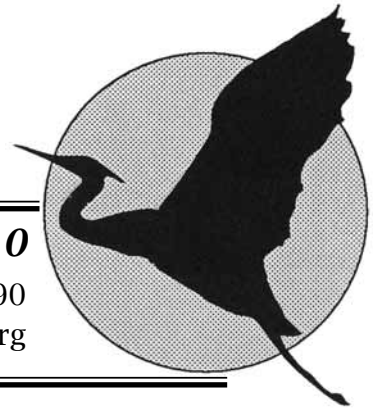


Voice of the Haw



The Haw River Assembly *January 2010*



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

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

Notes from the Haw - Looking Ahead

from Elaine Chiosso, HAW RIVERKEEPER® and HRA Executive Director

2009 was a great year for HRA. We celebrated the 20th year of the Learning Celebration river program for 4th graders, launched a new Stream Investigation program for 8th graders, trained Muddy Water Watch volunteers in two counties, finally saw state rules passed to reduce pollution in Jordan Lake, and bought the remaining forest land that protects the headwater springs of the Haw River. We also successfully wrapped up our Two Threatened Streams project, and joined with citizens to fight the proposed “shrinking” of the Jordan Lake protected area in Durham County.

2010 starts off with us still fighting to protect Jordan Lake in Durham (see page 3 for latest update); and we expect to be involved in controversies concerning new state allocations of drinking water from Jordan Lake, Pittsboro’s proposed WWTP discharge to the Haw, and statewide issues concerning water conservation, sludge applications, river buffers and sedimentation. We are looking forward to organizing a Muddy Water Watch training in Alamance County, and being part of the March “Week of Creeks” in Durham. We have already begun planning what we hope to be our largest ever river clean-up on March 20. We have also made a big decision to move our annual Haw River Festival upstream to Saxapahaw this year – on May 1 – with new energy and partners to create a weekend river celebration (more on page 9). Our Rainmaker, Germane James, is launching a newly designed and more interactive website for HRA this spring – and look for us on our Facebook page!



The Great Blue Heron rests on the rocks of the Haw River. Photo by Elaine Chiosso

Staff News

We begin the new year with two of our staff leaving for new careers. Catherine Deininger, our Stream Steward Coordinator, has led HRA’s pollution prevention project for nearly a decade, “saving the river one backyard at a time”. She managed a succession of successful EPA grants awarded to us by NC DENR, that gave us support to work with communities and individuals to protect and restore streams. From Summerfield to Pittsboro, she led stream restoration plantings, conservation easement education, and put maps and information into the hands of citizens to help them understand their ecological address. She is leaving to start work as an environmental consultant, but will continue to work with us on our Robeson Creek and River Watch projects. Jenna Schreiber, our Watershed Education Coordinator, was our first full-time education staffer; and with Cynthia Crossen, designed and launched our new Stream Investigation program, as well as doing a terrific job coordinating the Learning Celebration. We wish her well as she embarks on the path to a graduate degree.

We have hired a new Watershed Education Coordinator, Donna Myers, who comes to us with a great background in outdoor and environmental education and organizational skills. We had an impressive group of applicants for this position, and feel very lucky to be able to continue our river education program with such a great new staffperson.

HRA Board of Directors - Farewells & Welcomes

We said thanks and farewell to three outstanding Board of Director members at the end of 2009. Deborah Amaral, Austin Lybrand, and Ken Tunnell all stepped off the Board after many years of dedicated work for HRA. In almost two decades of service, Deborah *continued on page 2*

HRA Board of Directors

- Debbie Tunnell**, President, *Bynum*
- Ruth Lucier**, Vice-President, *Bynum, Bennett College, Greensboro*
- Tom Patterson**, Secretary, *Chapel Hill*
- Chris Carter**, Treasurer, *Saxapahaw*
- Brian Baker**, *Burlington*
- Sam Berryhill**, *Graham*
- Bob Brueckner**, Land Comm. Chair, *Durham*
- Anne Cassebaum**, *Gibsonville, Elon Univ.*
- Lynn Featherstone**, *Chatham County*
- Sharon Garbutt**, *Chatham County*
- Rich Goldberg**, *Carrboro*
- Susanne Gomolski**, *Chapel Hill*
- Nancy Hillmer**, *Silk Hope*
- Joe Jacob**, Field Trip Coord. *Chatham County*
- Margaret Jemison**, *Chatham County*, Emeritus
- Mac Jordan**, *Saxapahaw*, Emeritus
- Janet MacFall**, *Saxapahaw, Elon University*
- Matt Steible**, *Chapel Hill, Saxapahaw*
- Margaret Tiano**, *Chatham County*
- Cecelia Vassar**, *Burlington*
- Nancy Zeman**, *Saxapahaw*

