

SOUTH CAROLINA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

FALL 2015



LOWCOUNTRY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER, VOL. 18, Issue 1, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464

What a busy summer it has been, and I am thrilled to share with you our upcoming schedule of lectures and field trips. But first, I would like to take a moment to thank everyone who participated in the SCNPS Symposium in June. Our Symposium Committee (Eddie Bernard, Pat Campbell, Mary Conley, Suzi DeMerell, Robert Ellis, Jeff Jackson, and Jeff Kline) and volunteers did an amazing job pulling together a quality event. It was such a great experience to make new friends, learn new skills, and explore some of the beautiful places we are fortunate enough to have right at home.

I'd also like to put out a call for volunteers! We, your Board, have many needs and are anxious to recruit some more help. Specifically, we would like to find ways to get more of our members involved with the planning of lectures, field trips, and volunteer activities (such as the Magnolia Trail – see page 3). Don't hesitate to contact me or any of the other board members listed in this newsletter if you have ideas, suggestions, or a desire to lend a hand on a particular committee.

Finally, ***please note that our November meeting is going to be earlier than usual.*** We have the opportunity to partner with the Tri-County Master Gardeners to sponsor Andrea DeLong-Amaya, horticulturalist from the renowned Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center, to give a presentation in Charleston. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, November 3 at 6:30 pm in the Biology Auditorium (our usual meeting space) at the Citadel! Don't forget to check out our website at www.scnps.org (sign up for the email list on the homepage) and to "like" our Facebook page to stay up-to-date on events. I look forward to seeing you soon!

Katie Ellis
Lowcountry President

Fall Native Plant Sale!

Saturday, October 24, 9 am -12 noon
SCNPS Members can start shopping at 8:30!
Charles Towne Landing parking lot
1500 Old Towne Road, Charleston 29407

Come shop and get your fall planting started! We have a great selection of native plants with many hard-to-find species... colorful perennials, shrubs, trees, grasses, ferns and edibles. Cash, check, or credit card accepted. A plant list will be available before the sale on the SCNPS website. Admission to the plant sale is free. If you wish to explore Charles Towne Landing State Historic Site, please pay admission in the visitor center. For more information, contact Colette DeGarady at cdegarady@tnc.org, 937-8807 ext-15 or visit scnps.org.

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. 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!***

September 15: The Francis Marion National Forest's Draft Forest Plan

Mary Morrison, Forest Planner, US Forest Service

Mary Morrison has worked on the Francis Marion and Sumter National forests since 1992 and is currently the Forest Planner for the two national forests in SC. Come learn how the Forest Service plans to update the 1996 Forest Plan for the Francis Marion National Forest. Members of SCNPS are invited to preview the draft management plan and learn how to provide feedback. A copy of the draft plan and associated environmental impact statement is online at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/scnfs/> and includes objectives such as restoring and managing longleaf pine, suppressing and eradicating invasive plants and pests, and providing sustainable recreation opportunities.

October 20: Saving One of the Last Great Places – invasive species eradication and marsh migration in the ACE Basin

David Bishop, PhD, ACE Basin/Southern Lowcountry Project Director, SC Chapter of The Nature Conservancy
Phragmites australis (common reed) is a widespread wetland invader that displaces native plants and animals. The Nature Conservancy and other partners are working to prevent the spread of this invasive grass in the ACE Basin, where over 200,000 acres have been permanently protected. David Bishop will discuss the ACE Basin Task Force's strategy for detecting and controlling *Phragmites* and give his thoughts about marsh migration along our coastline in the face of climate change.

