

South Carolina Native Plant Society

Lowcountry Chapter Newsletter

Volume 15, Issue 1, Spring 2012

1036 Royalist Rd
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464



Happy New Year!

We had an exciting line-up of fall programs and field trips in 2011 and I am looking forward to 2012. Not only do we have excellent speakers and field trips, but we will also have some great volunteer opportunities that will come available throughout the spring. Remember to check out our website at www.scnps.org, sign up for our listserv for email updates at scnps-subscribe@yahoogroups.com, or check out our Facebook page and “like” us to get updates in your daily news feed.

Enclosed with this newsletter is a ballot for the election that will take place in February. We have some longtime board members that are continuing their positions and also some new members willing to take on a leadership role. I have enjoyed serving on the Lowcountry Board as the Program Chair, Vice-President, and for the last two years as President and feel fortunate to have been able to serve in these roles.

Lisa Lord
Lowcountry President

LOCATION FOR LECTURE SERIES

Monthly meetings for our lecture series are typically held on the **third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm** at the **Biology Auditorium, 101 Duckett Hall, at The Citadel**. Park in any visitor spot, Kovat's Lot, or the lot behind Capers Hall. Download a parking pass at www.scnps.org to use when parking in faculty lots. Avoid any student lots. For directions and further information visit: <http://www.citadel.edu/publicsafety/citadelmaps.html> Please join us after each lecture for a reception including hors d'oeuvres and wine, plus native plant give-aways!



SPRING 2012 NATIVE PLANT SALE!

Saturday, March 17th, 9 am - 12 noon
SCNPS members can start shopping at 8:30!
Charles Towne Landing parking lot
1500 Old Towne Road, Charleston

Come shop early this year and get your spring garden started! A plant list with prices will be available a few weeks before the sale on our website. Admission to the plant sale is free. Cash or check only for plant purchases. If you wish to explore Charles Towne Landing on your own, please pay admission in the Visitor Center. For more information, contact Colette DeGarady, cdegarady@tnc.org, 937-8807 ex 15; or visit www.scnps.org.

LECTURE SERIES

Tuesday, January 17, 6:30 pm Biology Auditorium, 101 Duckett Hall at The Citadel

A 21-year monitoring program of *Trillium pusillum* var. *pusillum* (aka Carolina least trillium or dwarf trillium) in Francis Beidler Forest: Post Hurricane Hugo, population dynamics, and conservation genetics

Dr. Danny Gustafson

The Carolina least trillium [aka dwarf trillium] (*Trillium pusillum* Michaux var. *pusillum*) is a perennial, rhizomatous spring-flowering herb that is a Federal Species of Concern and listed as state endangered in Kentucky, North Carolina, and Tennessee. The largest known population in South Carolina occurs in Francis Beidler Forest in Dorchester County. Following Hurricane Hugo's removal of much of the forest canopy in 1989, Dr. Richard Porcher established four permanent 25m by 25m plots to monitor the dwarf trillium populations. Dr. Porcher was concerned that the dwarf trillium might experience population declines due to the significant increase in sunlight reaching the forest floor, which has been seen in some understory herbaceous species. Dr. Gustafson will be presenting an overview of trillium ecology, 21 years of dwarf trillium population dynamics in Francis Beidler Forest, and some ideas about dwarf trillium conservation and management. Effective management of rare and threatened species requires an understanding of community interactions, population dynamics, and genetics. He will use the dwarf trillium as a case study to explore the connections between genes, populations, and communities.

Tuesday, February 21, 6:30 pm Biology Auditorium, 101 Duckett Hall at The Citadel

The Magnolias of South Carolina - Their origin, distribution and evolutionary history

Richard Figlar

Richard is one of the world's foremost authorities on the genus Magnoliaceae and past president of the Magnolia Society. He will discuss the six magnolia species native to our state (and three varieties or subspecies) in detail, supplemented with images of trees in habitat as well as in cultivation. You might be surprised to learn that two of our magnolia species are more closely related to those from China than to the other American magnolias.

Tuesday, March 20, 6:30 pm Biology Auditorium, 101 Duckett Hall at The Citadel

How Botanical Illustration Changed the World

Jennifer Landin, PhD, Assistant Professor, North Carolina State University

Botany has an incredible, often-overlooked, influence in our daily lives and cultural history. Medicine, printing technology, exploration, education, and even religion were greatly transformed by botany and botanical illustration. Learn more as Dr. Landin discusses the importance of botanical illustrations in changing human society.

