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FEB 2013

UPSTATE *happenings*

Saturday, Jan 19

Plant Rescue at Twin Chimneys Planting at Conestee Nature Park

This time we will rescue woodland plants, primarily ferns, from Twin Chimneys in the morning, and in the afternoon we will plant in a wooded area near the Lake Conestee Nature Park Office.

The purpose of a plant rescue is to relocate native plants (with the landowner's permission) that are in the direct path of development. Rescued plants go primarily to public spaces, but one of the perks of being a rescuer is the opportunity to take some plants home!

A carpool will leave at 8:30 am from the Home Depot parking lot on South Pleasantburg Dr in Greenville. For those coming from other areas and wanting to carpool, meet at the Clock Restaurant on SC Hwy 25 south just past the 185 toll road, ready to depart at 8:40.

We'll be at the Greenville County landfill at 9:00 and remove plants until about 11:00, then have lunch at a nearby restaurant. (If you cannot be there in the morning, you can meet us at the Conestee site at 1:00.) At Conestee we will put these plants into the ground, and plan to be done by mid-afternoon.

Please sign up with Bill Sharpton, gsharpn@aol.com This will allow us to better plan the day's agenda, and it is the only way we can know whom to contact if there is a change of plans, rain delay, etc! Be sure to provide a phone number!

Bring gloves, shovel or sharpshooter; wear long pants.

Directions to the Twin Chimneys Landfill plant rescue site: From Greenville, take US Hwy 25 South to Ware Place (where 418 & 8 intersect 25). Go south approximately 7.5 miles; turn left onto West Ridgeway; bear right onto Traynham Rd then look for signs.

Directions to Conestee Nature Park Office: From the intersection of I-85 and South Pleasantburg Dr/Hwy 291 (Exit 46), follow SC 291 South for 1.1 miles and turn left at the traffic light onto Old Augusta Rd; after 0.4 miles

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Longleaf Glade, oil on canvas, by Philip Jurras @ 2008. Used by permission.

How clearcut does it have to be?

When Columbus landed in the New World, 93 million acres of longleaf pine forests covered the southeastern hip of what would become the United States, including more than half of present-day South Carolina. By 1995, ecologist Reed Noss, in a survey of endangered ecosystems, found that the pine flatwoods were 99 percent gone.

In this talk, Janisse Ray, naturalist, award-winning writer and activist, explores with story, poetry, and passion this amazing ecosystem, what happened to it, and why bringing it back is vital.

Unlike many forests, longleaf pine forests thrive on – indeed, require – frequent fire. Regular burning gives them an open and park-like appearance. Their openness, however, is anything but barren: this forest is as biologically diverse as tropical rainforest, with nearly 900 indigenous plant species. More than 140 plant species have been identified in one square kilometer of longleaf pine forest.

Since longleaf pine forests have been largely destroyed through clear-cutting and fire suppression, the plants and animals that thrive

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PLEASE NOTE THAT
WE ARE NOT
MEETING IN OUR
USUAL LOCATION!

Janisse Ray

Writer, Naturalist, and Environmental Activist

Tuesday, Feb 19, 7:00 pm with reception following

J Verne Smith Technical Resource Center Auditorium
Main Campus of Greenville Tec, 620 S Pleasantburg Dr, Greenville

For a map and more information, visit <http://www.scnps.org>

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How clearcut does it have to be?

there have suffered. Many are considered threatened or endangered and some have died out completely. Plants found in longleaf forests range from inconspicuous and easy-to-miss to gorgeous and showy. One of the gorgeous flowers found there is the yellow



Yellow Fringed Orchid (*Platanthera ciliaris*) Photo by Johnny Stowe.

fringed orchid (*Platanthera ciliaris*). The few-flowered milkweed (*Asclepias lanceolata*) is another. Although *A. lanceolata* resembles our familiar butterfly weed, it is a different species found only in the coastal plain.

Longleaf pine forests are also home to a Noah's ark of birds and animals. In her first book, Janisse describes a visit to a carefully managed longleaf grove

containing many mature trees, some over two hundred years old. The trees and plants alone make it a magical, fascinating place – and then there are the creatures! The forest is home to quail, red-bellied woodpeckers, Bachman's sparrows, eastern kingbird, red-cockaded woodpeckers, deer, turkeys, gopher tortoises, fox squirrels – just for starters. There are many more species, including many insects and reptiles that are part of the longleaf ecosystem.