Notes from the Haw

continued from page 1

was our Board President, the Treasurer, and Chair of the Riverwatch Steering Committee (where she plans to continue playing a key role). Austin also served as Treasurer, as well as being on our Building Committee, hosting some memorable HRA events, and lending a hand with repairs and outreach events. Ken served on our Building Committee, and was a lead volunteer with river clean-ups and our annual May Festival.



We held our Annual Meeting at the New Hope Camp and Conference Center on a lovely November day. We enjoyed seeing new and old members, and Chris Carter led a hike to explore the forest where the watersheds of the Eno and Haw rivers meet. We elected and welcomed four new Board members for 2010. Brian Baker lives in southern Alamance County, and is the Upper Haw River Trail Coordinator for Alamance. Brian has worked with our Land Conservation Committee for many years and will be a great asset on the Board. Nancy Zeman is co-owner with husband Andy of Benjamin Vineyards & Winery in Saxapahaw, and has a Masters degree in microbiology. Sam Berryhill is the Band Director for Grey Culbreth Middle School in Chapel Hill and lives in Alamance County. He is an avid paddler and has been a Scout leader for many years. Richard Goldberg is a professor of Biomedical Engineering at UNC Chapel Hill, and is returning to the HRA Board. He previously served as the Board President and was a great volunteer with our Learning Celebration. Another change on our 2010 Board is that Mac Jordan and Margeret Jemison are shifting from Board Members to Emeritus Members as they continue to support the work of HRA in so many ways.

As the Haw River Assembly Executive Director and Haw Riverkeeper, I am looking forward to the new challenges the year will bring to defending our river and Jordan Lake – and to meeting new people who will help us do it. It’s great work to be able to do, and I want to thank all of you – our members – for supporting HRA with your time, dues and donations that keep us going strong.

Happy New Year!

Elaine Chiosso

HAW RIVERKEEPER®

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 & above
Low Income: \$10

HRA Staff

- Elaine Chiosso**, HAW RIVERKEEPER®,
Executive Director
- Cynthia Crossen**, *Haw River Watch*
- Donna Myers**, *Watershed Education*
- Germane James**, *Development & Outreach*
- Kathy Buck**, *Office Manager*

Newsletter Staff

- Editor:** Cynthia Crossen * **Contributors:** Elaine Chiosso, Cynthia Crossen, Germane James, Jenna Schreiber * **Photos:** Cynthia Crossen, Ken Crossen, David Lindbo, Mary Longhill, Efrain Ramirez, Jenna Schreiber, Doug Wakeman, Omega Wilson * **Logos & Poster Art:** Jan Burger

The Haw River Assembly is a nonprofit grassroots 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



HRA Staff at the HRA Bynum office: Donna Myers, Watershed Education Coordinator; Kathy Buck, Office Manager; Elaine Chiosso, HAW RIVERKEEPER® & Executive Director; Germane James, Development & Outreach Coordinator; Cynthia Crossen, Haw River Watch Coordinator. Photo by Jenna Schreiber.



HAW RIVERKEEPER®

Issues in the Watershed

Judicial Ruling Favors Jordan Lake Developer – But It's Not Over Yet!

Jordan Lake and democracy took a blow in the last days of 2009 in the latest round of the battle over a proposed boundary change on Jordan Lake in Durham. On December 16, Judge Howard Manning ruled in favor of Southern Durham Development (SDD) in its lawsuit against Durham. He said that the Jordan Lake watershed protection boundary line drawn in 2006 by the former Durham planning director Frank Duke is binding for the SDD property and must stand, regardless of any future action by Durham. This decision puts the land owned by SDD outside of the protected zone that heavily restricts commercial and residential development near Jordan Lake. Judge Manning also dismissed the developer's request for damages to be paid by Durham for delaying their ability to move forward with their project.

