



Mepkin Abbey

September 2007

Hi Folks

We had a fun trip to Mepkin Abbey on the upper Cooper River, exploring a beautiful, unique site carefully stewarded by dedicated individuals and groups who see this land as place which can be conducive to their inner peace and growth as well as something that needs loving preservation and also restoration to its native ecological condition. The Abbey has had an integral part in SC history as we learned on a chapel tour late in the afternoon, part of which was eloquently presented with erudition by Father Christian, a remarkably mentally active and humorous 93 year old. I would like to thank Father Gueric Heckel, the Native Plant Project Manager, Ursula from the Abbey store and all the others who allowed us to roam their special home and showed us such gracious hospitality. The grounds are dotted with the quintessential low country shade of centuries old Live Oaks, which also line the entry road, surrounding you with an immediate experience of serenity and stillness that this place is trying to give to the visitor as well as the residents. These venerable giants harbored Green Fly Orchids intermixed with Resurrection Fern on their spreading branches.

The monks have developed a native wildflower garden filled with composites and grasses that they are actively propagating in greenhouses which we were invited to visit. There are plans to increase the growth of such plants by harvesting seeds, working with the SC Native Plant Society and others to promote more natives in landscape restoration and gardening. Volunteers and the monks are removing invasives from many areas. There is also a large sacred labyrinth, inspired from many ancient cultures situated in a meadow that is designed with more natives around its paths that circle and turn constantly until the walker reaches the center space. The geometric structure is designed to encourage reflection and meditation as one goes further in to the inside. We admired the beauty of a tall and old coastal plain Spruce Pine. Butterflies like swallowtails, sulphurs and skippers were seeking sustenance around the natives. Eleanor alerted Jan that two mating Saturniidae moths were hanging from the cords attached to her glasses. We walked among the azaleas and evergreen landscaped grounds that included the grave sites of the Luce family of Time/Life fame and the generous benefactors of the abbey. The oaks provided welcome shade from the midday sun for our lunch and we were grateful for afternoon thundershowers despite the attendant humidity, a weather event we desperately need in other areas of the drought stricken Carolinas.

We ended the day with seafood and animated conversation at Gilligan's™ Steamer at the Tail Race canal near Moncks Corner.

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Lynchburg Savannah Heritage Preserve

Lee County, SC

September 22, 2007, 10:30 AM

(Jerry and Pat Bright)

Few people get to see such an excellent example of a wet longleaf pine savanna, listed by botanists and ecologists as one of the most biologically diverse and imperiled ecosystems in North America. This savanna is a haven for unusual and rare plants. In the spring, the mating calls of tiny frogs can be almost deafening.

Along the old logging road that loops across the property, look for insectivorous plants such as the yellow pitcher-plant, hooded pitcher-plant, and sundew. A rich array of wildflowers, some common and some quite rare, provides color from spring to fall. Lynchburg Savanna has been described as a "hot spot" for a group of sparrow species rarely seen in one place: Bachman's, song, Lincoln's, and field sparrows. The older longleaf pines provide nest sites for the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker. Cricket frogs are one of the few frog species active during the day. Although you can't help hearing them, you will rarely see them as they move near the water's edge. In drier areas, look for wild turkeys, bobwhite quail, and woodcock. (Description from the SCDNR website)

NOTE: There are no restrooms. Bring lunch, but the parking area is near. There is little shade. Bring water, sunscreen, and insect repellent.

DINING, BEFORE: For those of you, who would like to grab breakfast before the outings, you may wish to try Liddies Coffee Shop and Café. They have good food with old time pricing (grits, eggs, bacon, sausage, or country ham, and a biscuit or toast for \$3.59). This is not fast food, so give yourself time if you plan to go there. Liddies is located in Bishopville at 115 North Main Street (downtown on US 15), and is 16 miles from the preserve.

DINING, AFTER: After our outing we will dine at Watford's BBQ in Bishopville (unless someone has a better choice). They have plenty of room for our group and the pricing is good.

