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# A North Carolina Wildlife Habitat Foundation PROGRESS REPORT

*Fall/Winter 2016/2017*



*Don't Let the Dream Die*





# Starting the Conversation

I first met Eddie Bridges in the early 90's. We were introduced in an exhibit tent during the Showcase of Homes at the Lake Jeanette development in Greensboro, NC. He was there starting a conversation with anyone that would listen about his vision for his latest passion, the North Carolina Wildlife Habitat Foundation. Lake Jeanette was a fitting location with a rich heritage for many outdoor lovers in that community. Eddie had been assisting the developers in responsibly protecting wildlife habitat in the area.

I was immediately captivated (as happens with most people who spend time with Eddie.) I worked for the News & Record then and by the time we finished our conversation we had developed a plan for the publication you are reading today. Eddie and the NCWHF have been a significant part of my life ever since. After all, I grew up outdoors and fully engaged with all the natural beauty of this incredible state. In the NCWHF, I was an all volunteer organization committed to preserving and improving all that I cherished. I wanted to become involved but I was a bit intimidated by the impressive list of leaders and conservationists from across the state that Eddie had assembled on the NCWHF board of directors.

Fast-forward over 20 years and it's simply amazing to see what the NCWHF supporters and volunteers have accomplished. A long list of diverse projects have been completed or launched all true to our mission statement. And our endowment continues to grow insuring the legacy of Eddie's vision and our commitment to our generous supporters.

For me personally, that first encounter led to a seat on the board and in 2015 I was humbled and honored to be named as the new chairman. I follow a great friend and incredible leader in that role. Kelly Harrill has put his heart and soul into our foundation and we are so much better for his service. I have big shoes to fill.

That leads me back to the theme for this article "stating the conversation".

Over the past year, I have had the opportunity to represent

the foundation at some great events. The long list includes the Dixie Deer Classic in Raleigh, the Greensboro Gun Show, East Carolina Wildlife Arts Festival in Little Washington and the Gold Leaf Waterfowlers Expo in Wilson. I have met landowners, farmers, art lovers, conservationists, bird watchers, sportsmen, sportswomen, state officials, ads (without smart phones) and even a few local celebrities. The common thread is the love for our wonderful natural resources in North Carolina. We shook hands and "started a conversation" about the NCWHF and our mission. Many bought a raffle ticket to help us raise funds for our Future Generations youth club. But the real value was in the conversations which will lead to great things in the future. Not unlike the conversation I had with Eddie Bridges over 20 years ago.

Tracy Brooks  
Chairman, NCWHF



Tracy Brooks, NCWHF Chairman  
pictured with his daughter, Claire,  
founding president of the NCWHF Future  
Generations.

PHOTO BY NANCY SIDELINGER, NEWS & RECORD

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Davon Crone, Advertising Account Executive, [damon.crone@news-record.com](mailto:damon.crone@news-record.com), (336)373-7135

Cover painting of a "Post Season Reunion" by Bob Timberlake.



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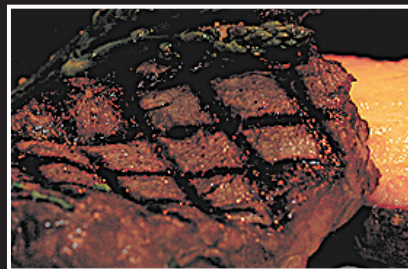


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For more information about the North Carolina Wildlife Habitat Foundation, call:  
 (336) 375-4994 or visit [www.ncwhf.org](http://www.ncwhf.org)



## Building a Wildlife Legacy: Oak Grove Partners

Several of our members have informed us that they have included the NCWHF in their estate planning. Becoming an Oak Grove Partner is one of the ways you can help grow the foundation to a multi-million dollar wildlife habitat savings account that will benefit our children and grandchildren. If you have questions, you may call us at 336.375.4994.

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## NCWHF Extravaganza

Only 100 tickets are available so reserve your tickets today!  
Ticket price is \$1,000 for two people.

Payment must be received before confirmation of tickets will be made.

To reserve your ticket you may:

- email [asharpe5@triad.rr.com](mailto:asharpe5@triad.rr.com)
- call Eddie Bridges at 336.375.4994
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## NCWHF Gift Ideas

Proceeds from the sales of these items assist in the acquisition, management, and protection of wildlife habitats within the state of North Carolina and promote conservation education for the benefit of future generations.



**Bob Timberlake "Post Season Reunion"**

2500 Signed and Numbered Giclees  
Size: 24"w x 11" h  
Price: \$250

150 Artist Proof Giclees  
Size: 23"w X 11"h  
Price \$300



**Remington NCWHF  
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# Future Generations brings Wildlife Education to Life!



On Saturday Nov 6th the NCWHF Future Generations youth group hosted 45 Wiley Elementary School Students for a day of Wildlife Conservation Education and fun at Bur-Mill park in Greensboro. Future Generations teamed up with Rashard Jones who is the coordinator of the United Ways African American Male Initiative which pairs elementary students with mentors for the

betterment of at risk youth. The day consisted of our Future Generations youth hosting three areas of education for the students to rotate through; Fishing, Archery, and a chance to see live animals in our Frank A. Sharpe Wildlife Education Center.

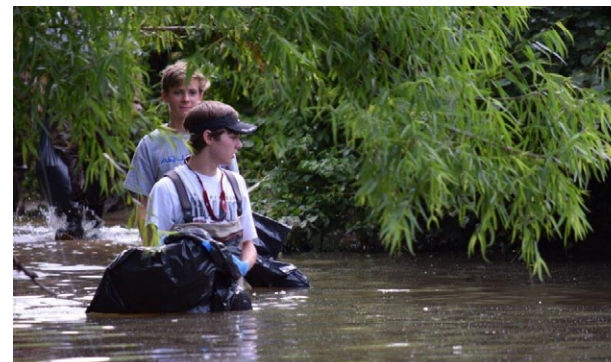
The day concluded with a cookout and prizes and a reminder of how important it is for our youth to have a connection and appreciation for the outdoors. A special thanks to the over 25 Future Generation members that coordinated the day and to all of our great sponsors; Gate City Rotary, Gary Graham and Associates, Bass Pro Shops (Cary), Teena Koury & Carolina Hosiery Mills, NC Wildlife Resource Commission, Koury Corporation and the NCWHF Board Members.



## Future Generations in Action!



Above: Future Generations club members lend a helping hand at the NCWHF booth at the Buttermilk Creek Outfitters First Annual Turkey Expo.





# Enthusiasm continues to grow in Future Generations Club

Future Generations is pleased to begin our second year with an almost completely new board and a great deal of enthusiasm. We are excited to announce that we had several service projects. We had planned a stream clean up on November 22nd, 2015, at Latham Park. Twenty-Five Future Generation members participated, as well as supporters of the North Carolina Wildlife Habitat Foundation. We also successfully had a stream clean up in June 2016, cleaning approximately 800 lbs. of debris and rubbish.

Another service project we're very excited about this year is our Take A Kid Fishing Day. Our goal is to have a cookout and fishing day at our Frank Sharpe Wildlife Education Center at Bur Mil Park for underprivileged elementary school children, exposing youth that have never had the opportunity to experience what catching a fish is like. Additionally, our ten-person board plans to assist the NCWHF with events throughout the year, including the Extravaganza on February 18, 2017 at Grandover Resort.

As a fundraising effort, we have created new Future Generations T-shirts and are currently in the midst of distributing them to our members. T-shirts are \$25 for any Future Generations member. We also have created social media pages such as our Twitter and Instagram. Our Twitter, @FG\_NCWHF, has been up and running for almost a year now, but we've only just begun our Instagram, @ncwhf\_fg.

