**Newsletter of the South Carolina Mosquito Control Association** 

July 2024 -Vol 49 • Issue 2

### Editor: Chelsey Reed

#### The President's Message

Hello everyone, I hope everyone is enduring this heat and drought well. We are not only in a drought as far as rainfall goes but also with mosquitoes. Hopefully everyone is taking a deep breath during this slow spell in preparation for what is surely to come. I would like to thank everyone who attended the Summer Workshop and also a big thank you to the SCMCA Board of Directors who put on



Johnny Bruton, 2023 - 24 SCMCA President

the amazing program. We had great presenters, and their presentations were amazing. Your BOD are hard at work planning for the SCMCA 2024 Annual Meeting. As you read this issue of the newsletter you will find a vast amount of information regarding the Annual Meeting. We are planning on holding the Annual Meeting November 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> in Hilton Head SC. We hope everyone has a chance to attend since we will have some really good information to share from some exciting new presenters. We will also be offering some SCMCA merchandise to help you remember the great meetings we are going to have for years to come. I would also like to take time to remind everyone of how important their job or role is in mosquito control and the prevention of vector-borne disease in South Carolina. Often you are not told thank you or you have done a good job, but you do, so I am telling you thank you and every one of you do an amazing job. With that being said let's get ready for the hurricane season and an increase in mosquito complaints. I look forward to seeing each of you at the annual meeting. Be safe and stay cool! - Johnny Bruton

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## **Important Meeting Notice**

The 2024 Annual Meeting will be held Nov. 6-8 at Beach House Resort in Hilton Head Island

### Register and book your accommodations by Oct. 7!

Beach House Hilton Head - Reservations - Room Availability

(The group rate is available from Nov. 4-10 if you'd like to extend!)

### **2024 SCMCA Sustaining Members**

Thank you for your time and contributions!



**ADAPCO Innovative Mosquito Solutions,** 

an AZELIS Americas Company

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### **2024 SCMCA Sustaining Members**



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#### AMGUARD Environmental Technologies Envance Technologies, LLC

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**Valent Biosciences** 

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### **2024 SCMCA Sustaining Members**



#### Williamsburg Air Service, Inc

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WWW.WILLIAMSBURGAIRSERVICE.COM

### **SCMCA Regions & Delegates**

**Upper Region**: Kenneth Juergens

Phone: (864) 992-1305 kenjuergens27@gmail.com

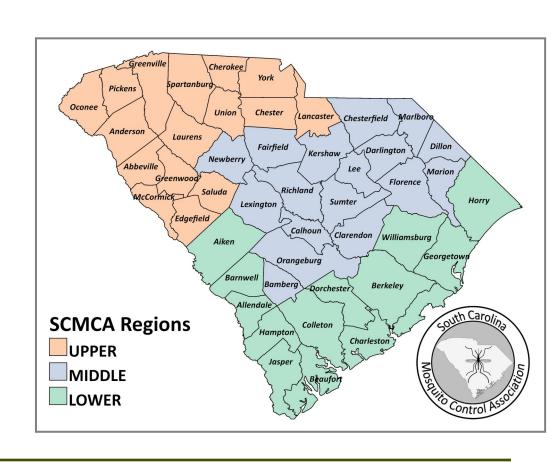
Middle Region: Gabriel Begley

Phone: (803) 896-0579 begleygd@dph.sc.gov

**Lower Region**: Andrew Pierson

Phone: (843) 202-7891

APierson@charlestoncounty.org



# **2024 SCMCA Summer Workshop**

June 6, 2024













## Please welcome your new Upper Region Delegate, Kenneth Juergens!



I am a lifelong resident of the big city of Ninety Six, SC where I live with my wife Stacey at Lake Greenwood. We have 2 children - Jasmin, 31 and Andrew, 27. They both still live within 2 miles of us and Jasmin has our grandchildren Coleton, 11 and Olivia, 5.

We are recreational boaters, you can usually find us boating on lake Greenwood 3 or 4 days a week during the summer, and I am an avid sailor. I currently crew on an offshore sailboat out of Charleston, and have competed in dozens of races up and down the east coast and actually won an international race to Cuba back in 2016.

I attended Lander University where I studied business management and this is where I met my wife Stacey. She is actually the reason we are in the pest control industry as she is highly allergic to mosquito bites and in search of relief for Stacey we came across The Mosquito Authority. We started the business back in 2012 with myself and 1 truck and currently employ 11 people.

I hope that in my position with SCMCA I will be able to help bridge the gap between the government agencies and the backyard mosquito control industry to better educate and protect the citizens of SC.

