

South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Society **N**ewsletter

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June, 2004



Annual Meeting at Springmaid August 25-27

The smell of salt air, the touch of gentle breezes, the sound of crashing surf, and the feel of sand between your toes. There is nothing finer than the Carolina coast, except perhaps a SCAPMS Annual Meeting, so we decided to combine one great location with one great event.

The 2004 Annual Meeting will be held at Springmaid Beach Conference Center in Myrtle Beach on August 25-27. Springmaid Beach is located off Ocean Boulevard right next to Myrtle Beach State Park at the southern end of Myrtle Beach (see insert). The beach has it all, food, sun, surf, and world-class entertainment. If you can't find something to do at Myrtle Beach...you're not trying very hard.



The Program Committee, chaired by Vice President John Inabinet, has put together an exciting agenda of speakers covering a wide variety of aquatic plant management related topics ensuring a good number of applicator recertification credits. And don't miss the Thursday afternoon workshop/equipment demonstration worth even more credits.

All the rooms are huge efficiencies with two queen size beds, and you can have four adults per room at no extra charge. The discount prices are

good through the weekend, so take the family for a little vacation. There is something for everybody; the hotel is right on the beach, it has its own fishing pier and swimming pools, and the greatest golf courses in the country are only minutes away.



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Quick Teamwork Saves Wood Stork Nesting Site

Steven de Kozlowski, Aquatic Plant Management Program, SCDNR

Wood Storks are large graceful fliers but are arguably one of the homeliest birds on earth...at least from the neck up. As a friend of mine quipped, "With a face like that, they don't deserve to reproduce." But it's not their crusty black heads that make them so rare, it's the loss of suitable roosting habitat from wetland alteration.



Adult wood storks with fledglings.

Once abundant throughout Florida with over 25,000 nests, wood storks were placed on the federal endangered species list in the early 1980's when fewer than 5,000 nesting pairs were identified. Today, the species has expanded its range northward into South Carolina and now number about 9,000 nesting pairs.

The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources' endangered species biologists were aware of our work in restoring waterfowl habitat and asked whether we could help save the largest wood stork nesting site outside of Florida. We jumped at the opportunity. We visited the site in early September 2003 and discovered an old 40-acre ricefield full of aquatic vegetation surrounding an island of trees. The primary concern was the thick mats of water primrose, smartweed, alligatorweed, cattails, and frog's bit that provide a "bridge" for raccoons and other predators to reach the trees and raid the nests.

Wood storks prefer roosting trees surrounded by little or no vegetation, and lots of alligators to prevent would-be predators from getting to the nests. However, the site had become so overgrown that the storks would likely not return in the spring. The short-term ob-



Nesting site prior to treatment on September 24, 2003.

jective was to reduce the thick growth around the trees so the storks would want to return... and to complicate matters, we only had a couple of months to do it before the plants went dormant.

We also had an additional challenge. The site was on private property, so public funds could not be used. However, thanks to the efforts of Bo Burns formerly with SePro Corporation, and the generosity of the SePro Corporation and Aquatic Vegetation Control Inc. we were able to get the materials and treatment donated, and the application conducted within two weeks!

The treatment mix was two quarts of Renovate with 16 ounces of Arsenal (now called Habitat) plus one quart of Aquabuph (adjuvant) per acre. The mix was hand sprayed from an airboat on September 24, 2003 after the birds had migrated from the site.



Treatment site about 4 weeks post treatment.

Initial results were surprisingly good for such a late year treatment. Within one month after treatment the frog's bit was essentially eliminated and most emergent growth, except for the cattails was brown and dying. But it was still early, and success could not be measured until the

spring. A visit in May revealed an exciting change in the plant community. Instead of thick mats of frog's bit and mixed emergents, there was a mix of duckweed and water pennywort (*Hydrocotyle*) with some scattered cattails. However, the greatest proof of success was the fact that the wood storks had returned and were in record numbers this year!



