

SeaScripts



The Newsletter of the South Carolina Marine Educators Association

The time has finally come!

NMEA 2017 is Here

June 25 to 29

Click the banner below for all the
details!

SEAS
of change:
lowcountry lessons in resiliency
NMEA 2017 ★ CHARLESTON, SC



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www.scmarineed.org



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Spring 2017



SCMEA

The South Carolina Marine Educators Association

Captain's Corner

It's TIME!

[NMEA17](#) is June 25-29, 2017 at the Charleston Marriott in Charleston, South Carolina! SCMEA, get ready to show off the Holy City and share with people across the nation and international visitors how resilient the Lowcountry can be during our changing seas. We have an awesome conference in store!

If you have yet to register, register [here](#) before June 16th! After that date, conference registration closes until June 25th onsite AND the price increases from \$500 to \$550 for full conference registration. If you can't commit to a full registration, single day registrations are available. Don't wait!

I could write pages full of the many things we have in the making but I'll keep it short. From our featured speakers and concurrent session presenters to our field trips and experiences, this conference will be one for the books. I'm most excited about the conference kick-off at McLeod Plantation Historic Site and Science Friday's [Cephaloparty](#), hosted by Public Radio International at the South Carolina Aquarium. I also can't wait to catch up with friends and colleagues that I haven't seen since NMEA16.

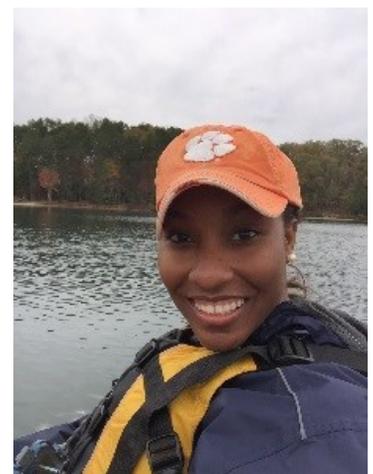
We've worked so hard to plan this outstanding conference. It's been two years in the making! I'm so thrilled to see it all come to fruition. Many thanks to our SCMEA members on our NMEA 2017 Planning Committee. Organizing this conference wouldn't be possible without your tireless efforts and your commitment to make this conference the best one yet.

I'm elated to serve as your captain during this illustrious journey. Join me in Charleston and "seas" the day!

Yours in Resiliency,

Lindsay Patterson

SCMEA Chapter President
NMEA 2017 Conference Co-Chair



Connecting Youth to Nature through 4-H Teen Teachers

Recruiting 4-H Teen Teachers for the 2017-2018 year.



Charleston/Dorchester 4-H is recruiting teens ages 15-17 to serve as Teen Teachers for the 4-H Connecting Youth to Nature Program (CYTN). This is a volunteer position that provides 4-H Nature programs to local youth.

Teen Teachers will be provided hands on training through nature tours, workshops, and meeting with experts. Teens will participate in designing and conducting youth activities. Teens must commit to helping at 1 festival table a year and assisting with school and community 4-H CYTN programs for the 2017-2018 year.

Support for Teen Teachers is provided through the [4-H Connecting Youth To Nature Disney Conservation Fund 2017 Grant](#). #4HNature

Teen Teacher Training

Deadline to apply, July 1, 2017.

Application: Submit a short 1 page essay, "Why I want to be a Teen Teacher" to

JSCALES@Clemson.edu.

Should you require special accommodations due to a disability, please notify our office ten days prior to the event.



Meet your new SCMEA Board Members

Hannah Giddens *Member at large*

Hannah Giddens, a native to West Ashley, still enjoys driving over the Ashley bridge as an adult to spend her afternoons with her family, pups and chickens. With a degree in Marine Biology from the College of Charleston she has worked in a chemical and molecular ecology lab and enjoyed a brief stint at NOAA's CCEHBR complex many moons ago. Hannah has been in informal science education for 11 years. She is the Science Program Coordinator at Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum, happily nestled in the muddy bottom of Charleston Harbor.



Jackie Wong *Scholarships and Awards*

Jackie Smith Wong is on the education team at the South Carolina Aquarium and can be found teaching kindergarteners to high schoolers on any given day in the aquarium classrooms. When she's not working with students, volunteers, or working on education programs, you might find her paddling in our local waters or hiking any chance she can. Really any excuse to be explore out in nature. She's looking forward to sharing her love for nature with her baby boy!



Meet your new SCMEA Board Members

Bea Calhoun Media Coordinator

Bea Calhoun is a Clean Vessel Act Public Information Specialist for The Department of Natural Resources. Local to the South Carolina area, she made her way from the small town of Ninety Six to the big city of Charleston. There she attended College of Charleston majoring in Marine Biology and dipping her toe in Studio Arts. After experiencing her first research cruise on the SSV Corwith Cramer, CofC semester at sea, she fell in love with marine life and made it her goal to marry art and science together. Helping many find joy in learning about nature through the arts.



