Captain's Corner

Greetings from the scenic bluffs of Chechessee Creek! As I sit here jotting down these lines, a late summer thunderstorm is lashing the nearby salt marsh with sheets of rain. Dolphin are frolicking in the creek while snowy egrets and great blue herons "hunker down" to wait out the storm. Today I felt a cool, less humid breeze, a reminder that fall is not far away. Fall brings subtle changes to the Lowcountry, sometimes hardly noticeable.

Fall also brings SCMEA's Annual Conference! Scheduled for October 28-30th, the theme this year is "Tropical Connections," and it promises to be better than ever! We will be returning, by popular demand, to beautiful Camp St. Christopher on Seabrook Island, and Ken Alfieri's Barrier Island Environmental Education Center. Julie Cliff and her Conference Committee have labored long and hard to schedule great workshops and presentations, including repeat favorites by Mike Walker and Elizabeth King plus many, many more.

Mr. and Mrs. Fish and their daughter, Coral, will be back to conduct a costume construction workshop and Jeff Sandler, Mr. Fish, has agreed to team again with Fred James as our zany auctioneers on Saturday night. I am ready to bid on a chance to look at the new marine tattoos now being sported by Joy Levy Smith and Leslie Madden!

We have also included an auction donation form in this issue of Seascripts. All you have to do is xerox this form for use when collecting items for the auction. We encourage you to bring donated items to the auction, as we need as many SCMEA members as possible gathering these items. Please contact Cindy Renkas at (803) 795-9746 if you have any questions about the auction.

Saturday evening starts out with one of my all-time favorites, Marine Meringue. It is a "sea swap" where participants trade, steal, or barter for items such as fossils, wildlife jewelry, sand, skins, skulls, scat, shells, educational materials, and—you name it! Bring lots of good "stuff" so you can leave with some new "stuff." Next is a sumptuous Luau accompanied by the steel band, "Steel-N-Time." Wear your best Luau costume to win a prize as you do the limbo!

Many great field trips are scheduled, including Kiawah Island Bike and Canoe tours and an ACE (Ashpoo, Combahee, and Edisto) Basin kayak excursion. This year participants can also elect to just relax and extend their stay at Camp St. Christopher on Sunday. You can even eat lunch on-site for a small fee. Conference brochures will be mailed in late August, so check your mail. And please register early, as we expect a full camp. See you in October!

Your Outgoing Captain,

Bruce Lampright
SCMEA President
SCMEA Board
President:
Bruce Lampright (f '93)
Spring Island Company
Rt. 1, Box 284
Ridgeland, SC 29936, (803) 521-1807

President Elect:
Julie Cliff (f '94)
Wando High School
1560 Mathis Ferry Road
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464, (803) 849-2830

Past-President:
Phil Astwood (f '94)
Center for Science Education
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29208, (803) 777-6920

Secretary-Treasurer:
Stan Rachelson, Director (f '94)
Midlands Improving Math & Science Hub
POB 11000
Columbia, SC 29212 (803) 737-3835

Directors:
Ken Alfieri (f '95)
Barrier Island Education Center
2810 Seabrook Island Road
Johns Island, SC 29455, (803) 768-0429

Leslie Sautter, Ph.D. (f '95)
College of Charleston, Department of Geology
66 George Street
Charleston, SC 29401, (803) 953-5586

Robin Sheek
Devon Forest Elementary School
1127 Dorothy Street
Goose Creek, SC 29445, (803) 821-3885

Joy Levy Smith (f '94)
1486 Barbara Street
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464, (803) 849-7703

NMEA Chapter Representative:
Phil Astwood (address above)

Newsletter Editor:
Paula Keener-Chavis, Director
Charleston Math & Science Hub
College of Charleston
66 George Street
Charleston, SC 29424-0001
(803) 953-5812

Kayak To The Classroom
by Anne Goold

Teaching about South Carolina's aquatic environments is becoming more fun and exciting. Some educators are immersing their students in the outdoor environment prior to classroom instruction to pique student curiosity; others are using outings to culminate the course.

