

CURRENTS

Spring 2006

Volume 5 Issue 2

FOURTH ANNUAL DRBA MEETING A SUCCESS

On Saturday, March 25, the Association held perhaps the most successful membership meeting of its four years of life.

Retiring Treasurer Lindley Butler got to introduce Allen de Hart, his former colleague and a friend for 40 years.

The Awards Committee introduced some of the most active leaders of the Association to a group of more than fifty not-so active members.

The change in the By-laws to add a corresponding secretary to the officers' roster was passed unanimously.

And the new slate of officers was likewise elected without dissent. They are Will Truslow, President; Wayne Kirkpatrick, Vice President; Mark Bishop, Treasurer; T Butler, Secretary; and Barbara Solomon, Corresponding Secretary.

It was a friendly, spirited event, somewhat dampened by the absence of retiring President Tom Edmonds, recovering from major surgery three days previously. Vice President Barry Dunkley presided.

Lindley Butler's old friend Allen de Hart, a professor at Louisburg College in North Carolina and founder of De Hart Botanical Gardens in both Virginia and Carolina, gave a low-key, down-home talk and displayed charts of the

many hiking opportunities in some of the counties of the Basin.

Then he marched— ahead of the group (he'll be 80 his next birthday)— along a railroad track eyed by the Henry County group for conversion to a trail.

Recognized as Conservators of the Year with a plaque awarded by chairman Dunkley were T and Lindley Butler. Certificates were presented to Ellen Jessee for her organizational work with the Henry County group; to Dorcas Midkiff, editor of *Currents*; to Julia Pyron, Sales Chair; and to Karen Cross, trail planner with Danville's outdoor recreation program.

A framed photograph of the Smith River was presented to Harry Cerino, outgoing Executive Director of The Harvest Foundation, whose leadership is responsible for the creation of the Rivers and Trails group. In addition, the Harvest Foundation grant has enabled DRBA to employ Katherine Hebert as our Virginia Planning and Program Director. Katherine was introduced to the members at the meeting.



Guest speaker, Allen de Hart, leads DRBA members along an abandoned Henry County Virginia railroad track eyed for conversion to a trail.

Also recognized were Joey Bane, hike-coordinator; Ken Bridle, Stewardship Chair; Steve Carpenter, photo archivist and display committee member; Mike Covey for greenway promotion, batteau work and other feats of wood craftsmanship; Milton Hundley, champion Big Sweep participant; Wayne Kirkpatrick, stream watch activist; Paul Johnson, founding editor of *Currents*; *Continued page 4*

Submitted by Forrest Altman

MARTINSVILLE-HENRY COUNTY RIVERS & TRAILS GROUP GOES PUBLIC!

At its first official Public Outreach Meeting, held in Fieldale on February 16, the Martinsville-Henry County Rivers & Trails Group (short name—Rivers & Trails) attracted 45 citizens for an enthusiastic discussion of outdoor recreational opportunities in the area. After a general session, participants divided into small groups to discuss Trails, Blueways, Community Relations, Fishery, and Water Quality Monitoring.

The most popular topic was creation of trails for hiking and biking, including the proposed rail-trail on the Danville and Western (Dick and Willie) line, for which Henry County and Martinsville have received federal grants. "The community is definitely excited about the development of these trails," commented Katherine Hebert, DRBA's Virginia Planning and Program Director, "and they are already looking for ways to volunteer their time to help make them happen." *Continued page 2*

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STOKES COUNTY HOSTS TRIO OF DRBA EVENTS

The Dan River Basin Association will be well represented in Stokes County from March 1 through May.

On March 4 Dr. Ken Bridle, a conservation biologist from Walnut Cove, will conduct a stream watch workshop at Hanging Rock State Park and on Cascade and/or Indian Creeks.

On April 1 Tom Edmonds, Caswell County Economic Developer and current President of the Dan River Basin Association, will lead a float on the Dan River from Hanging Rock Access to Danbury, followed by an afternoon picnic at Moratock Park.

