

SOUTH CAROLINA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

FALL 2018

LOWCOUNTRY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER, VOL. 21, Issue 1, Charleston, SC



Surviving the “dog days” of summer often requires a vacation to cooler climates, a swim at the beach, or time in the air conditioning with a good book! As you plan for cooler temperatures, we have an exciting fall lineup with opportunities to get involved and of course to experience and learn about native plant communities. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Sparked by legislation drafted by Audubon South Carolina, the resolution for South Carolina Native Plant Week was signed into law by Governor Henry McMaster in April 2018. This resolution recognizes the importance of native plants and permanently establishes the third week in October as Native Plant Week in South Carolina! In celebration of native plants, lectures, workshops, nature walks, plant sales and more will take place across South Carolina October 13-20. As a chapter, we will celebrate with our fall native plant sale; stay tuned for information on other events that week.

Please encourage a school or other worthy organization to apply for the SCNPS Community Project Grant. 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 \$1,000. **The deadline for Fall 2018 applications is September 22nd.** Please check <http://scnps.org/lowcountry-chapter-fund-community-projects> for application details.

Kim Morganello
Lowcountry President

Fall Native Plant Sale!

Saturday, October 20, 9 am - 12 noon

SCNPS Members can start shopping at 8:30! Volunteers can shop at 8:20!

**Charles Towne Landing parking lot
1500 Old Towne Road, Charleston 29407**

We will 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, or to volunteer, contact Eddie Bernard at edlbernard@aol.com or 843-270-1112 or visit scnps.org.

LECTURE SERIES

Unless noted otherwise, monthly meetings for our lecture series are held on the **third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm** at the **Biology Auditorium, 101 Duckett Hall, at The Citadel**. See map at <http://www.citadel.edu/root/visitor-parking> Yellow indicates visitor parking. Attendees may also park in the lot just below the Hagood Gate. ***Please join us after each lecture for a reception, including hors d'oeuvres and wine, plus native plant giveaways!***

September 18: Habitat Management in the Santee National Wildlife Refuge

Marcie Kapsch, Refuge Manager, Santee National Wildlife Refuge

The Santee National Wildlife Refuge has a variety of habitats on the four parcels that encompass it, including wetland complexes, mixed pine hardwood, longleaf, and open fields. Each unit is managed differently depending on the habitat it provides. Before and after photo documentation will showcase the management work the Refuge has accomplished over the last three years. Special emphasis will be placed on wetland impoundments for waterfowl and other wetland-dependent species.

October 16: The Decline of the Garden and the Rise of the Landscape

Kari Whitley, Plant Pathologist, Coastal Expeditions

Consumers are driven by low prices, uniformity and constant availability -- and the greenhouse, nursery and landscaping industries have responded to the demand. Kari will discuss how this determines what nurseries decide to grow each year and why native plants are hard to find in garden centers and box stores. With over 20 years in retail and wholesale ornamental plant production, Kari will share insights into what will need to happen to change this trend and how to expand the native plant market in our communities.

November 13: Lowcountry Land Trust

Ashley Demosthenes, President & CEO, Lowcountry Land Trust

This talk will focus on the work that the Land Trust does in protecting ecologically, agriculturally and historically significant lands across the Lowcountry. In addition, Ashley's presentation will feature the work of the Land Trust in protecting and restoring the local property that will be visited on the chapter's next field trip.

