

Eno River Currents

Eno River Association — Connection to the Past — Protection for the Future



What's Inside

Notes on Planned Giving

*Eno River Calendar 2005:
The Search for Fish Dam Road*

*Protecting Land Throughout
the Eno River Basin*

*Hiking Through
the Winter Months*

Calendar of Events

JANUARY 1

New Year's Day Hike

JANUARY 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Winter Hikes

FEBRUARY 6, 13, 20, 27

Winter Hikes

MARCH 6, 13, 20, 27

Spring Wildflower Hikes

Call (919) 620-9099 for more information or to volunteer for these events.

Elizabeth Brady Road Extension: Options and Action

Annette Jurgelski

Elizabeth Brady may have been a genteel colonial dame in a winged white cap, but the controversy that has developed around the road bearing her name is often less than genteel.

Currently Elizabeth Brady Road is an approximately 1/2 mile strip of pavement in Hillsborough that dead-ends in a small industrial park. It branches off from Business 70 just as that road joins Highway 86 entering Hillsborough from Chapel Hill and points south. The convergent roads descend into Old 86—also known as Churton Street and Hillsborough's main thoroughfare.

Traffic on Churton Street can become quite heavy, particularly on weekdays when county government employees enter and leave town. One proposed solution to the congestion is to enlarge Elizabeth Brady to four lanes and connect it to Highway 70 Bypass on the other side of Hillsborough. Proponents of the route claim it would reduce traffic on Churton Street by about one-fifth by permitting motorists to bypass downtown Hillsborough entirely. Opponents decry the environ-

mental consequences of routing a major road through a natural area and building a new 4-lane bridge across the Eno River.

The Eno's winding nature makes it an omnipresent river and thus subject to repeated bridging. Currently there are 8 bridges across the river in the Hillsborough area, each one discharg-



Photo by Holly Reed

View of westernmost portion of Eno River State Park at US 70 Bypass in Hillsborough with Poplar Ridge in background. Poplar Ridge is one of the three alternative corridors being studied by NCDOT for the proposed Elizabeth Brady Bypass in Hillsborough.

ing storm water runoff containing contaminants such as oil, gasoline, and rubber into the water below. The Eno River Association is on record as opposing another bridge across the Eno.

Protection of the area through



Eno River

ASSOCIATION

The mission of the Eno River Association is to conserve and protect the nature, culture, and history of the Eno River basin.

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- Emily Herbert,
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Eno River Currents is a quarterly newsletter published by the Eno River Association

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Phone (919) 620-9099 • Fax (919) 477-0448
www.enoriver.org

Letter from the Vice-President

Dear Eno River Association Membership,

Mfamily and I share a beautiful vantage point of the Eno River from downtown Hillsborough. And our whole community is reawakening to the significance and beauty of the Eno River running right through the heart of our historic district. On high flow days long ago the Eno River impeded traffic on the Great Trading Path that ran through this nascent village, forcing travelers to wait for the waters to recede. Later, paper, grist, and textile mills harvested the flow of the Eno River. Bridges for pedestrians, horse and buggies, the NC Railroad, and motorized vehicles were constructed to encourage the ebb and flow of commerce. However, advances in bridge technology literally separated the community from the river. Today one does not see the bustle of activity around the Eno—the well-worn walking paths, the churning of the mills or plows, the ball games on the flatlands—that regularly brought the Hillsborough community to its banks. Fortunately, for the health and quality of life of Hillsborough, the interest in the Eno River is returning. Most recently, two Eno River tributary restoration projects are underway this fall at Stillhouse Creek, which flows right past the replica Occaneechi Village downtown, and at Hazel Parker Creek in Hillsborough's town cemetery. Community events, like last June's Walkable Hillsborough Day's "Envisioning Hillsborough's Future Riverwalk" and October 2003's Community Design Workshop for the future Weaver Street Market adjacent to the Eno, have helped to revive Hillsborough's appreciation for the living jewel running through our midst. The Town of Hillsborough and its Parks and Recreation Board are pursuing the community dream of a river walk, working with Orange County to acquire easements, Norfolk and Southern Railroad for access, and State of North Carolina for trail-building funds. The goal is to connect Occaneechi Mountain with downtown, downtown with the Classical American Homes Preservation Trust extensive trails to the east, those trails to the western most portion of the Eno River State Park, and all to be incorporated into the Mountains-to-the-Seas trail system. Residents of Durham and Orange counties have a great deal to benefit in the future from these efforts. Unfortunately, a possible new bridge over the Eno River, the proposed Elizabeth Brady Bypass, also threatens some of these same protected lands that provide water quality buffers, wildlife corridors, historic structures and riverwalk trails for the surrounding community. As with the Eno River Association's critical involvement to negotiate an alternative path for Eno Drive in Durham, the Association needs volunteers to engage in a constructive conversation with NCDOT and Hillsborough officials to find feasible alternatives for this proposed bypass (if you are interested, please contact ERA Executive Director, Rah Trost, at (919) 620-9099). Not many communities can boast as beautiful and as vital a resource as the Eno River in their towns. Hillsborough has a treasure for all to protect and enjoy.



