# THE RIVER RUNS

News from the Cowpasture River Preservation Association



**Inside This Issue:** 

- NEW Cover Photo Feature
- From the President
- Executive Director's Corner
- Water Quality: Sediments, Monitors
- Association News: VDEQ Meeting
- Member Spotlight & Memorial
- Annual Picnic Highlights
- Outdoor Education: DSLCC & Schools
- Water Resource Stewardship: Kingfisher
- Dates to Remember & PHOTO APPEAL
- Member Thank You & Merchandise

Special *Thanks* go to Ann Warner for this cover photo of a lovely, wintry Cowpasture scene from the banks at Camp Mont Shenandoah.

Beginning with this issue, the front cover will be graced by a photograph provided by our members & friends that show the Cowpasture through all its seasonal moods, plus the many natural wonders and activities that make the river and its watershed such a wonderful gift of Nature to the Highlands!

See inside for more on PHOTO APPEALS...

**Board of Directors (2015-16)** 

#### Officers:

Monroe Farmer, President Ann Warner, Vice President Anne McVey, Secretary William Jones, Treasurer

Directors:
Lucius Bracey
Caryl Cowden
John Fowler
Bill Hardbarger
Marshall Higgins
Stewart Hobbs
Nelson Hoy
Dick Lynn
Christopher Peters
Steve Van Lear
Joe Wood

Staff: Mike Hayslett, Executive Director

Elizabeth Biggs, Accountant

## Photos, Please!

In addition to gracing each future cover of *The River Runs* with photos that reveal the river's many moods and magic moments through the four seasons, we also covet your favorite images to sprinkle throughout our newsletter.

Watch for more PHOTOS...



## From the President

Greetings Members,

During the summer, the board agreed to reduce the number of standing committees from eleven to four. These four committees are led by four outstanding individuals: Membership – Steve Van Lear, Charlotte, N.C.; Monitoring – Roger Baroody, Covington, VA; Finance – Bill Jones, Bath County, VA;



and Education – Nelson Hoy, Williamsville, VA. The members that serve on these committees are a dedicated group of individuals consisting of board members, association members and nonmembers. I could not ask for a better group to work with as we move into 2016.

Lisa Beckstrom told me in late August that she wished to resign as the executive director, to pursue career avenues in academia. I was disappointed to lose such a dedicated river protector, but I understood her motivation. The association was fortunate to find Michael Hayslett and to hire him as our new executive director. He brings to us experience, both academically and organizationally.

Without members there is no CRPA, and I want you to know how much I value your membership. Each month, a group of dedicated members test the water chemistry and harmful bacteria levels in the river at seven different stations spaced along the 83 miles of river. In addition they quarterly collect, identify and count macroinvertebrates at these stations (these "bugs" have different levels of pollution tolerance, so identifying and counting them becomes extremely important in monitoring the water quality of the river). Members' dues and monetary gifts enable the CPRA to purchase the supplies and instruments used for this important work.

I hope that each of you will encourage your family and friends to join the CRPA and become a part of keeping the Cowpasture River clean. Please look over our website, *cowpastureriver.org*, and particularly the publications. I think you will be pleased and proud you are a member.

It is an honor for me to be the president of this association—made up of dedicated members bonded together by a desire to keep the Cowpasture River clean. I wish each of you a Happy New Year and again, thanks for being a member!

Puggy

## **Executive Director's Corner**

Warm Winter Greetings to Everyone! I am delighted to be serving as your new Executive Director. Allow me to relay a bit of my personal story...

Last year I returned home to the Highlands, following a career away in conservation biology and higher education. I'm now resettled and "plugged back in" through the CRPA! I grew up in Alleghany County and was very engaged in the outdoor activities of our surrounding Alleghany Mountains region (fishing, boating, hunting, hiking, camping, caving...), and I was a budding naturalist before my early teens. My family had a camp on the lower Cowpasture River at the *Circle H Campground* below Sharon—there I spent many happy summer days fishing, floating, swimming, snorkeling and exploring rock bars below the shadow of Anthony Knobs.

