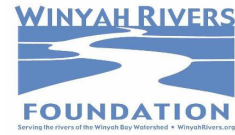


Riverspeak

News from the WINYAH RIVERS FOUNDATION



Sponsor of the WACCAMAW RIVERKEEPER® PROGRAM

SPRING 2010

Volume 10 Issue 1

RIVER TALK...by Christine Ellis, Waccamaw RIVERKEEPER®

Our 2010 agenda is full with a myriad of projects throughout the greater Winyah Bay watershed. If you haven't already checked out our website, it's time to do so to stay abreast of all of these projects. In Georgetown, we're proud of our year long project engaging the youth volunteers of Service Over Self in watershed stewardship. The project kicked off in September 2009, partnering with the folks at Keep Georgetown Beautiful to help clean up the Sampit River during South Carolina's official Beach Sweep River Sweep event. The participating youth came up with a name "Youth for a Healthier Sampit River" and a logo to use during this year long project. Interested in getting involved in this watershed stewardship project? Call me.



"Youth for a Healthier Sampit River" - photo by Christine Ellis

The Waccamaw River Blue Trail Project is also keeping us busy. Collaborating with partners American Rivers (Staci Williams) and Pee Dee Land Trust (Jennie Williamson), we are working to establish a paddle trail, protecting lands along the river and hoping to reconnect the community to our beautiful backyard river. Inspired by this effort in South Carolina, we have engaged stakeholders in North Carolina with the intent to establish a paddle trail along the entire Waccamaw River, from beautiful Lake Waccamaw all the way to its outlet at Winyah Bay. Recent polling results indicate the community's support to protect the Waccamaw River and to establish a paddle trail to increase recreational opportunities and stewardship of this precious local resource. Want to get involved in this opportunity? Call me.

Members and volunteers are critical to our activities and our efforts to meet our mission. If you aren't already a member, please consider financially supporting us by becoming a member. As a grassroots organization, a strong membership is especially important to show community support for our activities and our mission. Volunteers help us keep our eyes and ears on the river throughout the watershed, in both North and South Carolina. We have lots of opportunities to help us out, both short-term and long-term activities to suit every interest. Members and volunteers are the lifeblood of our organization. Please call me to learn more about volunteering.

ANNUAL MEETING AND RIVER ROAST SOUTH WELL ATTENDED

Weather threatened but it proved to be a great evening of food, fun & fundraising. The evening began with our annual meeting with members welcomed by returning President Moore and Program Committee updates provided by Secretary Daves.

RIVERKEEPER® updates were given by Christine Ellis. Then Director Mimms of Litchfield Beach Fish House provided his



delicious Southern Buffet and oyster roast along with beer provided by New South Brewing Co. The recently renovated facilities at Hobcaw Barony provided a perfect setting with the outdoor firepit ablaze. **Thank you** to all that made this a very successful event! And don't forget to mark your calendar for next year!

3RD ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST



For your convenience, a drop-box for photo drop-off is located in the lobby of CCU's Center for Marine and Wetland Studies (1270 Atlantic Avenue, Conway).

Thanks to member Hal Vivian for this beautiful handcrafted piece, a worth receptacle for all your beautiful photos!

AWARD CEREMONY TO BE HELD MAY 7 AT THE FRANKLIN G. BURROUGHS - SIMEON B. CHAPIN ART MUSEUM In MYRTLE BEACH

WACCAMAW CONFERENCE

WHY?

Because we need to protect a clean and ample supply of freshwater!

When?

**Saturday, February 20th
8 am to 1 pm**

*Interested in conservation
of our
water, land and way of life?*

Learn how protected lands are being managed for wildlife and public use...
...have you ever thought what is the value of a tree? We do...
...find out how climate and energy policy can assure our future prosperity...
...get involved in the paddle trail project on the Waccamaw River!

*Interested in water quality and pollutants
in our
local rivers?*

Come hear about efforts to update the regional water quality plan for our area...
...learn more about emerging pollutants that are impacting our local fish populations...
...find out about the minimum flow recommendations to support our downstream uses...
...see how drought and flooding impacts water quality!

Cost?

\$10.00 pp. Includes Lunch!

Center Located at 160 Willbrook Blvd. in Litchfield,
off of Hwy 17
behind the Hampton Inn



Where?

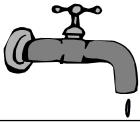
**Waccamaw Higher Education
Center
in Litchfield***

What?

**An annual educational conference for
the public to learn about the impor-
tance of our freshwater resources and
how to protect them!**

Exhibitors include:

Audubon Society
Coastal Conservation League
Wildlife Federation
Coastal Carolina University
American Rivers
US Fish and Wildlife
Coastal Waccamaw Stormwater Education
Consortium
Clemson University
Keep NMB Beautiful
Sierra Club
Pee Dee Land Trust among others!



FROM THE RIVER

by: Hal Vivian

Looking ahead:

I have been in this state for 16 years and I can't remember a time that was as long as or cold as the January we just experienced. Have you? But, alas, all good things must come to an end.

