



July 2010

Greetings All,

Last month we had to make a last minute change in our destination and our alternate site turned out to be a great location. We did not have to travel far from Columbia to reach our destination, which is between Columbia and Congaree National Park. We were visiting Belle Grove Plantation, which is an 807 acre private hunt club. The Plantation is bounded to the north, west, and much of the southern border, by Mill Creek, so it is essentially a peninsula surrounded by a really nice swamp. Much of the Plantation consists of planted crops that serve to enhance habitat for hunting purposes. The various fields are separated by forested areas consisting of hardwoods and some planted pine.

We spent the day exploring the bluffs above Mill Creek, the edges of the braided stream system of Mill Creek that forms a really nice swamp, and a natural open water area of the swamp referred to as a lake. One of the interesting observations of the day was a colony of bees that had constructed their comb on the underside of a small tree branch about four feet above the ground. I have encountered many beehives in hollow trees, but have never seen one out in the open with no protection from the elements such as this one. We also walked around a manmade pond where many species of dragonflies were busy flitting around and several of us watched an interesting small bee excavating a hole in the dirt road. We compiled a nice flora and fauna list for the day and had ten species on the list that are first time listings for SCAN. I encourage you to take a look at the impressive list and if you were along for the trip and saw something that is not on the list, please let Jan know so she can update the list. We would like to provide the owners with a comprehensive list in return for their generosity in sharing the Plantation with us.

I would like to thank John Cely for making the arrangements for us to visit the Plantation and would also like to extend a special thanks to Henry Asbill, one of the owners, and Guy Johnson for their assistance throughout the day.

Work has resumed on SCAN's Book Three and there will be a meeting this weekend of the book committee members. Sometime back, members were asked to provide photographs for inclusion in the book and I would like to remind everyone to look through your photographs and get them to Jerry Bright. Jerry has volunteered to scan the photographs since most would have been taken prior to digital cameras.

We will be going to Brasstown Falls in Oconee County this month. Hopefully this will give us all a break from the stifling heat we have been enduring here in the flatlands of South Carolina.

I hope to see you all soon!

Gordon

Opossum Creek Trail

Sumter National Forest, Oconee County

July 26, 2010 – 10:30 a.m.