Along with these activities, the Danbury Branch of the Stokes County Library will host an exhibit of photographs depicting outdoor recreation in Stokes County, a map of river access points in Stokes and a model of a batteau, a nineteenth century floating "semi-trailer" provided by Larry Willard.

Both the Stream Watch Workshop March 4 and the Dan River float April 1 are a part of the Basin Association's ongoing series of events known as "First Saturday Outings," continuous since the first such outing in 2001, also a float on the Dan followed by a picnic at Moratock Park.

In the hands-on training March 4, Dr. Bridle will be assisted by Wendy Hartup, a water quality specialist with the Cooperative Extension Service for Forsyth and Stokes counties, and Wayne Kirkpatrick, a retired dairy farmer from Patrick County, Virginia. Kirkpatrick is certified in monitoring for benthic (stream-dwelling) creatures, the "canaries" of water quality.

Participants in the March 4 event are asked to meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Visitors Center in Hanging Rock State Park for an indoor session before adjourning to Cascade and/or Indian Creek for hands-on stream work. Those who have them are asked to bring hip waders, along with nets or other stream-monitoring equipment. Everyone should bring a picnic lunch and water.

For the April 1 event, participants are asked to gather at 10:00 a.m. at Hanging Rock Access, on Flinchum Road, with canoe or kayak, life jacket, rain gear, water and a picnic lunch.

Available in the Danbury Library along with the photographic display will be membership brochures for the Dan River Basin Association and other materials on the Batteau trail, the Chinqua-Penn trail, Rockingham County river recreation and on Stokes County treasures.

Z. SMITH REYNOLDS SUPPORTS RIVER STEWARDSHIP, EDUCATION

The Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation has announced a grant of \$25,000 for the work of the Dan River Basin Association in North Carolina.

In making the grant, the Foundation stated, "Please know that our trustees are happy to share in the work of your organization."

The Dan River Basin Association will apply the money toward the employment of a full-time Executive Director to be located in North Carolina. Additional funds are being raised by the Association.

The Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation was

established in 1936 as a memorial to the youngest son of the founder of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company. In that year the sisters of Z. Smith Reynolds, Nancy Susan Reynolds Bagley and Mary Reynolds Babcock, and the brother, R. J. Reynolds, Jr., arranged for their inheritance from their brother's estate to go to the establishment of a trust fund for the benefit of the people of North Carolina.

The 3300-square-mile Dan River Basin straddles the North Carolina-Virginia border and includes major portions of four North Carolina and four Virginia counties. The As-

sociation has already engaged a Virginia Planning and Program Director, Katherine Hebert, to supervise projects in Virginia from offices in the Henry County Administrative Building in Collinsville.

"The new Executive Director will manage the entire Association, concentrating on the North Carolina side of the border," stated T Butler, Secretary of the Association. "We are delighted to have the support of the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation to enable us to protect and promote the natural and cultural resources of the entire Basin."

RIVERS AND TRAILS GROUP GOES PUBLIC

continued from front page

Blueways, or river trails on the Smith and Mayo, will be provided by river access points, which Rivers & Trails is working to develop on both waterways. With guidance from DRBA's Wayne Kirkpatrick, Rivers & Trails' Walter Hairston is leading the water quality monitoring program in Henry County. Community Relations have been enhanced by appearances by Walter, Ellen Jessee, and Katherine Hebert before governmental and civic groups, a booth at the Martinsville Trade Show, and news stories in the *Martinsville Bulletin*. Improving conditions for the Smith

