

#### olume 8, Issue

# DAN RIVER BASIN

## ASSOCIATION

Preserving and Promoting the Natural and Cultural Resources of the Dan River Basin through Stewardship, Recreation and Education

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DRBA Outing Schedule 8 **Tuesday Strolls** 

# OLUNTEERS RESTORE HISTORIC CEMETERY

Many who have visited the Gravely Nature Preserve in Ridgeway know that the Burgess Family Plantation was located on the property in the 1800's. Thanks to Samuel Hairston of Eden, a historic cemetery has been discovered nearby on Old Mill Road. This small wooded plot is the final resting place of his great-grandparents, John and Jane Burgess, former slaves and residents of the Burgess Plantation. John Burgess, fondly known as Uncle John, was a house servant who went to Civil War at the age of ten with saplings and removed debris while DRBA's his then owner John Henry Burgess. After Jennifer Doss and Brian Williams located, of Eden and together they raised a family on Hairston of Ridgeway, whose mother was burthe Burgess Plantation.

uel and other descendants began planning teenagers dragged with DRBA to document and restore the family plot. On a cold morning 14 volunteers cut



being freed, Uncle John married Jane Cousins marked, and inventoried grave sites. Vernon ied in the cemetery, busily cut down trees Upon discovery of the cemetery, Sam- that had reclaimed the land as the the limbs away.

continued page 6



Danville Girl Scouts create "bottle blooms" with discarded plastic bottles. Their exhibit is on display at the Danville Science Museum through February 2009.

## DRBA Makes an iIMPACT

DRBA has a new program combining trash, art and an environmental message. "iIMPACT: Speaking Out For Rivers Through Art & Action" is a basin-wide project to raise awareness of the impact of consumer waste on watersheds and wildlife. Since plastic is among the most detrimental of all consumer waste, iIMPACT puts a special emphasis on it.

Participants pick up discarded materials—okay, trash—from sidewalks, parking lots, river banks, and then turn the material into "objets d'art."

Really.

# Greetings from the Director



volunteer, friend, donor or lenge grant. staff - for sharing your during this past year!

Harvest Foundation has awarded DRBA a two-year grant to funded by the Danville Regional Foundation. extend our work in Martinsville and Henry County. DRBA staff members Jennifer Doss and Brian Williams have made grants, we have been challenged by grant makers to plan Southern Virginia Rivers Initiative, funded by the Virginia business contacts and neighbors to consider supporting Environmental Endowment, and she has recently won a DRBA's work on behalf of the Dan River region. grant from Virginia Department of Environmental Quality to

Our thanks to each purchase stream monitoring equipment. The Z. Smith Reyand every DRBA sup- nolds Foundation has awarded DRBA a one-year grant to porter – whether member, support North Carolina operations, including a \$15,000 chal-

Our Caswell Heritage Trails project kicks off in Janutime, treasures and talent ary, as Chad Hall joins DRBA to work on the development of a master heritage trails plan, to assist the county in planning We have some and implementing trails projects, and to foster heritage presgood news to report. The ervation and nature and heritage tourism. The project is

While DRBA is fortunate to have several foundation waves; please read their blogs linked to DRBA's home for self sufficiency and to build our individual and corporate page. Jenny Edwards is making great progress on our donor and member bases. Please encourage your friends,

Katherine Mull



### **OCTOBER CELEBRATION OF MTS TRAIL**

County on October 4 and 5.

1

Beginning at Moratock Park in Danbury on Saturday, 36 boaters en- Sunday and floating five more miles to from Stuart, VA, who are taking part in forested cliffs and fall wildflowers that n't get any better than this!" DRBA's program to introduce young- had graced Saturday's trip. (For a firststers to river recreation and steward- timer's experience, see Sam Thomp-

DRBA commemorated the ship. Excited whoops, smiles all son's article on Page 3. Mountains-to-Sea Trail with our first- around, and enthusiastic participation in and young-at-heart alike. (Photo page 7)

Over the two days, DRBA's ever two-day outing—a beautiful au- the annual NC Big Sweep river cleanup volunteers collected 33 bags of trash, tumn float on the Dan River in Stokes proved the success of the trip for young 12 items too big to bag, and 20 tires for Big Sweep, often cooperating to dig out Resuming at Snow Creek on a tire or load a big item into a canoe.

