



## South Carolina Native Plant Society

### 2015 Symposium

*Felix C. Davis Community Center, North Charleston, SC June 12-14, 2015*

**Directions:** Take I-526 to Exit #19/North Rhett Avenue. Proceed south on N. Rhett Ave to 4800 Park Circle. Proceed  $\frac{3}{4}$  around the circle and the main entrance into the Davis Community Center is on the left. Mixson Bath and Racquet Club, 4401 McCarthy Street, North Charleston, SC 29405. From Park Circle, take the turn off to Durant Ave and proceed to turn right onto McCarthy Street.



### SYMPOSIUM AGENDA

FRIDAY, June 12 (6:00 – 9:00 PM)					
<b>Location:</b> Mixson Bath and Racquet Club, 4401 McCarthy Street, North Charleston, SC 29405					
6:00-9:00pm	<b>Opening Event:</b> Symposium Registration, Cocktails, and Food				
SATURDAY, June 13 (8:00 AM – 5:00 PM)					
<b>Location:</b> Davis Community Center, 4800 Park Circle, North Charleston, SC 29405					
8:00-9:00am	Registration – Coffee, Tea, Light Snacks				
9:00-9:30am	Welcome and Symposium Logistics: Jeff Kline, Moderator				
9:30-10:30am	Keynote Speaker: <i>Hawthorns of the Southeast</i> , Ron Lance				
10:30-10:45am	Break				
10:45-11:45 am	Keynote Speakers: <i>Lowcountry Potpourri</i> , Richard Porcher and Joel Gramling				
11:45am -1:30pm	Lunch and Business Meeting: Jeff Beacham, President South Carolina Native Plant Society Moderator (Box lunches provided if preregistered)				
1:30-4:30pm	Concurrent Sessions				
	LECTURES	WORKSHOPS		FIELD TRIPS	
	<i>Regional Innovation Cluster: Revitalizing the I-95 Corridor through Clean Energy &amp; Biotechnology</i> Russ Keller (1:30 – 2:00pm)	<i>Journeys in Indigo -</i> Arianne King-Comer (1:30-2:45pm)	<i>Plant Propagation -</i> Lynn Meffert and Jane Jabbour, Roots & Shoots Nursery (1:30 – 2:45pm)	<i>Revitalization Efforts in North Charleston</i> Jeff Jackson	<i>Urban Landscapes of the Upper Peninsula –</i> JR Kramer
	<i>The Last 100 Yards to the Ocean: How we are Influencing Coastal Dune Vegetation</i> Kelly Grant Purvis, Furman University (2:15 – 2:45pm)				
	<i>The Role of Native Herbs, Medicinal and Food Plants</i> Vaughan Spearman (3:00 – 3:30pm)	Sweetgrass Basket Weaving – Barbara McCormick, Desma McCormick and Audrey Manigault (3:00 – 4:15pm)	<i>Rainwater Harvesting 101 -</i> Kim Counts Morganello/Marty Morganello (3:00 – 4:15pm)		
<b>SATURDAY EVENING Reception (5:00 – 8:00 PM) Good Eats, Cash Bar, Silent Auction, <u>Good Times To Be Had By ALL</u></b>					
<b>Location:</b> Mixson Barn					

**FIELD TRIPS, SUNDAY, June 14**

Locations are trip specific

All trips meet at destinations – Length of trips variable (most 2-3 hours) - Maps will be provided at conference

All trips meet at 10am

<b>FT1</b>	<i>FT1 Capers Island Boat Trip (\$25.00 Fee): Jeff Kline (Limit 35)</i>
<b>FT2</b>	<i>Sullivan's Island Accreted Lands Tour: Jeff Jackson (Limit 30)</i>
<b>FT3</b>	<i>Caw Caw County Park Tour: Shawn Halifax (Limit 20)</i>
<b>FT4</b>	<i>Cypress Gardens Walk : Matt Horry (Limit 20)</i>
<b>FT5</b>	<i>Magnolia Native Plant Trail and Rookery: Ron Lance and Pat Campbell (Limit 20)</i>
<b>FT6</b>	<i>Francis Marion National Forest Butterfly Walk – Dennis Forsythe (Limit 20)</i>
<b>FT7</b>	<i>Bonneau Ferry Walk – Richard Porcher and Joel Gramling (Limit 25)</i>
<b>FT8</b>	<i>Edible plant walk at Tibwin (McClellanville) - Vaughn Spearman (Limit 20)</i>