Flatwater kayaking (a.k.a. sea kayaking or kayak touring) combines fun with first-hand learning experiences, up close and inches from the water—where students love to be.

A great variety of course interaction is possible because of the many places sea kayaks can go. Susan Sueverkrupp of James Island High School says, "I bring my marine biology class to the freshwater creeks of the ACE (Ashepoo, Edisto, and Combahee) Basin to immerse them in wilderness exploration and habitat comparison." Julie Cliff of Wando High School in Mt. Pleasant, says she brings her class of elementary school teachers to an undeveloped barrier island "to introduce them to the wonders that will create a fascination with nature in them."

Kayak explorations teach new skills while piquing new interests. Find an outfitter who cares enough to provide special student rates and who has guides that are safety-oriented as well as experienced naturalists.

Anne Goold, Coastal Expeditions, Inc., Lowcountry Kayak Tour Outfitters, (803) 884-7684.

Weeping Whale
by Caryn E. Rudy

One of Julie Cliff's former students, Caryn E. Rudy, contributed the following poem to Seascrips:

Weeping whale,
Why must you cry?
Your life is beautiful
As you float and fly
Effortlessly among the sea,
How would I love
For that to be me

But your life is in danger
The reason is not a stranger
Killing without a thought
Yet such a thing
Continues to be taught,
To the children of tomorrow
How we kill
Without sorrow

Weeping whale,
I see why you cry
Soon you will not be able,
To float and fly
Unless the people stop being blind
Stop the killing,
And begin to be kind.

September, 1993

Oceans Without Borders:
1995 NMEA Conference

It is not too early to begin planning now to attend the 1995 National Marine Educators Association Conference to be held in San Diego from July 31- August 5, 1995. The theme is "Oceans Without Borders," and the conference will focus on the geographical, physical, biological, economical, and cultural connections that weave through the marine environment and marine education.

The conference features symposia, concurrent workshops, field trips, exhibits, and exciting special events. Field trips include a kelp bed dive, a snorkel in La Jolla Cove, ocean kayaking, and a trip to some of Mexico's estuaries in Ensenada, Mexico. For more information or special requests, please contact Joy Wolf, the Conference Co-chair at (619) 226-3640.
"I’ll Never Be the Same"

by Cindy Renkas

Did you watch the movie "Medicine Man" and pay more attention to the scenery than the (predictable) story line? Does trekking through the Amazon rainforest sound like an idyllic "getaway" to you? If you answered "yes," then you may be interested in participating in a program I took advantage of in July.

International Expeditions offers "Educators Rainforest Workshops" in the Peruvian Amazon, Costa Rica, and Belize. I was with a group of 50-plus educators from all over the U.S. who met in Miami, took a four-hour flight to Iquitos, Peru, and a four-hour boat ride down the Amazon River to Explorona Lodge.

In working groups of 8-20 people, we spent the next six days in morning and afternoon workshops conducted by experts who also flew in from the U.S. Lundie Spence, of North Carolina Sea Grant, taught a workshop about local soil composition and water quality. Other workshops included camouflage and mimicry, ethnobotany, rainforest products, conservation, photography, native culture, and native crafts. We visited schools, local homes, and traded with the Yagua Indian. American T-shirts were the "hot" item for trade!

We spent one night at a camp four hours (by boat) from the Explorona Lodge on the Napo River, where we saw a pod of about 20 gray and pink river dolphins along the way. A five-foot emerald tree boa was in the thatched roof over our beds that night! Another night was spent at the ACEER (Amazon Center for Environmental Education and Research) camp, where the highlight was a canopy walkway system which culminated in a breathtaking panoramic view of the rainforest 120 feet above the forest floor.

In addition to the workshops conducted by American experts, we tapped into the incredible knowledge of native guides available to us throughout the week. They took boats out on the river every morning at 6:00 A.M. for birdwatching, assisted in all workshops, and led night walks, night boat rides, and bat mist-netting.

