2003 is becoming a banner year for land conservation along the Eno River. This year’s Festival for the Eno will help raise funds for continued efforts to protect Eno Basin lands and waters. Specifically, the ERA is working on two large-scale projects that together would add almost 1,000 new acres to the Eno River State Park.

The 820-acre Eno Wilderness is the most exciting land acquisition project the Eno River State Park has seen in recent decades. With this one purchase, the State Park will see a one-third increase in its current size!

Over two miles of Eno River frontage, three miles of streams, five miles of existing trails, and hundreds of acres of beautiful hardwoods—primarily chestnut oak forest—will be protected when this historic acquisition is complete. The conservation value of protecting such a high quality and large-scale wildlife habitat area is significant. In addition, this acquisition will provide much needed width to the Eno’s mostly linear park system and significantly increase the protected habitat area, which is required for the successful protection of larger mammal species like the bobcat.

The Wilderness also contains the second highest point of elevation near Eno River State Park, at 732 feet above sea level, or about 285 feet above the river.

The State of North Carolina plans to close on the $6.5 million property later this year, with help from the Eno River Association, the Natural Heritage Trust Fund, the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund, the Clean Water Management Trust Fund, the Environmental Enhancement Program and the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund.

The second large-scale project the Association is working on is the acquisition of the 137-acre Bunting Tract, located on the Eno River near Hillsborough. This magnificent property is now under contract for purchase by the Association. Eventually, the tract will be incorporated into the Eno River State Park, so that the lands can be protected in perpetuity.

This gorgeous tract contains over one mile of Eno River frontage as well as several Orange County Natural Inventory Sites. It is one of the largest tracts along the river in this area that remains undeveloped, and it will serve as an anchor for the Eno River State Park at its western terminus. This property has some of the oldest and most beautiful forest on the river, and the bluffs overlooking the Eno are some of the nicest, said Don Moffitt, President of the Association.

This year, the Association’s 24th annual Festival for the Eno will raise money to help protect these and other lands on the Eno.

(Continued on page 6)
Wayne Cash Wins Stanback Conservation Award

If you had visited Penny’s Bend Nature Preserve in early April you would have found Wayne Cash working the fire line during a controlled burn of one of the meadows there. The ERA is proud that Wayne Cash, 78, a long-time member of the board of directors and a former president, was recently honored as the Stanback Volunteer Conservationist of 2002 for North Carolina.

The award is presented by the Conservation Trust for North Carolina to honor the individual who has best exemplified service to the State and her citizens for conservation efforts during the past year.

Wayne serves on numerous boards and commissions, including the Board of Directors of the Enos River Association, the Durham Farmland Protection Board, and the Durham Open Space and Trails Commission. He has served a total of nearly 40 years on those three boards, and has served as chair of each of them. He currently presides over the Farmland Protection Board.

Wayne, upon receiving the award, expressed amazement. I’m the most accidental conservationist you ever heard of. It was never a wild ambition of mine - it just happened. I just grew into it a step at a time. It has been the best 18 years of my life. He got his start in conservation issues in 1982, when the US Army Corps of Engineers condemned his land at Penny’s Bend on the Enos River. Wayne and his wife, Hazel Cash, spent several years working with the Association and others to save the area. Through Margaret Nygard’s and Wayne’s efforts, the Corps leased the land to the NC Botanical Gardens and the Botanical Gardens created the 84-acre Penny’s Bend Nature Preserve, where Wayne serves today as the resident caretaker.

Upon presenting the award on behalf of the Conservation Trust for North Carolina, Don Moffitt, president of the Enos River Association, said: in addition to his board and committee responsibilities, Wayne is willing to do hard work on behalf of the environment. We hold workdays, and Wayne is always there to make sure it goes smoothly. He is the first to arrive and the last to leave. No one better exemplifies volunteer conservationist than Wayne Cash. He’s been a great mentor and an even better friend.

Wayne’s efforts, the Corps leased the land to the NC Botanical Gardens and the Botanical Gardens created the 84-acre Penny’s Bend Nature Preserve, where Wayne serves today as the resident caretaker.

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Friends, Summer is upon us and once again the ERA is gearing up for its annual Festival for the Enos. The Festival has become somewhat of a time-honored tradition for many Association members; three days of fun in the sun, great music and great people to share it with.

