November 2012

Hello Folks,

Beautiful fall colors and a perfect day blessed Bob and Marsha Hamlin again providing us all with the benefits of their careful planning for a beautiful day in the foothills of South Carolina. Attending were Jan Ciegler, Sarah & Lyle Campbell, Joan Tangwar, Bob & Marsha Hamlin, Tony & Sara Sealy, Jerry & Pat Bright, Jim Boylston, Steve & Janie Marlow, Kate Hartley, Lauren Serra, Keith Bradley, Greg Ross, Gordon Murphy, Mary G. Douglass, Tom Jones, Sam & Eva Pratt, Phillip Harpootlian, Carolyn & Gene Ott.

Joan Tangwar is a Kenyan runner attending USC Spartanburg. Her big smile and enthusiasm for the natural world is contagious. She and her fellow Kenyan runners had the pleasure of seeing a lecture featuring the famous French botanist André Michaux (aka SCAN member Charlie Williams). Sarah Campbell, who brought her along, says Joan has already asked about our next outing.

Glassy Mountain, the 1647 ft monadnock, is a radio communication engineer's dream as could be observed by the number of towers at that location. Granitic dome plant communities are found in these places that inspire our botanists and wanna be naturalists like me. Several, first time for SCAN, species were identified.

One first timer was the Large-flowered coreopsis (*Coreopsis grandiflora var. grandiflora*) was in bloom. I looked it up in Weekley and Radford and both indicated earlier bloom times. Being a newbie to plant identification I called Tom Jones who explained to me the books and web references are just guidelines and there are many aberrations. The group of SCAN members descending on this lovely plant who know biology and how to key (Tom & Mary Jones, Sam and Eva Pratt, Janie Marlow) confirmed the id.

Another first timer for SCAN was the Pitch-eating weevil (*Pachylobius picivorous*). This is one of the bad guys. I don't mind seeing Jan putting this critter in her execution vial. Jan provided us with a photo from her files that I have attached. I am so glad insects aren't the size of wild game.

From Jan: At Glassy Mountain I noticed a dried up fungus, possibly *Fomes*, on the ground by the trail. Underneath, nestled in a rotted out hole, was a lively half-inch weevil. It's *Pachylobius picivorous*, the Pitch-eating Weevil.

This from the Internet:

Adults may be active year-round, although numbers are normally low in winter. Adult weevils may also pass the winter in the soil or beneath ground litter around a tree. On emerging in the spring, adults feed on the bark of pine seedlings or the terminals and twigs of larger trees. Trees up to 1.5 cm in diameter are sometimes girdled and killed. The weevils usually feed at night and hide in the soil around trees during the day. Adults are attracted to freshly cut stumps or weakened pines. Females lay eggs beneath the bark, in the roots of stumps, dead trees or dying trees. Larvae hatch and feed primarily in the roots for six to eight weeks before pupating. The pupal stage lasts two to four weeks, depending on temperature.

We visited Hagood Mill in the afternoon. Lyle Campbell found another first timer for SCAN - Crowned slug moth pupa (*Isa textual*). You don't want to pick these up. From Wikipedia:

The larvae feed on the leaves of various trees, including oak, cherry, maple, basswood, elm and beech. Early instars leave zigzagging tracks in the underside of leaves. They are pale green and flattened and have lobes with stinging spines and additional stinging hairs, which run down the back.

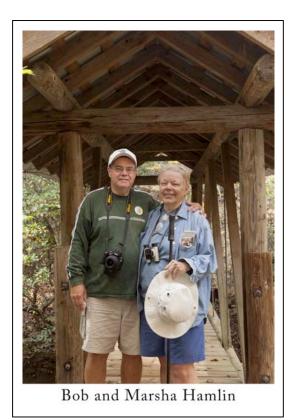
Good bluegrass, local history and nature were all available at the mill and SCAN took advantage of the offerings.

We finished the day dining at a local Mexican restaurant enjoying conversation and company.

Below are some great photos from our outing. Well ... they look better larger. If you want a 30x20 of Bob and Marsha to hang in your den let me know.

