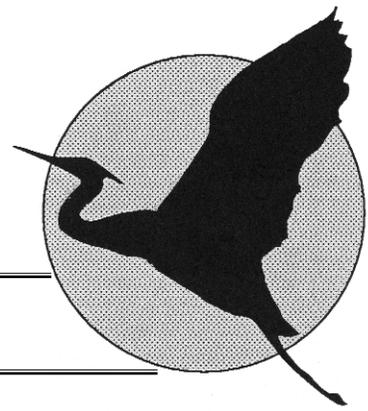


Haw River Assembly Newsletter August 2006



P.O. Box 187 • Bynum, NC 27228 • (919) 542-5790

email: info@hawriver.org • www.hawriver.org

Why Are These Local Government Officials Smiling? They Have Agreed to Protect and Promote the Haw River!



Photo by Elaine Chiosso

Representatives of local governments with Trails Partnership awards, are joined by (left to right in back row) Representative Alice Bordsen; NC Division of Parks and Recreation Director, Lewis Ledford; and Secretary of NC DENR, Bill Ross.

The Haw River Assembly congratulates the partnership of local governments along the Haw River and the State on the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding for the Haw River Trail Corridor this summer. This agreement between the five counties of Guilford, Rockingham, Alamance, Orange and Chatham, the cities of Burlington, Graham, Haw River and Swepsonville, and the N.C. Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), will greatly increase efforts underway to create public land and water trails along our beautiful river. At the same time, we applaud their shared commitment to protect water quality and to support the conservation of the natural and cultural resources that are part of this river's heritage. Several speakers at the ceremony in Graham on July 14 made reference to the old days when textile mills polluted the waters with their dyes--and how the new "river economics" will be through eco and heritage tourism. DENR Secretary Bill Ross spoke to the importance of conservation and river protection in making this a reality, and the support the state offers to the partnership.

The Partners have agreed to support a "balance of natural resource protection, recreation, water quality, historical and cultural preservation, view shed protection, and economic development"; to create a 500 foot (from top of bank each side) Trail Corridor width for planning purposes; and to leave undisturbed natural vegetation

within the Trail Corridor. The agreement will work to improve and add to the 18 existing paddling access areas, and to create connected hiking trails. Part of the new state "Mountains to Sea" trail is planned for a section along the Haw. Thanks to Darrell McBane, State Trails Coordinator, and Kim Douglass, Piedmont Trails Coordinator, for their hard work on this.

We believe the Haw River Trail Public Partnership will provide many opportunities to make better use of all our resources together, including the contributions of private and non-profit entities that enthusiastically support this initiative. The Haw River Assembly, the Haw River Land and Trails group, the Haw River Canoe and Kayak Co., CERES, and the Carolina Canoe Club, and outdoor outfitters including REI and Great Outdoor Provision Company, and have worked for many years toward these goals. HRA will continue to offer its resources to the Partnership to continue the planning and development of the Trail and of paddle trail standards and access. We continue our efforts to find opportunities for land acquisition, easements, and access areas to further the goals of the Haw River Trail Corridor.

Haw River Festival "Learning Celebration" for Schools This Fall! Sept. 23 - Oct. 13 (see p.6)

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To join The Haw River Assembly

or renew your membership, send a check to:

HRA, P.O. Box 187, Bynum, NC 27228.

Individual: \$20 Family: \$30

Sustaining: \$50 Heron Circle: \$100 and above

Low Income/Student: \$10

The Haw River Assembly is a nonprofit grass-roots organization founded in 1982. Our mission is to protect and restore the Haw River, its tributaries, and Jordan Lake; and to build a community that shares this vision.

(919) 542-5790 www.hawriver.org

Notes from the Haw



Photo by Doug Wakeman

The intense heat wave of late July/early August brought into stark focus the predictions for global climate change and its effect on our local region. I highly recommend Al Gore's movie "An Inconvenient Truth" if you haven't seen it yet. The book contains the same graphs, charts and photos, and is in a very "user-friendly" style. It is a terrific primer on what we need to know--and what we can still do--to reduce the consequences of carbon induced global warming.