But the Festival for the Enos is really much more. It is the single most important event that the Association communicates its message of conservation to the broader public and builds support for its land protection activities. With over 30,000 attendees every year, the Festival presents an unparalleled opportunity for the ERA to reach out and educate citizens on environmental issues.

Our Enos Environmental Education committee works hard to bring fabulous educational displays to the Festival. These include a living river display, which showcases many of the wild critters that make the Enos their home. Thousands of folks visit this display each day, learning about crayfish and water striders, stone fly and dragonfly nymphs. They learn about the ecology of these amazing creatures, about what each species has to tell us about river pollution, and about which species are good indicators of healthy water quality.

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Letters to Our Members

Throughout the Festival grounds, over 25 environmental organizations present information on their current projects and activities. By providing a venue for these organizations to get the word out to the greater public, the Association helps to strengthen and build awareness of the broader environmental movement within North Carolina.

Most importantly, the Festival raises dollars for land conservation. The hard earned dollars from the Festival help the Association protect lands in perpetuity throughout the Enos River basin. Now it is the organization’s opportunity to build the tradition of bringing communities together along the banks of the Enos to celebrate the environment, and to be a part of a greater effort to protect it.

I hope to see you all on July 4, 5, and 6 at Durham’s West Point on the Eno City Park for the 24th annual Festival for the Enos. It is sure be a great time for an even greater cause.

Naturally Yours,
Lori Olson, Executive Director

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2003 Festival for the Eno Logo

The Eastern Red Bat
By Dave Owen

Hazel's Hospitality Help
By Hazel Cash

Festival Packhouse

Exhibits: Be There!

Get Ready for the 2003 Festival for the Eno!

Want to Help with the Festival?

2003 Festival for the Eno Logo by Emma Sparkick

The Eastern Red Bat
2003 Festival for the Eno Logo by Emma Sparkick

when mating or migrating. In the cold sea- son they do head south along the eastern seaboard of the United States, but their pat- terns of movement are not yet understood. Up until the late 1980s, sightings of large migratory flocks passing over areas of the southeastern US were reported. No such occurrence has been confirmed since then, but numerous individuals continue to make the Eno River Valley their home. One evening I was attending a football game at Jordan High School where my daughters were cheerleaders. Seemingly out of nowhere, dark winged creatures came careening down from the night sky, passing and squeaking just above the heads of stu- dents and parents sitting in the rows of bleachers. Everyone seemed to shudder at the ominous sight and the crowd emitted a huge gasp in unison. Several frightened teenagers, shielding their faces with raised forearms, shouted “Bats, bats!” I smiled to myself, in awe at the consternation a flock of harmless chimney swifts could cause among the fearful. Because of their presence, the officials of the evening, we often transfer our own fear of the dark onto these most innocent and beneficent creatures. And of course, our dis- comfort with darkness is none other than a fear of facing our own most sturdy inner defenses and shortcomings. If our lives are closely interwoven with the fabric of nature, animal encounters on our path can both challenge and empower us

At West Point on the Eno, the stages are still stacked and stored, the temperature is a comfortable 65 degrees and there are no lines on toilet row. But soon this scene will be remarkably different. Thirty-five thou- sand folks will join us as the Eno River Association presents the 24th annual Festival for the Eno — North Carolina’s pre- eminent Independence Day celebration. During the three days of the Festival for the Eno (Friday, Saturday, Sunday; July 4th, 5th and 6th), over 80 of the best crafters North Carolina has to offer will line the glens and glades with tents and booths displaying their works. The delicious aro- mas of funnel cakes, barbecue, fresh fruits and curries will fill the air. Jugglers, magicians and giant puppets will roam the park, and in the sea of a blanket, lawn chairs and blankets.

Activities abound as well. Grown-ups and kids alike can try the Top-of-the Rock Climbing Wall, or mold and sculpt the 800 pounds of clay at the Hands-On Clay booth. John Blackfeather Jeffries will give demonstra- tions of Native American life. The West Point Mill, sand sculpture by Sandy Beat, juggling workshops, giant chess and Eno river activities will give Festival-goers plenty to do when not enjoying our won- derful performers.

Once again, the Association will con- tinue to work toward the goal of being a “Trash-Free” Festival and to show that recy- cling is easy and practical. Because of these model recycling efforts, and the work of volunteers like you, the West Point on the Eno City Park will be litter-free on Monday, July 7th. Advance tickets for the Festival will be available starting mid-June at outlets throughout the Piedmont. See the special pull-out schedule in this newsletter for a complete list of advance ticket outlets, and be sure to thank them for your visit!