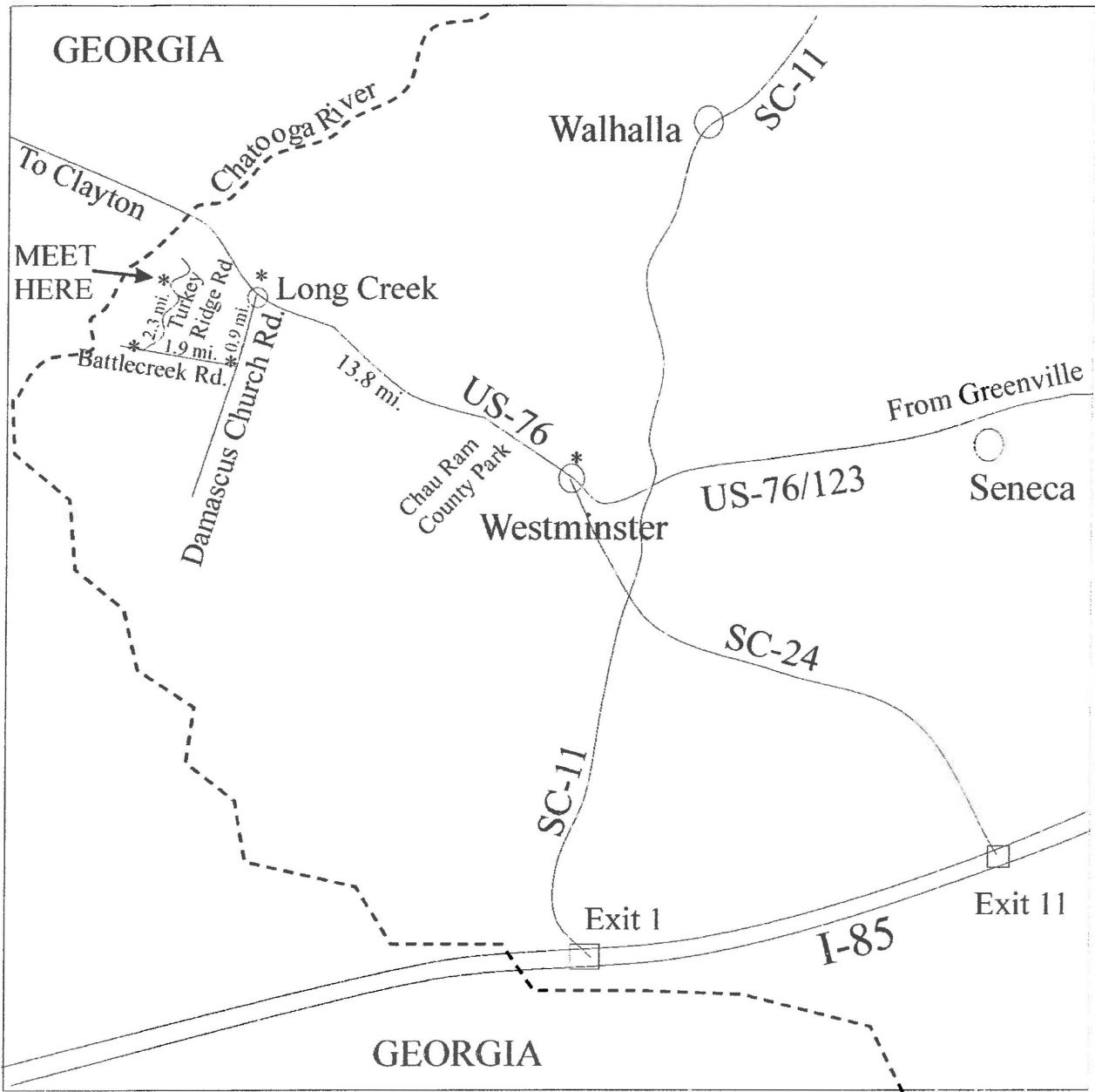
Our next trip will be to the far northwest corner of the state on July 26. Because Brasstown Falls, the trip scheduled for that date, is nearly inaccessible (tricky logs crossing the river, steep cliffs) and the easy part of the area has been nearly denuded by overuse, we will go to the Opossum Creek Trail instead. The 1.5-mile well-graded, shady trail passes through a beautiful forest with tall oaks and pines and openings filled with short plants, along bluffs overlooking the gurgling creek below, and drops gently down to the Chatooga River. There you can see Georgia, and possibly rafters and kayakers on the river. Members with mountain goat (*Oreamnos americanus*) ancestry can then clamber up a half-mile trail along Opossum Creek to a 50-foot waterfall.

To reach this trail, from Westminster follow US-76 northwest to Long Creek (13.8 miles) and turn left onto Damascus Church Road. This will be past the General Store on the right and just before the Long Creek Fire Station on the left. Drive 0.9 mile and turn right onto Battlecreek Road. Drive 1.9 miles and turn right onto Turkey Ridge Road (gravel). Watch the odometer, and at 2.3 miles there is a wide place on the left where we all can park; don't block the forest service road at that point. The trailhead is back up Turkey Ridge a short distance.

Plan to carry the usual lunch, lots of water, and bug repellent. No facilities. Because rain in the mountains is frequent and unpredictable, check the weather forecast and bring raingear if remotely indicated.

Westminster is 3+ hours' drive from Columbia. Interstate 385 is closed to northbound traffic from exits 1-16, so allow extra time. The detour from I-26 Exit 54 to Laurens is well-marked; go straight through Clinton rather than taking the long bypass. I plan to go to the Chau Ram County Park on Friday and camp overnight (\$20, cash or check only). If you wish to join me, let me know (803-796-2862,) and I can reserve a campsite for you when I get there (no reservations in advance).

There is a Relax Inn in Westminster (877) 747-8713 and motels in Seneca (Jameson Inn (864) 888-8300 and Days Inn (864) 885-0710)).



**Belle Grove Plantation
Richland Co., SC
June 26, 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 Please indicate exactly to which flora/fauna list you are referring. Thank you.

