



**October 2008**

**Hello Everyone,**

SCAN participated in an all taxa Bioblitz at Woods Bay State Natural Area in September. We had a good turn out and the weather was absolutely beautiful. There was a nice breeze that really made the day a perfect day to be out of doors. The Park Nature Center was well stocked with field guides and other equipment for making species identifications. A limited number of GPS units were available for use by participants and, as usual, several SCAN members brought their own.

We explored the xeric north and south sand rims of Woods Bay as well as the interior of the bay by taking a walk on the 500-foot long boardwalk into the bay. Many turtles were seen sunning themselves on logs in the bay, but no alligators made an appearance for us. On the hike to the south sand rim, we were fortunate enough to see two copperheads.

After lunch, most of us took a hike around the mill pond behind the Nature Center. The mill pond is a man-made feature that was created by constructing an earthen dike parallel to a low drainage area, and an earthen dam perpendicular across the drainage. Water for the pond originates from Woods Bay. Both the mill pond and the bay provide great aquatic habitat for plants and animals.

Recently, the canoe/kayak trail into the interior of the bay was closed to the public due to low water conditions. However, the trail was opened for the Bioblitz and a couple of members took advantage of the opportunity and paddled the trail after lunch. The Park does not normally allow camping, as there are no camping facilities; however, primitive camping was permitted for the Bioblitz in the grassy areas near the Nature Center. Most of the SCAN members only participated in Saturday's inventory, but a couple of hardy souls were there for both days.

I haven't heard any news as to the overall success of the Bioblitz, but Jan Ciegler tells me it took her a week and a half just to sort and pin the insects she collected in her light traps, leaf litter, and net before she could begin the identification process. If this is an indication as to overall success, I'd say that the event was a huge success. Thanks to Bryn Harmer for scheduling the Bioblitz on a SCAN weekend and thanks to John Cely for hosting the trip. If you have not visited Woods Bay State Natural Area, I encourage you to do so as it is a real natural treasure for South Carolina.

I'm saddened to report that Peggy O'Neal, one of our members, recently lost her father. More information about Peggy's loss is on page 6. Please keep Peggy in your thoughts.

I hope to see you at Botany Bay later this month.

Gordon / SCAN President

# BOTANY BAY PLANTATION WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

CHARLESTON COUNTY

OCTOBER 25, 2008 – 10:30 AM

(Johnny Hardaway & Wayne Grooms)

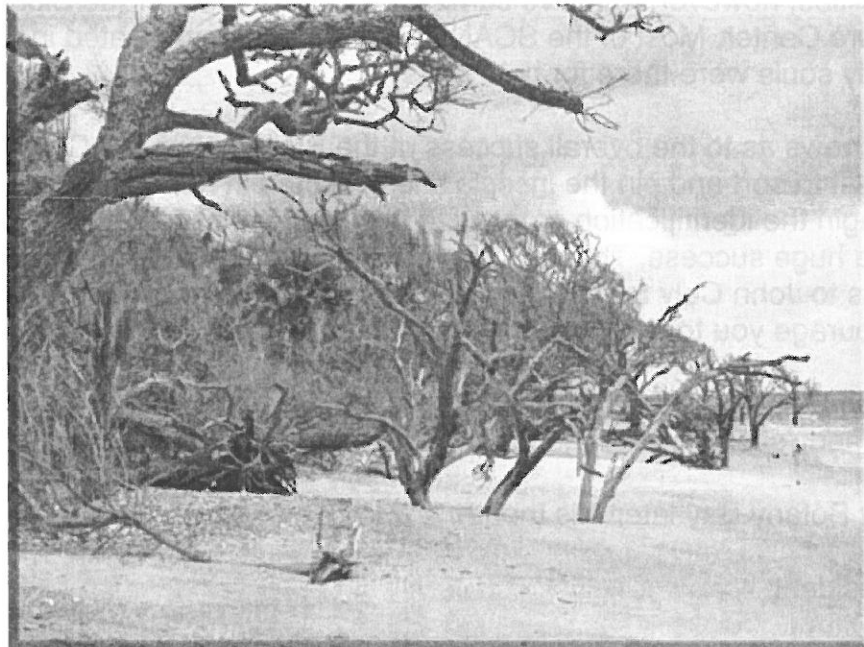
**Please note that this is a change in our schedule from the Ditch Pond Heritage Preserve trip that we had originally scheduled.**