It was a win-win for the developers and the majority on the Durham Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) who have been in favor of the development. It was a lose-lose for Jordan Lake and democracy. HRA was an intervenor for Durham in the lawsuit in order to defend water quality and citizen's rights, and our position was strongly argued by Southern Environmental Law Center (SELC) attorneys.

The Durham BOCC had already voted 3-2 on October 12 to approve the boundary line change sought by the developers, but a pending lawsuit by adjacent property owners could reverse that decision. Judge

Manning's order would prevent that lawsuit, or any new action by the Durham BOCC, from affecting the new boundary line on SDD's 751 property. Is this how democracy works?

The Haw River Assembly objects to this boundary change on Jordan Lake because it would reduce protections for the most polluted part of Jordan Lake (the Upper New Hope Arm) and allow development within an area designated as critical for water quality. Jordan Lake is a 14,000 acre reservoir located primarily in Chatham County that supplies drinking water for over 300,000 Triangle area residents. Jordan Lake in Durham is protected by a one-mile buffer where development is restricted to low density, and developers must implement additional run-off management measures. SDD has proposed a dense 164-acre subdivision near New Hope Creek off Hwy 751 that could include 1,300 residential units and about 600,000 square feet of office and retail space. 146 of those acres had been within the one-mile buffer zone until

a new boundary line was drawn, propelled by owners of the land.

We do not believe that a survey commissioned by a developer who stands to benefit from it should be used to re-draw the protected zone of a drinking water reservoir. In spring of 2009, HRA raised funds from over 140 citizens to commission a new survey. The results contradicted the developer's survey and showed that the disputed property on 751 should be kept within the Jordan Lake protected zone. On June 9th the Durham Planning Commission advised the BOCC to deny the map and zoning change, and to commission an independent survey. 1400 citizens and the Chatham County Commissioners made similar requests.

We believe it is a slap at the political process that this ruling was made before the protest petition lawsuit has gone to

court. In advance of the Oct. 12 BOCC vote, a protest petition by property owners objecting to the boundary change was filed. If there is a valid protest petition the BOCC must have a supermajority (4-1 vote) to approve the change--which they did not have. The Planning Director denied the petition's validity before the BOCC voted, saying the percentage of property signatures had not been met, but then declared it valid weeks later, after HRA/SELC discovered errors in Durham's calculations. The petition signers have



Great Blue heron speeds over Jordan Lake. Photo by Elaine Chiosso

been forced to go to court to address this injustice. This protest petition is a lawful and important part of Durham's political process, and once again citizens have rallied--raising funds to pay for the legal costs for that lawsuit, but their efforts have now been subverted by this judicial decision.

What's next? HRA is continuing to evaluate its options for moving forward. The lawsuit by the protest petition signers is still alive though greatly complicated by Manning's decision. SDD must still gain rezoning approval and go through a series of county meetings and a public hearing regarding details of the development plans for the property, before the proposed development can be approved. We will continue to stay engaged, but this has been a very complex, outrageous, and frustrating battle for all of us who have been working to defend the lake, and the rights of citizens in the political process.

20th Haw River Learning Celebration -- The Best Yet!

The 2009 Haw River Learning Celebration (LC) marked an extraordinary 20 year milestone. The LC has provided environmental education for fourth-graders and created a community of volunteer educators that has lasted the test of time. The 20th Anniversary of the Learning Celebration was a huge success thanks to over 115 dedicated volunteers who devoted their time to educating over 1,100 fourth-graders from throughout the Haw River watershed. With schools facing budget cuts and field trip limits, it was an honor that 19 schools chose to attend the 20th Annual Haw River Learning Celebration.



Photo by Mary Longhill

from Jenna Schreiber (right), our 2009 LC Coordinator; shown here with Safety & Logistics Coordinator Jenna Anderson



Photo by Ken Crossen

Thanks to everyone who made the 20th Haw River Learning Celebration a great success! Here, this year's Bynum crew gathers by the river.

an office and several staff who are working, along with members and volunteers, to protect the river in a variety of important ways. Twenty years ago, there were no staff people at all. The Learning Celebration can't take all the credit for this building and maturation of our river group, but I do think it helped! The fact of bringing all the elements of the Learning Celebration together in a few months time for the first Haw River Festival, was a small miracle. The fact that the Learning Celebration is now in its 20th year and still traveling the river with its merry band of volunteers is a bigger miracle that I am continually grateful for! Your support in hours and dollars will keep this project going another 20 years!"

