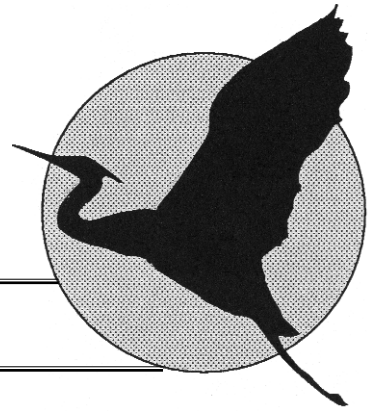


# Haw River Assembly Newsletter August 2005



P.O. Box 187 • Bynum, NC 28228 • 919-542-5790  
email: info@hawriver.org • www.hawriver.org

## “Clean Lakes” Bill Passes-- Strong Jordan Lake Rules Urged

With support from citizens across North Carolina, the “Clean Lakes” bill passed the House on July 6th and has just been signed into law by Governor Easley. Senate Bill 981, the Drinking Water Reservoir Protection Act, requires the State to assess the current status of all drinking water lakes, requires more instant monitoring when a lake shows water quality problems, provides a timetable for cleaning up Falls Lake, and caps nutrient load levels in Jordan and Falls Lakes until clean up rules are issued for each water body. The bill passed unanimously in the Senate, and by a vote of 113 to 2 in the House.

The great news for Jordan Lake is that the bill as passed contains language to prevent *any* new or expanded Waste Water Treatment Plant discharges into the Haw River/Jordan Lake watershed while the Jordan Lake Nutrient Management Plan and TMDL is being finalized. See the full story on p. 6.



Photo by Cynthia Crossen

Joe Jacob makes the river come alive for kids, with canoe rides at the Haw River Festival in Bynum.

## Muddy Waters Continue to Plague the Haw River Watershed



Photo by Elaine Chiosso

View of Saxapahaw Mill and bridge across the Haw River, taken from the air by Elaine on her way upriver to hunt for sediment sources.

This spring we’ve seen the creeks and river running the color of red clay from development projects, agriculture and logging. Understanding the rules and regulations that govern sediment and erosion control in North Carolina is like going down the rabbit hole in Alice in Wonderland. Things do not seem to be as they are, and logic seems turned upside down. Layers of rules and exemptions, lack of enforcement, and lack of common sense are the norm. We have a system where waters the color of clay after every rainstorm are considered “normal”.

**Tracking Sediment from the Air!** On May 21, downriver folks noticed that the whole river suddenly turned brown in the course of an afternoon, a sure sign of upriver sediment coming in after a storm. Bob Epting, local pilot and former member of the Environmental Management Commission, agreed to take HRA’s Exec. Director Elaine Chiosso for a flight up the river in his vintage Piper Cub plane to see if we could find the source of the mud. Bob (now known as the Commander of the Haw River Air Patrol) flew us all the way up the river from Chicken Bridge in Chatham to Troublesome Creek in Rockingham County. The river was uniformly brown with no sign of incoming creeks that seemed to be causing the problem. *continued on p.5*

Haw River “Learning Celebration” for Schools This Fall! Sept. 17 - Oct. 7  
Sign up now! JJ Richardson, our Learning Celebration Coordinator, fills you in on page 7.

## HRA Board of Directors 2005

Rachel Winters, Chapel Hill, President  
 Kevin Meehan, Saxapahaw, Vice-President  
 Kira Dirluk, Pittsboro, Secretary  
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 Austin Lybrand, Pittsboro  
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 Margaret Tiano, Chapel Hill  
 Debbie and Ken Tunnell, Pittsboro

## HRA Staff

Elaine Chiosso, Executive Director  
 Cynthia Crossen, River Watch Project Coordinator  
 Catherine Deininger, Stream Steward Project Coord.  
 Susan Yarnell, Stream Steward Awards Coordinator  
 JJ Richardson, Learning Celebration Coordinator

## Newsletter Staff

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**Photos:** Cynthia Crossen, Ken Crossen, Elaine Chiosso, Martha Pentecost, Doug Wakeman, Rose Wignall, Glenn Woolard  
**Art & Logos:** Jan Burger, Emma Skurnick

**To join The Haw River Assembly**  
 or renew your membership, send a check to:  
**HRA, P.O. Box 187, Bynum, NC 27228.**