The all-inclusive cost for this "I'll-never-be-the-same" experience was $1,798 from Miami. International Expedition's telephone number is 1-800-669-6866. I am making tentative plans to take a group of my students and parents on this trip during the summer of 1996. Please call me if you are interested in joining us! My home telephone number in Charleston is (803) 795-9746. "You'll never be the same!"

Try It, You'll Like It!

Donna Florio, a well-known South Carolina seafood connoisseur and author of a soon-to-be-released cookbook, contributed the following recipe to Seascrpipts:

PESCADO VERACRUZANA
(FISH VERACRUZ-STYLE)

1-1/2 pound fish fillets or 3 pounds whole fish, gills removed and dressed
1/4 cup olive oil
1 large clove garlic, chopped
1 large onion, chopped
1 pound Italian plum tomatoes, chopped coarsely
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon black pepper
1/8 teaspoon allspice
1 or 2 fresh jalapeno peppers, seeded

Heat oil in a medium skillet over medium-high heat. Add garlic, onion tomatoes, salt, pepper, allspice, jalapeno, olives, and juice of 1 lime. Reduce heat and cook slowly for 30 minutes.

Sprinkle fillets with lime juice.

Spread half of tomato mixture over bottom of shallow oven-to-table casserole dish. Place fish on sauce. Pour remaining sauce over. Cover. Bake in a preheated 425 degree oven for approximately 20 minutes, or until fish is just cooked through. Makes 4 servings.

If using whole fish, rinse fish inside and out. Sprinkle cavity with lime juice. Sprinkle lime juice on both sides of fish. Tuck spent lime rinds into fish cavity. Spread half of tomato mixture over bottom of shallow oven-to-table casserole dish. Place fish on sauce. Pour remaining sauce over. Cover. Bake in a preheated 425 degree oven for 10 minutes per inch of thickness. Makes 4 servings.

Recipe distributed by: Seafood Marketing Office, S. C. Department of Natural Resources, Marine Resources Division, P.O. Box 12559, Charleston, S.C. 29422-2559, (803) 762-5017.
Marine Happenings:

Bellefield Nature Center:

Bayfest '94 - Full-day celebration of Georgetown County's coastal heritage. Free boat tours of Winyah Bay, traditional wooden boat show, local arts and crafts, regional food, fish stew "cook-off," educational exhibits, and music. East Bay Park in Georgetown, Saturday, October 15, 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Audience: all ages.

Salt Marsh Adventure - Salt marshes are especially beautiful in the fall. Join a nature center naturalist for an afternoon of marsh ecology as you travel to North Inlet estuary and study the diverse inhabitants of this salty environment. Cost: $7.00 per person, advance reservations necessary. Wednesday, September 21, 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM. Audience: all ages. Limited to 13 people.

Baruch Institute Open House - Research scientists with the Belle W. Baruch Forest Science Institute, Clemson University, and the Belle W. Baruch Institute for Marine Biology and Coastal Research, University of South Carolina, will share information on forestry, wildlife, and marine science studies at Hobcaw Barony and provide tours of the research facilities. Jointly sponsored by the Baruch Institutes and the Belle W. Baruch Foundation. Friday, September 30, 1:30 PM. Advance reservations necessary.

School Holiday Class for Children: For Goodness Sakes! - No animal is more misunderstood than the snake. Get to know some of South Carolina's most common "serpents" and learn about the valuable role they play. Tuesday, November 8, 2:00-3:00 PM. Cost: $3.

Wildlife Tour - As the weather cools and days grow shorter, wildlife at Hobcaw becomes more active. Come take a van ride and look for deer, alligators, wild pigs, and other creatures. Friday, November 18, 3:00-5:00 PM. Cost: $5, advance reservations necessary. Audience: all ages. Limited to 13 people.

