



Dan River Basin Association

CURRENTS

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Dr. Lindley Butler
June 15, 1939 – April 12, 2022

Currents • Volume 21 • Issue 2

Dan River Basin Association

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Features begin on page 3

- *Tributes to Lindley Butler*
- *From the Director*
- *Thomas Jefferson Award*

Education begins on page 8

- *Trout in the Classroom*
- *Eco-Learning Portal*
- *and so much more!*

Membership Drive begins on page 10

Stewardship begins on page 12

- *Projects growing in Martinsville and Henry County*
- *Adopting a Gauge -- a public service*
- *New Waystation in the works*

Making a Difference begins on page 14

- *New Members elected to the Board of Directors*
- *Youth Leadership Council*

Recreation begins on page 16

A Message from our President begins on page 18

Membership begins on page 19

Calendar of Events begins on page 20

Dan River Basin Association 2022 Board of Directors

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Dr. Lindley Butler

Reidsville, North Carolina, United States

Father, Husband, Historian, Educator,

Author, Humanitarian, Diver,

Founding Member of the Dan River Basin Association

Through the years, Dr. Lindley Butler has served in many capacities for various organizations. One of his biggest contributions can be seen in the organization he helped found, the Dan River Basin Association. This labor of love by the founding members was born from the desire to protect the natural and cultural resources of the basin for future generations.

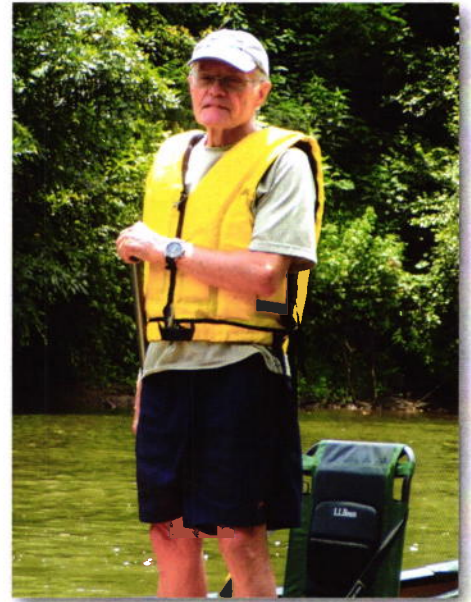
Dr. Lindley S. Butler received his A.B., M.A., and Ph.D., degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He was Historian in Residence and Professor at Rockingham Community College, Wentworth, NC 1968-1996 and Professor Emeritus thereafter. In addition to countless articles and reviews, he published two brief histories of Rockingham County and monographs on the coming of the American Revolution, local scouting, and early Albemarle County. He authored several books including *A History of North Carolina in the Proprietary ERA, 1629-1729*, and my favorite, *Pirates, Privateers, and Rebel Raiders of the Carolina Coast*.

Lindley was a master at combining biography and maritime history; and in his book *Pirates, Privateers, and Rebel Raiders of the Carolina Coast* Dr. Butler combines drama and adventure as he tells the stories of eight men who all made a living on the seas and inlets of the North Carolina Coast. “All of them, by one way or another, were masters

of organized theft at sea.” according to Dr. Butler. He goes on to say, “they were skilled seamen and decisive imaginative leaders who possessed a deep thirst for adventure, at times pursuing danger with reckless abandon. But most importantly they were connected by place. They used the rivers, estuaries, tidal marshes, sounds, barrier islands, and outer banks of North Carolina.” Lindley could most certainly relate as he possessed a thirst for adventure and was a bit of a pirate himself, plying the waters of the Dan and Smith as a youngster, then growing to learn about the early mariners and rivermen of these North Carolina waters.

Not only was he an author and an historian, Dr. Butler was an accomplished scuba diver. In 1971, the state legislature appropriated funds to establish North Carolina’s Underwater Archaeology Branch (UAB) working out of the Fort Fisher Preservation Lab. With grant funds provided by the American Battlefield Protection Program, the UAB contracted

with Dr. Butler to prepare property nominations for Civil War shipwreck sites. In November of 1996 researchers discovered what would later be determined to be the Queen Annes Revenge (QAR) -- the flagship of the one and only Blackbeard. Dr. Butler would be one of the divers and historians to work on the project and the research resulted in the recovery of thousands of artifacts supporting the identification of the shipwreck as Blackbeard’s flagship.



DRBA Celebrates 20 Years of Service

continued . . .

Lindley served on the Rockingham County Historical Society Board of Directors for 30 years, between 1968 and 2004. His leadership as chair of the steering committee in 2008-2009 and followed by his service as chair of the Rockingham County Museum and Archives in 2009-2010 was instrumental to the organization's successful transition and the creation of the MARC. Lindley was a master at engaging students from his history and archaeology courses at RCC, including Rockingham County History classes, throughout the 1970s and 1980s. Both the Historical Society and the region have benefitted directly from the scope and leadership those students have continued to provide in research and preservation efforts.

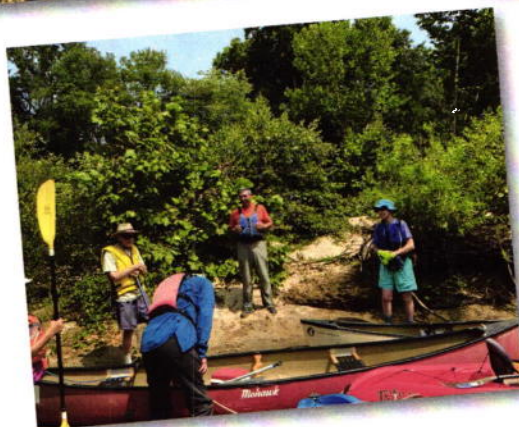
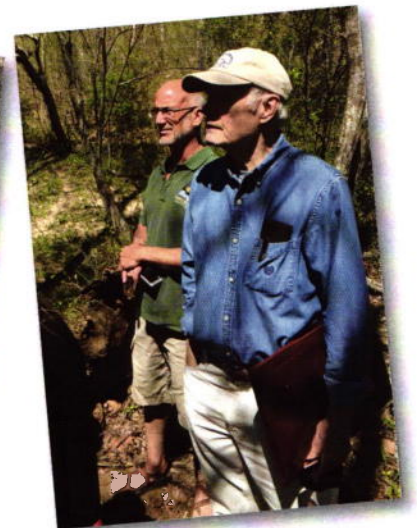
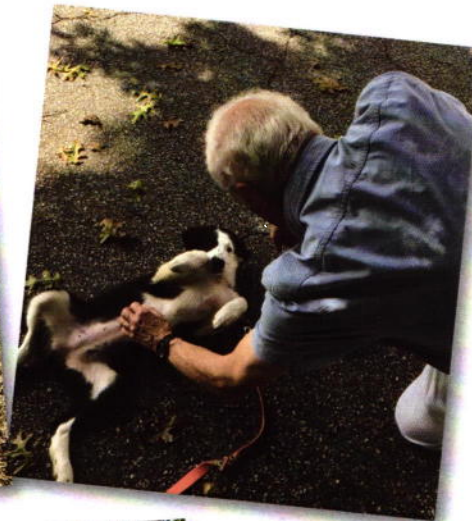
DRBA was founded based on a sense of place, a love of a region, its people, and its beauty. His legacy will continue to inspire and direct the footsteps of future environmental leaders. Dr. Butler has devoted a lifetime to Rockingham County and his historical knowledge and environmental conscience have left an indelible mark on North Carolina, the Dan River Basin, and on many who called him friend. We search for the words to memorialize the man who will be remembered for his contributions to our community and the impression he has left on our hearts.

Brian Williams

Lindley inspired many to open their eyes and hearts to the wonders of nature by sharing his passion and his love for the Dan River Basin. His leadership was instrumental in establishing the Dan River Basin Association with a group of like-minded, forward-thinking, outdoor enthusiasts.

Creating a legacy is the work of a lifetime dedicated to purpose. Following a steadfast mission, DRBA grew to become an effective, successful, influential, and respected environmental education, natural resource stewardship, and outdoor recreation organization. Lindley Butler lived his legacy every day.

Wayne Kirkpatrick
Vice President, DRBA



With friends on the waters of the Dan River Basin



A special time -- T and Lindley with their grandson, Evan Butler

The Legacy of Lindley Butler

Lindley was a principal founder of the Dan River Basin Association in late 2001 and a key mover in the creation of Mayo River State Park. The project was first featured at DRBA's first annual meeting by Lindley's and T's son Will, a graduate student at Virginia Tech. The state park was authorized by the North Carolina General Assembly in 2003 and realized in stages over the next twenty years.

Lindley Butler was a great example of a socially engaged historian, bringing his expertise and enthusiasm for North Carolina's past to a commitment to improving its future.

Paul Johnson

Lindley's devotion to the rivers of his home county led to friendships and collaborations throughout the region. I first met Lindley and T during the formation of DRBA and in the subsequent two decades have seen tremendous evidence of their devotion to our region. Although I never saw him in the classroom, I have learned more about North Carolina history from him than from anyone I know—shared along rivers

and trails in Virginia and North Carolina. Because the Dan, Smith, and Mayo rivers flow from Virginia into North Carolina, he became a treasured resource for river history and archeology in both states.

In his hometown of Eden, Lindley was instrumental in the Dan River batteau restoration project of 2004. The batteau, which was used for several reenactments over the next few years, could be seen as far downstream as South Boston. As a longtime resident of Wentworth, Lindley and T were enthusiastic supporters of the Chinqua-Penn trail beginning with a first phase of improvements in 2005 and continuing with the creation of Friends of Chinqua-Penn Trail ten years later. As founders of the Museum and Archives of Rockingham County in 2012, they contributed time, expertise, historical artifacts, and funding to an institution now celebrating its tenth anniversary. In 2021, the Virginia Mayo River State Park was officially announced with Lindley speaking at the groundbreaking. Its official ribbon cutting in April 2022 marks the culmination of efforts over the past twenty years.

For the literary world, Lindley's publication of his monumental History of North Carolina During the Proprietary Era, 1629-1729 from UNC Press, due in print May 17 but already available as a Kindle ebook, is a monumental scholarly accomplishment that is completely unprecedented in its scope and detail.

Lindley Butler, a life well lived.

Paul Johnson



As a former columnist at the News & Record, there were countless stories that involved Lindley and T Butler. Through his eyes, those muddied ribbons of water pulsing through our county became treasured resources that revealed our history and showcased our abundant wildlife. He uncovered and preserved our history. He awakened an appreciation for our planet, and he charged us to be its stewards. Whether you crossed paths with Lindley or not, he gifted us an extraordinary legacy. There is no better way to honor him than to continue to teach the truth of our history and to prioritize the healing of our planet.

Myla Barnhardt

**20 Years -- One Mission:
To protect and promote the
Dan River Basin
through recreation, education, and stewardship
Join us in celebration!**

9:30 am on June 4, 2022

City Hall ~ Eden, NC

FROM OUR DIRECTOR

This is a very special issue of Currents. Not only are we celebrating 20 years of the Dan River Basin Association, but this is the one issue that we mail to each and every one of DRBA's friends and it's the time of year we ask you to consider a gift to support our work in the region.

While working to write and design this issue of Currents, we learned that we lost a very special person and friend to DRBA, Dr. Lindley Butler. Lindley passed away on Tuesday, April 12, 2022. Although DRBA was founded by several amazing people, Lindley and his wife T have been the pillars of DRBA since I joined the staff more than a decade ago. I openly gush when I speak of these two people. I admire them immensely and I strive every day to make them proud of the organization they helped to start. Lindley's knowledge of the history of this region was truly astonishing and anyone who had an interest could enjoy hours of conversation with him, which I did on many occasions. My heart is broken and I send my deepest sympathy and prayers to the Butler family.

In 2022, DRBA will continue to carry on Lindley's legacy and complete over 100 projects, activities and events in our region. We will build trails, parks and river access points, we will cleanup hundreds of miles of trails and waterways, we will monitor and test fifty sites of rivers and streams, we will provide environmental education activities and programs for thousands of youth and adults, we will advocate for clean air and water on the local, state and federal levels, and we will work with close to 300 organizations, businesses and municipalities with over 1,000 volunteers to successfully do this work.

We can't do any of it, however, without your generous support.

Please consider a donation to DRBA this Spring and make an investment in something that impacts every single person that lives, works and plays in our region.

Tiffany Haworth, Executive Director
Dan River Basin Association



Thomas Jefferson Medal Presented to Hodges and Williams

by the Virginia Museum of Natural History

Krista Hodges, DRBA's Education Outreach Manager and Brian Williams, Virginia Program Manager were honored recently at the 34th Annual Thomas Jefferson Awards Ceremony held at the Virginia Natural History Museum in Martinsville.

Krista and Brian each received the Thomas Jefferson Medal for Outstanding Contributions to Natural Science Education. This annual award is presented to a Virginia educator who has made significant contributions to natural science education at any academic level.

These two individuals not only care deeply for our environment, but are also passionate about educating audiences of all ages on its importance to healthy living and the existence of all life on earth.

Christy Deatherage
VMNH

"This is an excellent example of how education in the classroom coupled with an outdoor experience resonates by instilling the importance of protecting

and preserving the natural resources within our Dan River Basin. Mentoring and equipping our next generation by providing a unique outdoor experience preserves the legacy of our heritage and assures the future of water quality within our region. Essentially, all the water that we will ever have is already here, and right now."

"Brian and Krista are a tremendous asset to our region and go out of their way to foster collaborative partnerships. I have had the pleasure of working with Brian and Krista on many projects through the years and treasure the time spent with them and the knowledge gained from them sharing their passion," stated Christy Deatherage, Education Manager for the Virginia Museum of Natural History.

Congratulations to Krista and Brian, DRBA treasures the work that you do in support of its mission to protect and promote the Dan River Basin through recreation, education, and stewardship.



Williams, Hodges,
Deatherage & Joe Keiper,
Executive Director, VMNH

A brilliant man, a quiet man, an honorable man, a talented man, an adventurous man, a man with deep curiosity about history, a man driven to discovering facts and passing his discoveries on to future generations, a protector of the environment, a man who sought peace. There just aren't enough adjectives to describe Lindley Butler...he and his wife, T, have worked hard to make . . . the state of North Carolina a better place to live! Thank you, Lindley! I'm so blessed to have known you!

Dee Dove

The MHC After 3 Spring Sessions are underway!

Students from Laurel Park Middle School, Fieldale-Collinsville Middle School, Martinsville High School, Magna Vista High School, and Bassett High School are participating in a “River Learning Session” with DRBA staff. DRBA is providing programming to the students on river ecology with live and preserved macroinvertebrates, a fun game called “Captain’s Coming” where the students learn about the importance of Water Safety, and a mini trout release into the Smith River. The learning sessions are taking place along the Smith River in Henry County from 4-5 pm.



Children enjoy the study of macroinvertebrates

It's a Wrap!

Students in Pittsylvania County schools will soon be completing their second and final year of the STEM (Students Taking on Environmental Matters) Project. Funded through the Virginia Environmental Endowment, the program is extended to sixth and seventh grade students. During the two-year program, students complete campus litter cleanups and in-classroom educational kits that include a study of ocean trash as well as that of a pond's ecosystem. Students learn about macroinvertebrates by utilizing dichotomous keys to identify locally found species.

At the culmination of the project, students will be given the opportunity to share their environmental awareness projects during a luncheon at each of the four middle schools. These projects will later be shared with next year's 6th-grade students as the program continues within the schools. Students will be shown a video created by Danville City Water Treatment and Wastewater Treatment to help them understand how water from the Dan River is collected and treated for use in their homes.



DRBA's Eco-Learning Portal Provides Resources

The Eco Learning Portal is an online, web-based resource that allows teachers to quickly access environmental education projects and activities that match desired SOL and Essential Learning requirements. As part of our Eco Learning Portal program, DRBA is offering teachers free program supplies while supplies last.



Mrs. Clemons class is excited about the Water Garden kit!

Educators can sign up for notifications about professional development opportunities including training webinars and workshops! Check out our Eco Learning Portal and become eligible for monthly prizes.

www.danriver.org/ecolearningportal

Ms. Clemons at Meadow View Elementary School was the winner of the Water Garden giveaway during the launch of our Eco Learning Portal. Classes will be starting a unit on plants soon, so she is excited to use

the Water Garden to help educate the students. For additional information about the Eco-Learning Portal, please contact Krista Hodges at khodges@danriver.org

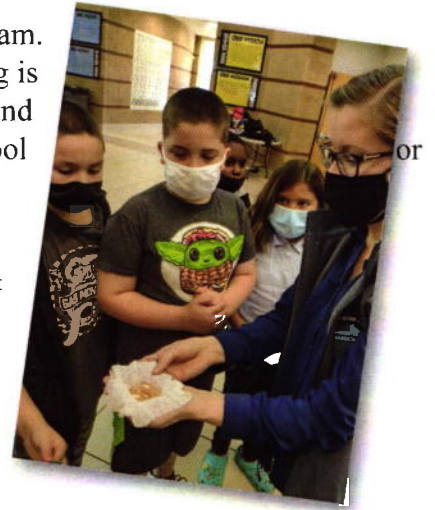
It's Tradition -- TIC Continues

The Trout in the Classroom program has been offered by DRBA for over a decade. Over the winter, brown, brook and rainbow trout eggs are delivered to participating classrooms. Students raise trout in their classrooms as they learn about the trout life cycle, watersheds, pollution, and other river wildlife. In the spring, the classes travel to a local river to release the trout into their natural habitat.

Several schools within and around the basin participated in this year's TIC Program. Trout releases have been scheduled and will begin in early April. The following is a tentative schedule of releases at the Great Road Access; all releases start around 10:30 am. For additional information on scheduled releases, contact your school program coordinator Krista Hodges at khodges@danriver.org.

April 4	Albert Harris; L Witt
April 5	Greensboro Montessori; T. Goetz
April 14	Snow Creek Elementary; C. McCrary
April 20	Magna Vista High School; A. Martin
May 6	Hope Academy; A. Hubert
May 16 (location TBA)	Blue Ridge Elementary; R.Brim
May 27	Lincoln Elementary; K. Hancock

Eggs delivered last fall have grown to fingerlings and are ready to be released into the river!



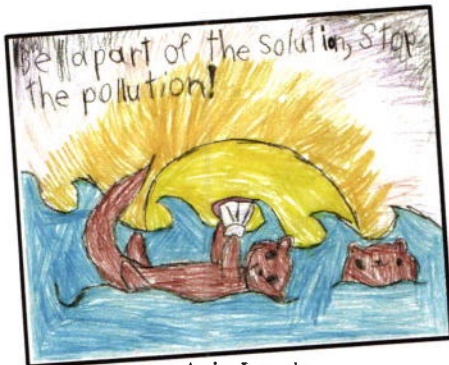
Lindley was a true inspiration to everyone. He was an historian with a passion for teaching and sharing knowledge about the Dan River. He will be missed, but he has left an amazing legacy behind. I am grateful to have known him.

Krista Hodges

The Results are in -- Inspire Clean Water Art Winners Announced!

Students of all ages from public, private, and home schools participated in the Inspire Clean Water Art Contest this year. Their designs were focused on the theme of "Protecting our rivers and streams and the wildlife that lives in them." With the help of many, we received over 100 submissions. Nine finalists (three from elementary, three from middle, and three from high school) were selected -- a difficult decision with all the wonderful art submitted by so many!

From those finalists, DRBA and the Martinsville Uptown Rotary Club selected the overall winners. These three winners will paint their very own artwork on a storm drain in Martinsville this spring. All nine finalists will receive a goody bag of items. DRBA thanks all teachers who encouraged their students to participate and the Martinsville Uptown Rotary Club for their support.



Aria Lewis
Albert Harris Elementary



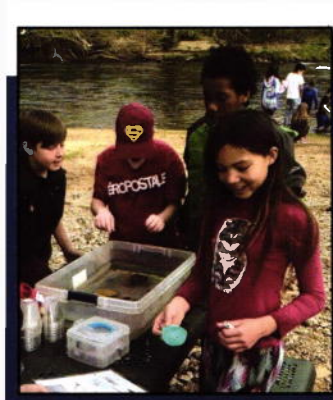
Irene Jewell
Home School, NC



Kariyia Pickens
Franklin County High School

A list of finalists and their work can be found at

<https://www.danriver.org/programs/environmental-education/for-educators>



SPECIAL REPORT



You are the reason DRBA is successful. You value our local natural and cultural resources and generously invest your time and treasure to ensure these amazing resources are around for future generations. We so appreciate your support of the many things DRBA stands for in the basin - whether you are participating in our outings, volunteering, or talking about us on social media - it all counts!



Right now, your support is critical for DRBA's success. Your gift will help us continue to do the incredible work we do. There are dozens of projects planned in 2022 and your generosity will help make them a reality.

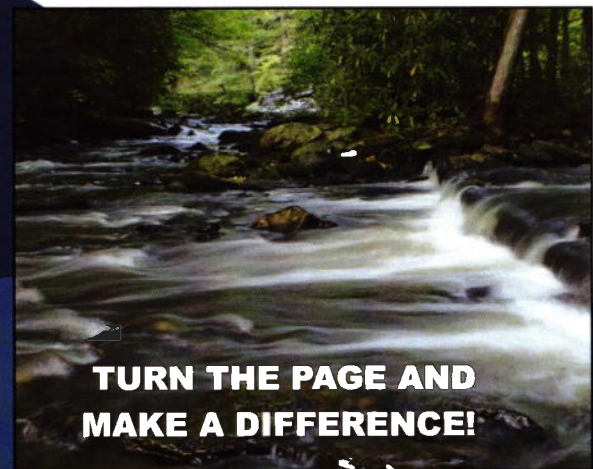
Thank you! Thank you for considering a Spring gift to DRBA and making a local, positive impact for thousands of people who live, work and play in the Dan River watershed.

Here are a few projects you'll support in 2022!

NC Mayo River State Park	Morgan Ford River Access	PHCC Loop Trail/Rock Ridge Trail	Fieldale Park & Trail	Doe Run Trail	Farris Memorial Park
VA Mayo River State Park	Berry Hill River Access	J. Frank Wilson Park Trails	Jordan Creek Park	Lauren Mountain Trail	Lake Reidsville Trail
DRBA Youth Council	58 Bypass River Access	The Silver Bell Trail	The Great Road River Access Trail PH2	Jordan Creek Park	Signage Project
Lunch with DRBA Webinars	Nature Detour Trail	Uptown Connection Spur Trail	Lanier Farms Trail	Doe Run River Access	Jacobs Creek Batteau Landing Park and River Access
CWQM Trainings & Monitoring	Trout in the Classroom	VEE, STEM Project	Marrowbone Creek Trails	Frith Drive River Access	Moratauk Park Connector Trail Project
Art in Nature Auction	Streamside Trees in the Classroom	MHC After 3	Beaver Creek Reservoir Lakeshore Trail	Marrowbone Creek River Access	Dodgetown River Access
Wild & Scenic Film Festival	2022 EE Survey	Rain Barrel Workshops	Dan River Corridor Study	Mitchell Bridge River Access	Pine Hall River Access
2022 DRBA Race Series	Preserving Macro Invertebrate Workshop	River Cleanups - Dan, Smith, Mayo & Bannister	Otter Cam Project	Anglers Park	Pine Hall River Access Trail Hwy 89 at Big Laurel Creek Dan River Access
Leggetts Bottom River Access	Growing Kids & Trees	VA SOS Training	Forest School	Monarch Waystation	Beyond Pathways, Rockingham County, NC Master Plan
IC DeHart Trail Project	Conservation Easement Event	Camilla Monarch Waystation	M&M Rec Summer Camp	Epic River Experience	Belews Park
Clubhouse Drive River Access	Member Events	Philpott Lake Fitness Trail	Inspire Clean Water Project	Settles Bridge River Access Renovation Project	Dan River State Trail
	RLC Events	Collinsville Jaycee Park	The Dick & Willie Trail	Clearwater Park	EE Learning Portal
	Tree Disposal Event		Gravelly Nature Preserve Trails	Freedom Park	
	Doe Run - Marshland Trail		Rock Ridge Trail	Idol Park	
				Stoneville Memorial Park	

Your generosity will help...

- ✓ To build trails, parks and river accesses for people of all ages and abilities.
- ✓ To monitor and protect our waterways.
- ✓ To support volunteers who clean-up our trails and rivers.
- ✓ To advocate for our natural resources and promote conservation, recreation and preservation.
- ✓ To work with, and for, educators to ensure our youth have access to the outdoors and quality environmental education.



**TURN THE PAGE AND
MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

HELP US PROTECT RIVERS & STREAMS. TEACH OTHERS TO VALUE OUR NATURAL RESOURCES.

DRBA DONATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

Your membership and/or donation is so important to our region, thank you! You can use the pledge card below and mail your check or donate/join online.

BENEFACTOR & RIVER LEGACY CIRCLE (RLC) MEMBERSHIPS

A membership in the Dan River Basin Association says that you care about the region's natural and cultural resources and enables you to have unique experiences exploring the Dan River Basin with people who value water quality and land protection. If you are interested in learning more about a new or renewed membership at the Benefactor or River Legacy Circle levels, please contact us directly at drba.nc@danriver.org or (336) 627-6270. You can also visit danriver.org/membership.

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

The Dan River Basin Association has once again applied to the Virginia Department of Social Services' Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP). This program allows Virginia taxpayers to receive state tax credits for up to 65% of their donation to approved non-profit organizations. If DRBA is accepted into the program, Virginia taxpayers who donate a minimum of \$500.00 between July 1, 2022 - August 30, 2022 will earn Virginia state tax credits. These credits can be used to reduce your state tax responsibilities for 2021. For additional information, please contact the DRBA office, (336) 627-6270 or drba.nc@danriver.org.

Thank you for your generosity!

Please include this form with your payment

DONATE ONLINE: DANRIVER.ORG/DONATE

JOIN ONLINE: DANRIVER.ORG/MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Contact Email: _____

DONATION AMOUNT \$ _____

Include a Membership?

River Legacy Circle (\$1,000)	<input type="checkbox"/> Renew	<input type="checkbox"/> New
Benefactor (\$500)	<input type="checkbox"/> Renew	<input type="checkbox"/> New
Protector (\$250)	<input type="checkbox"/> Renew	<input type="checkbox"/> New
Steward (\$100)	<input type="checkbox"/> Renew	<input type="checkbox"/> New
Family (\$50)	<input type="checkbox"/> Renew	<input type="checkbox"/> New
Individual (\$25)	<input type="checkbox"/> Renew	<input type="checkbox"/> New

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

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Dan River Basin Association
413 Church Street, Suite 401
Eden, NC 27288

More info? (336) 627-6270 and
drba.nc@danriver.org

Stay in touch!

Web: danriver.org Facebook: /DanRiverBasinAssoc
Instagram: /danriverbasin Twitter: /DanBasin

Henry and Patrick County Project Update

We continue to work on new projects in Martinsville/Henry County and Patrick County. Hikers, kayakers, bikers, fishermen, and canoeists will find improved areas all around the two counties and Martinsville City.

Several projects mentioned in the last issue are well on the way to completion --

- Philpott Dam Smith River Access: Both shot rock and gravel have been installed on the Henry County side to accommodate a canoe launch currently under construction. Additional rock and gravel will be spread on the Franklin County side.
- Hikers will now find a recently installed kiosk on Nature Detour Trail in Jack Dalton Park. Local Master Naturalists are developing a plan to install native plant species. Additional volunteer work will complete the approach trail.
- Frank Wilson Park in Martinsville: DRBA received a grant from the Community Foundation Serving Western Virginia (CFSWV) to enhance the back entrance to the park which leads from the Virginia Museum of Natural History. A set of concrete steps will get landscaping and a new sign. The trail from the bottom of the steps will be rerouted and enhanced to be more user welcoming.
- Under construction! The South Martinsville Smith River access! Thanks to funding from two partners, Monogram Foods and Community Foundation Serving Western Virginia, new picnic shelter, steps, a canoe slide, and interpretive signage will soon be completed.
- Moving Forward! A meeting was held with International Mountain Bikers of America (IMBA) officials to help with mapping and trail marking decisions at the IC DeHart Trail in Woolwine, VA. Volunteers continue to work with DRBA staff on the development of the trails. Funded by the Eco Ambassador Council, the trail system will have new signage, kiosks and a changing station in addition to a brand new beginner trail, The Nino Trail.



Katy and Joe work to develop a kid-friendly mountain bike trail in Patrick County



Brian Williams constructs a kiosk on the Jack Dalton Trail



A picnic shelter and canoe slide will be a welcomed benefit at the South Martinsville Access.



Its Spring! Or is it?

It's always a little iffy this time of year when the temperatures fluctuate between a wintery chill and a warm spring day. In spite of it all, Mother Nature prevails by providing a showcase of flowers awakening from the newly warmed earth.



It's time to enjoy the beautiful wildflowers in Southern Virginia. Spring is when we see the bright white blooms of the Bloodroots as they pop through winter's leaf cover. The Trout Lilies are nearly done blooming and their variegated leaves are getting bigger making them easier to spot. Look for their vibrant yellow blooms along the river just about anywhere. The Bluebells are already blooming, it's not hard to spot those succulent green leaves against a predominately brown forest floor. And don't forget the Twin Leaf; it is often confused with the Bloodroot. The Twin Leaf grows nearby but in low lying and wetter areas. The pale pink and white Cutleaf Toothworts are everywhere and can be confused with the Spring Beauty, also popping up this time of year. They are about the same size but the leaves of the toothwort are a dead giveaway. Bluets are blooming too, along with some Hepatica and Saxifrage. We are even starting to see the first leaves

of our local trilliums, which should be blooming through May. The Fieldale trail, Gravelly Nature Preserve, and Lauren Mountain Preserve are all outstanding areas to see local wildflowers.

Brian Williams

DRBA Adopts a Gauge in NC

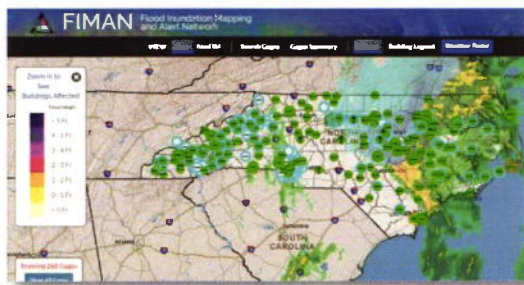
North Carolina's network of more than 500 river, stream, and coastal gauges provides data that empowers the Flood Inundation Mapping and Alert Network (FIMAN) to notify nearby communities and the public of local flooding conditions. For FIMAN to provide timely and accurate information, data from these gauges must be obtained 24 hours a day, seven days a week with no interruptions. Gauge maintenance is critical to this operation.

North Carolina Emergency Management has created the Adopt a Gauge (AaG) program. The AaG program allows a county or local government, nonprofit or civic group to adopt gauges in their community and serve as eyes on the ground to ensure that gauges are operational and to notify

NC Emergency Management when a gauge needs repair.

DRBA was approved in March 2022 by the North Carolina Department of Public Safety (NCDPS) to adopt the gauge on the Dan River at Old State Highway in Eden, NC.

"This adoption was the idea of long-time DRBA member and supporter, Jeff Johnston," said Tiffany Haworth, DRBA's Executive Director. "He saw the need and agreed to be the lead person to regularly check the status of the gauge and report any issues such as debris buildup, damage, or theft. The NCDPS has online monitoring tools, but Jeff will be their eyes in the field and can aid in assessing any issues with the gauge. We are so grateful for his willingness to volunteer his time and energy for this important activity."



Coming April 2022!

The ground-breaking ceremony last year at the site of the new Mayo River State Park in Virginia was just the beginning. Funding from DRBA's Eco Ambassador Council has allowed for the installation of a new parking lot. Upcoming workdays will see volunteers planting natives around the parking area, installing a kiosk, providing interpretive signage, and constructing a walk-through gate in the fence for day use hiking.

The momentum continues as the Virginia DCR works to complete a master plan for the park. DRBA is hopeful that the completion of the master plan will allow for state funding to further enhance the amenities for public use.

The Mayo River State Park is located at the confluence of two state scenic waterways -- the North and South Mayo rivers. It has been a longtime goal for DRBA to see a state park system that would include land along the river corridor in both Virginia and North Carolina. The EAC's investment will open up the site to day-use recreation through the development of nearly 5 miles of hiking/biking trails. An official ribbon cutting ceremony will be held on April 22 with state officials, DCR park staff, and DRBA staff and Board members.



In the works -- in Danville!

Representatives from Danville Parks and Recreation Stephanie Lovely and Maggie Brown along with DRBA staff Krista Hodges and Brian Williams have begun the work of developing a Monarch Waystation beside the wetland area in Anglers Park. The tentative plans have been submitted to the City of Danville for approval.

Once the site is approved by the city, the maintenance team will begin preparing a raised area for the waystation. Plants for the waystation will arrive through Raywood Landscape in late May or early June; a flat of milkweed plugs will be provided through a grant from Monarch Watch / Kansas University; and an interpretive sign has been designed by DRBA and approved by Mr. John Collins of Collins Great Outdoors.

DRBA is thrilled to work with the many people, businesses, and organizations and is looking forward to bringing this project to the City of Danville.

One thing is for sure, not only does his [Lindley's] work matter but he will leave both the MARC and DRBA in good hands. This will pay off for generations. I for one will be an advocate for his work and promise not only to carry it on but find others to make sure it supercedes my life.

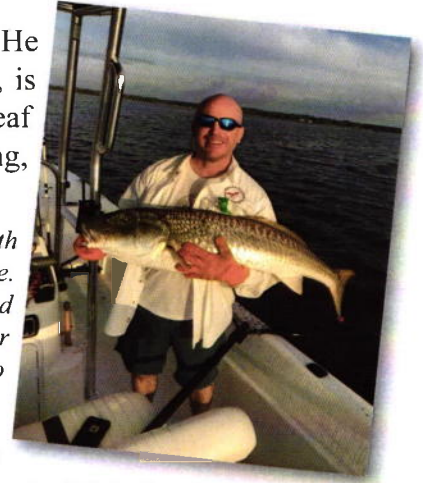
Fletcher Waynick, DRBA Member

New Board Members Join the Team

At the March 2022 Annual Meeting, the DRBA membership accepted the nomination and voted to elect four new members to DRBA's Board of Directors. These incredible people were recruited by DRBA's Nominating Committee and were chosen for their areas of expertise, commitment to environmental protection and conservation, and dedication to DRBA's mission. DRBA's 17 member board is responsible for the vision, governance, and management of the organization's strategic plan.

Chris Adcock is the Director of Pittsylvania County Public Works since July 2020. He is a former Scoutmaster, served as Senior Warden of Epiphany Episcopal Church, is past President of the Danville Golf Club, and served on the Boards of the Bright Leaf Brewfest and Danville Harvest Jubilee. He enjoys hiking, mountain biking, paddling, overlanding, and attending music festivals.

When Mark Estes asked me to consider joining the DRBA Board, he mentioned that he and I both manage water systems that depend on the Dan River as a clean and dependable water source. That really hit home for me and I have always been impressed by the outdoor programs offered by this organization. From hiking to paddling to everything in between, they are just what our community needs to understand there is adventure right out the back door. How could I say no to lending my time and efforts in support?



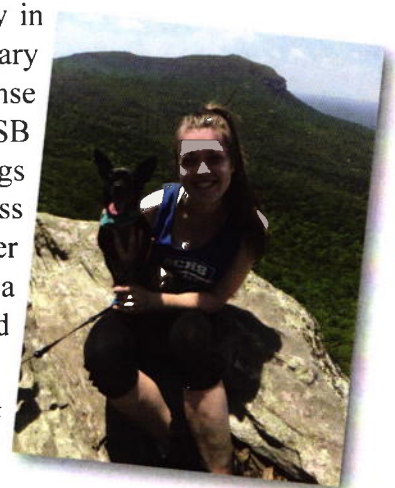
Ellen Jessee served six years on DRBA's board before taking family leave. She participated in the development of trails & river accesses in Henry County including the Dick & Willie Passage Rail Trail. Ellen is a Master Naturalist; she volunteers as a DRBA CWQM, and has attended dozens of river & trail trash cleanups and wildflower plantings. She enjoys hiking, biking, and kayaking.



I discovered DRBA soon after moving to Henry County in 2004. I immediately knew this was the organization for me because of its commitment to environmental conservation, stewardship, education, and sustainable community development. It is also a fun group providing great outdoor opportunities free to the public such as hiking and kayaking with the idea that if you use it, you will love it and you will want to protect it. I was with the group as it began to hire staff and grow, write outdoor recreational plans for the communities it serves and work to help implement those plans providing numerous trails and river accesses throughout the basin that had not existed before. Another thing that is truly exceptional about DRBA is that it was formed, not to fight against negative environmental impacts, but to get ahead of the curve by working hand in hand with economic development while preserving the assets that we have. In addition, because the Dan River meanders between Virginia and North Carolina, DRBA is a cross-border organization that promotes cooperation between the two states, something that is not always done. I LOVE DRBA and I am very happy to rejoin the board!

Heather Francis graduated from High Point University with a degree in Biology in 2018. During her academic career, she began genetic analysis to define evolutionary divergences creating a phylogeny of the genus *Liatris* and presented Herbivory Defense Strategies of the Single-Leafed Orchid, *Tipularia discolor* at the 2018 Myrtle Beach ASB Annual Meeting. Currently the Merchandising Administrator for Hooker Furnishings in Martinsville, Virginia, she is responsible for product development and setup across multiple brands. She also coordinated the corporate sustainability program. Heather represents Hooker Furniture as a member of the Eco Ambassador Council (EAC), a coalition of regional businesses that combine their financial investment to protect and promote the Dan River watershed's natural and cultural resources.

I've always believed environmental protection is of increasing importance and the work DRBA does at the local level to promote education and other programs is vital to keeping the community healthy.



continued on page 1

Carla Moore is a graduate of James Madison University with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree and a Master of Education degree in Psychology: College Student Personnel Administration. She is currently the Registrar/Director of Records at Rockingham Community College (RCC) in Wentworth, NC. Carla has also served as co-chair of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee at RCC since September 2020. Originally from a rural Central Virginia area, she now lives in Reidsville, NC. She enjoys hiking and kayaking and is especially interested in working to overcome the diversity gap in many outdoor recreation experiences.

Serving on the DRBA board is one way I can further support and contribute to the organization's efforts. Being a member of the DRBA board also provides me an opportunity to help overcome the diversity gap that exists in many outdoor preservation and recreation experiences.



DRBA welcomes our newest board members and looks forward to the experiences they bring to its mission.

Become a VA Save Our Streams Monitor

To become a certified VA Save Our Streams Monitor, there is a two-step process. The first step is an online certification and the second part is a field day training session held by DRBA and IWLA.

The online certification consists of three webinars -- Introduction to Water Quality, Introduction to Macroinvertebrates, and your region's Field Training Introduction. These webinars may be completed at your leisure but must be completed prior to the field day training session.

Following this, candidates may complete an online certification registration form to enroll in classes. Space is

limited - early registration is recommended.

VA Save Our Streams (SOS) is a fun way to test water quality by collecting and identifying underwater insects, called macroinvertebrates. The Izaak Walton League is partnering with the Dan River Basin Association to provide a workshop for those who wish to become a certified VA SOS Monitor and have their data utilized by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality.

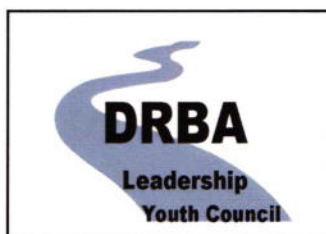


For links to the online training and a schedule of in-person instruction visit www.danriver.org or contact Krista Hodges at khodges@danriver.org.

DRBA Launches New Leadership Youth Council

DRBA is currently recruiting high school students for the newly formed DRBA Youth Leadership Council (DYLC). The council will choose and implement projects, programs, and events that engage youth to actively improve and protect the region's natural and cultural resources. DYLC members will experience unique and memorable outdoor experiences as they collaborate with other youth leaders throughout the 16-county Dan River watershed.

Students interested in becoming part of the program are



asked to provide their name, home address, school name, and grade level along with a brief paragraph highlighting school and community involvement as well as personal experiences with environmental education or outdoor recreation.

The Council is expected to be active by September 2022. Youth interested in applying, may email their information, or direct any questions to

Tiffany Haworth at thaworth@danriver.org.

How can you make a difference? Join the Dan River Basin Association today!



DRBA January 2022 FSO

Comfortable weather on New Year's Day greeted hikers for the DRBA January 1, First Saturday Outing. Hosted by Fairystone State Park's First Day Hike event, fifty DRBA participants joined an additional 28 hikers on the Lakeshore Trail as Ranger Ben shared the history of Fayerdale, a once-bustling industrial community and a railroad spur that carried iron ore extracted from the surrounding area.

Fairy Stone State Park, the largest of Virginia's first six state parks (opened on June 15, 1936), is named for the cross-shaped staurolite, a rare mineral found in the region. Legend says this area was once home to fairies and other woodland creatures.

Word of Jesus' crucifixion so saddened these fairies that they wept tears which crystallized staurolite (silica, iron, and aluminum) in the form of Maltese, Roman, and St. Andrews crosses.

Wayne Kirkpatrick

February Hike at Tanyard Creek

Early Saturday morning we all gathered together to go on a lovely hike to see some super cool rocks, sweet creek areas, and as a bonus, a waterfall. We started our trek leading into old farm fields with some old school silos and talked about how you could transform them into unique Airbnb stays. We peaked a hill to find an old farm storage building with



an abandoned European wasp nest, then to fields full of turnips and radishes. The wildlife here eats good, that's a fact.

A curve in the trail took us next to a very muddy

Dan River. After crossing the first creek, we climbed a fairly steep hill until making it to the top. The creek runs through the valley below and you can see the conglomerate rock creating what was referred to as an Indian oven -- a small cove in a large rock within the valley. We hit a slight

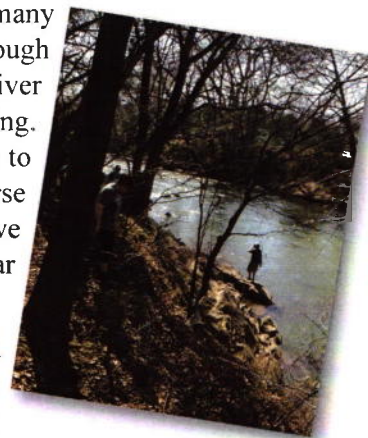
plateau and found the surprise waterfall worthy of a pause for pictures. We saw a nice swift-moving creek where there were three Conglomerate rocks within the creek, one was hollow where you could tap your walking stick and create an interesting sound. I chose to take a seat on the solo rock where there were two different types of moss growing, resting my legs I notice there is a gap in the moss where clear quartz is in the conglomerate rock.

Izzy Wheeler

March 5 Hike at Bear Slide Natural Heritage Area

My husband and I joined a group of hikers at the Bear Slide Natural Heritage Area in Eden, N.C. The day turned out to be a warm March day -- a lovely change after many cold days in February. My husband's family lives in the housing community of Bear Slide, so we were excited to see the natural formation from which this community gets its name. We learned that this Natural Heritage Area is owned by Rockingham Community College.

It was great to be led by experienced hikers, Lucas Conkle and Will Truslow because the trail is not an official trail and is not marked. Of geological interest, we saw a good exposure of Triassic sediments along the trail. It was early in the season, so we did not see many wildflowers, but the view through the leafless trees of the Smith River below the trail was breathtaking. We were led along a high ledge to the edge of Lynrock Golf Course where we briefly rested. Still, we wondered -- where was the Bear Slide?



On the way back we took a slightly different route and ended up on a high cliff overlooking the Smith River. Looking down from the cliff, you could see a rock formation that looked like a natural slide straight down to the river. We had found it! This bluff is surrounded by trees but has a bare area covered by lichen. We stopped again here to enjoy the view and rest a bit.

Will and Lucas led us back along the trail, angling downhill, and coming out at the bottom of the bluff next to the Smith River. We were able to see the Bear Slide from the top and the bottom of the slope. And, as an added bonus, we enjoyed a gorgeous view of the Smith River. It was a beautiful day

Melissa Mericle

My heart goes out to you both. You are my heroes, two of the kindest, dearest, most dedicated people I know and the pillars of DRBA. Know that you are loved and admired and I wish you peace and comfort.