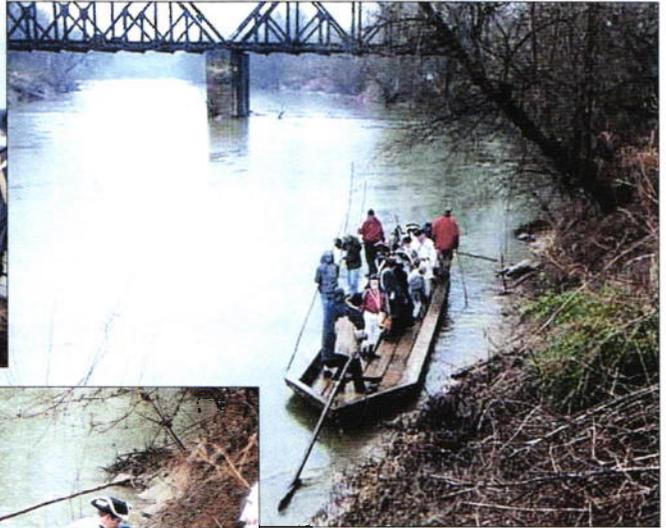
River trout fishery continues to be one of Rivers & Trails' priorities, with the very active local Trout Unlimited chapter leading the effort. On March 2 over 50 citizens met in Martinsville, including representatives of the Army Corps of Engineers, Dominion Power, the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Virginia Tech, and local government and tourism officials, to explore methods to restore the health of the fishery. The team effort approach to the Smith has already led to a significant improvement—opening Philpott Dam's turbines one at

a time to reduce the initial, damaging surge of downstream flow.

Rivers & Trails leaders hope that the volunteers recruited at the Fieldale meeting will join DRBA and help move these exciting projects along. Ellen Jessee, Rivers & Trails Chair, observed, "I was so pleased with the large turnout at the Fieldale Community Outreach meeting. People are really excited about trails and river access in our area. Their enthusiasm indicates that they will help us get it done and 'if we build it, they will come!'"

PHOTO GALLERY

DRBA Volunteers help re-enact The Crossing during the 225th Anniversary of The Crossing of the Dan.



For more information on this event please see the Winter 2006 issue of *Currents* and the web site for The Prizery in South Boston, Virginia at : www.prizery.com/Crossing/Celebration.htm



Photographs from the Fourth Annual Dan River Basin Association Membership Meeting and railroad trail excursion.



DAN RIVER BASIN
ASSOCIATION



DRBA RECEIVES PROCTER & GAMBLE GRANT

DRBA member Andrew Talbert has scored again!

As he did in 2003, Andy obtained a \$1000 grant for DRBA from the Procter & Gamble Volunteer Support Grant Program, his company's plan for donating to nonprofit organizations in which their employees volunteer. These funds are designated for creating educational materials, such as maps, festival displays, exhibits of photographs and models, or interpretive plaques for historically important river accesses and trails.

"I'm really impressed with how far DRBA makes its dollars go," Andy commented. "And I really believe in what the organization is doing."

"We're delighted to have this money for our educational programs," observed T Butler, who helped compose the grant request. "And we appreciate so very much Andy's making this happen."

MEMBERSHIPS RECEIVED DEC THRU FEB 2006

Benefactor	Norman G. Dean III	Harold Knight	Economic & Tourism Development
T & Lindley Butler	Joel Deaton	William B. Moore	
Protector	Lorie & Joe Enloe	Robert Nesbit	Donations
Tom & Robin Taylor	Bitsy & Bob Futrell	Dixie Penn	Joey Bane
Steward	Bill & Cheryl Garrity	Mitch Pergerson	Lorie & Joe Enloe
Mark A. Boles	Lynn & Wayne Hale	Ben Pruitt	Clark Graves
Kenneth A. Bridle	Joe & Ellen Jessee	Hazel Puckett	Lisa R. Snyder
Tom Edmonds & Margaret Gurley	Harry & Joan Lecik	Joan Ragland	Lee Templeton
Earl Smith	Ted, Elizabeth, Mac, Clara, & Owen Lord	Marshall Ratliff	
Sam & Lea Thompson	Jonathan & Gina Mason	Janet Reid	In Memory of...
Ed & Laurie Wilson	Paul & Patty May	Bert Smith	Paul Comer, by Deborah & Gerald Comer
Friend	Gene Messick	Lisa R. Snyder	
Chris Adcock	Larry & Ann Parker	Cheryl Sutliff	In Honor of...
Forrest Altman	Julia Pyron	Lee Templeton	T & Lindley Butler, by Tom & Gloria Butler
Thomas & Maryann Barbour	Charles Rodenbough	David Tingen	
J. Bryant Haynes	Individual	Kate Wandscher	
Danny Love	Eddie Albert	Dan Wiggers	
Bob & Pat Moore	Joey Bane	Laurence M. Willard	
Ken & Margo Perkins	Gloria T. Best	Organization	
Edwin G. Wilson	Mike Burleson	Danville Parks, Recreation & Tourism	
Family	Paul G. Ferguson	Rockingham County Naturalist Club	
John E. Buck, Jr.	Clark Graves	Rockingham Co. Partnership for	
Arlyn & Susan Bunch	K. Paul Johnson		
Tom & Gloria Butler			

