



Dan River Basin Association

CURRENTS

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EPIC River Experience
It's a Season for Festivals
Partnering with Friends Across the Basin

Currents • Volume 21 • Issue 4

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Feature begins on page 3

EPIC River Experience

Making A Difference in Virginia begins on page 4
Mountain Bike Trails at I.C. Dehart • Dam Removal Project
13th Annual Smith River Fest • Smith River Gets Some Love

Director's Message page 4

Education Across the Basin begins on page 6

Averett University • Career ChoICE Youth Expo
A Day in the Woods • Monoarch Butterflies
Planting Seeds of Change for Youth

Eyes on NC begins on page 8

Beyond Pathways • The Reidsville Area Foundation (RAF)
Lunch with DRBA • RoCo Blueway Go with the RoCo Flow!
Rockingham County ~ Moving Forward
NC State Parks partner for the Dan River State Paddle Trail
Eden River Fest

Recreation page 10 • **Membership and Gifts** page 11

Calendar of Events page 12

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Cover Photo: Brian Williams



The Epic River Experience was a huge success this summer introducing youth from local counties to the wonder that surrounds them in their communities. Combined, over 60 students attended the two one-day summer courses held at Abreu-Grogan Park on the Dan River. The event included hands-on engagement with water quality methods, river ecology, water safety training, and an introduction to basic paddling techniques on the Dan River.

The EPIC River Experience, developed by DRBA Educational Outreach Manager Krista Hodges, was open to middle school students in Danville, Pittsylvania, and Caswell County. DRBA worked with the school's faculty and administration to promote the program as well as local social media outlets and newspapers.

Information was also distributed through DRBA's website and e-newsletter, and through resources available through Danville City Parks and Recreation. Students interested in participating in the program completed an online application. While spaces were filled on a first-come, first-served basis, preference was given to youth who had not had a previous experience being on or near a river, had an interest in environmental protection and/or recreation, and were provided a reference from a teacher and/or parent.

The First EPIC River Experience was held in June with over 20 participants from the Danville area, the MHC After3 summer school, and Franklin County. The second event, held in July, had 48 students in attendance from Danville schools, the Martinsville Boys and Girls Club, and MHC After3.

Four stations, manned by DRBA staff and volunteers, focused on river ecology, water safety, paddling, and water quality testing. The stations gave hands-on learning opportunities that aligned with DRBA's mission of preserving and promoting the natural and cultural resources of the basin through recreation, education, and stewardship. "After both events, the youth reported feeling more confident, more engaged in their community, excited to take on new challenges, and more motivated to become advocates for the protection of natural resources," said Krista Hodges, "Our goal was to provide them this experience so they can enjoy the river, and then want to protect it." The Dan River is the source of drinking water for the City of Danville and parts of Pittsylvania County.

Providing youth in the area with a safe and memorable learning experience is our goal. We provided support because we believe that when youth personally enjoy the river in their own community, they will be proud of it and want to share the experience with others.

Kathy Milam
Executive Director
Community Foundation of the
Dan River Region

"The youth loved paddling on the Dan River," said Maggie Brown, outdoor recreation coordinator of Danville Parks and Recreation. "For many of them, it was their first experience with being on the water, learning how to paddle and to always wear a life jacket was important."

DRBA appreciates the Community Foundation of the Dan River Region for funding this program, Danville Parks and Recreation for their assistance with the river experience, and the City of Danville for providing the kayaks.

DRBA helps plan and construct trails, parks, river access points, and environmental education programming within the 3,300 square miles of the Dan River Basin watershed. To learn more about DRBA and its recreation, education, and stewardship programs that protect and preserve our local natural resources, visit www.danriver.org.

K Hodges



Making a Difference in Virginia

The **Mountain Bike trails at I.C. Dehart** contain over 16 miles of world-class terrain with something for every rider from beginner to experienced. There are steep, rocky grades, plenty of elevation change, creek crossings, twisty old-school switchbacks, scenic hollers, and downhills. Features include an historic moonshine still and twin stone chimneys from the remains of an old homestead. The property is located in Woolwine, VA and was home to the I.C. Dehart distillery before being donated to Patrick County for the park. There are ballfields, picnic areas, an historic graveyard, and a boardwalk through a mountain bog with rare and endangered species.

