



ENO RIVER Currents



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

CALENDAR

Events:

greg@enoriver.org

Eno Members Only Sale
December 4 & 5
50% off selected Eno-wares

Stewardship Workdays: kurt@enoriver.org

Saturday, December 15, 10–1
Monday, January 21, 10–1
MLK Day of Service
Saturday, February 23, 10–1
Saturday, March 9, 10–1

Hikes & Programs: liz@enoriver.org

New Year's Day Hike
Tues, January 1, 2 pm
Eno River State Park,
Few's Ford Picnic Shelter

Hikes – Sunday afternoons 2pm
Winter Hikes:
January 6 – March 10

Spring Hikes:
March 17 – May 12

Visit www.enoriver.org
for details about these and
other Eno activities.

Eno River Trail Stewards Program Celebrates First Anniversary

Kurt Schlimme, Director of Conservation

It has been a year since the Eno River Trail Stewards program was initiated within the Eno River State Park. It has been a wildly successful year thanks to the vigilance and hard work of the 40 individuals who have volunteered their time to ensure the trails of the State Park get the attention that they deserve. Through their monthly monitoring visits, these good folks have reblazed trails, cut back vegetation, addressed erosion issues, and helped coordinate with the State Park staff to address hazard trees and other significant issues that require their attention. Trail stewards have contributed over 600 hours and hiked miles upon miles of trail to help ensure a quality recreational experience for park users. It is obviously a job that is not without its perks, but it is also a big commitment that the trail stewards have made. Thank you goes out to everyone who has helped make this program a success.

We are looking to get a few more folks who would like to train to become trail stewards. If you have an interest, please email kurt@enoriver.org.

View from the Trail

Patty Seery,
Laurel Bluffs Trail Steward

Patty Seery was part of the initial class of trail stewards trained last October in Eno River State Park. Since then Patty has taken on the task of monitoring and maintaining the Laurel Bluffs trail. She was kind enough to share her thoughts of why she decided to join the program and how things have gone over the past year.

“It had been about two weeks after moving to North Carolina that a new acquaintance told me about the Eno River State Park and its hiking trails. (see View, page 3)



Kurt Schlimme

Patty Seery



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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Two Who Inspire Us

Two extraordinary women—both of whom made an indelible imprint on the Eno River Association—passed away this fall. We are grateful that long-time members Hildegard Ryals and Fran Thompson decided to make the Eno a part of their personal mission. Though their departure saddens us, we know that because of their passion and hard work we have access to an Eno still wild in many places, and the opportunity to develop our own relationships with the river.

Hildegard was a firebrand. Along with Margaret Nygard, Duncan and Becky Heron, Don Cox, and others, she helped ignite the grassroots campaign that protected the Eno from impoundment and got the Eno River State Park established. Her seminal place at the heart of our organization never diminished even as she advocated for other important environmental initiatives over the years. Besides her leadership and generosity, we will always remember her enthusiasm and her magnetic, gregarious personality!

A pioneer in her own right, Fran spent her career as a high school science teacher and her time as a volunteer scout leader, motivating young conservationists to learn and care about the environment. We remember her love for the river and our annual Festival for the Eno. Fran was our first

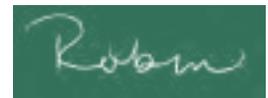
Treasurer, and even after she retired from the Board she continued to spread her enthusiasm, keeping Festival volunteers motivated with trays of homemade cookies! Both Hildegard and Fran understood that the fate of the river and our own fate are one and the same. Their legacy will live on in the work we continue to do to protect special places along the Eno. Thank you for being part of this work too.



Hildegard Ryals



Fran Thompson



Liz Stabenow

Putting Their Best Foot Forward

“Treading lightly” didn’t apply during the first annual Eno River Run, held at the end of October in partnership with Bull City Running Company and Eno River State Park. The event was a sell-out at 300 trail runners, and included a 6-mile and an 11-mile race, with a



section of bouldering and a wet river crossing. There was even a “fun run” for kids. Former Festival for the Eno artist Sara O’Neill created unique pottery medallions which were awarded to the overall winners, and to winners in each age category.

With 2,000 acres left to be acquired to complete the Eno River State Park and miles of unprotected stream corridor upstream and downstream—important for drinking water, wildlife, and recreation—the Run helped raise funds for the Eno River Association’s conservation programs. It also served to introduce the park to members of the running community, providing yet another way for the Eno River Association to connect people to our own local river.

Next year’s run will be held on October 26. It’s not too soon to start getting in shape!



(View, from page 1) That weekend, my dog and I headed out to see just what was there. The park trails very quickly became a weekend staple. I picked up copies of the trail maps and marked off each one as we hiked it the first time. (Some received second and third honors before they were all done.)

A co-worker later invited me join an Eno River Association work day. It satisfied my innate need for dirty fingernails and working outdoors, something I had missed living in an apartment. I joined additional volunteer work days but my work travel schedule interfered a lot. When the Eno River Trail Stewards program was announced, it looked like a win-win to me. I could now volunteer to help with park maintenance but do it on my own schedule. It has been almost a year now and I take joy in my working walks on the Laurel Bluffs Trail. Overall I have hiked over 80 miles in the “line of duty.” I have watched great blue herons flying up and down the river, spotted turtles basking in the sun, listened to ducks call back and forth, lamented deer bounding away as they caught wind of my approach, and coaxed a few relaxing snakes off the trail (including almost picking one up when I mistook it for tree debris across the trail). My efforts have been acknowledged with appreciation by people using the trail. Runners have expressed their thanks as I’ve pruned out trip hazards. Families have been appreciative of downed limbs and tree debris being cleared so their smaller children could navigate the trail easily. Several people expressed

their enthusiasm for the marked trails the day I refreshed the painted blaze markers for the trail.

Whether it is trail runners, dog walkers, fishermen, meditators, amateur botanists (all of whom I have met on the trail), or the critters of the forest, everyone seems to be engrossed in the treasures of the State Park. It has been a wonderfully rewarding experience giving back to the places that I and so many other people enjoy. I still volunteer on workdays when I’m available but I now have my own special time and place to continue my volunteer efforts.



Kurt Schlimme

Help Us Raise \$80K by December 31 to Advance Ambitious Conservation, Stewardship, and Outreach Agenda

As the oldest land trust in the state, we've always taken the long view. Despite the economy, state budget cuts, and other challenges, we know that with your support, we can keep making a positive and lasting impact in the Eno River basin. Right now, we're implementing an ambitious new plan to do just that, and we need to raise \$80,000 to support our efforts by December 31 (let us know you approve by sending in your contribution today!). Funds raised during our year-end campaign will fuel:

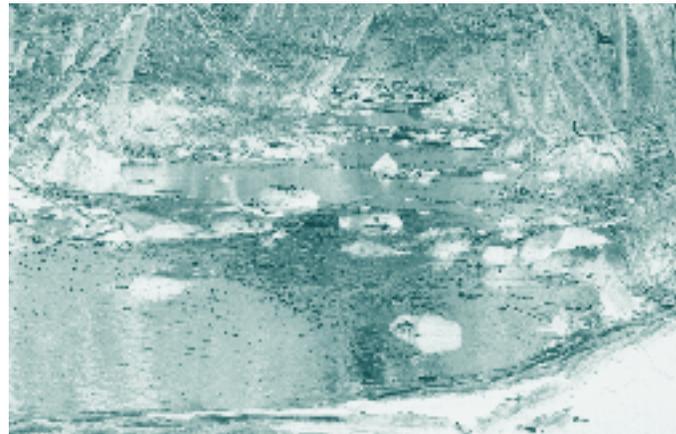
An aggressive push to move our land protection agenda forward. Long term, we need to protect thousands more acres along the river and its tributaries in Durham and Orange counties, acquiring them for Eno River State Park or protecting them with permanent conservation easements. In the short term, we want to focus on a few promising projects, totaling around 800 acres, that we already have in the works. Your year-end gift will keep us working on priority conservation projects like these so we can save more land along the river.

A calculated expansion of our land stewardship program. Of course we want to plant more trees, remove more trash, and restore more habitat (who wouldn't?). But this is a tall order, because we already do a lot. Just this year, we organized 22 workdays and put 255 stewardship volunteers to work. In 800 volunteer hours, we removed a staggering 20,000 pounds of trash from land adjoining the river, planted 700 trees, put tree protectors on 1,100 hardwood seedlings, and implemented our first controlled burn. Whew! Now all we need is to train a corps

of volunteer crew leaders to lead additional workdays. Your year-end campaign contribution will help us do that, so we can further improve water quality and provide even more native habitat for plants and animals.

An outreach strategy that excites more kids, adults, and families about the Eno. For 46 years, we've been getting people to the river with guided hikes, canoe trips, picnics, family days on the river, and our annual Festival for the Eno. Yet many adults are still unfamiliar with the river and unaware of its impact on their lives. Too few children have experienced its wonders. Your year-end gift will help us connect thousands more kids and adults to the river with traditional events and new outdoor experiences that inspire and instill a lifelong conservation ethic.

You can help, and we've made it easy. In this newsletter is a return envelope we hope you'll use to make a



West Fork of the Eno

Kathy Lee

tax-deductible contribution to our year-end campaign. You can also go online and give a one-time or recurring gift at www.enoriver.org. General contributions will be directed to where they're needed the most. Donors with special interests are also invited to consider a restricted gift to our Land Stewardship Fund, the Margaret Nygard Land Protection Fund (for

conservation anywhere along the river), or the Allen Lloyd Fund for the Protection of the Upper Eno (for projects upstream of Eno River State Park). You can even split your donation between funds.

As we are with the land, we will be a good steward of your year-end gift. We thank everyone for helping us achieve our ambitious vision for the Eno!

WE NEED YOU TO CHECK UP ON US

The Eno River Association recently invested in a new database to help us better manage donor and other constituent information. Please help us out by checking to make sure this newsletter (and future mailings) are addressed correctly. If we need to correct or update anything about your name or how to reach you, please

let us know with a phone call, email (association@enoriver.org), or by snail mail using the reply envelope enclosed. You're an important part of the Eno family, and we don't want to lose touch or misdirect our future mailings. Thanks for helping us do a better job communicating with you!

Kathy Lee



Expedition on the Eno River for the Young Men of Progress

Liz Stabenow, Director of Education

On a recent chilly school morning, a group of 37 high-school students boarded a bus headed to the Eno River. All were members of the Young Men of Progress at Durham's Northern High School, a group that focuses on developing leadership skills and academic excellence in African-American students. As part of a partnership between the Eno River Association



Liz Stabenow

and Durham Public Schools, the group was heading out on a science investigation of the Eno River that would take them from the headwaters in Orange County to where the river enters Falls Lake in Durham. Along the way, they would be collecting information on water chemistry, aquatic life forms, flow and

discharge rates, and changes in the physical characteristics of the river.

The bus pulled up to the Eno for the first time, near where the confluence of the river's West Fork and East Fork join together. The setting was rural and woody, and many students took note of the huge leaves falling to the ground. Eno River Association Education Director Liz Stabenow picked one up and passed it to the students. "It's a sycamore, they grow in wet areas along the river." One student responded, "It's bigger than your head!" As



Liz Stabenow

they neared the water's edge, the young men scrambled down the river bank for a first look into the Eno, excited and full of questions. After breaking into research teams, the students went to work collecting water samples and gathering data. One student found himself in the clear, cold waters of the Eno, waist deep in his hip waders, catching an orange as it floated by to measure the flow of water. Another discovered he had caught a crawdad in his net and called friends over to take a closer look.

From the confluence area the research teams rolled a few miles downstream to Ayr Mount in Hillsborough. More water chemistry was analyzed and compared to the first location.

Students measured the river's banks—larger now as it moved through town. One young man found himself holding a handful of clams. "Is it alive?" he asked. "Can I open it?" Another student cautioned, "No, that will kill it." "Can I eat it?" he wondered.

Though it is edible, we opted for some fries for lunch instead. The students found a good number and variety of organisms that do not tolerate pollution, indicating excellent water quality. The students discussed the use of the Eno for drinking water, and the flow of the river through Hillsborough and on to Durham.

The last stop was near where the Eno empties into Falls Lake. Many students noticed the river had grown in size as it collected water from streams across Orange and Durham counties. Too large to wade across and measure, one team studied the trees growing on the banks. The pattern of growth rings clearly showed the effects of droughts in recent years. At the end of a damp, chilly day the young men were still filled with energy and enthusiasm. One science teacher noted, "You will remember this. Why? Because you did it. You collected the data and did the work."



Liz Stabenow

Hats Off to Dave Cook and Erik Nygard

We would like to say congratulations to Dave Cook, former Eno River State Park superintendent, on his promotion to North District Superintendent and to Erik Nygard on his recent retirement from this position. As one of four district superintendents, the North District Superintendent is responsible for operations, resource management, environmental education programming, law enforcement, safety and facility maintenance for nine state parks from Hanging Rock in Stokes County to Kerr Lake State Recreation Area in the northeast, including Eno River State Park.

Dave Cook, affectionately known as SuperDave to some, was superintendent at Eno River State Park from



Dave Cook

he says. We are glad to have him back in our neck of the woods again. “Dave is an experienced veteran of the state

1993–2008. He moved on to Superintendent at Hanging Rock State Park, and in 2012, he will be returning to our area as North District Superintendent. “The Eno always feels like home to be me. It’s good to be living back in the watershed and still have a hand in taking care of the river,”

parks system, having served as superintendent or ranger at four state parks and as a leader in our search-and-rescue and emergency response efforts,” said Lewis Ledford, state parks director. “He is highly qualified for the range of challenges that a district superintendent encounters in a growing state parks system.”

Erik Nygard, son of Margaret and Holger, grew up on the Eno River in what has grown to be the Eno River State Park. After graduating from NC State he returned to North Carolina State Parks, working as a ranger at Eno River, Pilot Mountain, and William B. Umstead parks. He also spent nearly four years as a district interpretation and education specialist in eastern North Carolina, taking time out to serve as a Peace Corp volunteer in Nepal from 1993–95. He became Superintendent of Hanging Rock State Park

in 2003, and was promoted to North District Superintendent in 2008. Erik celebrated his retirement this fall with a party at Pleasant Green Community Center. An excellent photographer, enthusiastic adopter of technology, and a great person to work with, we wish him the best and hope to run into him on a trail along the Eno.

