

DAN RIVER BASIN ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2006

ORGANIZATION

1. OFFICE AND STAFF

- a. Hired Katherine Mull as Executive Director, June
- b. Established North Carolina office at 103 South Second Avenue in Mayodan, April
- c. Held open house at Mayodan office, November

2. STRUCTURE

- a. Amended bylaws to create office of Corresponding Secretary
- b. Adopted guidelines for Nominating Committee
- c. Initiated organization of Caswell Trails

3. BOARD DEVELOPMENT

- a. Sent President Will Truslow, Corresponding Secretary Barbara Solomon and staff members Katherine Hebert and Katherine Mull to River Network's River Rally at Bretton Woods, New Hampshire
- b. Held one-day strategic planning retreat facilitated by Diana Toledo of River Network at Reynolds Homestead in Critz, Virginia, August; added regional identity to major goals
- c. Developed Plan for Increasing Racial Diversity on the Board of Directors

FINANCES

1. STRUCTURE

- a. Adopted Quickbooks for financial record keeping
- b. Set up Virginia and North Carolina bank accounts to handle separate funds
- c. Set up accounting procedures and controls

2. FUNDRAISING

- a. Received matching challenge gift from two Board members
- b. Appointed Fundraising Committee
- c. Developed fundraising packet
- d. Solicited donations from individuals and corporations
- e. Solicited matching contributions from all members

3. GRANTS AND IN-KIND DONATIONS

- a. Received economic incentive grant from Town of Mayodan for office
- b. Received second Annie Penn Foundation grant for Chinqua-Penn Trail: joint project with Rockingham County Naturalist Club and Upper Piedmont Agricultural Research Station
- c. Received second Z. Smith Reynolds grant for general operations in North Carolina, with 20% match required
- d. Received Rockingham County Tourism Development Authority grant for maintaining Settle Bridge and Anglin Mill access points
- e. Received Harvest Foundation grant for developing Richard P. Gravely Nature Preserve on the Smith River
- f. Received donations of furnishings and art for North Carolina office
- g. Received continued donation from Henry County of furnished office, equipment, and major administrative support for Virginia office

4. SALES AND SPONSORSHIPS

- a. Continued sale of batteau to Three Rivers Outfitters for second year of three-year period, with DRBA members continuing to provide volunteer crew and technical support.
- b. Gave sponsorship to Eden Riverfest for river heritage displays and presentations
- c. Added cap with embroidered logo to sales items

RECREATION

1. RIVER ACCESS POINTS

- a. Participated in dedication of Leaksville Landing Access and Park in Eden, for which City of Eden leases DRBA's lot
- b. Participated in design and dedication of Smith River access points in Henry County: Bassett, Fieldale, and Marrowbone Creek
- c. Assumed responsibility for monitoring and maintaining Anglin Mill Access on Mayo River and Settle Bridge Access on Dan River in Rockingham County. Subcontracted duties to Three Rivers Outfitters and Bushhog.
- d. Met with Stokes County Economic Development Director to plan revival of accesses
- e. Discussed plans for additional access points along the Dan in Danville with County Administrator
- f. Completed draft of plans for additional access points along the Smith and Mayo Rivers in Henry County

2. TRAILS

- a. Completed second phase of trail improvements, including boardwalk beside Betsy Pond, on Chinqua-Penn Trail at headwaters of Wolf Island Creek in Rockingham County.
- b. Began excavation for Smith River Trail in Fieldale in partnership with Henry County
- c. In partnership with Henry County, continued conversations with Norfolk Southern Railway and conducted deed research for Martinsville-Fieldale Rail Trail

3. FIRST SATURDAY OUTINGS

- January: Doe Run Park hike—Henry County
- February: Roanoke Canal Museum visit—Roanoke Rapids, NC
- March: Water Quality Monitoring workshop at Hanging Rock—Stokes County
- April: Dan River paddle and 4th anniversary picnic (Hanging Rock to Moratock Park)—Stokes County
- May: Staunton River paddle (Long Island to Brookneal)—Campbell & Halifax counties
- June: Smith River paddle (Mitchell Bridge to Spray)—Henry & Rockingham counties
- July: Banister Lake paddle—Halifax County
- August: North Fork of Mayo River paddle (Moore's Mill to Anglin Mill)—Henry and Rockingham counties; also Dan River Boat Race, Madison—Rockingham County
- September: Dan River paddle (Snow Creek to Hemlock Access)—Stokes County
- October: [Weather-canceled batteau voyage, Danville to Milton—Pittsylvania and Caswell counties]
- November: Hike on proposed trails at Stephentown—Caswell County
- December: Sprig Outing on Upper Little River—Harnett County

4. THIRD SATURDAY OUTINGS

Outings advertised only to members were begun with October hike at DeHart Botanical Gardens and covered dish at home of Wayne and Betty Kirkpatrick—Patrick County

EDUCATION

1. FESTIVALS, REENACTMENT, AND PUBLIC MEETINGS

- a. Batteau reenactment of Crossing of the Dan Celebration, South Boston, February
- b. Public Meeting in Fieldale to discuss Rivers and Trails, February
- c. Annual Meeting with trail builder and author Allen de Hart, Henry County Administration Building, March
- d. Booth at Martinsville-Henry County Trade Show, March
- e. Booth at Martinsville Earth Day event
- f. Booth and batteau at Rockingham County Folk Festival, Wentworth, May
- g. Booth at Patrick County Covered Bridge Festival, June
- h. Booth at 4th of July Celebration in DeHart Park, Stuart, July
- i. Booth at Kibler Valley Run, July
- j. Booth at Dan River Boat Race, Madison, August
- k. Booth shared with Rockingham County Naturalist Club at Eden Riverfest, September (Batteau mishap canceled planned narrated rides)
- l. Public Meeting about equestrian trails in Henry County, September
- m. Booth at Stokes Stomp, Danbury, September
- n. Booth at Patrick County Agricultural Fair, Stuart, September
- o. Booth shared with Caswell County Historical Association at Brightleaf Hoedown, Yanceyville, September
- p. Virginia State Fair, Richmond, October—part of DEQ booth
- q. Booth at Martinsville Speedway Family Science Event, October
- r. Public Meeting in Martinsville discussing water quality monitoring, November
- s. Participated in Virginia Outdoors Plan public meetings in Martinsville, December
- t. Participated in Long-Term Transportation planning meeting in Henry County, December