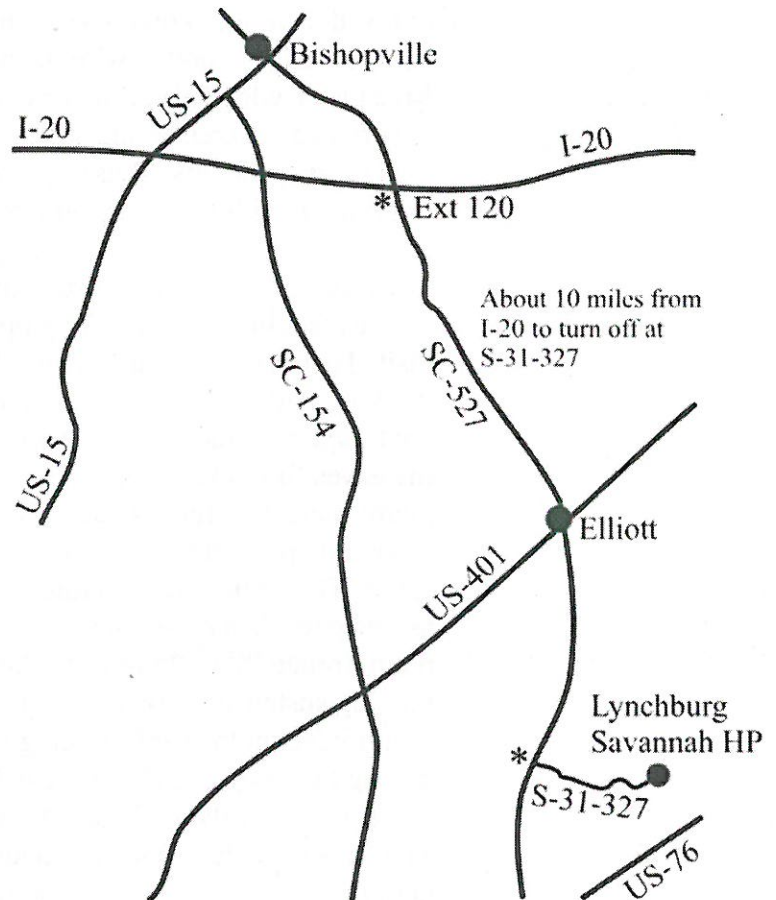
BONUS: If we finish early, or after dining, we can visit the Pearl Fryar's topiary garden. The film, "A Man Named Pearl," was made at this garden and a feature article was published in The State on 8/26/07. <http://www.thestate.com/life-and-arts/story/155810.html>

There are examples of his work outside the State Museum, and we all walk by it on our way to the annual meeting. **Excerpts from The State:** "A Man Named Pearl" opens Friday August 31 at Regal Stonecrest Theater, I-485 and Rea Road in Charlotte. Call (704) 540-7575 (It also is opening in Knoxville, TN, and Indianapolis, IN.). **Columbia Design League:** Pearl Fryar will speak at the Columbia Design League meeting at 6 pm on Sept. 14 at the Columbia Museum of Art; Main and Hampton Streets. Museum admission is \$5 for non-members; (803) 799-2810 or columbiamuseum.org. **The movie will be shown in Columbia at the Nickelodeon Theatre, 937 Main St.,** Oct. 12-14 and 16-17. Receptions, which Fryar will attend, will be at 7:30 pm on Oct. 12 and 13 (803-254-3433 or nickelodeon.org). **To see the real thing:** Take I-20 east (toward Florence) to Exit 116 onto U.S. 15. Go one mile (toward town) and turn left onto Broad Acres Road. The garden is on the left and has the number 165 (the old number) spelled out in the front yard. The actual address is 145 Broad Acres Road. The garden is open from dawn to dusk. Admission is free, but donations are accepted.

DIRECTIONS TO LYNCHBURG SAVANNAH HP:

From the Bishopville/Elliott exit (120) on I-20, take SC 527 south. Past Elliott, turn left onto S-31-327. The preserve entrance is about two miles on the left. There is a parking area.