Jody Evans Secretary

Jody Evans is a fourth year teacher at James Island Charter High School in Charleston, specializing in Marine Science, Biology, Environmental Systems and Societies. Before she began her teaching career, Jody was a researcher at N.I.S.T. in Charleston prior to attaining her Graduate degree in Teaching from the Citadel in 2011. Jody has spent time working in marine science outdoor education in the Florida Keys, and as a fisheries biologist in Alaska. When she can, she enjoys the beach, SCUBA diving, and soccer.



Linnaeus' Quarters



A light distraction for the taxonomically preoccupied

This installment of *Linnaeus' Corner* is going to borrow a species most commonly associated with higher ground along the coast, the best chance to see this species is usually among well drained pine stands. If you spend enough time in the estuary though, you may happen across an eastern diamond rattlesnake traveling between isolated islands, floating as effortlessly as oil on water.

The eastern diamondback (*Crotalus adamanteus*) is one of only 6 species of venomous snakes in South Carolina. Although all three species of rattlesnake (eastern diamondback, cane brake, and pygmy) are rare to uncommon in

the state, all of the 36 snake species in SC suffer undo loss at the ends of shovels and hoes as they seek prey and shelter among disappearing habitats.



The scientific name of the cryptic eastern diamondback alludes to its longstanding and unearned reputation. The genus *Crotalus* originates in the Greek *króton*, a child's rattle, with the genus *adamanteus* coming from the Greek *adamant*, meaning imperishable, indestructible, immortal.

All of our state's venomous snakes play an important role in balancing populations of mice, rats, squirrels, and other rodents, and have a place in our environment. So be cautious around brush and pine litter, and please, "Give a snake a brake".



Exploring Lowcountry Waterways Day Camp

June 12-16 & July 24-28 • Drop off and Pickup from Brittlebank Park



South Carolina 4-H is a community of young people across the state learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills. 4-H is the youth development program of the Clemson University's Cooperative Extension Service.

4-H2O is a hands-on science inquiry program focused on developing knowledge about local water resources. Camp activities include fishing, water sampling, canoeing, walks on the beach, meeting with experts, learning about drinking and waste water, and so much more.

Register online- www.clemson.edu/extension/4h2o/index.html
Registration fee \$135-\$145.

4-H Agent Charleston/Dorchester

Jennifer Scales • JSCALES@Clemson.edu • 843-730-5202

Facebook @[Tri-County 4-H](https://www.facebook.com/Tri-County-4-H)

Instagram @[tricounty4h](https://www.instagram.com/tricounty4h)

Website • www.clemson.edu/extension/charleston/4h/index.html

Should you require special accommodations due to a disability, please notify our office ten days prior to the event.



Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer.

NMEA 2017 Field Trip Itineraries

Are you coming to the National Marine Educators Association conference in June? You won't want to miss out on exploring the South Carolina Lowcountry during one of our field trips that will be held on Thursday June 29th! Short descriptions are provided below and a full description can be found on the NMEA registration page: <http://www.marine-ed.org/general/custom.asp?page=2017FieldTrips>. Field trips subject to change based on availability

"The Edge of America": Folly Island Birding Jaunt and Coastline Study:

Join the Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission and explore Lighthouse Inlet Heritage Preserve located on Folly Island – a top birding hotspot in South Carolina where at least 261 species have been documented including the American Oystercatcher, Least Tern, and Wilson's Plover. Participants will also learn about how coastal processes impact this ecosystem as Dr. Leslie Sautter shares her experiences and insights about the dynamic landscapes of South Carolina's barrier islands.



ACE Basin Adventure

By land and by water, this excursion will highlight historical elements and the diverse ecosystems of the pristine and largely undeveloped ACE (Ashepoo-Combahee-Edisto) Basin! You will travel to the Edisto Interpretive Center where you will experience the ACE Basin aboard the SC Department of Natural Resources' E/V *Discovery* and then enjoy a guided trip through the 3,363 acre Botany Bay Plantation Wildlife Management Area (WMA) on Edisto Island.



Shark Tooth Diving Excursion

The Cooper and Wando rivers are well known for their plantation sites and old trade routes, which provide the avid artifact hunter with pottery, antique bottles, fossilized shark teeth and bones. Join Charleston SCUBA aboard the skiff *Trinity* on your adventure as you scour the rivers for artifacts fossils. Visibility is often from 2-6ft and experienced divers only are recommended to register.



NMEA 2017 Field Trip Itineraries

It's (Marine) Science!

Head across the Charleston Harbor to Fort Johnson – a place where both history and science merge! You'll go behind the scenes at the Marine Resources Research Institute where SC Department of Natural Resources marine biologists study everything from algae to sea turtles and sharks! Get up close and personal during a tour of the College of



Charleston's Grice Marine Lab as you experience their touch tank, take a peek at microscopic flora and fauna, and learn about collaborative projects conducted by faculty, graduate, and undergraduate students. Round out your experience with a tour of NOAA's Hollings Marine Lab where you'll learn about research projects related to climate change, human health and the environment, and marine animal health assessments. After the tours, you'll have a chance to explore other areas of Fort Johnson: Visit the location where the first shot of the Civil War was fired onto Fort Sumter, observe historical structures, and enjoy a self-guided walk through the maritime forest that parallels the Charleston Harbor.