Benefactor	\$500-999
Protector	250-499
Steward	100-249
Friend	50-99
Corporate	100
Organization	50
Family	40
Individual	25

ANNUAL MEETING A GREAT SUCCESS

continued from front page

Terry Painter, float coordinator and builder of the batteau trailer; Will Truslow, Outings Chair; and Mike Vaughan, active promoter of the Chinqua-Penn Trail

Hospitality for the meeting was provided by Barbara Jackman, Katherine Hebert and Roger Adams of the Martinsville-Henry County Rivers and Trails Group.

Following the meeting newly elected President Will Truslow, a Greensboro physician, indicated that Paul Johnson, Director of Halifax County Libraries, has agreed to succeed him as Outings Chair. Truslow also stated that one of his early priorities would be to work on improving the outlook for river access in Stokes County.

JANUARY 1ST SATURDAY OUTING

Hike at Doe Run Park

Our first outing in 2006 was a hike at Doe Run Park, located near Martinsville in Henry County, Virginia. This hike was hosted by the Martinsville-Henry County Rivers and Trails Group, a DRBA affiliate, and was led by Roger Adams, who is Henry County's Director of Parks and Recreation. Roger is a member of the DRBA Board.

Thanks to a good notice in the Martinsville paper, this event was well attended; 43 people enjoyed the hike, mostly from the Martinsville area. For many this was their introduction to both the park and to the Rivers and Trails Group and DRBA, so we hope to pick up some new members from the hike.

The Doe Run Park is new and is

impressive, containing over a mile of well prepared, graveled walking trail. Parking and restroom facilities are provided, as well as picnic tables. The trail, which has excellent signage, winds through low hills covered with hardwoods and shrubs, including rhododendron. There were several side trails, providing variety, and at one point there is a striking view over the Smith River. While the trail surroundings were attractive in January, they must be even nicer in late Spring, when the wild shrubs are in bloom. Henry County is to be congratulated on creating a fine park for the enjoyment of its citizens. Hopefully it will serve as a model for other counties and municipalities in the Dan Basin.

submitted by Mike Vaughan

Z. SMITH REYNOLDS

In its history, the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation has used the funds from the estate of Zachary Smith Reynolds to make grants totaling \$375 million to recipients in all of North Carolina's 100 counties. The Foundation currently gives special attention to community development, the environment, democracy and civic engagement, pre-collegiate education and social justice and equity.

In 1986 the Foundation, as a part of its fiftieth anniversary observance, established the Nancy Susan Reynolds Awards to recognize persons who have made a difference in the leadership of their

communities and have gone largely unrecognized.

In May of 1989 the Foundation's Board of Trustees established a sabbatical program to reward individual leaders in nonprofit organizations who have made exceptional commitment of time, talent and energy to their positions.

Projects of the Dan River Basin Association are guided by its mission "to protect, preserve and enjoy the Basin's waters and the Region's culture by promoting stewardship, recreation and education." Information about the Association is at www.danriver.org.