South Carolina Association of Naturalists: Jules Fraytet, President; Lynn Smith, Vice-president; Ben Gregory, Secretary; Greg Mancini, Treasurer; Tom Jones & Mary G. Douglass-Jones, Flora/Fauna Database Managers; Dee Hope, Historian. Regional Directors: Jan Ciegler (north), Johnny Hardaway & Wayne Grooms (south), Gordon Murphy (east), Eva & Sam Pratt (west), Jerry & Pat Bright (central). Newsletter published monthly (contact Ben Gregory, scan_editor_brg@bellsouth.net or 704-372-8532). Yearly membership is \$12. Send check to SCAN, c/o Greg Mancini, PO Box 5651, Columbia, SC 29250-5651. Fieldtrips open to newcomers over age 15. SCAN is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) in the state of South Carolina. (www.scnaturalists.org)



Blue Wall Preserve — Greenville Co., SC — July 28, 2007

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 to which flora/fauna list you are referring. Thank you

FLORA

- New York Fern**
Thelypteris noveboracensis
- Christmas Fern**
Polystichum acrostichoides
- Pitch Pine**
Pinus rigida
- Eastern White Pine**
Pinus strobes
- Virginia Pine; Scrub Pine**
Pinus virginiana
- Eastern Hemlock**
Tsuga Canadensis
- Eastern Red Cedar**
Juniperus virginiana virginiana
- Wide-leaved Spiderwort**
Tradescantia subaspera
- Common Rush**
Juncus effusus solutus
- Threeway Sedge**
Dulichium arundinaceum arundinaceum
- Woolgrass Bulrush**
Scirpus cyperinus
- Giant Cane**
Arundinaria gigantea
- Flexible Sasa-grass**
Microstegium vimineum
- American Bur-reed**
Sparganium americanum
- Common Cattail**
Typha latifolia
- Speckled Wood-lily**
Clintonia umbellulata
- Dwarf Crested Iris**
Iris cristata
- Whiteleaf Greenbrier**
Smilax glauca
- Common Greenbrier**
Smilax rotundifolia
- Whorled Wild Yam**
Dioscorea quaternata
- Downy Rattlesnake-orchid**
Goodyera pubescens
- Crane-fly Orchid**
Tipularia discolor
- Tulip-tree**
Liriodendron tulipifera
- Cucumber-tree**
Magnolia acuminata
- Fraser Magnolia**
Magnolia fraseri
- Sweet-shrub**
Calycanthus floridus
- Sassafras**
Sassafras albidum
- Water-shield**
Brasenia schreberi
- Tall Anemone**
Anemone virginiana virginiana
- Virgin's-bower**
Clematis virginiana
- Yellowroot**
Xanthorhiza simplicissima
- Sycamore**
Platanus occidentalis occidentalis
- Witch-hazel**
Hamamelis virginiana
- Sweet Gum**
Liquidambar styraciflua
- Hackberry**
Celtis sp.
- Red Mulberry**
Morus rubra
- False-nettle**
Boehmeria cylindrica
- Pignut Hickory**
Carya glabra
- Black Walnut**
Juglans nigra
- American Beech**
Fagus grandifolia
- White Oak**
Quercus alba
- Scarlet Oak**
Quercus coccinea
- Rock Chestnut Oak**
Quercus montana
- Water Oak**
Quercus nigra
- Red Oak**
Quercus rubra
- Tag Alder**
Alnus serrulata
- Sweet Birch**
Betula lenta lenta
- River Birch**
Betula nigra
- American Hornbeam**
Carpinus caroliniana
- American Hazelnut**
Corylus americana
- Arrowleaf Tearthumb**
Persicaria sagittata
- Jumpseed**
Persicaria virginiana