Lunching on the beach in the joyed a five-mile trip to Snow Creek. Hemlock Golf Course, 21 paddlers en- shadow of "Mount Horrible," a sheer Among the participants new to river joyed the glorious weather, great com- rock face topped by stately hemlock paddling were a group of 4-H members panionship, and scenic grandeur of the trees, several commented, "It just does-

T Butler

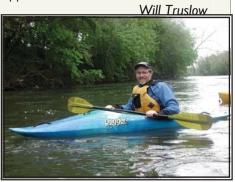
Let's go paddling! The river ac-County is now officially open for pad- Danville Regional Foundation for spondlers to use. This is possible through soring this. an agreement between the Davis Chapel Historic Association and DRBA. We greatly appreciate the DCHA allow- your time and support of DRBA through ing this access to be open for paddlers. 2008. Also, your financial support of This is a key link in providing conven- DRBA is vital in continuing our efforts to iently spaced access points for Dan provide new opportunities for recreation River trips. Thanks to the DCHA Board. and protecting our natural resources. I

### PRESIDENT'S SPACE

cess at Snow Creek near the Dodge- the beginning of a trails project in and if possible to increase your level of town Bridge over the Dan in Stokes Caswell County. Many thanks go to the support.

I want to thank all of you for

We have excellent news about hope you will renew your membership



# SATURDAY OUTINGS OCTOBER 5 SATURDAY OUTING

boats put in at the newly opened Snow Creek Access to continue our trip down the truly magnificent scenery. We stopped for paddle with DRBA, and I had a really good Dan River in Stokes County in commemo- lunch on a sandy beach across from Mount time. It was geared to novice paddlers and ration of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail. This Horrible, a huge rock monolith. This was a lot of historic and geological information was the second of two perfect days to en- an impressive piece of rock. Broken was provided. Thanks to Will Truslow for joy the beauty of the river and to pick up chunks of rock the size of a small bus lay in coordinating the trip, and I would encourtrash from another section of the river for the the NC Big Sweep program. Although we picked up a number of bags of trash able to take out at the Hemlock Golf (Thanks, Lindley and T, for putting the tires Course Access. T had brownies and local and bulky trash in your canoe), over all I apples for everyone. It was an enjoyable

Twenty-one paddlers in seventeen was surprised at how clean the river was. a n d This section of the river had some

river at its

By special permission we were

productive day. This was my first opportunity to base. age anyone to join this group on a trip.

Sam Thompson



2

# **DRBA** Fall Hike and Picnic

covered dish meal at the Kirkpatrick farm.

steady and relentless, not at a great in- der flower resembling an old style Christ- false foxglove, and so much more. cline, but about three miles of up.

OK, keep going, that's probably the top around the next bend. Nope, that's not we took lunch near the old fire tower and planes, fog and mountains. Near the trail

mas tree bulb.

