



SIERRA CLUB



Lunz Letter

September 2023

Brethren of Spade & Pruning Knife: *The Naturalists & The Carolinas*

Ruth Miller

Thursday, September 7
7:00 pm

In person: College of Charleston
Robert Scott Small Auditorium 135,
175 Calhoun Street

Online via Zoom: [Register Here](#)

A link to join the live meeting will be sent by email.



Local historian and tour guide Ruth Miller, will talk about the connections between Charleston and the "Age of the Natural Historians", a period in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth century when scientific inquiry was first used to understand the natural world. This story reaches across the Atlantic with connections to Royal Society of England and John Lawson, as well as to Mark Catesby who documented and illustrated the birds and animals of the Carolinas one hundred years before Audubon.

Please RSVP through [Facebook](#) or [Meetup](#)



Save the Date

Ghost Forests of South Carolina

Tom O'Halloran

Thursday, October 5

As sea level rises, more and more saltwater encroaches into coastal areas, slowly poisoning living trees, leaving a ghost forest of dead and dying trees. Our speaker will share research and possible solutions for this phenomenon.



View Recording

North Atlantic Right Whales

This recent program hosted by the Sierra Club's Massachusetts chapter focused on endangered North Atlantic Right Whales' migratory patterns ranging from New England to the shallow coastal waters of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida's east coast.

[Recording of program](#)

Make Your Voice Heard On Dominion's Future Energy Investments

Tell the Public Services Commission (PSC) to demand Dominion invest in renewables

The PSC has scheduled a public hearing for August 24 for people to comment on Dominion Energy plans that call for future investment in fossil fuels energy sources. Dominion has submitted an Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) projecting anticipated energy needs for the next ten years and how they intend to meet them. Their plan calls for extending the life of existing coal power plants and making a significant investment in new natural gas power generation. As the harsh realities of climate change increasingly become apparent, now is the opportunity to influence these plans by demanding the PSC push Dominion toward greater reliance on renewable energy sources (Hearings on Santee Cooper, Duke and other electric utilities' plans will come later in the fall or early next



year).

Look for more information about the Domion hearings over the coming week, or email Jalen Brooks-Knepfle (jalen@cvsc.org) at the Conservation Voters of South Carolina.

Focus on PFAS - Part 2

The last article in the July Lunz Letter focused on PFAS in drinking water and mentioned home filter systems. Whole house and under-sink systems can be expensive. The non-profit

Environmental Working Group (EWG) has published an evaluation of countertop filtration devices that lower PFAS levels by 100% (or close to it). They recommended four brands of filters:



Travel Berkey Water Filter

-PFAS reduction: 100%

-Cost: \$344.00

-Filter life: 8+ years (6,000 gal.)

This is an expensive filter. But it does offer a few perks for that large upfront cost, including 100 percent elimination of forever chemicals measured in these tests and a useful life of many years.

Pros: Non-plastic design; large water capacity; 100 percent PFAS reduction and exceptionally long filter life, at more than 8 years, if using 2 gallons per day.

Cons: Very high initial cost.

Visit the [Lunz Group Blogspot](#) to read all the reviews and leave comments.

Outings

Historic Georgetown & Harriet Tubman Statue

Saturday, August 19

Trip Leader: Starr Hazard

This day trip to Georgetown will involve a



walking tour of the historic district and waterfront, including a visit to the South Carolina Maritime Museum and stopping to see the temporary exhibit of a 9 ft-tall bronze statue of Harriet Tubman. The drive home may include a stop at the Sewee Center to view the Red Wolf exhibit.

[Learn More](#)



*****New Date*****

Walk at Hunting Island

Sunday, August 20

Trip Leader: Starr Hazard

This day trip will tour Hunting Island State Park, including walking through the maritime forest and along the

beach and visit the lighthouse. Getting there will involve a roughly 90 minute drive, so plan for a full day. There is an entrance fee to park (\$8 adults; \$5/SC seniors; \$4/ child age 6-15).

[Learn More](#)

Kayak to Deveau Bank

Saturday, September 30

Trip Leader: Starr Hazard

This kayak paddle will ride the ebb tide from Cherry Point public boat landing down to Deveau Bank. Depending on tides and weather conditions we'll likely extend beyond Deveau Bank to linger on Botany Bay Island before returning to the landing.



This is not a beginner trip. You will need a kayak with a spray skirt, a paddle, a PFD with whistle.

[Learn More](#)

*****This Evening*****

join us for **charleston green drinks**
growpurpose.com/greendrinks
'WATER'

AUG 15 6PM

COMMONHOUSE ALEWORKS

Logos included: Charleston Water System, water mission, COASTAL CONSERVATION LEAGUE, SURFRIDER FOUNDATION CHARLESTON, ASHLEY COOPER STORMWATER EDUCATION CONSORTIUM A SERVICE OF CLERSON EXTENSION, COOPERATIVE EXTENSION College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences, CHARLESTON WATERKEEPER, and CLEAN WATER MOUNT PLEASANT WATERWORKS.

Summer Fun, Food & Friendship!

It was great to see everyone who came out a few weeks ago for our annual Lunz Group Picnic on Shem Creek. Thank you to those who brought food and helped out! [See more pictures online.](#)



Thank You to our 2023 Oyster Roast Donors!

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Stream recordings for all recent programs on
the [Lunz Group YouTube channel](#).

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