



SCAN *South Carolina Association of Naturalists*

Post Office Box 5651, Columbia, South Carolina 29250-5651

October 2012

Hello everyone,

Caroline again was an exemplary leader. She supplied us with maps, FF lists from past outings, bird identification information and even the DNR site manager, Jim Edwards. We were delighted to have access to a covered picnic area and the building with 3 bathrooms.

We all enjoyed seeing Gordon Murphy again after his successful operation.

Quentin signed up some new members, Charlie and Alice Bryce. We are looking forward to seeing them on future outings. Quentin, way to go finding kindred spirits.

Attending were Caroline Eastman, Kim McManus, Paul Kalbach, Pat and Jerry Bright, Kathy Boyle, Gordon Murphy, Wayne Grooms, Jim Edwards, Lynn Smith, Bob and Marsha Hamlin, Mary Garland Douglas, Charlie and Alice Brice, Phil Harpootlian, Quentin Webber, Charlie and Lydie Williams and Ellen Blundy.



New SCAN members Alice and Charlie Brice

Jim Edwards led us down the old cut to the river where we enjoyed the loop trail. The (*Arisaema dracontium*) Green dragon was in fruit. I looked up the Green Dragon on the Internet and found that it is toxic to those who put it in their mouth. No mention was made about the effects of ingesting the plant. Apparently botanists never got past the taste test and spit it out. I found a great website while researching the Green Dragon. You may be interested in the NC Poison Plants of NC website - www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/hort/consumer/poison/poison.htm



Arisaema dracontium (Green dragon)

Collinsonia canadensis Speaking of the web, Alan Weakley has updated his mammoth undertaking "Flora of the Southern and Mid-Atlantic States". Get your free copy today at www.herbarium.unc.edu/flora.htm

The Hamlins have a good outing for October. We will see you there. – Jerry Bright

Kathy Boyle was particularly interested in the (*Collinsonia canadensis*) Canada Horsebalm. Seen below is her high tech iPhone photography technique.

Pat Bright found a spectacular (*Euptoieta claudia*) Variegated fritillary chrysalis on the trail.



Kathy Boyle and the Canada Horsebalm (*Collinsonia canadensis*)

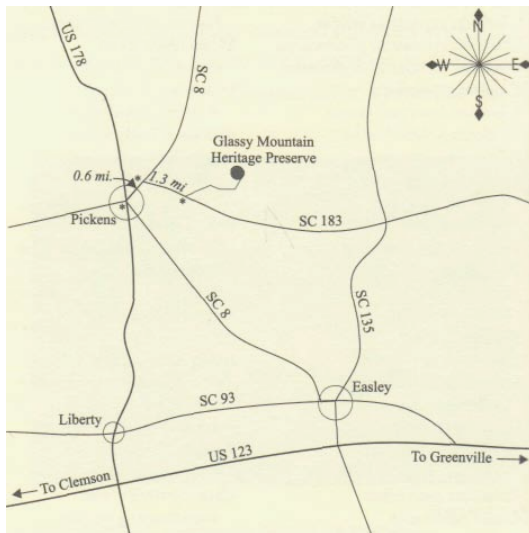


Euptoieta claudia (Variegated fritillary)

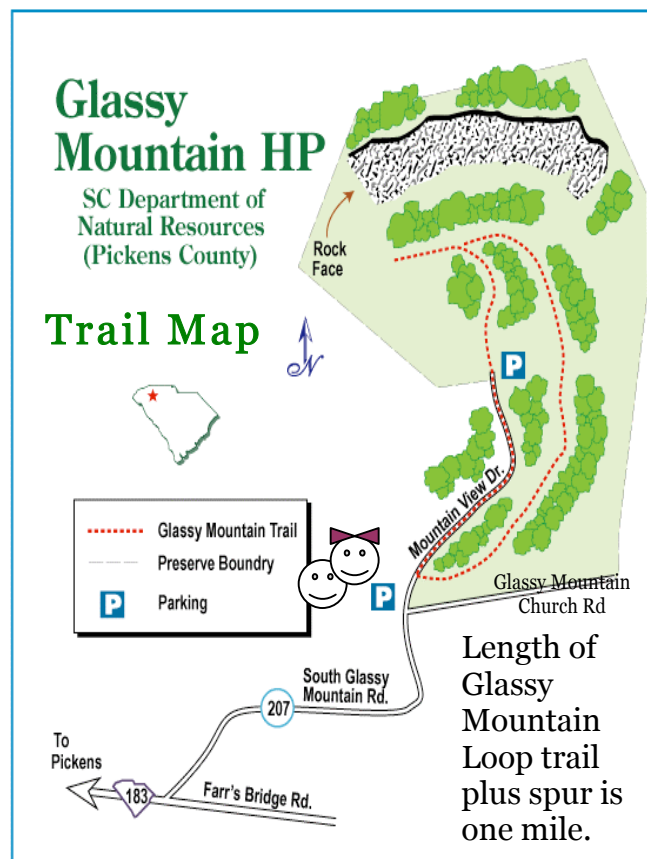
October 27, 2012 Glassy Mountain Heritage Preserve and Hagood Mill



Directions to Glassy Mountain Heritage Preserve: From the center of downtown Pickens, go northeast on SC 8 for 0.6 mile, then turn right (east toward Greenville) onto SC 183. Drive 1.3 miles and make a left fork onto South Glassy Mountain Road; this is a 45° turn instead of a 90° turn. Proceed 1.1 miles. Keep left when Glassy Mountain Church Road bears right. The road will have narrowed and become rather steep. The south trailhead parking area is on the right 50-75 feet past that intersection.



