

# The Landing Rate Count

[www.scmca.net](http://www.scmca.net)

Newsletter of the South Carolina Mosquito Control Association

August 2020 –Vol 46 • Issue 1

Editor: Special Davison

## The President's Message

Obviously, the last few months since our joint meeting with MAMCA has been a difficult time for everyone. During the meeting in February, many of us were discussing ending the meeting early due to the inclement weather. Several participants were even called back to their workplaces to avoid being trapped by the winter weather. Who knew that would be just the beginning of the disruption of our daily lives? The pandemic of COVID-19 is a stark reminder of the importance of our chosen profession and the importance of public health workers across all disciplines. We are forever grateful to the men and women on the front lines of the medical profession assisting those affected by this disease. Many of you have spent countless hours preparing for these scenarios, but never expected something of this magnitude since it is only the 5<sup>th</sup> major pandemic in the last 100 years <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/pandemic-resources/basics/past-pandemics.html>.



Larry Motes, BCE  
2020 SCMCA President

Out of an abundance of caution and in the best interest of safety, the Board has decided not to hold a summer workshop in 2020, but we are considering a Virtual Conference later this year. On behalf of the SCMCA Board of Directors, we appreciate and say "Thank You" to all who are facing this battle and continue to fight this devastating disease. My prayer is that none of you or your families have contracted the disease, and I urge everyone to "stay safe".

Another important topic in our world today centers around social injustice and reforms needed to prevent all forms of discrimination. While this topic may be uncomfortable for some, it is our obligation to engage in conversations to seek understanding and show support to those affected by the tragic events over the past few months and throughout history. I ask everyone to consider reaching out to someone in at least one minority social group to begin meaningful dialogue in order to gain a new perspective. Through these interactions, we can begin the process of healing a hurt and divided society.

Finally, thank you to everyone for making the MAMCA and SCMCA joint meeting a success and I look forward to seeing everyone in the near future!

Larry Motes, BCE

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## Important Meeting Notice

**The South Carolina Mosquito Control Association will not host the 2020 Summer Workshop.**

# 2020 SCMCA Sustaining Members

*Thank you for your time and contributions!*



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## 2020 SCMCA Sustaining Members, continued



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# 2020 SCMCA Sustaining Members, continued



Mosquito Spraying • Woods Spraying • Crop Spraying • Fertilization

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## SCMCA Regions & Delegates

### Upper Region: Amber Leonard

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### Middle Region: Chelsey Reed

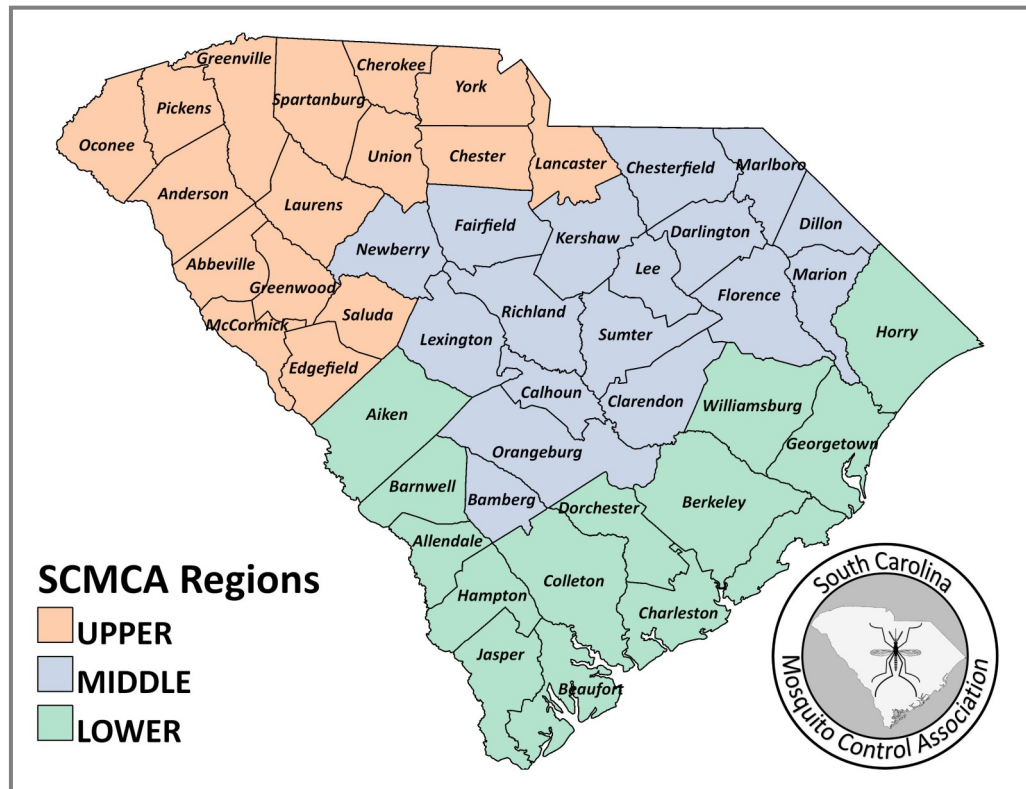
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### Lower Region: James Brock

