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## South Carolina State Parks

at 20:51:06 on 8/14/2009 UTC

Look who we ran into at Lake Wateree State Park, our State Park Director, Phil Gaines. State parks are all about making memories, and Phil encourages... you to tell us some of your fondest memories made at a SC State Park. We can't wait to read them![Read More](#)

### Meet our State Park Director, Phil Gaines



**Rene Herlong Miller** Way to go Phil! I have some memories of Kings Mountain State Park!

at 22:38:13 on 8/14/2009 UTC



**Perry Rainey** I'm incredibly biased (Phil is a friend) but our state is truly blessed to have Phil as our Director of State Parks. He loves SC and loves the SC parks and has a huge heart. With the SC budget situation, he has a tough job but we can all be assured that he keeps park users in mind at all times.

at 3:16:25 on 8/15/2009 UTC



**Jeff Atkins** With the request for memories, I would have to say that I always think that parks are key places of personal conquest. I learned to swim at Table Rock, saw and climbed my first Lighthouse at Hunting Island, caught my first redfish at Huntington Beach, kayaked for the first time, etc. The list goes on and on.

at 6:40:06 on 8/15/2009 UTC



**South Carolina State Parks** Watch Phil and share your memories here!

at 10:55:34 on 8/15/2009 UTC



**Marc Rapport** Phil was manager of that park when it opened. Has some good stories about those days.

at 14:03:12 on 8/15/2009 UTC



**Kevin Evans** This time of year brings back a good many memories for me at State Parks. As a kid we would follow the high school football team to wherever they would be playing, and we would stop at the closest State Park to the away school and have a picnic supper. All those visits turned into a passion for parks (& football) and a wonderful career filled with even more memories.

at 23:26:01 on 8/15/2009 UTC



**Stephen Berry** Hey Phil. It's been a long time since I've seen you. When we first started working at the State Parks, it sure was different. Wonderful to see that you are the State Parks Director. Congratulations on a career that has been good for you and the State of South Carolina.

at 3:57:18 on 6/16/2012 UTC



**Janis Headden** Mr. Gaines, I have been trying for over a month to book a RV site reservation in Hunting Island State Park for loops 1-3. However, as soon as the reservation window opens at 9:00 a.m. and I click book now, the inventory of available RV sites 1-88 are gone. I have had numerous conversations with Reserve America about this issue as well as spoken to Customer Service. However, no one seems to have an explanation other to say there are a lot of people trying to book sites. Yes, I understand this. But the same thing happened to me last summer for this summer and again it is happening again. Once or twice would seem appropriate but repeatedly for 30 days. It makes me think there is something wrong with the

booking system. I would like to challenge you to try to book a RV site at Hunting Island for next summer within sites 1 to 88. Beginning this morning for 11 months from today. I think experience is the best teacher. I will be looking forward to hearing from you to see if you have anymore success than I have had. I just returned from a camping trip to Tybee Island GA and had no problem getting a site. It is a shame I can't spend my money in SC and have to look elsewhere to spend money that should be spent in SC.

at 13:34:45 on 7/29/2012 UTC