Friday-Sunday, October 5-7

SOUTH CAROLINA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SYMPOSIUM

"Bushes, Bugs & Birds"

Palm Key Nature Center, 330 Coosaw Way, Ridgeland, SC 29936

Hosted by the SCNPS South Coast Chapter, the 2018 Symposium will take place at the Palm Key Nature Center located in Ridgeland, SC. Palm Key has rooms/cottages available on a first-come, first-served basis. Call for reservations at 843-726-6524; make sure to say that you are attending the SCNPS Symposium. Conference registration for NPS members is \$125 (\$135 for general public) and includes meals, speakers, field trips and entertainment. **Registration deadline is October 1. Register online at scnps.org.**

Weekend schedule:

Friday night: social hour, Lowcountry boil, bonfire and music

Saturday breakfast: speaker Matt Johnson, Audubon SC

Lunch

Medicinal Plants workshop: Jan Haldeman

Field trips: Palm Key plant ecology, Altamaha Preserve, Spring Island Native Plant Garden

Dinner: speaker Vicky McMillan "Dragonflies"

Silent Auction, music and dancing

Sunday brunch and SCNPS business meeting

For more information, visit scnps.org or contact Victoria Bergesen at 843-812-6958 or victoriabergesen@gmail.com.

FIELD TRIPS

Friday, September 28, time TBD (Note: This month's field trip is on a Friday)

Walking Tour of Santee National Wildlife Refuge

Leader: Santee National Wildlife Refuge staff

Meet at the Visitor Center located at 2125 Fort Watson Road, Summerton, SC 29418. We will be touring the property with SNWF staff to help them develop a general plant species master list. They have previously had their rare plant species list completed, and would like to augment that with species that are more commonly found onsite. Wear comfortable walking clothes, and bring hat, binoculars, sunscreen, bug spray, water, and snacks. Contact Kim Morganello at kcounts@clemsun.edu to RSVP.

Saturday, October 20, 9 am – noon

Fall Native Plant Sale! Charles Towne Landing. See front page for details.

Saturday, November 17, time TBD

Exploring Keystone Tract, Francis Marion National Forest

Leader: Joel Gramling, The Citadel

We will be looking at the restored wetlands and pinelands of the Keystone Tract. These parcels represent the largest inholdings in the Francis Marion National Forest boundary and will be turned over to DNR and the USDA-Forest Service, respectively, once wetland mitigation activities have been completed. We will get an early look at the enhancements that have been made by the Boeing Company and discuss how far the tracts have come since restoration of the sites began in 2014.

Tuesday, December 11, Time & Location TBD

SCNPS Lowcountry Chapter Holiday Party

This event is sure to be a good time! Each year around the holidays, we gather as a chapter to share merriment, good cheer and, of course, delicious food! As the time nears, we will announce the event location and additional details. Stay tuned for updates on this and other events through our website, email, Facebook and postcards.

Saturday, September 22

NATIVE PLANT FORUM: "Bringing Nature to Our Own Backyard"

Co-hosted by SCNPS and Magnolia Plantation & Gardens

Magnolia Plantation & Gardens, 3550 Ashley River Road, Charleston, SC 29414

From understanding how man and nature shaped the Lowcountry landscape to learning how to achieve harmony within and beyond our garden gates, this event offers something for everyone.

- 9:00am Audubon Swamp Garden Guided Walk
- 10:00 am Harmony Within and Beyond Our Garden Gates, Mr. Hank Bruno
- 11:00 am Out of the Woods and into the Garden, Mr. Ernest Koone III
- Noon BREAK
- 1:00 pm John Bartram: Planting a Native Spirit in the Garden, Mr. Kirk Brown
- 2:00 pm A Garden for Life – Reclaiming our Natural Heritage, Dr. Patrick McMillan
- 3:00 pm Rediscovering the Lowcountry Landscape in the Footsteps of Our Forebears, Dr. Richard Porcher & Dr. Joel Gramling
- 4:00pm Audubon Swamp Garden Guided Walk

Free admission for current SCNPS members. The exhibit area will showcase produce and products from local farms, nurseries and businesses. Admission to the plant sale, produce sale and exhibitors is free to the public. Basic garden admission (\$20 adults, \$10 children 6-12) is required for the Native Plant Forum for non-NPS members. For additional information on this full-day learning opportunity, including lectures and nature walks, visit www.magnoliaplantation.com/nativeplant

Lowcountry Chapter Board Members

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