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## Upper Region

### City of Clemson

The city of Clemson began spraying several weeks ago and plans to spray every other week throughout the season. They have not received any complaints so far this season.

### City of Edgefield

David Coleman with the City of Edgefield stated that they are preparing for this season and will begin spraying soon. They have not received any complaints so far this season.

### Greenville County

Greenville County contracted an outside pest control company last season and has continued the service this season. There is a hotline for citizens to call in requests for areas that may require control and prevention services. The hotline number is 864-467-5988 and accepts requests from June to September from citizens in Greenville, Simpsonville, Travelers Rest, and Greer.

### City of Fountain Inn

Lori Cooper with the City of Fountain Inn stated that they will begin spraying once per month with Biomist in the city limits of Fountain Inn. They have not received any complaints this season.

# Middle Region

## City of Columbia

Low number of complaints, will be working together with Richland County Vector Control to spray the juvenile detention center. Have not done any trapping, still getting bearings back after COVID-19.

## Chesterfield County (City of Cheraw)

They've had a cool spring but have noticed hatching in the last few weeks. Started spraying last Saturday, usually spray approximately 6-8 times throughout summer. They have been operating normal everyday procedures throughout the pandemic.

## Clarendon (City of Manning)

Began spraying the first week of June.

## Darlington County

Not affected throughout COVID, have not yet sprayed but have larvacided throughout the wetlands.

## Dillon County

Plan to start spraying in a couple of weeks.

## Florence (Florence County Environmental Services)

Herbie Christmas retired in July 2019. They have not larvacided yet due to it not being part of the state contract. Have not done any trapping this season, they normally coordinate with DHEC on trapping but because of COVID-19 the trapping has been paused.

## Middle Region

### Richland County

This spring has been like nothing we've ever experienced. To begin, Congratulations to Olin Towery & Chelsey Reed for receiving support to attend the Dodd Short Courses in February. Without that support, the training would not have been possible. They both learned a lot at the training and shared the information with the rest of the staff. The full-time staff were all able to attend the joint MAMCA/SCMCA meeting in February. It was a great experience for them. Congratulations to Beverly Whitmire for receiving the Technician of the Year Award, and to Tammy Brewer for receiving the Silver Dipper. Staff were also able to attend the Clarke Spring Workshop the next week. Congratulations to Chelsey Reed for obtaining her SC pesticide applicator license.

Despite the many challenges and obstacles that the COVID-19 pandemic has presented, we have managed to persevere. Richland County closed down with the rest of the nation, allowing only essential personnel to work. Since we were at the beginning of our catch basin project, it was determined that the Vector Control staff were essential, and therefore continued working. It began on a limited basis initially, but staff have been working more steadily as time went on and as service requests began to increase. Our processes have altered, staff are all required to wear masks while in county buildings & maintain the 6 ft. social distance, schedules have been adjusted, and working from home for those more at risk has been the norm for this spring. The adjustments have also caused delays with our regularly scheduled trapping, training, and responses. Breyonia Evans, our Administrative Support person, left us to seek greener pastures in mid-March. We were not able to interview and hire our seasonal crew or post Breyonia's vacancy. It is unlikely that we will be able to interview and hire any personnel this summer. We will continue to do our best to provide service to the citizens while maintaining the safety of our staff until the pandemic subsides and we can resume some sense of normalcy.

## Lower Region

### Berkeley County

COVID-19 gave us a bit of a different start to the mosquito season this year, but our staff were all still at work and able to deal with any early hatch-offs. We had some daytime staff working a late night-early morning shift to better practice social distancing. This allowed us to spray more problem areas every night, which actually worked out pretty well for us. Berkeley County has seen a lot of rain this year so far, especially in February and April. We had a couple of major flood-water hatch-offs in several areas of Berkeley County, and were able to get the mosquito population down to acceptable numbers with truck-based adulticiding. On June 3rd, we conducted an aerial spray operation, the first in over 2 years, in parts of the Wando and Daniel Island areas. This was in response to numerous complaints from the public, and high landing rate counts of *Aedes sollicitans* observed in the area. We hope to be able to deal with any further hatch-offs this year by truck, but are prepared to spray aerially more times if necessary.

