



www.friendsofcongarree.org

Fall 2002



Harry Hampton at his home, "Woodlands," 1979.

## Exciting Location Planned for Annual Meeting

November 3, 2002

Mark your calendar now for the *FRIENDS'* Annual Meeting to be held on Sunday afternoon, November 3rd.

We will have the honor of meeting at "Woodlands," the home of **Harry Hampton**, who pioneered the efforts to protect the Congaree Swamp. The home is off Garners Ferry Road, just before the Veterans Administration Hospital.

The Hampton home was built in 1896 by Harry's father, Frank, of heart pine found on the property. Harry was born in 1897 at "Woodlands" and lived there until his death in 1980.

The Friends of Congaree Swamp is fortunate to hold our annual meeting at this location, thanks to Harriott Hampton Faucette.

More information will be issued later, including directions and registration form. But put this date on your calendar now!

## EXCURSION TO BEE-TREE

Saturday, 28 Sept. 2002

Trip Leader: John Nelson, Curator, USC Herbarium

**Dr. Alfred Burnside** has invited the *FRIENDS* to take a walk on his property called "Bee-Tree".

This is a large tract of land along the Congaree River and south of Congaree Swamp National Monument. It features excellent bottomland hardwood ecosystems, river levees, and fabulous sand bars.

Our field trip will begin at 9AM. Plan on spending all morning and most of the afternoon on the trip.

Expect a hike that will be leisurely 5 mile walk.

You need to bring: lunch (whatever will keep you happy for most of the day), water, insect repellent (very important). Other things you can bring are a camera, hand lens, bird book, butterfly book, etc.

A dip in the river is a possibility, so consider bringing a swimsuit. (Do not expect any lifeguards!)

Since we will be crossing through Westinghouse Fuels land off Bluff Road, you need bring a valid picture ID with you.

To register and receive details on where to meet, contact John Nelson:

Home: 803-252-1417 [johnbnelson@sc.rr.com]

Work: 803-777-8196 [nelson@sc.edu]

*(Friends of Congaree Swamp is not liable for any injuries, personal or otherwise, incurred while attending this event.)*

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## NATURE WALKS

Congaree Swamp National Monument

by *FRIENDS* Volunteers

2nd Saturday of Every Month

10:00 am – Early Afternoon

No Registration Required – Open to the Public

Contact Bob Bundy, Education Chair, if you have any questions or suggestions, 803-776-4535 or e-mail: [BundyR@aol.com](mailto:BundyR@aol.com).

## VINES IN THE SWAMP: Climbing to the top

Dr. John Nelson, Curator, A.C. Moore Herbarium, USC

Most visitors to the National Monument are overwhelmed by the sheer size of some of the forest giants encountered, as well as the size of the preserve itself, representing the largest intact bottomland ecosystem in the Southeast. Recent studies report over 500 species of vascular plants in the National Monument, and there is a surprising diversity of woody species. The National Monument boasts a large forest component, so many visitors don't think too much about: VINES!

Both herbaceous and woody vines occur here. Herbaceous representatives include common species such as maypops (both the large blue one, *Passiflora incarnata*, and the smaller yellow one, *P. lutea*), as well as the uncommon red melonette, *Cayaponia boykinii*. The presence of woody vines, however, suggests something of a tropical flavor within the Monument's flora.

Woody vines are frequently referred to as "lianas" in tropical regions, and many tropical ecosystems are indeed characterized by large proportions of woody vines. **At least 26 species of woody vines occur in the Congaree Swamp**, well over the nine known for the Smoky Mountains, and the three known from the Pacific Northwest. Our National Monument is truly one of the "vine capitals" of North America.

All woody vines have a serious liability built into their way of life: weight. It is only the young portions of the vine—that is, the growing tips—which are actually climbing. The heavy lower portions remain where they are. Generally, all woody vines depend on various strategies for climbing, whether by tendrils, clinging roots, or twining, but some vines may use one or more of these tactics.

The most common vines are probably the grapes and the catbriars. All the grapes are placed within the genus *Vitis*, including Muscadine, fox grape, and summer grape. They produce tendrils, or modified leaves, helping them to climb. Catbriars (eight species of *Smilax*) are variously equipped with stout thorns, and most are important as sources of food for wildlife, especially birds. Poison Ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*) is ubiquitous, sometimes attaining epic stature. It climbs primarily by the use of "adventitious" roots, which cling to a tree's bark.

Crossvine has one of the most attractive flowers in the swamp, and along with the related cow-itch vine, may be so high up the trees that the only way you would know it is there is by noticing the fallen flowers on the ground. Both native species of pepper-vine occur in the swamp (*Ampelopsis cordata* and *A. arborea*). Supplejack (*Berchemia scandens*) is common and frequent, often showing its corkscrew or oddly twisted forms. Moonseed produces masses of bright orange fruits, each containing a single snail-shaped seed within. Wild ginger-vine (*Dioscorea villosa*) forms papery fruits which turn gold and brown in the autumn.

There always has to be some bad news, and in this case, it's Japanese honeysuckle. Despite its wonderful flowers, honeysuckle remains one of the worst biological infestations in the South, and the swamp has plenty of it. Kudzu is present, but thankfully in much more limited amounts. Both of these invasives figure into future control activities being developed by the National Park Service.