During my many years away (centered mostly around the Greater Lynchburg area of Central Virginia), I worked through a wide array of roles in the natural resources arena – as park ranger, wildlife biologist, master naturalist, college instructor, research scientist, environmental educator and civic leader. I enjoyed extensive travel around Virginia as a wetlands consultant, lecturer and conservation trainer (you can learn more about some of my past expertise by watching for an essay on a favorite subject of mine – amphibians and vernal ponds – through an upcoming edition of the CRPA article series in *The Recorder* ).

I now live (again) in Clifton Forge with my wife and our ole' dog, while our only son is a graduate student at ETSU in Johnson City, Tennessee. In addition to my primary job with the CRPA, I also teach biology through Dabney S. Lancaster Community College and operate my own environmental consulting firm on the side. I enjoy hiking, kayaking, reading, early American reenacting, and I'm involved with the Alleghany Highlands Master Naturalists.

It's really gratifying to now be able to apply my decades of experience gained while away, to promoting the preservation of Nature's beauty and integrity in the western Virginia highlands area of *home*, and especially within the vast Cowpasture River watershed as your new director.



Photo by Brian La Fountain

#### **SEEKING VOLUNTEERS:**

## **Water Quality Monitors**

If you would be interested in joining our intrepid troop of river monitors—they conduct routine sampling of water chemistry and aquatic macroinvertebrates at various stations along the Cowpasture and its tributary—please contact either:

Roger Baroody — rbar@rabaroody.net Puggy Farmer cowpasturerivehawk@yahoo.com

## **Monitoring Water Quality**

#### Water Quality of the Cowpasture River Basin – Suspended Sediments

By William K Jones, CRPA Board Member & Karst Hydrologist

Editor's note: The Cowpasture River Preservation Association engages in scientific and technical activities within the Cowpasture River Valley of Virginia for the purposes of creating awareness among students, citizens and officials of our surface and ground water quality, and of stimulating interest in preserving water quality.

WARM SPRINGS – The Cowpasture River and its tributaries are among the most pristine streams in Virginia. The volunteer stream monitors from the CRPA and other groups have established a good set of baseline values at different sites within the basin to document the water quality. The early monitoring program looked at bacteria numbers and the health of benthic organisms. Monthly measurements of some chemical parameters were added to the program a couple of years ago.

Flowing rivers are essentially a transportation system that is constantly moving material downstream. The material may be solid particles suspended in the water, dissolved minerals or salts carried in solution, and larger solids basically rolling along the bed of the river. The load (amount of material being carried) will normally increase dramatically with increasing flow. The most obvious result is the changing appearance of the water during a storm event as the water goes from clear to cloudy or milky to muddy depending on the particle size and quantity of suspended sediments. After the storm the water gradually clears as the suspended load settles to the bottom. Something very similar happens in our ground water aquifers and the most common expression is by the way of sedimentation in well water.

Suspended sediment load is the most visible of the water quality parameters but is also one of the hardest to quantify. In our monthly sampling visits along surface streams we make a notation about the appearance of the river at each site and this along with water discharge gives a rough indication of sediment in the river. Other techniques used by government agency's for analyzing suspended sediments include lowering a disk into the water to estimate the maximum depth that the disk is visible, optical turbidity measurements, and taking representative water samples and allowing the sediments to settle to the bottom of a flask. The sediment concentration is typically reported in turbidity units or total suspended solids (TSS).