Holly Reid
Vice President of the Board, and resident of Hillsborough

Eno River Calendar 2005: The Search for Fish Dam Road

Don Moffitt

Five hundred years ago a young man left his village on a large, fast flowing river. He followed a footpath west, climbing up the hills along the river to the ridge line that ran between the river upstream and a major creek to the south. He camped along the way, and nearly thirty miles from his own village he splashed across the river, now shallow, and entered the village built in a horse-shoe bend formed by the flowing waters.

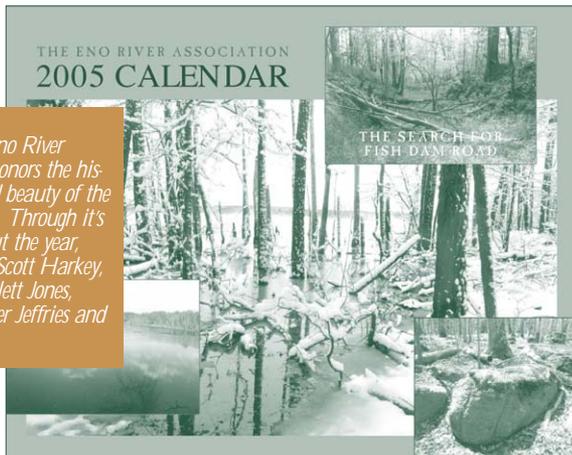
When Europeans arrived in the area they built along the footpath and began to use it as a wagon road. They named the river by the lower village the Neuse, and the river by the upper village became known as the Eno. The lower village became a European settlement called Fish Dam, after a long stone structure built by the original inhabitants to catch fish as they followed the river downstream. The upper village also became a European settlement and for a time served as the capital of North Carolina. Today we know the area as Hillsborough.

The road between Fish Dam and Hillsborough remained in use for centuries and became known as, naturally enough, Fish Dam Road. In the early part of the 20th century a number of changes along its route relegated it to the dustbin of history. Until, that is, 2003 when Joe Liles led his students on a search for remaining segments of the road.

Joe, an instructor at the NC School of Science and Mathematics, became fascinated with the road and has spent much of the past two years working with David Southern and others, studying maps and old aerial photographs, then searching through the woods and cityscape to bring to light the history of Fish Dam Road. He found stream crossings, forgotten buildings and foundations, elders who had lived along the road when it was a busy thoroughfare and many fine stories.

We celebrate the work of Joe Liles and two of his classes, along with David Southern and a host of others, in the 2005 Eno River Calendar, "The Search for Fish Dam Road." Filled with stories, photographs, hand-drawn maps and

The 2005 Eno River Calendar honors the history, culture and beauty of the Eno River basin. Through its pages, throughout the year, you'll meet Mr. Scott Harkey, Mrs. Mary Scarlett Jones, John Blackfeather Jeffries and others.



excerpts from interviews it leads you from Fish Dam, now inundated with the waters of Falls of the Neuse Reservoir, along the high road between Ellerbe Creek and the Eno, through north Durham to Hillsborough.