Longleaf pine forests can still be found on state, federal and privately owned land in South Carolina. State agencies and private groups are replanting pines and treating both old and new stands with fire. At least four Heritage Preserves managed by the SC Department of Natural Resources (DNR) have stands of longleaf pine. DNR's website notes that Aiken Coun-



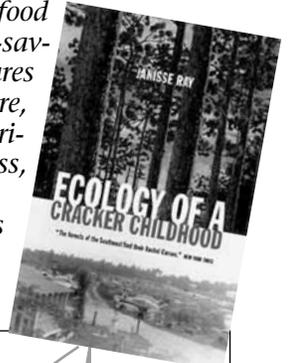
Yellow Pitcherplant (*Sarracenia flava*). Photo by Johnny Stowe.

ty has 78,000 acres of longleaf pine – more than any other county in the state. There are also two Lee County Heritage Preserves with longleaf communities. — Amy Fendley

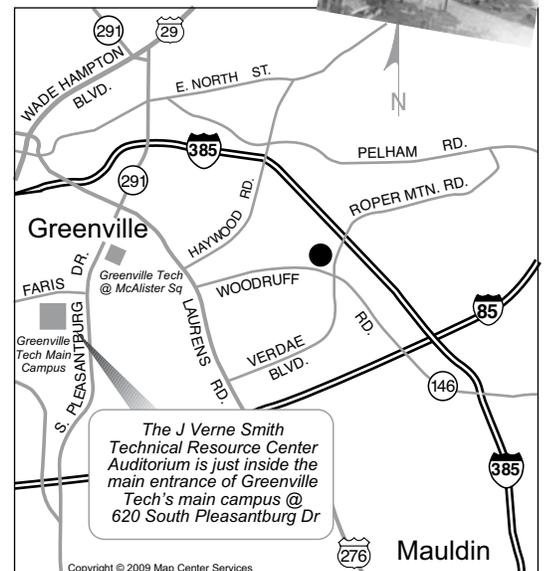


Janisse is the author of the best-selling *Ecology of a Cracker Childhood*, as well as numerous articles and five other books. She holds an MFA from the University of Montana and an honorary doctorate from Unity College in Maine. She is on the faculty of Chatham University's low-residency MFA program.

Janisse attempts to live a simple, sustainable life on Red Earth Farm in southern Georgia with her husband, Raven Waters. She is an organic gardener, tender of farm animals, slow-food cook, and seed-saver. Janisse lectures widely on nature, community, agriculture, wildness, sustainability, and the politics of wholeness.



Volunteer Jeff Glitzenstein and SCDNR Technician Allen Bridgman counting stems of American chaffseed (*Schwalbea americana*), a federally-endangered plant found on SC's Lynchburg Savanna Heritage Preserve. Photo by Johnny Stowe.



Jan Haldeman to receive the South Carolina Wildlife Federation Education Conservationist Award

SCNPS member Jan Haldeman was recently selected to receive the 2012 South Carolina Wildlife Federation Education Conservationist Award for her work on behalf of South Carolina's natural resources.

Dr. Haldeman is Professor Emeritus of Biology, Erskine College, and former Chair of the South Carolina Native Plant Society's Exotic Species Committee. You may have seen her herding a gang of students on one of our seed collection outings. She is a regular presenter at our monthly meetings (most recently on the topic of Medicinal Botany in November), and a familiar face at our Plant Sales where she explains the issue of invasive plants — with patience, humor and conviction.

The South Carolina Wildlife Federation has recognized outstanding contributions to conservation at its annual Conservation Awards Banquet for the past 48 years. Awards will be presented at the 48th Annual SCWF Conservation Awards Banquet on Friday, Feb 1, 2013, at the SC State Farmers Market in West Columbia.

SPACE Plant Survey

At an Upstate Native Plant Society meeting at Wofford College in 2011, I asked for volunteers to join me in conducting a plant survey on two conservation easement properties for SPACE (The Spartanburg Area Conservancy). The plant list to be developed on the properties would help establish a baseline idea of what grew there and help SPACE with their accreditation process. Several people said they were interested, and this began the Survey Team.

We began a monthly trip to each property to see what we could find. After a few months, I began to think the list was nearly complete, but each month I was surprised to find how many new species were added. There were plants found that I had never seen or heard of. With 13 team members, one person's weakness was another's strength, and thus we learned a lot from each other. We really looked forward each month to finding new things and to enjoying each other's company. Nature always kept us entertained with its many treasures waiting to be discovered.

On one of the properties, the owner was always anxious to participate and learn what we were learning and to show us some things he had wanted us to see. Periodically,

we would have a potluck dinner at one or another of the Survey Team's home. Preceding dinner there was always a fascinating tour of the property to see some of the special plants and animals the host wanted to share.

All the survey team was invited to attend the 2012 annual meeting for Spartanburg Area Conservancy (SPACE). I was sure to be there with Patrick McMillan being the speaker! It was great to see most of the team there as well. To my surprise, I was presented with the Harold O. Hatcher Volunteer of the Year award for the efforts of the Survey Team.

Helping a conservation organization, observing what nature showed us through the year, being together with friends, and increasing my plant knowledge by a considerable amount were values gained by the year's survey experience.

We will start another plant survey, on one property this time, beginning in January. We will certainly see some amazing things over the year of surveying. Each month we spend about 4 hours in the field. If anyone is interested in joining the fun, just send an email to sdwhit10@aol.com with the subject of "Survey".

— Dan Whitten



Volunteers at the DNR workday at Stevens Creek Heritage Preserve on Saturday reported a warm and productive day removing invasions of privet and honeysuckle, rewarded by the sight of False Rue Anemone (*Enemion biternatum*) blooming! It's often confused with the more common Windflower (*Thalictrum thalictroides*), whereas Windflower has 5-10 and only one tier of leaves.