Aqua Spring Before (Clear) and After a Heavy Rain and Flooding (Sediment Laden). Photograph Credit: Philip Lucas

#### Suspended Solids (continued)

All rivers carry some sediment load, but the activities of humans (agriculture and construction) dramatically increase the soil erosion within the watershed during storm events and stress a wide range of animals living in the water. Excessive sedimentation is considered the primary cause of benthic impairment in many Virginia streams and a habitat risk factor for the endangered clubshell and snuffbox mussels, native brook trout and even belted kingfishers. In a rural watershed the most important remedial steps that individual riparian landowners can take towards a reduction in sedimentation is to control stream-bank erosion, to maintain or establish riparian buffer areas and to install armored stream crossings. The overall excellent water quality in our river is due partly to the absence of urbanization and construction activity, but also, in large part to careful stewardship of the land and water resources by the residents within the basin.

## Water Quality Monitors Get Certified!

On August 8, 2015 the *Izaak Walton League of America* sponsored a *VA Save our Streams* (SOS) monitor certification event for some of the CRPA's more experienced monitors. Puggy Farmer, Mike Whiteside and Kim Manion are now officially certified. Congratulations on passing your test!







Thanks to Sharon
Stinnette, VA Save Our
Streams Statewide
Trainer. Another
Thanks to Mike
Whiteside for hosting
this event & Kent Ford
for providing support
during this event.



## **Association News**

## **CRPA Monitors Meet With VA DEQ**

CRPA monitors met with James Beckley of VA DEQ to discuss the CRPA's water quality monitoring program. James complimented the CRPA on its current monitoring efforts but requested that the Association consider adding tributaries associated with the Bullpasture River, which is impaired due to fecal coliform and temperature.





Photo by Nelson Hoy

## Photos, Please!

Beginning anew with this issue, we are soliciting your photos for publication in *The River Runs* and on our web site. Please share your photos of the river, its sites and experiences, and people in action on the river. *Thanks* go to Nelson for sharing this wintry image of his and Lizzie's german shorthair pointers, Zoe & Blue enjoying the frigid waters!

Watch for more PHOTOS...

# Member Spotlight

#### Welcome New Member: Connie Russell

I am originally from a tiny town in Georgia - always believing I came from the most beautiful part of the country. Then I found the Highland and Bath counties area in Virginia, and I was converted.

Greensboro, North Carolina has been my home for most of my adult life, though I am spending more time in Virginia, and I plan to have a home in Bath or Highland County someday.

I actually stumbled upon the area about 15 years ago and have spent many hours since touring the back country of both counties. It truly is the most beautiful area I have ever seen. It is important to preserve and protect such a unique treasure, of which the Cowpasture River is a big part of!

I look forward to being involved with the Cowpasture River Preservation Association now, and even more so when I finally find my perfect spot in the watershed!

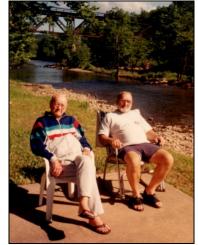


## In Memoriam

## Remembering Don Arnold by His Family

What a blessing Don Arnold was to his family, as well as to the multitude of others who vacationed with the Arnolds

on the Cowpasture River, or *Wallawhatoola*, near Clifton Forge, Virginia. He had a larger than life presence and was truly cherished. He enjoyed all family activities, including grill-outs, sporting and educational events, holidays and many, many more. With a firm hand and a gentle heart, Don raised his family with love and support. He wore many hats and was known by many names. *Big Don, Pop, Dad, Grandpa*, and *Papaw* were among his favorites. He leaves behind 2 sons, 2 daughters-in-law, 5 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. Don also leaves his family with the legacy of the Cowpasture River... a gift which his great-grandchildren lovingly refer to as "Papaw Don's river". At one point in Don's life, there were five generations of Arnolds that gathered on the Cowpasture River to celebrate life and the magnificent love of family. Many a story were shared on the *Wallawhatoola*—beautiful, meandering stream. From early morning until well into the night, the Arnolds could be found fishing, having whiffle ball tournaments, playing *euchre*, or nestled in the riffles singing "Three Little Fishies" as the crystal-clear water rushed by us, and the crisp, mountain air encircled us.



Grandpa Don Arnold (right) and Great-Grandpa Paul Arnold (left).

