



[Gmail messages are clipped.]

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Greetings!



**Welcome to the Blue Wall Weekly,
your source for what's going on
outside along the Southern
BlueRidge Escarpment. Feel free to
share your own photos, videos,
and adventures along the Blue Wall
by sending them to the email
address at the bottom of the page,
and we'll do our best to make you
(locally) famous!**

Sherrie Whitten

**In loving memory of a true
Jocassee champion.**

**A member of the Jocassee Lake
Tours family, and beloved wife of
JLT naturalist guide Dan Whitten.**

**A pillar of Jocassee Wild Outdoor
Education.**

**The backbone of Friends of
Jocassee since its inception in
2011.**

**And a dear friend, who is already
deeply missed.**



**Sherrie Whitten
May 30, 1954-May 8, 2025**

SPECIAL EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS

**Sunset Tour [Book Now!](#)
May 17: 6:30-8:30 PM**

**Kayak Tour
[Book Now!](#)
May 18: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM**

**Memorial Day! [Book Now!](#)
May 26: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM**

WEEKLY EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS

**Jocassee Lake Tours [Book Now!](#)
Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sat, Sun:
10:00 AM-2:00 PM**

**Sunday Afternoon Tours
[Book Now!](#)
2:30-5:30 PM**

**[CALL OR BOOK ONLINE TO
RESERVE SEATS
PRIVATE TOURS](#)**

Writing the Wild Lab and Jocassee
Excursion w/ J. Drew Lanham
Call for details!
May 27-28

ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE!
(864) 280-5501

www.jocasseelaketours.com



Dan and Sherrie

THIS WEEK ON LAKE JOCASSEE MAY 12, 2025

To express how much Sherrie Whitten meant to us all, the JLT guides had this to say:

“There was no kinder soul in this world.”

“She was amazing, with a heart of gold, smart and kind...”

“...there will always be a Sherrie-shaped hole on this side of the veil.”

“It’s hard to measure the impacts she had in so many different places.”

“...a remarkable woman who quietly made so many of the organizations we all participate in so much better.”

“People like Sherrie are rare jewels in this world.”

“...a prayer of thanks for God having my path to cross her’s...”

“...always was such a warm, bright presence...”

“Her sparkling smile and cheery spirit were contagious...”

OUTDOOR EVENTS THIS WEEK, MAY 12, 2025

STATE PARK EVENTS

Caesars Head State Park

May 17: 9:00-10:30 AM

International Migratory Bird Day in the Mountain Bridge

Come learn more about the mysteries of migration and increase your birding skills.

Gorges State Park

May 18: 10:00-10:30 AM

Lichen or Not

Come join Ranger Hill to learn about the wonderful life of Lichens and their role in the ecosystem at GSP.



Gorges State Park

May 18: 6:00-7:00 PM

Evening Hike to Raymond Fisher Pond

Once at the pond and half way through our hike, we will take a 10-15 minute break to nature journal (materials provided) or just to enjoy the serenity of the pond.

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

Conserving Carolina

May 13: 2:00-3:30 PM

Saluda Library Speaker Series: Bear Wise

Living with bears is part of life in North Carolina, it is important for

“...a genuine, kind and caring person...”

“She saw everything and everyone through the eyes of pure love.”

“...one of those rare people who brought out the best in everyone around her.”

"I thanked God every day for Sherrie's amazing witness and her bright reflection of all the best people can be."

Our love goes with you, my friend.

NEW EVENTS COMING IN MAY/JUNE

STATE PARK EVENT

Oconee Station State Historic Site

June 1: 10:00-11:30 AM

Monthly First Day Hike

Jones Gap State Park

June 7: 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

National Trails Day-Volunteer Event

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

Highlands Biological Station

May 20: 5:00 AM

MAPS Bird Banding

Hagood Mill Historic Site

communities to learn how to coexist with them. Join Mark Ray, NC Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) Engagement Program Specialist, for this program.

Highlands Biological Station

May 14: 12:00 PM

What's Blooming in the Gardens?

Guided Walk with Dr. Paul Manos

Join us for a midday stroll through the HBG, led by renowned botanist, Dr. Paul Manos of Duke University!

Mushroom Mountain

May 15: 2:00-3:30 PM

MM Tour

During your visit, you will learn about mushroom biology and ecology- how mushrooms work in and for our environment--as well as how they can be used for medicinal uses and many other innovations.

Sierra Club South Carolina

May 15: 6:30-9:00 PM

Go Electric! Foothills Group

At least 5 different types of electric cars and several electric bikes will be on hand for you to sit in and some even to ride in or drive.

May 20: 10:00 AM-12:30 PM

Warm Weather Foraging Class

Conserving Carolina

May 20: 6:00-7:30 PM

Landrum Library Speaker Series:

Carolina Meadows w/Tim Lee

SCNPS Upstate

May 20: 6:30-8:00 PM

Upstate Monthly Meeting-

Presentation: "Native Plant

Conservation and the SCBG" w/ Dr.