*Individual: \$15 Family: \$25*

*Heron Circle: \$100 and above*

*Low Income: \$5 - \$10*

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

**(919) 542-5790    www.hawriver.org**

## Notes from the Haw

*I spent a lovely Sunday afternoon in July canoeing from the town of Haw River to Swepsonville on a trip guided by Lynn and Brenda Featherstone, and Jeff Dotson. About 20 of us made our way leisurely down the river with herons and kingfishers to keep us company. The hot world up on land disappeared as we floated down through the cool green forest and happily maneuvered some rapids with help from our excellent guides! This was one of the new field trips that HRA has scheduled--see "Upcoming HRA Events" (on the last page of this newsletter or at www.hawriver.org) to join us for another paddle, hike or outing this fall.*



Photo by Doug Wakeman

*Breaking news around here:*

- We have a roomy new storage area outside the office thanks to the volunteer efforts of Jeff Dotson, Debbie and Ken Tunnell, Raj Batalia and Andy Parsons. Thanks so much!
- Our Festival coordinator, JJ, is headed to South Korea for a few days this August to give a presentation about our Festival and Learning Celebration at a symposium on river festivals--all expenses paid!
- Two of your HRA staff (myself and Cynthia) have joined with other HRA musicians to form the new band "Confluence"--look for us at the Burrito Bash on September 12!
- Catherine, Cynthia and I will all be teaching classes as part of a Stream Steward course at Central Carolina Community College in Pittsboro this fall.

*Hope to see you at the Burrito Bash, and the HRA Annual Meeting!*

*From the river, Elaine*

## HRA Annual Meeting

Save the date--Sunday, November 6--for the HRA Annual Meeting from 12 noon to 5 pm at beautiful Cedarock Park in Alamance County. We'll have a potluck lunch, time to get to know each other, and an opportunity to get updates on river issues. There will be stream monitoring on Rock Creek, and we plan to continue our planting of a native wetland buffer that we started last year. Look for a flyer this fall with details and directions, and plan to join us for a lovely autumn day in the park.

## Elections for HRA Board of Directors

We have elections for our board at the annual meeting--with several members up for re-election if they choose to continue serving. We also have a couple of openings for new board members. If you are interested in being nominated, please contact Elaine Chiosso at the HRA office and she will send you more information about board responsibilities and meetings: (919) 542-5790; info@hawriver.org.

## HRA By-laws

The Haw River Assembly Board of Directors has revised our by-laws to better fit the organization we have evolved into, which includes staff and modern technology. In accordance with our original bylaws, this is official notification by newsletter of the changes, before the Board of Directors takes a final vote to adopt them at the December board meeting. The changes are quite extensive but we remain true to our original mission and articles of incorporation. To view the new Bylaws, please go to our website, www.hawriver.org, and look for the Bylaws link.



# STREAM STEWARD PROJECT

Project Coordinator: Catherine Deininger Email: [deininger@hawriver.org](mailto:deininger@hawriver.org)

## Pittsboro Businesses Learn About Stream Stewardship

On May 13th, representatives from local businesses in Pittsboro enjoyed sandwiches from the General Store Cafe while listening to discussions on what they can do to care for their local watershed. The Haw River Assembly hosted the event in cooperation with the NC Cooperative

Extension. Catherine Deininger talked about the impaired condition of Robeson Creek and about stream stewardship practices that businesses could adopt to protect local streams. Practices as simple as dry sweeping a parking lot rather than washing the dirt off into the street or a sewer drain can make a big difference in how much pollution ends up in Robeson Creek.

Karen Hall, from NCSU Water Quality Group, discussed best management practices (BMPs) for controlling storm water run-off that businesses could install. Karen Hall currently has funding from the State to install stormwater BMPs within the Robeson Creek watershed and is looking for potential sites for these installations. One BMP that HRA and NCSU have already worked together on was planting a riparian (stream bank) buffer along Little Creek where it flows past the old hatchery building where Hill Creek Vet is located.

At the luncheon, Catherine presented Stream Stewardship Awards to businesses that have shown to be already acting as Stream Stewards. Both Rural Advancement Foundation International (RAFI) and Circle City Screen Printing and Embroidery received awards. --Catherine Deininger



Catherine Deininger presents Stream Stewardship Awards to Kathy Zaumseil of RAFI (left); & to Kevin Klingel, Circle City Screen Printing & Embroidery.