Andrew Starland

### Charleston County

March, April, and May of 2020 were much wetter than the same period of 2019, when Charleston County and much of the region experienced near-drought conditions. Multiple severe thunderstorm fronts, unusually high peak high tides, and Tropical Storm Bertha were the stimulus driving the mosquito population this spring. For example, in March, April and May of 2019, a total of 68,103 acres were sprayed by truck-mounted ULV units. This year, the total for those months was 258,983 acres. Fortunately, Charleston County had designated mosquito control personnel as essential, and despite the Covid-19 circumstances, the division was able to continue all phases of surveillance and control. The division hired two new Field Inspectors March 13<sup>th</sup>, to bring Field Inspector staffing to a complement of six.

Ed Harne



## Lower Region

### Horry County

Wow what a year 2020 is shaping up to be! Things haven't really changed that much for us other than the Covid-19 policies. We have had mosquito complaints all year. We have added a new UTV and liquid larviciding sprayer and two more spraying trucks as our area counties to grow. We also added more traps and trapping sites as well to help monitor mosquito populations. Hope all are safe and doing well !!

James Brock

### City of North Myrtle Beach

Hello everyone, hope all are safe during these times we have never seen before. We, here at the City of North Myrtle Beach have been hit extremely hard. Multiple employees had to be furloughed. With this being said our Mosquito program is down to just two full time positions. We have finished putting out our first round of larviciding this year. We have already applied about 300 gallons of adulticide this year. With the warm winter and excessive rainfall, we have seen a few mosquitoes. Our complaints were constant through the winter and have increased as we have moved into the spring and now into summer. Due to the unforeseen economic events, we have not been able to do any upgrades or changes we were planning to do. I hope that this will soon end and everyone can get back to some form of life, as we knew it. May everyone stay safe!

Operations Manager Streets & Drainage

Johnny Bruton

### Myrtle Beach

The City of Myrtle Beach will continue to maintain its level of service in the Mosquito Control Program in spite of the economic down turn due to covid-19. Construction of new neighborhoods and the arrival of new residents has not slowed down. We will have to expand our adulticiding , larviciding and education along with other city services to meet this new growth. We will also continue to plan and prepare for hurricanes and mosquito born diseases that may or may not make an appearance in the coming year.

Clarence M. VanHouten  
City of Myrtle Beach Mosquito Control

## MAMCA/SCMCA Joint Meeting Recap

The 45<sup>th</sup> annual Mid-Atlantic Mosquito Control Association (MAMCA) and the 47<sup>th</sup> annual South Carolina Mosquito Control Association (SCMCA) meetings were held jointly at the Hilton Greenville in Greenville, SC, February 19 – 21, 2020. Attendance exceeded expectations with one hundred twelve (112) persons from sixteen states attending the conference. True to form, the meeting was like a “reunion”...seeing “family” and making new friends. Southern hospitality was on display and a rare “snowstorm” made an appearance.



Trey Reed passing the SCMCA Presidential gavel to Larry Motes.

The program included various noteworthy presentations with topics ranging from adult/larval operations, education/training, vector/disease surveillance, and CDC initiatives. Special efforts were taken to include a number of student presentations, both poster and oral. MAMCA State Reports and presentations by Sustaining Members rounded out the agenda. PDFs of presentations may be found on the MAMCA website.

During the MAMCA Business Meeting, Robert Cartner (SC) was elected President, Tom Moran (DE) was confirmed Vice President, and Ture Carlson (GA) was elected Vice President Elect for 2020 – 2021. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to the following: Rosemarie Kelly (GA), Kyle Brinson (MD), and Shaun McEntire (PA) for their service as 2017 – 2020 State Directors on the MAMCA Board. According to the State Director rotation, the following will join the MAMCA Board for the 2020 – 2023 term: Tiffany Thuy-Vi Thi Nguyen (GA), with Kyle Brinson (MD) & Shaun McEntire (PA) serving another three-year term.