When the day came to an end, we enjoyed a campfire and more family time. As we sat at the river's edge, we consumed hotdogs, s'mores and baked apples and occasionally caught a glimpse of a "shooting star". All of these amazing activities engraved memories on hearts of all ages in the Arnold family. While Don will be missed by all who knew him, Arnold family traditions will certainly continue on the Cowpasture River.

# 2015 Annual Picnic Highlights





## **Summer Picnic**

Fifty-five (55) members attended the 2015 summer picnic held at the Lynchburg Camp. Attendees were treated to the wonderful views of the Cowpasture River, a variety of games, good company and delicious food provided by Covington Catering.



Thanks to Stewart and Brenda Hobbs for being such gracious hosts.





## **Outdoor Education on the River**

Outreach Services with Dabney S. Lancaster Community College and for the Public Schools by C. Nelson Hoy, Chairperson, CRPA Education Committee

Editor's note: The CRPA by the essence of its charter engages in educational activities within the Cowpasture River Valley of Virginia for the purposes of creating awareness among students, citizens and officials of the critical need to protect our surface and ground water resources, and of stimulating interest in progressive stewardship.

WILLIAMSVILLE – The Cowpasture River Preservation Association (CRPA) historically has sponsored educational outreach programs for the community. In the last ten years as an illustration, the Association has sponsored: benthic macroinvertebrate training for water quality monitors lead by Kent Ford and Polly Newlon and macroinvertebrate field studies for Leaders in Environmental Action for the Future (LEAF) in collaboration with The Nature Conservancy. The CRPA partnered with Trout Unlimited and the VADGIF's "Trout in the Schools" program to support the public school system's efforts to create awareness of water quality and native brook trout habitat. The Association sponsored an outreach program to build and install Wood Duck nest boxes. And another program to build rain barrels. Three years ago, Puggy Farmer initiated a collaborative effort with the forest ecology students at the Dabney S. Lancaster Community College in Clifton Forge.



DSLCC Forestry Students Engaged in a Cowpasture River Laboratory

**Out-partners:** The CRPA envisions that we have at least six long-term partners in education and outreach including: the Alleghany County Public Schools, Bath County Public Schools, Dabney S. Lancaster Community College (DSLCC), Highland County Public Schools and The Nature Conservancy.

**Community College:** The forestry programs sponsored by the Dabney S. Lancaster Community College in "Forest Management Technology" and "Urban Forestry" place a premium upon practical real-world applications and in networking experiences. Forest land management practices are arguably the single most important determinant of water quality

and quantity and thereby influence the water resources of rural communities, farms, ranches and homesteads. The CRPA/DSLCC River Laboratories offer an opportunity to demonstrate the practical applications of forest/river ecology and at the same time stakeholder networking. River Laboratories were held in the summers of 2013, 2014 and 2015 with an outreach to about 40 forestry students. Puggy Farmer our president observed after the last River Laboratory, "I wish that all of our CRPA members could see how the clean water of the Cowpasture River casts a magical effect on both the forestry students and teachers as though for a few minutes their souls were at peace with nature."

Chesapeake Bay: In recognition of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, signed on June 16, 2014, the Commonwealth is committed to preparing every student with the knowledge and skills necessary to responsibly protect and restore their local watershed. The cornerstone of this environmental goal is rigorous student inquiry coupled with participation in teacher-supported Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEE) in elementary, middle, and high school. The agreement also highlights the important role of the jurisdictions in promoting and assisting with the implementation of environmental education, and formally recognizes school divisions and schools as essential partners in the protection, restoration, and conservation of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. See: Chesapeake Bay Program, "The Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience" (Annapolis, Maryland: Chesapeake Bay Program Education Workgroup), 4 pages.

