month for SCAN with the President's Special on the 14<sup>th</sup> and our regular trip on the 25<sup>th</sup>. I talked a little about the President's Special held at my place in northern Richland County, but when I looked at the flora and fauna list that is attached to this newsletter, I was really surprised by the great list that SCAN compiled! Granted, I am familiar with the plant and animal species found here, but like I pointed out before, I have never put together a formal list. And when I saw the impressive SCAN list, I was impressed when I saw it all in black and white. I appreciate the list and promise to keep it updated as I find new species with the changing of the seasons.

Our trip last month to I'ON Swamp, the Sewee Visitor and Environmental Educational Center, and the Sewee Shell Mounds was a good trip. After trip leader Wayne Grooms gave us a brief history of the efforts to develop rice fields in the area, we took a stroll along the dikes that once formed the rice fields. Unlike Wayne's scouting trip to the site, the mosquitoes were out in force in May! The trail along the dikes provide a good vantage point for viewing the wooded swamp and bottomland hardwood forest habitats. There was lots of bird activity and we saw two of my favorite reptiles, the eastern kingsnake and alligators. We regrouped at the Sewee Center for lunch and some folks walked part of the trails there to view the red wolves. Later we drove to the Sewee Shell Mounds and hiked the short trails there. Much of the trail leading to the mounds is through former agricultural fields that are now young forest land, but the vegetation at the clam and oyster mounds are relatively undisturbed. Pottery shards could be seen mixed with the shells at the clam mound providing evidence of early human activity here. The trails around the mounds afforded a great view of the salt marsh habitat as well. Notable plants observed at the shell mounds include rough-leaved dogwood and tough bumelia. Thanks Wayne for hosting the trip.

See you all at Pacolet River Heritage Preserve on the 25<sup>th</sup> of this month!

Gordon

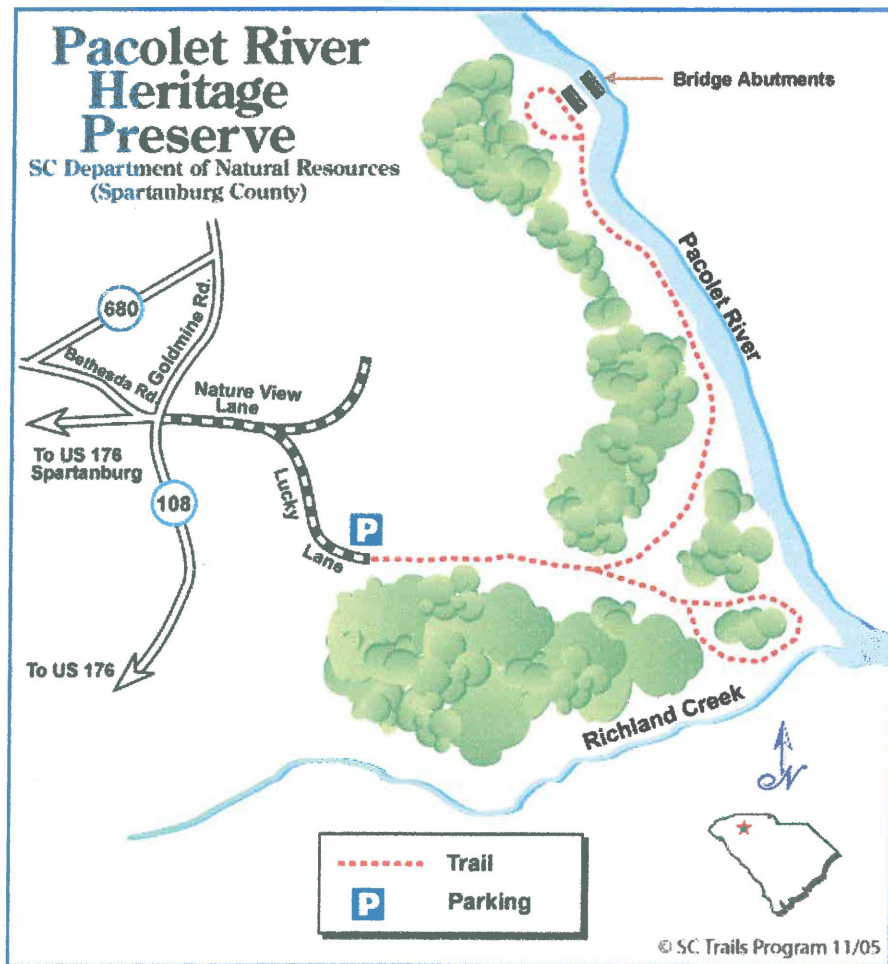
**Pacolet River Heritage Preserve**  
**Spartanburg County, June 25, 2011, 10:30AM**

The Pacolet River Heritage Preserve is located along the Pacolet River in Spartanburg County, South Carolina. This 257-acre preserve protects two of the 16 Native American soapstone quarries in the vicinity that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. These quarry sites were used by Native Americans some 3000 to 5000 years ago to manufacture spear weights, bowls of various sizes, and other objects. The preserve also has river frontage and is covered in mixed hardwood and pine forest.