FLORA

Japanese Climbing Fern
Lygodium japonicum
Netted Chain Fern
Woodwardia areolata
Ebony Spleenwort
Asplenium platyneuron
Southern Lady Fern
Athyrium asplenioides
Sensitive Fern
Onoclea sensibilis
sensibilis
Christmas Fern
Polystichum acrostichoides
Loblolly Pine
Pinus taeda
Duck-Potato
Sagittaria latifolia latifolia
American Frog's-bit
Limnobia spongia
Duckweed
Landoltia punctata
Green Arrow-arum
Peltandra virginica
Yellow Nutsedge; Chufa
* *Cyperus esculentus*
Giant Cane
Arundinaria gigantea
Longleaf Spikegrass
Chasmanthium
sessiliflorum
Flexible Sasa-grass
Microstegium vimineum
Johnson Grass
Sorghum halepense
Corn
Zea mays mays
Spanish-moss
Tillandsia usneoides
Catbrier
Smilax bona-nox
Whiteleaf Greenbrier
Smilax glauca
Bamboo-vine
Smilax laurifolia
Common Greenbrier
Smilax rotundifolia

Jackson-brier
Smilax smallii
Common Wild Yam
Dioscorea villosa
Tulip-tree
Liriodendron tulipifera
Common Pawpaw
Asimina triloba
Sassafras
Sassafras albidum
Lizard's-tail
Saururus cernuus
Broadleaf Pondlily
Nuphar advena
Coralbeads
Cocculus carolinus
Sycamore
Platanus occidentalis
occidentalis
Sweet Gum
Liquidambar styraciflua
Winged Elm
Ulmus alata
Southern Hackberry
Celtis laevigata
Red Mulberry
Morus rubra
False-nettle
Boehmeria cylindrica
Water Hickory
Carya aquatica
White Oak
Quercus alba
Southern Red Oak
Quercus falcata
Laurel Oak
Quercus laurifolia
Overcup Oak
Quercus lyrata
Swamp Chestnut Oak
Quercus michauxii
Water Oak
Quercus nigra
Cherrybark Oak
Quercus pagoda
Willow Oak
Quercus phellos
Post Oak
Quercus stellata
Black Oak
Quercus velutina
American Hornbeam
Carpinus caroliniana
American Hop-hornbeam
Ostrya virginiana
Common Pokeweed
Phytolacca americana
Careless-weed
* *Amaranthus palmeri*
Curly Dock
Rumex crispus crispus

St. Andrew's Cross
Hypericum hypericoides
Marsh St.-John's-wort
Triadenum walteri
Eastern Rose-mallow
Hibiscus moscheutos
Arrowleaf Sida
Sida rhombifolia
rhombifolia
Mountain Basswood
Tilia americana
heterophylla
Passionflower
Passiflora incarnata
Sparkleberry
Vaccinium arboreum
American Persimmon
Diospyros virginiana
Horsesugar
Symplocos tinctoria
Parsley-piert
Aphanes australis
Avens
Geum canadense
Wild Crab Apple
Malus angustifolia
Black Cherry
Prunus serotina serotina
Eastern Redbud
Cercis canadensis
canadensis
Soybean
Glycine max
Kudzu
Pueraria montana lobata
Sicklepod
Senna obtusifolia
White Clover
Trifolium repens
Water Tupelo
Nyssa aquatica
American Mistletoe
Phoradendron serotinum
serotinum
Hearts-a-burstin'-with-love
Euonymus americanus
American Holly
Ilex opaca opaca
Supplejack
Berchemia scandens
Peppervine
Ampelopsis arborea
Raccoon-grape
Ampelopsis cordata
Virginia-creeper
Parthenocissus
quinquefolia
Summer Grape
Vitis aestivalis aestivalis
Muscadine
Vitis rotundifolia
rotundifolia

Box Elder
Acer negundo
Red Maple
Acer rubrum
Winged Sumac
Rhus copallinum
Eastern Poison Ivy
Toxicodendron radicans
radicans
Chinaberry
Melia azedarach
Spotted Touch-me-not
Impatiens capensis
Marsh-parsley
Cyclosporum
leptophyllum
Honewort
Cryptotaenia canadensis
Sanicle
Sanicula canadensis
Carolina Jessamine
Gelsemium sempervirens
Climbing Dogbane
Trachelospermum difforme
Horse-nettle
Solanum carolinense
carolinense
Carolina Ponyfoot
Dichondra carolinensis
Brazilian Vervain
Verbena brasiliensis
Shade Mudflower
Micranthemum umbrosum
Beautyberry
Callicarpa americana
Self-heal
Prunella vulgaris
Lyre-leaf Sage
Salvia lyrata
Polypremum
Polypremum procumbens
Ash
Fraxinus sp.
Chinese Privet
Ligustrum sinense
Carolina Wild-petunia
Ruellia caroliniensis
Cross-vine
Bignonia capreolata
Trumpet-creeper
Campsis radicans
Buttonbush
Cephalanthus occidentalis
Partridge-berry
Mitchella repens
Japanese Honeysuckle
Lonicera japonica
Common Elderberry
Sambucus canadensis
Silverling
Baccharis halimifolia