At the Luncheon/Award Ceremony, Tim DuBois (VA) was presented a plaque for his service and second term as MAMCA President. Kyndall Dye-Braumuller was presented with the inaugural Dr. Bruce A. Harrison Outstanding Student Award. Joe Andrews, NC State Director and Sustaining Member, received the MAMCA Outstanding Service Award. The MAMCA Rowland E. Dorer Award was presented to Peter Connelly, Sustaining Member, for his exceptional contributions to mosquito control in the Mid-Atlantic region. The South Carolina Mosquito Control Association also presented awards to the following individuals: Trey Reed for his service as SCMCA President, Beverly Whitmire (Technician of the Year), Tammy Brewer (Silver Dipper Award), and Joe Conlon (L.A. Williams, Jr. Award). Congratulations to all the award recipients for their service and contributions.



During the SCMCA

Business Meeting, Larry Motes was elected President and Special Davison, MAMCA’s SC State Director, was nominated to serve as SCMCA’s Vice President. Regional representatives elected by caucus were: Amber Leonard (Upper Region), Chelsey Reed (Middle Region), and James Brock (Lower Region). Steve Molnar was elected to serve as the At Large representative.

For additional information and upcoming news, please go to <https://www.MAMCA.org> and <https://www.scmca.net>.



Student Poster Presentations



“Technician of the Year” was awarded to Beverly Whitmire from Richland County Vector Control

Richland County Vector Control Staff: (Tammy Brewer, Beverly Whitmire, Breyonia Evans, Chelsey Reed, and Olin Towery)





Joe Conlon receiving the L.A. Williams Jr. Award.



Rosemarie Kelly presented a certificate of appreciation for her service as MAMCA's Georgia State Director.



Pictured: Joe Conlon, Peter Connelly, Joe Andrews, Tim Dubois, and Knydall Dye-Braumuller



Peter Connelly was presented the MAMCA Rowland E. Dorer Award.



MAMCA's Bruce A. Harrison Outstanding Student award was presented to Knydall Dye-Braumuller.





L.A. Williams Jr. and Joe Conlon, who was the recipient of this year's L.A. Williams Jr. Award.



Joe Andrews was presented a Certificate of Appreciation for serving as MAMCA's NC State Director.



MAMCA Past President Tim Dubois passing the gavel to Robert Cartner.



Kyle Brinson was presented a Certificate of Appreciation for serving as MAMCA's PA State Director.

# Mid-Atlantic Mosquito Control Association Officers and Board Members Representing SC

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duboist@portsmouthva.gov

Andy Kyle (Secretary-Treasurer) 2471 Mayfield Street York, PA 17406 Phone (717) 346-8241 FAX (717) 346-8591 akyle@pa.gov

**Special Davison (South Carolina State Director) State of South Carolina Government Phone (864) 266 - 8859 specialdavison@gmail.com**

**Sue Ferguson (Historian) SC DHEC Environmental Health Services (retired) Phone (803) 732-1141 fergussc@bellsouth.net**

## Meet Your New SCMCA Board Members!

### Middle Region: Chelsey Reed

Hello SCMCA!

My name is Chelsey Reed and I am your new Middle Region delegate. Thank you so much for welcoming me to the association and helping me improve both personally and professionally! I was born and raised in Pennsylvania and received a BS in Biology from Mansfield University. Now having been in South Carolina for 5 years, I work as an Environmental Field Coordinator with Richland County Vector Control in Columbia and just celebrated my one year anniversary here. I also work for an airline and as a dogwalker! In my spare time I enjoy playing guitar, traveling as much as possible, and being a new cat mom to my pal Dottie. I have really loved learning about the mosquito control industry this year and look forward to growing with you all!



### Lower Region: James Brock



My name is James Brock and I am the Supervisor for Mosquito Control in Horry County. I would like to say thank you for giving me the opportunity to be the Lower Region representative. I have worked with the county for 7 years in mosquito control and worked in the private sector for 10 years in mosquito control. I have two sons Conner my oldest and Hunter is the youngest, and a granddaughter Ellie who is 6 months old. My hobbies include hunting and fishing as well as coaching football, basketball and baseball. I also volunteer coaching at the high school level and also in the recreation leagues. I look forward to serving as the Lower Region representative.



## Meet Your New SCMCA Board Members! (cont'd)

### At-Large: Steve Molnar

Steve Molnar is the vector specialist for Target Specialty Products and covers Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia. He received his Bachelor of Science from Northwest Missouri State University in Geography and Geology; and also has a Master of Science from Towson State University in Geography and Environmental Sciences. Steve got his start in mosquito control at St. Louis County to do GIS work but quickly adapted to supervising larviciding and larval identification/surveillance when technology budgets froze. After this, he moved on to work as sales representative for Adapco for 16 years, serving three different territories and covering nearly 20 different states. Moving into his second year at Target, Steve has been serving the SE territory by providing customers technical support, training, and product guidance. Steve lives in Atlanta, Georgia with his wife and their two daughters.