We know that the same strategies to protect and conserve water will be even more important in an overall drier and hotter climate here (Dr. William H. Schlesinger, Dean of Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment, has characterized our future climate as similar to that of central Florida.) While we urge more effective political leadership from the top on this issue, we can also start taking steps to improve things right now. The major principals of reducing stormwater runoff and conserving water can be used in our own yards and homes. Planting rain gardens in low areas as wetland filters, using native drought resistant plants, installing a cistern or rain barrel to collect roof water for landscaping, and other hands-on solutions, can make a difference right now, and be ready when the need is even greater. (For more information on these methods, download the Stream Stewardship Handbook in .PDF format from the HRA Stream Steward page at www.hawriver.org or contact our Stream Steward Coordinator at deininger@hawriver.org).

We are fortunate to have a wealth of creative and enterprising folks in this area that have already established themselves as pioneers in solar and wind power, sustainable organic farming, biodiesel fuel production, and environmentally friendly "green building" methods. We have the tools and knowledge to effect real change--it looks like it will be up to all of us to lead the way.

From the river, Elaine

HRA Annual Membership Meeting Nov. 4-- AND Moonlight Paddle!

Save the date of *Saturday November 4*, from *noon to 5 pm*, for the HRA Annual Meeting, held this year in downtown Saxapahaw (exact location to be announced). We'll have a potluck lunch, time to get to know each other, updates on river issues. There will also be river monitoring on the Haw River.

AND, at 6 pm that same evening, Joe Jacob of Haw River Canoe and Kayak Company (HRCKC) will be leading a Harvest Full Moon canoe paddle on the Haw River flatwaters above the Saxapahaw dam. Advance reservations for canoeing on November 4th can be made by calling HRCKC at (336) 260-6465. Look for a flyer from us this fall with details and directions for the meeting and canoeing.



STREAM STEWARD PROJECT

Project Coordinator: Catherine Deininger

Email: deininger@hawriver.org

Focus on Bolin Creek and Morgan Creek

Since last September, the Stream Steward Campaign has been on the road distributing our "Stream Steward Handbook" and giving a dozen presentations on stream stewardship practices and water quality issues faced by communities throughout the Haw watershed. This past spring the focus was on Bolin Creek and Morgan Creek--streams suffering from impaired biological integrity, state lingo for the absence of a diverse flourishing water critter community including both fish and macroinvertebrates.

The Bolin Creek presentation was hosted along with Friends of Bolin Creek (FoBC; www.bolincreek.org) at Lake Hogan Farms development that sits along a dammed portion of Bolin Creek just downstream of its headwaters. FoBC past president Dave Otto told how FoBC was formed by citizens with a vision to create a park and preserve along Bolin Creek. Catherine Deininger led a stream walk along Bolin Creek, pointing out the problems that the creek was facing due to runoff from neighboring yards and invasive plants such as bamboo stilt grass and water primrose.

The Morgan Creek presentation was held at the N.C. Botanical Garden (NCBG) in Chapel Hill and hosted by the Morgan Creek Valley Alliance (MCVA; www.morgancreek.org). Johnny Randall, Assistant Director of NCBG and MCVA founder, showed slides depicting Morgan Creek from its beginnings in Orange County near Maple View Farm; flowing southeast through Carrboro and Chapel Hill, feeding University Lake; and eventually entering Jordan Lake. Deborah Amaral, longstanding HRA Board Member and staff at N.C. Ecosystem Enhancement Program, gave a historical perspective on the ongoing work to improve water quality in the Morgan Creek watershed. After a short hike to Meeting of the Waters, a tributary of Morgan Creek, Cynthia Crossen talked of how citizen volunteers monitor the Haw River and tributaries through the Haw River Watch Project.



Photo by Cynthia Crossen

Catherine Deininger (left) points out invasive Creeping Water Primrose choking Bolin Creek as it runs through Lake Hogan Farms.

Stream Stewardship News by Catherine Deininger

Ever since our first edition in 2002, the HRA Stream Steward Handbook has been an invaluable resource for educating the public. The newly revised version includes an updated map of the Haw River watershed showing impaired waters listed in the N.C. 2006 303(d) list; comments on good logging practices from Tom Gerow of N.C. Forest Resources; comments on good farming practices from Debbie Roos, Chatham County Agricultural Extension Agent; a new section on Using Conservation Easements to Protect Streams; and an expanded Resources for Conservation of Streams and Wetlands section.

Funding from the State Nonpoint Source Division for the HRA Two Threatened Streams Project in Chatham County will officially begin in October 2006. This project will focus on assessing and monitoring Dry Creek and Pokeberry Creek.