Caroline Eastman will be leading our next outing at Sesquicentennial State Park on November 17. Note the earlier date this month. This is a beautiful park with options for hikers, kayakers and botanists. Stacey Jensen, a park interpreter, plans to join us so be sure to welcome her. She may have some insider knowledge of special places she can share.

Jerry Bright

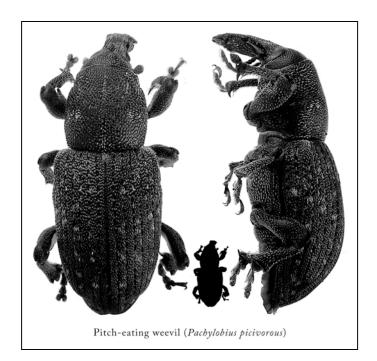




Joan Tangwar

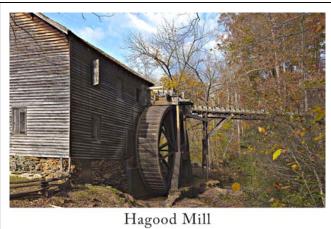


Large-flowered coreopsis (Coreopsis grandiflora var. grandiflora)





Crowned slug moth (Isa textula)





Bluegrass sounds at Hagood Mill



Grape fern (Sceptridium dissectum)

Sesquicentennial State Park - Caroline Eastman Richland County Meet Saturday, November 17 at 10:30

What do you do to celebrate your 150th birthday? If you are the city of Columbia, you get yourself a ceremonial quarter. The 1936 Columbia (SC) Sesquicentennial half-dollar was authorized under the Mint Act of March 18 1926, which called for the production of no more than 25,000 coins. Mintages were 9,000 at the Philadelphia Mint, 8,000 at the Denver Mint and 8,000 at the San Francisco Mint. The coins obverse, by Russian-born sculptor Abraham Wolfe Davidson, depicts a rendition of Justice without her blindfold, with a sword in her right hand and balanced scales in her left. Justice is flanked to the viewer's right by the new state capitol, and the Old State House to the left. [eBay Guides]. For more information see http://typesets.wikidot.com/1936-columbia-south-carolina-sesquicentennial.

And you get yourself a brand new park – Sesquicentennial State Park. The park was donated in 1937 during Columbia's sesquicentennial celebration; the Civilian Conservation Corps was responsible for much of the construction. The park is 1,419 acres in the sand hills region of South Carolina. In addition to the extensive sandhills, there is a 30 acre lake with associated wetland habitats. This will be SCAN's first visit to Sesqui. The official park website is http://www.southcarolinaparks.com/sesqui/introduction.aspx.

So what can we expect to find at Sesqui? It has an off-leash dog park. It has a retreat center with a team-building ropes course. It has Run Wild and other cross-country events. It has a basketball court as well as soccer and softball fields. There are convenient shopping centers almost next door on Two Notch Road. Doesn't quite sound like SCAN, does it? However, a few steps take you away from the developed areas into classic sandhills habitat. There are more trails than we will have time to explore in one day. The lake is large enough to be worth a canoe or kayak. You'll need to bring your own since we are not visiting during the summer boat rental season. If you want to stay overnight, there is a traditional state park campground.

We'll meet at one of the picnic tables near the lake [and the restrooms]. After you enter the park, drive to the end of the park road, enter the parking lot to the right, and look for the SCAN group. After exploring one area in the morning, we'll have lunch in the picnic area, and then disperse to explore another area in the afternoon. There is a short nature trail, a longer hike/bike trail, a mountain bike trail, lots of side trails, and the lake itself. And, as usual, you don't need to stay on the trails.

If you do not have a South Carolina state park pass, there is a modest \$2.00 entrance fee. If you do have a state park pass, you can just flash it and drive in. South Carolina offers basic passes for \$75.00; for only \$24.00 more you can get a lot of extra benefits with a Park Passport Plus. Details are on the park website. You can get an inland only pass for \$50.00, but that would be wrong – why would you want to exclude our beautiful coastal parks? If you are over 65, blind, and/or disabled, you can purchase a Palmetto Passport for half price, \$37.50. Because proof of eligibility is required, you can't get these online. Passes admit all occupants in passenger vehicles. Not only do these passes admit you to our state parks, they help support the state park system. The website is http://www.southcarolinaparks.com/park-passport/default.aspx Passes will be available for sale at the Sesqui office. Just tell the ticket person at the gate your intentions.