Who hears the rippling of rivers will not utterly despair of anything.
Henry David Thoreau

BASIN ASSOCIATION HEARS PATRICK COUNTY TRAIL AUTHOR

At its annual membership meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 25, the Dan River Basin Association heard a talk by famed author of trail guides Allen de Hart, a native of Patrick County.

De Hart, author of many books and articles on hiking in Virginia and North Carolina and a widely known and respected authority on hiking trails, shared some of his outdoor adventures, particularly within the Dan River Basin.

"I think we had an excellent program," said Lindley S. Butler, Professor Emeritus of History, a trails advocate and long-time friend of de Hart. "Allen de Hart's books, such as The Trails of Virginia: Hiking the Old Dominion and North Carolina Hiking Trails, are the only comprehensive hiking guides to our region."

Allen de Hart has been hiking, designing, constructing, and writing about southeastern trails for over sixty years. He has measured over 51,000 trail miles in 19 countries, and he also enjoys canoeing, biking, hunting and fishing, and mountain climbing. He is professor emeritus of history and cultural affairs adviser at Louisburg College and founder of the De Hart Botanical Gardens near Stuart, VA and Louisburg, NC.

In honor of his decades of leadership in education, the arts, and environmental preservation, de Hart has received three North Carolina Governor's Awards, including the

highest award the governor can bestow, The Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

Prior to de Hart's talk, there was a short business meeting, with recognition of outstanding volunteers and a brief election of officers.

Hospitality for the event, provided by the Martinsville-Henry

County Rivers and Trails Group of the Association, included an informal "second breakfast," since some attendees traveled some distance. The Dan River Basin embraces large portions of four Virginia and four North Carolina counties and parts of other counties in both states.

A display featured information about the Basin Association's activities. Books by Allen de Hart were available for purchase, along with Dan River Basin Association books, membership materials and other handouts.

Meetings and outings of the Dan River Basin Association are free and open to the public. For membership information contact Barbara Solomon at 336-344-1809, mail@danriver.org; P. O. Box 157, Wentworth NC 27375, or visit www.danriver.org.



DRBA DISPLAY IN STOKES COUNTY LIBRARY

When you're in Danbury, NC this spring, be sure to stop by the Stokes County Library to see the DRBA photographic exhibit set up in the lobby. Then step into the main room and look at the model of a batteau in a display case in the history corner.

Ron Morgan, Director of Economic Development in Stokes County, supplied stunning photos of outdoor recreation in the county to supplement the DRBA photographic collection. Several pictures from the Floyd Rich Wildflower Collection are also featured. Of particular interest is a map of the current and proposed river access points along the Dan River in Stokes County.

The batteau model is on loan from Larry Willard, who generously provided it again after it was featured at the US 29 Welcome Center last year. Accompanying the model is explanatory text by Lindley Butler that mentions the 1792 batteau voyage to Stokes County's Hairston's Falls, the first known Dan River batteau journey in the upper river.

Near the photo exhibit are brochures on DRBA's membership, the Dan River Batteau Navigation Trail, Stokes County Treasures, and Rockingham County River Country. The exhibit will be up until the end of May.

FEBRUARY OUTING—ROANOKE CANAL MUSEUM

Saturday, February 4 dawned overcast with threatening rain. Undaunted, about two dozen DRBA members from throughout the Basin converged on Roanoke Rapids, NC to visit the Roanoke Canal Museum and Trail that showcase the 19th century Roanoke Navigation Company canal.

The museum is in a century-old two-story brick power house located on the well-preserved remains of the canal locks. Our guides for the day, museum director Christina Gordon and canal commission chair Jim Frazier, toured us through the excellent museum, hosted our lunch in the power house basement, and took us to the Chockoyotte Creek aqueduct and the multi-story mill in Weldon that is undergoing restoration.

The stone arched aqueduct, which carried the canal across the creek, is the only such structure in the state and is remarkably preserved. Although rainy weather prevented our walking on the 8-mile canal trail, many members expressed interest in returning to sample the trail on their own.