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Beautifully designed by local graphic artist David Glenn, it's a fascinating collection of information that will educate

and entertain you throughout the year. Of course it also makes a wonderful holiday gift. You can buy it directly from the Eno River Association or from one of many fine retailers in the Triangle. To buy from the Association, email calendars@enoriver.org, or call Emily at 620-9099. Visit www.enoriver.org for more information on the calendar and links to information on Fish Dam Road.

Come and explore the centuries with us along Fish Dam Road!

Great Human Race 2005

Mark your calendars for some family FUNdraising at the Great Human Race on April 9, 2005!

This year the Eno River Association raised \$2000 through the help of our volunteers at the Great Human Race. Every year, the Volunteer Center of Greater Durham organizes this 5K non-profit run/walk to benefit participating organizations.

Volunteer to support the Eno River Association by calling Emily at 620-9099 to receive a pledge packet you can take to friends, family and coworkers to collect donations for the Race. In years past, pledges have been matched dollar for dollar by a matching grant, making pledges go twice as far! If you raise \$100 in pledges, you receive a free Eno t-shirt. Even if you are not able to walk, run, or roll you can still help up us gather pledges for the Eno team. Join us for this fun community event that helps us protect the lands that we love!

Hiking through the Winter Months

As winter brings in chilly days, bundle up for afternoon hikes on the Eno!

WINTER HIKES

Winter hikes will take place every Sunday in January and February, starting at 2pm. Gather at the Few's Ford access area of the Eno River State Park to explore a different section of the Eno River Valley each week. The hikes will last about two and one half-hours and cover three to four miles.

NEW YEAR'S DAY HIKE

The Eno River Association's New Year's Hike is a time-honored tradition! Come out to celebrate the New Year with a hike at 2pm on Saturday, January 1, 2005 starting from Few's Ford. Enjoy a two-mile or four-mile hike and gather 'round for hot cocoa and New Year's merriment!



All hikes are free and no registration is required.

Few's Ford access area of the Eno River State Park is located at 6101 Cole Mill Road, 5.7 miles north of I-85. For more information, please contact Marcia Eickmeier at (919) 644-1806 before 9 p.m.

Elizabeth Brady Road Extension, continued from page 1

which the extension would be built also concerns the Association. Two sites on the National Register of Historic Places, one site in the Orange County Inventory of Natural Areas, and many acres of prime forest and native wildlife habitat would be impacted. This priceless heritage could be sacrificed with little net gain, since the new road would very likely bring new development to the area and more local traffic to Churton Street.

Ultimately, the decision on whether to extend Elizabeth Brady Road rests with the Hillsborough Town Board and NC Board of Transportation. The choice of corridor will be the prerogative of the NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT), which has invited public comment on three possible routes. One of these destroys a considerable amount of Eno River valley land currently under the jurisdiction of Preservation North Carolina, cuts through the historic old Occoneechee Orange Speedway and

skirts the grounds of Ayr Mount, a beautifully restored southern plantation home which welcomes hundreds of visitors each year. A second corridor misses the historic properties but cuts along the edge of the river's watershed and involves the destruction of several existing homes. Only the third avoids the construction of another bridge across the Eno, and this alternative would unloose chainsaws on a wide swath of steep woodlands along the Eno River watershed.

A fourth alternative, which NCDOT has to include in its final analysis, is not to build the extension at all (No-Build). The Eno River Association and the Walkable Hillsborough Coalition support this alternative, proposing that traffic problems could be resolved by improving existing roads, implementing better traffic routing, staggering work shifts for county employees, and providing more public transportation. NCDOT has not yet responded to this proposal.

To support the **NO BUILD** alternative

Write to any or all of the following:
Hillsborough Town Council members:
**Mike Gering, Eric Hallman,
Brian Lowen, Evelyn Lloyd** at
Town of Hillsborough
PO Box 429
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Also contact
Vincent Rhea, Project Engineer,
NCDOT,
1548 Mail Service Ctr.
Raleigh, NC 27699-1548
PH: 919-733-7844, ext. 261
e-mail: vrhea@dot.state.nc.us

or **Doug Smith, Project EIS,**
909 Aviation Pkway, Suite 1500
Morrisville, NC 27560
PH: (919) 468-2129
e-mail: smithdo@pbworld.com

Reference the Elizabeth Brady
Road Ext., Proj. U3808.

