THE CIRCLE EXPANDS:
DRBA’S STOKES COUNTY PICNIC

by Forrest Altman

At least three new Board of Directors members brought guests. Neill Watson brought a whole family of ‘em. Some new guys showed up as a result of media publicity. Several groups of paddlers floated from Hanging Rock Access to Moratock Park. A big group went hiking. Some, recovering from a picnic lunch, sat in the picnic shelter near the boat landing and talked political strategy. After half a year of meetings, the Dan River Basin Association was expanding— in numbers, in variety of activities, in breadth of vision. The March board meeting established priorities. The picnic added fun and fellowship to concern for the Basin and planning for its future. Board member Forrest Altman camped Friday night at Moratock. Member Sue Sadler shared his tandem boat from Hanging Rock to Moratock; and Board member Steve Carpenter joined them, trying out his “new” whitewater solo boat. Board member Terry Painter and his friend Scott missed the group and later took the two shallow-looking kayaks downriver, joined by two new recruits. When member Robbin Turner regretted missing the morning trip, Forrest, after going for a spin ‘round the horseshoe curve of Moratock Park with 8-year-old guest Beth, paddled Hanging Rock-Moratock again, Robbin sharing her weighty tandem boat with Member Bob Futrell, Treasurer Lindley Butler paddling solo in his wet suit and new tandem boat (his aluminum boat is becoming too heavy for a retired navigational authority.) Vice President Mike Covey, being his usual generous self, spent the day shuttling vehicles, boats, and paddlers upriver. Neill Watson’s guests went hiking in Hanging Rock Park along with T Butler and others. Sue Sadler fed hot dogs to the picnickers and talked politics with Jeff Johnston, who, poor guy, never got to wet a paddle all day.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

We’re scheduling DRBA First Saturday outings for this summer in Stokes and Rockingham Counties, NC. In each case, meet at the take-out at 10:00 AM to set up a shuttle, and bring your lunch! The August 3 trip coincides with the annual Dan River Boat Race. On June 1, lunch will be at the PLC access; on July 6, it will be at Moratock Park; on September 7 it will be en route on the river. Hanging Rock access is on NC 89 north of Danbury, just past the Hanging Rock State Park entrance going north from town, on the left side. A brown sign marks where to turn for the put-in.
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WE’RE ON THE WEB AT:
HTTP://WWW.RRBA.ORG/DRBA.HTML

Promoting education, recreation and conservation in the Dan River Basin region

DAN RIVER BASIN ASSOCIATION

NEXT BOARD MEETING JUNE 8

The DRBA Board of Directors will meet at the South Boston Public Library, 509 Broad Street, South Boston, VA, at 10 AM on Saturday, June 8. Interested members are welcome to attend. After the meeting, all attending (and the public) are invited to a short (2 hour) paddling trip from the Hyco River landing on US 58 to the Aaron’s Creek landing, which passes through the mouth of the Dan across from Staunton River State Park. We will meet at the Hyco River putin at 1:00. There are more than 20 islands at the mouth of the Hyco, some suitable for lunch stops.

The South Boston Public Library is on US 501 North. From the intersection of 501 and US 58, follow 501 north across the Dan and uphill into South Boston. The library is on the right at the corner of Broad (501) and Fenton Streets, just past the fire station. For further information the library can be reached at (434)575-4228.