I just returned from the Southeast Watershed Roundtable in Asheville, where I made many valuable contacts with other watershed groups, and gained a better understanding of how the State and EPA hope to reach their goals restoring the health of N.C. streams. Thanks to N.C. State Extension Service, I received a partial scholarship to the conference.

~ River Watch & Stream Steward Thank You! ~

* Thanks to Ken Crossen, for invaluable help on the river watch data base and GIS mapping; and for constant help with loading, unloading, setting up, and taking down for numerous events. * Thanks to the Haw River Watch/Stream Steward Steering Committee members: Chair Deborah Amaral; Allison Weakley and Betsy Kraus for much help with understanding nitrate, phosphate, and pH; Susan Yarnell; and John Wagner. * Thanks to Susan Yarnell for river watch data entry. * Thanks to David Deininger for technical assistance and child care. * Thanks to Dave Otto, Carolyn Buckner, and David Cooley of Friends of Bolin Creek, our partners for the Bolin Creek presentation. * Thanks again to Dave Otto for photos. * Thanks to Johnny Randall of the Morgan Creek Valley Alliance, the N.C. Botanical Garden, and Deborah Amaral, partners for the Morgan Creek presentation. * Thanks to Bob Brueckner, Brenda and Lynn Featherstone, Susanne Gomolski, and Doug Wakeman for providing boat rides at the Jordan Lake presentation; and to Debbie Tunnell with general help that evening. * Thanks to Maja Krickler for river monitoring help at the Haw River Festival. * Thanks to the Eno River Festival volunteers: Ken Crossen, Lil Royal, Sue Ellett, Carly McGee, Jo Sanders, Jonas Monast, Kevin Webb, Jesse Crossen, Hope Donny-Clark, Lia Cronin, Elaine Chiosso, Katie Kenlan, Nancy Hillmer, Martha Pentecost, Susan Yarnell, and Kathy Buck. * Thanks to Kathy Buck for help at the July 8 Saxapahaw monitoring. *



Photo by Dave Otto

Participants in the Morgan Creek Stream Steward program check for sediment in Meeting of the Waters creek at the N.C. Botanical Garden.



The River Watcher Haw River Watch Project News

Project Coordinator: Cynthia Crossen Email: riverwatch@hawriver.org
P.O. Box 25, Saxapahaw, NC 27340 (919) 967-2500 (office); (919) 542-3827 (home)

Standing in the Stream

It is a relief to have some rain this spring, to keep our creeks healthy. For the March snapshot, I got several reports of excessive algae growth in creeks that normally didn't have it. I inquired about this problem to the State Division of Water Quality, and got this explanation. A mild winter, coupled with low stream flow due to scarce rainfall, can create conditions which are more conducive to algal growth. The problem is too many nutrients in the stream. This year, the nutrients which had flowed into the stream were not flushed out by normal winter rains, and thus they accumulated in the stream. In addition, the winter's warmth contributed to warmer water, which is conducive to algal growth.



Photo by Cynthia Crossen

4-H camp kids check the pH of Jordan Lake.

This spring and summer I've had the opportunity to do lots of education and outreach, with both children and adults. While monitoring down at Bynum Beach at HRA's May festival, a steady stream of folks come to see what lives in the Haw, from clams to crawdads. During three days at the Eno River Festival, I spoke with attendees about river issues and our watershed (many discovered that they were actually residents of the Haw watershed!); I also got a chance to meet and network with other environmentalists. We asked folks to sign postcards for the Land for Tomorrow initiative, urging the General Assembly to put a bond referendum to voters to provide funds to protect the state's land, water, and special places before they are irreversibly lost.

On July 8 there was river monitoring in Saxapahaw, in conjunction with Rivermill Day (farmer's market and music in Saxapahaw every Saturday). Join us for the next river monitoring in Bynum, on Saturday September 9, from 10 am to noon.



Photo by Cynthia Crossen

Nature Explorers at camp at the N.C. Botanical Garden hunt for life in Meeting of the Waters creek.

What better activity for summer camps than critter hunting in creeks, as the Nature Explorers and I did at the N.C. Botanical Garden. At the 4-H camp at Jordan Lake, we caught water bugs, tested pH, and used our transparency tube to look at the cloudiness of the lake's water.



Photo by Cynthia Crossen

Kids and adults enjoy river monitoring at the Haw River in Saxapahaw. We'll be doing it again in Bynum--**Join us** for Haw River Monitoring on Sat. Sept. 9, 10 am - noon in Bynum near the old mill. See www.hawriver.org for info, or call me at (919) 967-2500. ~Cynthia

Thanks to the efforts of river watchers since 1994, we have compiled a significant amount of data about the Haw River and its tributaries. Look for our latest comprehensive report: the **2005 Haw River Project Monitoring Report** on the River Watch page at www.hawriver.org.

