

The Lesser Squawk
The Charleston Natural History Society
PO Box 504
Charleston, SC 29402

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The Charleston Natural History Society is a nonprofit environmental organization and chapter of the National Audubon Society that actively promotes awareness, appreciation and conservation of the natural environment through educational programs, field trips, conservation projects, sponsored research and social activities.



Sightings by Bob Chinn

Bob Chinn - a merlin on Dorchester Rd Nov. 16.
Wesley Leitch - Wood storks all of the time at his home at the junction of the Leadenwah Creek and N. Edisto River. However, on Nov. 4, he observed two wood storks feeding in the pond at the municipal golf course on Maybank Hwy, with all of the traffic passing within a few feet! Report rare or unusual sightings in the Charleston area to Bob Chinn, Tel. 552-7884 or e-mail rchinn@cchat.com



Mark Your Calendars

Here is a schedule of upcoming events:

Feb. 8 - Jim Elliott, SC Center for Birds of Prey, will be our speaker.

Feb. 26 - Burton Moore will lead an outing to Medway Plantation.

March 14 - Dr. Richard Porcher will speak on flora of Native American shell deposits.

March 18 - Moonlight Walk at Beidler Forest.

April 10 - Daniel Edelstein will teach us about the songs and habits of wood warblers. **Note change in date: second Monday instead of Tuesday.**

Give Gift Membership

CNHS and National Audubon Society
for one low price: First Time Members:
Regular- \$20 Sr. Citizens/Students -\$15

Name _____

Address _____

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Mail to: National Audubon Society,
Membership Data Center, PO Box 51003,
Boulder, CO 80323-1003

Make checks payable to National Audubon Society
Write Chapter Code U-51 on your check.



The Lesser Squawk

Newsletter of the Charleston Natural History Society / local chapter of The National Audubon Society

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December 1999 / January 2000

Come to Green Holiday Party Dec. 11th

Join us on Dec. 11 when the Charleston Natural History Society will be one of nine environmental groups celebrating the holidays with a potluck supper at the Fish Fry Shack on Sullivan's Island.

Last year's party was a huge success, and this year's should be even better. The family party begins at 6 pm. Enjoy free beer, wine, soft drinks, music and drawings for all



sorts of donated items. Children are welcome. All you need to do is bring a



dish of some kind plus your own plate, glass and fork. Last year there was a varied feast of delicious dishes. Here are the directions: Take the Ben Sawyer bridge to the island; turn right onto Middle Street at the Stop sign, and

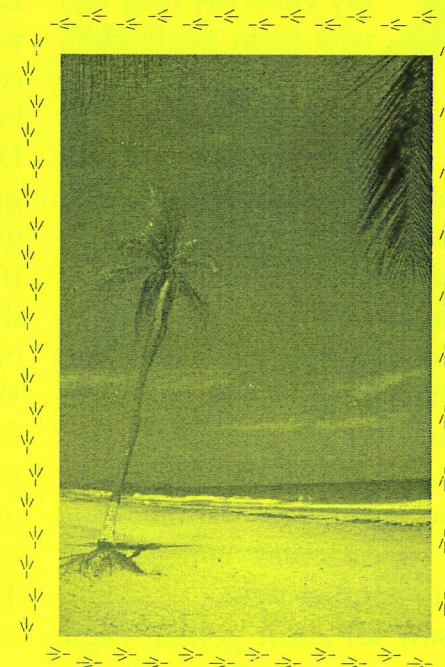
drive about a mile. The Fish Fry Shack is on the left before you get to Ft. Moultrie.



Other participating groups are the Charleston Bicycle Advocacy Group, Earth Force, Lowcountry Open Land Trust, Sierra Club, Native Plant Society, Sewee Center, SC Center for Birds of Prey and SC Coastal Conservation League.

Huntington Beach State Park Outing December 4th

Biologist/board member Julian Harrison will lead an all-day outing to Huntington Beach State Park, Saturday, Dec. 4. Meet at 6:15 am at the Lowe's parking lot in Mt. Pleasant. Look for gray Trooper parked near Hwy. 17. Entrance fees: adults-\$4; children (6-12)-\$2; SC Senior citizens-free. We may see Lapland longspurs. Questions? Call Julian at 795-1694.



Participate in Christmas Bird Counts



Dec. 18 - Charleston, call Ed Blitch, 795-5277

Dec. 28 - McClellanville, call Perry Nugent, 556-3841.