To help celebrate our 20th Anniversary, many of the LC's original volunteers, or "old timers", returned to the scene, including LC founder Louise Kessel.

Louise, who returned with her family to volunteer in Bynum, shared these reflections:

"For those of us who were around in year one, it's quite an amazing feeling to see the festival weave its magic through these years...We have done a lot of growing too...as an organization, as individuals and as a community. The experience of spending a week immersed in adventure, physical work, service, community, and creativity, would help to create a community of activists ready to take up for the river whenever called. Now, the Haw River Assembly has



Photo by Cynthia Crossen

Sarah Howe (left) teaches wild clay at Guilrock.

The Learning Celebration is not possible without the dedication and support of volunteers! Many Thanks to ❖ all our crew volunteers ❖ our meal providers ❖ everyone who pitched in to help with site moves ❖ the landowners who made us feel so welcome ❖ our awesome LC Steering Committee: Maja Kricker, Jo Sanders, Eric Chetwynd, Libby Searles-Bohs, Katie Rose Levin, Cynthia Crossen and Martha Pentecost.

A special thanks to ❖ Alan Best, Chris Carter, Paul Fleckenstein, Martha Pentecost, and Eve, Sequoia and Gwynna Riihiluoma who donated their time for the entire 3 week span of the LC ❖ Rachel Winters for putting together a brand new on-line food sign-up sheet, soliciting and organizing meal donations, and purchasing food for breakfast and snacks. ❖ Martha Pentecost, puppet show guru and volunteer extraordinaire ❖ Cynthia Crossen for being a great mentor and for providing 3 weeks of program support, leadership, and songs. ❖ We are all grateful that Jenna Anderson was able to join us as the Safety and Logistics Coordinator this year; her strong work ethic, calm manner, and sense of humor were great additions to crew life! ❖ Germane James, HRA Development & Outreach Coordinator, for the many hours she spent on site and for the support she gave from the office. ❖ Lastly, this program would not be possible without the unwavering support of HRA's Executive Director Elaine Chiosso.

Bringing the LC to life is a joyous and challenging adventure. I am proud to have been a part of this momentous occasion and thankful to be a part of such a hard-working, dedicated community. Thanks to everyone who donated their time and energy to making the 20th Anniversary of the Learning Celebration a great success. Let's keep this one-of-a-kind program alive for another 20 years!

Thank You's to: ❖ Townsend Bertram & Company for tents ❖ Kevin Meehan for Use-Yer-Foots ❖ Tom Roberts and the Chatham Mills Development Corporation for the use of the Chatham Mills ❖ Chris Carter and Solar Village Institute ❖ N.C. State Parks, with special thanks to Superintendent Mole, for use of the Lower Haw River State Natural Area ❖ Donovan Zimmerman and Lea Clayton for hosting in Saxapahaw ❖ the McFalls, Englands, and Lujans for land use ❖ Camp Guilrock ❖ Paperhand Puppet Intervention for lending puppets ❖ Deborah Amaral for providing barn storage ❖ Jordan Properties for use of the Red Bud Barn ❖ Wanda Sundermann and family for hosting and organizing the thank you party ❖ food providers Chatham Marketplace, Food Lion, Harris Teeter and Lowes

Food ❖ HRA Board of Directors ❖ Canoe Guides Joe Jacobs and Jeff Dotson ❖ Cecelia Vassar for soliciting gift certificates ❖ Lynn Featherstone for the use of his monster truck!

Fourth-grade Teachers Write: "My students liked walking along the river and finding bugs and plants."

"They enjoyed the clay station and were excited to make something to take home with them."

"The culminating program at the end is always our favorite part. The organization and talent displayed is entertaining and informative. The kids always are intrigued by the performance and it is truly enjoyable for all of us!"



"All Haw's Critters Got A Place in the Choir" in Saxapahaw.

Photo by Mary Longhill



Germane James teaches in Saxapahaw.

Photo by Mary Longhill

Celebrate the Beauty of the River With Us in 2010!



February 6th - Join Joe Jacob on a winter hike from Indian Valley to the Town of Carolina.

February 20th - Visit the newly purchased Haw headwaters land with HRA.

Photo by Elaine Chiosso.



March 20th – Help clean up the river at HRA’s 20th Annual Haw River Clean-Up-a-Thon. *Photo of 2009 Spirit Island cleanup, by Cynthia Crossen.*



March 27th – Explore by kayak the Eagle Management area of Jordan Lake, with Susanne Gomolski of Kayak Adventures. *Photo of eagle at Jordan Lake by Doug Wakeman.*



March 27th - Experience the magic of a full moon paddle on the Haw River’s Saxapahaw Lake, with Haw River Canoe and Kayak Company. *Photo of the moon rising over the Haw River at Chicken Bridge, by Ken Crossen.*



April 10th - Take a walk on the wild side to explore the medicinal and edible plant friends of early spring, with Kim Calhoun. *Photo of streambank violets, by Cynthia Crossen.*



May 1st – Celebrate the Haw with stream monitoring, kids’ activities, canoe rides, live music and more, at the Haw River Festival in Saxapahaw. *Photo of critter catching in Saxapahaw, by Cynthia Crossen.*

For information on any of these events, see **Upcoming Events** at www.hawriver.org. For information, field trip sign up, and to volunteer, contact the Haw River Assembly at (919) 542-5790; info@hawriver.org.



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 by Cynthia Crossen

River Watch at the Learning Celebration: The Stream Watch station was very successful this year. Our new site at Bynum gave us a beautiful view of the river, and a great place to easily catch critters for the station. Saxapahaw presented more of a challenge for critter catching, but we did find enough critters to keep the kids engaged (there's nothing like a leech to add interest to the habitat!). At Guilrock, we were able to let the kids catch critters themselves—and they totally loved that! The removal of the beaver dam, we suspected, changed the stream habitat at our station site, but the kids were still able to find a satisfying number of critters, including live mussels, a few feathery-gilled ephemeridae mayflies, crayfish, live clams, and some large mussels.

The fourth-graders, as always, loved visiting the river, being outside, learning at each station, and seeing the puppet show. As usual, we were heartened and reminded of how important what we do is for these children, for whom this day at the river can open their eyes to a new world, and influence the rest of their lives.

Teen volunteers really came through with help and enthusiasm, and our younger volunteers were essential in jobs like Stream Steward assistant and critter catcher.

Youth volunteer Alan Best shows macros to fourth-graders at the Stream Watch station in Saxapahaw.

Two Streams Project: The Two Streams Project has been successfully completed. Kudos to Catherine for her excellent project leadership! We have all learned and accomplished a lot, and the team of staff and volunteers has been awesome. We hope that some of this monitoring will be continued in the future. We are planning a **River Watch social in February**, where we will summarize the overall project, share what we have learned about macroinvertebrate identification, and show some very cool bug photos to our riverwatchers. We also hope to find a way to make our photo reference macroinvertebrate library available on the web.

River Watch News: It's the quiet season for me as wintry weather keeps us out of the stream, so I am indoors preparing training presentations for riverwatchers, which will be posted on our website. These presentations, which cover the information I provide in a river watch monitoring training, are available for prospective riverwatchers to look at, and newly-trained riverwatchers to review. ~ In November, I was able to go out to the Haw River in Bynum with the Woods Charter School Envirothon team. Sixteen enthusiastic students hunted for macroinvertebrates--and found quite a few!--and then identified them in preparation for the Envirothon competition. ~ I am looking forward to working with our new Watershed Education Coordinator, Donna Myers, on the 8th grade Stream Investigation program this spring.



It's "catch your own" for Learning Celebration fourth-graders at Guilrock--they found mayflies, dragonflies, aquatic salamanders, clams, and large mussels.



The Envirothon team at Woods Charter School in Chatham County catches and identifies macroinvertebrates from the Haw River at Bynum.

Photo by Cynthia Crossen

Photo by Cynthia Crossen

Photo by David Lindbo

Benjamin Winery Dinner a Success!