## **Saturday Field Trips**

### **Revitalization Efforts in North Charleston**

Guide: Jeff Jackson

Location: Park Circle

Jeff will lead a bus/walking tour thru three new or revitalized areas of the neighborhood. Oak Terrace Preserve is a new very 'green' neighborhood that incorporates natives both in residential landscapes and functioning areas, such as screens and bio-swales. The Montague Avenue Streetscape shows how native plants can be used in a pedestrian-oriented setting. We will see successes as well as a few failures and see where it's headed. Finally we will visit the new Waterfront Park, a beautiful setting on the Cooper River that allows long-denied waterfront access to North Charleston residents. Oak Terrace Preserve is developing its 55-acre site into a destination that will accommodate around 370 residences, and make it one of the finest sustainable communities in Charleston.

It's simple, really. We believe that, by remaining true to our conviction, preserving our natural beauty and developing a strong sense of community through revolutionary design, we will create the finest community-oriented sustainable community in the Charleston area.

More specifically, we will continue to protect and nurture our designated green spaces, beautiful parks and hundreds of elegant oak trees, so that our residents will always have a lovely view out their windows. Rear alleys will give homeowners easy access to their homes, and the front streets will remain pedestrian and biker friendly. Rain gardens and natural bio-swales will control rainwater runoff, while cleaning out harmful contaminants. Sidewalks, lot sizes and front porches will, once again, make "neighbor" a part of the neighborhood and inspire a strong sense of community. By continuing to require that all our homes be Earthcraft certified, we will ensure unrivaled durability, efficiency and comfort for many years to come.

### **Urban Landscapes of the Charleston Upper Peninsula**

Guide: J. R. Kramer

This is a survey of Charleston's upper areas and what culturally is happening to our urban natural designs. At the Half Mile North Project JR will show how natives are being used in this rapidly developing urban setting located in one of Charleston's hottest revitalization areas.

## **Sunday Field Trips:** (Maps and directions will be in packets and available at the conference)

**FT1: Barrier Island EcoTour: Capers Island** (35 Participants), 10:00 am

Guide: Jeff Kline

Location: Isle of Palms Marina (plan to arrive no later than 9:45 am)

Capers Island is a classic, undeveloped barrier island located about 15 miles north of Charleston between Dewees Island and the Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge. The island lies about three miles from the mainland, is approximately three miles in length, and only accessible by boat. It encompasses 850 acres of maritime uplands, 214 acres of front beach, 1,090 acres of salt marsh, and over 100 acres of brackish water impoundments.

**"Bone-yard Beach"** One of the most fascinating features of Capers Island is its front beach known as the "bone-yard". Its name is due to the old tree skeletons and stumps left as a result of erosion and bleaching by the sun. Capers has been eroding an average of 15 feet per year since 1875. Visitors can stroll in and out of this sculpture garden of weathered trees which goes on for about 3 miles. Walking the front beach of Capers gives visitors a feel for what our barrier islands looked like before beachfront houses and condos arrived. Capers "bone-yard beach" is a favorite place for photographers, beach combers, or someone looking to experience a truly amazing natural creation.

**Wildlife.** The Island contains diverse habitats supporting abundant wildlife. Visitors may observe alligators, white-tailed deer, raccoons, and loggerhead sea turtles. The McCaskill Trail, which starts at the dock on the south end of the island, provides great access for serious birders and casual hikers alike. Birds, such as herons, egrets, ibises, bitterns, and various waterfowl species are common in the brackish impoundment adjacent to the trail. Each year ospreys nest on Capers near the front beach. It has become common to see bald eagles soaring over the island in recent years. The

creeks and marshes adjacent to Capers are alive with oysters, shrimp, clams, crabs and many species of fish such as sea trout, red drum, flounder, black drum, king whiting, spot, pompano, and croaker.