**Public Schools:** In calendar year 2016, the Cowpasture River Preservation Association will be reaching out to the local public school systems and offering assistance in furthering their Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEE) programs within the Cowpasture River Valley. Local public school systems include: Alleghany, Bath and Highland Counties. Essential elements of the MWEE program include: issue definition, outdoor field experiences, action projects, and synthesis and conclusions. The CRPA envisions that the forestry programs at Dabney S. Lancaster Community College will be an anchor-partner in this outreach effort.

**Possibilities:** The CRPA's *Outdoor Education on the River* program anticipates the possibility of other educational ventures such as field workshops on karst waters, sinkholes and springs; field trips for exploring shale barren ecology, vernal pool ecology and aquatic wildlife; field demonstrations on establishing karst and riparian buffer areas; networking with conservation easement grantors and holders, etc.

**Goals:** With these preambles in mind, the CRPA envisions three over-arching goals for 2016 and beyond:

- To foster a collaborative relationship with the forestry programs of Dabney S. Lancaster Community College.
- To establish outreach services for the local public school systems in support of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement and the state-mandated Meaningful Watershed Education Experience (MWEE).
- To embrace promising and innovative opportunities to promote *Outdoor Education on the River* for the CRPA membership and for the communities of the Cowpasture River Valley of Virginia.

**Cadre:** The CRPA's programs are made possible by the generous contributions of time and talent by volunteers. Our *Outdoor Education on the River* and DSLCC River Laboratories are made possible by the extraordinary efforts of a select cadre:

- Puggy Farmer, Graduate Forester, Dabney S. Lancaster Community College
- Mike Hayslett, Assistant Professor of Biology, Dabney S. Lancaster Community College
- Scott Reigel, Forestry Program Lead, Dabney S. Lancaster Community College
- Dave Peters, Alleghany High School Principal and Teacher, retired
- Mike Whiteside, Conservationist and Upper Sharon Station Manager

The CRPA Education Committee welcomes your comments and suggestions, and we would greatly appreciate your volunteer contributions of time and talent. For more details, contact Education Chair, Nelson Hoy.

## Water Resource Stewardship

#### The Belted Kingfisher

by Keith Carson, President, Bath-Highland Bird Club

Editor's note: Essays on Water Resource Stewardship are published by the Cowpasture River Preservation Association in support of riparian landowners who may be interested in protecting our surface and ground water resources by implementing progressive conservation measures on their properties.

BLUE GRASS -- Along virtually any stream and near many ponds throughout the Allegheny Highlands, you are likely to come across a large, stocky blue/gray bird with a white belly perched on a tree branch or utility line overlooking the water. With its large black bill and formidable, rakishly crested head, the Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*) will make you stop and do a double-take when you catch a glimpse of one near a stream. They are 11-14 inches long from bill tip to tail tip, which is just larger than the Blue Jay, and a bit smaller than the American Crow. They have a wing span of up to 23 inches. The female is slightly larger than the male, and in contrast to most bird species, is more colorful than the male, with a chestnut band across the chest just below its blue/gray breast band or "belt." The legs of the Kingfisher are short and the feet are small and relatively weak. The two inner toes are fused into a single flattened toe used for digging the nest tunnel.

In the Cowpasture River Valley of Virginia, Belted Kingfishers populate our rivers and creeks year around. It is common to hear Kingfishers before actually seeing them. Belted Kingfishers exhibit at least six different calls which they combine in different ways to express different messages. The call most commonly heard by the casual observer is a call used for territory defense, which is a long, high-pitched chatter or rattle. Kingfishers are most active in early morning and late afternoon and are described as "sit and wait predators" that perch near streams and ponds waiting to catch sight of a small fish or other prey. They will often hover over the water for a few seconds before abruptly dropping head first into the water. They often spread their wings to cushion the impact. They can submerge completely underwater and use their wings to swim to the surface, taking flight from the water with their prey clasped firmly in their bill. Kingfishers may plunge to a depth of two feet in pursuit of fish. The successful hunter will then head for a perch such as a tree limb or fence post and will whack the prey against the hard surface a few times before turning the dead or stunned prey to