Photo by Glenn Woolard

**Hands-On Stream Stewardship Classes** This series was so successful last year that we've expanded it! This year it is available as five 3-hour classes, at Central Carolina Community College in Pittsboro. Classes are held on the following Saturdays from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm. First day for registration is August 2; the cost is \$12 per class or \$60 for the series. To register, contact Ramona Leftwich at CCC: (919) 542-6495, x223. See details on the Stream Steward page of [www.hawriver.org](http://www.hawriver.org).

**Clean Water Act and You: Your Right to Clean Water;** August 20 *instructor:* Elaine Chiosso, HRA Executive Director  
**Stream Stewardship and Citizen Stream Monitoring Methods;** Sept. 17 *instructor:* Cynthia Crossen, HRA Haw River Watch  
**Riparian Buffer Protection and Restoration;** Oct. 15 *instructors:* Catherine Deininger  
**Stream Visual Assessment Techniques;** November 19 *instructor:* Catherine Deininger, HRA Stream Steward Project  
**Practice of Low Impact Development;** December 10 *instructor:* Dr. Halford House, Water Quality Specialist

## STREAM STEWARD PROJECT PARTNERS WITH WERA IN MEBANE

Cynthia Crossen and I met with Omega Wilson, President of the West End Revitalization Project (WERA), at the WERA office in Mebane to plan a collaborative presentation on stream stewardship for the Mebane communities in and around West End, White Level, and Buckhorn. WERA has documented numerous problems with Back Creek, including high *e. coli* bacteria in the creek due to failing septic and sewer systems. At the WERA offices, we looked at maps showing the Back Creek watershed and the WERA communities. Then Omega took us on a tour of the West End neighborhood through which Back Creek flows, pointing out many of its problems. The health of the community as well as Back Creek has been negatively impacted by an old landfill, industry, and sewage problems. He sadly advises neighbors to avoid a nearby park because of sewage overflows that endanger residents' health. Omega has led WERA in a fight to get communities hooked up to a well-run and maintained sewer system--and the EPA is on their side, visiting to confirm problems that WERA has reported, and to enforce Clean Water Act regulations. As a partner in an EPA Environmental Justice grant awarded to WERA, HRA will be collaborating with WERA in presenting an event focused on the pollution of Back Creek and its impact on Mebane residents' health. We will present good stream stewardship practices, as part of our 319 nonpoint source pollution outreach grant, while Omega will discuss the problems they have been finding in Back Creek and WERA's work to correct them. --Catherine Deininger



Omega Wilson (right) shows Natasha Bumpass (Americorps VISTA member working with WERA, left) and Catherine Deininger (center) where sewage had poured into Back Creek because of faulty sewer mains.

Photo by Cynthia Crossen



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 --Cynthia Crossen

This spring has brought lots of opportunities for me to be creekside with folks, to share my love for creeks and our Haw River. It has also brought many opportunities to speak out--and sing out!--on behalf of clean creeks. Here are some of the highlights...

≈ **River Watch Social** In April, a group of us gathered at the New Century School in Saxapahaw to make transparency tubes to track sediment. The tubes will give River Watchers a tool to measure relative amounts of turbidity in their water.

≈ **Sediment** has been an increasing problem in creeks in our watershed. After reports about the extreme amount of mud in Dry Creek in Chatham (thank you, Mud Trackers!), I went with two other Dry Creek team leaders to check out the source, and found that a lot of muddy water was coming into the creek from the Chapel Ridge development. We were able to document this and make a report to the State. When the Division of Land Resources came out to inspect the development, they found that all the required sediment control devices were in place. We remain disturbed, because the mud that is still getting into the creek is damaging to it. Although we expressed our concern about how even more development will impact both Dry and Brooks Creeks, Chatham County Commissioners approved a second large development next to Chapel Ridge.



Deborah Amaral pours Haw River water into transparency tube, with Rachel Deininger, Lynn Bossong, Catherine Deininger, and J.C. Garbutt.

≈ Our Steering Committee spent some time reviewing and writing our comments on the **2005 Cape Fear Basinwide Water Quality Plan** draft. Overall, we found it disheartening, because although a few creeks or sections of creeks in our watershed were removed from the Impaired list, more were added, making us question whether we are making progress toward cleaner creeks. The development happening in, and planned for, our area will only worsen this trend unless we improve our protection for creeks.