- Dwarf St.-John's-wort**
Hypericum mutilum
- St.-John's-wort**
Hypericum stragulum
- Marsh St.-John's-wort**
Triadenum walteri
- Mountain Basswood**
Tilia americana heterophylla
- Halberd-leaf Violet**
Viola hastata
- Passionflower; Maypops**
Passiflora incarnata
- Yellow Passionflower**
Passiflora lutea lutea
- Silky Willow**
Salix sericea
- Canada Rockcress**
Boechea canadensis
- Quaker Bittercress**
Cardamine pensylvanica
- Poor Man's Pepper**
Lepidium virginicum virginicum
- Spotted Wintergreen**
Chimaphila maculata
- Mountain Laurel; Mountain Ivy**
Kalmia latifolia
- Mountain Doghobble**
Leucothoe fontanesiana
- Sourwood**
Oxydendrum arboreum
- White Rosebay; Great Laurel**
Rhododendron maximum
- Gorge Rhododendron; Punctatum**
Rhododendron minus
- Hillside Blueberry**
Vaccinium pallidum
- American Persimmon**
Diospyros virginiana
- Silverbell**
Halesia tetraptera
- Horsesugar; Sweetleaf**
Symplocos tinctoria
- Whorled Loosestrife**
Lysimachia quadrifolia
- Snowy Hydrangea**
Hydrangea radiata
- American Alumroot**
Heuchera americana
- Wild Strawberry**
Fragaria virginiana
- Avens**
Geum canadense
- Five-fingers**
Potentilla canadensis
- Black Cherry**
Prunus serotina serotina
- Multiflora Rose**
Rosa multiflora
- Mimosa; Silktree**
Albizia julibrissin
- Hog-peanut**
Amphicarpaea bracteata
- Common Groundnut**
Apios americana
- Eastern Redbud**
Cercis canadensis canadensis
- Common Partridge-pea**
Chamaecrista fasciculata fasciculata
- Butterfly Pea**
Clitoria mariana mariana
- Sericea**
Lespedeza cuneata
- Eastern Sensitive-briar**
Mimosa microphylla
- Kudzu**
Pueraria montana lobata
- Black Locust**
Robinia pseudoacacia
- Pencil-flower**
Stylosanthes biflora
- Alternate-leaf Seedbox**
Ludwigia alternifolia
- Common Water-purslane**
Ludwigia palustris
- Common Evening-primrose**
Oenothera biennis
- Silky Dogwood**
Cornus amomum
- Flowering Dogwood**
Cornus florida
- Blackgum**
Nyssa sylvatica
- Buffalo-nut**
Pyrularia pubera
- Hearts-a-burstin'-with-love**
Euonymus americanus
- American Holly**
Ilex opaca opaca
- Eastern Flowering Spurge**
Euphorbia corollata
- Virginia-creeper**
Parthenocissus quinquefolia
- Muscadine; Scuppernong**
Vitis rotundifolia rotundifolia
- Red Maple**
Acer rubrum
- Smooth Sumac**
Rhus glabra
- Eastern Poison Ivy**
Toxicodendron radicans radicans
- Tree-of-Heaven**
Ailanthus altissima
- Spotted Touch-me-not**
Impatiens capensis
- Water-hemlock**
Cicuta maculata maculata
- Queen-Anne's-lace**
Daucus carota
- Sanicle; Snakeroot**
Sanicula canadensis
- Tall Milkweed**
Asclepias exaltata
- Wild Sweet Potato; Manroot**
Ipomoea pandurata
- Allegheny Monkey-flower**
Mimulus ringens ringens
- Basil Bergamot**
Monarda clinopodia
- Self-heal; Heal-all**
Prunella vulgaris
- Mountain-mint**
Pycnanthemum incanum
- Lyre-leaf Sage**
Salvia lyrata
- Common Skullcap**
Scutellaria integrifolia
- White Ash; American Ash**
Fraxinus americana
- Chinese Privet**
Ligustrum sinense