November 3 (Note earlier meeting date): Special Joint Lecture with Tri-County Master Gardeners

Andrea DeLong-Amaya, Director of Horticulture, Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center (Austin, TX)

Andrea DeLong-Amaya manages the center's gardens and greenhouses and is passionate about sharing the value of native plants in planned landscapes. A staff member since 1998, she taps into 20 years of experience to guide six horticulture staff in the design and management of the gardens and nursery. She teaches classes in native plant horticulture and has contributed articles on gardening to *Taunton's Fine Gardening*, *Rodale's Organic Gardening*, *Public Garden*, Neil Sperry's *Gardens* magazine and his electronic newsletter, *e-gardens*. She oversees the master plan for the Wildflower Center's gardens, currently focused on creating the 4.5-acre Luci Baines Johnson and Ian Turpin Family Garden, which incorporates environmentally sustainable landscaping approaches. Andrea received a bachelor's in geography from The University of Texas at Austin, served as a vice president for the Native Plant Society of Texas for two years and is currently the chair of the native plant section of the American Public Garden Association.

December 15: Holiday Party

Location TBD

We are searching for a location to host this year's holiday party. Please contact Katie Ellis at kathryn.k.ellis@gmail.com or 906-9916 if you would be interested in hosting or know of a potential location!

FIELD TRIPS

Saturday, September 19, 8:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Francis Marion National Forest Hike: Jeff Jackson will lead our expedition to a variety of “hot spots” in the forest in search of asters in bloom and butterflies galore! Meet at the Harris Teeter at 2035 Hwy 41 in Mt. Pleasant at 8:15 am for an 8:30 am departure. We will be caravanning to the sites. Plan to wear long pants and comfortable walking shoes, and bring any snacks, water, bug spray/sunscreen that you may require. There is no participant limit for this field trip; however, please RSVP to Jeff Jackson at lowcountryroots@aol.com, 478-5827 so we can have an accurate head count and your contact information.

Saturday, November 21, 1:30 – 3:00 PM

Tour of Laurel Hill Plantation: Come join naturalist Kristina Wheeler on a tour of this beautiful park site – one of the newer properties to be open to the public in the Charleston County Park (CCPRC) system! Laurel Hill is over 745 acres in total size and features an oak allée, large open meadows, a small lake, and miles of trails that wind through a variety of landscapes. As a result of our relationship with CCPRC, there is no fee for this trip; in exchange for our guided tour, CCPRC would like to explore ways for SCNPS to provide some expert knowledge about native plants for this site. More details to follow! Please note there are no restrooms and no motorized vehicles are allowed on site. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring any snacks, water, bug spray/sunscreen that you may require. Parking is available at the Park West Recreation Fields (trailhead for the Laurel Hill County Park) at 1251 Park West Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466. There is no participant limit for this field trip; however, please RSVP to Katie Ellis at kathryn.k.ellis@gmail.com, 906-9916 so we can have an accurate head count.

The Magnolia Swamp Trail Needs You!

The Lowcountry Chapter has established and maintained a nature trail in the Audubon Swamp at Magnolia Plantation for a number of years. This is a location where many rescue plants have been relocated and are thriving. We are looking to formalize our workdays on the trail to be more regularly scheduled and involve more volunteers. The **next volunteer work day is October 3**; please contact Jeff Jackson at lowcountryroots@aol.com, 478-5827 if you would like to help out.

Community Project Funding Opportunity

To support the use of native plants in the local landscape, the Lowcountry Chapter is accepting applications for its Community Project Grant Program. Community projects must be directed at protecting, preserving, restoring, and/or educating the public about native plants or plant communities in the Lowcountry of South Carolina. Individual award amounts will not exceed \$500. *The deadline for Fall 2015 submissions is October 1, with awards announced November 1.* Interested parties should contact Katie Ellis at kathryn.k.ellis@gmail.com or 906-9916 for application details.

Lowcountry Chapter Officers and Committee Chairs

President	Katie Ellis	kathryn.k.ellis@gmail.com, 906-9916
Programs	Eddie Bernard	EBernard@tompsc.com
Hospitality	Denise Creed	906-6956
Education	Jeff Jackson	lowcountryroots@aol.com, 478-5827
Education	Kim Counts Morganello	kcounts@clemson.edu
Publicity	Laura Moses	lauramoses@yahoo.com , 364-1976
Membership/Plant Sale	Colette DeGarady	cdegarady@tnc.org, 937-8807 ex 15



Lowcountry Chapter, SCNPS
1417 Stuart Engals Blvd., Suite 100
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464