Protecting Land Throughout the Eno River Basin

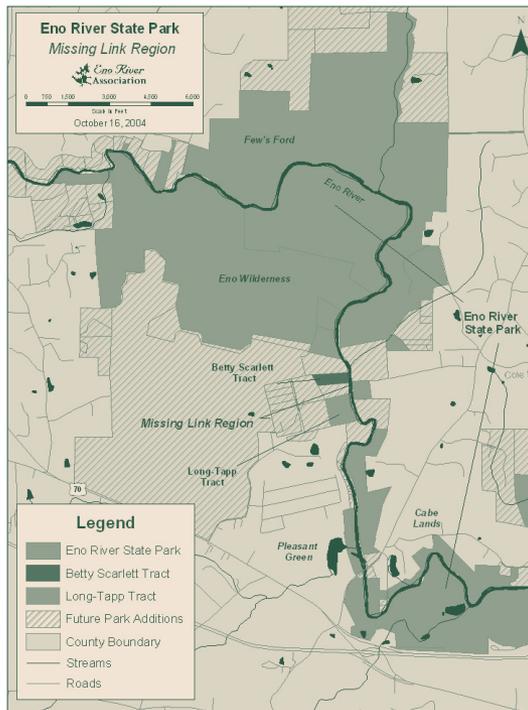
From Staff Reports

We are extremely happy to announce that we continue to move closer towards our goal of closing the "missing link" region between the Eno Wilderness and Pleasant Green within the Eno River State Park. We recently purchased an 11-acre tract on the Eno River, which is located in the center of the "missing link" region.

The tract was sold to us by Betty Scarlett. Ms. Scarlett is related to Rhonda Long and Glenn Tapp, who sold us the 22.5-acre Long-Tapp Property in December 2003. All three are the relatives of Levi Christmas Scarlett, a former slave whose former owners gave him 149-acres of land after his emancipation. His family sold some of that land to purchase additional land along the Eno River, including the tracts once owned by Ms. Scarlett and Mr. Tapp and Ms. Long. As you can see, not only are the tracts extremely important from an environmental standpoint, but they have a great deal of cultural and historical importance as well.

Betty Scarlett was very happy to see her land protected. The property had been in her family for generations, and it was important to her for the buyer to appreciate the environmental, historical, and cultural importance of the tract. "I am very happy that the Eno River Association was able to purchase the property from me. Now I can be assured that the property will be protected from development for future generations," says Scarlett.

We also recently transferred the 22.5-acre Long-Tapp Property to the Eno River State Park. Plans for the tract include the development of new hiking trails and other recreational opportunities. "This tract is important from both a resource protection and recreational standpoint as we fill a critical gap in the park land along the river," says Dave Cook, Superintendent of the Eno River State Park. "Its acquisition will help to create a



contiguous area of protected habitat, maintain the water quality of the Eno, allow us to extend the park trail system, and protect the scenery for those who traverse the river."

As an added bonus, the transfer of the Long-Tapp Property to the State Park gives us additional funds to purchase other properties within the Eno River Basin. We are actively working to purchase tracts throughout Durham and Orange Counties, and these additional funds will certainly prove to be invaluable to our conservation work.

Our partnership with Orange County's Environment and Resource Conservation Department is also proceeding well. One of our collaborative conservation easement projects may be close to completion; at this time we are simply waiting for a final decision on an Ecosystem Enhancement Program (EEP) Grant that would allow us to purchase the easement. Hopefully, we will have some good news regarding this project in

the next newsletter. We also continue to work closely with a number of different landowners along the Upper Eno and Seven Mile Creek and hope to be able to speak about some of these projects in greater detail in the near future.