Martin A. Hamilton

Highlands Biological Station

May 21: 3:00-4:00 PM

Experiencing Nature

SCNPS Upstate

May 24: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM

Blue Ridge Parkway in Spring

GNHA

May 24: 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

Chestnut Ridge Heritage Preserve

Hagood Mill Historic Site

May 24: 10:00 AM-12:30 PM

Woodland Foraging

Hagood Mill Historic Site

May 24: 1:00-2:00 PM

Forest Bathing Class

Highlands Biological Station

May 16: 3:00-4:00 PM

ecoEXPLORERS Club- Herpetology Season

Children will go on a walk to see what reptiles and amphibians we can find out on our trails and do a Challenge towards earning an ecoEXPLORE Herpetology patch!



Ambystoma maculatum spotted salamander, shutterstockphoto

Foothills Trail Conservancy

May 17

FHT Geology Hike

Join FTC Board Member and retired Furman Professor, Bill Ranson, on an informative hike to explore the geology of the Palmetto Trail.

Greenville County Bird Club

May 17: 7:00 AM-12:00 PM (Longer Walk)

NCNPS Oconee Bell Chapter

May 27: 5:30 PM

Nature Nights by the Pond!

Highlands Biological Station

May 27: 8:00-9:00 PM

Salamander Meander (Member's only)

Sierra Club South Carolina

May 29: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

Hartwell Dam Trail

Friends of the Reedy River

May 29: 5:00-8:00 PM

Introducing the Saluda River Basin Plan

SCNPS Upstate

May 31: 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

Volunteer Opportunity at the TD Saturday Market

Conestee Nature Preserve

June 2-6: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM

Conservation Summer Camp

Sierra Club South Carolina

June 7: 9:00 AM-2:00 PM

Foothills Group of the Sierra Club National Trails Day Service

SC Botanical Garden Events

May 21: 8:00-9:00 AM

May 17: 8:00-10:30 AM (Shorter Walk)

Conestee Nature Preserve

Longer walk--Meet behind the baseball stadium to bird a variety of paved and natural surface trails. Shorter walk- Meet at the Spanco Drive parking area next to the old Conestee Mill and Dam to bird a section of the paved trail.

GNHA

May 17: 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

Ashmore Heritage Preserve-The High Rock

This moderate paced hike starts in a mixed forest following a creek. We'll head to the scenic High Rock Overlook and then head back down and make a loop around Lake Wattacoo to finish the hike.

Conestee Nature Preserve

May 17: 10:00-11:00 AM

Telemetry and Turtles

Have you ever wondered how wildlife biologists find and track the animals they're studying? Find out all about one of the coolest methods, telemetry, from Hannah Meredith, a Wildlife and Fisheries Biology student at Clemson.

Hagood Mill Historic Site

Winged Wednesdays

May 23: 10:00-11:30 AM

Friday Garden Forays, Spring 2025

BORROWED GLIMPSES



May 17: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Mountain Roots Herb Festival

Get ready for a full day of nature, learning, music, and outdoor fun! Hands-on workshops, guided bird walks, nature photography, plant medicine, mushroom foraging, live music, kids' crafts and more.

Conestee Nature Preserve

May 17: 1:00-2:00 PM

Playful Pollinators

Patricia Whitener, 4-H Natural Resources Program Leader, will teach us about the amazing insects that work so hard to help produce many of the foods we like to eat.

SC Botanical Garden Events

May 14: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

Wetland Ecology: SC Native Plant Certificate Elective

In this course, you will learn the basic science behind defining these wetland systems and the special features that characterize wetland habitats in our region.

A recent JLT guest, who "gets it."



Bad Creek Hydro Reservoir
Photo by Cam McDade



A turbine inside Bad Creek Hydro

**JLT guide Matt Stamey is joining
Cycle Across America
this summer to raise funds for
Multiple Sclerosis research.
[Support his journey here!](#)**



ncwetlands.org photo



Follow
Jocassee Wild Child Adventures
on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/jocasseeewild>

**SPONSOR A JOCASSEE WILD
CHILD TODAY!**

Current conditions at Lake Jocassee via Devils Fork State Park Webcam
Sponsored by Friends of Jocassee

DID YOU KNOW?

Members of the Upstate Master Naturalist Association toured Duke Energy's Bad Creek Hydroelectric Station recently. Bad Creek is an

engineering marvel nestled in the heart of the Jocassee Gorges. The distinctive topography and hydrology of the area enable Duke to generate electricity using the force of gravity. As the pristine waters of Bad Creek, Jocassee, and Keowee are stored and recycled, Duke powers the Upstate with a commitment to energy generation that is as efficient, carbon-neutral, and environmentally sensitive as possible. ~JLT Guide Tony McDade

ABOUT THE BLUE WALL

Spanning three states (North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia) and encompassing 859,000 acres, the Southern Blue Ridge Escarpment, known as the 'Blue Wall' by Native Americans, contains some of the highest natural diversity of rare plants and animals found anywhere in the world.



www.JocasseeLakeTours.com

info@jocasseelaketours.com

Thanks to Sheryl White for compiling the Blue Wall Weekly,
and to all JLT GUIDES for photos and continuous inspiration!

Jocassee Lake Tours Depart from the Main Dock
at Devils Fork State Park, 528 Jocassee Lake Road

**PLEASE CALL 864-280-5501 AT LEAST 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE TO
RESERVE YOUR SEATS!**

SUPPORT OUR JOCASSEE PARTNERS!



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