≈ **New Teams** Welcome, new team leaders Michael McCormick (Hill Creek), Sue Scope and Trish McGuire (Bolin Creek at Umstead Park), & Cindy Shea and Troop 136 (Bolin Creek at Tripp Farm Rd)!

≈ **River Watch with Kids** The Haw River Festival gave us a great chance to show lots of children what kind of life there is in the Haw River at Bynum Beach (special thanks to Hope Donny-Clark for teaching kids). On Bolin Creek at the end of Tripp Farm Road, a troop of Girl Scouts learned to monitor for water quality. And the Mighty Oaks 4-H Club found lots of crayfish, clams, mayflies, and other critters on New Hope Creek.

≈ **River Outreach** We had three full days of fun at the HRA booth at the Eno River Festival. Thanks to Nancy Hillmer, Jeff Dotson, Wanda Sunderman, Adrienne Jimenez, Deborah Amaral, Jesse Crossen, Ken Crossen, Elaine Chiosso, Barb & Paul Ford, Margot Considine, Catherine Miller, and Kevin Smith, for staffing the booth. At the Haw River Hootenanny, a new band was born--"Confluence"--of which I am a proud member. Come hear us at the Sept. 12 Burrito Bash in Pittsboro. I love to share my songs for and about the river.



Girl Scout troop 136 and co-leader Cindy Shea (right) join Cynthia Crossen (center) in finding critters at Bolin Creek. Photo by Rose Wignall, Troop Leader.



"Hardcore!" Team Members Chris Shepard and Susette Spivey (and Martha Pentecost, photographer!), with helpers Cassidy, Carson, and Kenan, monitor Sandy Creek in Durham.

Photo by Cynthia Crossen

Photo by Rose Wignall

Photo by Martha Pentecost

# LAND CONSERVATION



The Haw River Assembly continues to wait for the final approval of a state grant for a two-year corridor study along the river from Interstate 85 south to Bynum.

The Clean Water Management Trust Fund (CWMTF) must wait for state lawmakers to pass a budget so the board knows how much money can be allocated to various projects. The Senate's version of the budget would provide \$100 million per year for the CWMTF, while the House version provides \$62 million for the same period. As of July 18, the budget had not been passed.

The \$97,000 project for the Haw, which was submitted by HRA Land Committee member Janet McFall, is designed to assess land along the river for possible protection through easements or purchase. It will complement the study done by the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments on the river upstream of Interstate 85.

**Buffer Protection** After a preservation proposal for the Carolina Mill property was turned down by the Ecosystem Enhancement Program in April, the Land Committee applied for a CWMTF grant to acquire the property for buffer protection. The agency will review the project during the late summer and early fall before making a final decision in November.

**Land For Tomorrow** There is a proposal by a coalition of conservation groups, for the state to borrow \$1 billion to protect farms, forests and historic places. About \$200 million a year over five years would be funneled through existing agencies, such as CWMTF, for these projects. HRA has joined the coalition, which includes other land trusts and river protection groups. More information is available from the Land For Tomorrow Web site at <http://www.landfortomorrow.org>. An outline of the plan, called "Saving the Goodliest Land," can be downloaded from this page: <http://www.landfortomorrow.org/page165.html>. -- Bob Brueckner, Chair of the Riparian Lands Committee

## Muddy Waters Continue to Plague the Haw River Watershed *(continued from p.1)*

Finally, we saw large acreages of cropland in Guilford and Rockingham counties that had been recently plowed. It appeared that the heavy rainstorm on the previous Friday night had washed a lot of soil (and perhaps seed and fertilizer) from these fields into the nearby creeks and down the Haw, turning the entire river caramel brown.

Agriculture is exempt from the Sedimentation Control Act in NC and relies on Best Management Practices (BMP's) with assistance from many state and federal agencies. Although a problem like this only happens once in a while, it is most often in the spring when fields are newly plowed. Unfortunately this is also the fish spawning season as well as a time when water birds are nesting and fishing actively. One bad storm on fields without adequate erosion control practices can result in the entire river being a muddy brown for several days.