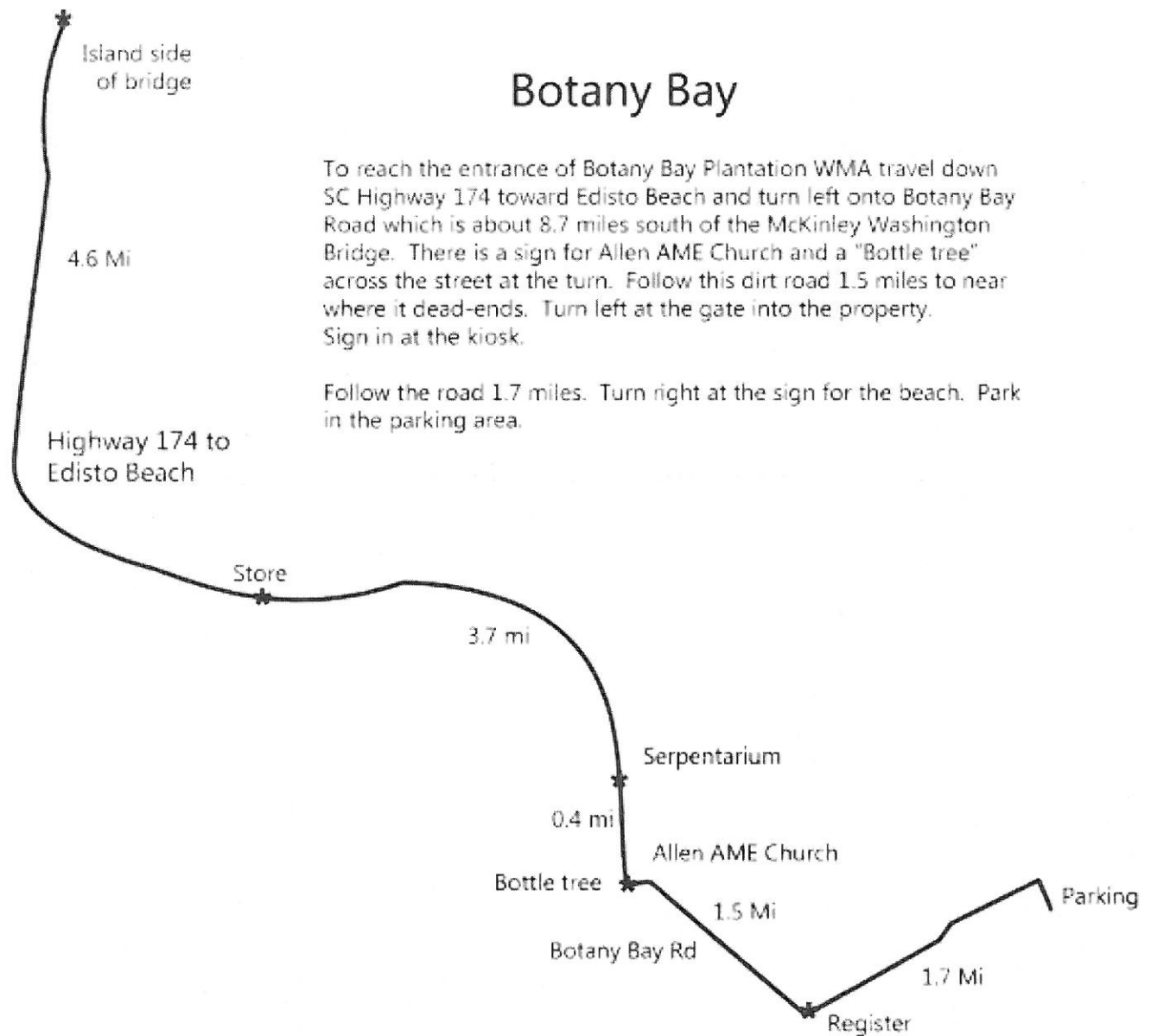
Well, it's back to the coast for SCAN with a trip to Botany Bay Wildlife Management Area. Botany Bay is a 4,361-acre wildlife management area located on Edisto Island in Charleston County. It was privately owned until the death of its owner, Margaret Morgan Pepper, who left it to the residents of South Carolina in her will.

This WMA has a variety of habitats including seaside, maritime forest, marsh, and uplands forest. The biological features of Botany Bay Plantation WMA are characteristic of Sea Islands along the lower Southeast Coast. The undeveloped coastal habitats of the management area are important to numerous wildlife species. The beach is utilized for nesting by the federally threatened loggerhead sea turtle and the state threatened least tern. The maritime forest and coastal scrub/shrub areas provide nesting and foraging habitat for Neotropical songbirds, including painted buntings and summer tanagers. The uplands support a wide diversity of wildlife. The tidal marshes and managed wetlands contain a variety of fish and shellfish resources and provide foraging habitat for numerous wildlife species.

