

The Landing Rate Count

www.scmca.net

Newsletter of the South Carolina Mosquito Control Association

March 2022 –Vol 47 • Issue 1

The President's Message

Editor: Special Young

Happy New Year! Firstly, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve as the president of this association. 2022 has already brought opportunity to me as I was invited to attend the BEACONS Workshop hosted by the University of Florida on January 24th. I had the opportunity to brush up on excel data organization, QGIS, bionomics of invasive species and was able to tour the facility. I'm grateful for this experience and that I was able to attend and meet new people, see familiar faces and promote our association. In other SCMCA news Tammy Brewer, SCMCA Historian has retired from Richland County Vector Control after 31 years of government service. We thank her for her dedication to SCMCA and MAMCA and wish her happiness and relaxation.



The prospect of an in-person SCMCA summer workshop and subsequent annual conference is still unknown due to the newest surge of COVID-19 cases and restricted travel for state and local government employees. Please stay tuned.

Again, thank you for your continued support of our association and the loyalty you have shown to the communities you serve.

Be blessed and stay safe.

Special Young

SCMCA President

In This Issue

- President's Message 1
- SCMCA Sustaining Members 2 - 3
- SCMCA Regions..... 4
- 2021-2022 SCMCA Awards 5-7
- New SCMCA Board Members 8-9
- Upper Region..... 10
- Middle Region..... 11-12
- Lower Region..... 13-15
- SCMCA Membership Application..... 16
- Web Resources 17
- 2022 Technician of the Year Nomination Form..... 18
- 2022 SCMCA Board..... 19

Important Meeting Notice

The South Carolina Mosquito Control Association will be hosting a virtual Annual Meeting soon. To be announced!

SCMCA will host a summer workshop on June 2, 2022

Details to be announced!

2022 SCMCA Sustaining Members

Thank you for your time and contributions!



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an AZELIS Americas Company

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2022 SCMCA Sustaining Members, continued



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2022 SCMCA Sustaining Members, continued



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SCMCA Regions & Delegates

Upper Region: Julie Davis

Phone: (864) 943-2648

jdavis@greenwoodsc.gov

Middle Region: Chelsey Reed

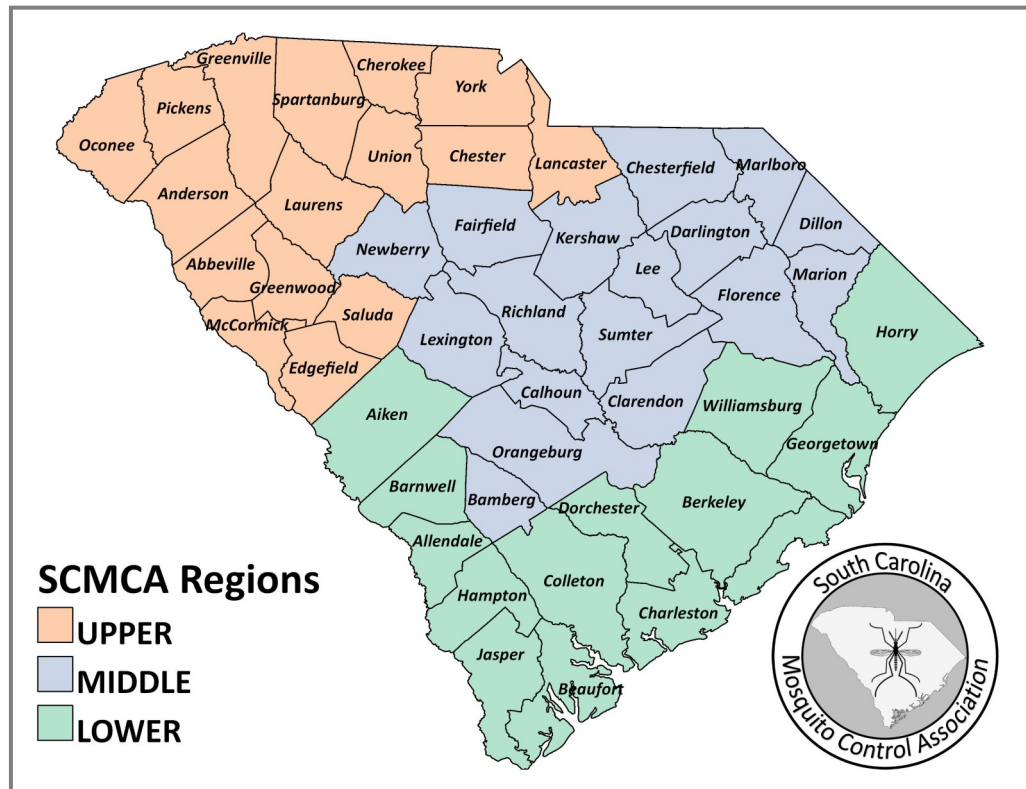
Phone: (803) 576-2427

reed.chelsey@richlandcountysc.gov

Lower Region: Nick Fipps

Phone: (843) 915-6929

Fipps.nicholas@horrycounty.org



**Congratulations To Olin Towery
For Receiving
The John C. Grant Presidential Award**



**Congratulations To Chelsey Reed For
Receiving Technician Of The Year
Award 2021-2022**



**Congratulations To Candace Royals
For Receiving The Silver Dipper Award
2021-2022**



Met Your New SCMCA Board Members!