The complete program will be carried in the July-August, 2003 Eno Experience, and is available for downloading on the internet through the Enonotisco at www.enoriver.org. Festival.

The Festival for the Eno would not be possible without those who give their time, talent and effort each year to create a fun, safe, entertaining and educational celebra- tion which enriches the community and serves the greater purpose of preserving precious watershed for posterity. The Festival for the Eno has become a model for other grass roots community based events throughout the country, and continues to grow, as does the Park.

Last year over 30,000 people attended the Festival. We need help (before, during and after!) to ensure another successful event, and to show those all people a good time!

Ever Want to Be in a Circus? Big Top day is big time fun. On Saturday June 28th, we put up the BigTop in the Meadow and we need at least 30 people to help out.

Trash-Free For Me! Our Trash-Free program diverts 90% of the Festival waste away from landfills. Help with this vital award-winning waste reduction program by volunteering as a steward, at the Festival or at the really cool organic compost site. Call Judy at 919- 383-7172 or email trash free@enoriver.org to sign on to the Trash-Free team. Pick up trash and drivers are especially needed.

Performer Hospitality Our performers always mention the hospitality area at the Festival and it’s deli- cious food and drink. Hazel Cash needs folks to help supply the victuals to feed all our hungry entertainers. Call her at 919- 477-8936 or send an email to: volun- teer@enoriver.org.

Cleaning Up After the Festival Once the weekend is over and the crowds have left the park, there is still much work to do. Help is especially needed in the week following the Festival. All the tents, drink booths, stages and recycling centers must be disassembled and removed from the park, errands still need to be run, and paperwork needs to be organized.

Volunteers Get In Free Each volunteer receives a free pass into the Festival for each day worked. To volunteer, or for info about these or other volunteer opportunities, please call Volunteer Coordinator Judy Allen at 471- 5008 or email volunteer@enoriver.org. For a complete list of volunteer opportunities and a convenient on-line form, go to: www.enoriver.org/festival.

The Festival Packhouse was an historical model recycling efforts, and the work of volunteers like you, the West Point on the Eno City Park will be litter-free on Monday, July 7th. Advance tickets for the Festival will be available starting mid-June at outlets throughout the Piedmont. See the special pull-out schedule in this newsletter for a complete list of advance ticket outlets, and be sure to thank them for your visit!

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The ERA’s efforts to date have helped protect over 3,900 acres of open space and parklands in the Eno River basin. Twenty-five years of hosting the Festival for the Eno has certainly played a large role in that success.

The Association looks forward to adding both the Hunting Ttract and the Eno Wilderness to the Eno River State Park in 2003, and to continuing to lead efforts to increase the system of parklands and open space along the Eno that we have all come to treasure.

Thank you to these Volunteers

Barb Blackman, Boykin, Jones, & Zoo Bell Brandi Burke Brian Lunt Clay Gentry Chris Bennett & Lakia Clare Rice-Guench David Haring Dorothy Gerard Ellis & Jenne

Thruhen        Frank Baker George Kolea Gina & Norma Longo Hamilton Darrel Helen Paulson Helen Alexander Helen Divisas Holly Reid/Rich Shaw, Andy & issel James Parker Joanne Abel


Noland Martin Paul Kilgough Rebecca Curry Rebecca Gray Ron Rudin Ross Curry Sona West

Welcome to New Members


Margaret Nygard Fund

David S. Holloway Esther Kingham Gail and Tom Zaveslon George and Anita Olson Gloria Pattilla Giacelyn Brunowicz Gregory Hicks Ginn Lloyd Hildaleg Rods Italian Caffi J & J Frame Studio Jamie and Rob Braddy

Barbara and Tom Driscoll Brenda Peterson Bill Nealis Brad and Adelene Wallace Bridget Boxer Carl Ellis, Jr. Carol Brooks Carver Street Animal Hospital Cathy Williams Chelsea Wolford Christen Rosemond Chris Quann Christina Corso Christine Della Maggiuro Crystal Duchow Dave Cook Dave Sutherland David Matcher David Stinson Debra Adams Debbie Kilpakstis Den Cecilis Dr Danny K. Lloyd, DDS Elizabeth Forsathy Evelyn Sledge Giulia and Tom Zaveslon J.J. and Jane Luster George and Anna Olson Helen Alexander Ginn Lloyd Glenda Smith Gina & Norma Longo John Lostia John Johnson Lyna Wilson Margaret Moore Margaret Wasmight Sharon Sands Melissa McCulloch Neill Smith