**Watchdogs on the Ground!** Neighbors and concerned citizens have been working with HRA to document and report mud in Dry Creek and Brooks Creek in Chatham County that has been a continuing problem during the massive earthmoving for the building of the Chapel Ridge golf course development. The creeks are pretty continuously the color of clay this spring and summer. The problem is particularly bad since much of the sediment is fine clay particles that do not settle out and so the pools of water between riffles remain very turbid long after rainstorms.

This is a real problem for the aquatic life in the stream. Suspended sediment can clog the gills of fish and other creatures and impede spawning and feeding. Although the state sediment

erosion control inspectors have been on the scene from Raleigh, they say that the project is in compliance with their rules. Sediment erosion violations are based on deposition of sediment on the streambed, or on erosion controls (best management practices) that are out of compliance.

We have gotten reports of similar problems of excessive mud in their creeks from neighbors of other development construction, highway construction, and logging operations. Clearly, North Carolina's surface waters are not being adequately protected under state regulations.

We believe that there needs to be a performance-based standard to control sediment erosion; a stronger, better funded erosion inspection system; and regulation requiring the enforcement of the turbidity standard and of suspended sediment. A lot of this is common sense--don't bulldoze the stream buffers; re-seed immediately (instead of taking the maximum time allowed); use contour plowing; use mulch, berms and other low-tech methods to keep soil in place during construction. How do you know if it works? Go out during a storm and watch where the mud is flowing!

 Do you see, drive by, or walk by a creek or the Haw River often?  
Will you join our Mud Trackers initiative to help us track sources of sediment?  
 Contact Cynthia at [riverwatch@hawriver.org](mailto:riverwatch@hawriver.org) to sign up. **Thanks!!!**

# JORDAN LAKE: ENJOY IT, PROTECT IT

## “Clean Lakes” Bill Passes, Strong Jordan Lake Rules Urged

(continued from p.1) Many environmental organizations and lead legislators worked together to get this bill passed. Eight organizations in the NC Citizens for Clean Water coalition formed the core support team for the legislation. They are: the Neuse River Foundation, the Haw River Assembly, Southern Environmental Law Center, NCPiRG, NC Sierra Club, Conservation Council of North Carolina, Environmental Defense and NC Conservation Network.

Janet Cowell (D-Wake) was the primary Senate sponsor, and Jennifer Weiss (D-Wake) and Pricey Harrison (D-Guilford) were primary sponsors in the House. Thanks to the co-sponsors from our watershed: Bob Atwater, Paul Leubke, Joe Hackney, Verla Insko, Alice Bordsen, Maggie Jeffus, Paul Miller, and Arlie Culp; and to ALL of our Haw River watershed legislation delegation, who voted unanimously for it. Please thank them for this support.

As you know, HRA has strongly supported the state’s efforts for a clean-up plan on Jordan Lake to enact new rules to reduce nutrient pollution from wastewater and runoff. This bill that just passed sends a strong signal to the Environmental Management Commission (EMC) that the General Assembly wants no further delay. The cap on nutrient loading from wastewater treatment plants is very significant for Jordan Lake, since it will probably be a year before the rules are in place and the last thing we need is even more pollution to be cleaned up. Unfortunately the cap does not cover the so-called “non-discharge” systems with effluent sprayfields that are the favorites of Chatham developers, and we continue to push for stronger regulation of them. The next step in the Jordan Lake clean-up plan is for the Division of Water Quality (DWQ) and the EMC to finalize the rules and hold public hearings (probably

beginning in January). We appreciate the support of everyone who sent postcards, emails and other comments to DWQ during the public comment period-- and we urge you to come out to the public hearings on the rules when they happen. We’ll need a strong show of support for strong rules!

Photo by Cynthia Crossen



Adrienne Jimenez and Jeff Dotson talk about HRA at the Eno River Festival.

## Discovering Eagles, Ospreys, and Herons at Jordan Lake

Storms were threatening the evening of June 9th, but at 7 o’clock, a dozen dedicated “eagle watchers” embarked on a search for bald eagles on Jordan Lake. Luckily, the rain held off and the group was rewarded with spectacular views of several eagles, ospreys, and great blue herons.

The watchers saw mature as well as immature eagles. The eagles were seen perched in trees, flying, and catching fish! One eagle-eyed bird watcher spotted an eagle nest in a distant tree.

So, the storms didn’t show, but the large, magnificent birds did, and the evening was deemed quite a success.