Lower Region Representative

Hey, everyone! My name is Nicholas Fipps but you can feel free to call me Nick. I am originally from Loris, South Carolina but recently relocated to a small town called Evergreen in North Carolina. I have been married one year to my wife Dana and have one 4-year-old daughter named Harper. I have worked with Horry County Mosquito Control for the past 5 years and couldn't see myself doing anything else. In my free time I love to fish, cook, and spend time with the family. I am honored to be able to serve as the lower region representative and all the opportunities that come along with the job.



Julie Davis

Upper Region Representative

Born and raised in the upstate of South Carolina, Julie Marie Corley Davis is originally from Powdersville, SC. After graduating from Clemson University with a Bachelor of Science in Resource Management and a Minor in Wildlife, Aquaculture, and Fisheries Biology, Julie began her professional career with the SC State Park Service. After working with them for six years, she went back to Clemson and obtained her Master's degree in Parks and Protected Area Management.

After graduation, Julie was hired on with Greenwood County as Lake Manager in 2006. Lake Greenwood, situated in the foothills of SC is an 11,400 acre lake owned by Greenwood County and bordered by three counties. Lake Greenwood, a FERC licensed project, was created in the late 1930s, and is a treasure for the surrounding communities. Lake Management staff perform mosquito control with larvicide treatments on Lake Greenwood.



Upper Region

City of Fountain Inn

The City didn't perform mosquito activities last year because of COVID. For this year, they are planning to respond to citizens and usually do residential treatments according to complaints received.

City of Gaffney

The City usually starts in March or April, depending upon the weather conditions. They usually do adulticide spray treatments once a month. This year will probably be along same lines as last year's program.

City of Seneca

The City usually conducts mosquito control every 2 weeks, as need. The city employees perform the mosquito treatments, and will probably start in May, but it will be dependent upon the weather.

Middle Region

Richland County

First and foremost, Richland County would like to extend our thanks and congratulations to Tammy Brewer who retired on December 31, 2021 after almost 32 years of dedicated service. Our program will not be the same without her expertise, but we hope to continue the legacy that she helped build. Following Tammy's departure, Olin Towery took over as the Manager of Vector Control, and Chelsey Reed moved into the Supervisor of Vector Control position. We are currently facing staffing shortages, but have submitted paperwork to hire two more full-time team members who should start in March.

We are also in the process of hiring two part-time, seasonal team members. Beverly Whitmire was awarded a fellowship grant to attend the virtual DODD Short Courses this past January, and she was gracious enough to take over as SCMCA's new Secretary-Treasurer. We plan to begin West Nile Virus surveillance trapping in March in collaboration with SCDHEC, and our light trap routes should start in April. Between the position changes, the many training opportunities, and interviewing to hire new staff, we have managed to stay very busy in our off-season and expect that to extend well into the hot summer months!



Olin Towery
Richland County Vector Manager

Lexington County

Lexington County Vector Control experienced less than 50 mosquito complaints from citizens last season! Most of those calls were referencing *Aedes albopictus*, so they have focused on educating the public about how they can eliminate mosquito breeding at home. John Matthews started last April and has learned the job very quickly to become an integral part of the team. They are keeping tabs on ditches and picking up tires within the county to reduce breeding sources, and expect to adulticide this season as needed.

Middle Region

Sumter County

Sumter County is gearing up for the 2022 season. They are getting the trucks ready and are in the process of hiring and training new drivers since they lost some experienced techs from last season to retirement. Here's to hoping for a mild season with no tropical storms! 2021 was a pretty good year as they processed only 63 requests for the entire year.

Alan Penland

Lower Region

Berkeley County

“While we did have our normal floodwater mosquito hatch-offs in September here in Berkeley County, I would say that they were relatively small compared to those we experience most years. Actually, 2021 was probably one of the mildest years for mosquitoes that we’ve experienced in the last ten years. We received markedly fewer service requests from the public all year. This was especially noticeable in the fall months, when we’re used to having a surge of incoming calls and emails. We did see a couple more arboviral cases in the county than we usually have, but we were able to carry out the recommended response procedures with no issues. We are currently in the process of updating our spray zones to accommodate Berkeley County’s rapid expansion of residential areas into what was previously undeveloped forest. Otherwise, our department has not undergone any significant changes recently. We hope that the mosquitoes of the 2022 season do not try to make up for the relative quiet of 2021 with a population boom.”

