



**SIERRA
CLUB**



Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton & Dorchester Counties

Lunz Letter

September 2020

October [Online](#) Program

Author Talk: **Scott Huler**

*Discussion of his book, **A Delicious Country: Rediscovering the Carolinas Along the Route of John Lawson's 1700 Expedition***

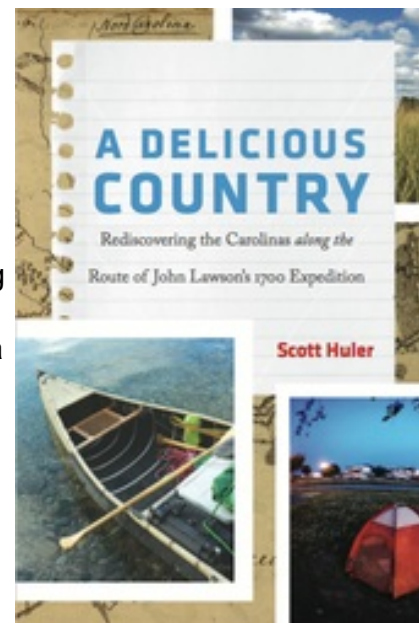
Thursday, October 1

7:00 to 8:30 pm

[Click For Advance Registration](#)
(Required)

Author Scott Huler will discuss his book **A Delicious Country: Rediscovering the Carolinas Along the Route of John Lawson's 1700 Expedition**. Three centuries after a young man took two months and walked from South Carolina through the Piedmont and down the coast, author Scott Huler retraced his route.

In 1700, explorer John Lawson



left



Charles-Town, then the only settlement of any size in the Carolina colony, for a walk into the backcountry. Over the next months, Lawson, with friends and native guides, made his way through the colony, mostly on foot. He kept a journal and produced a natural history of the colony; descriptions of the new territory's plants, animals, birds, and crops; and a thorough account of the natives, including dictionaries. Lawson did, that is, what Lewis and Clark did for the Louisiana Territory a century later.

With the cooperation of modern scientists and historians, Huler retraced Lawson's journey to compare today's flora, fauna, terrain, and inhabitants with those Lawson would have found more than 300 years ago.

[Learn More](#)

View Recording - September 3 Program

"Tracking Decarbonization in the Southeast" examines the role electric utilities have played in decarbonizing the power supply over the last decade. The report examines power sector carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions throughout the Southeast, home to some of the biggest utility systems in the nation: Duke Energy, Southern Company, NextEra, and the Tennessee Valley Authority.



[Click to view recording](#)

Sierra Club Political Endorsements

The Sierra Club has officially endorsed the following candidates:

- **Joe Biden** for President
- **Kamala Harris** for Vice-President
- **Jaime Harrison** for US Senate.
- **Joe Cunningham** for US Congress, First District
- **James Clyburn** for US Congress, Sixth District
- **Debbie Bryant** for SC Senate District 44

- **Spencer Wetmore** for SC House District 115
- **Ed Sutton** for SC House District 114
- **Daniel Brownstein** for SC House District 112

Each of these individuals will work to protect our natural resources and public lands. If you live in any of these candidates districts, we encourage you to volunteer or otherwise support them. Click the link on the candidate names below to contact their campaigns.

Congratulations to [Spencer Wetmore](#), newly elected in a special election to fill S. C. House Seat 115, which represents James Island, Folly Beach, and parts of Kiawah and Seabrook. Impressed with her accomplishments as city administrator of Folly Beach and her deep understanding of the environmental challenges facing our coastal counties, the Sierra Club endorsed her candidacy. We look forward to working with her when the General Assembly reconvenes and will support her in the November election for the full term.

As a registered nurse and educator [Debbie Bryant](#) (Senate 44) respects the science behind climate change and is particularly concerned with the health effects of pollution. She supports legislation that will decrease South Carolina's dependency on fossil fuels, promotes renewable energy, and focuses on smart growth.

[Ed Sutton](#) (District 114) has been in the forefront of the fight against the spill of plastic pellets (nurdles) into Charleston harbor with SC Environmental Law Project. He has made protection of the coast from offshore oil drillings, flooding, and development of low-lying areas the centerpiece of his campaign. Ed Sutton's positions align with the Sierra Club and he has the experience to back it up.

[Daniel Brownstein](#) (District 112) advocates for a regional approach to our coastal flooding and sea level rise issues, rather than a piecemeal approach by each municipality. He is particularly concerned with water quality issues, from plastic pollution to uncontrolled runoff. He opposes off shore oil exploration and on-shore infrastructure for the oil industry.

The Sierra Club has a process to consider candidates for endorsement. First, for local candidates, the Lunz group will recommend individuals or races to the state political committee. The political committee then sends a detailed questionnaire to all candidates in the race, except incumbents, who are running on their records. The committee then will review the questionnaires, records, and other information and make a recommendation to the state chapter executive committee who will vote to endorse the candidate. We are currently looking at some state house races for the November general election.

The process is a little different for candidates running for Congress, with the national Sierra Club as well as the state chapter reviewing the records of incumbents and the national-focused questionnaires of challengers.

11th Annual Wild Side Celebration

Support the South Carolina Environmental Law Center

Saturday, September 26

Kaminski House
Georgetown, SC



South Carolina's own Robert Ariail, an award-winning cartoonist and three-time Pulitzer

Prize finalist, will be our guest speaker. The talented one-man blues band Ben Prestage is also returning as our musical guest!

Please note, due to Covid-19, we are making changes to our usual event format. Even though this is an outdoor event, we are capping attendance at approximately 50% capacity (no more than 150 guests). With no individual or couple tickets, we are offering smaller and properly distanced tables and our silent auction will have online bidding only.

For those who prefer virtual support and interaction, please consider a donation, participation in the online auction or viewing a live stream of the program. Please call us or check back our website to learn more about how you can celebrate with us virtually.

[Learn More & Register](#)



Outings Remain Suspended

We're sad to announce that all outings will remain suspended for the foreseeable future. The national Sierra Club HQ had hoped to resume local outings, but notified the Lunz Group that the continuing outbreak will prevent this for at least the next month. We'll share updates as we get more information.

DIY Solo Outings

While COVID-19 prevents official group outings for the moment, there are plenty of ways to enjoy the Lowcountry on your own. Here are some suggestions from our award-winning trip leaders, including directions to plan your own solo outing.

- [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](#)



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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MISSION OF THE SIERRA CLUB:

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

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

Connect on Social Media:

