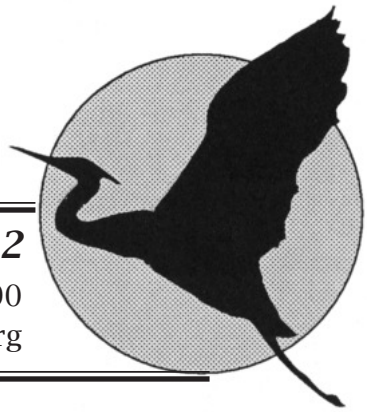


Voice of the Haw



The Haw River Assembly *December 2012*



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

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

Celebrating 30 years of protecting the Haw River and Jordan Lake

Thanks to our Volunteers!

Protecting the Haw River For 30 Years



Photo by Cynthia Crossen

The 23rd Haw River Learning Celebration for the schools was a success once again thanks to our volunteers! Pictured above are volunteers from our first week, in Bynum, wearing some T-shirts designed by Clyde Jones from the past 23 years. See more about this great program inside!

What a journey this has been – from our first rally and flotilla at Jordan Lake in 1982 to demand clean water, to rallies in Raleigh in 2012 to demand a frack-free NC! Along the way we began one of NC's biggest volunteer stream monitoring projects, have brought 40,000 schoolkids to the river and creeks to learn about their waters, and have organized 22 years of river cleanups with thousands of pounds of trash removed from our waters. We've fought landfills and developments that would threaten water quality, challenged pollution permits for incinerators and sludge, and found common cause with people who fish, paddle, and use the Haw River and Jordan Lake for drinking water. We were a leader in getting the Jordan Lake pollution reduction rules passed. We have joined forces with communities to save natural resources and to fight environmental injustices throughout our watershed, and we've been on the front lines to get new recreational access to the river for hiking and paddling. To see a slide show of our 30 years of work, click on the link at our website, www.hawriver.org.

Moving Forward – Protecting our River Into the Future

What are the main issues for 2013 – and our 31st year at HRA? At the top of the list: defending current environmental regulations, including countering the effort by cities such as Greensboro and Burlington to gut the Jordan Lake rules. We'll be continuing our efforts with grassroots groups around the state to keep NC Frack Free. We'll be continuing partnerships to bring environmental justice to our watershed and the state. We'll be looking at how to reduce greenhouse gases and getting off the fossil fuel train wreck to climate change. And we look forward to continuing our terrific educational programs and Haw River Watch stream monitoring. We have scheduled our big river cleanup for Saturday, March 16, 2013!

Frack Free NC: Although we have a newly elected governor and a majority of the General Assembly that are eager to see drilling for shale gas get started in NC, we are joined by many organizations and citizens in NC who say keep NC Frack Free! An alliance of grassroots organizations has launched a new website: www.frackfreenc.org where you can get updates, read new articles and studies, and sign a new petition. You can also view the Haw Riverkeeper's presentation on fracking on our HRA website – click the link on the front page: www.hawriver.org.



Photo by Cynthia Crossen

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HRA Board of Directors

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Executive Director
Cynthia Crossen, *Haw River Watch Coordinator*,
Newsletter Editor
Donna Myers, *Watershed Education Coordinator*
Kathy Buck, *Office Manager*

continued from page 1 **Jordan Lake:** The past two legislative sessions have brought weakening of the Jordan Lake Rules to reduce nutrient pollution. In 2010, Greensboro and Burlington successfully got a bill passed to delay implementation of nitrogen reduction at their wastewater treatment plants. Then in 2011 the legislature (pushed for by Greensboro) delayed the date for 2 years for all local governments to implement stormwater regulations (that would send less pollution into the water from new development). We fully expect more attacks in 2013 against this effort to improve water quality in the Lake. We are also watching to see what the developers try next in their attempts to build 751 South, the controversial and huge mixed use development near Jordan Lake.

New education program: Donna Myers, our Watershed Education Coordinator, begins a new project with eighth graders at Horton Middle School in Pittsboro this winter, supported by a grant from the Triangle Community Foundation. This project expands upon our existing stream investigation program to encourage youth leadership development and community involvement around water quality issues. The river will need a new generation to continue this work into the next 30 years!

Notes from the Haw

Welcome to our new Board Members!

We elected two new Board members at our Annual Meeting on November 10 – Melvin Dubose from Greensboro; and Angela Moore, currently teaching at Guilford College. We are very pleased to have representation from the upper part of our river, and they both bring special expertise to our work. Melvin is a community leader for environmental justice in Greensboro, and in stopping the re-opening of the White Street landfill. Angela is an environmental engineer and geologist who has done extensive work with stormwater and stream restoration projects in Greensboro. We welcome them both, and thank all of our board members who are continuing to give their time and expertise to the Haw River Assembly. We say goodbye to Efrain Ramirez who is stepping off the Board and a big thanks for his years of helping us protect the Haw.



New HRA board member, Dr. Melvin Dubose (on right) with some of our continuing board members: (top row, left to right) Dr. Janet MacFall, Anne Cassebaum, Brian Baker, Justin Robinson and (bottom row) Tom Patterson, Chris Carter, and Elaine Chiosso, Haw Riverkeeper

The Annual Meeting included a panel discussion, led by Janet MacFall, of the many benefits of clean water for a sustainable economy, including eco-tourism and new agricultural uses such as wineries and organic farms. Guest panelists included Andy Zeman from Benjamin Vineyards and Winery; Lawrence Petersen from Haw River Canoe and Kayak Company; Brian Baker, Alamance County Trails Coordinator; and Anne Cassebaum, author of "Down Along the Haw". A discussion with HRA members followed, envisioning how we can be more effective in our work, and ended with agreement from everyone to go forward and recruit new members!