Welcome to new teams!

- 🌊 Casey Hayes and Mardi Magoo and their families, on Frog Creek in Chatham
- 🌊 Margaret Fields, Bolin Creek at Estes Drive Ext.
- 🌊 Chris Bouton, tributary to Little Creek in Pittsboro



Photo by Dave Otto

Rachel Deininger displays a crane fly larva she found in Meeting of the Waters creek, during our Stream Steward presentation there.

Here's to summer! ~Cynthia

Jordan Lake

A RESOURCE IN NEED OF PROTECTION

Hot summer weather on July 18 didn't stop people from joining us for evening boat rides on Jordan Lake and a presentation at Vista Point. Haw River Assembly volunteers Lynn and Brenda Featherstone and Bob Brueckner led guided canoe tours out on the lake, with boats from the Haw River Canoe and Kayak Company. Susanne Gomolski, owner of Kayak Adventures, led a group of paddlers around to the next cove, where they saw herons and osprey. A few more folks took a longer trip on Doug Wakeman's power boat down towards the dam, and even spotted an eagle.

After regrouping for refreshments at the picnic shelter, folks gathered for a presentation about Jordan Lake by HRA staff Elaine Chiosso, Catherine Deininger and Cynthia Crossen, and park ranger Sue McBean. We heard about the lake's beginnings as a 14,000 acre reservoir, built in 1982 primarily for flood control, and how it is now a major recreational lake, wildlife habitat, and public drinking water supply. McBean spoke of the abundant wildlife, including the successful nesting populations of bald eagles at the lake. She also noted the many recreation opportunities in the total 47,000 acre site, including beaches, boating, fishing and hiking trails.

HRA speakers explained the water quality problems at Jordan Lake, and what steps are being taken to improve it. Too much nutrient pollution (excess nitrogen and phosphorus) from upstream waste water and runoff is causing too much algae growth at the lake. The excess algae is a problem for aesthetics, drinking water, and wildlife, especially when it results in the oxygen depletion and high pH conditions which can cause fish kills (as happened this March on the Upper New Hope arm of the lake, and again in July). The presentation included a look at how we can all reduce polluted runoff from our yards and communities (ask us for a copy of the Stream Steward Handbook if you would like one).

Federal and state mandates to reduce the nutrient pollution in Jordan Lake mean that new rules are being developed that will affect all 8 counties, and towns and cities within the Haw River basin--from Guilford down to Chatham. Greater limits will be placed on the amount of nitrogen and phosphorus pollution from all sources--including wastewater treatment plants, agricultural lands, and new and



Photo by Cynthia Crossen

HRA Board member Bob Brueckner takes Catherine Deininger & kids for a ride as part of the Jordan Lake Stream Steward Presentation.

Join HRA's Lake Watch Initiative

If you are a frequent user of the lake--a boater, paddler, fisherman, or hiker--you can help HRA track problems. Contact us for a Lake Watch form, or download one from www.hawriver.org (the Jordan Lake page) to report fish kills, algae blooms, outgassing, dangerous trash, or sediment plumes that you see on Jordan Lake. We'll ask for the date, the section of the lake where you saw the problem, and digital photos if any.

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Volunteers Plant Baldcypress at Jordan Lake

Baldcypresses (whose original range extended up the Haw valley well beyond Jordan) will tolerate flooding better than some existing bottomland trees--and after a few decades their buttresses will make them unattractive to beavers. They can replace historic riparian forest at the lake edges (snags in background), help stabilize shorelines and sediments, and fix nutrients in this impaired "delta" area of upper Jordan Lake. In 2005, HRA secured permission for these cypress plantings from the Army Corps of Engineers

and N.C. Wildlife Commission; and in 2006 HRA helped defray seedling and material costs with a grant from REI. Twenty volunteers with the Lower New Hope Wetlands Working Group have planted 800 seedlings, with tags, collars, and stakes, in 2005-06. Group members also maintain herbivore protection of 100 fifteen-year-old cypresses planted in nearby upper Jordan by Sierra Club volunteers--remnants of more extensive plantings that have been decimated by beavers.