Kayak Historic Shem Creek

For the watersport enthusiast! Hop on board with Coastal Expedition's experienced staff for a boat tour of Charleston Harbor as you make your way to Shem Creek. Shem Creek is the gateway to Charleston Harbor and is adjacent to the Crab Bank Island bird sanctuary – an excellent place to learn about both human and natural history! Once you arrive at Shem Creek, you will enjoy a 3-hour guided kayak tour. Enjoy lunch on your own at one of Shem Creek's famous waterfront dining establishments before returning to the hotel.



Take Your Taste Buds for a Stroll

Bring your appetite along for this informative and delicious walking tour through Charleston's Historic District! Charleston Culinary Tours will provide both historical and culinary highlights as you enjoy some of the Holy City's favorite traditional cuisine! The tour includes tastings from 3-4 locally owned and operated restaurants and all non-alcoholic beverages! The trip will go rain or shine, so be sure to sign up soon as the group size stays small in order to provide you with an opportunity to interact with both your tour guide and restaurant chefs!



NMEA 2017 Field Trip Itineraries

Gullah/Geechee Cultural Tour

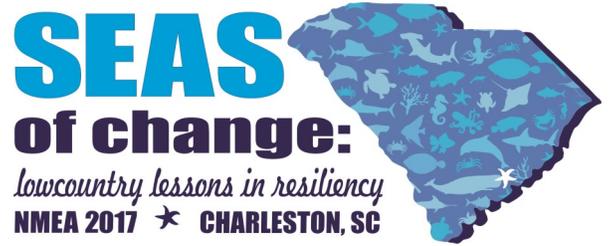
Immerse yourself for a full day in the Gullah/Geechee culture as you travel to St. Helena Island in Beaufort, SC located about 2 hours south of Charleston. Once you arrive on St. Helena Island, you will experience De Gullah Root Experience Tour, which is an interactive Gullah/Geechee living history tour led by Queen Quet, Chieftess of the Gullah/Geechee Nation (www.QueenQuet.com). This historic tour of St. Helena Island will take you to numerous historic sites including praise houses, Penn Center, and Gullah/Geechee family compounds. This customized tour will also show the importance of the marine environment to the traditions of the Gullah/Geechee people. *Cum fa jayn we and yeddi who de Gullah/Geechee be!* After a lunch featuring traditional Gullah/Geechee cuisine, the remainder of the trip will be spent exploring the Penn Center -- A National Historic District Landmark, and the location of the first school established (1862) for freed slaves. The Penn Center also was visited frequently by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. where he would use the campus as a retreat for inspiration and meetings. During our time at the Penn Center, you will enjoy a presentation by Penn Center staff and a tour of the museum and other parts of the Penn Center property. Transportation, lunch, drinks, and snacks will be provided.



Capers Island Exploration and Lowcountry Boil

Don't miss this chance to explore one of Charleston's pristine, undeveloped barrier islands! Hop aboard with the staff of Barrier Island EcoTours for this guided field trip to Capers Island -- a gorgeous Heritage Trust Preserve located 15 miles north of Charleston and only accessible by boat. As part of the tour, local naturalists will highlight some of Capers Island's most fascinating ecological and historical features: 3-mile boneyard beach, a diverse array of wildlife (birds, alligators, deer, and others), and Native American shell middens. After the tour, you will have time to explore the beach on your own and enjoy a beachfront cookout of the famous Charleston dish -- Lowcountry Boil.

NMEA AUCTION NEWS



Is your nest feeling crowded?

Let us help!



Photo credit: Keith McCullough

We are currently accepting donations for the NMEA 2017 conference auction.

Donations may be tax deductible and will generate good karma!

If you would like to contribute contact Beth Burkett at bburkett@scmarineed.com or 843-762-9917.

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Don't miss out on all the SCMEA fun, to renew your membership visit scmarineed.org



When you renew your SCMEA membership, you can receive a discount to apply to your NMEA membership at marine-ed.org, just ask one of the friendly SCMEA board members today!



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SEAS

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NMEA 2017 ★ CHARLESTON, SC



The **South Carolina Marine Educators Association** invites you to join us for NMEA



June 25-29, 2017



Drink some tea, eat a peach, and shag your way to
Charleston, SC!

For more information

Visit **NMEA2017.org**



Contact **info@nmea2017.org**



SeaScripts is published and distributed on a quarterly basis. Articles and announcements from SCMEA members are greatly appreciated. Please send them to the editor, **Nick Wallover, wallovern@dnr.sc.gov**. To ensure that your submission is included in the proper issue, please observe the following deadlines:

Spring Issue: February 15th

Summer Issue: May 15th

Fall Issue: August 15th

Winter Issue: November 15th