Blue Wall Preserve — Greenville Co., SC — July 28, 2007

Woolly Mullein
Verbascum Thapsus
Eastern Lousewort
Pedicularis canadensis
Princess Tree; Empress Tree
Paulownia tomentosa
Indian-tobacco
Lobelia inflata
Poorjoe
Diodia teres
Bedstraw
Galium pilosum
Summer Bluet
Houstonia purpurea
Partridge-berry
Mitchella repens
Japanese Honeysuckle
Lonicera japonica
Common Elderberry
Sambucus canadensis
Mapleleaf Viburnum
Viburnum acerifolium
Yarrow
Achillea millefolium
Plantain Pussytoes
Antennaria plantaginifolia
Pale Indian-plantain
Amoglossum atriplicifolium
Chicory
Cichorium intybus
Horseweed
Conyza canadensis
Broadleaf Coreopsis
Coreopsis latifolia
Coreopsis
Coreopsis major
Eastern Purple Coneflower
Echinacea purpurea
Leafy Elephant's-foot
Elephantopus carolinianus
Elephant's-foot
Elephantopus tomentosus
Boneset
Eupatorium perfoliatum
Sessile-leaf Eupatorium
** Eupatorium sessilifolium*
sessilifolium
Hollow-stem Joe-pye-weed
Eutrochium fistulosum
Purple-node Joe-pye-weed
Eutrochium purpureum
purpureum
Rattlesnake-root
Prenanthes altissima
Hawkweed
Hieracium paniculatum
Ironweed
Vernonia noveboracensis
Sweet Goldenrod
Solidago odora
Smooth Goldenrod
Solidago gigantea
Bearsfoot
Polymnia uvedalia
Rosinweed
Silphium compositum

Silphium
Silphium dentatum
Coneflower
Rudbeckia laciniata
Black-eyed-Susan
Rudbeckia hirta
Oyster Mushroom
Pleurotus ostreatus

FAUNA

Millipede
Sigmoria sp.
Carolina Scorpion
Vaejovis carolinianus
Flower Fly
Milesia virginensis
Eastern Pondhawk
Erythemis simplicicollis
Slaty Skimmer
Libellula incesta
Widow Skimmer Dragonfly
Libellula luctuosa
Common Whitetail
Plathemis lydia
Ebony Jewelwing
Calopteryx maculata
Red-bellied Tiger Beetle
Cicindela rufiventris rufiventris
Purple Ground Beetle
Dicaelus purpuratus
Crab-like Rove Beetle
** Ischnosoma lecontei*
Giant Stag Beetle
Lucanus elaphus
June Beetle
Phyllophaga drakii
Japanese Beetle
Popillia japonica
Flower Scarab Beetle
Trigonopeltastes delta
Firefly
Photinus sp.
Sap Beetle
Pallodes pallidus
Lady Beetle
Scymnus tenebrosus
Wedge-shaped Beetle
Macrosiagon dimidiatum
Wedge-shaped Beetle
Macrosiagon limbatus
Long-horned Leaf Beetle
Donacia confluenta
Cylindrical Leaf Beetle
Cryptocephalus binominis
binominis
Eumolpine Beetle
Brachyphnoea clypealis
Oval Leaf Beetle
Colaspis brunnea
Skeletonizing Leaf Beetle
Galerucella nymphaeae
Flea Beetle
Chaetocnema denticulata

Seed Beetle
Acanthoscelides alboscuteellatus
Broad-nosed Weevil
Cyrtopistomus castaneus
Fruit Weevil
Smicronyx floridanus
Fruit Weevil
Smicronyx tessellatus
Pear-shaped Weevil
Anthonomus rufipennis
Hidden Snout Weevil
Tyloderma foveolata
Minute Seed Weevil
Acanthoscelidius curtus
Flower Weevil
Glyptobaris lecontei
Flower Weevil
Geraeus picumnus
Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
Papilio glaucus
Spicebush Swallowtail
Papilio troilus
Harvester (butterfly)
Feniseca tarquinius
Pearl Crescent (butterfly)
Phyciodes tharos
Red Admiral
Vanessa atalanta
Red-spotted Purple (butterfly)
Limenitis arthemis astyanax
Appalachian Brown
Satyrodes appalachia
Gemmed Satyr (butterfly)
Cyllopsis gemma
Carolina Satyr (butterfly)
Hermeuptychia sosybius
Silver-spotted Skipper
Epargyreus clarus
Nessus Sphinx Moth
Amphion floridensis
Fowler's Toad
Bufo woodhousei
Northern Cricket Frog
Acris crepitans
Cope's Gray Treefrog
Hyla chrysoscelis
Eastern Box Turtle
Terrapene carolina
Red-tailed Hawk
Buteo jamaicensis
Carolina Wren
Thryothorus ludovicianus
Common Yellowthroat
Geothlypis trichas
Eastern Towhee
Pipilo erythrophthalmus
Summer Tanager
Piranga rubra
American Goldfinch
Carduelis tristis