DRBA's Eco Ambassador Council committed funds to the improvement of the mountain bike trails at the park and the project is nearly complete. In September, volunteers installed over 60 carsonite trail markers with directional stickers. These trail markers are critical for new mountain bikers and aid in rescue when it is needed.

The cost of everything has skyrocketed, but thanks to a generous donation by Jim Frith, DRBA was able to purchase all the markers needed to increase the safety and professional look of the trail system. A changing station was constructed with help from Patrick County Parks and Recreation Department and the VocTech class at Patrick County High School. Brochures are being printed and the final map will be installed in October along with a website. We encourage everyone to come and enjoy these challenging trails or just visit this beautiful hidden gem tucked away on Charity Highway in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Patrick County, Virginia.

B Williams



Danville's City Council has recently voted on a **Dam Removal Project** to remove the Long Mill Dam located at White Mill. With the mill having been shuttered for several years, the low-head dam no longer serves its original purpose -- to pond the river water and funnel it through the mill.

DRBA advocates the removal of obsolete dams and respectfully offered a letter of support to the Danville City Council. When balancing the needs of flood control, hydropower, and industry, the decision to remove a dam is easily made when a structure no longer serves any of these purposes. Today, the disadvantages associated with the dam are many. The rocky river bottom through Danville and the sediment buildup behind the dam have created a loss of habitat. The hydraulics present hazards and make the dam a dangerous presence to the ever-growing recreational use of the waterway.

For two decades, DRBA has been advocating for healthy waterways, increasing access to recreational opportunities, spurring economic growth through outdoor recreation, and inspiring best resource management practices in this region. Danville is the heart of the Dan River Basin watershed and is a connecting community to waterways in both Virginia and North Carolina. Beyond allowing greater recreational opportunities for Danville residents, the dam's removal could have positive implications well beyond the town's borders. Removing the dam and returning the river to its natural state has the potential to bolster the health of the ecosystem, increase public safety, and improve water quality.

It's time to restore the Dan River as it flows through Danville and the City Council has recognized this as a viable economic driver. This project has great potential to positively impact the city and to be beneficial to outdoor lovers and environmental enthusiasts while enhancing tourism and economic development. DRBA is pleased to offer its support for this project and the community.

B Williams

Director's Message

A recent study showed that more than 30% of respondents choose Autumn as their favorite season. If you google, "What's so great about Autumn," you get over 900 million results. I'm one of those people who would choose Autumn as my favorite season. I love the cooler weather, the colors in nature, the hot coffee and the anticipation of the season for giving.

However you choose to celebrate Autumn, I hope you will take some time to explore our unique and beautiful watershed. DRBA's interactive map on our website can help you choose where to go. We are so lucky to live in this amazing and special part of the planet and I believe that Autumn is the perfect season to get to know it better.

Tiffany Haworth
Executive Director, Dan River Basin Association

Making a Difference in Virginia

A record-breaking crowd of over 2800 attended the **13th Annual Smith River Fest** at the Smith River Sports Complex in August. Established in 2008, the festival is a collaborative effort between Henry County Parks & Recreation, Martinsville-Henry County EDC's Tourism Division, Monogram Foods Smith River Sports Complex, the Dan River Basin Association, and the Martinsville-Henry County YMCA. The annual outdoors festival is a highlight of summer and is designed to promote recreational opportunities along the Smith River and in the surrounding region of Martinsville – Henry County.



MHC is an outdoor recreation hotspot boasting the beautiful Smith River and the gorgeous Philpott Lake as well as the Smith River Blueway and the Philpott Blueway. On any given day, there are ample opportunities to get outdoors, get active, and enjoy nature. Smith River Fest is a day to learn more about many of these amenities while having a fun opportunity to experience them. The event included the Helgramite Hustle 5K Mud Run, the 4.8-mile River Race, the Paddling Demo Pool, live music, food, and vendors.

The Paddling Demo Pool is always a huge success and was operated again this year by DRBA volunteers and staff. The pool offers inexperienced boaters of all ages the opportunity to feel what it is like to get on a kayak or paddle board while having the security of a shallow pool beneath them. We help users learn paddling techniques and promote river safety by teaching them the proper use of PFDs.

River paddlers enjoyed the convenience of free river shuttles offered by Henry County Parks and Recreation while DRBA staff members organized the river race. DRBA staff and volunteers also helped the Blue Ridge Boys and Girls Club with their annual fund-raising Rubber Duck Race. This year we captured a record 15,000 ducks with help from volunteers and the Ridgeway Rescue Squad. A big thanks to all the DRBA board members, staff, and volunteers who came out to help others learn about and safely enjoy our river resource!

B Williams

Smith River Gets Some Love each year when DRBA organizes its annual Smith River Cleanup the week prior to Smith River Fest. More than 50 volunteers responded to this year's call and generously gave their time to remove the 700 lbs of litter and debris from the Smith River and nearby roadsides. Volunteers from ages seven to seventy gathered Saturday morning at the Smith River Sports Complex and then split up into groups. The volunteers worked from 9:00 am to noon in canoes, kayaks, and Jon boats while others scoured the sides of the roads along the river. Everyone met back at the Sports Complex for a thank-you lunch generously donated by Boxley and provided by Hugos Restaurant and Bar. The Virginia Museum of Natural History, Henry County, DRBA, and other individuals donated prizes for a raffle held following lunch. Garbage removal was provided by Henry County.



“For the past 13 years, DRBA has hosted and partnered with other organizations for an annual river cleanup event,” said Brian Williams, DRBA's Virginia Program Manager. “Every year we notice a bit less litter on the river, and that's a good thing. Every person that lives, works, and plays in our community benefits from the amazing job these volunteers do. The clean-ups give people a chance to work together and make some new friends while giving back to the community. It's important to note that most of the trash and debris is not dumped directly into a waterway but gets there from improperly disposed litter or illegal dumping along roadsides; storm drains can carry this debris into the waterway,” emphasized Williams.

“We don't clean the garbage out of the Smith River just to make it look nice,” said Anna Wheeler, DRBA's NC Program Coordinator. “The Smith River provides drinking water to thousands of people who live in Martinsville and Henry County and it flows down into Eden, NC. The river provides economic development when visitors come to hike, paddle and fish.”

Keeping our natural resources protected and healthy is good for everyone's health and our local economy. These volunteers are the true heroes.

Anna Wheeler

To learn more about how you can help keep our local waterways clean and healthy for future generations, please visit DRBA's website, www.danriver.org.

B Williams

Our **DRBA Danville office** has been relocated within the same building at 308 Craghead Street. While our host is still United Way of Danville and Pittsylvania County, the building has been sold to another owner. If you need to visit our Danville office to pick up supplies or drop off items watch for the United Way signage. Currently, patrons can still enter the front of the building and follow the hallway back to our office at the rear of the building. Once the new owner becomes established, another entry will be established for the United Way and DRBA. Signage will be placed to help direct visitors.

If you have any questions, please contact our Eden office at 336-627-6270.

M Mericle



Education throughout the Basin



Two classes at **Averett University** were trained in Citizen Water Quality Monitoring this fall. Both classes, Environmental Science 101 and Ecology were trained in E.coli/coliform testing. The Ecology class also received training for VA Save Our Streams monitoring. Following this training, each class was assigned a specific location to monitor throughout the fall semester. The Environmental Science 101 class will monitor Ballou Park in Danville and the Ecology class will monitor an unnamed tributary of the Dan River in Angler's Park.

The Ecology class currently has a wildlife monitoring project at Angler's Park. The professor has game cameras, with the permission of Danville City, along the creek to monitor what wildlife passes through to utilize the stream. The students monitor the species and the time of day the animals pass through. The wildlife monitoring has been taking place for a couple of years, but now the professor and the students, with the help of Dan River Basin Association, will include E.coli and macroinvertebrate monitoring to get a full picture of the health of the stream and the riparian habitat.

K Hodges



This fall, DRBA participated in the two-day **Career ChoICE Youth Expo** sponsored by the Institute of Advanced Learning and Research. Through the Career ChoICE Youth Expo students IMAGINE their potential, CONNECT with employers, and EXPLORE career possibilities (<https://www.sovacareerchoice.org/>) The expo was held at the Old Dominion Agricultural Center in Chatham, Virginia. This was their first year back with an in-person event since the pandemic. In just two days, over 3,400 youth from schools in Pittsylvania, Patrick, Henry, Halifax County, Danville City, and Martinsville City attended the event. DRBA's booth, hosted by Krista Hodges and Anna Wheeler, showcased preserved macroinvertebrates that can be found in streams in our basin and an interactive watershed demonstration model.

Students from middle and high school attended the event.

K Hodges

Franklin County Schools sponsored their annual **'A Day in the Woods'** event at Waid Park in Rocky Mount, Virginia. DRBA has participated in this event for several years. Open only to third grade students, the one-day event saw 392 students rotating through stations at the park. The stations included hiking, and flora and fauna ID.

DRBA partnered with Ferrum College to provide an aquatics station called "Bug-in Out in the Stream." During the 20-minutes allotted to each group, Krista Hodges, DRBA's Education Outreach Manager, along with volunteers Sonya Wolen and Ellen Jessee, introduced students to macroinvertebrates and how to collect them from the stream. Ferrum College environmental science students then took each group down to the river to collect aquatic insects and crustaceans.



K Hodges



You're the first to know! DRBA's **Art in Nature Auction** will open for bidding on Monday, November 7 at Noon and end Sunday, November 13 at Noon. This year, you'll have the opportunity to bid on dozens of unique items made from, inspired by and experienced in nature. From jewelry to pottery to a guided hike on a farm, we know you'll find something for yourself or a special gift for someone you love.

Watch DRBA's E-Newsletter and social media for the Art in Nature link to start bidding and supporting the protection and conservation of our natural and cultural resources.

Education throughout the Basin



Monarch butterflies are the only butterflies to make a long migration twice a year. Some of them travel three thousand miles to get to their destination in Mexico. The fall Monarchs, fourth generations, are different from those that appear in the spring. They survive for months to make their trips to Mexico and back the following spring to start the life cycle over.

According to Monarch Watch,

The fall monarch migration has started and is slowly advancing southward through the northern latitudes. The leading edge of the migration sometimes arrives as early as the 23rd of August in the Twin Cities area (45N). Due to a delay in the development of the second generation in late May and June, it is likely this migration, consisting mostly of 3rd generation butterflies, will be late and drawn out.



The drought in Oklahoma, Texas and Nuevo Leon (Mexico), could limit fall flowering and therefore the nectar needed by monarchs to fuel their migration. Such droughts are strongly associated with lower numbers recorded at the overwintering locations in Mexico.

Monarch Watch

DRBA has installed several Monarch Waystations to help with the migration and next generation of survival throughout the Dan River Basin. And, while the number of waystations installed throughout the United States has increased in the last five years, more waystations are needed in the Dan River Basin. If you are interested in creating a waystation next spring to help monarchs, let us know. You may be able to sponsor a waystation! Have you seen any monarchs this year?

K Hodges

First-grade students at Albert Harris Elementary planted carrot seeds this week with the **Planting Seeds of Change for Youth** project. The program allows students to grow vegetables from both seeds and plants. Many students do not know how to grow vegetables or to garden. Learning how to do this through urban methods such as on-campus raised beds and classroom instruction opens any number of new opportunities.

Students later experiment with learning how to prepare these foods for consumption. DRBA partners with Albert Harris Elementary STEM teacher Laurie Witt, to provide hands-on learning through this program that provides youth with life skills that will benefit them for the rest of their life.

Planting Seeds of Change is a DRBA environmental education project funded through a grant from the Community Foundation Serving Western Virginia - Martinsville.

K Hodges



T & Lindley Butler have made an enormous contribution to Rockingham County, NC, and the surrounding region. They have given their time, talent, and treasure to organizations and projects that have made a positive, tangible impact for the people who live, work, and play in our area now, and for future generations.

To honor the Butlers, DRBA and the Museum & Archives of Rockingham County have joined together to create the Butler Legacy Fund. A gift to this special fund will help support projects that have both historical and environmental relevance in Rockingham County.

Consider donating to the Butler Legacy Fund:

<https://www.danriver.org/.../join.../the-butler-legacy-fund>

Eyes on NC

Beyond Pathways is a three-year project with plans for the completion of a comprehensive Rockingham County, NC Outdoor Recreation Master Plan in November 2023.

Thus far, DRBA has completed a full recreational asset inventory of every trail, park, and river access in the county and has worked collaboratively with each municipality to design an outline of plans that include community ideas for new trails, parks, and river access points.

This year, DRBA will work to compile the results into a document that will serve as the Rockingham County, NC Outdoor Recreational Master Plan. This document will be available to all towns and cities in Rockingham County. This resource will be invaluable when developing new outdoor recreational assets and seeking funds for those projects.

T Haworth



Since 2006, **The Reidsville Area Foundation (RAF)** has funded over \$500,000 to DRBA to support projects like Trout in the Classroom and other environmental education programs, the Beaches to Bluegrass/Mountains to Sea Connection Master Plan, a climate change resiliency plan for Rockingham County, NC, and, most recently, the Beyond Pathways (see related article above.) Just like DRBA, RAF celebrates its 20th Anniversary this year. DRBA was invited to be included in the foundation's anniversary video and printed commemorative booklet showing all the things RAF has accomplished.

Melissa Mericle, DRBA's Office and Finance Manager, attended the celebration at the RAF office. We at DRBA are proud of our long and impactful partnership with RAF and look forward to another two decades of working together.

T Haworth

"Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life," said the famous Spanish painter, Pablo Picasso. And in September, staff member Melissa Mericle presented "Inspired by Nature" a **Lunch with DRBA** webinar that explored the outdoor murals, barn quilt squares, and interesting works of art on the trails of Rockingham County. Along her journey, she had an in-depth

A Celebration!

Ken Bridle, a founding member of DRBA, was feted at a recent event to honor his 30 years with the Piedmont Land Conservancy.

During his prestigious career, Dr. Bridle has assisted in many conservation successes in the Dan River Basin and DRBA thanks him for all he has done to protect the Dan River Region. We look forward to any future endeavors.

A special fund, created to provide native plantings throughout the Piedmont Triad area, has been set up to honor Ken and his commitment to conservation, preservation, and education. Find out more about Ken and the PLC at www.piedmontland.org/kabnativeplant-fund/



conversation with local mosaic artist Teresa Talley Phillips who describes her art as "a creative push and pull between chaos and order, like the ebb and flow of the seasons." Melissa talked with Teresa about the way nature inspires her and pulls her to create beautiful works of art.

Humans have always found awe and wonder in the natural world around us. We admire it, we value it, and sometimes we transform it. The beauty of nature inspires us to create our own beauty. Art is our soul's expression of the beauty that surrounds us.

Since April 2020, DRBA has presented free "Lunch with DRBA" webinars via Zoom that cover a wide variety of topics. If you missed this art-full webinar, don't despair! See the recording on DRBA's website: www.danriver.org/programs/environmental-education/webinars.

If you have an idea for a "Lunch with DRBA" webinar or would like to volunteer to host one, please contact Executive Director Tiffany Haworth.

M Mericle



RoCo Blueway Go with the RoCo Flow! the new and improved blueway guide for Rockingham County includes updated and more thorough information about river sections, trip times, and safety information. As part of the revision process, members of parks and recreation groups, local river guides, and DRBA staff were invited to share their perspectives and ideas on the new guide. River recreation is an ongoing attraction in the county and DRBA is ecstatic about the new guide and the opportunity to further educate the public about our rivers in Rockingham County. You will find the new blueway guide at many shops, the DRBA office, the Rockingham County Tourism office, all public river accesses in the county, our website, and the Rockingham Tourism website. Get your guide today!



A Wheeler

There has been a lot of activity going on in Rockingham County!

The *Settle Bridge River Access renovation* includes a few key components to make the access safer and easier to use. The installation of metal steps allows sediment to pass through the steps rather than accumulate on the concrete, and a boat slide beside the steps allows users to drag their boats without worrying about the hard edges that metal steps can have. A new packed gravel ramp was created to assist users and emergency services with access to and from the parking lot. And, an updated river access sign was installed that includes safety tips and information on new river accesses -- including the new Eden Game Lands Access downstream from Settle Bridge!

Eden's City Council voted recently to transfer *Clearwater Park*, a land donation from Phil Hunnicutt to create a park for the City of Eden, to the City Parks and Recreation Department. Thanks to the work of countless volunteers, scout troops, and DRBA staff, the park is a wonderful new asset for the City of Eden and features two trails that view the historical Leaksville Covered Bridge piling along with picnic tables and benches to enjoy the riverside. This park is not far from the Dan River Nature Trail that connects Leaksville Landing to Bridge Street.



Matrimony Creek got a little sprucing up thanks to an event called Nestle Purina Cares Week when employees from every Purina site give a day of service that gives back to their community. Volunteers joined NC Program Coordinator Anna Wheeler in a beautification and cleanup project on the trail where at times you cannot tell that you are beside a creek. Purina employees cleaned off the plain picnic tables and painted them with different shades of blue and teal. While it seems like a small task, the picnic shelter now resembles the reason why the trail is there - to protect and promote our beautiful watershed!

The year-long *Belews Park Project* is wrapping up this fall. With over 100 hours of volunteer work and a wonderful grant from Nestle Purina, the project is taking shape! Over ¼ mile of sustainable trail has been laid and finished, a sound garden installed, and benches along the trail provide a place to rest and take in the beautiful scenery at this park. DRBA and our volunteers are excited to share this wonderful park with you at the soon-to-be-announced ribbon cutting! See you on the trail!

A Wheeler



DRBA has been announced as the **NC State Parks partner for the Dan River State Paddle Trail**. We are so grateful for the opportunity to partner and promote the Dan River with our North Carolina state parks system. As we look forward to the NC Parks 2023 "Year of the Trail" we will be working together with the many opportunities to promote the growth, promotion, and protection of our beautiful Dan River and the Dan River State Paddle Trail. Be on the lookout for events and other opportunities! We look forward to future opportunities.

A Wheeler/T Haworth



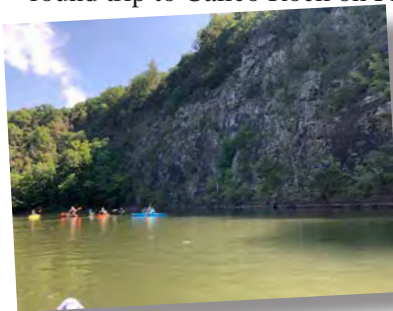
Eden RiverFest was a blast for both DRBA volunteers and the families in attendance! DRBA makes an appearance each year to share our passion with children, teens, and adults -- that of protecting the Dan River Basin. As always, we do a special feature at river fest and this year was no different. Kids were given the opportunity to play "trout toss" where they toss the trout into the 'river' using our locally made stuffed trout. Throughout the day, we met an array of people; some who had grown up in Eden, and some who had recently moved to the area. We are thankful to the City of Eden and RiverFest for the opportunity to promote and share our love for the rivers in Eden.

A Wheeler

Recreation

July FSO Philpott Lake to Calico Rock

We are new to the DRBA family; in fact, we were not members on 02 July 2022 when DRBA sponsored the four-mile round trip to Calico Rock on Philpott Lake. After living in Patrick County for 24 years, I had never associated DRBA with kayaking, but then we got a personal invitation from a staunch DRBA couple and “voila” we were signed up to go.



After a quick Hardee's breakfast, we drove to the Ryan's Branch boat ramp on Philpott Lake and joined the 38 kayakers as we departed for Calico Rock. The views were majestic, eagles and hawks flying overhead and pulpy heads of bryozoa attached to downed tree branches below. After two hours of gentle paddling, and avoiding fishermen in boats and on the banks, we arrived at Calico Rock, a magnificent steep and rugged rock face extending hundreds of feet above lake level with trees growing in impossible locations. We pulled in to a sandy shore for a bit; some folks went swimming, others floated and still others enjoyed friendly conversation on the beach or from their boats. All

enjoyed the respite; a time to relax, hydrate and replenish calories.

And then it was back to the paddles; bucking a slight headwind we returned to the boat ramp. The weather was wonderful, and the folks were friendly and forthcoming to strangers. The water was serene (Philpott Lake is the 2nd cleanest lake in Virginia), the setting pristine. We had a chance to spend valuable time together and explore new relationships. The paddle was great; we had FUN!

We now have a family membership and are looking forward to the next opportunity to explore.

Mike and Blake McCutchen

August FSO Dan River Hanging Rock to Moratock Park

The August FSO from Hanging Rock to Moratock saw 48 paddlers enjoying a comfortable day on the river. The outings this year have attracted larger participation than over the past two years, following a trend with festivals and other outdoor gatherings. Many new participants are experiencing the rivers and trails of the basin with DRBA. This paddle of 4.5 miles featured a clear, swift flow, bright sunshine and plenty of chatter and laughter as we floated down the river. The steep banks, covered with dense foliage, and the stunning rock bluffs rising sharply from the water brought on that timeless feeling of passing through a pristine wilderness. DRBA hosts the public on these outdoor experiences year round on the first Saturday of each month. Go with us!

September FSO Bassett Access to Great Road

Labor Day weekend the Dan River Basin Association hosted its FSO event on the Smith River in Bassett, Virginia. DRBA Outings Committee Member Lucas Conkle led our group and Vice President Wayne Kirkpatrick stayed in the back helping kayakers get into the water and making sure no one was left behind. The charm of the area and the holiday weekend brought 57 boats and paddlers as we traveled a total of 5 miles between the Bassett And Great Road Accesses. Despite the very urban surroundings along this section of the Smith, the scenery was beautiful. On many stretches of the river, the trees created a canopy that provided some much appreciated shade along with an aesthetic appearance.



Several of those who came out were new to kayaking so the advice and guidance of more experienced kayakers made for an overall smooth paddle. I'm not an experienced kayaker myself so I appreciated those who were able to help. Neither the current nor the temperature was bad that day and that made for a great paddling experience. The water was cold but by the time we got to the end of the paddle, it had just reached 80 degrees outside so the temperate weather made up for it.

From speaking with others I passed by on the river, I discovered that many people attending didn't know what DRBA is all about. Hopefully, we will see them at other paddles, hikes, and volunteer events. I've been attending DRBA outings somewhat regularly since last fall but this was only my second time on a paddle (I'm more accustomed to hiking).

The day wrapped up with several people helping others carry their boats to cars and trailers before everyone was shuttled back to their vehicles. You can tell from this outing alone what DRBA is doing for the community by hosting these kinds of events and I'm excited to see what this organization does in the future.

Sidney Russell



*Find out more about our First Saturday Outings on Facebook or
<https://www.danriver.org/programs/recreation/first-saturday-outings>*

Memberships**July, 1 2022 - September 30, 2022****River Legacy Circle**

Kathleen Anderson and Peter Jonas
T Butler
Graham Park, III

Benefactor Membership

Tom and Robin Taylor

Steward Membership

Smith and Gael Chaney
Ronald Rebman
Michael and Janice Wilkinson

Family Membership

Valinda Dyer
Marianne Kinane
Paul Lowry
Cathy Marlowe
Joseph Miller
Ron Mills
Charles J. Whittle, Jr.

Individual Membership

Charlene Bowling
Luanne Cherochak

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Kathryn Converse
Mark Estes
Tiffany Haworth
Krista and Jarod Hodges
Joe and Ellen Jessee
Judith Jones
Vencint Joyce
Wayne and Betty Kirkpatrick
Sharon M. Olson
Fletcher and Ginger Waynick

Municipality Memberships

City of Reidsville, North Carolina
County of Henry, Virginia
County of Rockingham, North Carolina
Town of Madison, North Carolina
Town of Mayodan, North Carolina
Town of Wentworth, North Carolina

Donations 7/1/2022 - 9/30/2022

Blue Ridge Aquaculture
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Butler Legacy Foundation**

T Butler in honor of Jenny Edwards
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DAN RIVER BASIN ASSOCIATION
413 CHURCH STREET, SUITE 401
EDEN, NC 27288 - 3242



WHAT'S COMING UP THIS SEASON?

Be sure to watch for DRBA's E-Newsletter for more details!

October 22 – Apple Dumpling Festival & Potluck
at Wayne & Betty Kirkpatrick's House

First Saturday Outing -- Hike Virginia Mayo State Park November 5

Members Only! DRBA Dog Hike November 12

DRBA's Art in Nature Virtual Auction November 7 – November 13

Wild & Scenic Film Festival (Virtual) December TBA

First Saturday Outing -- Hike Gravely Nature Preserve December 3