This October, the Haw River Assembly hosted a beautiful charitable Winemaker's Dinner at the picturesque Benjamin Vineyard and Winery. The event brought together members, friends, and supporters to raise funds for the Haw Riverkeeper's continued work on clean water issues, and our many programs for volunteers. We enjoyed our first course on the covered veranda overlooking the beautiful vineyards, but had to relocate inside because of cool temperatures. Once inside, we enjoyed five more courses along with fine wines by the glass with detailed tasting notes. The UNC Jazz Ensemble added to the ambiance of this wonderful evening. The event carried a theme of "Rivers of the World," exploring delicacies from some of the world's most extraordinary rivers, including of course the mighty Haw River!

Special thanks to Nancy and Andy Zeman, owners of Benjamin Winery, for providing us with the space and lasting memories; and to Cheryl Staley Carden and Cherlafay Catering for spoiling us with six delicious courses! We look forward to seeing much more of Nancy Zeman, as she has joined us on the HRA board of directors.

We'd also like to thank Nancy and Andy for generously allowing Learning Celebration volunteers to pick from their delicious scuppernong grape vines...yummm!

HRA Attends WERA Dinner

Board members Chris Carter (pictured below, standing), Deborah Amaral, and HRA Executive Director Elaine Chiosso attended the West End Revitalization Association's (WERA) 15th Annual Dinner in Burlington this November. HRA is a partner of WERA in their work to improve water quality in low income and minority communities in Mebane. Pictured below in front are Elaine, Dr. Sacoby Wilson, and UNC Associate Professor Dr. Steve Wing. Dr. Wilson, a Research Assistant Professor for the Institute for Families in Society at the University of South Carolina, is partnering with WERA to evaluate WERA's Community Facilitated Strategies, with grant funding from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. According to WERA Executive Director Omega Wilson, "Many Mebane area low-income and minority homeowners are still at risk due to failed backyard septic systems and human waste contaminating ditches and streams."



Photo by Omega Wilson



Photo by Cynthia Crossen

New HRA Board member Nancy Zeman (left) pours wine from her own vineyard, Benjamin Winery, for the charitable dinner held there to benefit HRA.

2010 Haw River Festival T-shirt Clyde Jones "Coyote" makes a great gift!

Shirts are available in: Adult clay (modeled by Cynthia Crossen, River Watch Coordinator and Elaine Chiosso, HRA Executive Director), Ladies' deep red (hanging on far right), and youth vivid pink (hanging on right)



Photo by Efrain Ramirez

\$ 20 (adult & ladies) S, M, L, XL, XXL
\$ 16 (youth small, medium, & large)

Available at the General Store Cafe in Pittsboro, Townsend Bertram Outfitters in Carrboro, Great Outdoors Provision Co. in the Raleigh, Chapel Hill and Greensboro locations, Saxapahaw General Store in Saxapahaw, and the HRA office in Bynum.

To order, send checks made out to Haw River Assembly, to: HRA, P.O. Box 187, Bynum NC 27228. Include total number, sizes and colors of shirts ordered and to whom to ship them. Add \$3 per shirt for shipping. Or call us at (919) 542-5790 to arrange a time to come by our office in Bynum to shop. Shirt designs from previous years are also available.

Report from Germane James, Our Rainmaker

The fall season has proved to be as busy as ever for HRA! We spent several weekends attending outreach events such as Jordan Lake Heritage Day, Pittsboro Street Fair, Saxapahaw Oktober Fest, and many more. These events serve as a great way for us to recruit new members and volunteers; we were able to grow our email list by 17% this season! Look for us this spring at a festival near you! ~ We hosted a number of new events last season as well – a charitable Winemaker’s dinner at the lovely Benjamin Vineyard & Winery in Saxapahaw, and a very successful Holiday T-shirt Sale and Open House at the HRA office in Bynum. Both events served as a great way to thank some of the loyal supporters of our organization. Each event yielded very different financial gains but both will certainly return next year!

In early December, I attended my third Project Rainmaker retreat, focusing on the power of social networking, email campaigns, and the wave of the future for raising money. I hope that you all will consider following us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/HawRiver and becoming one of our devoted fans on Facebook at www.facebook.com/home.php/pages/Haw-River-Assembly! The powerful networking tools created by these two online communities give us the opportunity to reach out to many more people in our watershed. Please send these links to friends or family that are interested in supporting our cause.