### SOUTH CAROLINA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION

### **Annual Meeting Registration**

Beach House Resort 1 S. Forest Beach Dr. Hilton Head Island, SC 29928 November 6 – November 8, 2024 REGISTRATION DUE BY: October 7, 2024

NAME:  ORGANIZATION:  ADDRESS:  CITY/STATE/ZIP:  PHONE:  EMAIL ADDRESS:	
*Registration fee: \$200.00  Active Membership Dues: \$25.00  Sustaining Membership Dues: \$250.00  OTHER COSTS  Additional Banquet Tickets \$50.00	*Registration fee includes meeting registration, annual membership dues, one banquet ticket, and breakfast on Friday.
Total Due:  The Early Bird Dinner will be at the Frosty Frog Café on 11.6.24 at 6pm. Please check this box if you plan to attend  FOR OFFICE USE ONLY  Amount received with pre-registration form \$ Check # Cash~~Balance due at meeting: \$ Check # Cash	Registrations received prior to October 7 will automatically be entered to win a free night's stay to be used during the meeting! The winner will be contacted by email on October 11.

Use the following link to book your accommodations by October 7!

### SC Mosquito Control Association Annual Meeting Hotel Link

Return this form to the Secretary/Treasurer: SC Mosquito Control Association, Attn: Beverly Whitmire, Richland County Vector Control; 400 Powell Road; Columbia, SC 29203; (803) 576-2426

Association Website: www.scmca.net

# 2024 SCMCA T-Shirt Preorder Form

60% Cotton 40% Polyester T-Shirts available in sizes XS-3XL **\$20 each** 



Online order form available here

Name:								
Ice Blue	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	
Stone Grey	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL TOTAL:	

Return this form along with payment to the Secretary/Treasurer: SC Mosquito Control Association, Attn: Beverly Whitmire, Richland County Vector Control; 400 Powell Road; Columbia, SC 29203; (803) 576-2426;

#### whitmire.beverly@richlandcountysc.gov

Checks can be made out to SCMCA

### **Upper Region**

**Clinton:** We have not had a single call this summer about mosquitoes and only go out to treat as needed, on demand.

**Seneca:** We treat 2 times per month May - September with two spray trucks. We have not had any calls in between the treatments with any issues.

**Town of Ninety-Six and Prosperity:** Mosquito Authority treats monthly with ULV truck applications April—August.

### **Middle Region**

**Batesburg-Leesville:** The weather has been unusually dry, so mosquito complaints are down. There are no winter plans as of right now, but due to the new equipment obtained through the hurricane relief funding we are planning to do more treatment for ditches with Altosid.— Dave Padgett

**Calhoun:** We have been contracting through Gregory Pest Control to spray ball fields and parks as of last year. This helps us focus on other efforts while Gregory focuses on larviciding. There have been less complaints — only about 2 or 3 — when this time last year we had around 50. There's been a big decrease in LRCs in areas that should have high LRCs, and this is likely due to the hot and dry weather. We are currently using Permasease 2020, but plan on rotating to a new product within the next year. Otherwise, things are business as usual. — Ron Gibson

**Cheraw**: Due to the drought, there have been very few complaints and little need to treat standing ditches. Normally we spray a lot, but have had hardly any calls so we've only sprayed a few times back in the spring. With the hurricane grant funding we have obtained a new Grizzly low volume sprayer, and a new backpack sprayer for parks and facilities. We are excited to start using it around Arrowhead Park. — Jamie Adams

**Lexington**: We have recently been educated on tick dragging and plan to start that monthly in July. We received our new Grizzly fogger from Clarke, and it has been great to have something new and easy to use. Mosquito calls have been down lately, but we attribute that to the weather which we all know tends to change going into the end of summer. We are doing well and will continue to run our BG and gravid traps along with adulticiding when applicable. — Lynn Tribble

**Marion:** We have few updates, the weather has been hot and dry – mosquito complaints remain the same as previous years, and spraying practices and employee status also remain the same. — Charles Taylor

**Marlboro:** Fred Miller is the new Public Works Director as of Jan 23rd, 2024. We're hoping to ramp up spraying in August when we gain more licensed personnel. Complaints of floodwater and mosquito numbers have increased as well, though there haven't been any severe tropical storms as of late. — Fred Miller

**Richland**: Even with the extreme heat and dry weather, we have not noticed a reduction in mosquito complaints and had WNV+ mosquito pools in early May. We continue to set gravid and CDC Light traps for WNV surveillance per DPH, as well as New Jersey light traps for population surveillance. We hope everyone has a safe and uneventful summer season! — Chelsey Reed

**Sumter:** We have been struggling to hire new people, but mosquito complaints have gone down to some of the lowest in recent seasons. The weather has been dry, almost drought-like, and there have been no major tropical storms or weather events. Our trapping and applications methods remain the same. — Alan Penland

### **Lower Region**

Beaufort: In Beaufort we've been dealing with fairly dry conditions over the last two months. Any rainfall we have gotten soaked in or dried up quickly, so we've been fortunate to not have any major emergences recently. We've increased our focus on larviciding this year and that helped reduce the mosquito population going into May. Even with the reduced rainfall, we've applied larvicide to more acreage than the past three years combined. We've taken great strides to collect and report data as close to real-time as possible. We've begun an internal, pseudo-pilot program for real-time water level monitoring in remote areas. We have one monitoring station currently, with plans to expand to other barrier islands after a year of data collection. The goal being to "predict" mosquito larval production in areas that are not easily accessible. This could reduce man hours for inspections and avoid larvicide waste. This year we will begin NVG training with our pilots so that we can extend our aerial adulticiding later into the evening.