### Vice President: Special Davison

Hello everyone! I want to take this opportunity to thank you for electing me to serve as your Vice President for this upcoming term. I was fortunate to have met most of you during last year's summer workshop and met many folks from all over during the joint conference in February. I recently served as the program assistant for the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control's Rabies Prevention Program. I just began working as the Grant Manager for the South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office's Mitigation Program. I also serve as the South Carolina Director on the Mid-Atlantic Mosquito Control Association's board. I graduated from the University of South Carolina in December of 2016 with a bachelor's degree in Public Health. I am originally from Spartanburg, SC but currently reside in West Columbia, SC. I am optimistic about the future of this association and I look forward to continue networking with you all and serve this association to the best of my ability for years to come. Stay safe and be blessed!





## Web Resources

Resource	Website
American Mosquito Control Association	<a href="http://www.mosquito.org/">http://www.mosquito.org/</a>
CDC Division of Vector-Borne Diseases	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/ncezid/dvbd">http://www.cdc.gov/ncezid/dvbd</a>
CDC Zika Virus Information	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/zika/">http://www.cdc.gov/zika/</a>
Clemson University CEU Search (See <i>your</i> information)	<a href="http://regfocus.clemson.edu/dpr/ncommercial.htm">http://regfocus.clemson.edu/dpr/ncommercial.htm</a>
Clemson University Cooperative Extension Beekeeping	<a href="http://www.clemson.edu/extension/beekeepers/">http://www.clemson.edu/extension/beekeepers/</a>
Clemson University Department of Pesticide Regulation	<a href="http://regfocus.clemson.edu/dpr/">http://regfocus.clemson.edu/dpr/</a>
EPA Insect Repellents: Use and Effectiveness	<a href="http://cfpub.epa.gov/oppref/insect/">http://cfpub.epa.gov/oppref/insect/</a>
Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory (+ID Guide)	<a href="http://fmel.ifas.ufl.edu/">http://fmel.ifas.ufl.edu/</a>
Florida Mosquito Control Association	<a href="http://www.floridamosquito.org/Home/">http://www.floridamosquito.org/Home/</a>
Mid-Atlantic Mosquito Control Association	<a href="http://www.mamca.org/">http://www.mamca.org/</a>
NC Mosquito and Vector Control Association	<a href="http://www.ncmvca.org/">http://www.ncmvca.org/</a>
SC DHEC Mosquitoes in South Carolina	<a href="http://www.scdhec.gov/mosquitoes">http://www.scdhec.gov/mosquitoes</a>
SC DHEC Reporting Dead Birds in South Carolina	<a href="http://www.scdhec.gov/birdtesting">http://www.scdhec.gov/birdtesting</a>
SC DHEC Zika Virus Information	<a href="http://www.scdhec.gov/zika">http://www.scdhec.gov/zika</a>
Society for Vector Ecology	<a href="http://www.sove.org/">http://www.sove.org/</a>
South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Society	<a href="http://www.scapms.org/">http://www.scapms.org/</a>
SC Bee Keeper Association (Local assoc. links)	<a href="http://www.scstatebeekeepers.org/">http://www.scstatebeekeepers.org/</a>
SC Mosquito Control Association	<a href="http://www.scmca.net/">http://www.scmca.net/</a>
USGS (Arbovirus Disease Maps)	<a href="http://diseasemaps.usgs.gov/mapviewer/">http://diseasemaps.usgs.gov/mapviewer/</a>



**SOUTH CAROLINA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**Attn: Olin Towery, Secretary Treasurer**

**Richland County Vector Control**

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**Columbia, SC 29203**

**OFFICE PHONE: (803) 576-2428**

**FAX: (803) 576-2498**

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**NAME:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**ORGANIZATION:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**WORK PHONE:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**FAX:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP/ DUES (Renewal due at Annual Meeting)**

<b>Active Member</b>	<b>\$ 10.00</b>
<b>*Sustaining Member</b>	<b>\$150.00</b>

**\*Includes one active membership**

Please make checks payable to SCMCA and return to Olin Towery at the address above.

**For Office Use Only:**

Region: Upper / Middle / Lower

Amount Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Cash

## 2020 SCMCA Board of Directors

**President:** Larry Motes, BCE  
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Board Certified Entomologist  
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**Advisor:** L.A. Williams Jr.  
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**SCMCA E-Mail:**  
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### SCMCA – Promoting Mosquito Control in South Carolina

#### *The Landing Rate Count*

**SC Mosquito Control Association**  
c/o Richland County Vector Control  
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PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE