Preparing for a Great 2011
Kurt Schlimme, Director of Land Protection & Stewardship

Countless hours have been spent by staff, committee members and volunteers advancing our existing land protection projects, pursuing new opportunities, and stewarding all along the river. The fruit of these efforts should help make 2011 a fantastic year. Within the next several months we expect to complete two fee simple purchases. One will fill an important missing link in the Eno River State Park. The other will help protect rare plant habitat and wetlands on a major tributary in the Lower Eno. We also expect to receive a land donation of property adjacent to the Eno River State Park that is needed for the future Mountains-to-Sea trail. In addition to fee simple acquisitions, we are working on two conservation easement projects in Orange County that will provide permanent protection for important riparian areas and wildlife habitat.

Another important land protection effort that the Association has been working on with landowners is the Healthy Forests Project. Using grant funds awarded early this year the Association is helping landowners develop forest stewardship plans that allow them to manage their forests in ways that also protect riparian areas and enhance wildlife habitat.

Complementing the Association’s land protection efforts, our land stewardship efforts have been equally effective. With the help and hard work of dedicated volunteers, invasive plant removal workdays were held at the Association’s Dimmocks Mill Conservation Area and Confluence Natural Area where we have substantially reduced invasive plant cover, allowing our native flora species to reestablish in areas that had been overwhelmed by exotic species. Future invasive removal efforts will be enhanced by the work of two DukeEngage interns who spent the summer documenting the location of the Eno’s “Least Wanted” plant species.

In addition to invasive plant removal efforts, volunteers assisted with several property clean-up workdays at various Association properties.
Reflections from the River

The story of the Eno River Association is the story of the land we protect. It often begins with a landowner who feels a connection to a special place and wants to see it preserved. Joanne Stollings had memories of spending summers on her grandparents’ farm and playing in the East Fork of the Eno with her brother. Today the Association serves as steward and protector of this property now known as the Confluence Conservation Area. In the 1960s Allen Lloyd bought land on Occoneechee Mountain where he had played as a child, keeping it out the hands of timber companies and developers. Working with these and other families the Association permanently safeguards these wonderful places.

But legal protection is just the starting point. These lands shelter rare plants, wildlife habitat, clean water, beautiful views and fresh air, and provide places for people to experience and enjoy them all. They offer opportunities for scientific research, and chances for children to participate in service learning projects that enhance the conservation values of the land and teach them about the natural world. These places allow people to create their own memories and connections to river, completing the circle.

Overtaking everything is the Association’s commitment to advocate for the river and the protection of the important natural areas within its basin. As a supporter of the Eno River Association you make this work possible: protection of land along the Eno and the streams that nourish the river, stewarding and caring for the land for which we have taken responsibility, and connecting people, especially younger people, with the river—showing them why our work matters.

Please help us sustain our success by making a year-end contribution or by connecting people, especially younger people, with the river—showing them why our work matters.

Thank you! Happy Holidays!

- Robin Jacobs, Executive Director

Great 2011, cont’d from page 1

conservation properties. Volunteers have also helped with rare plant enhancement activities at the Blue Indigo Slopes Nature Preserve and several partner properties within the Diabase region of the Lower Eno. Altogether, 19 workdays were held over the past year, involving more than 150 volunteers and 450 volunteer hours. Thank you to these volunteers for doing all the dirty work. A full slate of workdays is planned for 2011. If you are interested in helping, please email stewardship@enoriver.org to get your name added to our stewardship volunteer email list.

Fireside Visions

Kathy Lee, Director of Education

I have a fire ring in my backyard that I use for quiet contemplation and as a gathering node with friends. It is very primal to gather in the dark around a fire. Faces become focused as they are isolated from the darker surroundings; issues become clearer when they face the glow of firelight; ideas emerge that might never have been spoken in the light of day.

A group of Eno staff, board members, and education committee volunteers and their kids spent an evening together around my fire ring in early October as we explored the future opportunities and challenges ahead in our Eno education programs. There are so many ways that we can accomplish our educational goals and I value the input and collective wisdom of this group to help me chart the course.

When I teach orienteering programs I give the students a few tips to use at every cross trail or significant landmark:

• Stop
• Find north with your compass
• Re-orient your map
• Find your present location on the map

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• Re-orient your map
• Find your present location on the map
• Look at your surroundings before taking your next step.

As I write this update a few weeks after the fireside visioning I am excited to be charting our next steps in the growing Eno education program. I’ve checked my compass; I’ve re-oriented my map; I’ve looked at my surroundings—I’m now ready to head off down the path.
and regard each day as a gift.
3. What do you like to do when you’re not volunteering?
   When I finished my AT hike, people would ask, “Are you ever going to hike it again?” My quick answer was, “Absolutely not!” I’ve contradicted myself already by hiking 177 miles on the AT in Maine this past September. Time spent in nature really contributes to my peace of mind. I also create artwork, write and publish a serial story about American Indian communities (“A Drumstick’s Story”), and sing with an American Indian drum called Southern Sun.
4. Who influenced you to make environmentalism a part of your life?
First, it was growing up with a family cattle farm and my outdoor experiences with the Boy Scouts. And my environmental awareness became more formal when I earned a degree in Landscape Architecture and a MA in Environmental Education. Through it all, my association with American Indian people has had a profound influence in making me an environmental citizen. I got my start teaching in the American Indian Movement’s Survival Schools in the 1970s and have kept up my relationships with Indian people all over North America ever since.

To learn more about Joe check out his blog http://joeliles.chunkyboy.com.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

2011 Eno River Calendar – A Locavores Delight! You can’t eat the Eno calendar, but buying your calendar helps support our local land trust, and in turn we support local businesses including Azalea Graphics and PBM Graphics—our design and printing team. We also work with local retail partners throughout the area who help market and sell our calendar. For a listing of local retail shops selling the 2011 Eno River calendar visit www.enoriver.org.

ATTENTION ENO ART LOVERS! If you have ever walked along the Backquarter Creek Trail at the Eno River State Park you may have walked past the old Cole family homeiste, which is spectacular in spring with a sea of daffodils blooming. Hillsborough artist Pat Merriman will donate the proceeds from the sale of her painting of the Cole Homestead to the Eno River Association in support of our work to protect the Eno.

TRAVELING TS

In memory of New Workhorse *

Some things will stay the same.

The Eno winter hike series starts on Saturday, January 1

with the annual New Year’s Day hike and continues each Sunday afternoon at 2pm from January 9 through February 27 (no hike on Jan. 2). No advance registration required.

But some things will change.

Starting on January 9, 2011 winter hikes will meet at the trailhead or designated meeting spot for each hike. We will no longer meet at Fee’s Ford and then carpool or drive individually to the winter hike locations. This will eliminate the extra driving miles, extra time, and extra gas. We still encourage carpooling with your friends and family to the featured destination each Sunday afternoon.

For details and directions to the New Year’s Day hike and the Winter Hikes visit www.enoriver.org and click on the Events and Activities link.

MEMBERS ONLY HOLIDAY SALE

50% off selected Eno art prints & posters December 15 & 16

Check out an email from us with all of the details about the sale or contact festival@enoriver.org or 919-620-9099 x203.

MARGARET NGOC VIEN FUND

Robert & Margaret Elie

Tom & Elvis Howard

Geoffrey & Margaret Wainwright

FESTIVAL FOR THE ENO

John & Ava Batts

Carolyn Dally

STEWARDSHIP FUND

Karen Schlinke

IN HONOR OF...

George Allison

(Nevada fund)

Margaret Marquis

Magda & John Martin

Steve & Lus Bolenkin

Ron & Nikki Bolenkin

 leans to your vehicles for so many things—

STUDENT / FRIEND / PATRON

Wilson & Joylle Angley

Barbara Blair

Lewie & Chevy Blake

Stephen Buzzynski

Diana Burke

Jerry & Victoria Chappell

Donna Divel

Cynthia Drake & Tim Carson

Jennifer Eddy

Emily Eken

Mary E. Etkin

Michael & Nina Ginkin

Heidi & Andrew Van Horne

Jean Hamon

Earl & Patricia Hanke

Vladimir Korsvos

John L. Jones

Joyce Ingalls

Vickie Jinks

Sandy & Mike Quinn

Rick Payne

Rob & Trisha Myers

David Myers

Lisa R. Murphy & Phyllis Moody

David Myers

Rob & Trish Myers

Rick Peterson

Sandy & Mike Quinn

Alice Richmond

Radu Bogdanschi

Elisa simons

Patrick Stramcha

Judith Sorey & Michael Hecht

Matthias Tanam

C. E. & Alain Tenepon

David Walker

Rebecca D. Warren

Wynne & Kathleen Warren

Mary & James Williams

FLORA & JON ROY FROST

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LEAN ON THE VILLAGE:

If you have a truck that you are able to donate in return for a tax receipt, we would love to talk to you.

Give Robin a call at 919-620-9099 x202 or email robin@enoriver.org.
The Eno River Association newsletter is printed on 100% post-consumer content. Please recycle or reuse Eno River Currents by passing it along to a friend.

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

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 Currents is online!
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 call 919-620-9099 or email: association@enoriver.org

Eno River Association
Membership Application/Renewal Form
Clip and Mail to: 4404 Guess Road, Durham, NC 27712 or join online at www.enoriver.org

Name ________________________________
Address _______________________________________________________
City _____________________________ State _______  Zip ___________
Phone _______________________________
Email _______________________________

We do not share our email list.
I would like to make an additional contribution of $ _________________

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
☐ $35 Patron
☐ $50 Supporter
☐ $100 Protector
☐ $250 Steward
☐ $500 Conservator
☐ $1000 Guardian
☐ $5000 Champion

Volunteer for the Eno
☐ Please inform me of volunteer opportunities with the Eno River Association. (Please provide an email address if you have one.)

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