Contact: Hope Smiley and Scott Kennedy, Bellefield Nature Center, Route 5, Box 1003, Georgetown, SC 29440, (803) 546-4623.

Brookgreen Gardens:

Rice Fields and Canoe Excursions - A two-hour trip exploring the old rice field creeks that meander through Brookgreen's property. Saturday, November 5 and Sunday, November 6. Audience: all ages.

Breakfast with the Birds - Join Stuart Dudley for this early morning bird walk followed by a continental breakfast. Saturday, September 24 and Saturday, November 19. Audience: adult.

Mushroom Field Study - This walk is a follow-up to the Mycology Workshop held in May, 1994. Dr. Lampky will lead this foray in search of mushrooms. Saturday, October 8. Audience: adult.

Tour of the Hollies - Walk through the Gardens and discover traditional holly varieties as well as the unusual varieties in Brookgreen's horticultural collection. Saturday, December 3. Audience: adult.


Contact: Stuart Dudley, Brookgreen Gardens, 1931 Brookgreen Gardens Drive, Murrells Inlet, SC 29576, (803) 237-4218.

North Inlet-Winyah Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve:

Fish Fun in North Inlet Estuary - Assist marine scientists as they sample the fishes, shrimps, and crabs of North Inlet Estuary. This provides a unique opportunity for people to assist with and learn about an ongoing long-term study on the nursery value of this special estuary.

Free admission to the first 10 people, advance reservations necessary. Audience: ages 10 and up.

Secrets of the High Tide Marsh - The salt marsh takes on a special character as animals move over the marsh with the incoming tides to feed. Visit the salt marsh during one of the highest tides of the year and look for high tide wonders - jumping mud minnows and tailing spottail bass. October 7, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM. Cost: $5, meet in front of the Bellefield Nature Center. Limited to 14 people.

Winter Birds of North Inlet Estuary - The South Carolina coast is an important wintering area for birds. Observe birds that congregate on marsh banks and beaches in the Inlet at high tide. Illustrated introduction to the birds on Monday, November 7, 7:30-9:30 PM. Boat trip in North Inlet on Tuesday, November 8, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM. Cost: $25 (includes boat fare), class limited to first 25 to sign up.

North Inlet Marsh Sweep - Helpers are needed to walk through the marshes of North Inlet and pick up debris carried in by the tides. Saturday, December 3, 1:00-4:00 PM. Call the Reserve to sign up at (803) 546-6219.

Contact: Wendy Allen, Education Coordinator, North Inlet-Winyah Bay NEERS, P.O. Box 1630, Georgetown, SC 29440, (803) 546-6219.

Riverbanks Zoo:

Educational Programs - Approximately 30 different educational programs, grade-specific and multi-grade level, are offered covering human/animal, wildlife, and marine topics. These programs focus on natural themes (senses, habitats, adaptations, endangerment, etc.). There are additional topical offerings for secondary and college level students. Audience: K-college.

Contact: Riverbanks Zoological Park
Marine Happenings: (cont.)

and Botanical Garden, Education Department, P.O. Box 1060, Columbia, SC 29202-1060, (803) 256-4773.

South Carolina Coastal Conservation League:

Migration Magic: An Overview of the Status of South Carolina Shorebirds - Shorebird specialist Phil Wilkinson will present a beautiful slide show and discuss shorebird populations, species increase/decline, and habitat needs. September 22. Audience: ages 10 and up.

Contact: Jane Lareau, S.C. Coastal Conservation League, P.O. Box 1765, Charleston, SC 29402, (803) 723-8035.

South Carolina Dept. of Health and Environmental Control - Ocean and Coastal Resource Management:

Coastweeks '94 - An annual celebration of our coast. From Hilton Head to the Grand Strand, over 70 fun-filled and informative activities planned. September 17 - October 10. Audience: all ages.

Contact: Brochures listing activities are available. Donna Bates, SC DHEC-O CRM, 4130 Faber Place, Suite 300, Charleston, SC 29405.