Dec. 30 - Litchfield/Pawleys Island, call Jack Peachey, 843-347-5810 or Tonya Spires, 843-397-0384

Jan. 2—Ace Basin, call David Chamberlain at 884-0019

Jan. 2 - Santee, call Lex Glover at 803-438-9855



Happy Millennium from the President

Happy Year 2000! That said, we have a lot of work to do to preserve our quality of life in the next century.

Of utmost importance is stopping construction of the proposed Daniel Island Marine Cargo Terminal.

The hearing Nov. 17 lasted well into the night. The turnout was strongly in opposition but, as you may have noticed, a majority of the letters in the Post and Courier seem to favor the project.

I urge everyone to write a letter opposing the project to the Post and Courier, 134 Columbus St, Charleston 29403-4800 or another newspaper in your area. Call radio talk shows.

SC Archeology At Jan. Meeting

Dr. Albert C. Goodyear, archeologist with the SC Institute of Archeology and Anthropology and director of the Allendale Paleoindian Expedition will speak on Jan. 11 on recent discoveries of Pre-Clovis (pre 11,500 B.P.) archeological remains on the Savannah River in Allendale County. Dr. Goodyear will show slides of the excavation, geology and artifacts. Program at 7 pm; wine reception at 6:30 pm.

Display bumper stickers we'll have available at our January meeting. Write your representatives not to appropriate any funds for the project. Send specific comments on the inadequacies of the draft environmental impact statement to the US Army Corps of Engineers and other permitting agencies. **The deadline is Jan. 14.** The

Backyard Birder by Van Atkins

This past month has been a slow month around my feeders. With the cooler weather I have white breasted nuthatches, yellow-throated warblers, chipping sparrows and yellow rumped warblers in my yard. My only call was from Scott Hall, who saw 29 Canadian geese on a pond at Bishop Gadsen where

he has recently moved. The geese stayed two days. My wife Wynema and I were at Donnelly WMA at Green Pond a couple of weeks ago and had the pleasure of watching and taking pictures of five Sand Hill cranes feeding in one of the agriculture fields. They were spectacular when they flew to another field. We saw an adult golden eagle flying overhead. Through my

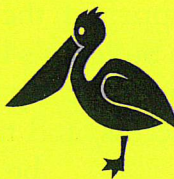
impact statement is on file in local libraries and on the corps' website: www.sac.usace.army.mil. Or contact the corps for a CD-Rom of the impact statement. If you cannot send specific comments, send general comments. All the names and addresses of officials and agencies are listed on the enclosed insert.

scope, I watched it soar around for five minutes. From there we went to Bear Island WMA to see if the white pelicans were still there. We

lucked out and found 27 of them feeding on Mary Pound. Each year we get one or two white pelicans in the Low-country. This year there have been up to 35 going between Donnelly and Bear Island. It is great to see them flying so gracefully in formation.

If you don't know, here's the difference in the feeding habits of white and brown pelicans. While the brown dives for its food, the white swims around in a group, herds bait fish together, encircles them and scoops them up.

Time to put out suet. Call with sightings: 766-7000 or e-mail vatkings@awod.com.



Santee National Wildlife Refuge Outing January. 15

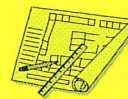


Joe Cockrell, biologist/board member, will lead an outing to the Santee National Wildlife Refuge on Saturday, Jan. 15. Meet at the parking lot of the Summerville Walmart at 6:45 a.m. Bring lunch.

We'll see wintering waterfowl and maybe tundra swans.



Survey Results by Laura Jewell



Thanks very much to members who returned the survey. Of the 1000+ members of the Charleston Natural History Society/Audubon chapter, 64 (3.2%) returned the surveys enclosed in the newsletter. Although this is a very low percentage of all members, these individuals represent, by and large, a core group of interested nature-lovers.

The vast majority of you want no change in the current day and time of meetings. Many of you generously volunteered for various projects, the most popular being booth tending at a fair or other event, trail clearing/construction, and leading outings/hikes. Program coordinators should be calling you soon to discuss these volunteering opportunities. If you did not return a survey but would like to volunteer for, or suggest, any projects, please call Cornelia Carrier Gibbs at 577-6437. Respondents were most interested in outings which involve hiking and canoeing and were accepting of fees and RSVP requirements when necessary.

The meeting program topics

which you most enthusiastically support are naturalists, birds, animal experts, and birdsong identification. Newsletter articles most interesting to members seem to be those discussing local environmental issues and birds.