--Donna Riggs, HRA Board Member

## The Haw: A River Runs Through Us

by Bill Sommers

It runs how many soaked miles  
Breaking and leveling in its wake  
Through the rigor of every season  
Fitting itself within the measure  
Of ourselves as it follows the long  
Pull of mysterious gravitonic clusters  
To enter its rocky unfolding passage  
Here in the built-up watershed of Fear.

At once a history of our time lived  
Where Granville’s District pushed  
West to the Haw, his agents sowing  
Discord who lied and swindled  
And cheated while the Crown dangled  
The upstart colony until our revolution  
Solved the problem by abolishing it;  
While the Haw persistently ran free.

At once a holy place, receiving bodies  
Alive and not alive, dead and not dead,  
Touched by the cold splash of blessing  
Conceiving faith in the water’s ripple,  
Hiding more than once an underground  
Crossing on the moon-guided railroad  
Lapping the sideboard of a safe house  
Where Quakers came to make it right.

At once a devastation, driven by the  
Weather’s sacrilege, washing with a force  
Of eons to wreck the shore, the house,  
Crashing the tall trees, blackening  
Its boiling veins, telling us too late  
To save the river from our mindless  
Trashing of its watershed to sate ourselves:  
Sinning in its now near-blighted sight.

It runs how many soaked miles  
Breaking and leveling in its wake  
Feeding the rising rinse of those who  
Drink and wash and clean by choking  
The Haw’s high flow, puddling its lows,  
Carefully careless of what must be done  
To shield this ineluctable gift of chaos:  
Change this. Let the river run through us:

LET THE RIVER RUN THROUGH US



photo of water lily on Jordan Lake by Ken Crossen

## **Learning Celebration News** by jj richardson, Learning Celebration Coordinator

One steaming Wednesday morning a few weeks ago I went out on the Haw with Jeff Dotson, HRA board member and canoe guide extraordinaire. In fact, it was my first time on the Haw (imagine that)! I had been put off whitewater of any kind since a terrifying experience in class 5 rapids almost 10 years ago.

I was a little nervous as we put the canoe in at Chicken Bridge. Soon, however, we were headed downriver, hugging the shaded south bank, Jeff's expert handling and gentle teaching putting me at ease. Along that trip I saw heron and geese, and even a beautiful Bald Eagle that gracefully took to the air right in front of us. I was amazed by the wildness of the river - no hints of the manmade world beyond until we reached Bynum. I was in another domain, a deeply peaceful one.

My memory of the river - bubbling, nurturing, powerful, flowing, leading our boat always onwards - adds greater meaning to my work here at HRA. I hope that everyone who has the desire to can get out on the river and experience what I did that day.



HRA Board Member Donna Riggs and Learning Celebration Coordinator JJ Richardson enjoy the Haw River Festival.

**The Learning Celebration needs you!** Picture waking up in the woods on a beautiful autumn day, seeing amazement and joy registering on young faces, music and singing and puppets, delicious home-cooked meals, canoe trips, lounging and laughing, check-in and the game show. Now are you excited? Volunteer for a day or a week, cook a meal, help with a move, lead a canoe trip, or come to one of our pre-Learning Celebration work parties--fun is guaranteed! Contact jj for more information, or download a volunteer form from the "Festival for Schools" page on our website. **Coming soon to a town near you:**

❖ **Bynum, September 17 - 23**    ❖ **Saxapahaw, September 24 - 30**    ❖ **Guilrock, October 1 - 7**

**Schools update** The 2005 Learning Celebration school schedule is completely full! In the fall, 1,480 students from 20 schools will visit our little world by the river. The change from a spring to fall schedule has been very popular with teachers and we are now contemplating adding a fifth day to our school program schedule each week.

**Thanks to...** I'd like to recognize some of the other people who have been (and still will) work hard to bring the Learning Celebration to life. First off, the small yet mighty Learning Celebration Steering Committee! The Learning Celebration wouldn't happen without them--Martha Pentecost, Chris Shepard, Elia Bizzarri and Lauren Rosenthal. Also Elaine Chiosso and Cynthia Crossen, who fill a variety of supporting roles (personally and professionally) that enable me to be successful as Coordinator.

**Welcome!** A warm and grateful welcome back to Rachel Winters, our food coordinator. She may have the most important job of all--organizing the delicious meals that sustain our volunteer crew. And, (drumroll please)...welcome to Marcus Wind, our Assistant Coordinator for Safety and Logistics. Marcus has years of experience leading wilderness outings for youth, and impressive safety and logistics skills. We are very excited to have him on board for 2005!