Coastal Tall Thistle
Cirsium nuttallii
Common Sunflower
 * *Helianthus annuus*
Climbing Hempweed
Mikania scandens
Chanterelle
Cantharellus sp.
Gymnopilus
 * *Gymnopilus liquiritiae*
Orange-gilled Waxy-cap
Hygrophorus marginatus
Pink Mycena
 * *Mycena pura*
Chocolate Tube Slime
 * *Stemonitis* sp.

FAUNA

Annual Cicada (fragment)
Tibicen sp.
Common Eastern Velvet-ant
Dasymutilla occidentalis
occidentalis
Metallic Green Bee
 * *Agapostemon* sp.
Hibiscus Bee
Ptilothrix bombiformis
Sunflower Bee
 * *Svastra* sp.
Eastern Carpenter Bee
Xylocopa virginica
Bumblebee
Bombus griseocollis
Southern Plains Bumblebee
 * *Bombus fraternus*
Honey Bee
Apis mellifera
Mydas Fly
Mydas clavatus
Thick-headed Fly
 * *Family Conopidae*
Prince Baskettail
Epicordulia princeps
Banded Pennant (dragonfly)
Celithemis fasciata
Eastern Pondhawk
Erythemis simplicicollis
Slaty Skimmer
Libellula incesta
Widow Skimmer Dragonfly
Libellula luctuosa
Great Blue Skimmer
Libellula vibrans
Blue Dasher
Pachydiplax longipennis
Eastern Amberwing
(dragonfly)
Perithemis tenera
Common Whitetail
Plathemis lydia

Violet-masked Glider
Tramea carolina
Blue-fronted Dancer
Damselfly
Argia apicalis
Crawling Water Beetles
Haliphys triopsis
Peltodytes muticus
Peltodytes shermani
Burrowing Water Beetle
Suphisellus bicolor
punctipennis
Predacious Diving Beetles
Laccophilus fasciatus rufus
Neoporus undulatus
Coptotomus interrogatus
Thermonectus basillaris
basillaris
Water Scavenger Beetle
Berosus exiguus
Giant Stag Beetle
Lucanus elaphus
Patent-leather Beetle
Odontotaenius disjunctus
Pleasing Fungus Beetle
Tritoma biguttata affinis
Tumbling Flower Beetle
Mordella melaena
12-spotted Cucumber Beetle
Diabrotica undecim-
punctata howardi
Zebra Swallowtail
Eurytides marcellus
Sleepy Orange (butterfly)
Eurema nicippe
Pearl Crescent (butterfly)
Phyciodes tharos
Hackberry Emperor
(butterfly)
Asterocampa celtis
Gar Fish
Lepisosteus sp.
Eastern Narrowmouth Toad
Gastrophryne carolinensis
Gray Treefrog
Hyla chrysoscelis/
versicolor
Green Frog
Lithobates clamitans
Box Turtle
Terrapene carolina
Green Anole
Anolis carolinensis
Five-lined Skink
Plestiodon fasciatus
Banded Water Snake
Nerodia fasciata
Brown Water Snake
Nerodia taxispilota
Anhinga; Snakebird
Anhinga anhinga

Great Egret
Casmerodius albus
Turkey Vulture
Cathartes aura
Red-tailed Hawk
Buteo jamaicensis
Mourning Dove
Zenaida macroura
Pileated Woodpecker
Dryocopus pileatus
Great Crested Flycatcher
Myiarchus crinitus
Yellow-breasted Chat
Icteria virens
Northern Cardinal
Cardinalis cardinalis
Indigo Bunting
Passerina cyanea
American Goldfinch
Carduelis tristis
Gray Squirrel
Sciurus carolinensis
Raccoon
Procyon lotor
White-tailed Deer
Odocoileus virginianus

ADDENDUM:

Lewis Ocean Bay Heritage
Preserve
Horry Co., SC
May 22, 2010

Lone Star Tick
Amblyomma americanum