## New and Renewing Members

Alexander, LaBruce  
Brown, Margaret S.  
Burton, Mel  
Burton, Lee  
Caggiano, Frank  
Cely, John E.  
Croxtton, Ms. Jeannie  
David H. Rembert, Jr.  
Davis, George W. & Jean C. Davis  
Deemer, Bill  
Dennis, Steve C.  
Elder, Ruth and Jim  
Fairey, Jr., M.D., Dr. & Mrs. Philip W.  
Grego, John M. & Rhonda C.  
Griffin, Dr. Martha M.  
Hardaway, John & Judy  
Haselden, Lawrence C.  
Helman, Richard & Ellen  
High, Margot Timberlake  
Holland-Davis, Tim &  
Carol Butterfield  
Hudson, Dr. Carolyn B.  
Janiskee, Robert L.  
Jaworski, Carol  
Jones, Ms. Carolyn S.  
Kelly, Sandra J.  
Kososki, Carol  
Krucke, Kurt W.

Latimer, Jean M.  
Lawther, Ph.D, J.W. & D.H.  
Robinson, M.D.  
Lewandowski, Mr. & Mrs. F. H.  
McCreary, Ms. Charlotte M.  
McMaster, Harriet  
Meyer, Jack A. and Martha E.  
Monroe, Jack & Carol  
Montgomery, Marcia M. & Allen A.  
Nelson, Kenneth M. & Myra  
Prettyman, Susan H.  
Render, Bob  
Reynolds Family  
Robinson II, Mr. & Mrs. Frank E.  
Sasnett, Carol & Richard  
Shapio, Steve  
Simpson, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. E. W.  
Skinder, Robert F.  
Slocum, Dr. Richard C. & Nancy D.  
Soltys, Stephen M.  
Stephens, Beatrice S.  
Taylor, Dr. and Mrs. Edmund R.  
Taylor, Mr. & Mrs. Walter  
Temple, Mr. & Mrs. John H.  
Tufford, Daniel L. & Cynthia L.  
Walker, Josephine B.  
Watkins, Richard  
Watts, Joyce R.  
Winn, Virginia & Mina

## Memorial

*FRIENDS* would like to thank  
**Elizabeth A. Wiseman** for  
her donation in memory of  
**Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hampton.**

## *FRIENDS* Draws Member From New York

After visiting Congaree Swamp National Monument, **Steve Shapiro**, from East Setoulat, New York, was so impressed, he became a member of *FRIENDS*.

Along with his membership check he wrote to us, saying, "*What an incredibly great place. My son, his girl friend, and I visited—I saw Sierra mag. article—2 days, owl prowl, canoe, hiking—FANTASTIC!...Hope to be back!*" ...Steve

How nice it is to get such appreciation of this great resource from so far up the Atlantic seaboard!



## Board Retreat Held August 25

The Board retreat was held at the scenic, wooded Ripley's Retreat on Louis LeConte Road, off the Sumter Highway. Ripley's Retreat offers seminars, leadership conferences, and a ropes course to interested groups.

Thanks go to **Judy and Bill Ripley**, and their dog **Wag**, for allowing the group to meet there.

From left: (kneeling) Jim Welch, John Grego, (standing) Frank Caggiano Dick Wakins, Ann Timberlake, John Nelson, Brusi Alexander, Mary Kelly, Eleanor Niestat, Carol Kososki, and Harriott Faucette. Photographer: Virginia Winn

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Post Office Box 7746  
Columbia SC 29202-7746



**Be a FRIEND: Get a Friend to Join Today!**

**Yes!** I would like to support conservation of Congaree Swamp for future generations. Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_. Please make your check payable to **Friends of Congaree Swamp**.

\$15.00 Individual  
 \$35.00 Family  
 \$50.00 Advocate  
 \$100.00 Partner  
 \$500.00 Benefactor  
 \$1000.00 Patron  
  
 \$50.00 Nonprofit Org.  
 \$1000.00 Corporate

New Member       Renewal  
 Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hm Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Wk Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to work on the following committee(s):**

<input type="checkbox"/> Field Trips	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership
<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy
<input type="checkbox"/> Events	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter
<input type="checkbox"/> Research	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

In addition to my membership, I would like to give \$ \_\_\_\_\_ as a donation to **Friends of Congaree Swamp**:  
Memorial to: \_\_\_\_\_ Honorarium for: \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Membership to: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide contact information so we can inform the person/family:  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to order the following items (proceeds benefit FOCS projects): \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ copies of "**Reflections of Congaree Swamp**" CD screensaver for Windows 95 or higher @ \$14.95 each/plus \$4.00s/h  
\_\_\_\_\_ copies of the beautifully detailed "**Map of Congaree Swamp National Monument and Vicinity**" @ \$12.95 each/plus \$3.50 s/h

Thank You For Supporting **Friends of Congaree Swamp!**  
Friends of Congaree Swamp, PO Box 7746, Columbia, SC 29202-7746  
FOCS is a nonprofit 501(c)3 corporation, EIN: 56-2057087.