We will have dinner at Lizard's Thicket [LT] Restaurant. This is a meat-and-three country local chain with a reasonably extensive menu. We have reserved the private room at an LT location [7620 Two Notch Road] convenient to the park AND to both Interstates 20 and 77. Maps will be provided at the meeting. Their website is http://lizardsthicket.com/

So, ready to roll? [Directions from the park website]

From I-20: Take exit 74. Turn left onto Hwy 1 (Two Notch Rd.), travel N 3 mi, park will be on the right.

From I-77: Take exit 17. Go N. on Hwy 1 (Two Notch Rd.), for 2 mi. Park will be on the right. (Turn left if traveling I-77 Southbound turn left onto Hwy 1; or turn right if traveling I-77 northbound)

Latitude: 34.1014824, Longitude: -80.9126536

As usual bring lunch, water, insect spray for those chiggers and perhaps sunscreen.

Caroline Eastman

Glassy Mountain Heritage Preserve Pickens Co., SC October 31, 2012

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 iciegler@sc.rr.com. Please indicate exactly to which flora/fauna list you are referring. Thank you.

FLORA

Twisted-hair Spikemoss

Selaginella tortipila

Hairy Lip-fern

Cheilanthes lanosa

Woolly Lip-fern

Cheilanthes tomentosa

Ebony Spleenwort

Asplenium platyneuron

Southern Lady Fern

Athyrium asplenioides

Spinulose Wood-fern

Dryopteris carthusiana

Pitch Pine

Pinus rigida

Virginia Pine

Pinus virginiana

Eastern Red Cedar

Juniperus virginiana

virginiana

Hairy Spiderwort

Tradescantia hirsuticaulis

Smooth Spiderwort

Tradescantia ohiensis

Splitbeard Bluestem

Andropogon ternarius

ternarius

Arrowfeather

Aristida purpurascens

Hill Cane

Arundinaria appalachiana

Weeping Lovegrass

Eragrostis curvula

Common Little Bluestem

Schizachyrium scoparium

scoparium

Slender Indiangrass

Sorghastrum elliottii

Purpletop Tridens

Tridens flavus

Solomon's-seal

Polygonatum biflorum

Curlyleaf Yucca

Yucca filamentosa

Cathrier

Smilax bona-nox

Common Greenbrier

Smilax rotundifolia

Cranefly Orchid

Tipularia discolor

Tulip-tree

Liriodendron tulipifera

Sassafras

Sassafras albidum

Virginia Snakeroot

Endodeca serpentaria

Tall Anemone

Anemone virginiana

virginiana

Sweet Gum

Liquidambar styraciflua

Winged Elm

Ulmus alata

Dwarf Hackberry

Celtis tenuifolia

Pignut Hickory

Carya glabra

Rock Chestnut Oak

Ouercus montana

Red Oak

Quercus rubra

Prickly-pear

Opuntia humifusa

Pineweed

Hypericum gentianoides

St. Andrew's Cross

Hypericum hypericoides

Strict St. John's-wort

* Hypericum virgatum

Yellow Passionflower

Passiflora lutea lutea

Canada Rockcress

Boechera canadensis

Spotted Wintergreen

Chimaphila maculata

Sparkleberry

Vaccinium arboreum

Hillside Blueberry

Vaccinium pallidum

Hydrangea

Hydrangea sp.

American Alumroot

Heuchera americana

Downy Serviceberry

Amelanchier arborea

Littlehip Hawthorn

Crataegus spathulata

Black Cherry

Prunus serotina serotina

Carolina Rose

Rosa carolina

Blackberry

Rubus sp.

Japanese Spiraea

Spiraea japonica fortunei

Indigo-bush

Amorpha sp.