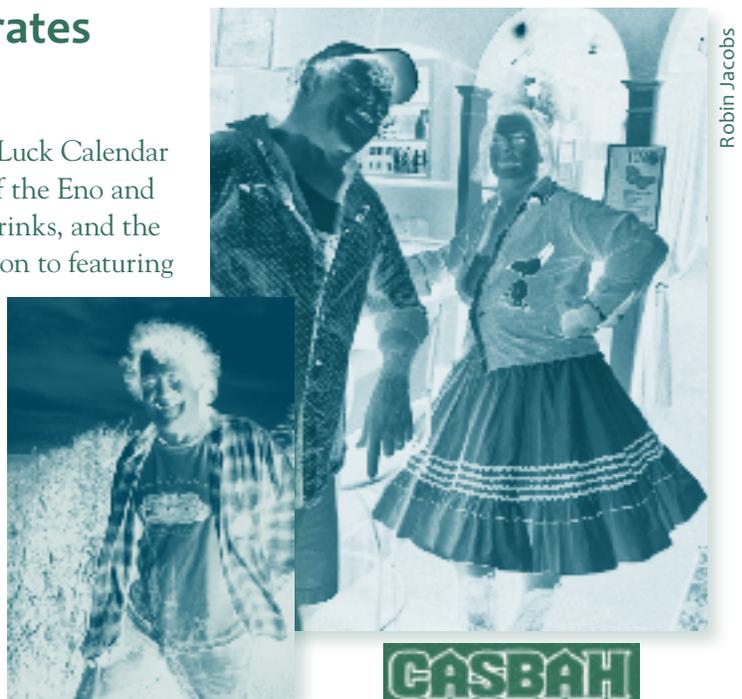


Erik Nygard

Eno River Association Celebrates at the Casbah

On December 2 the Association held its annual Pot Luck Calendar Celebration and Holiday Party, gathering friends of the Eno and supporters of the Eno River Association for food, drinks, and the music of Piedmont blues musician Lightnin’ Wells. In addition to featuring the 2013 calendar, *Everyone’s Eno*, the party celebrated 46 years of successfully advocating for the river, protecting its special places, and helping people to make the hands-on, feet-wet connections that will last a lifetime. Thanks to the Casbah for providing the venue, and for hosting the raucous Rowdy Square Dance Festival Kick-off Party back in June.

Blues musician Lightnin’ Wells (right).
Festival Coordinator Greg Bell and
Education Director Liz Stabenow ready
to rowdy square dance (far right).



2013 Eno River Association Calendar Now on Sale

The 2013 Eno calendar is about you, it's about me, and it's about everyone who had a photo or a memory to share about the Eno River. It has taken a community of people caring about the river to accomplish everything that we have over the past 46 years including almost 6,000 acres of protected land, thirty-three Festivals for the Eno, numerous journals, and this, our 42nd edition of the Eno calendar. Visit www.enoriver.org to find a store near you to purchase a calendar for yourself, friends, family, and other river lovers.



New Year's Day Hike

Join the tradition as we gather with hundreds of Eno friends of all ages to start the New Year hiking along the Eno River! Two hikes of varying lengths will be offered, and hot chocolate and snacks will be served after the hike. Meet at the picnic shelter at Few's Ford.



Hikes continue through the winter and spring each Sunday afternoon at 2pm. Hikes vary from a casual walk-and-talk stroll through the park to more strenuous hikes. Please visit www.enoriver.org for a full description of the hike and important updates.

Eno River Q & A

Do you have questions about the Eno River, the parks, wildlife, water quality, history, geology, or our programs? Please post your questions on our Facebook page, (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Eno-River-Association/106862689349705?ref=hl>) and our community of river lovers, poets, scientists, historians, naturalists, and friends of the Eno can answer your questions and engage in a lively community discussion.

Wish List

Email association@enoriver.org or call 919-620-9099. We are currently seeking:

- Canoes (for Eno River State Park)
- Cargo van for *iWalk the Eno* camps & afterschool programs
- Plastic shoe boxes & sweater boxes w/ locking lids for storage

Bikram Yoga—Eno's Valentine

If you've never heard of Hot Yoga maybe it's time to do a little hands-on sleuthing. People who make a donation to the Eno River Association during February will be eligible for a free class at Durham's own Bikram Yoga studio at Golden Belt. No matter how old you are or what kind of shape you're in, hot yoga could be right for you. Donations can be made directly to ERA or at the yoga studio. We will let Bikram know about your generosity and they'll sign you up for your free class. Association staff will be onsite at 4pm on Feb. 15 (the day after Valentine's) to talk about how donor support is impacting our conservation initiatives. Check out www.bikramdurham.com for more information!

Thanks to our Evening for the Eno Sponsor Hosts

The Eno-extraordinary

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We make every attempt to ensure accuracy when acknowledging donors. We appreciate your notifying us of any errors.