Andrew Starland

Beaufort County

Overall, we had an average mosquito season in 2021. We had a very late WNV+ American Crow that was detected at the beginning of December. We were able to continue trapping into January, but found no WNV+ mosquitoes.

We added a new laboratory technician position back in October and one of our previous lab interns was hired into that role. He recently attended the Dodd Identification of Adult Mosquitoes course in Gainesville, FL. We also recently filled one of our vacant field technician positions. We still have two open field crew positions that need to be filled.



We are in the process of annual maintenance on our aircraft and we hope to have both ready by the end of February. In April, we’ll start our yearly process of treating the catchbasins with larvicide briquettes.

Lower Region

Charleston County

As the overall larval and adult mosquito activity level began to wane significantly in November 2021, the Charleston County Mosquito Control Program's (CCMCP) endeavors shifted to equipment maintenance and staffing efforts. New hires included Andrew Pierson, Entomologist, Daniel Budd, Field Inspector, and Matthew Middleton, Spray Technician. Promotions included Jon Loveland, to Assistant Manager, and Robert Bonfoey, to Field Inspector. Maintenance projects completed in late 2021 and January 2022 included the overhaul of eight Guardian ULV sprayers, and the overhaul of thirty-five New Jersey Light Traps, one hydraulic pallet jack, and the Big John agricultural Mist Blower high volume sprayer. Also completed was the removal, overhaul, and re-installation of the engine in one of our two MD-500 helicopters, N991MC. Meetings continued between CCMCP's Manager, Assistant Manager, Charleston County Public Works (CCPW) officials, and architects and engineering construction contractors concerning the proposed new CCPW facility building complex.

Ed Harne

City of Myrtle Beach

The City of Myrtle Beach Mosquito Control Program will maintain the same level of service as last year. We plan to change the adulticide that we are currently using about mid-season. The city is still growing fast and we are moving fast to provide service to these new neighborhoods. No other changes to the program are planned for this year.

Clarence VanHouten

Lower Region

Horry County

Horry County checking in here. As 2021 is behind us with it being one of our slower and driest seasons; On the other hand, the beginning of 2022 isn't looking to promising with the winter temperatures up and down. One day there's snow and ice and the next there is 68 degree weather. We are looking at bringing in three additional part time employees to help with surveillance and larviciding. We are looking into also purchasing a drone to help with larviciding and adulticiding along with enhancing our mobile adulticiding fleet to a number of eight trucks with ULV sprayers. We will be adding an additional UTV with a thermal fogger to help spray county parks and athletic fields. We will also be using an A1 Mister in the UTV for liquid larviciding roadside ditches and swampy areas.



Nick Fipps

City of North Myrtle Beach

Hello everyone from the City of North Myrtle Beach. It looks like we are in for another tough year. From dealing with extreme cases of Covid-19 to product supply problems, the light at the end of the tunnel looks dim at the present time. With the very wet and warm winter and from our winter surveillance, we feel like this will be a very busy year. We are in the process of treating our catch basins in all of the Cities public parks and common areas. As soon as the temperature increases we will begin our regular surveillance program. We do not have plans at this time to make any major changes other than trying to keep everyone healthy and an ample supply of product. Hope we get to meet for the summer workshop, everyone stay safe!

Johnny Bruton Operations Manager Streets & Drainage



SOUTH CAROLINA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION, INC.

Attn: Olin Towery, Secretary Treasurer

Richland County Vector Control

400 Powell Road

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)

Active Member	\$ 10.00
*Sustaining Member	\$150.00

***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



Web Resources

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



2022 SCMCA TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Nominee: _____ Date: _____

PLEASE ADD A BRIEF BIO ON THE BACK OF THIS FORM

Jacket Size: _____

County/State Program: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Job Title: _____

Supervisor: _____ Phone/Email: _____

WRITE A BRIEF SUMMARY SUPPORTING YOUR NOMINEE FOR THIS AWARD. (In your nomination, be specific – who, what, when and where. Attach a letter or other supporting material if needed.)

Guidelines for Selection:

1. Consistent and excellent performance with efforts above and beyond expected duties
2. General knowledge of mosquito biology
3. Service to community
4. Positive attitude: enthusiasm, pride in work
5. Team Player
6. Must be a member of the association in good standing

Please complete this form and return to:

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DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:
September 23, 2022

2022 SCMCA Board of Directors

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SCMCA – Promoting Mosquito Control in South Carolina

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SC Mosquito Control Association
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