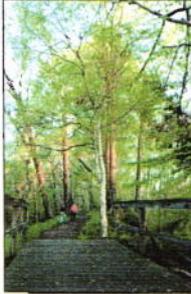
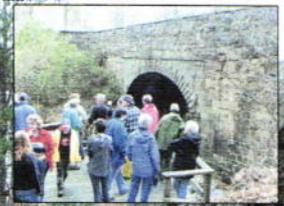
The Roanoke Navigation Company Canal opened the upper Roanoke, Staunton, and Dan rivers to navigation in the 1820s. This nine-mile canal and lock system around the Great Falls of the Roanoke generated economic development throughout these river valleys.

DRBA's batteau replica commemorates an important era that saw the beginning of most of the river towns and cities in a 10,000 square mile region on the North Carolina-Virginia border from the Blue Ridge Mountains to the

port of Norfolk.

The Roanoke Canal Commission is to be commended for preserving this canal complex, a vital part of our entire region's history. Our sincere thanks go to Forrest Altman for arranging the visit and to our gracious hosts.

Submitted by Lindley Butler



MARCH 4 FIRST SATURDAY OUTING HANGING ROCK STATE PARK

Taking a break from its monthly hikes and river trips, the Dan River Basin Association devoted its regular "First Saturday Outing" March 4 to a pre-spring training workshop for persons wishing to "adopt" a stream. Participants met at 10:00 Saturday morning at the Visitors Center in Hanging Rock State Park.

The hands-on workshop was led by Dr. Kenneth A. Bridle, a seasoned conservation biologist, assisted by Wendy Hartup, a water quality specialist with the Cooperative Extension Service for Forsyth and Stokes Counties, North Carolina; and Wayne Kirkpatrick, a retired dairy farmer from Patrick County, Virginia. Kirkpatrick is trained in monitoring for benthic (bottom-dwelling) creatures, the "canaries" of water quality.

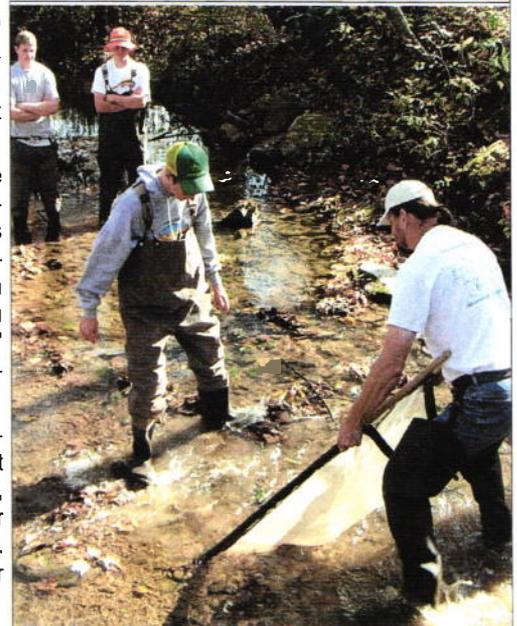
Dr. Bridle, Stewardship Chair of the Dan River Basin Association, conducted a stream monitoring session for the students of Bartlett Yancey High School, in Caswell County, in the fall of 2005 and plans to continue such training throughout the Dan River Basin in Virginia and North Carolina. A former research technician and plant physiologist for the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, he has written many scientific papers and made presentations to a variety of scientific and conservation groups. He is currently principal biologist with Ecological Associates of Greensboro, NC.

Who may volunteer as a stream watcher? According to Bridle, volunteers may be as varied as the bodies of water they decide to adopt: elementary and high school students, scout troops, businesses and retired persons.

Asked what is required of volunteers, Dr. Bridle said, "Energy and commitment." Stream watchers are encouraged to become the local experts on their stream's dimensions, history and wildlife, and to collect data that can be used on behalf of the stream's best interests. "Once you understand what the stream is trying to tell you," he said, "you will be able to translate its concerns to others."

Stream watching is important, said Bridle, because waterways are among the region's most valuable resources. "Their waters anchor us, giving us a sense of history and place. Their calming strength is a source of inspiration. They are a crucial part of our neighborhood, our habitat."