We ended our year with a very successful end of the year appeal. So far, we have raised \$25,000 and are continuing to receive generous donations every day! We were able to reengage several lapsed members, retain our loyal constituency, and sell all of our Haw River Atlases by Mark Chilton. We will be reprinting more atlases in the coming months. ~ To add to the excitement of the past few months, we have just unveiled our latest Haw River Festival “coyote” T-shirt designed by the incomparable Clyde Jones! The shirt makes a great gift for those young and old, and is a great collector’s item. Going hand in hand with the new shirts, I have been working on the relocation of this year’s Haw River Festival. We will be moving to the welcoming village of Saxapahaw! Join us May 1 for the Haw River Festival, the kick off event of the “Saturdays in Saxapahaw” season. Mark your calendars, you won’t want to miss this event! Stay tuned for more information coming soon.



Coming soon to a different town near you...

The Haw River Festival Moves to Saxapahaw!

As State Parks works to reinvent the mill site in Bynum, the 2010 Haw River Festival will be relocated to Saxapahaw. Plans are underway for the annual event, which will be held on Saturday **May 1, 2010** as part of a large weekend celebration honoring the Haw River. Maintaining our party with a purpose, we will continue to offer stream monitoring, kids’ activities, raffles, a live auction, canoe rides, live music and much, much more! Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available. This is going to be an event to remember, not to be missed!



Wading in Saxapahaw is fun... Photo by Cynthia Crossen.

Join Us for HRA’s 20th Annual Haw River Clean-Up March 20

Another anniversary for HRA! On the 20th of March, we’ll be holding our 20th Annual Haw River Clean-Up-A-Thon. Join with other enthusiastic volunteers as we go out to clean up trash from the river banks, creeks, and Jordan Lake on foot, and even by canoe!

We ask small local businesses and individuals to sponsor the work of the volunteers by making a donation to HRA--so we are also raising funds for our projects to keep the river clean all year long.

Want to join a team or start your own team? We provide the bags, gloves, and tally sheets--you provide the people power! Canoe clubs, youth groups, scouts, neighborhood and community organizations have all been part of the effort. We welcome all teams that would like to get out and clean up trash along waterways in our watershed--which includes parts of Rockingham, Guilford, Alamance, Orange, Chatham, Durham and Wake counties.



Call (919) 542-5790, or email info@hawriver.org to sign up. Let us know if you have a specific location you want to clean up, or would like to join an existing team.

Jarrett McGinnis and Emily Ander clean up Spirit Island in Swepsonville. Photo by Cynthia Crossen

Upcoming 2010 HRA Events

Sat. Feb. 6, Easy winter hike, from Indian Valley to Glencoe to Town of Carolina, led by Joe Jacob

Sat. in February in Chatham County, Date and Place to be announced, River Watch Social: Identifying Macroinvertebrates in Dry and Pokeberry Creeks in Chatham Co. with Catherine Deininger & the Two Streams Team

Sat. February 20, Winter hike at the newly purchased Haw Headwaters land, led by HRA

March 13-14 Haw River Watch Monitoring Weekend For info on project (919) 967-2500, riverwatch@hawriver.org

Sat. March 20, Cleanup-a-thon, throughout the Haw River watershed, our annual river cleanup (see p. 9 for details)

Sat. March 20, 2 pm, Paddle on Northeast Creek, with Kayak Adventures

Sat. March 27, Full Moon Paddle, Led by Haw River Canoe & Kayak, info@hawrivercanoe.com, (336) 260-6465

Sat. March 27, 5:45 - 9:30 pm, Kayak the Eagle Management area of Jordan Lake, with Kayak Adventures

Sat., April 10, A Walk on the Wild Side. Explore the medicinal and edible plant friends of early spring with Kim Calhoun.

Sat., May 1, Haw River Festival in Saxapahaw, Stream monitoring, kids' activities, raffle, a live auction, canoe rides, live music and much more! (see p. 9 for details)

For info see **Upcoming Events** at www.hawriver.org.

For info, **field trip sign up**, and to volunteer, contact HRA at (919) 542-5790; info@hawriver.org.



HRA Board Treasurer Chris Carter (front right) "reads the woods" at our HRA annual meeting at the New Hope Camp & Conference Center. Photo by Cynthia Crossen.

Join us for the 20th
Annual Clean-up-a-thon
on March 20!

Address Service Requested

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