The cultural resources on Botany Bay Plantation WMA are extremely significant. Cultural resource sites dating from as early as the Late Archaic Period through the 19th century are present. Several sites including the Fig Island Shell Rings, outbuildings from Bleak Hall Plantation, and elements of the Alexander Bache U.S. Coast Survey Line are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**Directions:** Please see the map on page 3. When you get to Botany Bay go past the entry kiosk and meet at the parking area used for beach access. If you are not inclined to walk, there is a driving tour with directions laid out by SCDNR. I will have these directions as well as maps for everyone who comes. The photo below is from the SCDNR website.





**SCAN Planning Meeting, Ark Lodge, November 8, 2008, Saturday, 10:30 AM**

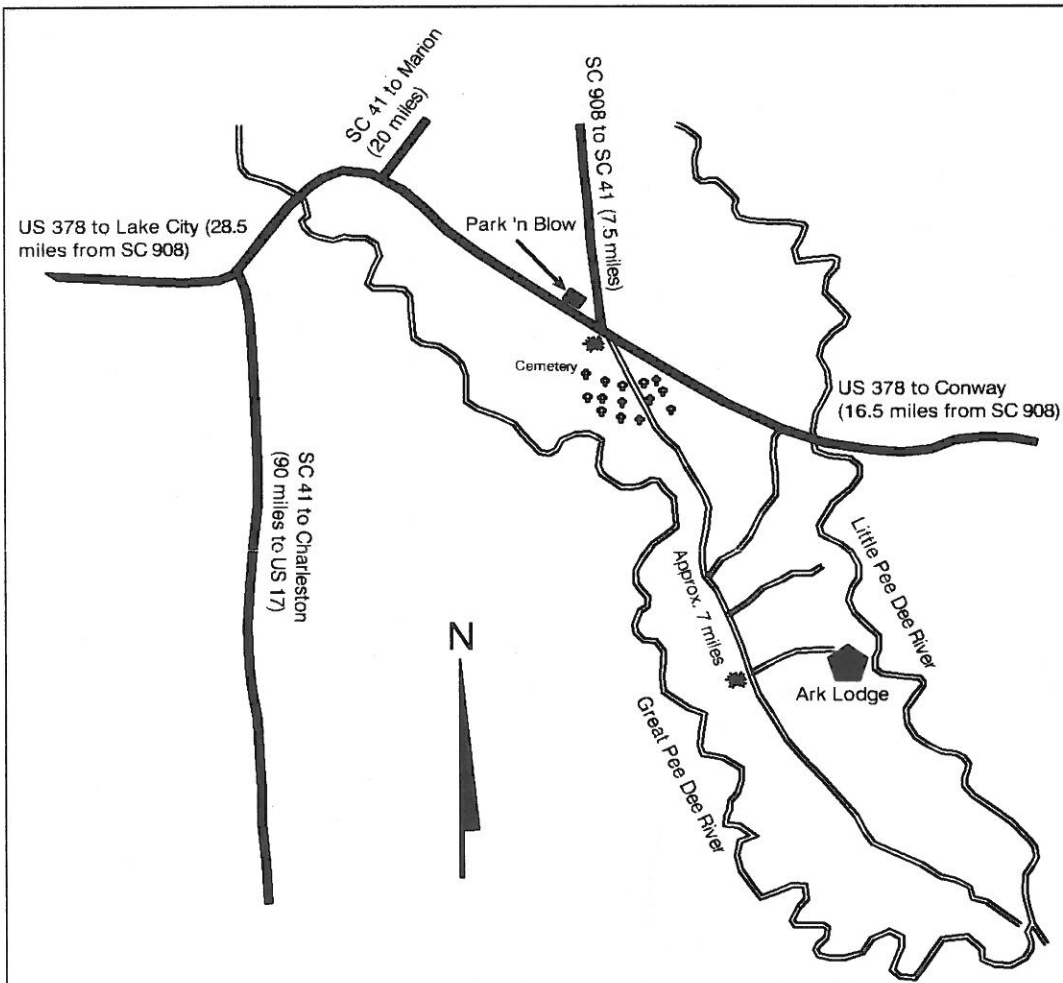
All members are invited to the Planning Meeting. The primary purpose of this meeting is to determine our fieldtrips for 2009; some other business may be discussed. This past May we had an overnight trip to the Ark Lodge and its associated land tract (see May Newsletter). The Ark Lodge is located in Marion County, SC. Please see the map on page 4 for directions.