We've just wrapped up our participation in NACCHO's Vector Control Collaborative Hurricane Crisis grant. We were partnered as a mentee to Anastasia Mosquito Control District (AMCD). The experience was overall very positive and we had the opportunity to shadow AMCD staff during an educational event at their Education Center. AMCD visited our office to see our operations and make suggestions for improvements.

We had our first WNV+ mosquito pools at the end of June (Epi Week 25) from two gravid traps within a mile of each other. Coincidentally, this was the same week Chatham County had their first WNV+ pools. As of the first week of July though, we have not had any more positives.— Robert Cartner

**Charleston**: The Charleston County Mosquito Control Program has remained relatively busy despite little rainfall and fewer service requests this year thus far. In addition to normal operations, the Program has embarked on a trapping project with a research team at USC to determine whether the malaria parasite or Dengue virus is prevalent in local mosquito populations. With grant funding from DPH, the Program has purchased a dry ice pelletizer, new backpack sprayers, Recon Flex traps, and an A-1 Super Duty mist sprayer. The A-1 was calibrated in late June at the same time as a Remoa Tri field trial made possible by the folks at Valent and Azelis. We're excited to share the full results with everyone when available.

#### -Andrew Pierson

City of North Myrtle Beach: Hope all are doing well; the City of North Myrtle Beach recently hired a new mosquito tech who has so far performed very well. We are in the process of securing a drone to aid with surveillance and treatment of mosquitoes in our area. As for the season itself, we thought it was going to be a very busy season with the warm temperatures and excessive rainfall during the winter but as spring ended and summer began the rains have been few and far between and as a result it is very calm at the present. We would hope this would continue but with the fast-approaching hurricane season that would only be wishful thinking. I hope you all enjoyed the Summer Workshop and look forward to seeing each of you at our annual meeting.— Johnny Bruton

**City of Myrtle Beach:** The City of Myrtle Beach Mosquito Control season has started quietly and I hope it stays that way. We have not had any West Nile or hurricane events so far. We did take advantage of the grant money from DPH and purchased a lot of granular larvicide and liquid larvicide for temporarily flooded areas. We also purchased a new ULV sprayer so now we can run two if we have to.

-Clarence Van Houten

### **Lower Region**

**Horry**: Hope everyone is doing well; it is really hot already. It has been kind of slow the last couple of weeks, we haven't had a lot of rain and it has been really dry.

We just hired a couple of Mosquito Technicians, Mark Kaiser and Marquez Wineglass, and will be searching for another one too. With one month down in hurricane season it appears we are going to be really active this year, hopefully South Carolina will dodge them all. Hope everyone has a great summer!!

-James Brock

# **DON'T FORGET!**

Do you know someone who goes above and beyond?

Someone who is an asset to your team?

Tell us about them!

Nominate your outstanding employees for the 2024 Technician of the Year on page 14!



### SOUTH CAROLINA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION, INC.

Attn: Beverly Whitmire, Secretary Treasurer Richland County Vector Control 400 Powell Road Columbia, SC 29203

**OFFICE PHONE: (803) 576-2426** 

### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

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GANIZATION	<b>\:</b>		
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FAX	<b>:</b>		
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### **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 your 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/



#### 2024 SCMCA TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Nominee:	Date:	
PLEASE ADD A BRIEF BIO C	N THE BACK OF THIS FORM	
Jacket Size:		
County/State Program:		
Address:		
	State: Zip:	
Job Title:		
	Phone/Email:	
WRITE A BRIEF SUMMARY	SUPPORTING YOUR NOMINEE FOR THIS AWARD. (In you	ır
nomination, be specific – who, w	hat, 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:

Beverly Whitmire Richland County Vector Control 400 Powell Road Columbia, SC 29203 Phone: (803) 576-2426

Email: whitmire.beverly@richlandcountysc.gov

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:** 

September 27, 2024

#### 2024 SCMCA Board of Directors

<u>President</u>: Johnny Bruton City of North Myrtle Beach

1018 2nd Avenue S

North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582 Phone: (843) 280-5536

jhbruton@nmb.us

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<u>Secretary-Treasurer</u>: Beverly Whitmire Richland County Vector Control

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**Upper Region**: Kenneth Juergens

Mosquito Authority Phone: (864) 992-1305 kenjuergens27@gmail.com

Middle Region: Gabriel Begley

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<u>Lower Region</u>: Andrew Pierson Charleston County Mosquito Control

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At-Large: Katie Williams Valent BioSciences 219 Mulberry Grove Ln. Bluffton, SC 29910 Phone: (803) 335-6893

Katie.williams@valentbiosciences.com

<u>Past President</u>: James Brock Horry County Mosquito Control

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<u>Historian</u>: Tammy Brewer Richland County Vector Control

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SCMCA Website: www.scmca.net

**SCMCA E-Mail**:

scmosquitocontrolassociation@gmail.com

#### SCMCA - Promoting Mosquito Control in South Carolina

The Landing Rate Count
SC Mosquito Control Association
c/o Richland County Vector Control
400 Powell Rd
Columbia SC 29204

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