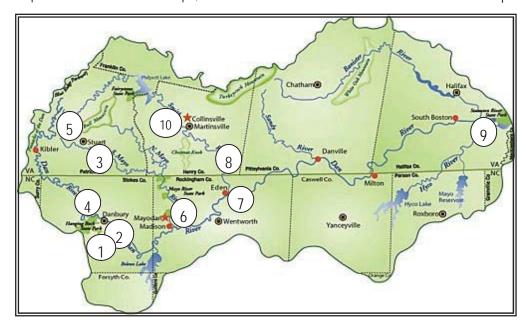
On October 18, DRBA held its an- it, next bend, nope not this one, on and on. the abandoned one-room rangers living nual fall celebration at the farm of Wayne No level stretches to rest my legs, but I guarters. The real payoff for me though and Betty Kirkpatrick in Stuart, Virginia. have to keep going steadily. I have to keep was on the way down. By bulling my way Festivities included the choice of a hike up up with Mike Vaughan and Joe Jessee. up I missed all the wonderful natural Bull Mountain, a stroll around the farm, or a These guys have a few years on me; I beauty surrounding us. So many sights to trip to the Apple Dumpling Festival in Stu- should be able to take them. Hmm, why see, sourwoods in their red maroon fall art. These activities were followed by a are they always ahead of me? They're colors, a small American chestnut, descomfortably chit chatting the whole way up, tined to die of blight, a rhododendron in I opted for the hike up Bull Mountain, while I'm struggling. Well, I think I got bloom, colorful oaks, sweet fern, and exas most did. We were shuttled about five whipped by two better hikers on this day, guisite tiny field milkwort. Thank you, Ellen miles to the base of the mountain, and we ha, ha. Shortly before reaching the summit for your hard work in identifying this flower. started out by climbing over two tall gates. we came upon the find of the day, beautiful We saw a beautiful caramel colored fungus This set the tone for the rest of the hike— closed gentian, a diminutive bluish laven- resembling a brain coral, trailing arbutus,

> On the way back, we stopped at The top was finally attained, where two reminders of the perils of mixing

> > was a WWII military training flight crash site, memorialized by part of the plane's propeller. Wayne drove us to see a cross erected to mark the Hendricks' racing family plane crash site, just below the ridgeline in the distance.

> > Back at the Kirkpatrick farm Wayne took us on a hayride. Touring a part of his farm, we encountered an old ball field and grandstand. The outfield fence had been the South Mayo River. I guess you needed a good supply of baseballs for those games. We also encountered a pumpkin and gourd field with the "great pumpkin" still on display.

> > > continued on page 6



# HAT 'S HAPPENING IN



# THE HIGHEST PEAK OF THE SAURATOWNS

day Outing for 2008 was our land areas upstream of rocky as the trail approaches west, and just below us the lake longest hike of the year, and H a n g i n g when we reached the summit of Lake. Much of the trail was on views open up across the Dan started our ascent. The return Moore's Knob the temperature boardwalks, and the dry River Basin to the north. We to our cars at the lake was a was 25 degrees. You might stretches passed through a stopped to enjoy the first view steep descent taking less than think turnout would be down on rhododendron thicket. An espe- from the top, and then pro- an hour, and no one regretted a gray cold day, but that would cially beautiful spot on the hike ceeded to the boulder-strewn spending the cold morning underestimate the hardiness of was a large stand of holly trees landscape along the top of the climbing such a beautiful moun-DRBA members. Our seven- with their brilliant red berries, ridge to the observation tower tain. teen hikers came from six coun- flanked by shrubs with blue and at the summit of the mountain. ties in both states. One of the purple berries along the boardmost inspiring aspects of DRBA walk. As we began the slow breezier and colder at the sum- for DRBA, and there is no other is the way it brings together ascent to the summit, mountain mit than when we started down site in North Carolina that propeople from all over the basin to laurel was still plentiful in the below, the grand views kept us vides such an inspirational vista enjoy our most beautiful hiking lower elevations. An hour into there more than half an hour to of the entire basin. I look forand paddling destinations, the hike we were high enough enjoy lunch and explore ward to returning to Hanging

trail at Hanging Rock State Park and Hanging Rock, the two now included Greensboro and weather Third Saturday hike. is not only beautiful but diverse, lower pinnacles in the Winston-Salem to the south, the

The final First Satur- starting with a mile through wet- park. The terrain becomes very Blue Ridge to the north and

The Moore's Wall Loop to see the peaks of Cook's Wall Moore's Wall. Our 360° view Rock State Park as a warm

R o c k the ridge top, where grand and bathhouse where we had

This was my last outing Even though it was to coordinate as Outings Chair

Paul Johnson



### Water Quality, Festivals, and Presentations

shed. Here are a few recent activities.