Male Belted Kingfisher with a Fish

Photographic attribution hereby given to Andy Morffew. See Research URL below for Creative Commons Licensing Agreement: https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/us/legalcode

## Water Resource Stewardship

#### The Belted Kingfisher (continued)

swallow it head first. Although Kingfishers primarily eat fish they are also known to feed on crustaceans (like crayfish), molluscs (freshwater mussels or clams), insects, amphibians, reptiles, young birds, small mammals and even berries. In a manner similar to owls, indigestible material such as bones and scales are discarded orally in the form of a pellet. When water is highly turbid, fish are too energetically expensive to pursue, and crayfish become the primary prey item. Belted kingfishers also hunt crayfish in circumstances when they are out-competed for fish by mergansers (a type of duck). In colder water, the diet of Belted Kingfishers includes sculpins and trout. In warmer water, they prey on slower-moving fish including suckers, sticklebacks, perch, and pike.

Although solitary for most of the year, starting around early April, the male Belted Kingfisher selects a nest site which various females then visit. The nest site is typically a vertical stream bank. After noisy courtship displays in which the male chases the female while calling loudly, breeding partners pair up. To cement the bond between the pair, the male perches beside the female, with both birds performing unusual semi-circle movements along the length of a perch (break dancing!), before the female is fed a gift fish by the male. Both birds construct the tunnel nest in the wall of a stream bank, with the 1 to 8 foot tunnel leading to the nest inclined slightly upwards in order to trap an air pocket around the nest cavity and prevent water from flooding the nest chamber should the stream rise. A territory that can cover 1200 to 1500 yards of stream, is fiercely defended from other kingfishers, with any intruders aggressively repelled. Between April and July the clutch of 5 to 8 eggs is laid and subsequently incubated by both the male and female for 22 to 24 days. Observations suggest that the female is responsible for most of the overnight incubating of the eggs. The chicks hatch naked and blind and are intensively cared for by both parents for several days after hatching. After some 27 to 29 days in the nest, the young birds are capable of limited flight and will join the parents in foraging around the territory, although they continue to be fed by the parents for an additional 3 weeks, after which they are fully independent. Kingfishers are also known to occasionally use tree holes for nesting. They are unable to excavate a tree hole themselves, but may take over an abandoned woodpecker tree hole of the appropriate size, especially when vertical stream banks are in short supply. Belted Kingfishers have only a few natural predators, including Cooper's hawks, sharp-shinned hawks, and peregrine falcons. When pursued by these birds, Belted Kingfishers dive under the water repeatedly until the predator ceases pursuit.

Belted Kingfishers cannot hunt in streams where water is polluted with sediment because they cannot see their fish prey in the turbid water. Streams with high levels of phosphate and nitrate from fertilizers tend to have increased algae growth, which can also decrease water clarity. The clear and clean waters often found in the Allegheny Highlands are ideal for Kingfisher habitat. The Belted Kingfisher is also vulnerable to disturbance of stream banks which may lead to abandonment of nests during the breeding season. Relatively little is known about certain aspects of the Belted Kingfisher's biology making it difficult to develop management strategies that will ensure its conservation. Practical conservation measures for riparian landowners might very well include:

- Preserve riparian buffer areas with mature forest cover and overhead hunting purches from bare branches.
- Eliminate sources of sedimentation that create turbidity in surface waters.
- Reduce or eliminate artificial sources of phosphates and nitrates which cause algae turbidity.
- Minimize habitat disturbances by human acvtivity and particularly of nesting sites.

So get out on your local streams and rivers with your binoculars in the spring and listen for male Belted Kingfishers' rattle calls as they defend their territories and court females. A day spent watching them dive into the water for fish will leave you in awe of their hunting skills. Kingfishers are truly one of our natural wonders.

<u>Follow-up Research:</u> See the CRPA Website, Publications, Essay No. 12 – THE BELTED KINGFISHER OF THE COWPASTURE RIVER for a more in-depth article and for follow-up research sources and Internet URLs.

