



December 2012

Hello fellow SCANers,

Caroline Eastman provided us with a perfect, but cool and breezy, November outing to Sesquicentennial State Park. The 20 participants include Gordon Murphy, Cathy Chandler, Pat and Jerry Bright, Kate Hartley, Caroline Eastman, Jim Boylston, Quentin Webber, Kim McManus Paul Kalback, Jan Ciegler, Keith and Jan Ward, Bob and Marsha Hamlin, Wayne Grooms, Kathy Boyle, Sam and Eve Pratt, Charlie and Lydia Williams.

Ken and Jan Ward have been members for a while but this was their first outing. They hail from Ridgeway. Ridgeway is the home of "Pig on the Ridge" BBQ festival. I was not aware of this until I researched Ridgeway to add something of interest to the newsletter but this sounds like a "President's Special". Unfortunately we missed it for this year as it was held November 2 & 3. All kidding aside, the Wards may have some interesting sites near Ridgeway for us to consider for our 2014 outings. The geology of the area invites us.



Keith and Jan Ward

Lynn Greenlee joined us for a hello and met us for the after outing supper and conversation at the Little Pig BBQ. It is always a pleasure to see and talk to Lynn. I hope she will join us on more of our outings.



Kate and Caroline are blind with envy as Kathy demonstrates her new frog shoes that transform her into a rock hopping extremist. Pat records ordering information.

I think I have a calling as a photojournalist. It is so much fun to distort the truth with a photo with no manipulation but can be construed to tell a totally different story from the one that was actually happening. Although this is really about the revolutionary frog shoes, many people would take this as Kathy



simply sitting down to watch the parade of passing eco tourist with their signs and banners.

While off the trail I noticed some Witch's Broom. Most of us recognize this aberration we often see on our walks. Below is some wisdom from the Internet.

A witch's broom or witches' broom is a disease or deformity in a woody plant, typically a tree, where the natural structure of the plant is changed. A dense mass of shoots grows from a single point, with the resulting structure resembling a broom or a bird's nest.

Witch's broom growths last for many years and can be caused by many different types of organisms, such as fungi, oomycetes, insects, mistletoe, dwarf mistletoes, mites, nematodes, phytoplasmas and viruses.

Witch's brooms occasionally result in desirable changes.

Some cultivars of trees, such as *Picea orientalis* 'Tom Thumb Gold', were discovered as witch's brooms. If twigs of witches' brooms are grafted onto normal rootstocks, freak trees result, showing that the attacking organism has changed the inherited growth pattern of the twigs.

Witch's brooms are used by various animals for nesting including the northern flying squirrel.



Witch's Broom

The Sesqui park interpreter, Stacy Jensen, alerted Caroline about the stand of Atlantic white cedar (*Chamaecyparis thyoides*) behind the conference center. Many of us dropped by to take a look.

Go to our Facebook group page to enjoy some excellent photos by our members.



Chamaecyparis thyoides (Atlantic white cedar)

I am not sure if this will get you there but try www.facebook.com/groups/116388725055968/?fref=ts If it does not take you there do a search on "SCAN".

Gordon spent several years as the president of our group and headed up the planning meetings. With his relaxed duties, this year he spent figuring what would make the planning meeting better. The result was a meeting that was completed before lunch and a lovely walk along the riverfront in the afternoon. Below is the tentative schedule:

SCAN 2013 Outings

February 23 – South Bluff HP – Beaufort County

Kathy Boyle & Wayne Grooms

Contains a well-developed maritime forest. Dominant species include live oak, cabbage palmetto, loblolly pine, wax myrtle, yaupon & cane. The shell ring should have unusual plants. Provides habitat for migratory birds, game & non-game mammals & reptiles & amphibians. The South Bluff Shell Rings are the most recently discovered shell ring sites in South Carolina. No parking area, must park along roadside. No restrooms. Managed by the SC DNR. One of the most well preserved shell ring complexes in the state & only one that can be reached by land. 24 acres. SCAN has not visited this.

March 23 – Melton Place – Saluda County

Caroline Eastman

This is a private hunting preserve and tree farm along the Saluda River in Saluda County. The owner, Ben Herlong, received the South Carolina Tree Farmer of the Year Award in 2006 from the South Carolina Tree Farm Committee. Lizanne and John Melton, his daughter and her husband, own adjacent property under a conservation easement. The property includes a variety of habitats, including flood plain forest. This will be SCAN's first visit to Saluda County.

