



**SIERRA
CLUB**



Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton & Dorchester Counties

Lunz Letter

November 2020

December Online Program

"The Party Rock Fire"

Speaker: Clint Calhoun

Thursday, December 3
7:00 to 8:30 pm

On Friday, November 11, 2016, fire departments around North Carolina were called to help fight a wildfire in the western part of the state. A blaze had

started six days earlier at Chimney Rock State Park and had grown to over 2,000 acres, threatening hundreds of structures in nearby communities. The fire departments of Buncombe, Henderson, and Rutherford counties were already on the scene, but more help was needed. The Party Rock Fire continued to grow, with a peak size of 7,000 acres by Monday, November 21. (Source: legeros.com/history/stories/party-rock)



Clint Calhoun will tell us how the fire started, its economic impact, short-term ecological impacts, and predicted long-term ecological impacts. Calhoun is a naturalist who has spent his entire career working in the Hickory Nut Gorge area of North Carolina. Join him for photos, facts, opinion, humor, and thoughts related to adventures in the great outdoors.

[Learn More](#)

[Visit Clint's Blogsite](#)

Save the Date - Member Slide Show

Show Your Trip Slides!

Thursday, January 7
Online - Zoom presentations

Do you have photos from a nature outing or trip? Consider sharing them on our January meeting (it doesn't have to be a recent trip).

Email Christine Von Kolnitz (vonkolnc1@gmail.com) to submit your topic.



View 11/5 Program Recording: *Raptors of South Carolina*

Jen McCarthy Tyrrell, Bird-Friendly Communities coordinator for Audubon South Carolina and Emily Davis, Audubon Center & Sanctuary at the Francis Beidler Forest spoke about raptors as a misunderstood group of birds. Their presentation focused on the different raptor species that call South Carolina home: how to identify them, their basic ecology, and conservation concerns statewide.



[Click to view recording](#)

Outdoor Gear Exchange!

Do you have a spare tent or backpack cluttering your attic? Find a new home for these and other outdoor gear through the Lunz Group newsletter. The Exchange is limited personal gear or equipment related to hiking, canoeing, kayaking, skiing and other outdoor adventures. To list an item, email a description, photos, terms and contact information to aleccooley@comcast.net.

Kayak For Sale

For sale is a Wilderness Systems Tempest 170, in great shape. I doubt that it's been in water more than a dozen times. It has been kept in my garage. There are the few inevitable small scratches on the bottom but other than that it's looks new. Includes the

skirt, PFD, and the Werner paddle for \$1000.

Email Richard at
richardawatts@gmail.com



Paddle to a Good Home

You won't get far in your new kayak without a paddle!
This 8ft Seasense paddle is in good condition having suffered the misfortune of gathering dust in a canoeist's garage. Free to whoever promises to restore its sense of purpose, proudly paddling the waterways of the Lowcountry.



Email Alec at
aleccooley@comcast.net

Outings Remain Suspended

All outings remain suspended for the foreseeable future.

DIY Solo Outings

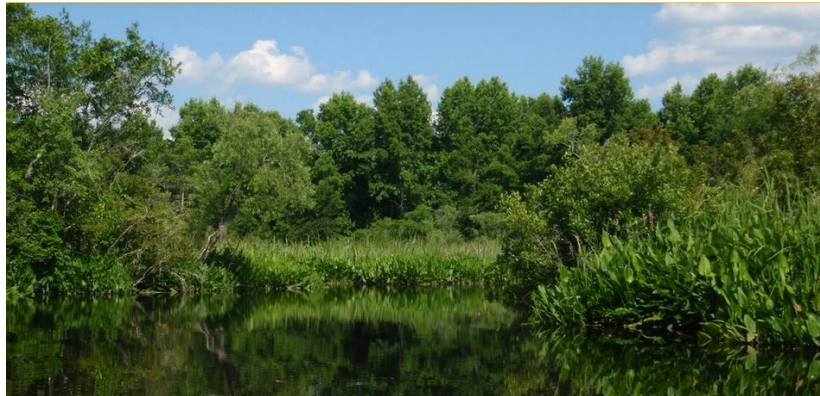
With the weather cooling off and mosquitoes retreating for the season, our "star" outings leader Starr Hazard has a couple fresh hiking ideas to get out on your own this fall. Read his recommendations for visiting the **Swamp Fox Section of the Palmetto Trail** through the Francis Marion National Forest as well as the ever-popular **Santee Coastal Reserve**.