**FT 2: Sullivan's Island Accreted Land**, (30 participants), 10 am

Guide: Jeff Jackson

Get an insider's point-of-view into this 200+ acre piece of prime ocean-front habitat. Jeff has worked with the town for 20 years on issues involving this Lowcountry Open Land Trust property. Enjoy a walk along the new nature trail, with its angular boardwalks recalling the architecture of centuries of forts as well as the lighthouse. See just what 50+ years of maritime succession looks like, and how the native plants in this area play a vital role in the migrations of songbirds and butterflies as well as supporting yearlong wildlife residents. Tour the land that has accreted along the shoreline of this historic island and enjoy its beauty and how the town is handling the issues of managing an area for its people, the beach, the animal life, and flora using these new natural areas. Explore how plant biomes have evolved in these newly created areas.

**FT 3: Caw Caw County Park Tour** (20 participants), 10am

Guide: Shawn Halifax

Location: CawCaw Interpretive Center, 5200 Savannah Hwy, Ravenel, SC, 29470

Caw Caw Interpretive Center is a natural and cultural history preserve made up of parts of several former inland rice plantations. In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century it was the site of a tea farm established by the American Tea Growing Company. A visit to Caw Caw reveals how humans, for centuries, have influenced their environment and how their environment has influenced them. Nowhere is this more evident than in the former rice fields, managed today for wildlife, and the parts of the forest understory dominated by a monoculture of *Camellia sinensis*.

**FT 4: Cypress Gardens Walk** (20 participants), 10:00 am

Guide: Matt Horry, Cypress Gardens' Naturalist

Location: 3030 Cypress Gardens Road, Moncks Corner, SC, 29461

Beautiful Cypress Gardens has been a preferred destination since 1931, and also a featured location in numerous national magazines, television, shows, and movies (The Notebook and The Patriot). The Main Path is located on dikes that surround the old reservoir for rice farming that took place on Dean Hall Plantation. The path has an interesting mix of horticultural varieties/ landscaped plants mixed with the naturally occurring flora. The path generally has swamp on one side and bottomland hardwood forests on the other. This combination of habitats contains many species commonly found in swamps and acidic pine habitats. The species include the native ferns, atamasco lilies, ladies' tresses orchids, and both cypress and tupelo trees. There are also excellent examples of aquatic plant species such as the fragrant water lily, frog's bit, mosquito fern, floating liverwort, and bladderwort.

The Northern Nature trail includes a combination of swamp, bottomland hardwood and pine forests. This combination of habitats exhibits an interesting variety of species including the native cane, sweetleaf, and devils' walking stick.

**FT 5: Magnolia Plantation Native Plant Trail & Rookery**, (20 participants), 10am

Guides: Pat Campbell and Ron Lance

Location: Magnolia Plantation, 3550 Ashley River Rd., Charleston, 29414.

One of the South's finest Plantations and Romantic gardens. Founded in 1676 by the Drayton family, it is now the oldest public garden in America. Explore these historical gardens where history and botany mix so well. We will explore Magnolia Plantation's Audubon Swamp Garden, boardwalk, rookery and our adopted native plant trail.

**FT 6: Francis Marion National Forest Butterfly Walk, (20 participants), 10 am**

Guide: Dennis Forsythe

Location: Francis Marion Ranger Station (2967 Steed Creek Road, Huger, SC, 29450).

Explore with Dr. Forsythe, who combines 50 years of experience with native plants, butterflies and birding. The Francis Marion speaks for itself with a well managed savannah pine forest with multiple interesting and varied habitats. Francis Marion is a national forest under construction, and the contractor is Mother Nature. On September 21, 1989, Hurricane Hugo's 135-mile-per-hour winds pummeled the forest. Most young trees survived the devastation, and today, visitors can witness nature's fascinating rebuilding process. This verdant 250,000-acre forest boasts a rich variety of wildlife habitat and offers excellent opportunities for bird-watching, nature study, photography, fishing, and of course, botanizing. Otters, beavers, coyotes, bobcats, black bears, and possibly even panthers make their home in Francis Marion.

**FT 7: Bonneau Ferry (25 participants), 10 am**

Guides: Richard Porcher and Joel Gramling

Location: Comingtee Plantation, Bonneau Ferry, SC.

Come to the historic Comingtee Plantation on the Cooper River in Monks Corner, SC. Botanize with our two Citadel botany professors, past and present, although Dr. Porcher is hardly past. Dr. Porcher is coauthor of the book, The Guide to Wildflowers of South Carolina. They promise to find common and rare plants alike, and of course, entertain you with discussions on all varieties of topics on our natural world.