#### **Dates to Remember**

**April 23** (Saturday, 1:00 - 4:00 PM):

**Spring River Clean Up** at the Walton Tract: Help us celebrate Earth Day while collecting litter with our partners, the Potomac Hunt Club and students from Dabney S. Lancaster Community College. Please contact Mike through *directorcrpa@gmail.com* to sign up.

May 21 (Saturday, 5:00 - 8:00 PM):

*CRPA Annual Meeting* on the river at Camp Mont Shenandoah will include a Social with Silent Auction, Business Meeting, Dinner and Special Program.

July TBD (Saturday)

*Training* workshop on Macro-invertebrate Monitoring with Kent Ford.

July 30 (Saturday, 3:00 - 8:00 PM):

Annual Picnic & Family Fun Day on the river with water activities, games, social & dinner!

## A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words...





#### HISTORY OF THE COWPASTURE IN PHOTOS

**30 Years Ago**: the "Great Flood" of Nov. 5, 1985, as captured near Peter's Bridge/Rt. 42 bridge by Sandy Higgins. The "Slough camp" (right) was ruined. These images and heirloom photographs from Puggy Farmer's family will be used to begin a special *History of the Cowpasture in Photos* gallery on our web site. Keep watching... and please prepare to share your precious pics of the river!

## **Thank You To Our Loyal Watershed Members**

Includes dues and gifts received between Nov. 1—Dec. 31, 2015. *Thanks!* for your continued support and *Welcome!* to our new members. Total donations for current campaign = \$28,582. Listed are dues/gifts received since the last newsletter.

#### **Bedrock Patrons**

Tom and Patti Watts
Jeanne and Christopher Carter
Kent and Ellen Ford
Tim and Lynn Pistell
Cowpasture Camp, Inc.
Lissy and Stewart Bryan
Carson and Jeff Sullivan
Anne and Jim McVey

#### **Wallawhatoola Society**

Cleve and Barbara McGehee
Ann Warner—Camp Mont
Shenandoah
Bob and Ann Hilton
Mike and Tricia Christian
Michael Wildasin
Celia and Jim Rutt
Lucius and Pam Bracey
Hope and Nolan Nicely, Jr.

#### Watershed Stewards

Garrett and Penny Gooch
Steve Van Lear
Witcher and Elizabeth Dudley
Jean Ann Manner
Bill and Barbara Tavenner
Puggy and Kathy Farmer
Read Lunsford
Roger and Cynthia Baroody
Dick and Glovie Lynn
Chip Snead and Juanita Savage
Tal and Christine Kemper

#### **Headwaters Circle**

Polly Hawkes

Mason and Cheryl Simpson

Keven and Cindy Rice (New Members) Bill and Nan Mahone Wellborn William K. Jones and Lee F. Elliott **David Brooks** Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Higgins **Charles Black** Norwood and Susan Morrison Wayne Cross Truman T. Semans David A. Kirk Anna and Tom Lawson Doris and John Percy Dave and Sandra Peters David and Dawn Russell Michael Crowder Rick and Suzanne Miller Marlibba Farms—David Ray, Jr. Keturah Bracey and Jay Horine Allan and Becky Howerton Carrington L. Pasco John H. Turner, Jr. Bill and Christie Hardbarger Julian "Mac" McLaughlin, Jr. Angel and Ella Candelaria **Eddie and Sheri Walters** 

#### **River Guardians**

Connie Russell (New Member)
Anne Doll (New Member)
Highlander Hunt Club
Paige Pistell Witte
Barbara Newlon
Ann F. Caldwell and Lou Houff