April 27 – Mistletoe State Park – Columbia County, GA

Bob & Marsha Hamlin

Mistletoe State Park is in Columbia County Georgia. Columbia County is the first Georgia county west of McCormick County South Carolina. The park is nestled on the shores of 72,000 acre Clarks Hill Lake, known as Strom Thurmond Lake in South Carolina.

While best known for its bass fishing, Mistletoe State Park offers miles of forested hiking trails. The hiking trail SCAN will be using is in the lesser-used section of the park. SCAN will be hiking a portion of the Cliatt Creek Nature Trail Loop. As the trail meanders through forested areas it sometimes winds very near to picturesque Cliatt Creek as it flows toward the lake. This will be SCAN's first outing to Mistletoe State Park.

May 25 – McBee WMA – Chesterfield County

Kim McManus & Paul Kalbach

Interesting sandhills areas & good early-successional habitats can be found here. No restrooms. Managed by the SC DNR. 786 acres.

June 22 – Longleaf Pine HP – Lee County

Gordon Murphy

Longleaf Pine Heritage Preserve (also a WMA) - Near Lynchburg, S.C. - 843 acres.

This preserve protects a seasonally-wet longleaf pine *Pinus palustris* savanna, several pond cypress *Taxodium ascendens* depressions, and the rare species associated with these ecological communities. The main elements of concern on the preserve are two federally-endangered species, the Red-cockaded Woodpecker *Picoides borealis* and a rare wetland plant, Canby's dropwort *Oxypolis canbyi*. SCAN last visited the area on November 28, 2000.

July 27 - Bald Rock HP – Greenville County

Phil Harpootlian

The preserve contains a complex of granite outcrops, seeps and waterslides surrounded by a mosaic of mixed pines and hardwoods. Lichens and mosses have colonized portions of the rock outcrops. Joined with forces of weather, these pioneer species create pockets and cracks in the granite, which are filled with sand and organic matter. Some display patches of herbaceous plants.

The preserve protects two headwater streams that are essential in maintaining several groups of rare plant species. They include the nationally threatened plant species, piedmont ragwort, and the state threatened plant species, grass-of-parnassus. Additional rare species that have been documented nearby include the New England cottontail, woodrat and northern long-eared bat. SCAN has not visited this.

August 24 – Flat Laurel Creek Loop – NC

Phil Harpootlian

The trail is a 2.5 miles loop. One can spend the day just a few yards into the fields enjoying the diversity without ever having to walk more than a few yards. Expect to see goldenrod, rattlesnake root, filmy angelica, bush honeysuckle, heal-all, stiff gentian, bottle gentian, Micheux's saxifrage, dodder, St. John's wort, American mountain-ash, eastern longleaf bluet, thyme-leaved bluet, boneset, buttercup, field thistle etc. This is a prime location for butterflies. There is a restroom that was poorly maintained the last time I checked. - Jerry Bright

SCAN has not visited this.

September 28 – Long Branch Bay HP – Barnwell County

Bob and Marsha Hamlin

Contains one of the most significant Carolina bay depression meadows (40 acres) in the state. Long Branch Bay is clay-based, but has a depression meadow ecotype, rather than a typical cypress/gum ecotype. Rare plants include awned meadow beauty, Tracy's beakrush, slender arrow-head & perennial goobergrass. No parking area, must park along roadside. No restrooms. Managed by the SC DNR. SCAN has not visited this

October 26 – Sandy Island – Georgetown County

Kim McManus & Paul Kalbach

Located between the Waccamaw & Great Pee Dee Rivers in the Waccamaw Neck, this 7-mile long river island has much to offer. There are 1,100 acres of wetlands (tidal marsh, swamp, pocosin), 3,000 acres of bottomland hardwoods, and the rest (about half the island) upland communities (longleaf pine-turkey oak). There are 3 marked nature trails on the north end of the island totaling 12.5 miles. Little Bull Creek Trail is 1.5 miles long & runs south. The open terrain of the sandy ridge makes it easy to navigate. There are no public restrooms once on Sandy Island. Managed by The Nature Conservancy.

November 16 – Cuddo Unit Santee NWR – Clarendon County

Caroline Eastman

Some interesting information from the "Friends of Santee NWR" can be found at:
<http://web.ftc-i.net/~gcsommers/friendsrefuge.html>

SCAN has visited the wildlife refuge several times over the years; the last visit was February 22, 2003. Unfortunately some records do not clearly specify which unit[s] were visited. We will visit Cuddo East; Cuddo West is closed to visitation November through March each year. A driving tour road provides easy access with little walking required, and there are additional hiking trails in the woods and along the lake. Turkeys are common in the unit and often seen. A field near the entrance often hosts a variety of wintering sparrows.