Two uncommon plant species, a moss and a leafy liverwort, are also protected within the preserve. Less rare, but no less interesting are the pine/hardwoods along the Pacolet River. In summer, the forest shelters wood thrushes, red-eyed vireos, eastern wood pewees, and yellow-billed cuckoos, along with more commonly seen songbirds. Reptiles and amphibians love the woods, too. Look for harmless black rat snakes and eastern kingsnakes, as well as gray treefrogs, toads and other amphibians.

From I-26, take Exit 22 (Hwy 296, John White), towards Spartanburg. In a couple of blocks, turn right onto Hwy 295 and follow it all the way until it dead ends at US 176. Take a left on US 176 and then immediately take the first right (W. Main Street). From Main Street, the first road on the left is Goldmine Road, take it and follow the map to the preserve.

Latitude 34.92972, Longitude -81.77972





**I'on Swamp Trail,  
Francis Marion NF  
Charleston Co., SC  
May 28, 2011**

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**FLORA**

**Bracken**  
*Peridium aquilinum*  
**Netted Chain Fern**  
*Woodwardia areolata*  
**Ebony Spleenwort**  
*Asplenium platyneuron*  
**Loblolly Pine**  
*Pinus taeda*  
**Eastern Red Cedar**  
*Juniperus virginiana virginiana*  
**Bald-cypress**  
*Taxodium distichum*  
**Dwarf Palmetto**  
*Sabal minor*  
**Jack-in-the-pulpit**  
*Arisaema triphyllum*  
**Giant Cane**  
*Arundinaria gigantea*  
**Flexible Sasa-grass**  
*Microstegium vimineum*  
**Woods-grass**  
*Oplismenus hirtellus setarius*  
**Pickernelweed**  
*Pontederia cordata*  
**Catbrier**  
*Smilax bona-nox*  
**Whiteleaf Greenbrier**  
*Smilax glauca*  
**Common Greenbrier**  
*Smilax rotundifolia*  
**Sweetbay**  
*Magnolia virginiana*  
**Lizard's-tail**  
*Saururus cernuus*  
**Sweet Gum**  
*Liquidambar styraciflua*  
**Red Mulberry**  
*Morus rubra*  
**Common Wax-myrtle**  
*Morella cerifera*  
**Laurel Oak**  
*Quercus laurifolia*  
**Swamp Chestnut Oak**  
*Quercus michauxii*  
**Water Oak**  
*Quercus nigra*  
**Cherrybark Oak**  
*Quercus pagoda*  
**Willow Oak**  
*Quercus phellos*  
**Post Oak**  
*Quercus stellata*  
**St. Andrew's Cross**  
*Hypericum hypericoides*

**Yellow Passionflower**  
*Passiflora lutea lutea*  
**Coastal Sweet Pepperbush**  
*Clethra alnifolia*  
**Sparkleberry**  
*Vaccinium arboreum*  
**Elliott's Blueberry**  
*Vaccinium elliotii*  
**American Persimmon**  
*Diospyros virginiana*  
**Black Cherry**  
*Prunus serotina serotina*  
**Hog-peanut**  
*Amphicarpaea bracteata*  
**Coral Bean**  
*Erythrina herbacea*  
**Flowering Dogwood**  
*Cornus florida*  
**Southern Swamp Dogwood**  
*Cornus stricta*  
**Water Tupelo**  
*Nyssa aquatica*  
**Swamp Tupelo**  
*Nyssa biflora*  
**American Holly**  
*Ilex opaca opaca*  
**Winterberry**  
*Ilex verticillata*  
**Yaupon**  
*Ilex vomitoria*  
**Supplejack**  
*Berchemia scandens*  
**Peppervine**  
*Ampelopsis arborea*  
**Virginia-creeper**  
*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*  
**Muscadine**  
*Vitis rotundifolia rotundifolia*  
**Red Maple**  
*Acer rubrum*  
**Poison Oak**  
*Toxicodendron pubescens*  
**Eastern Poison Ivy**  
*Toxicodendron radicans radicans*  
**Chinaberry**  
*Melia azedarach*  
**Devil's-walking-stick**  
*Aralia spinosa*  
**Carolina Jessamine**  
*Gelsemium sempervirens*  
**Eastern Anglepod**  
*Gonolobus suberosus*  
**Carolina Spinypod**  
*Matelea carolinensis*  
**Beautyberry**  
*Callicarpa americana*  
**Common Skullcap**  
*Scutellaria integrifolia*  
**Green Ash**  
*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*  
**Cross-vine**  
*Bignonia capreolata*  
**Trumpet-creeper**  
*Campsis radicans*  
**Partridge-berry**  
*Mitchella repens*  
**Arrow-wood**  
*Viburnum dentatum*  
**Climbing Hempweed**  
*Mikania scandens*