Treatment site on May 13, 2004

The project is not over yet. We plan to chip away at the unwanted vegetation to create an open-water "moat" around the roosting trees to prevent access by predators. The combination of Renovate and Arsenal did an excellent job of controlling frog's bit, alligatorweed, smartweed, and water primrose even with a late season treatment, and kept it under control through the following spring.

Many thanks to SePro Corporation for donating their product and AVC Inc. for donating their application equipment and manpower to this project. Their timely and generous response to our request may have made the difference in saving this important roosting site for one of our state's rarest endangered species.



AVC's Jim Laveque applying Renovate

SCAPMS 26th Annual Meeting Schedule and Information

Wednesday, August 25, 2004

Springmaid Beach Conference Center

Board Meeting	10.00am - 11.00am TBA
Registration	11:00am - 5:00pm 2nd Floor Conf. Center
Meeting	1:00pm - 5:00pm 2nd Floor Conf. Center
Hospitality	6.00pm - 10.00pm Exhibits Area



Thursday, August 26, 2004

Springmaid Beach Conference Center

Registration	8:00am - 5:00pm
Meeting	8:30am - 12:00pm
Lunch	12:00pm - 1:00pm

Workshop/Field Trip 1:00pm - 5:00pm

Scholarship Golf Tournament

12:00pm - 6:00pm

Scholarship Fishing Tournament

1:00pm - 5:00pm, Springmaid Beach Pier (optional)

Stress Relief Session 6:00pm - 7:00pm Exhibits Area

Awards Banquet 7:00pm - 10:00pm Exhibits Area

Friday, August 27, 2004

Springmaid Beach Conference Center

Registration	8:00am - 12:00pm
Meeting	8:30am - 12:00pm
Adjournment	12:00pm



Meeting Registration

Registration fees for the meeting are \$75 for regular members, \$30 for students, and \$250 for sustaining members if paid prior to **July 30**. After the deadline and on the day of the meeting all registration fees will increase by \$25. The \$30 student fee will be waived for students giving papers.

The registration fee includes admission to the meeting, the hospitality gathering on the 25th, lunch, dinner and stress relief session on the 26th, all breaks, and 2004 membership dues.

Please complete the attached pre-registration form and mail it in with the appropriate registration fee to Troy Diel, Sec/Tres. By pre-registering you save a little money (\$25) and help us in planning for the meals, breaks, and ice cold refreshments.

Hotel Accommodations and Reservations

The Society has reserved a block of rooms at Springmaid Beach for \$79.00 per night, plus 10% tax. Reservations at Springmaid Beach can be made by calling **1-800-770-6895** and remember to mention that you are with the **S.C. Aquatic Plant Management Society (SCAPMS)** to get your discounted room rate. Explore Springmaid Beach Resort and register online at www.springmaidbeach.com. The special group rate is good through the weekend (August 28-29) depending on room availability, so make your reservations now!! **Reservations must be made prior to July 19, 2004 to get the discount rate.**

Springmaid Beach Conference Center is located on 3200 South Ocean Boulevard in Myrtle Beach adjacent to Myrtle Beach State Park. If you have any questions, contact Springmaid Beach at 800-770-6895.

Exhibits

The annual meeting offers the opportunity for the membership to view our commercial member's displays and talk to them about their products and services. The time spent talking to technical representatives, obtaining new efficacy and safety literature is fundamental to the professional development of our membership. All breaks and hospitality functions will be held in the exhibits area to promote a relaxing atmosphere for obtaining technical assistance from our commercial sustaining members.

Please call Larry McCord at (843) 761-4101 or Troy Diel at (843) 572-1701 for further details.

Scholarship Golf Tournament

The 2004 SCAPMS Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held at one of the spectacular courses in Myrtle Beach. As the "Golf Capital" of the nation, Myrtle Beach boasts the most and many of the best golf courses in the country.