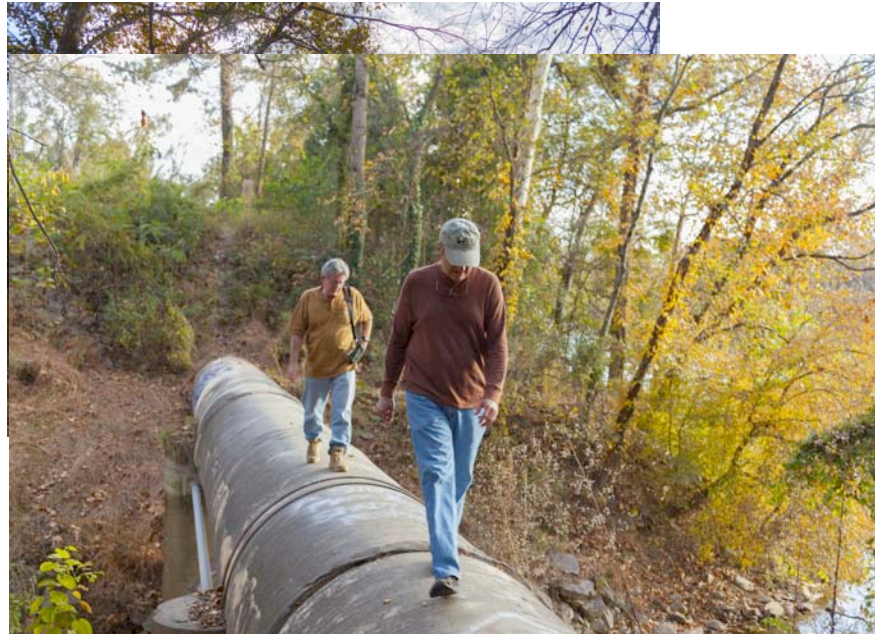
This is a great place to bike, hike, canoe or walk. There is a canoe trail through the unit and a landing that will allow access to Lake Marion. Pat and I enjoyed a paddle in late April into the lake and saw many flocks of waterfowl. This is a favorite place for us. – Jerry Bright

December 14 – Ernest F. Hollings ACE Basin Grove Plantation – Charleston County

Kathy Boyle and Wayne Grooms

This site is a former rice plantation, and more recently a cattle ranch, on the Edisto River. Freshwater marsh, pond, old field/pasture & forest are plentiful here. SCAN saw the state rare little blue heron here. The old pastures are full of insect life, with the possibility of seeing unusual coastal butterfly species. The water level in the small pond is being manipulated to trap small feeder fish, attracting a diverse assemblage of wading & shorebirds such as wood stork, stilt, glossy ibis, least bittern, and several heron & egret species. Also a good site for migratory songbirds: the old pastures are home to nesting populations of painted and indigo buntings, and blue grosbeaks. There are many dirt roads to use as trails. Ample parking within. Restrooms only available if offices open. Part of ACE Basin NWR. On the National Register of Historical Places. The house, built in 1828 and an excellent example of Lowcountry architecture, is office for the US Fish & Wildlife Service's ACE Basin National Wildlife Refuge headquarters, as well as The Nature Conservancy's ACE Basin Bioreserve Office.

Below are some photos from our Granby Park outing after the planning meeting.



I have attached a membership form as the last page of this newsletter. Our treasurer, Greg Mancini, appreciates receiving the renewals before the annual meeting. The amount of work he has at the annual meeting is inversely proportional to the amount of pleasure he enjoys.

Gordon will be leading our next outing **December 8th** to Little Pee Dee HP. Note the earlier date. He loves this area of our state and his enthusiasm will lead us on another great gathering. -- Jerry Bright

**Little Pee Dee River Heritage Preserve
Horry County, December 8, 2012, 10:30AM
Gordon Murphy**

Our final fieldtrip of 2012 will be at the Little Pee Dee River Heritage Preserve. The Little Pee Dee River Heritage Preserve consists of several preserved tracts of land stretching approximately 20 miles along the Little Pee Dee River. Our visit will be to the almost 4,000 acre tract, the bulk of which is located north of Highway 917, just inside Horry County (east of the River). This tract consists of a sand ridge that extends roughly southwest toward the northeast wooded swamp associated with the Little Pee Dee River along the western edge and wooded swamp associated with Black Creek to the east. In addition to the swamps, pocosin wetlands are also present. The xeric sand ridge harbors many plant species common to the sandhills region of the state. The variety of habitats present at Little Pee Dee River HP supports a wide diversity of plant and animal species. Rare species present in the Preserve include sarvis holly, Well's pixie moss, and Pickering's morning glory. We will meet at 10:30, just inside the gate adjacent to Highway 917 (north side). From there we will travel along a dirt road that follows the sand ridge, stopping at various locations to explore on foot. There are no restroom facilities present. With the cooler weather we've been enjoying as of late, insects should not be a problem. Bring water and lunch. I anticipate that we'll be close enough to our vehicles that we can eat lunch at our cars.