6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students, led by rick County Board of Supervisors' at length about potential adverse efteacher Rozina Turner and DRBA's meeting, where the Board authorized fects from exposure to byproducts of Wayne Kirkpatrick, sampled macroin- the next planning steps for the trail. uranium mining. Later, members of vertebrates in Sycamore and Jack's creeks, finding healthy populations of these indicators. Woolwine and the and photos of DRBA's outings and mining in Virginia should encompass. other schools participating in the Trout projects were again popular features at in the USA. (See banner photo)

ference of Garden Clubs, whose mem- Kudos to DRBA's staff and many vol- left behind! bers enjoyed a Smith River float that unteers for their excellent outreach and featured a bald eagle sighting; and the educational efforts at these events.

Fall is a busy time for DRBA's Patrick County Historical Society,

DRBA representatives atoutreach, including the beginning of which Wayne Kirkpatrick addressed tended a presentation at the Danville the school year, fall festivals on many about DRBA's history, batteau naviga- Institute of Higher Learning about weekends, and cleanup of our water- tion, and the local Mayo River Rail health issues associated with uranium Trail. In addition, many citizens voiced mining. Dr. Doug Brugge of Tufts In Patrick County, Woolwine support for this trail at the October Pat- University School of Medicine spoke DRBA's Mining Task Force addressed Wayne's tub-o-bugs display issues that the state's study of uranium

Participating in several river in the Classroom (TIC) program re- DRBA's festival appearances this fall. cleanups in the basin, DRBA members cently received their trout eggs, mark- Beginning with the August 2 Dan in Rockingham County alone were ing the beginning of year four of the River Boat Race in Madison, DRBA's responsible for removing some 5 ever-growing program. Hats off to booths also attracted visitors at Stokes TONS of debris from rivers, streams, David Jones, Brian Williams, and eve- Stomp, Patrick County Agricultural and roadsides through NC Big Sweep. ryone involved with making this the Fair, Brightleaf Hoedown in Yancey- Long-time paddlers report that as more premier Trout Unlimited TIC program ville, and the Reidsville Downtown and more responsible citizens are float-Fall Festival. DRBA's extensive chil- ing our rivers, the amount of trash Among the enthusiastic groups dren's program at Eden Riverfest found in the rivers has dwindled. A for whom DRBA has presented pro- brought families to Leaksville Landing hearty thanks to all who carry out their grams recently are the Virginia Con- for a puppet show and fishing lessons. own trash and collect what others have

Wayne Kirkpatrick & T Butler

# ... THE DAN RIVER BASI

## NOVEMBER 1: MADISON TO JACOB'S CREEK ON THE DAN

aks and canoes with forty-four persons, one dog, and one cat.

knowledge of the batteau navigational structures on the river that an island known to have existed since Revolutionary War times. were constructed in the nineteenth century. An attractive and very informative brochure is available. Several sluices and wing dams historical and cultural knowledge of the region, and the camaradewere included on this trip. Directly beneath the US 220 bridge, rie of fellowship and stories as we shared the autumn river advenpaddlers were challenged by Cross Rock Rapid Sluice, where ture.

A flotilla of kayaks, with paddles dipping on alternate sides, wet strong currents carried watercraft in directions which boaters did and reflecting in the bright sunshine – at a distance – were remi- not always choose. Later, paddlers encountered the most impresniscent of dragonflies darting about glistening in the sun. DRBA's sive Slink Shoal Sluice and Wing Dams. At this site, paddlers November 1 float began at the spacious NC 704 access near rapidly travelled through the lengthy sluice and then between the Madison-Mayodan and took out at a private access at Jacob's four pairs of log-crib rock-filled wing dams which form the river's Creek. Participants in the four-hour float included thirty-nine kay- channel. At least one stone fish weir (a funnel-shaped fishing structure) was clearly seen, evidently built by American Indians Lindley Butler, Professor Emeritus of History, shared his hundreds of years ago. The lunch stop was at Lone Island Ford,