**Sun. August 28 (tentative), 2 - 8 pm,** Bynum: Games Day, Potluck, and Riverwalk. Come at 2 for games, stay for the riverwalk at 4, and enjoy a delicious potluck dinner at 6. We'll be gearing up for the Learning Celebration!  
**Mon. September 12, 6 - 9 pm,** Pittsboro, General Store Cafe Burrito Bash fundraiser for the Learning Celebration. Fill your belly with one of those famous, huge burritos and raise money for the Learning Celebration. *Yum!*

**Saxapahaw Happenings!** Times are a'changing in Saxapahaw, one of the many historic cotton mill villages on the Haw River. The old Saxapahaw mill has been transformed into "Rivermill" apartments and townhomes, and will open this September. It combines historical materials, environmental concepts and state-of-the-art technology. There's a Farmer's Market, mill tour, and free outdoor music every Saturday this summer from 4 - 8 pm ([www.rivermillvillage.com](http://www.rivermillvillage.com)). The upper mill houses the environmental non-profit CERES, the Haw River Kayak & Canoe Co., and the New Century Charter High School. Open Houses for the school are held Saturdays, 2 - 4 pm ([www.newcenturyhs.org](http://www.newcenturyhs.org)). They are currently seeking a science teacher for 2005-2006.



*Everyone loves walking the old pedestrian bridge over the Haw in Bynum, at the Haw River Festival*

## THE 16TH HAW RIVER FESTIVAL FOR THE COMMUNITY!

On May 7th folks flocked down to the old Bynum Bridge to enjoy a day of music, art, environmental displays and activities, and of course, the Haw River itself. Clyde Jones contributed fantastic "Turtle" paintings for the silent auction, and contributed critter cutouts for kids to paint that afternoon. The sounds of live music floated out over the crowd and down the river all afternoon, and the wonderful Paperhand Puppet Intervention Theater put on a parade of giant puppets and performance. Folks took part in stream monitoring across the bridge down at Bynum Beach with Cynthia Crossen, and Joe Jacob 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.

Catherine Deininger had a beautiful array of native wetland and streamside plants for sale (supplied to us by the Cure and Mellowmarsh nurseries). We enjoyed discussing some of the big issues in our watershed with Festival goers at the River Issues Forum. The bridge pavement became the canvas for a mural of chalk art as the day went on, and artist booths lined the street down to the stage. Julie Trotter was the lucky winner of the Old Town "Allagash 164" canoe raffle! Once again the Bynum Ruritan provided delicious food for Festival goers. We all had 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 16th Haw River Festival a Success

❖ **A Big Thanks to All the Volunteers** (and all the HRA Board and staff) with special acknowledgment to those who took on the BIG jobs:

- ⊗ Ken Crossen - sound manager    ⊗ Jeff Dotson -stage set-up
- ⊗ Lynn & Brenda Featherstone, King and Queen of parking!
- ⊗ Debbie Tunnell - organizing the kids' critter painting
- ⊗ Catherine Deininger - organizing the riparian plants sale
- ⊗ Rachel Winters - silent auction organizer
- ⊗ Cynthia Crossen - River Watch monitoring and songs!
- ⊗ Elaine Chiosso - event organizer

❖ **Thanks to the Artists who donated their works and performances to benefit HRA:**

#### On Stage:

- ✦ Claudia & Myrna Lopez    ✦ JAAFAR    ✦ The NEVER
- ✦ Bus Stop Eddy    ✦ Mickey Le Phew the clown
- ✦ Michael Chandler, Don Johnson & Friends
- ✦ Paperhand Puppet Intervention Theater
- ✦ Cynthia Crossen and the Festival Jam!

#### At the Silent Auction:

- ⊗ Clyde Jones (and for the kid's critters and our beautiful T-shirt designs)
- ⊗ Mark Hewitt    ⊗ Kira Dirlik
- ⊗ Doug Dotson    ⊗ Sarah Howe
- ⊗ Emma Skurnick    ⊗ Jan Burger
- ⊗ Ginna Earl    ⊗ The Forest Foundation
- ⊗ William Moore    ⊗ Mary Beth Zdansky

- ❖ Thanks to the Ruritan Club for the site, their help, and wonderful cooking.
- ❖ Thanks to local businesses--see next page.