South Carolina Marine Extension Program:

"Coastal Minutes" The Mid-day Show - A monthly program segment on WSCC-TV's The Mid-day Show discusses a variety of issues of interest and importance to coastal residents. Audience: general public.

Contact: Bob Bacon, Program Leader, S.C. Marine Extension Program, 287 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC 29401, (803) 727-2078.

The Center for Science Education at the University of South Carolina:

Educational Programs - The Center for Science Education at USC was established to strengthen the teaching of science and math in South Carolina's schools. The Center's activities include graduate-level courses in the sciences specifically designed for in-service teachers, a variety of graduate degree programs for in-service and pre-service science teachers, and the development, evaluation and distribution of science teaching materials.

Contact: Center for Science Education, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, (803) 777-6920.

USCB Coastal Zone Education Center:

Marsh Meander/Coastweeks - Explore the mysterious marsh and experience an ecosystem that people rarely see close-up. Slide presentation and tour. September 22. Contact Elizabeth King. Audience: all ages.

The Beach at Sunset/Coastweeks - Sand dunes, sea oats, and a glimpse at the sun's last light are all part of this naturalist-led evening exploration of our coast. September 20 and 28. Contact Elizabeth King. Audience: all ages.

Kids' Day at the Beach/Coastweeks - Children will have an afternoon of fun, ecology-minded games and events. October 8. Contact Anne Lindsay. Audience: ages 5-9; children must be accompanied by an adult.


The Coast in Motion/Coastweeks - Explore the causes and importance of the shifting sands and shapes of our coastline. October 5. Contact Elizabeth King. Audience: all ages.

Contact: USCB Coastal Zone Education Center, 285 Sawmill Creek Rd., Bluffton, SC 29910, (803) 837-4848.

Winthrop University/Bowater Incorporated:

WSDT 580. "Forestry and the Environment" - By first examining the extent of human dependence upon natural resources, this course focuses on the history and multiple uses of the forests of the U.S. and S.C., and relates to forest product manufacture and forest management practices. Summer 1995 - dates to be announced. Audience: certified teachers-general and environmental sciences, especially vocational agriculture.

Contact: Barry W. Graden, Communications Forester, Bowater Inc., P.O. Box 7, Catawba, SC 29704.

South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (DNR):

With the consolidation of several agencies, DNR offers a wide variety of environmental education programming. Please call the numbers listed for additional information about the programs.

Division of Land Resources: Annual Conservation Poster (K-4), Essay (5-8), and Speaking (9-12) Contests; SC Conservation Workshop (9-12), Barrier Island Coastal Environmental Workshop (9-12); Environmental Institutes for Teachers; Outdoor Classroom program; Conservation for Scouts; "SC Maps" (7-9); Teacher of the Year Award. For more information call (803) 734-9100.
Marine Happenings:
(cont.)

Division of Conservation Education and Communications: Project WILD (K-12); Project Aquatic WILD (K-12); Conservation Education Program; Whale program; WILD School Sites; Young Outdoor Writers’ Competition (5-12). For more information, call (803) 734-3888.

Division of Marine Education: Touch tank (K-5); Tours of Marine Resources Research Institute (6-12); “A Coastal Adventure” (9-12); Marsh Classroom Adventure (teachers); Educational Outreach presentations; Mariculture Center tours. For more information, call (803) 795-6350.

Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries: Fishing Rodeos; “Transect” newsletter; teacher workshops; tours of wildlife management areas; heritage preserves, hatcheries, and other DNR properties. For more information, call (803) 734-3886.

Division of Geological Survey and Mapping: Speakers bureau. For more information, call (803) 896-7713.

Division of Water Resources: River conservation workshops and seminars (teachers); speakers bureau. For more information, call (803) 737-0800.

Other Resources:

Coalition for Natural Resource Education: Sponsors of Project KATE. For more information, contact Dr. George Kessler, 272 Lehotsky Hall, Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634, (803) 656-2478.