**FT8: Edible Plant Walk at Tibwin (Limit 20), 10am**

Guides: Vaughn Spearman

Location: McCellanville, TBD

Vaughn is a stewardship forester with the SC Forestry Commission. He will lead an edible plant walk and discuss wild edible plants and their uses. Some of the plants he points out are probably naturalized, but munchy never the less!

**Unitarian Church Forum: *Permaculture: Design for a Permanent Culture*, 10:00**

Speakers: Chris Carnevale and Nick Tittle

Location: Gage Hall, 4 Archdale Street, Charleston, SC, 29401.

Permaculture is a system for designing maximally productive landscapes that provide for the needs of people while benefiting wildlife and the environment. This presentation will talk about what permaculture is and how you can benefit from using it. **This is not part of our symposium, but is available and local. Free and open to public.**

## **BIOS:**



**Ron Lance** is a Biologist and Land Manager with the North American Land Trust, stationed at Big Ridge, near Glenville, NC. He has served previous posts in biology, natural history interpretation, education, forestry and horticulture since 1975. Author and contributing author to 17 publications of native plants of the Southeastern U.S., his most recent book is a self-published guide to the hawthorns of this region, over 20 years in preparation. Ron also served on the Board of the International Oak Society for 12 years, including stints as President, Secretary, Journal Editor and Conference Chair.



**Dr. Richard D. Porcher**, a native of Berkeley County, South Carolina, is Professor of Biology at the Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina. Dr. Porcher is a scholar, educator, and conservationist. Dr. Porcher holds M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in biology from the University of South Carolina. He is the author of Guide to the Wildflowers of South Carolina and has written numerous articles on the rice culture, Sea Island cotton, and flora of the Lowcountry. Dr. Porcher is a renowned conservationist that uses his knowledge to influence regional environmental policies. He was the recipient of the 2007 SC Environmentalist of the Year Award, and has mentored many prominent south-eastern naturalists



**Dr. Joel Gramling** is an Associate Professor of Plant Ecology and Evolution. His research projects include a study on the effects of Laurel Wilt Disease on plant communities in the coastal Carolinas, an evaluation of species richness across South Carolina's marsh islands, and work to monitor the status of invasive and rare plant species in South Carolina. He is the advisor for the Master's of Arts in Teaching in Biology Program at The Citadel. Dr. Gramling has been the Chair of the Southeastern Chapter of the Ecological Society of America since 2008 and hosts the Lowcountry Chapter of the SC Native Plant Society at The Citadel. Dr. Gramling works in conjunction with the Carolina Vegetation Survey to plan weeklong plant surveys in South Carolina each summer.

**Russ Keller** is a Senior Vice President at South Carolina Research Authority (SCRA), where he leads the company's Energy, Security and Software Solutions division. His responsibilities also include managing the South Carolina – Israel Industry R&D Program on behalf of the South Carolina Department of Commerce. Prior to joining SCRA in 2005 Russ spent 26 years in the US Navy, a career that included command of a nuclear-powered fast attack submarine and culminated in command of the Naval Nuclear Power Training Command here in Charleston. Russ holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the United States Naval Academy, a Masters in Public Administration from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, and Diversity Leader certification from Furman University's Richard W. Riley Institute of Government, Politics, and Public Leadership.

**Kelly Grant Purvis** received a Bachelor's of Fine Arts from the Ohio State University in 2001, giving her a foundation in art. After graduation, she ventured into the world of sustainable architecture and green building. This experience created an interest not only in the elements of the built environment, but also in the ecological side of urban planning and developed landscapes. Kelly Grant pursued a Master's degree at the College of Charleston focusing on the relationship between the built environment and the natural elements within that landscape. During her time at graduate school, she looked in depth at the impact of beachfront development on coastal dune vegetation. She is currently working at the David E. Shi Center for Sustainability at Furman University in Greenville, SC where she works with students, faculty, staff and the local community to educate and inform on a wide variety of issues related to sustainability.

**Vaughan Spearman** Vaughn is a stewardship forester with the SC Forestry Commission. He is very knowledgeable about forestry and wild plants (both native and naturalized). He leads edible plant walks, bike rides, and paddles, and has an encyclopedic knowledge of wild plants and their uses.