**2008 REMAINING FIELDTRIPS – these trips occur in first-half of each month!!!!**

**November 15:** Kings Mountain SP (Northern – York County, mostly); Jan Ciegler

**December 13:** McAlhany Preserve (Southern – Dorchester County); Johnny Hardaway & Wayne Grooms

## Ark Lodge Map



### Annual Meeting – Request for Slides

Jerry Bright is currently creating a slide show for our Annual Meeting with photos by SCAN members. If you have digital photos for him to use, please bring them to a fieldtrip or send a CD to him. If you have just a few photographs, they can be emailed to him at [jerrybright@gmail.com](mailto:jerrybright@gmail.com). SCAN's Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 24, 2009 in Columbia at the State Museum.

### Cutleaf Rudbeckia and Evening Primrose Seeds Available, Glenn Quattlebaum

My cutleaf rudbeckia is going to seed and if anyone is interested in some seed please let me know. This native does well in sun or shade and grows 6-8 feet tall with very little care. Also I have harvested another cup of the evening primrose seed so I have lots to share. That is enough seed to plant most of SC like a carpet.

### Columbia Gem & Mineral Show

Columbia, SC, November 28-30, 2008, Columbia Gem & Mineral Society, South Carolina Fair Grounds, Chair: 803-356-1472, [sssterrett@sc.rr.com](mailto:sssterrett@sc.rr.com).

## Congaree National Park Fall Lecture Series

Theresa Thom, Congaree News Release, 9/6/2008, Release Code K3415

### November 5, Wednesday – Champion Trees

Did you ever wonder how a tree becomes a champion? NPS staff will provide information about the State and National champion trees found within Congaree National Park. Highlights about on-going forest ecology research at Congaree will also be presented.

### December 3, Wednesday – Freshwater Mussels of the Congaree & Wateree Rivers

Did you know that 70% of our freshwater mussels are extinct, endangered, or in need of special protection? NPS staff will summarize inventory work conducted within Congaree National Park on these unique invertebrates; including life cycle, ecology, and threats to these beneficial aquatic invertebrates.

### Scientists Say Stick Bug is World's Longest Insect, (info Jan Ciegler)

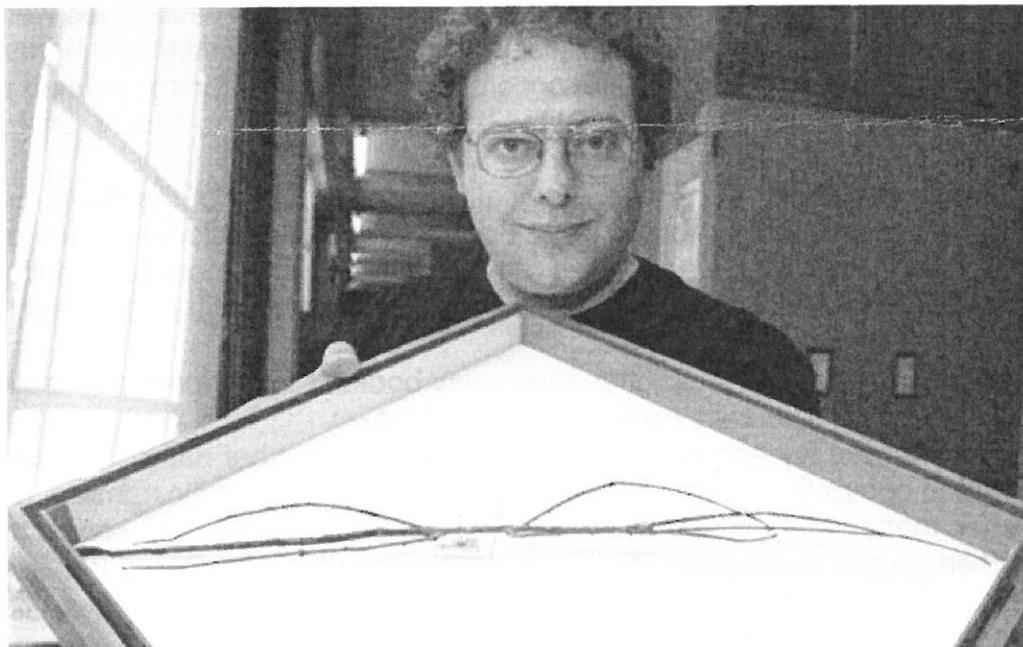
A stick bug from the Malaysian Island of Borneo, measuring 22-inches in length, has been identified by researchers as the world's longest insect, according to British scientists. The specimen was found by a local villager and handed to Malaysian amateur naturalist Datuk Chan Chew Lun in 1989, according to Philip Bragg, who formally identified the insect in this month's issue of the peer-reviewed journal *Zootaxa*. The insect was named *Phobaeticus chani*, or Chan's megastick, in Chan's honor.