Photo by Barry Saunders

March 2006: José Mauro, visiting from Brazil, renews protective herbivore collars around baldcypress seedlings planted last spring along lower Little Creek, just above Jordan Lake.



Photo by Elaine Chiosso

These are some of the more established cypress that are flourishing in the Haw River arm of the Lake--despite years of floods, droughts and beavers.

Learning Celebration News

One hot summer evening last summer, I was asked to join in on a long-standing tradition involving a week-long adventure of camping, children, fun & games by the banks of the Haw. I had heard about the Haw River Festival by name, but had up to this point never met anyone who participated. I said surely I was interested in taking a week off to explore & enjoy nature, not knowing what to expect.

My week crewing in Guilrock last year turned out to be a magical experience. I learned a great deal about myself, including a newfound fondness for camping, strengths as a leader and educator, and a heartfelt love for intentional community.

I loved waking up to the sounds of nature (and sometimes the very unusual wake-up calls provided by other crew volunteers). I met folks who in a matter of days became long-time companions. I loved being a part of the Learning Celebration program & being able to share my sense of amazement of what I was experiencing with the children who came to learn about the river. I also learned what it means to be in awe of nature. It is a changing experience to be surrounded by so much diverse vegetation, wildlife, and the natural beauty of the river. So much so, I am back this year as the Learning Celebration Coordinator.

I am perpetually grateful for the opportunity to serve as this year's coordinator. I hope to contribute what I can to help continue the amazing tradition of exploring, learning, nurturing and protecting the river and its community.

The Learning Celebration Needs You! Every year, this amazing program is perpetuated by a remarkable group of volunteers like you. Whether you are a festival veteran or a first-time volunteer, please strongly consider helping to create this year's 17th annual Learning Celebration! Contact me now at info@hawriver.org or **(919) 542-5790** to crew for a day or a week, help with a move, lead a canoe trip, cook or deliver a meal, share a shower facility, or help with the festival program puppet performances. The volunteer forms are located on our website, www.hawriver.org, from the "Learning Celebration for Schools" page.

This year's Learning Celebration is right around the corner! Sign up now for these dates:

Bynum	September 23rd - 29th
Saxapahaw	September 30th - October 6th
Guilrock	October 7th - October 13th



Schools update: The school schedule for this fall is almost completely full! We currently have 14 schools registered, including ones who have not attended the festival for several years.

Site update: This year, the Learning Celebration has a brand new site, none other than the residence of Lea Clayton & Donovan Zimmerman! The HRA is overjoyed to have the Saxapahaw week of the LC hosted by these gracious veterans. Thank you so much for your generosity & support!

Thank you: Thank you to the entire steering committee, our largest group yet of devoted folks helping to make the LC happen this year: Wanda Sundermann, Martha Pentecost, Sarah Howe, JJ Richardson, Paul Fleckenstein, Mardi Magoo, Lauren Rosenthal & Sue Ellett. The Learning Celebration would not be able to happen if not for this wonderful group of people who devote their time & energy to organizing & planning this event.

Welcome! A warm welcome back to Rachel Winters, our beloved food coordinator. She will again this year help to organize meals to feed the hungry and grateful crew volunteers. And also welcome back Taylor Garbutt as this year's Assistant Coordinator for Safety & Logistics! I am especially thankful to have Taylor, with his festival knowledge & expertise, on board for this year's Learning Celebration. Thank you both!

Don't Forget: The General Store Cafe will again this year host the annual Burrito Bash on Monday, September 11th from 6 - 9 pm. Please come out to help support this year's Learning Celebration by celebrating, music, and getting a great bite to eat!

--Carly McGee, 2006 Coordinator

HAW RIVER STATE PARK IS GROWING

Photo by Catherine Deininger



Sue McBean talks of Jordan Lake's history, wildlife, and recreational opportunities, at the Jordan Lake presentation.

The new Haw River State Park, located about 10 miles north of Greensboro, is set to become North Carolina's new environmental education center, in a setting that includes beautiful Piedmont bottomland forests and wetlands. Authorized by the N.C. General Assembly in 2003, Haw River State Park is being developed along the Guilford-Rockingham county line. The state parks system is seeking to acquire land to augment The Summit Camp and Conference Center, which was purchased in 2005 from the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina. For several years we held our upriver week of the Haw River Learning Celebration for schoolchildren at the Summit, and know just what a terrific site this is.