[Learn More](#)

Additional Solo Outing Ideas:

- [Sewee Shell Mound Intl learn More](#)

- [Lower Chen Middle Intermore](#)
- [Gadsdenville Public Boat Landing](#)
- [Penny Creek Paddle](#)
(lower Edisto River)
- [Edisto Nature Trail](#) - [National Recreation Trail](#)
- [Paddle the Edisto River at Willtown Bluff](#)
- [Loop Paddle on Wambaw Creek](#)
- [Biking & Paddling in Mt Pleasant](#)



Volunteer for Spartina Seed Collection

The Charleston Area Community-Based Salt Marsh Restoration and Citizen Science Project offers citizens the opportunity to partake in environmental restoration efforts hosted by SC Sea Grant Consortium, SC Dept. of Natural Resources, Clemson Extension, and the SC Aquarium. *Spartina alterniflora* will be cultivated and transplanted into 5 designated restoration sites in the Charleston area. The first step to *Spartina* cultivation is seed collection. Volunteers will visit sites to be trained on how to collect seeds.

If you are interested in participating, please read the details below and register for a 30-minute session to come out to help.

[Register to Volunteer](#)

Seed Collection Details:

- Who Can Volunteer? Any person, over the age of 18, is welcome to sign up. Volunteers under the age of 18 must have a parent/guardian present. Volunteers under the age of 18 must also individually complete the registration form.
- Dates: Thurs. Nov 12, Fri. Nov 13, Sat. Nov. 14, Thurs. Dec 10, Fri. Dec 11, Sat. Dec 12, and Sun. Dec 13.
- Times: Varied (scheduled around low tide)
- Locations: Most locations are located within Charleston County. All sites are easily accessible by car and parking will be available. More details about directions and parking will be sent prior to your scheduled seed collection day. Site addresses are in the registration form.
- What to Wear/Bring: Wear closed toe shoes such as boots or old sneakers. Please bring sunscreen, bugspray, and

water. You may also want to bring an extra pair of shoes to change into after you get out of the salt marsh.

- Format: Groups of no more than 10 people will have 30 minutes in the salt marsh to collect seeds. S.C. Department of Natural Resources and/or S.C. Sea Grant Consortium staff will be on-site for each seed collection day. You will learn how to identify stalks ready for seed collection, collect seeds, record data on the seed collection (on an app/website, or on paper), and store the seeds over the winter.
 - The mobile app is called Anecdata, please download for iOS or Android before your seed collection day
- Required Social Distancing and Masks: More details about COVID-19 protocol as well as a waiver will be sent after you register and prior your scheduled seed collection day.

Get Involved!

Volunteer With The Robert Lunz Group

Group needs Conservation & Political chairs

Do you want to make an impact? Consider becoming either the local group's political chair or conservation chair.

The Political chair works with the group's executive committee and other members to raise awareness of environmental issues and work to elect pro-environmental candidates. Duties include serving on the state chapter political committee, which is responsible for evaluating political issues, recommending priorities and reviewing and approving endorsements for state offices. The Sierra Club is non-partisan and seeks to engage with all political parties to advance environmental protection.

The Conservation chair works to monitor and advise the executive committee and engage members about local conservation issues.

If either role interests you, please get in touch with Christine von Kolnitz at vonkolnc1@gmail.com.

Thanks to our 2020 Oyster Roast Donors!

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To explore, enjoy and protect the wild places of the Earth.

Visit us at: <https://sierraclub.org/south-carolina/robert-lunz>

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