We also continue to work to protect additional lands around Penny's Bend. Our partnership with the NC Plant Conservation Program, the NC Botanical Garden, and Durham County continues to go well, as we recently received a \$630,000 grant from the Natural Heritage Trust Fund towards the purchase of several tracts. Many of these tracts have frontage along the Eno, and all of them possess the unique diabase soils which support the Piedmont Prairie Ecosystem. Their protection would help a number of rare and endangered species, such as the smooth purple coneflower.

Both the State and the Association are actively working with the owners of these tracts, and we hope to have more good news regarding this project in the next newsletter.

Lastly, we cannot stress enough that our land protection work is not limited to these projects. We are always interested in assisting landowners throughout the Eno River Basin that would like to protect their property. Whether you would like to protect your property by selling it to the State Park or the Association, would like to protect it without selling it by granting a conservation easement, or are interested in ways that you can manage your property differently, we would love to speak with you. Please contact Wade Shelton, our Director of Land Protection, at (919) 620-9099 with any questions.

Notes on Planned Giving

Erik J. Daubert MBA, CFRE, Board Member, Eno River Association

As the seasons begin to change, it is time to think of shorter days and colder nights. The winter brings a change of pace and activity for many of us that remind us of the passing of time. It also brings the opportunity for year-end giving and tax planning.



Giving at year-end can be as simple as making a gift and saving on your taxes. There are some simple ways to give to the Eno River Association, as my wife and I now do regularly, as part of our support of the Eno River and its importance in our community.

Some of the simplest ways include:

CASH GIFTS

Because the Eno River Association accepts cash gifts in many forms including cash, check or Master Card/Visa, gifts of cash are among the simplest gifts to make. My wife and I make our annual gifts on our credit card in order to benefit from the "points" generated through our charitable gifts. It also saves the hard working staff of the Eno River Association the trouble and expense of having to send us a "bill" for our pledges to be paid. Gifts of cash and check work equally as well in many respects. Maybe this is the year that your family will decide to give to charity instead of to each other at the holidays? So many families now practice this tradition as we celebrate our many blessings around the holidays.

GIFTS OF STOCK

For many folks, giving appreciated stock is still a great option. If you have long-term appreciated stock, you may benefit from getting a "double benefit" to your gift. You may avoid paying capital gains tax on the increase in value of your stock. You may receive the tax deduction for the full market value of the stock on the date of the gift to the Eno River Association. Depending on your income, you may be able to deduct a significant percentage of your income or carry forward the benefits into future tax years.

LIFE INSURANCE

As we grow older, many of us have life insurance policies that are no longer needed. If you name the Eno River Association as the owner and beneficiary of the policy, you can receive a tax deduction. This is also true if your policy has a cash value. If you have a policy that you choose or need to make additional payments towards, these payments can become tax deductible in future years. Your life insurance agent can help you complete these transactions and it is as easy as making the decision to make a difference to the Eno River Association.

GIFTS OF REAL ESTATE

Gifts of marketable real estate or special lands that may benefit the Eno River Association can be powerful ways to give. If you have owned a home, vacation property or land for an extended period of years, there may be many powerful reasons to give in this way. If you own property of which selling it might result in a large capital gains tax, you can choose to give it to the Eno River Association instead. In this way you can avoid paying the tax and also receive the tax benefit from the full market value of the real estate at the date of transfer. There are also other more complex ways to give real estate that may be worth discussing with your tax advisor. Gifts of real estate to the Eno River Association have helped make the organization strong and more able to focus on its' important work.

ESTATE PLANNING

Don't forget to leave the Eno River Association in your will and/or estate planning. A gift through your estate can help to ensure that the great work of the Eno River Association continues after we pass away. Consider making a planned gift to the Eno River Association as my wife and I have done. You will feel better just knowing that the important work of protecting one of our area's most treasured resources will continue far into the future.

These are just a few of the simplest ways to give to the Eno River Association through year-end giving. Remember to always check with your legal advisor and/or tax planner to ensure that you are maximizing your benefits while maximizing your gifts to the Eno River Association. With all of us working together, we can make sure that the Eno River is protected into perpetuity.