5

This outing provided glorious weather, vivid fall color, Ann Parker

# TAKING THE PULSE OF OUR RIVERS DRBA VOLUNTEERS TEST 90 MILES OF THE DAN IN NC

In 2006 the NC Department of Envi- want to see opportunironment and Natural Resources issued a ties throughout the water quality report listing segments of basin to make imrivers across the state that do not meet provements in pracwater quality criteria for their designated tices that affect water uses. Among those rivers were the Dan guality." and the Smith, and news stories generated local concern.

In response, DRBA volunteers and stations help pinpoint staff have designed a water testing program to gather additional data to better bacteria and sediment. assess and address any problems. Former DRBA board member Mike Vaughan established Standard Operating Procedures to streams, or lack of for a study to measure bacteria and sedi- cover crops on exment levels in local rivers and streams. posed fields. Sediment Mark Bishopric, Ken Bridle, Kyle Hoover, can carry pollutants Jeffrey Johnston, and Wayne Kirkpatrick and smother fish eggs. assisted in the design of the study and/or As potential pollution sources are identi- Boy Scouts, I thought I'd give back a little. I the collection of data. Meritech Labs in fied, DRBA will work with area profession- look forward to getting out and doing this." Reidsville donated laboratory services so als to help provide resources to correct that several samples at each of 17 sites problems. could be taken.

lish trends, and design an action plan, analyzed. They maintain chain of custody comparable to that of a certified lab. By DRBA was awarded a grant from NC Clean records and ensure that one set of samples using volunteer-generated data, DRBA will Water Management Trust Fund. Volunteers reaches a certified laboratory within the Mark Bishopric, Ken Bridle, Cheryl Garrity, designated holding period. With Mike Sha-Jeffrey Johnston and Mike Shahan collect han taking the lead, a second set of sammonthly samples at each of 17 stations ples is incubated and analyzed at DRBA guarter of 2009, when the project is comcovering almost 90 miles of the Dan and offices. tributaries in NC.

hope to document bacteria levels during "I learned a few things about our rivers. I weather conditions to take the pulse of our various seasons to capture impact of differ- have enjoyed the Dan River for so many rivers and streams. ent weather and river conditions. We also years, canoeing, camping with family and

Strategically located data collection potential sources of such as leaking septic systems, cattle access



Mike Shahan and Mark Bishopric preparing water sample tests.

DRBA volunteers collect duplicate To extend the testing period, estab- water samples, which are preserved and

A former Quality Assurance expert According to Mark Bishopric, "We with Ball Container in Reidsville, Mike says,

At the end of the study, results from the analysis of the two sets of samples will be compared to determine whether volunteer-generated data provide information be better able to continue and expand the program beyond the current grant period. DRBA will report on findings in the first plete.

Many thanks go to Cheryl, Jeffrey, Ken, Mark, and Mike for braving all kinds of

# DR BA MAKES AN *iIMPACT*

#### continued from front page

The art is then displayed in local venues along with educational panels that the artists help write. A youth 4H group in Stuart, VA serves in an advisory role to iIMPACT by testing out each art project idea (such as the "bottle blooms"). If the 4H students give it a pass, then that particular art form can be replicated with other groups the basin. Funding from the Virginia Environmental Endowment allows DRBA to offer iIMPACT for free. DRBA hopes to build guite a collection of trash art, ultimately enough to become part of a larger exhibition in 2009. Anyone interested in helping with the project is encouraged to call or email Jenny Edwards at 276-340-2462 or jedwards@danriver.org

Jenny Edwards



Stuart, Virginia 4H students advise iIMPACT by testing the art project ideas before DRBA offers them to other groups in the basin