Directions

From Mullins, SC:

From the intersection of North Main Street (SC 41) and McIntyre Street (US 76), travel east on East McIntyre Street and take the first right onto South Park Street. Go approximately 0.15-mile and veer left onto Highway 917 (Sandy Bluff Road). Follow Highway 917 for approximately 4.9 miles to the entrance on the left just past the river.

From Johnsonville, SC:

Go north on SC 41 to US 378. Take a right onto US 378/SC 41 for approximately 3.5 miles and veer left onto SC 41. From this point, follow SC 41 approximately 20 miles and turn right onto Old Stage Coach Road (S-34-31). Follow Old Stage Coach Road for 1.2 miles to Highway 917. Turn right onto Highway 917 and travel 2.4 miles to the entrance on the left just past the river.

Traffic Note: The DOT is in the process of replacing the Highway 917 bridge over the Little Pee Dee River so expect delays on this stretch of the highway. If you get lost or will be arriving late, feel free to give me a call on my cell phone (803-447-0547).

President's note:

Gordon is exploring the dining possibilities. He has some duties in the area before our outing. He will provide us with a surprise location for our dining.

Sesquicentennial State
Park
Richland Co., SC
November 17, 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 jciegler@sc.rr.com. Please indicate exactly to which flora/fauna list you are referring. Thank you.

LICHENS

Cladina sp.
Cladonia sp.

FLORA

Peat Moss

Sphagnum sp.

Grape Fern

* *Botrychium* sp.

Cinnamon Fern

Osmunda cinnamomea

Royal Fern

Osmunda regalis spectabilis

Bracken

Pteridium aquilinum

Netted Chain Fern

Woodwardia areolata

Virginia Chain Fern

Woodwardia virginica

Sensitive Fern

Onoclea sensibilis sensibilis

Christmas Fern

Polystichum acrostichoides

Shortleaf Pine

Pinus echinata

Longleaf Pine

Pinus palustris

Pond Pine

Pinus serotina

Loblolly Pine

Pinus taeda

Atlantic White-cedar

Chamaecyparis thyoides

Eastern Red Cedar

Juniperus virginiana
virginiana

Bald-cypress

Taxodium distichum

Green Arrow-arum

Peltandra virginica

Yellow-eyed Grass

Xyris sp.

Common Rush

Juncus effusus solutus

Sedge

Carex sp.

Spikerush

Eleocharis sp.

Woolgrass Bulrush

Scirpus cyperinus

Broomsedge

Andropogon sp.

Giant Cane

Arundinaria gigantea

Longleaf Spikegrass

Chasmanthium sessiliflorum

Flexible Sasa-grass

Microstegium vimineum

Panic Grass

Panicum sp.