The Wildflower Society

(Contributions of \$500 or more this calendar year)

We thank these special donors for their financial leadership, and for the extraordinary commitment they have made to protecting the Eno and mentoring the next generation of environmental stewards.

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Thanks to all of our other contributors and volunteers

(Contributions from August – October 2012)

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August – October 2012

In Honor Of

Matt & Amanda Allen's Wedding on June 2
from Kelly Allen

Samantha Baker
from Georgia Pierce

Hazel Cash's 90th Birthday
from Tom & Elvira Howard

In Memory Of

Arnold Drooz
from Aimee & Derek Tattersall
Fawn 1 & Fawn 2
from Emily Pierce

Ircil Gentry
from Kevin & Patti Clayton

Alan Reckow
from Sandra Ogburn

Jim & Leon Reeder
from JoEllen Mason

Reverend Steven Reinhartsen
"A dear friend who loved the outside world. He would like to know that in his memory, land is being preserved along the Eno & the next generation is learning to enjoy & appreciate it."
from Derek & Aimee Tattersall

Hildegard Ryals
from Jean Anderson
from Jean Bulkley
from Paula Burns
from the Gretchen Slick Cooley Fund
from Pat Dickinson
from Marcia Eickmeier
from Margaret George
from Marjorie George & Mark Straubel
from Kimball and Harriet King
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Margaret C. Nygard Land Acquisition Fund

contributions restricted to protecting land along the Eno

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City of Raleigh Combined Campaign
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Greater North Carolina Area
Combined Federal Campaign
Orange County
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Ron, Nikki & Alex Bodkin
Conrad & Virginia Hall
Commissioner Barry & Robin Jacobs
Pascale & Volker Mittendorf
Emily Pearce
Dale Leatherman &
Marguerite Pond-Leatherman
Kevin McGill & Merywen Wigley
Cynthia Satterfield & Dean Ruedrich
Susan Van Eyck & Barry Johnson

Volunteers

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Joanie Alexander | Aline Lloyd |
| Greg Beck | Norma Longo |
| Michael Blackman | Gary Lopp |
| Jeanne Chamberlin | Kate Lucero |
| Lottie Chorman | Caren Mangarelli |
| Tracy Cox | John Manuel |
| Blair Christian | Mark Manz |
| Betsy Cruise | Richard McFall |
| Joan Curry | Arianne Messerman |
| John Culver | Nancy Miller |
| Mary Cysz | Kathy Mills |
| Natalie Davis | Ellen Moss |
| Fred Dietrich | Margaret Muir |
| Lawrence Evans | Marie Muir |
| Karin Fitzpatrick | Karen Murphy |
| Rachel Franke | Coin Page |
| Thomas Freeland | Tony & Jennifer Parsons |
| Michael Fucco | Vickie Pashion |
| Paige Gentry | Rick Payne |
| Dorothy Gerard | Susan Perry |
| Jim Gerard | Bercedis Peterson |
| Virginia Gilbert | Heiko Rath |
| Caroline Gilmore | Neal Pollock |
| Douglas Hensel | Tom Quigley |
| Ken Hermy | Holly Reid |
| Margaret Herring | Patty Seery |
| Rebecca Hughes | Randy Smith |
| Jack Hunnell | Cathy Smith |
| Sally Jackson | Carl Theodore |
| Janet Jezsik | Laura Thomasson |
| Laura Kaderabek | Alexander van Nievelt |
| Pauly Keelen | Margaret Wainwright |
| Carole King | Leon Waters |
| Anna Kivlan | Kriddie Whitmore |
| Lisa Klatt | Sharon Whitmore |
| Daniel Labrecque | |

TRAVELING Ts

Salamander sighted in Japan: David Glenn at the ruins of Nakijin Castle on Okinawa Japan, in September 2012. Where has your Eno t-shirt visited lately? Send your photos and stories to liz@enoriver.org.





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