Bridle, who lives in Walnut Cove, NC, believes that habitats, like neighborhoods, need to be protected. Clean waterways, he says, are as important as safe neighborhoods. "The quality of the water in our streams affects the quality of life of all human beings."



"But growth, development and carelessness threaten the health of even the most pristine streams," Bridle says. "Pushed to their limits by the increasing demands of our society, our streams and rivers now show signs of stress."

EXCERPTS FROM JANUARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Next Meeting: The next Board of Directors meeting will be at **4:00 p.m. on April 12** at the Danville Water Treatment Plant.

Present: Ken Bridle, Mark Bishopric, John Buck, Lindley Butler, T Butler, Barry Dunkley, Tom Edmonds, Paul Ferguson, Clark Graves, Paul Johnson, Wayne Kirkpatrick, Julia Pyron, Tom Taylor, Will Truslow, Mike Vaughan, Robin Yount

Absent: Roger Adams, Joey Bane, Ellen Jessee, Jeffrey Johnston, Ben Murdock, Terry Painter

Guests: Forrest Altman, Barbara Solomon

Katherine Hebert: In her absence the Board welcomed Katherine Hebert, our new Virginia Planning and Program Director, and expressed sympathy at her father's illness, which prevented Katherine from attending the meeting.

New Board member: Robin Yount, Vice President for Tourism in Rockingham County, was welcomed to the Board.

Henry County Office: President Tom Edmonds read a letter from Henry County Administrator Benny Summerlin that detailed the county's very generous in-kind administrative support for our Virginia position, including furnished office, telecommunications, payroll, and assistance from other county departments. The Board expressed DRBA's deep gratitude for this support.

Executive Director Position: Using the \$25,000 grant from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation as seed money, the Board will raise additional funds and advertise for an executive director. Lindley Butler visited the National Committee for the New River in December and obtained a personnel manual and job descriptions that we can use in creating similar documents for DRBA.

North Carolina Office: Tom Edmonds read a letter from Mark Bishopric offering office space and additional support for DRBA in the Spray Mercantile Building. This location, as well as space in the Mayo Mill in Mayodan and other possibilities in North Carolina, will be considered, with the decision dependent on the preference of our hiree.

Crossing of the Dan Celebration, February 10-11: Paul Johnson described the riverbank conditions where the Revolutionary War river crossing took place, about two miles upstream from the Maple Street Wildlife Access in South Boston. Plans for replicating the crossing with the batteau have not been finalized. Lindley Butler commented

that if DRBA is paying for a weekend's use of the batteau, it should be the centerpiece of the celebration. Paul will coordinate communication between Mark Bishopric and the local committee.

Martinsville-Henry County Rivers and Trails

Group: Lindley Butler reported that MHCRTG has several projects underway, including building the demonstration trail and attempting to save the Iron Bridge in Fieldale and working on a rail-trail on the seven-mile section of the Danville & Western rail line from Martinsville to Fieldale. The January 7 outing on the Doe Run Trail in Martinsville attracted 43 hikers, about half non-DRBA members, and generated excellent publicity. He also announced the Smith River Cleanup in Fieldale from 1:00-5:00 on February 11.

Gravelly Property: The late businessman and archaeologist Richard Gravelly willed 70 acres of property on the Smith River to the Virginia Museum of Natural History for a nature study outpost. The Museum is now selling the property to raise money for their new building. Lindley Butler recommended that DRBA pursue an option to purchase the property. Our intent would be to ensure appropriate public use of the property, including a river access point. After some discussion, the Board decided to pursue an option for one year to purchase the property, giving time to raise money.

