

DAN RIVER BASIN ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2004

ORGANIZATION

- Elected new officers and Board members
- Appointed new Newsletter Editor
- Expanded Executive Committee
- Joined NC Conservation Network and its Watershed Alliance
- Committees (supporting areas of Education, Stewardship, Recreation):
 - Accesses and Trails
 - Batteau Outfitting
 - Batteau Trailer
 - Batteau Program
 - Dan River Display for South Boston Museum
 - Grants
 - Hamilton Street Bridge Preservation
 - Mayo River State Park
 - Outings
 - Program
 - Publicity (News Releases)
 - Sales
 - Water Quality Monitoring

FINANCES

- Matching donation from Rockingham County Naturalist Club (RCNC) for joint purchase of PowerPoint projector and laptop computer
- Grant to Eden Riverfest
- Grant from Rockingham County Tourism Development Authority for Dan River Batteau Navigation Brochure
- Initiated joint grant request with RCNC and Upper Piedmont Agricultural Research Station for improvements and brochure for Chinqua-Penn Trail
- Sales items: *The Dan River Book*, *Dan River Atlas*, T-shirts, logo decals, license plates, Dan River Maps

PUBLICATIONS

- Newsletter *Dan River Currents*
- Press releases for monthly First Saturday Outings, annual meeting, and special projects or events
- DRBA Brochure
- Website

RESEARCH

- Publication and distribution of *Mayo River State Park Master Plan Project*, by William Butler, DRBA Planning Consultant
- Study of Mayo River Amerindian fish weirs initiated by Lindley S. Butler

EDUCATION

- Held annual meeting program by William Butler, DRBA planner, on the Mayo River State Park Master Plan Project, at Virginia Museum of Natural History, Martinsville
- Prepared batteau *Dan River* for use by caulking, painting, and temporarily sinking the boat and building boxes for storage and seating
- Initiated construction of batteau trailer
- Created PowerPoint program on history of batteau navigation and preparation of batteau *Dan River*
- Displayed DRBA sales and informational booth at Dan River Boat Race, Stokes Stomp, and (jointly with Caswell County Historical Association) at Caswell County's Brightleaf Festival; displayed booth and batteau at Eden Riverfest
- Cosponsored and prepared Dan River exhibit at South Boston Museum of Fine Arts and History, funded by grant from Progress Energy
- Presented program on Dan River Navigation at South Boston Museum of Fine Arts and History
- Sent three Board members to River Network's National River Rally at Wintergreen, VA
- Led paddle trips on Mayo and Dan Rivers for Piedmont Land Conservancy
- Presented programs for civic clubs on the basin's rivers and the Mayo River State Park
- Researched Mayo River Amerindian fish weirs; report to be filed with NC State Office of Archaeology and NC State Parks

STEWARDSHIP

- Received \$100 prize for collecting over 24,000 pounds of trash during Rockingham County Spring Clean
- Sent two Board members to Citizen Environmental Monitoring Summit in Bristol, VA
- Assisted staff from Piedmont Land Conservancy, Natural Heritage Program, State Parks Division, and appraisers in accessing properties to be evaluated for the Mayo River State Park. Between August and December 2004, State Parks announced purchase of over 800 acres.
- Participated in NC Big Sweep cleanup in Stokes, Rockingham, Caswell, and Person Counties, with DRBA members leading more than 15 teams
- Spearheaded last efforts to preserve historic Hamilton Street Bridge, Eden
- Supporting preservation of historic Dan River Bridges: Worsham Street Bridge, Danville; Fishing Creek (Mebane) Bridge, Eden
- Exploring acquisition of land and easements along the rivers
- Initiated planning for 2005 program on stream monitoring and organization of volunteer monitoring groups

RECREATION

- First Saturday Outings: hikes on White Oak Mountain, Danville River Walk, proposed Eden Greenway on Smith River, and stream restoration project on Snow Creek in Stokes County; paddle trips: Dan River in Stokes County, Staunton River, Smith River in Eden, Dan River Boat Race in Madison, Dan

River from Danville to Milton, cleanup paddle trips on Mayo and Dan Rivers, annual Sprig Outing on Upper Little River

- Joined with Rockingham County Tourism Development Authority to negotiate successfully with NCDOT for access signs and river identification signs in Rockingham County
- Working with Rockingham County government to design accesses at Leaksville Landing and NC 700 Bridge in Eden, to be completed in 2005