Donation Wish List:

Pick-up truck in good running condition (appearance irrelevant)

Fireproof File Cabinet

Digital projector

Picnic table

Mac laptop computer

Meet Emily Herbert

We are very happy to introduce Emily Herbert to the members of the Eno River Association. Emily was hired in September as the new Program Coordinator, and has wasted no time getting busy with the myriad of tasks her job entails (including coordinating the publication of this very newsletter).

Emily is a Durham native, a graduate of the N.C. School of Science and Mathematics, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a major in psychology and sociology

(which should aid her greatly in dealings with the board, staff and membership).

Her first memories of the Eno are Festival related: a five year old eating an ice-cold watermelon and listening to the music. She has always enjoyed hiking on the Eno and is looking forward to becoming even more familiar with its trails, critters and people.

When not on the Eno, Emily enjoys: cooking, political activism, Tuvan Throat singing, road trips and knitting.

She has no tattoos or piercings.



Welcome Emily!

A Letter from Hazel Cash

Dear Friends,

My emotions overwhelmed me on Sunday at the Annual Meeting, and I could not say what I felt. Nancy Gustavson really said a lot of good and lovely things about me, but what I would like for all of you to know is that I had a lot of wonderful help from the very start. Wayne was there for me all the way and Mary Wimberley was my right hand for many years. Then every one of you that I asked for help did so with food, money, or time and never said "no". The Eno River Association has the best and hardest workers of any group I know. We accomplish so much because we are so giving and caring.

The picture of the "river flowers" is beautiful and holds many wonderful memories for me. Thanks to each and every one.

Hazel Cash

Shop to Save the Eno!

Food Lion Shop & Share—

Link your MVP card to benefit the Eno River Association!

You can link your card online at www.foodlion.com or at your local Food Lion. Then every time you shop with your MVP card, a donation is made to save the Eno.

New Beginnings Used Furniture—Located at 301 S. Duke St, just north of Chapel Hill St, New Beginnings takes donations of used home and office furniture and donates the proceeds to local non-profit organizations. The proceeds from each piece sold go to the organization designated by the person who donated that piece. If you have furniture you don't want anymore, take it to New Beginnings and designate the donation to benefit the Eno River Association. While you're there, do some shopping!

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Bob Ciski
Stuart Everly
June and Robert Minton
Margaret Moore
John Waszac
Banks Dixon
Gary Clayton

THANKS TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS:

ENO RIVER ASSOCIATION:

Bill and Carol Charming

Randy Cubrilovic
and Sara Summers

Debra Logner
and Joe Abney

Ornamentea
Richard Riddell

UU Congregation
of Hillsborough

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MARGARET NYGARD FUND:

Mary Withers Johnston
Annette & William Jurgelski
Carolyn Norris



ASSOCIATION

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The Eno River Association is a member of Earth Share of NC. Please look for us in your workplace giving campaign.



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

ENO RIVER ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Join Us! We are always in need of members who want to help protect the nature, culture, and history of the Eno River. If you are not a member, why not join today? If you have already paid your dues, share your love of the Eno with a friend or family member and encourage them to join the Eno River Association. Memberships also make great gifts!

Eno River Association Membership Application/Renewal Form

Clip and mail to: 4419 Guess Road, Durham, NC 27712

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

I would like to make an additional contribution of \$ _____.

All donations are tax-deductible. Thank you for your contribution.

Method of Payment

Check (Please make payable to the Eno River Association)
 Mastercard Visa Credit Card # _____
Signature _____ Exp. Date _____

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL:

- \$10 Student
- \$25 Friend
- \$50 Supporter
- \$100 Protector
- \$250 Steward
- \$500 Conservator
- \$1000 Eno Guardian
- \$5000 Life Member

VOLUNTEER INTERESTS:

- Festival for the Eno
- Eno River Watch
- Eno Calendar
- Trail Workdays
- Events & Exhibits
- Hike Leader
- Public Relations
- Office/Clerical
- Hospitality
- Other _____

Eno River Currents Is On-Line!

The Eno River Association's newsletter, *Eno River Currents*, is also available online at our website www.enoriver.org.

If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically instead of (or in addition to) the paper edition, please contact Emily Herbert at 919-620-9099 or email emily@enoriver.org.