**Matt Horry** was born in the Beaufort area of the Low country. After recognizing a love for the outdoors and nature, he went on to study Biology at the College of Charleston. While at the College of Charleston he earned a B.S. in Biology and a M.S. in Environmental Studies. During his graduate career, he worked at the Vegetable Laboratory for the USDA for three years. After completing grad school, he took the job of Naturalist at Cypress Gardens where he continues to expand his botanical and ecological knowledge.

**J.R. Kramer** and his wife Holly, both registered landscape architects, have practiced in the Charleston area since 1999. They founded Remark, a landscape Architecture Studio, in 2007. They use almost 100% native plants in their “aesthetic ecology” approach to landscape architecture.

**Jeff Jackson** Jeff Jackson is a locally raised landscape designer and environmental consultant. He has been designing for 34 years and has leaned heavily towards the natives for over half of that time. He has been active with the SCNPS for about 10 years, serving on both the Lowcountry Chapter and State Boards.

**Shawn Halifax**, Cultural History Interpretive Coordinator. Shawn has over 20 years’ experience as a professional interpreter of natural and cultural history. He has worked in various capacities for Charleston County Parks, serving as Coordinator of Natural and Cultural History Interpretation, Caw Caw Interpretive Center Manager, and now in his current capacity as Cultural History Interpretive Coordinator.

**Barbara M. McCormick** was born in Charleston, SC. She was raised in Mount Pleasant, SC where she learned the trade of sweetgrass basket weaving from her grandmother, mother, aunts, and other family members at a very early age. She has carried on this tradition and has shared her talent with her family members and many others across the United States. Barbara teaches several classes and has her work displayed in Row Upon Row, a book about sweetgrass basket weaving. She currently resides in McClellanville, SC along with her husband, Herndin, and is the loving mother of four children and six grandchildren.

**Lynn Meffert, Jane Jabbour** These two are one of our go to people for obtaining native plants. They are quite active locally with native plants and are very knowledgeable in their needs and propagation

**Kimberly Counts Morganello** is a Water Resources Extension Agent, working for Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service and the Carolina Clear Program. In this role Kim co-coordinates the Ashley Cooper Storm Water Education Consortium, a regional scale approach to providing storm water education and public involvement opportunities pertinent to watershed stewardship. Kim’s area of focus includes environmental horticulture practices, residential scale storm water best management practices, rain garden design and installation, and rainwater harvesting. Kim is a certified accredited professional with the American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association and serves on the lowcountry boards of the Native Plant Association and Surfrider Foundation.



**Marty Morganello** is the owner of Low country Rain Harvesting, LLC, a rainwater catchment systems design and installation contractor based in Charleston, SC. Marty is an accredited professional through the American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association (ARCSA) and serves on its international board. Marty is past President of the Charleston Chapter of Surfrider Foundation and still remains active on the local board as the Blue Water Task Force coordinator.

**Arienne King-Comer**, a BFA graduate of Howard University, has been an Artist in Residence in the state of South Carolina since 1995. She is a textile artist creating her work in paintings, wearable art, installation art, environmental art, home deco, as well as social justice. In 1992, Arienne received the UN/USIS grant to study under the renowned Batik artist Nike Olyani Davis in Oshogbo, Nigeria, where her passion for indigo manifested. She has been featured in several television documentaries and magazine articles. Her work is part of traveling exhibits nationally and statewide, in addition to solo exhibits across the southeast.

**Dr. Dennis M. Forsythe** received a B.S. in Zoology from Ohio University, an M.S. in Zoology from Utah State University, and a PhD in Zoology from Clemson University. His professional interests include: bird songs, pelagic and terrestrial bird communities. He is the author of numerous scientific papers and belongs to a variety of scientific societies. From 1969 through 2005, Dr. Forsythe was a Professor of Biology at The Citadel, Charleston, SC. Since retired, he has been active in increasing people's interest in birding and butterflies. He is South Carolina Reviewer for the Great Backyard Bird Count and Ebirds. Since 1999 he has been interested in butterflies, and with colleagues from the College of Charleston, has worked on the status and distribution on SC butterflies. He has participated in butterfly counts in MI, OH, GA and SC, and has lead butterfly walks for different organizations. He is also quite knowledgeable with all our native plants and their interaction with our winged friends.