### MEMBERSHIPS AND DONATIONS SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2008

#### **MEMBERSHIPS**

Protector Carl Espy, IV Ken Yates

### Friend

Neil and Ann Fair Michael Wenkstern Ezekiel H. Williams

#### Family

Tom Adams Van Gough Bobby and Debbie Irving Barry and Susan Kanode Coy and Linda Park Andy Parker Jim Plant Patricia J. Sisson Andy and Bonya Tredway

> Individual Larry Aaron Cecilia Brown

Jeff D. Bulla Ward Collis L. Alex Jordan, Jr. **Terry Mayew** Ted Midkiff Sharon M. Olson Christina L. Oosthoek Douglas W. Powell Teresa Roberts John Stiles Joy Thomas Roger Ward Jerry S. Weston Jacob Woodall Dr. Gordon R. Woody, Jr.

> DONATIONS Steward Fzekiel H. Williams

> > Friend Coy Park

## VOLUNTEERS RESTORE HISTORIC CEMETERY

unteered, including Brandon buried somewhere in the help DRBA and the Virginia members plan to install fenc-Hairston, who dug through cemetery. Afterward, family Department of Historic Re- ing and continue maintainleaves searching for field- members gathered at God's sources formally document ing the cemetery. stones and other signs of Love Ministries in Ridge- the property and protect it. graves. the air each time someone lunch and share information property, James Morrison, laid to rest there is asked to yelled "I found another about their ancestors. was very happy to see the contact Jennifer Doss at 276stone!" A total of 18 graves Among the 25 relatives were historic cemetery being re- 634-2545. Additional phowere located. Family mem- the last three living grand- stored. Norris Funeral Ser- tos are at bers positively identified the children of Uncle John and vices of Martinsville has www.Rivers-Trails.blogspot.com burial sites of four individu- Jane. In addition to sharing generously donated a stone als and compiled a list of family memories, they filled marker for the project that

Excitement filled way to enjoy a pot-luck

Several area youth vol- eight others known to be out ancestry charts that will will be erected soon. Family

continued from front page

Anyone with informa-The owner of the tion on the cemetery or those

Jennifer Doss

## DRBA FALL HIKE AND PICNIC

continued from page 3

experience as we do, and their dams were glad to have them on their land. much better constructed this year than last,

The stars of this show were two bea- create dams from the Kirkpatricks' corn- tious meal awaited us, brimming with ver dams on the South Mayo River. Appar- stalks, and as gracious stewards of these homemade covered dishes and glorious ently, beaver, master builders, learn from wonderful animals, Wayne and Betty are desserts. I know that I speak for everyone

according to Wayne. The beaver like to enough, back at the farmhouse a scrump- grand hosts.

in thanking the Kirkpatricks for providing As if the day wasn't already full such a beautiful setting, and for being such Jeffrey M Bliss



### DRBA PARTNERS WITH RIVER TRADERS TO FORM MONITORING TEAMS

It was a chilly overcast December day, but that made the fresh chili, home- State Park in Scottsburg, VA, on a quiet made brownies and hot coffee at River road "far from any neon lights," as Bob Traders taste that much better. That's puts it. He and Judy have helped people when DRBA teamed up with this river out- from around the world enjoy the rivers in fitter to bring together citizens in Halifax Halifax County by providing boat rentals, County to discuss forming water monitoring shuttle service, bait & tackle, snacks & ice, teams. Only one citizen monitoring team and plenty of free advice. In addition to currently exists in Halifax County, and learning about water monitoring, meeting DRBA hopes to improve that number with participants could see the Batemans' exthis new initiative. DRBA's Wayne tensive collection of photographs that con-Kirkpatrick, certified water monitor, demon- vey the spirit of the area's outdoor recreastrated macroinvertebrate and chemical tion. My favorite photo shows their golden water monitoring techniques.