Project Learning Tree Workshops: Contact Charles Moore, SC PLT Coordinator, P. O. Box 21707, Columbia, SC 29221, (803) 896-8851.

Interpretive and instructional aquatic tours that encourage enthusiasm in the natural sciences. Will tailor to schedule for teachers. Contact Anne Gould, 1132 Two Rivers Court, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464, (803) 884-7684.

SC Department of Health and Environmental Control: A wide variety of contests, awards, and curricula are available. Contact Marie Horton, SC DHEC, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 2920, (803) 734-3941.

South Carolina Aquarium: The “South Carolina Aquarium News” is a periodic newsletter what will keep you updated on the development of South Carolina’s major public aquarium. To receive (free), contact Rhet Wilson, Program Manager, South Carolina Aquarium, 57 Hasell Street, Charleston, SC 29401, (803) 720-1990.

Gray’s Reef NMS Poster of Common Fishes of South Carolina - 30 Ocean Science Circle, Savannah, GA, 31411, (912) 598-2345.

ecol-o-kids - Free catalog on “Oceans.” The catalog features educational resources about oceans, ocean wildlife, and coral reefs. Included are books, workbooks, videos, games, activities, mobiles, posters, and T-shirts. ecol-o-kids also has resources for teaching about the rain forest, water, Antarctica, ecology, endangered animals, and other environmental issues. For a free copy, call or write: ecol-o-kids, 3146 Shadow Lane, Topeka, KS, 66604, 1(800) 423-7202.

The Eisenhower Spotlights - a newsletter published quarterly to establish a mechanism for sharing information among the state’s professional science and mathematics organizations. Requests should be made to: SCSCMIN, Greenville Technical College, P.O. Box 5616, Greenville, SC, 29606, (803) 250-8016, Fax (803) 250-8207.

The South Carolina Science and Mathematics Information Network - This network will solicit, compile, and disseminate information relevant to science and mathematics education in South Carolina. Contact Michael Farmer at Greenville Technical College, P.O. Box 5616, Greenville, SC 29606-5616.

South Carolina Science and Mathematics Resource Directory - This Directory is a compilation of curriculum resources, extracurricular opportunities, grants, programs, and workshops for teachers. It also includes a list of journals and a list of student and teacher organizations in science and mathematics. Single copies are free by request from the South Carolina Science and Mathematics Information Network (SCSCMIN), Requests for the Directory should be made to: SCSCMIN, Greenville Technical College, P.O. Box 5616, Greenville, SC, 29606, (803) 250-8016, Fax (803) 250-8207.

Marine Education Bibliography, 1994. Sea Grant, University of Minnesota, Room 302, 1518 Cleveland Ave. N., St. Paul, MN 55108. $4.00.

Center for Marine Conservation “Save Our Seas” Curriculum. Contact Barbara Miller, CMC, 580 Market St., Suite 550, San Francisco, CA 94104 (813)985-2188.

Wetlands are Wonderlands, Grades 6-8. Activities, readings, and discussions to emphasize the importance of wetlands. $3.50. Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 65 Munford Hall, 1301 W. Gregory Dr., Urbana, IL 61801.
South Carolina Marine Educators Association

AUCTION DONATION FORM

Thank you for your auction donation to the South Carolina Marine Educators Association (SCMEA). The SCMEA auction, held at our annual conference, is an important fund raiser for our organization as we work to promote marine education in the state. This year's conference will be held at the Barrier Island Environmental Education Center on Seabrook Island from October 28-30.

This completed form will serve as a receipt for your records. Again, thank you for your support.

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Check here if acknowledgement to donating business/organization should be sent by SCMEA. □
"TROPICAL CONNECTIONS"
South Carolina Marine Educators Association's
1994 Conference • Barrier Island Education Center
Seabrook Island, South Carolina
October 28-30, 1994
Don't Miss It!

SCMEA
c/o Center for Science Education
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29208