Writers needed!

We're soliciting volunteer journalists to contribute to the *Upstate Happenings* — specifically, to interview our speakers and put together a short write-up describing the upcoming presentations.

Here's your chance to get published, to hone your writing skills, and to chat with some very interesting people!

Pick a month, or several, and get on our schedule. We currently have openings for the June, August, October and November newsletters.

The February newsletter (the one in your hand) describes February's presentation and is distributed in January, so the copy deadline for the June newsletter is May 10, for the August newsletter is July 5, for the October newsletter is Sept 6, for the November newsletter is Oct 4.

You will generally have about 3-4 weeks in which to work, and the articles usually run about 450 words.

Interested? Contact Janie Marlow <publicity@scnps.org>

It's time to renew your membership!

Look for a renewal form in the upcoming mailing of the state Journal, or you can register online: <http://scnps.org/scnps-membership/renew-membership/>

**South Carolina
Native Plant Society
PO Box 491
Norris, SC 29667**

Upstate Chapter

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Upcoming Events

turn left (gas station on corner) onto Fork Shoals Rd. Follow Fork Shoals Road 0.5 miles then turn left into the Park Office Trailhead parking lot at the junction of Fork Shoals Rd and White Horse Rd Ext.

See map: www.conesteePark.com

SCNPS and the Upstate Master Naturalists will hold several joint workdays in the next few weeks:

Saturday, Feb 9, 9:00 am

Jack-in-the-pulpits @ Swamp Rabbit

This surprising woodland cove, in the heart of Greenville just off the Swamp Rabbit Trail on the Reedy River, is owned jointly by Naturaland Trust and the Friends of the Reedy River. It is home to an impressive population of jack-in-the-pulpits, accompanied by other great native plants. However, it is also plagued by exotics. We will remove English ivy. There is some poison ivy on the site, so wear long pants and long sleeves. We will meet in the lower parking lot of YMCA on Cleveland Street in Greenville at 9 am and walk down to the site. We will finish by noon.

Please let us know you're coming by sending an email to Dan Whitten (sdwhit10@aol.com). Be sure to provide a phone number! If you have questions, contact either Dan Whitten or Frank Holleman (holl2759@bellsouth.net).

Tuesday, Feb 19, 7:00 pm

Janisse Ray!

How Clearcut Does It Have to Be?

See story on page 1.

Please note that this meeting will

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be held in the J Verne Smith Technical Resource Center Auditorium on Main Campus of Greenville Tec, 620 South Pleasantburg Dr, Greenville.

There will be a reception following the presentation.

Saturday, Feb 23, 9:00 am

Green Woodland Orchids in Berea

Naturaland Trust recently acquired 10 acres of *beautiful marsh on the Reedy River* in Berea, near Furman. It contains hundreds of green woodland orchids and some bunched arrowhead. There are some exotics to remove – privet, shrubs, and some ivy. Wear boots or shoes you can get wet. There is poison ivy on the site, so wear long pants and long sleeves. We will meet in the parking lot of Berea Middle School on Berea Middle School Road at 9 am and walk to the site. We should be finished by 11.

Please let us know you're coming by sending an email to Bill Sharpton, gsharpton@aol.com. Be sure to provide a phone number! If you have questions, contact Frank Holleman (holl2759@bellsouth.net).

Friday-Sunday, March 1-3

Southern Home & Garden Show

Almost 20,000 people will walk the aisles of the upcoming Southern Home & Garden Show, and many of them will learn something about native plants and about SCNPS — *if you will help staff our booth!*

Volunteers receive an exhibitor's badge and a pass to the exhibitor's parking lot, both good for the duration of the show. Sign up at a meeting, or email Steve Marlow, steve@marlowcreativeservices.com

Saturday, March 9, 9:00 am

Bunched Arrowhead @ Furman

One of the most important populations of the *endangered Bunched Arrowhead* is on the *Furman campus*, but its seeps are overrun with privet. We will remove the privet to protect the seep and the plants. There is poison ivy on the site, so wear long pants and long sleeves.

We will meet at 9 am in the parking lot of the Shi Center for Sustainability, near the Bell Tower, and walk to the seeps. We will finish by noon.

Please let us know you're coming by sending an email to Bill Sharpton, gsharpton@aol.com. Be sure to provide a phone number!

If you have questions, contact Frank Holleman (holl2759@bellsouth.net).

Tuesday, March 19, 7:00 pm

Maintaining Healthy Honeybees in the Upstate

Charlotte Anderson, South Carolina's first female Master Beekeeper and South Carolina Beekeeper of the Year for 2012, will fill us in on what's it's like to be a small scale beekeeper in upstate South Carolina.

Not only does she try to stay tuned in to the bloom cycle of Red Maple, Holly, Blackberry, Tulip Poplar, Sourwood, and other natives that provide highly sought-after nectar for her bees, she'll discuss how to manage their hives and maintain healthy colonies. Founders Hall in Dining Commons, Southern Wesleyan University, Central.

Saturday, April 6, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Spring Native Plant Sale

Save the date!