Meet at 10:30 at the south trailhead parking area at Glassy Mountain (That's it – the one where you see Bob & Marsha smiling in the map below.)



What to wear. What to Bring insect repellent, trail lunch/snacks, water.

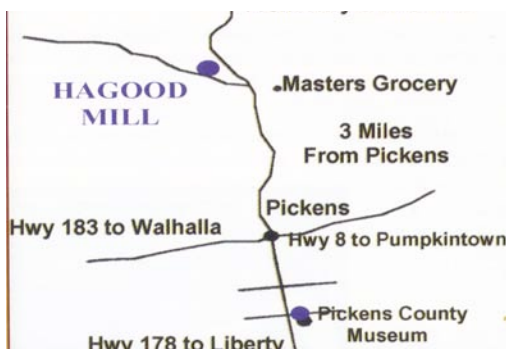
Other Considerations

Parking at this preserve is wherever you can pull off the road. From the south trailhead parking area, Mountain View Dr winds uphill circles some communication towers and heads back down. This is not a busy road and parking at the top of the hill is wherever you can find it.

There are no restrooms.



Hagood Mill



Directions From Glassy Mountain To Hagood Mill

Take South Glassy Mountain Road to SC 183 and turn slight right. Drive 1.3 miles to SC 183/SC 8 and turn slight left. Follow SC 183 ¾ of a mile to US 178 and turn right. Drive 3 miles on US 178 to Hagood Mill Road and turn slight left. Hagood Mill is .2 of a mile on the right.

Hagood Mill has a parking lot, restrooms, picnic tables, a ¾ mile nature trail and a gift shop

The plan for the day is: We will hike at Glassy Mountain until about 12:30 pm, then get into our cars and take the short drive to Hagood Mill. Restrooms and picnic tables at that location make that a logical place to have lunch. We'll enjoy the Hagood Mill attractions until about 4:00 pm, and then we'll drive to our dinner location (directions below).

Glassy Mountain Heritage Preserve

Glassy Mountain makes up the greater part of the 65 acre heritage park in which it is located. The mountain itself is actually a monadnock (a “lonely mountain”, meaning it is not in a mountain range). In South Carolina this type of landform is rare, and its exposed, granite, bedrock outcrops, (out of approximately 12,000 acres of outcrops in the piedmont region, 90% are located in Georgia) are extreme environments for life.

A small heritage preserve sign marks where the mostly unmarked foot trail begins. The trail itself is neither long nor difficult and the most strenuous part of the hike could be the up or down hill walk you will take on Mountain View Drive to get back to where you parked your car.

As you hike the trail from south to north, most of the exposed rock areas are on the left side of the trail. Check out these areas to find life forms adapted to live in these extremely harsh conditions. The adjacent forested areas are cool and welcoming and on the day we were there, the white of the Eupatorium, the gold of Solidago and silvery white of various Andropogon spp. decorated the woodland path.

Favorite sighting: The work of *Rhopalomyia solidaginis*: goldenrod bunch galls.

Hagood Mill

If you have never been to Hagood Mill, it's time to discover a new favorite place. Hagood Mill has something for everyone. The site features a fully operational gristmill. It has the largest waterwheel in the state (20 ft.) and is the only waterwheel in SC still made of wood. Other exhibits include a traditional barn with family farm, a visitors' building with gift shop, two historic Pickens County log cabins dating from 1791 and 1925, a blacksmith shop, cotton gin building, moonshine still, and a large outdoor stage for musical events..

The ¾ mile nature trail on site is heavily wooded, has an amazing variety of plant life and the cool stream rushing through the area lends a montane feel to the hiking experience. From nature hikes to corn grinding and concerts, Hagood Mill will not disappoint. Come join us.

Where we'll eat afterwards

Pancho's Mexican Restaurant
2700 Gentry Memorial Hwy., Ste D
Pickens, SC 29671
(864) 898-0601

Directions from Glassy Mountain to Pancho's Mexican

Turn left out of Hagood Mill. Go to US 178.
Turn slight right onto US 178. Continue 3 miles and turn left onto US 178/SC 183.
Drive .2 of a mile to SC 8. Turn slight right onto SC 8/Gentry Memorial Hwy. Continue 1 mile to Pancho's on left in the corner of the shopping center