Tuesday, April 17, 6:30 pm Biology Auditorium, 101 Duckett Hall at The Citadel

Ethnobotanical thoughts on the Lowcountry

Dr. Karen Hall, Clemson Extension, Coordinator, SC Master Naturalist Program; Lecturer, Forestry and Natural Resources and Biological Sciences

Ethnobotany is the scientific study of how human cultures find meaning through plants, whether by direct use of plants or their understanding of how other plants fit in the context of the surrounding ecology (ethnoecology). Contextualizing science in this way can provide valuable insights into our relationship with nature that may help us change our actions upon it. This may be particularly valuable since the actions of humans are ever-reflected on landscapes. In the lowcountry region of South Carolina with its cultural milieu, these landscape changes, wrought through differing worldviews, have created the habitats in which increasing numbers of us now live. As we look toward our future, what lessons can we learn from these overlaps of nature and culture? In this talk, Dr. Hall will cover some of the basic ideas that ethnobotany brings to the table as well as some specific examples of plants particularly important to South Carolina.

Tuesday, May 15, 6:30 pm NOTE: Location TBD, This meeting will be our year-end get-together. Stay tuned for details...

How to evict an invasive plant off an island

Lori Sheridan Wilson, Environmental Program Director, Dewees Island Property Owner Association

Lori will discuss restoring the native plant community on Dewees Island through the treatment of the Chinese tallow tree. She will explain how Chinese tallow is negatively impacting Dewees Island, and what plant communities it threatens. She will also discuss how it is being removed, successes and failures, restoration and future projects.

FIELD TRIPS

Saturday, January 21, 9:00 am - 12 noon

Francis Beidler Forest Hike

We'll meet staff from Francis Beidler to learn about the management of the rare trillium population here which is being threatened by feral hogs. Then we'll walk the boardwalk to view the majestic cypress trees and songbirds in the ancient blackwater habitat. This is a great winter field trip. Learn more about the Francis Beidler Forest and find directions to the visitor center by visiting:

http://sc.audubon.org/Centers_FBF_Visitors_Directions.html Wear comfortable shoes and pack a lunch to enjoy after the tour. Meet on site at 9:00 am. Contact Lisa Lord for more information llord@tnc.org or 843-937-8807x13.

Saturday, February 25, 9:00 am - 12 noon

Dugannon Heritage Preserve

Tour Dugannon Heritage Preserve with SCDNR's Billy McCord. Dugannon Heritage Preserve is a 600+ acre section of the original Dugannon Plantation, containing large wood stork, egret and heron rookeries. A shell dike and new boardwalk allow visitors to view native plants including swamp dogwoods. Meet on site at 9:00 am. For directions and more information visit:

https://www.dnr.sc.gov/mlands/managedland?p_id=120 Wear comfortable shoes and pack a lunch to enjoy after the tour. Contact Lisa Lord for more information llord@tnc.org or 843-937-8807x13.

Saturday, March 17, Spring Plant Sale, Charles Towne Landing Parking Lot, 9 am - 12 noon.

Members can shop early at 8:30 am. (See details in box on front page.)

Saturday, April 21, 8:30 am - 12 noon

Francis Marion National Forest Botanical Hike

Spend a morning botanizing with your fellow NPS members in the Francis Marion. Field trip leader TBD. We'll meet at 8:15 am at the Sweetgrass Bi-Lo shopping center in Mount Pleasant at the intersection of Hwy 17 and IOP connector to carpool and depart by 8:30 am for the FMNF. Wear comfortable shoes, bring field guides, lunch, water, and bug spray. Contact Jeff Jackson for more details lowcountryroots@aol.com, (843) 478-5827.

Saturday, May 19, 8:45 am - 12 noon

Dewees Island - Must Register in advance

We will meet at the Dewees Marina on the Isle of Palms, 41st Ave. at 8:45 am. The ferry leaves at 9 am *sharp*. The drive to the marina is just after the fire station on the right. If you arrive at the Isle of Palms Marina you have gone too far. Once on Dewees the tour will be a combination of riding and walking with about one mile total of walking broken up throughout the day. Walking will be on designated paths, boardwalks and beach (no bushwhacking). Wear comfortable shoes, bring field guides, lunch, water,

and bug spray. Limited participation. Contact Jeff Jackson to register: lowcountryroots@aol.com, (843) 478-5827.

Lowcountry Chapter Officers and Committee Chairs

President	Lisa Lord	llord@tnc.org, 937-8807 ex 13
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