Sue McBean, a veteran park ranger at Jordan Lake State Recreation Area since 1993, has been promoted to superintendent of the new Haw River State Park. "Haw River State Park is the site of our first residential environmental education center at The Summit, and our plans are to develop a traditional state park there as well," said Lewis Ledford, director of the N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation. "Sue's wide-ranging abilities as an experienced ranger and as an outstanding environmental educator make her an excellent choice as the park's first superintendent."

Sue is a certified environmental educator, and has been lead interpretive and education ranger at Jordan Lake as well as a law enforcement instructor for the division. "I see Haw River State Park as having a bright and vibrant future, encompassing and enhancing resource protection, environmental education and staff development," McBean said. "I'm honored to be given the opportunity to be involved in the early stages of a project with such great potential for the Division of Parks and Recreation as well as for the state."

The Haw River Assembly has enjoyed working with Sue at Jordan Lake, and at the new Haw River State Natural Area downstream of Bynum. We wish her great success as the first Haw River State Park superintendent, and look forward to supporting the creation of this beautiful park at the headwaters of the Haw.

Clean Water Lobby Day & Results from the Legislature

A group of Haw River Assembly members were part of the nearly 200 clean water activists who descended on the NC legislature on May 24. Our main points this year were support for a bill to control polluted runoff in the urbanizing parts of the state; new legislation and funds to protect wells used for drinking water; and working towards significant mercury reductions by 2010. We had a great day visiting legislators who represent the residents in the Haw River watershed. We are happy to report that the General Assembly finished this year's session with some successes for Clean Water!

PASSED: H2873, Safe Drinking Water/Private Wells, that requires that all 100 counties establish permitting and inspection programs for new wells. The final budget includes an appropriation of \$300,000 to establish the Emergency Drinking Water Fund and begin the hot spot testing programs called for by H2186. The final legislation did not include the level of funding we supported for testing of existing wells, and we expect to be back next year on this issue.

PASSED: S1566 Stormwater Management: permanent Phase 2 stormwater rules to control polluted runoff covers the 25 most developed and fastest growing counties in the state, including Guilford, Alamance, Chatham, Orange, Durham, and Wake. The rules will require stormwater controls for any development in these counties that affects 1 acre or more of land and has 24% or more of impervious surface (roofs, roads, etc.). Coastal areas that drain to shellfish waters are further protected with a 12% impervious threshold. Controlling polluted runoff that degrades streams is a federal mandate under the Clean Water Act. Phase 1 stormwater rules were established in 1990 for major municipalities, including Greensboro.

HRA members also took part in the Land and Water Conservation Lobby Day on June 14th, organized by "Land for Tomorrow" to urge passage of bonds to provide more funding for land conservation programs in the state. Goals are to conserve land, to safeguard drinking water, protect fish and wildlife habitat, preserve working farms, restore historic landmarks, expand parks and trails, and prevent polluted runoff from contaminating streams, rivers, and lakes. The bill authorizing these bonds did not pass, but a study commission was appointed by the legislature to further consider how to reach the goals for conservation funding.

Jordan Lake, continued from p. 5

existing development. Stakeholder discussions with the state to create these rules have been underway for almost three years, and the timetable continues to move back. Some local governments question the need for these rules and have attempted to delay the process.

We are now looking at 2007 for a public comment period and 2008 for the rules to become law--about 10 years after the state first proposed nutrient reductions. The Haw River Assembly continues to be very concerned about the health of the lake during this period of "limbo". As we continue to urge swift passage of effective rules, more and more forested land is lost to development, and more runoff pollution and wastewater effluent is flowing towards the lake.

HRA Board of Directors Elections

We have elections for the Haw River Assembly Board coming up at our annual meeting (Saturday, November 4, noon to 5 pm in downtown Saxapahaw), with several Board members up for re-election if they choose to continue serving. We also have a couple of openings for new Board members. Our board is an active one with members who really take part in keeping our work and organization energized and creative. If you are interested in being on the HRA Board of Directors, please contact Elaine Chiosso at the HRA office ((919) 542-5790; info@hawriver.org) for more information about Board responsibilities and its meeting schedule.



It's a Puppet Parade! at the May 13 Haw River Festival.

Festival on the Haw!