Hog-peanut

Amphicarpaea bracteata

Eastern Sensitive-brian

Mimosa microphylla

Wild Bean

Phaseolus polystachios

Wisteria

Wisteria sp.

Flowering Dogwood

Cornus florida

Blackgum

Nyssa sylvatica

Rhombic Copperleaf

Acalypha rhomboidea

Outcrop Rushfoil

Croton willdenowii

Eastern Flowering Spurge

Euphorbia corollata

New Jersey Tea

Ceanothus americanus

Carolina Buckthorn

Frangula caroliniana

Virginia-creeper

Parthenocissus

quinquefolia Muscadine

Vitis rotundifolia

rotundifolia

Appalachian Milkwort

Polygala curtissii

Chalk Maple

Acer leucoderme

Red Maple

Acer rubrum

Painted Buckeye

Aesculus sylvatica

Rhus copallinum

Winged Sumac

Smooth Sumac

Rhus glabra

Poison Oak

Toxicodendron pubescens

Hop-tree

Ptelea trifoliata

Common Yellow Wood-

sorrel

Oxalis stricta

Pinkroot

Spigelia marilandica

White Milkweed

Asclepias variegata

Whorled Milkweed

Asclepias verticillata

Periwinkle

* Vinca sp.

Virginia Ground-cherry

Physalis virginiana virginiana

Beautyberry

Callicarpa americana

Lemon Bergamot

Monarda citriodora citriodora

Basil Bergamot

Monarda clinopodia

Common Blue Curls

Trichostema dichotomum

Fringe-tree

Chionanthus virginicus

White Ash

Fraxinus americana

Woolly Mullein

Verbascum thapsus

Appalachian Oak-leach

Aureolaria laevigata

Trumpet-creeper

Campsis radicans

Southern Harebell

Campanula divaricata

Bluet

Houstonia longifolia

Summer Bluet

Houstonia purpurea

Yellow Honeysuckle

Lonicera flava

Japanese Honeysuckle

Lonicera japonica

Mapleleaf Viburnum

Viburnum acerifolium

Black Haw

Viburnum prunifolium

White Snakeroot

Ageratina altissima

Common Ragweed

Ambrosia artemisiifolia

Plantain Pussytoes

Antennaria plantaginifolia

Pale Indian-plantain

Arnoglossum

atriplicifolium

Maryland Golden-aster

Chrysopsis mariana

Large-flowered Coreopsis

* Coreopsis grandiflora grandiflora

Stiffleaf Coreopsis

Coreopsis major rigida

Hyssopleaf Eupatorium

Eupatorium hyssopifolium

Common Camphorweed

Heterotheca latifolia latifolia

Beaked Hawkweed

Hieracium gronovii

Roundleaf Ragwort

Packera obovata

Grass-leaved Golden-aster

Pityopsis aspera adenolepis

Rattlesnake-root

Prenanthes sp.

Fragrant Rabbit-tobacco

Pseudognaphalium

obtusifolium

Silverrod

Solidago bicolor

Goldenrod

* Solidago petiolaris petiolaris

Long-stalked Aster

Symphyotrichum dumosum

Common Clasping Aster

Symphyotrichum patens patens

Frost Aster

Symphyotrichum pilosum pilosum

FAUNA

Woven Belly-tooth Snail

Ventridens intertextus

Plain Great Zonite

Mesomphix inornatus

Centipede

Scolopendra sp.

Millipede

Sigmoria sp. American Bird

Grasshopper

Schistocerca americana

Goldenrod Bunch Gall (midge)

Rhopalomyia solidaginis

Hickory Girdler Beetle

Oncideres cingulata

Pitch-eating Weevil

* Pachylobius picivorus

American Lady (butterfly)

Vanessa virginiensis

Common Buckeye

Junonia coenia

Goldenrod Gall Moth

Gnorimoschema gallaesolidaginis

Crowned Monkey Slug (larva)