Giant Plume Grass

Saccharum giganteum

Common Little Bluestem

Schizachyrium scoparium
scoparium

Common Cattail

Typha latifolia

Curlyleaf Yucca

Yucca filamentosa

Catbrier

Smilax bona-nox

Bamboo-vine

Smilax laurifolia

Common Greenbrier

Smilax rotundifolia

Jackson-brier

Smilax smallii

Red-berried Greenbrier

Smilax walteri

Cranefly Orchid

Tipularia discolor

Tulip-tree

Liriodendron tulipifera

Southern Magnolia

Magnolia grandiflora

Sweetbay

Magnolia virginiana

Red Bay

Persea borbonia

Sassafras

Sassafras albidum

Little Brown Jug

Hexastylis arifolia

Water-shield

Brasenia schreberi

Sweet Gum

Liquidambar styraciflua

Red Mulberry

Morus rubra

False-nettle

Boehmeria cylindrica

Mockernut Hickory

Carya tomentosa

Common Wax-myrtle

Morella cerifera

White Oak

Quercus alba

Southern Red Oak

Quercus falcata

Turkey Oak

Quercus laevis

Blackjack Oak

Quercus marilandica
marilandica

Water Oak

Quercus nigra

Post Oak

Quercus stellata

Black Oak

Quercus velutina

Live Oak

Quercus virginiana

Tag Alder

Alnus serrulata

River Birch

Betula nigra

American Hop-hornbeam

Ostrya virginiana

Prickly-pear

Opuntia humifusa

St. Andrew's Cross

Hypericum hypericoides

Ti-ti

Cyrilla racemiflora

Coastal Sweet Pepperbush

Clethra alnifolia

Spotted Wintergreen

Chimaphila maculata

Trailing Arbutus

Epigaea repens

Dwarf Huckleberry

Gaylussacia dumosa

Coastal Doghobble

Leucothoe axillaris

Shining Fetterbush

Lyonia lucida

Sourwood

Oxydendrum arboreum

Sparkleberry

Vaccinium arboreum

American Persimmon*Diospyros virginiana***Horsesugar***Symplocos tinctoria***Virginia-willow***Itea virginica***Red Chokeberry***Aronia arbutifolia***Littlehip Hawthorn***Crataegus spathulata***Carolina Laurel Cherry***Prunus caroliniana***Black Cherry***Prunus serotina serotina***Pear***Pyrus sp.***Blackberry***Rubus sp.***Lespedeza***Lespedeza hirta***Wingstem Water-primrose***Ludwigia decurrens***Flowering Dogwood***Cornus florida***Blackgum***Nyssa sylvatica***American Mistletoe***Phoradendron serotinum serotinum***Big Gallberry***Ilex coriacea***American Holly***Ilex opaca opaca***Yaupon***Ilex vomitoria***Copperleaf***Acalypha sp.***Peppervine***Ampelopsis arborea***Muscadine***Vitis rotundifolia rotundifolia***Grape***Vitis sp.***Red Maple***Acer rubrum***Winged Sumac***Rhus copallinum***Eastern Poison Ivy***Toxicodendron radicans radicans***English Ivy***Hedera helix helix***Carolina Jessamine***Gelsemium sempervirens***Beautyberry***Callicarpa americana***Forsythia**** Forsythia sp.***Chinese Privet***Ligustrum sinense***Cross-vine***Bignonia capreolata***Buttonbush***Cephalanthus occidentalis***Japanese Honeysuckle***Lonicera japonica***Common Elderberry***Sambucus canadensis***Southern Wild Raisin***Viburnum nudum***Leafy Elephant's-foot***Elephantopus carolinianus***Common Dog-fennel***Eupatorium capillifolium***Eupatorium***Eupatorium sp.***Heterotheca**** Heterotheca sp.***Blazing-star***Liatris sp.***Climbing Hempweed***Mikania scandens***Goldenrod***Solidago sp.***FAUNA****Wolf Spider***Lycosa sp.***Colorful Foliage Ground****Beetle**** Cymindis complanatus***Green Anole***Anolis carolinensis***Pied-billed Grebe***Podilymbus podiceps***Canada Goose***Branta canadensis***Mallard***Anas platyrhynchos***Wood Duck***Aix sponsa***Lesser Scaup***Aythya affinis***Turkey Vulture***Cathartes aura***Black Vulture***Coragyps atratus***Red-tailed Hawk***Buteo jamaicensis***Red-bellied Woodpecker***Melanerpes carolinus***Northern Flicker***Colaptes auratus***American Crow***Corvus brachyrhynchos***Carolina Chickadee***Parus carolinensis***Tufted Titmouse***Baeolophus bicolor***Brown-headed Nuthatch***Sitta pusilla***Carolina Wren***Thryothorus ludovicianus***Golden-crowned Kinglet***Regulus satrapa***Ruby-crowned Kinglet***Regulus calendula***European Starling***Sturnus vulgaris***Blue-headed Vireo***Vireo solitarius***Yellow-rumped Warbler***Dendroica coronata***Pine Warbler***Dendroica pinus***Northern Cardinal***Cardinalis cardinalis***Dark-eyed Junco***Junco hyemalis***Gray Squirrel***Sciurus carolinensis***Beaver (gnaw mark)***Castor canadensis***White-tailed Deer (tracks, sign)***Odocoileus virginianus*



SCAN New Membership & Renewal Form
(Members are age 15 or older)

Today's Date: _____

Dues: \$12.00 per calendar year due by the January annual meeting
\$5.00 per calendar year for each additional member at the same address
Note: Persons joining in July or later pay 1/2 price.

Name(s): 1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Mailing Address: **Please notify SCAN of home and email address changes.**

Street/PO Box _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email: 1. _____
2. _____

Phone(s): (____) _____ (Home)
(____) _____ (Work)
(____) _____ (Cell)

Do you want your newsletter via email or U S Mail (Email is better)? _____

Mail form to:
SCAN
PO Box 5651
Columbia, SC 29250-5651