*Elizabeth Byars (left) & kids paint a Clyde butterfly.*



*Clowning around, Mickey Le Phew works his magic.*

*All Festival photos by Cynthia Crossen*



# **Burrito Bash -- Fundraiser for HRA at the General Store Café!**

Monday, September 12, 6 - 9 pm

Downtown Pittsboro (off the courthouse circle)

**Benefit** for the Haw River Festival Learning Celebration

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

*Kick off the 16th Haw River Festival "Learning Celebration" for schools with a great evening of live music, art and a fabulous General Store Cafe burrito! Proceeds will benefit the Haw River Learning Celebration for schools, happening September 17 - October 7 in Bynum, Saxapahaw and Camp Guilrock. Since 1990, over 28,000 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 new band with some of your favorite Haw River performers. Band members include Cynthia Crossen, Elaine Chiosso, Lea Clayton, dandelion john, Paul Ford, Donovan Zimmerman, and special guest performers. Come join us for a great evening (and a big thanks to the General Store Cafe for their generosity and community spirit)!

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



*In case you haven't gotten your 2005 Clyde Turtle T-shirt, they'll be on sale at the Burrito Bash; and at General Store Cafe in Pittsboro, Townsend Bertram Outfitters in Carrboro, Great Outdoors Provision Co, Pringles in Ferrington, & HRA office in Bynum.*



*Catherine Deininger (right) offers riparian plants for sale at the Haw River Festival.*



*Hope Donny-Clark teaches kids about macroinvertebrates at Bynum Beach at the Haw River Festival.*

***From the river, all the people who enjoy the river, and all the critters (including us) who depend on the river for life...***

## **Thanks To Our Supporters**

***Businesses: (Please Support Them!)***

- 👉 **Whole Foods**, Chapel Hill, for July cash register donations and display
- 👉 **General Store Cafe**, Pittsboro, for raffle sales, display, and upcoming Burrito Bash
- 👉 **Weaver Street Market**, Carrboro, for After Hours Fundraiser
- 👉 **Great Outdoor Provisions Company**, Raleigh, for raffle canoe
- 👉 **Sherwin-Williams**, Chapel Hill, for paint for the Clyde critter cutouts at the Festival
- 👉 **The Nitelite**, Chapel Hill, for Hootenanny

**A BIG Thanks to:**

- 👉 **The Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation** for their continuing grant support of \$10,000!
- 👉 **N.C. DENR** for 319 support of the Stream Steward Campaign and the Haw River Watch Project.
- 👉 **Mary Duke Biddle Foundation** for their \$2,000 grant to the Learning Celebration.
- 👉 **REI** for their grant to HRA, and for gift certificates for volunteers.

To all our **members, donors, & volunteers**--we couldn't do it without you!



## Upcoming HRA Events

Sats. Aug. 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, Dec. 10, 10 am - noon Stream Monitoring Classes at CCCC

Sunday August 28 (tentative), 2 - 8 pm, Bynum: Games Day, Potluck, and Riverwalk.

Monday, Sept. 12, 6 - 9 pm, General Store Cafe, Pittsboro Burrito Bash Fundraiser for HRA

Sept. 17-Oct. 7, Haw River Learning Celebration for schools in Bynum, Saxapahaw, and Guilrock

Sept. 17-18, Haw River Watch Monitoring Weekend

Saturday, Sept. 24 Haw River Canoe Trip

Saturday, October 1 HRA table at Jordan Lake Heritage Day celebration.

Monday, October 17 Harvest Moon Paddle on Haw

Saturday, Oct. 29 HRA table at Pittsboro Street Fair

Wed., Nov. 2 Stargazing Float.

Sunday, November 6, 12 - 5 pm HRA Annual Membership Meeting, Cedarrock Park

Saturday, December 3 Haw River Mills Tour

Dec. 10-11, Haw River Watch Monitoring Weekend

To volunteer or for info: 919-542-5790; info@hawriver.org or check our website: www.hawriver.org

It's the Haw River Festival 2005 T-Shirt, a Clyde Jones Swimming Turtle--green & blue on an orange shirt.

See photo at [www.hawriver.org](http://www.hawriver.org).



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. 12!

Address Service Requested

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

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