* Isa textula

Green Anole

Anolis carolinensis

Eastern Fence Lizard

Sceloporus undulatus

Turkey Vulture

Cathartes aura

Northern Flicker

Colaptes auratus

Hairy Woodpecker

Picoides villosus

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Sphyrapicus varius

Pileated Woodpecker

Dryocopus pileatus

Blue Jay

Cyanocitta cristata

American Crow

Corvus brachyrhynchos

Common Raven

Corvus corax

Carolina Chickadee

Parus carolinensis

Tufted Titmouse

Baeolophus bicolor

Brown-headed Nuthatch

Sitta pusilla

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher Polioptila caerulea

Hagood Mill Historic Site Pickens Co., SC October 31, 2012

FLORA

Common Running-cedar

Diphasiastrum digitatum

Cut-leaf Grapefern

Sceptridium dissectum

Northern Maidenhair Fern

Adiantum pedatum Broad Beech Fern

Phegopteris hexagonoptera

Christmas Fern

Polystichum acrostichoides

Eastern White Pine

Pinus strobus

Virginia Pine

Pinus virginiana

Eastern Red Cedar Juniperus virginiana

virginiana River Oats

Chasmanthium latifolium

Perfoliate Bellwort

Uvularia perfoliata Downy Rattlesnake-orchid

Goodyera pubescens

Cranefly Orchid

Tipularia discolor

Tulip-tree

Liriodendron tulipifera

Sweet-shrub

Calveanthus floridus

Sassafras

Sassafras albidum

Heartleaf

Hexastylis sp.

Sharp-lobed Hepatica

Anemone acutiloba

Yellowroot

Xanthorhiza simplicissima

Bloodroot

Sanguinaria canadensis

Witch-hazel

Hamamelis virginiana

Sweet Gum

Liquidambar styraciflua

Hackberry

Celtis sp.

Red Mulberry

Morus rubra

Mockernut Hickory

Carya tomentosa

Black Walnut

Juglans nigra

American Beech

Fagus grandifolia

White Oak

Ouercus alba

Southern Red Oak

Quercus falcata

Willow Oak

Quercus phellos

Tag Alder

Alnus serrulata

River Birch

Betula nigra

Yellow Passionflower

Passiflora lutea lutea

Spotted Wintergreen

Chimaphila maculata

Mountain Laurel

Kalmia latifolia

Doghobble

Leucothoe sp.

Sourwood

Oxydendrum arboreum

Silverbell

Halesia tetraptera

Climbing Hydrangea

Decumaria barbara

Snowy Hydrangea

Hydrangea radiata

Black Cherry

Prunus serotina serotina

Flowering Dogwood

Cornus florida

Hearts-a-burstin'-with-love

Euonymus americanus

American Holly

Ilex opaca opaca

Red Maple

Acer rubrum

Prairie Closed Gentian

* Gentiana andrewsii andrewsii

Mountain-mint

Pycnanthemum sp.

Chinese Privet

Ligustrum sinense

Beechdrops

Epifagus virginiana

Japanese Honeysuckle

Lonicera japonica

Coral Honeysuckle

Lonicera sempervirens

Mapleleaf Viburnum

Viburnum acerifolium

Common Ragweed

Ambrosia artemisiifolia

Plantain Pussytoes

Antennaria plantaginifolia

Hollow-stem Joe-pye-weed

Eutrochium fistulosum

Gall-of-the-earth

Prenanthes trifoliolata

FAUNA

Giant Forest Snail

Mesodon normalis

Woven Belly-tooth Snail

Ventridens intertextus

Asiatic Clam

Corbicula fluminea

Oak Stag Beetle

Platycerus virescens

Multicolored Asian Lady

Beetle

Harmonia axyridis

Cloudless Sulphur

Phoebis sennae eubule

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Melanerpes carolinus

Northern Flicker

Colaptes auratus

Hairy Woodpecker

Picoides villosus

Pileated Woodpecker
Dryocopus pileatus

Blue Jay

Cvanocitta cristata

American Crow

Corvus brachyrhynchos

Tufted Titmouse

Baeolophus bicolor

Black-and-white Warbler

Mniotilta varia

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Dendroica coronata

Woodchuck; Groundhog

Marmota monax