Ellen Jessee, Member, Board of Directors

We hope you have enjoyed this edition of

CURRENTS

While a hard copy is generally reserved for foundations and members of the *River Legacy Circle*, this issue has been made available to all members, donors, and partners as a thank you for your continued support..

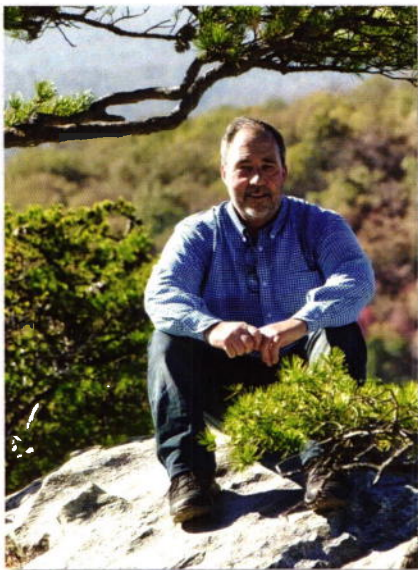
Find out how you can continue to help through your membership, your gifts, or your volunteer spirit by visiting:

www.danriver.org

A digital copy of each issue can be found online. Be sure you get the latest news by logging onto the *Members Only* page each quarter.



Goodbye, friend



Before you go -- A Message from Our President

Because you are a caring friend of DRBA, I'm reaching out with an invitation to be part of something special and to make a lasting impact that protects our natural and cultural resources now and in the future.

I'm referring to DRBA's Sustainers—a wonderful community of supporters dedicated to improving the health of our region by giving each month.

I am a DRBA Sustainer and I see the impact of my monthly gift every single day.

When you join DRBA Sustainers through your recurring gift, you'll help create a reliable source of funding to keep DRBA's environmental initiatives moving forward.

EASY

Your monthly donations are automatically sent to make an impact.

DEPENDABLE

Monthly gifts are a critical support system for our year-round efforts to improve and protect our local environment.

IMPACTFUL

Your gifts keep the momentum of advocacy, volunteerism, and environmental education going throughout the year.

As a DRBA Sustainer, your recurring gifts will play a vital role in addressing environmental threats, mobilizing thousands of volunteers, and achieving high-impact results right here in your own backyard.

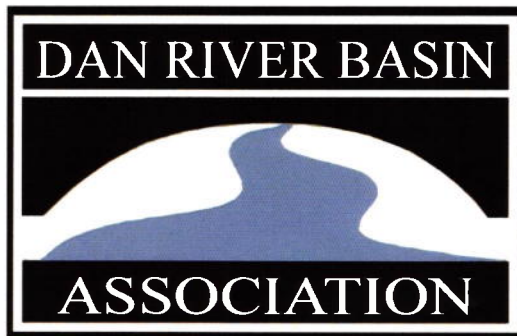
Please consider becoming a DRBA Sustainer today and help protect our natural resources, improve the health of our waterways and ensure future generations have access to clean water. Together our impact is greater.

LEGACY

DRBA remains dedicated to preserving the legacy, vision and mission of our founding members. I want to recognize the passing of one such member, local author and historian, Lindley Butler. Lindley poetically penned the life of our Dan River communities and passionately served to protect and preserve our rich heritage. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to his beloved wife T and their family, along with our gratitude to them for sharing Lindley with the rest of us. There will never be another like him.

Thank you!

Mark Estes



Memberships

12/16/2021 - 3/30/2022

River Legacy Circle

Joe and Ellen Jessee
Michael Jones / Intertape
Polymer Group
Dr. Mervyn and Virginia
King
Mr. and Mrs. George W.
Lester II
Dan and Beth Mosca
Sherri Wright

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Chris and Len Poirier
C.D. and Emily Prillaman

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Carruthers
Mark Estes
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Judith Jones
Vince Joyce

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James and Peyton Cherry
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Karl and Deborah Fields
Phillip Garrett
S and R Wolen Gilbert
Ed and Eileen Haight
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Allison Szuba
Sam and Lea Thompson
Fletcher and Ginger
Waynick

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Love, Jr.
Elizabeth and Scott Luking
Katie Whitehead and Robert
McNutt
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Jenny Clark
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Nancy Bell
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

Corporate Caretaker Memberships

Intertape Polymer Group /
Michael Jones

Municipality Memberships

Town of Mayodan

Donations

12/16/2021 - 3/30/2021

Chris Adcock
Janet Allen
Marianne Aiken
Lindley and T Butler
Peter Adams and Marty
Carruthers
Sarah Dorsey
Amy Farinelli
Lauren Fowler
Rob Gelblum
Joyce and Michael Hankins
Jill Carraway and Debora
Horning
Gail Howland
Wayne and Betty
Kirkpatrick
Lynn Lehman
Chris and Anna Lester
William McGee
Norma Reed
John Reynolds
Angela D. Stallings
Catherine Van Noy
Fletcher and Ginger
Waynick
Brian Williams
S Wolen

Donations in Honorarium

James and Kara
Kirkpatrick in honor of
Wayne and Betty
Kirkpatrick
Wayne and Betty
Kirkpatrick in memory
of Helen Munn/in honor
of Lynn Regan
Debbie and Ben Lewis
in memory of Cari
Zimmer
Caroline Pilson
in honor of Jim Tobin
Brian Williams
in Memory of Zeke
Williams

Corporate and Organization Donations

AmazonSmile
Carolina Canoe Club
Network for Good

Project Partnerships

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the Dan River Region
Community Foundation
Serving Western Virginia
Virginia Outdoors
Foundation

Chinqua Penn Trail Donations

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DRBA Celebrates 20 Years of You

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www.danriver.org

First Saturday Outings Announced

DRBA hosts a variety of free-to-the-public outings on the first Saturday of each month. Whether a hike or paddle, we strive to highlight the natural and cultural resources of the Dan River Basin. These outings are a perfect way to get to know DRBA, explore a new place, learn something about our region, and meet new people. Outings are appropriate for all ages and abilities.

In the event of inclement weather, events are subject to change. Please check DRBA's website at

www.danriver.org

April 2

**Hike on the Reidsville Trail
Rockingham County
Wayne Kirkpatrick, Coordinator**

May 7

**Paddle on the Dan River
Access at Draper Landing -- seven miles to a private take-out
Rockingham County
Will Truslow, Coordinator**

June 4

**DRBA 20th Anniversary Celebration
9:30 am at Eden City Hall
Paddle and/or Hike**