From the Haw, Elaine Chiosso, HAW RIVERKEEPER®

2012 Learning Celebration Highlights

from Donna Myers, Watershed Education Coordinator

HRA's Flagship Riverside Environmental Education Program for 4th Graders was offered to **1,036 students** from 15 schools throughout the Haw River Watershed during the 3 week program along the river in Bynum, Saxapahaw, and Camp Guilrock.

Made Possible by Our Wonderful Volunteers **Seventy-five volunteers** served as riverside educators, site set up and break down crew, puppeteers, and concert performers. Those volunteers relied on the sustenance given by **25 meal providers** that brought lunch and dinner every day of the program.

Made Possible by Our Generous Donors **\$2,680** was contributed by **30 donors** to the Keep the Haw River Learning Celebration Flowing Fundraising Campaign.



Photo by Cynthia Crossen

Students keenly observe the river, discovering its wonders -- a kingfisher, a turtle, a snake?



Photo by Elaine Chiosso

LC Volunteer Hope Wilder illustrates clay for students in Bynum, as they ask questions, make clay creations, and get faces painted at the Clay station.

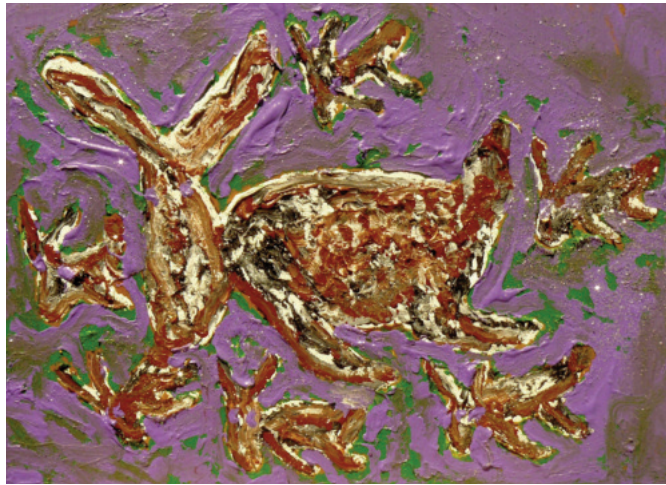


Photo by Cynthia Crossen

Cecelia Carver teaches kids to identify pollution sensitive and tolerant macroinvertebrate species at the Stream Watch Station in Saxapahaw.

Thank You, Learning Celebration Community! Including Vimala's Curryblossom Cafe, Saxapahaw General Store, Mediterranean Deli, Angelina's Kitchen, Bynum Community Garden, Turtle Run Farm, Use Yer Foot.com, N.C. State Parks, Donovan Zimmerman, Lea Clayton, Yolanda Lujan, Elizabeth England, Jim and Diana Burke, James and Janet MacFall, Mark Christy, Tom and Heather LaGarde, Haw River Ballroom, Cup 22, Haw River Canoe and Kayak Company, Wanda Sundermann, Chris Carter, Libby Searles-Bohs, Jamie Saunders, Chef Kelly Burton, Ken Crossen, Jo Sanders, Sue Zimmerman, Maja Kricker, Rachel Winters, HRA Staff and Board of Directors, all volunteers, meal providers, and teachers.

What They're Saying "We had a great time! We'll see you next year!" -- *4th grade teacher* *** "The Learning Celebration volunteers are a wonderful crew, working cooperatively under excellent direction. It is a fine example of the effectiveness of a cohesive, self-governing group. I am proud to be a part of the LC!" --*LC Volunteer* *** "Thank you for making my time at the Haw River extremely fun. I learned that if you litter in the Haw River, it goes into Jordan Lake and that people who live near the lake drink the water and that at the lake, two rivers meet and flow into the ocean." -- *4th grade student*



2013 HRA T-shirt *Clyde Jones "Rabbit"*

Sage green, soft 100% organic cotton shirts from TS Designs in Burlington; environmentally friendly Rehance dye process eliminates plastisol.

\$ 23 (adult) S, M, L, XL, XXL

\$ 23 (ladies) S, M, L, XL

\$ 17 (youth) S, M, L

Available at Townsend Bertram Outfitters in Carrboro, Saxapahaw General Store, Chatham Marketplace in Pittsboro, & the HRA office in Bynum -- see HRA's Holiday T-shirt Sale info at right.

HRA's Holiday T-shirt Sale

HRA's office will be transformed in December to a holiday shop, *benefitting the Haw River Assembly*, with:

✳ **Haw River Critter T-shirts:** 22 years of Haw River critter shirts designed by Clyde Jones, Bynum's world famous folk artist, including the new 2013 Rabbit T-shirts (see ad at left). Prices on previous years' T-shirts as low as \$5 and \$10!

✳ **"Down Along the Haw"**, Anne Cassebaum's excellent book about the history, ecology, and river conservation efforts on the Haw River.

✳ the **"Tree" art book** by Paintbrush Collective -- local artists portray their unique visions of trees in beautiful color.

The Haw River Assembly office, 199 Bynum Hill in Bynum (a Pittsboro 27312 address) will be open:

❖ Monday, December 3 through Friday December 21, from 10 am to 5 pm weekdays; and

❖ Saturday December 8 and Saturday December 15, from 10 am to 2 pm.

You may contact us at: (919) 542-5790 or info@hawriver.org, www.hawriver.org.

**Holiday T-shirt sale at
HRA Office in December!**

Address Service Requested

**Haw River Assembly
P. O. Box 187
Bynum, NC 27228**

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