As spring approaches the cleanup begins. From our houses to our yards we come out from under the "cabin fever" to put some spit and polish in our lives. But there is more to it than that. **Mother Nature could use a hand in her spring cleaning.** While in the spirit, why not devote some of that energy and time to the river. Christine, I am sure, would be glad to enlist your help. The battle never stops; **THE RIVER NEEDS YOUR HELP.** Remember to talk it up to your friends and neighbors that this is their **DRINKING WATER** that we are determined to keep clean.



ELLIS RETIRES AS VICE-PRESIDENT

by: Valerie Moliterno

Judy Ellis has been a board member since we moved our annual fundraiser to Ripley's Aquarium. It was there that Judy shone in organizing the procedures for making the evening go so smoothly. And it does! Judy also has been instrumental in yard sale fundraisers and many other activities supporting our mission. As a former school principal, she has given us direction. Although Judy has a very busy life with professional educational organizations, the environment & the arts are her priorities. She is a master gardener and is active in Sierra Club, yoga, painting and family and will continue to serve WRF as a volunteer. **Thank you Judy!**

TryFit Outdoor Adventure Fitness has made available for auction a six-week session to "CHIEF BIG DADDY'S BOOT CAMP" A value of \$245.00 E-mail your bid to crystal@winyahivers.org Bidding ends March 31, 2010

We would like to thank **Crescent Bank** for their support of the Celebrate our Rivers event held in November at Ripley's Aquarium. Our apologies for not posting their logo in the last issue. Thanks for your support!



MACINTYRE RETIRES AS TREASURER

by Reggie Daves

An organization such as ours depends on its leaders. We have been most fortunate to have had Peter MacIntyre serve on our Board of Directors for the past several years. He has been most generous in allowing us access to Ripley's Aquarium for our annual fundraising event. Even more importantly, he has served as our Treasurer and his sedulous management of our finances led to more comprehensive reports and solvency of our organization. Fellow board members enjoyed and benefited from his candor and friendship. We shall miss him. Still, he plans to continue his support of Winyah Rivers Foundation. **Thank you Peter!**

Term comes to an end for Greg Mitchell. We would like to thank Greg for his efforts and contributions to the mission of Winyah Rivers Foundation. **Thank you Greg!**



COCA-COLA IS GOING GREENER!

The world's biggest seller of beverages has begun using a new bottle partially made from a plant-based material that, unlike petroleum-based plastic, is biodegradable. The new bottles for Coca-Cola, Coca-Cola Light, and Coke Zero still contain only 30 percent sugar cane-based material according to an article in The Wall Street Journal, but the soft-drink giant sees what it calls the "**plantbottle**" as the first step in an evolution of its packaging.



BUSINESS HONORARY RIVERKEEPER



BUSINESS CHAMPION



BUSINESS DEFENDER



BUSINESS GUARDIAN

RUFF HARDWARE CO

Winyah Rivers Foundation
 Center for Marine and Wetland Studies
 Coastal Carolina University
 1270 Atlantic Avenue
 Conway, SC 29526



UPCOMING EVENTS

2010 WACCAMAW CONFERENCE

&

“IF THE RIVER COULD TALK”

PADDLE TRIP

FEBRUARY 20

RIVER CLEANUP

CONWAY MARINA

MARCH 27

DEADLINE FOR PHOTO CONTEST

APRIL 12

RIVER CLEAN UP

LONGS—HWY 9

MAY 1

PHOTO CONTEST AWARDS

CEREMONY

MAY 7

Visit our website for all the details!

**ACT NOW!
 TIME RUNNING OUT
 TO REGISTER FOR
 CONFERENCE!**

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 ORGANIZATION
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 E-NEWSLETTER
 IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO
 KEEP UP WITH OUR
 EVENTS AND NEWS
 PLEASE PROVIDE US
 YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS!**

Printed on recycled paper.

Winyah Rivers Foundation

(843)349-4007

WRK@coastal.edu

www.WinyahRivers.org

The Board

- Richard Moore, President, Conway, SC
- David Scott, Vice-President, Lake Waccamaw, NC
- Reggie Daves, Secretary, Conway, SC
- Vacant, Treasurer
- James Battle, Conway, SC
- Walt Frank, Georgetown, SC
- Robert Mimms, Jr., Pawley’s Island, SC
- Robert Moran, Murrells Inlet, SC
- Becky Westbrooks, Chadbourn, NC
- Jim Wilkie, Murrells Inlet, SC

Waccamaw RIVERKEEPER®

Christine Ellis

Assistant to Waccamaw RIVERKEEPER®

And Editor of RIVERSPEAK

Crystal Caschera



Join us!

	Date _____
Guardian through Champion categories will earn rewards.	
Introductory (1st Year Only)	\$ 35.00 _____
Protector	\$ 50.00 _____
Guardian	\$ 100.00 _____
Advocate	\$ 250.00 _____
Defender	\$ 500.00 _____
Champion	\$1000.00 _____

Business Categories

Business Guardian	\$100 _____
(Certificate, recognition in one newsletter)	
Business Advocate	\$250 _____
(Certificate, recognition in each newsletter)	
Business Defender	\$500 _____
(Certificate, recognition with your logo in each newsletter and on website)	
Business Champion	\$1000 _____
(Framed certificate of membership, recognition in all newsletters and on website with your logo, 1/4 page ad in one newsletter)	

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____

We accept Visa and Master Card
 Card number _____
 Expiration date _____
 Signature _____

Winyah Rivers Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.