Looking like a pencil-thin shoot of bamboo, the dull-green insect measures about 22 inches, if its twig-legs are counted. Its body length is 14 inches, beating the previous record held by *Phobaeticus kirbyi*, also from Borneo, by about an inch.

Stick bugs have some of the animal kingdom's cleverest camouflage. Although some use noxious sprays or prickly spines to deter their predators, generally the bugs assume the shape of sticks and leaves to avoid drawing attention. "Their main defense is basically hanging around, looking like a twig. It will even sway in the wind," according to Paul Brock who is a scientific associate of the Natural History Museum in London.

The picture below is courtesy of Britain's Natural History Museum, October 16, 2008, which shows Orthoptera Curator George Beccaloni with Chan's megastick (*Phobaeticus chani*).

Natural History Museum: <http://www.nhm.ac.uk>, & *Zootaxa*: <http://www.mapress.com/zootaxa/>



## **Master Sgt. James O'Neal, Columbia, SC**

Funeral services for Master Sgt. James O'Neal, U.S. Army (Ret.) of Columbia, will be held at 2:30 PM Friday (October 17, 2008) in the Greenlawn Funeral Home Chapel with full military honors and interment to follow in Greenlawn Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 1:30 PM until the hour of service Friday at the funeral home. On-line condolences may be sent to [www.mem.com](http://www.mem.com). The family has entrusted Greenlawn Funeral Home with the arrangements.

Mr. O'Neal died Tuesday, October 14, 2008. He was born in Bamberg, SC, to the late Joseph Jean O'Neal and Minerva Getsinger O'Neal Schulze. Mr. O'Neal retired from the U.S. Army after 28 years of dedicated service. He was a member of Shandon United Methodist Church.

Surviving are his wife of 58 years, Eldene Bishop O'Neal (Deanie), a daughter, Peggy Ann O'Neal; and a son, Thomas James O'Neal. (TheState.com, Friday, October 17, 2008, Friday)

## **Eric Classey, Unique Amateur Entomologist, (info, Jan Ciegler)**

Eric Classey, who died on September 6, 2008 at the age of 91, was an entomologist, publisher, and bookseller. He was born on November 2, 1916 at Queen's Park, London, the son of a watchmaker who worked for the Queen's jeweler, Garrard. Eric's interest in natural history began in childhood and at Essendine Road School in Queen's Park where he was known as "Bugs."

He left school at 14 to work as a biological assistant at St. Mary's Hospital Medical School before moving to the Natural History Museum. There he helped to organize insect displays, which had been collected from all over the world. He was to remain involved with the museum for the rest of his life. On the outbreak of the Second World War he joined the Royal Army Medical Corps, working at the Entomological Laboratory at Mytchett in Surrey, where he studied the malarial mosquitoes that endangered the troops, and gave new doctors a crash course in medical and forensic entomology.

When the war ended he became the manager of the naturalists' supply business Watkins and Doncaster, in The Strand, bringing him into contact with many other entomologists.

Although he had no publishing experience, in 1949 Classey became a cofounder of *The Entomologist's Gazette*, aimed at revitalizing amateur entomology in Britain. He was the first editor of the magazine, which proved popular for its lively and accessible style. He was to remain in the post for the next 11 years.

In 1949 Classey discovered, in Co Galway in the Irish Republic, a moth called the Burren Green, a coup about which he wrote in *The Entomologist's Gazette*. The following year he began a new business from his home, trading in antiquarian, new and second-hand natural history books and publications. EW Classey became a limited company in 1959, and his catalogues were a source of invaluable material for libraries, universities, museums and research institutions across the world.

Classey travelled widely during his life, accompanying other entomologists on expeditions as far afield as Nigeria, Borneo, the Dominican Republic, Japan, the United States, Singapore and Eastern Europe.

He was president of the British Entomological Society, a Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society, president of the Amateur Entomologists' Society and vice-president of the American Lepidopterists' Society. In 1983 he was elected a member of the Entomological Club, the world's oldest entomological society, which is limited to only eight members (Miriam Rothschild was a member during Classey's time).

A generous man, Classey would often give away books from his prized collection, and he opened his home to visiting scientists from across the globe.

Eric Classey married Ivy Ash in 1939. She died in 1982, but her name lived on in her husband's publishing company, Hedera Press (*Hedera* being the scientific name of ivy), through which he published many natural history works. He is survived by their three sons and one daughter. His eight grandchildren and three great-children knew him as "Butterfly Granddad." (Daily Telegraph)