Lois and Gary Johnson Marc Koslen Fred and Peggy Paxton Sally Branch and Roy Simmons **Roland Walters** Elizabeth Van Lear Al Cleveland Polly and David Hawkes Elizabeth and Lloyd Lipscomb Dick and Jean Miller Remi Gratton Dr. Edward Metzger Percy and Anne Montague Rachel B. Johnson and Rev. Carl Pattison Martha Rule Mike Goode Jim and Katherine Morris Jon and Betsy Lasley William Lipscomb Peter and Iris Pistell WG and Maxine Anderson Layton Hulette Dr. George B. Craddock, Jr. Theodore J. Craddock Garrett G. Gooch, IV Robert C. Hilton Stewart B. Hobbs, Jr. Allan B. Howerton Frank W. Morrison Norwood O. Morrison J. Alexander Owen Paul T. Owen John T. Percy, Jr. Frederick A. Terrell, III H. Bruce Thomson, III R. Thomas Watts, IV

Robert C. Wood, III

If you don't see your name listed, it is time to send in your dues.

## **Thank You To Our Loyal Watershed Members**

Includes dues and gifts received between Nov. 1—Dec. 31, 2015. *Thanks!* for your continued support and *Welcome!* to our new members. Total donations for current campaign = \$28,582. Listed are dues/gifts received since the last newsletter.

#### **Individual**

Douglas Hopkins Somers (gift) The Steadmans (gift) Eddie Glover (gift) William Hope Zollman (New Member) JM Lindsay (New Member) Gwendolyn Broce Dr. and Mrs. John R. Redick Adam and Katie Grist Joshua and Edie Hardbarger Matt and Jessica Reeves Dimmitt K. Houff Ann May Shelton James and Adele Lambiase E. Bowie Shepherd Channing M. Hall, III **Patrick Higgins** Dan Miles Lvnda Davies J. Lesslie Hall, III Jennifer Hawes Dee Lobe Sally Bingley Larry and Jo Denius Barbara Keller Gilbert L. Ramey Robert Farmer and Whitney McCuskey

#### **Junior Members**

Liam Enfield Annalise Enfield Finn Enfield Ava Hawkes Miriam Hawkes

#### In Memory of:

#### Donald G. Arnold

Larry and Shirley Reis
Harriet and Charles Nelson
Mark and Sharon Rachford
Deborah and Joshua Gooch
Timothy and Janice Rachford
Bill and Susan Rachford

If you don't see your name listed, it is time to send in your dues.

The annual campaign for the CRPA runs from November 1—October 31 (2015-2016). Our current (NEW) campaign is two and a half months into its cycle. Dues and gifts received during this campaign are essential to the CRPA being able to carry on its mission of stewarding the Cowpasture River.

Your support makes the difference!

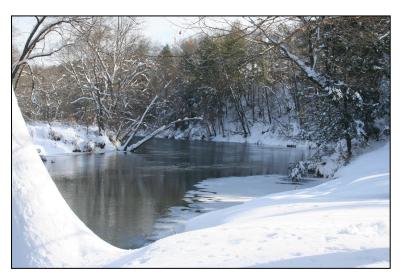
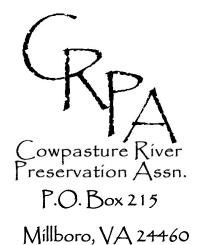


Photo by Ann Warner

Did we get it wrong? We're sorry for any errors or omissions in this list. We are happy to correct errors. Please contact Mike at directorcrpa@gmail.com



STANDARD PRESORT U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. 38 DALEVILLE, VA

# **Protect The Things You Love**

Please join us today. The river nee	ds your time, talent and support!
□ \$20 Individual (minimum annual membership donation) □ \$50 River Guardian □ \$100 Headwaters Circle □ \$250 Watershed Steward □ \$500 Wallawhatoola Society □ >\$500 Bedrock Patron □ Junior Membership(s): 15 years and under; Cost = 4 hrs./year volunteer service	
NAME(S) As You Want Them Published ADDRESS	- - □ I am a NEW member!
CITY — STATE — ZIP	_
PHONE  E-MAIL  I prefer not to have my name published as a contribut  Please send my newsletter by email version only.  I am interested in becoming a volunteer river monitor	