2. DISPLAYS

- a. Stokes County Library, Danbury, March – June—locally-oriented photo display and small batteau model
- b. Virginia Museum of Natural History, April
- c. Henry County Administration Building—locally-oriented photo display, with frequent updates on local projects and boating safety
- d. Patrick County Fair, September (first place for educational exhibit)

3. PRESENTATIONS

- a. Introducing DRBA
 - i. Stuart Rotary Club (Wayne Kirkpatrick)
 - ii. Roanoke Roundtable (Wayne Kirkpatrick and Kathy Hebert)
 - iii. Blue Ridge Ski and Outing Club (Kathy Hebert)
 - iv. Nonprofit Leaders Network (Kathy Hebert)
 - v. Virginia Racer (Kathy Hebert)

- b. Batteau history in Stokes County—Stokes County Historical Society, November (Lindley Butler)
- c. Water Quality Monitoring/ Trout in the Classroom—Stuart Rotary Club, June (Wayne Kirkpatrick)
- d. Presented water quality data to Congressmen Boucher and Goode, Delegate Armstrong, and others at Fieldale Trail walk, April (Wayne Kirkpatrick)

4. PUBLICATIONS

- a. Brochure: Major revision of DRBA membership brochure, highlighting projects and outings, 10,000 copies
- b. Brochure: Martinsville-Henry County Rivers and Trails, emphasizing riverside greenways, 5,000 copies
- c. Quarterly newsletter, *Currents*
- d. Press releases for monthly First Saturday Outings, annual meeting, and special projects and events
- e. DRBA Website—David Tingen, Webmaster
- f. Trout in the Classroom Project Website—Matthew and Betty Kirkpatrick, Webmasters

5. PUBLICITY

- a. Feature essay and photos in Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation 2005 Annual Report
- b. Feature article and full-page ad in first issue of *Piedmont Magazine*
- c. Feature article in *Martinsville Bulletin* about Wayne Kirkpatrick's water quality monitoring program
- d. Article in *The Virginia Sportsman*, "Crossed Lines," showcasing DRBA/TIC trout releases
- e. Feature article in *Martinsville Bulletin* about Kathy Hebert's position as DRBA's Virginia Planning and Program Director

STEWARDSHIP

1. WATER QUALITY

- a. Held workshop on water quality monitoring at Hanging Rock State Park as March Outing
- b. Held 6 stream monitoring sessions in Patrick, Henry, Stokes, Rockingham and Caswell counties using rocky bottom and muddy bottom protocols
- c. Presented the DRBA/Trout in the Classroom program and assisted in trout release for 15 student groups from elementary, middle, and high schools, science clubs, and scouts, including some 1700 students and their teachers and leaders
- d. Received stream monitoring training for habitat assessment and muddy bottom protocol
- e. Provided leadership in establishing Virginia Citizens for Water Quality as statewide representation of volunteer stream monitors; Wayne Kirkpatrick is Board Chair
- f. Conducted 6 stream monitoring certification training sessions for teachers and other citizens; Katherine Hebert received certification as VA SOS monitor in August.
- g. Participated in planning for DRBA/TIC program for 2006-2007 Henry County School year
- h. Discussed adding stream bank habitat to stream monitoring sessions
- i. Began bacteria sampling on Dan, Mayo and Smith rivers
- j. Commented on the Roanoke River Basinwide Plan produced by NC DWQ
- k. Continued StreamWatch volunteer program

2. WATERSHED CLEANUP

- a. Received \$500 prize for collecting over 10,000 pounds of trash during Rockingham County Spring Clean, April
- b. Participated in the Dan River Clean Sweep in Danville, May
- c. Collected over 20,000 pounds of trash (out of 52,680 pounds) during Rockingham County Big Sweep, involving 100 volunteers in 17 teams, October
- d. Collected 21,580 pounds of trash during Smith River Cleanup in Fieldale
- e. Participated in NC Big Sweep in all NC counties in the basin

3. PARKS

- a. NC Mayo River State Park
 - i. Adrienne Wallace was named Superintendent; opened office in Madison-Mayodan Recreation Center in August
 - ii. By end of 2006 North Carolina State Parks had acquired 1700 acres, PLC had 150 acres for the park, and negotiations were underway for 1700 more acres.
- b. VA Mayo River State Park
 - i. Katherine Mull and Kay Slaughter met with Virginia officials to pursue establishment of Mayo River state park adjacent to North Carolina park
- c. Gravely Nature Preserve
 - i. Secured land and funding for development of Gravely Nature Preserve along the Smith River

REGIONAL IDENTITY

1. Roundtable on Virginia trails for planners and tourism directors in Southside Virginia, May
2. Katherine Mull met individually with tourism directors in the Basin.
3. Continued discussion of Piedmont Land Conservancy-DRBA partnership on stewardship of Dan and Mayo rivers in Stokes and Rockingham counties
4. DRBA cooperated with Piedmont Triad Council of Governments in regional planning