Noland Martin Paul Kilgough Rebecca Curry Rebecca Gray Ron Rudin Ross Curry Sona West

Recent ERA Contributors


If you want to learn more about bats, bat houses, and ways to tell people about the value of bats, go to www.batcon.org or www.natural- resources.org/fun stuff/faqs/bats.html

Kids’ Korner

Red Bats

By Sue Monahan

It’s dark. The sun has set a little while ago. The active animals of the day are settling down to sleep. The Cardinal and Cardinals were singing a few last songs. A hummingbird takes a sip at your feeder for energy to get him through the night. The shadows deepen. Suddenly, a dark shape swoops down and poach light and is transformed. Now you stare into the darkness, it darts by again. This time you glimpse a flash of deep orange color and long pointed wings about 11 inches wide.

You have just spotted one of our most common and beautiful bats – the Flying Bat, Eastern Red Bat, out on its evening hunt for insects.

Bats, like all mammals, have fur, give birth to live babies and nurse them with milk. But, they are the only mammals that can fly! Their scientific name is Chiroptera which means hand-wing. If you look at the bones in the wing of a bat, you will see they look much like those of your own arm and hand. There is one big difference, though. A bat’s fingers are almost as long as its body and have thin, but tough skin, called a membrane, stretched between the bones and down the sides of the body, often including the tail. Bats can move each finger separately to change the shape of their wings. This allows them to dart, bank, and zig-zag with incredible speed as they chase their insect prey.

When hunting, our bats have a special way of seeing in the night called echolocation. As they fly they send out many high-pitched beeping sounds which bounce off objects and back to their ears as echoes. These echoes tell bats the size and shape of insects and other objects, and exactly where they are. They can catch moths and flies right out of the air, all while scoping and diving to avoid tree branches. Scientists believe that red bats even hunt on the ground for some of their food like crickets and beetles.

Many bats hang out together during the day on their roosts under tree bark or in hollow trees and caves, or even your attic, but red bats are unusual and most alone in trees or shrubs. Mother red bats have more babies than most bats, too. They usually give birth to 2-4 hairless babies called pups in the spring and even have four nipples to nurse them all. The pups snuggle next to their mother during the day with one foot on her and the other tightly holding onto the roost. When the mother goes foraging for food at night, she leaves them hanging from twigs or branches looking like dead leaves or little pine cones. They grow quickly and can fly when they are about a month old, then they can go on hunting trips with their mother.

We don’t always know what bats do in the winter. Some migrate to warmer climates, others move to caves and hibernate together. Red bats have been found hibernating in brush piles and are known to over winter in hollow trees. They use their large, furry tail membranes like blankets and wrap themselves up almost completely. Sometimes they rouse from their deep sleep on warm winter afternoons to capture a few insects.

Bats are clean animals, washing their soft, silky fur like cats using their tongues and claws. They are very beneficial to people. Each night as they forage they eat thousands of insects. This helps keep the numbers of harmful species down, which benefits farmers crops and helps get rid of insects, like mosquitoes, that bite people. They are indeed our friends and allies.

Scientists right here in North Carolina are studying bats in some of our state parks trying to learn more about what kinds of bats live here and how we can protect the habitat they need to hunt and find food, raise their pups and find shelter in the winter.

Like all wild animals, bats will bite to protect themselves and sometimes carry rabies so, to be safe, never touch a bat or any other wild animal you may find.
Calendar of Events

June 7  National Trails Day. Call Adrienne at Eno River State Park at 383-1686 to volunteer.

June 21  Hog Day, downtown Hillsborough
mid-June  Eno River Watch monitoring. Contact Kathy Lee at 309-4830 or katgirl@employees.org for more information.

June 28  Big Top Day. Help raise the Eno Big Top tent. Call Judy Allen at 471-5008 for more information.

July 4, 5, 6  24th Annual Festival for the Eno at West Point on the Eno
Sept. 20-21  Centerfest, downtown Durham. Call 620-9099 to volunteer at the Eno exhibit.