**FAUNA**

**Lone Star Tick**  
*Amblyomma americanum*  
**Cicada; Locust (larva)**  
*Cicada marginata*  
**Cicada-killer Wasp**  
*Sphecius speciosus*  
**American Horsefly**  
\* *Tabanus americanus*  
**Robber Fly**  
\* *Laphria grossa*  
**Eastern Pondhawk**  
*Erythemis simplicicollis*  
**Ebony Jewelwing**  
*Calopteryx maculata*  
**Six-spotted Tiger Beetle**  
*Cicindela sexguttata*  
**June Beetle**  
\* *Phyllophaga foxii*  
**Tick Trefoil Leaf-miner**  
*Pachyschelus laevigatus*  
**Firefly; Lightning Beetle**  
*Photuris sp.*  
**Eastern Tiger Swallowtail**  
*Papilio glaucus*  
**Pearl Crescent (butterfly)**  
*Phyciodes tharos*  
**Carolina Satyr (butterfly)**  
*Hermeuptychia sosybius*  
**Horace's Duskywing**  
*Erynnis horatius*  
**American Alligator**  
*Alligator mississippiensis*  
**Green Anole**  
*Anolis carolinensis*  
**Eastern Kingsnake**  
*Lampropeltis getula*  
**Kingsnake**  
\* *Lampropeltis sp.*  
**Red-bellied Water Snake**  
*Nerodia erythrogaster*  
**Great Egret**  
*Casmerodius albus*  
**Red-shouldered Hawk**  
*Buteo lineatus*  
**Mourning Dove**  
*Zenaidura macroura*  
**Yellow-billed Cuckoo (call)**  
*Coccyzus americanus*  
**Red-bellied Woodpecker**  
*Melanerpes carolinus*  
**Hairy Woodpecker**  
*Picoides villosus*  
**Red-cockaded Woodpecker**  
*Picoides borealis*  
**Great Crested Flycatcher**  
*Myiarchus crinitus*  
**Acadian Flycatcher**  
*Empidonax virescens*  
**American Crow**  
*Corvus brachyrhynchos*  
**Carolina Chickadee**  
*Parus carolinensis*  
**Tufted Titmouse**  
*Baeolophus bicolor*  
**Carolina Wren**  
*Thryothorus ludovicianus*  
**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**  
*Poliophtila caerulea*  
**Northern Mockingbird**  
*Mimus polyglottos*  
**White-eyed Vireo**  
*Vireo griseus*  
**Red-Eyed Vireo**  
*Vireo olivaceus*  
**Prothonotary Warbler**  
*Protonotaria citrea*

**Northern Parula**  
*Parula americana*  
**Northern Cardinal**  
*Cardinalis cardinalis*  
**Gray Squirrel**  
*Sciurus carolinensis*  
**Eastern Fox Squirrel**  
*Sciurus niger*

**Pinkroot**  
*Spigelia marilandica*  
**Seaside Oxeye**  
*Borrichia frutescens*  
**Southern Maritime Marsh-elder**  
*Iva frutescens frutescens*

**FAUNA**

**Hermit Crab**  
*Pagurus sp.*  
**Blue Crab**  
*Callinectes sp.*  
**Brown Pelican**  
*Pelecanus occidentalis*  
**Green-backed Heron**  
*Butorides striatus*  
**Great Egret**  
*Casmerodius albus*  
**Laughing Gull**  
*Larus atricilla*  
**Turkey Vulture**  
*Cathartes aura*  
**Osprey**  
*Pandion haliaetus*  
**Yellow-billed Cuckoo**  
*Coccyzus americanus*  
**American Crow**  
*Corvus brachyrhynchos*  
**American Robin**  
*Turdus migratorius*  
**White-eyed Vireo**  
*Vireo griseus*  
**Northern Cardinal**  
*Cardinalis cardinalis*

**Sewee Shell Mound,  
Francis Marion NF  
Charleston Co., SC  
May 28, 2011**

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**FLORA**

**Southern Red Cedar**  
*Juniperus virginiana silicicola*  
**Cabbage Palmetto**  
*Sabal palmetto*  
**Black Needle Rush**  
*Juncus roemerianus*  
**Saltmarsh Cordgrass**  
*Spartina alterniflora*  
**Spanish Dagger**  
*Yucca aloifolia*  
**Sassafras**  
*Sassafras albidum*  
**Laurel Oak**  
*Quercus laurifolia*  
**Live Oak**  
*Quercus virginiana*  
**Thinleaf Orach**  
*Atriplex prostrata*  
**Perennial Glasswort**  
*Sarcocornia pacifica*  
**Mountain Basswood**  
*Tilia americana heterophylla*  
**Yellow Passionflower**  
*Passiflora lutea lutea*  
**Tough Buckthorn**  
*Sideroxylon tenax*  
**American Persimmon**  
*Diospyros virginiana*  
**Coral Bean**  
*Erythrina herbacea*  
**Eastern Roughleaf Dogwood**  
*Cornus asperifolia*  
**American Holly**  
*Ilex opaca opaca*  
**Yaupon**  
*Ilex vomitoria*  
**Muscadine**  
*Vitis rotundifolia rotundifolia*  
**Red Buckeye**  
*Aesculus pavia pavia*