Bob and Judy Bateman hosted the meet- curious young buck deer not three feet ing, immediately offering to "warm up the from the tailgate. Bob laughs when asked [store] cabin and put a pot of coffee on" for about the photo, and simply says that Cody the group. It is a natural fit for DRBA, which "wouldn't bite a ham sandwich." I'm not promotes environmental stewardship and surprised that this delightful couple has nature-based tourism, to partner with local such a great dog. businesses. After enjoying the Batemans' hospitality, everyone left with a complimentary River Traders coffee mug.

River Traders is near Staunton River Labrador, Cody, sitting in the back of their At DRBA's request, local owners pickup truck, with a Buddha-like gaze at a



Beautiful closed gentian, a diminutive bluish lavender flower resembling an old style Christmas tree bulb. See article 3 on page 3.



4-H participants at the October 4th outing. See October outings on pages 2 and 3

Jenny Edwards



## **RIVERS & TRAILS NEWS**

monthly meetings this fall.

September 11: Jim Beard of VA Museum of Natural History spoke about local birding sites, including lakes, riv- poration spoke about the Tobacco Heritage Trail and Goverers, wetlands, and upland forests and meadows. DRBA is nor Kaine's vision to expand it across Southern Virginia to seeking funding for a Beaver Creek preserve that will serve form the "Beaches to Bluegrass Trail." hikers and birders.

October 9: David Perry of Western VA Land Trust

Martinsville/Henry County Rivers & Trails Group spoke about land conservation through purchase and easecontinued its practice of having interesting programs at its ments. R&T sponsored two workshops on conservation in November.

November 13: Sandra Tanner of VA Tourism Cor-

Ellen Jessee

Meetings of the DRBA Board of Directors are held on the third CURRENTS STAFF Wednesday of January, April, July, and October. All DRBA members are welcome to attend. The next Board meeting will be at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 21 at the Eden City Hall. Katherine Mull Editor Contributing Ann Parker Writers Sam Thompson **Dorcas Midkiff** Dan River Basin Association Officers Will Truslow **Jeffrey Bliss** T Butler President, Will Truslow Jennifer Doss **Photography** Associate Vice President, Wayne Kirkpatrick Jenny Edwards Editor Treasurer, Mark Bishopric Fllen Jessee **Jeffrey Bliss** Secretary, T Butler Jenny Edwards Paul Johnson T Butler **Brian Williams** Wayne Kirkpatrick

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Visit us on the web at WWW.DANRIVER.ORG

### DRBA Outings

**January 3** Hike at Tanyard Branch

February 7 : Hike at Reynolds Homestead

March 7: Annual Celebration in Eden

### DAN RIVER BASIN



### DAN RIVER BASIN ASSOCIATION

#### I've begun to appreciate the generational patterns that ripple out from our lives like stones dropped in water, pulsing outward even after we are gone. *Anne Cassidy*

## 2009 TUESDAY MORNINGS STROLLS

Grab your shoes and come for a stroll! At 9:00 on the first Tuesday of every month, an easy-paced guided walk will be held in Henry County. The free program is now a partnership among DRBA, Henry County Parks and Recreation, Activate Martinsville-Henry County, and the YMCA. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes appropriate for the weather (indoor strolls are scheduled for cold days) and bring water to drink. Pre-register by calling 276-634-2545.

### **Schedule**

January 6- Liberty Fail Mall (meet inside beside Goody's) February 3- Martinsville YMCA (meet at the front lobby) March 3- Fieldale Trail: Phase I (3521 S. River Road, Fieldale) April 7- Fieldale Trail: Phase II (same address as above) May 5- Uptown Spur Trail (Meet at the Gazebo on Lester Street) June 2- Doe Run Park (270 Dupont Road, Martinsville) July 7- Richard P. Gravely, Jr. Nature Preserve (2525 Eggleston Falls Road, Ridgeway) August 4- Jack Dalton Park (3300 Kings Mountain Road, Collinsville) September 1- Fieldale Trail: Phase I October 6- Fieldale Trail: Phase II November 3- Uptown Spur Trail December 1- Liberty Fair Mall