This year the tournament will be sponsored by our friends at SePRO Corporation. There will be awards for the longest drive and closest to the pin along with an award for the overall lowest score and overall highest score. All proceeds from the tournament will be donated to the SCAPMS scholarship fund. The cost of the tournament is only **\$40.00 per person** and will include a box lunch.

If interested in playing please call Bo Burns at (919) 844-5375 or email at Burnsaj@basf.com. Spaces are limited so please call and reserve a spot.

2004 SCAPMS ANNUAL MEETING PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

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Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Check one:

Regular Member: \$75 _____

Student Member: \$30 _____

Sustaining Member: \$250 _____

Complete form and mail with payment to:

Troy Diel, Sec/Treasurer

470 Indigo Road

Goose Creek, SC 29445



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Newsletter

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Final Call for Papers

The Program Committee is accepting requests for presentations at the 2004 SCAPMS Annual Meeting. Papers covering all aspects of aquatic and wetland plant biology, use, and control will be considered. Student presentations are encouraged with possible cash prizes.

Submit - Title, author, organization, and address exactly as you want it to appear on the program. Two or three sentence abstracts are needed to ensure recertification credits for attendees. **Please reply on or before June 15, 2004.**

We are requesting that all persons using PowerPoint bring their presentations on CD. A laptop and projector will be provided. A slide carousel projector and overhead projector or VCR will be provided by request only.

Fifteen minutes will be allowed for presentations. Special requests for additional time or equipment should be directed to the Program Chairman. Those interested should contact the Vice President/Program Chairman:

John Inabinet
1 Riverwood Drive
Moncks Corner, SC 29461
843-761-4069
jrinabin@santecooper.com



Howard Roach Honored

In addition to the proposed by-laws changes printed in the last newsletter that would establish a new by-laws article for the Society's Scholarship Fund and the Phillip M. Fields Scholarship Award, the board also approved by-laws changes that addressed the annual student paper contest and named the first place award after Howard Roach.

Howard Roach was head of Santee Cooper's aquatic plant management programs for over 20 years, was one of the founding fathers of the Society, served as SCAPMS first president, was the only member to serve two terms as president, and served on numerous committees. Not only was Howard active in the society, he was a constant cheerleader for coordinated aquatic plant management statewide. He was instrumental in the creation of the S.C. Aquatic Plant Management Council and served as the Santee Cooper representative on the Council from 1980 to 1994. Howard also encouraged in-state aquatic plant research by supporting research on the Santee Cooper lakes by local university students. Howard passed away last year and it is only fitting that the student paper award is named in his memory.

To be added to the newly formed Article XVI - Society Scholarship Fund (Sections A and B are in the last newsletter) if approved by the membership at the annual meeting.

Section C. The Society may hold a student paper contest each year during the annual meeting, provided there are a sufficient number of student presentations. The Howard B. Roach Student Paper Award shall be given to the first place winner of the contest. The award shall be a cash award as approved by the Board. The contest shall be judged by a minimum of three members selected by the Chairman of the Scholarship Committee or his/her designee. The judges may not be affiliated with any of the educational institutions attended by the students competing in the contest.



Check Our On-Line Resources

Check out the Membership Directory

The most up-to-date SCAPMS Membership Directory is posted on our web site. Point your browser at www.scapms.org and click on "Directory" listed on the left, then click on "To view directory" prompt. The secret password is "hyacinth". Enjoy!

New! Bulletin Board

A bulletin board has been added to enable members to carry on discussions with multiple users at once. A Job section has also been added to enable the many users to post their jobs and job descriptions in a common area.

Point your browser at www.scapms.org and click on "Bulletin Board" listed on the left. You must create a user account with a name and password. Nothing illicit will be tolerated on this board. You will not be allowed access if you misuse any part of this bulletin board service. We are also looking for moderators for the board. Contact Chris Page at page@dnr.state.sc.us for information on becoming a moderator.



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