The Board has recently rekindled the Conservation Committee. One survey question asked members to guide the committee's energies by indicating environmental issues of highest concern. The responses included, in descending order, land use, local/state issues, wildlife/endangered species, pollution, Southeast regional issues, and national issues. Other issues mentioned by respondents were global population, wetlands, land privatization, water consumption, native plant landscaping, habitat preservation, clear-cutting, urban sprawl, and public transportation. The Conservation Committee will focus its efforts on these relevant issues. Likewise, the board will try to adjust chapter events in alignment with respondents' preferences.

McAlhany Open House Changes

The December open house will be Dec. 19th on the usual third Sunday of the month. Jeff Dennis will lead a birding walk along Cattle Creek. There will be no open house in January. Beginning in February, the open house will be on the **first Sunday of the month**, so plan to join Jeff on

Feb. 6, 2000. Directions: take Hwy. 61 to Cannadys Crossroads and turn right onto Hwy. 15.

When you reach the small community of Grover, take the first left onto Wire Rd. Go over I-95 and across a small creek. Then look for our sign on the left side of the road. The trip takes a little more than an hour. Questions? Call Jeff at 577-8890.



VISIT OUR WEBPAGE
www.audubon.org/chapter/sc/charleston
contact Webmaster Bob Chinn
843-552-7884
rchinn@cchat.com



WRITE YOUR LEGISLATORS, PERMITTING AGENCIES, CITY & TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS!!

Charleston County Legislative Delegation - Voter Registration office 744-8683 Hours 8:30AM - 5PM

Dist	H/S	Name	Address	Phone	E-mail
34	S	Arthur Ravenel	635 East Bay St. Chas. 29403	722-0174	ar@legis.lptir.state.sc.us
37	S	Larry Grooms	P.O. Box 355 Bonneau, SC 29431	825-4671	lkg@legis.lptir.state.sc.us
38	S	William Branton	P.O. Box 50757 Summerville 29485	871-3420	608@legis.lptir.state.sc.us
41	S	Glenn McConnell	1535 Sam RittenbergChas. 29407	722-0174	sru@legis.lptir.state.sc.us
42	S	Robert Ford	P.O. Box 21302 Chas. 29413	852-0777	rif@legis.lptir.state.sc.us
43	S	Ernest Passailaigue	P.O. Box 299 Chas. 29402	881-6645	elp@legis.lptir.state.sc.us
44	S	William Mescher	P.O.Box 1 Pinopolis 294691	899-6531	wcm@legis.lptir.state.sc.us
45	S	McKinley Washington	Box 247 Ravenel 29470	869-2300	maw@legis.lptir.state.sc.us
94	H	Converse Chellis	P.O. Box 927 Summerville 29484	873-8850	cac@legis.lptir.state.sc.us
109	H	David Mack	5154 Marseilles Dr. N.Chas 29418	723-5989	djm@legis.lptir.state.sc.us
110	H	Chip Limehouse	8 Cumberland St. Chas. 29401	577-6242	hbl@legis.lptir.state.sc.us
111	H	Floyd Breeland	105 Moultrie St. Chas. 29403	722-1878	fb@legis.lptir.state.sc.us
112	H	Chip Campsen	205 King St. Chas. 29401	722-0123	gcc@legis.lptir.state.sc.us
113	H	Mickey Whatley	P.O. Box 62739 Chas. 29419	958-4250	msw@legis.lptir.state.sc.us
114	H	Robert Harrell	8316 Rivers Ave. Chas. 29406	572-1500	rwh@legis.lptir.state.sc.us
115	H	Lynn Seithel	980 Travers Dr. Chas 29412	734-2948	mls@legis.lptir.state.sc.us
116	H	Curtis Inabinett	P.O. Box 279 Ravenel 29470	571-0220	cbi@legis.lptir.state.sc.us
117	H	Thomas Dantzler	208 Middleton Dr. G Creek 29445	797-8449	tmd@legis.lptir.state.sc.us
118	H	Seth Whipper	P.O. Box 70070 N. Chas. 29405	740-7777	agw@legis.lptir.state.sc.us
119	H	John Altman	1292 Yeaman Hall Hanahan 29211	747-6461	none yet

SPA Daniel Island Marine Cargo Terminal Proposal - State & Federal Permitting Agencies