We had a great day for the 17th Haw River Festival on May 13. Music from wonderful local bands floated over the crowd down at the old Bynum Bridge who enjoyed the art, environmental displays and activities, and of course, the Haw River itself. Clyde Jones generously donated a fantabulous group of "Deer" paintings for the silent auction, plus critter cutouts for kids to paint that afternoon. Paperhand Puppet Intervention put on a parade of giant puppets, and a show that captured the spirit of living in harmony with nature. Folks took part in stream monitoring across the bridge down at Bynum Beach with Cynthia Crossen, and Joe Jacob with the Haw River Canoe and Kayak Company and other paddling experts gave free short canoe rides to children. "Shadows from the Past" archaeology exhibit brought their amazing display of arrowheads and other artifacts from the Haw River valley, and local environmental groups, state parks, and land conservation folks were on hand to show how we can save planet earth, and this special part of it. Catherine Deininger had a beautiful array of native wetland and streamside plants for sale (supplied by Mellowmarsh nursery), and the bridge pavement became the canvas for a mural of chalk art as the day went on. Virginia Chambers of Pittsboro was the lucky winner of the Old Town "Allagash 164" canoe raffle! Once again the Bynum Ruritan Club provided delicious food for Festival-goers. It was a really good time and, we are happy to say, it was also a successful fundraiser to help us keep our work going here at the Haw River Assembly. Please join us next year!

Thank You for making the 17th Haw River Festival a Success



Lynn Featherstone takes Allison Weakley and her daughter out for a spin on the Haw during the Haw River Festival.

❖ ***A Big Thanks to All the Volunteers*** (and all the HRA Board and staff) with special acknowledgement to those who took on the BIG jobs: ✨Michael Chandler & Ken Crossen, sound ✨Jeff Dotson, stage set-up ✨Elaine Chiosso, Festival organizer, with Taylor Garbutt on safety and logistics ✨Ethan Earle, parking czar, with help from Lynn & Brenda Featherstone, King and Queen of parking! ✨Kevin Meehan, for the Use-Yer-Foots ✨Mardi Magoo, Learning Celebration display ✨Debbie Tunnell, organizing kids' critter painting ✨Rachel Winters, silent auction organizer ✨Tom Vanderbeck, for delivering hay bales ✨Catherine Deininger, organizing riparian plants sale ✨Cynthia Crossen, River Watch monitoring and songs! ✨Clyde Jones, for EVERYTHING! ✨Joe Jacob, canoe rides for kids

❖ ***Thanks to the Performers who donated their performances to benefit HRA:***

- ✨ Nadine & the CornSqueezers www.unc.edu/~japhill/nadine
- ✨ JAAFAR www.jaafarmusic.com
- ✨ Carolina Chocolate Drops www.sankofastrings.com
- ✨ Saludos Compay www.saludoscompay.com
- ✨ Paperhand Puppet Intervention www.paperhand.org
- ✨ The NEVER www.thenever.org
- ✨ Off the Road Band www.offtheroadband.com
- ✨ Confluence--the Festival Jam Band

❖ Thanks to the Artists who donated their works to the Silent Auction to benefit HRA

❖ Thanks to the Ruritan Club for the site, their help, and wonderful cooking.

❖ Thanks to local businesses--see next page.



Young artist gets her start painting a Clyde Critter.

Burrito Bash Fundraiser Sept. 11

Monday, September 11, 6 - 9 pm

General Store Cafe (downtown Pittsboro, off courthouse circle)

Live Music by Confluence \$15 admission (includes a delicious General Store Cafe Burrito and fixin's!)

Kick off the 17th Haw River "Learning Celebration" for schools with a great evening of live music, art and a fabulous burrito! Proceeds will benefit the "Learning Celebration" from September 23 - October 13 in Bynum, Saxapahaw and Camp Guilrock. Since 1990, over 29,000 fourth-graders have come to learn about their own Haw River through hands-on science, art and nature activities taught by our incredible volunteers.

The Burrito Bash will feature lots of river songs and swinging earth-loving music by *Confluence*, a band with some of your favorite Haw River performers, including Cynthia Crossen, Elaine Chiosso, Lea Clayton, Johnny Stash, Paul Ford, and Donovan Zimmerman. We'll also be celebrating our new grant from REI that supports this year's Learning Celebration. Come join us for a great evening (and a big thanks to the General Store Cafe for their generosity and community spirit)!

Directions: The General Store Cafe, 39 West Street in Pittsboro, is next to the downtown traffic circle just across from the Chatham County courthouse; (919) 542-2432, www.generalstorecafe.com. *For more info:* visit www.hawriver.org, or contact HRA at (919) 542-5790 or info@hawriver.org.