Stokes County Paddle Trail: In December the Executive Committee met with Ron Morgan, Director of Stokes County Economic Development, to address the county's problems with river accesses. The Board discussed initiatives in Stokes County, including efforts of Piedmont Land Conservancy to form a Dan River Coalition and emphasize the Dan River in its capital campaign, as well as DRBA's wish to increase Stokes County membership and build a county chapter. The Board approved five steps that the Executive Committee had outlined with Ron Morgan:

1. Make presentation to County Commissioners in February or March about river tourism. (Tom Edmonds to lead.)
 2. Take County Commissioners and local media on river trip in spring. (Morgan to arrange.)
 3. Set up display in Stokes County Library.
 4. Give public program about the river at library or governmental center.
- Help provide volunteers for in-kind work on Hart Access, which is being renovated.

Brochure Revision: With the brochure in short supply and in need of extensive revision, the Board authorized T and Lindley Butler to proceed with

redesigning and reprinting the DRBA brochure. All Board members were asked to send appropriate photographs to T.

Outings: Will Truslow has scheduled outings through April and asked to be replaced as Outings Chair. The Board expressed gratitude for his exemplary work in this position. The Board recommended that we schedule one or more social events each year at the conclusion of outings.

Land for Tomorrow Meetings: Tom Edmonds and Ken Bridle will attend one of the regional briefings in late January for the Land for Tomorrow program, a statewide coordinated land preservation initiative. T will forward the schedule to the Board; all are invited to attend.

Danville's Old 97 Rail Days, Sept. 23-24: Forrest Altman has received a request for the batteau or a display for this event, to be held at the Tank Museum in Danville. The Board agreed that if we are to display the batteau, it should be in the river. Forrest will forward the information to Tom Edmonds for consideration.

Membership: Secretary T Butler pointed out that of our 195 memberships, 148 are from North Carolina, and 101 from Rockingham County. The membership renewal letters that Barbara Solomon sent out in December have garnered 63 renewals so far, with the majority increasing the level of their memberships or sending donations beyond the individual level. The income from memberships has doubled over last year.

Finances: Treasurer Lindley Butler presented a budget for 2006, and he offered the new embroidered polo shirt (\$30) for sale.

Grants: Tom Edmonds has thanked Jim Long, who wrote a letter for our Z. Smith Reynolds grant application, and Tom Ross, Executive Director of ZSR, for their support of DRBA.

The Annie Penn Foundation grant has been spent out for the Chinqua-Penn Trail under Mike Vaughan's leadership, and copies of the brochure were distributed to the Board.

Website: David Tingen sent a written report on the website, asking for calendar listings to be sent to him. Events scheduled by related or member groups may be included as well. Forrest Altman has written an extensive description of the basin, which David Tingen will post on the website. Members commented about numerous favorable responses to the website.

The Dan River Basin Association

P.O. Box 103, Wentworth, NC 27375-0103
drba.nc@danriver.org

P.O. Box 7, Collinsville, VA 24078
drba.va@danriver.org

*To preserve
 the Natural
 and
 Cultural Resources
 of the
 Dan River Basin
 by promoting
 Stewardship,
 Recreation
 and
 Education*

Treat the people downstream from you
 The way you'd want the people upstream to treat you.
 -Unknown

Editor:

Dorcas Midkiff
 Associate Editor

T Butler

Contributing Writers:

Forrest Altman

Lindley Butler

T Butler

Mike Vaughan

Ken Bridle

Photography:

The Prizery

Lindley Butler

First Saturday Outings

April thru July 2006

APRIL 1

Paddle Dan River from Hanging
 Rock State Park to Moratock
 Park

MAY 6

Paddle trip on Staunton River
 from Long Island to Brookneal

JUNE 3

Paddle trip on Smith River from
 Mitchell Bridge to Eden

From: Kenneth A. Bridle, Ph.D.

To: DRBA secretary

Sent: Wednesday, March 08, 2006 2:03 PM

Subject: Stream Watch workshop

Hello T.

The Stream Watch workshop was well attended and well received. The HRSP superintendent called yesterday and said that it was the best attended workshop at the park in the three years he has been there. He also got some good comments from the visitors and his staff that took part. As a result he has asked me to consider doing a training workshop for all the park rangers in the state....

Thanks

Ken



Come Join Us!