Agency	Name of Contact	Address	Phone	Issue to address
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Tina Hadden	PO Box 919 Charleston, SC 29402	746-2722	All aspects of the DEIS, dredging,
U.S. Coast Guard 7th Coast Guard District	Gary Pruitt	909 SE First Avenue Brickell Plaza Federal Bldg., Miami, FL 33131	727-5335	Bridges over Beresford Creek
U.S. Forest Service	Don Kinerson	Francis Marion & Sumter National Forests 4931 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29212	727-4271	Impacts to Francis Marion Forest
DHEC-Office of Env. Quality	Rhetta Geddings	Water Quality Certification & Wetlands Program 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201	803-898-4229	Impacts to water quality, bridges, and other aspects
DHEC-Office of Ocean & Coastal Resource Management	Curtis Joyner Rob Mikell	1362 McMillan Avenue, Suite 400 Charleston 29201	744-5838	Impact to water quality, bridges, and other aspects

THE BEST FORM OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IS WRITTEN COMMENT. ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO DO THE SAME!!

Proposed Daniel Island Marine Cargo Terminal

WRITE YOUR LEGISLATORS, PERMITTING AGENCIES, CITY & TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS!!

Listed below are the House (H) and Senate (S) delegations for Berkeley, Charleston, and Dorchester Counties. Please use the fact sheet provided on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement to formulate your own letter. Also, listed are the five permitting agencies. We encourage you to copy all letters to legislators, city & town councils, and permitting agencies. Letters via the postal service are the best form of public comment. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** A number of house and senate members have opted to suspend or change their E- Mail services from June 5, 1999 until January 11, 2000. E-mail sent to a closed E-mail box will automatically be returned to the sender. Check this web site: www.lpitir.state.sc.us/homepage.htm for the most up to date contact information. To determine who are your legislators, phone the county voter registration office. If no area code is listed for phone in the tables below, it is (843).

Berkeley County Legislative Delegation - Voter Registration office 723-3800 ext. 4056 Hours 9AM-5PM

Dist	H/S	Name	Address	Phone	E-mail
37	S	Larry Grooms	P. O. Box 355 Bonneau,SC 29431	825-4671	lkg@legis.lpitir.state.sc.us
38	S	William Branton	P.O. Box 50757 Summerville 29485	871-3420	608@legis.lpitir.state.sc.us
43	S	Ernest Passailaigue	P.O. Box 299 Charleston 29402	881-6645	elp@legis.lpitir.state.sc.us
44	S	William Mescher	P.O. Box 1 Pinopolis 29469l	899-6531	wcm@legis.lpitir.state.sc.us
92	H	Shirley Hinson	106 Kenton Place Goose Creek 29445	572-1722	srh@legis.lpitir.state.sc.us
99	H	Henry Brown	1035 Dominion Dr Hanahan 29406	747-5802	hwn@legis.lpitir.state.sc.us
100	H	James Law	105 Law Lane Moncks Corner 29461	761-8345	jnl@legis.lpitir.state.sc.us
102	H	Amos Gourdine	P.O. Box 26 Pineville 29468	567-3670	alg@legis.lpitir.state.sc.us
117	H	Thomas Dantzler	208 Middleton Dr Goose Cr 29445	797-8449	tmd@legis.lpitir.state.sc.us

Dorchester County Legislative Delegation - Voter Registration office 832-0132 Hours 8:30AM - 5PM

Dist	H/S	Name	Address	Phone	E-mail
37	S	Larry Grooms	P.O. Box 355, Bonneau, SC 29431	825-4671	lkg@legis.lpitir.state.sc.us
38	S	William Branton	P.O. Box 50757, Summerville 29485.	871-3420	608@legis.lpitir.state.sc.us
39	S	John Mathews	P.O.Box 142, Columbia, SC 29202-0142	803-212-6056	
41	S	Glenn McConnell	1535 Sam Rittenberg Chas. 29407	722-0174	sru@legis.lpitir.state.sc.us
66	H	Gilda Cobb-Hunter	P.O. Box 11867, Columbia, SC 29211-1867	803-734-2809	
94	H	Converse Chellis	P.O. Box 927 Summerville 29484	873-8850	cac@legis.lpitir.state.sc.us
97	H	George Bailey	P.O. Box 11867, Columbia, SC 29211-1867	803-734-2953	
98	H	Annette Young-Brickell	P.O. Box 11867, Columbia, SC 29211-1867	803-734-2949	
114	H	Robert Harrell	8316 Rivers Ave. Chas. 29406	572-1500	rwh@legis.lpitir.state.sc.us

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