Thanks to Local Businesses (please support them!) and Agencies:

- 👉 **Chatham Arts Council**, www.chathamarts.org, for grant support for *Paperhand Puppet Intervention*
- 👉 **General Store Cafe**, Pittsboro, www.thegeneralstorecafe.com, for raffle sales, display, and upcoming *September 11 Burrito Bash*
- 👉 **The Poster Guys**, www.theposterguys.com, (919) 967-1245, for putting up our flyers
- 👉 **Great Outdoor Provisions Company**, www.greatoutdoorprovision.com, for raffle canoe
- 👉 **Jordan Properties**, jordanproperties.com, (336) 376-3122, for hay bales
- 👉 **The Nightlight**, 405 1/2 W. Rosemary St. Chapel Hill, 919-933-5550, for *Hootenanny*
- 👉 **REI** local stores, www.rei.com, for grant support that helps us put on outreach events
- 👉 **Chatham County**, for recycling containers



Photo by Glenn Forsythe

HRA Co-Founder Chuck Brady Passes Away

We are sad to report that HRA co-founder Dr. Charles E. "Chuck" Brady Jr., of Oak Harbor Washington, passed away July 23. Chuck Brady and Lynn Featherstone were old canoe buddies back before the Jordan Lake dam was built. Their involvement in the struggle to stop the dam grew into a commitment to restore the Haw and protect Jordan Lake from pollution. Together, they started the Haw River Assembly in 1982.

Chuck went on to become an astronaut who flew on the June 1996 Space Shuttle Columbia mission, which orbited the earth 271 times in its seventeen day mission. When Chuck came back to our area for a visit in 1997, he described the awesome experience of being in space, the sense of purity there, and how fragile our planet looks from that perspective. He stressed the urgency with which we must stop polluting our planet, and thanked us for keeping the Assembly going here to protect the Haw River. We are grateful to Chuck for his energy and commitment to the Haw River, and for his key role in giving the Haw River Assembly its start.



Photo by Allison Weakley

Maja Kricker (left) and River Watch's Cynthia Crossen (center) identify river critters at the Haw River Festival.

HRA Receives New Grants!

We are honored to have been awarded two new grants this summer: \$20,000 from the **Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation** for general support of our programs and work; and \$5,000 from **REI**, to support our upcoming Learning Celebration for fourth graders. We are very grateful for this funding, and because of it will be able to increase both our environmental education work, and community outreach and activism to combat water pollution.

Upcoming 2006 HRA Events

See www.hawriver.org for more info

Saturday, September 9, 10 am - noon, Bynum Finding River Critters--
Citizen Water Quality Monitoring on Haw. Leader: Cynthia Crossen. For
info, call (919) 967-2500, riverwatch@hawriver.org

Monday, September 11, 6 - 9 pm Burrito Bash Fundraiser at the General
Store Cafe in Pittsboro, music by Confluence, \$15 (see page 9 for details)

September 23-24 Haw River Watch Monitoring Weekend

September 23 - October 13, Haw River Learning Celebration for schools

Saturday, October 7, Jordan Lake State Recreation Area Heritage Day
at Jordan Lake

Saturday October 14, Haw River Paddle, Saxapahaw to Chicken Bridge
(for experienced paddlers) Leader: Jeff Dotson (919) 542-6260

Saturday, November 4, 12 -5 pm, HRA Annual Meeting, downtown
Saxapahaw (location to be announced)

Saturday, November 4, 6 pm, Harvest Full Moon Paddle in Alamance
County. Leader: Joe Jacob (336) 260-6465

Saturday, December 2 River Mill Tour. Leader: Elaine Chiosso

December 16-17 Haw River Watch Monitoring Weekend

**For info see Upcoming Events at www.hawriver.org; for
info and to volunteer, contact HRA at (919) 542-5790;
info@hawriver.org**



2006 Haw River Festival T-shirt!

*Clyde Jones
deer on bright
purple or deep
brown shirt*

*modeled by Haw
River Watch
Coordinator
Cynthia Crossen*



Photo by Allison Weakley

\$ 20 (adult) S, M, L, XL, XXL

\$ 16 (youth small & medium)

Available at the General Store Cafe in
Pittsboro, Townsend Bertram Outfitters
in Carrboro, Great Outdoors Provision Co.,
Pringles in Fearington, and the Haw River
Assembly office in Bynum.

**Burrito Bash
Mon. Sept. 11!**

Address Service Requested

Bynum, NC 27228

P. O. Box 187

Haw River Assembly

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