Please follow us on our social media pages and spread the word about Future Generations! We'd love for anyone interested to join and look forward to seeing you at upcoming events! Feel free to contact me for additional information at [maggieharrill@icloud.com](mailto:maggieharrill@icloud.com).

Maggie Harrill

President: Future Generations



PHOTO BY KELLY HARRILL/NCWHF

**Stay Connected with the  
Future Generations Club**



North Carolina Wildlife Habitat Foundation



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## Eagle Scout project: Wood Duck Boxes

Congratulations to Future Generation member Whit Edwards Jr. who completed his Eagle Scout project by installing eight Wood Duck Boxes at Bur-Mil Park. Whit coordinated his project through Board Member Kelly Harrill who assisted in the feasibility and location scouting of the boxes. Whit worked over several months on the planning, design, fundraising and building of the boxes before coordinating and supervising the installation of the boxes.

In Spring of 2015, Kelly Harrill received a call from Whit, asking if there were any projects that needed to be done as Whit had a passion for bird hunting and conservation. Kelly proposed the perfect plan for building and installing Wood Duck Boxes to help boost local populations of ducks. Along with Whit's local troop's leadership, Whit and Kelly developed and received approval for a plan to build and install wood duck boxes by Fall.

After building the boxes in the summer with other boy scouts, Whit and Kelly scouted out suitable places to install the boxes that were spaced appropriately to encourage ducks to nest there but were close enough to water's edge to ensure ducklings can escape harm. Whit also secured custom made predator guards from the Prairie Pothole chapter of the Minnesota Water Association. This is a very important feature of the boxes that ensures most success.

Kelly, Whit, Whit's father and brother installed eight boxes and gave two boxes to the local wildlife group for future use in other conservation or youth outdoor programs.



Future Generation member Whit Edwards Jr., with help from his brother, his father, and Kelly Harrill installed eight Wood Duck Boxes at Bur-Mil Park to help boost the duck population. Planning, constructing, and installing the duck boxes were Whit's Eagle Scout Project



## Future Generations Club members meet Bob Timberlake



At the left, members of the Future Generations Club admire Bob Timberlake's print, "Post Season Reunion." Proceeds from the sale of this print are being donated to the NCWHF.

At the right, Future Generations board members are joined by Bob Timberlake and Eddie Bridges, founder and Executive Director of the NCWHF.





# Our Generation, Their Future, God's Time

I ask myself on a regular basis what I believe. What do I believe about my purpose on this Earth? What do I believe about God? What do I believe about what I see going on in our world? I then ask myself if I am living my life in such a way that is true to those beliefs, and acting upon those things that are contrary to those beliefs. If I answer these questions truthfully, I find that in many cases I fall short, wishing that I had the courage, the strength and the time to live a life that mirrors what I say I believe. So what do I believe? At my very core, I believe that every soul on this earth is a miracle and a gift from our creator, and each of us should have every opportunity to succeed and strive for happiness and fulfillment no different than I do. I believe that we each have our own unique gifts and have a responsibility to unselfishly use those gifts to better those around us.

One area of my life that is a consistent reminder to me living true to my beliefs is my involvement with the NCWHF. As a Board member, I am pleased to tell you that we have selected a difficult issue that has no easy solution as a long term project. Standing on our beliefs as a Foundation we courageously, in my opinion, have decided to take this problem head on. Not unfamiliar to anyone, there is an ever increasing problem that we see as critical to our countries future and in fact, the worlds. This well documented problem is the ever-increasing disengagement of people, and specifically our youth from the natural world in which we live arising from the distractions of our technology driven society. The youth of today, by no fault of theirs have been drawn inside media and technology overload, and the effects of which we are just now beginning to see. Reports now show the average teenager spends over 75 hours a week in front of a media device, and the effects of this exposure is just now starting to show up in a variety of social and personality issues.

The NCWHF acting on our belief in our mission statement is now fully engaged in doing what we can to encourage our youth to get back outdoors and explore the wonders of our natural world. Time spent in nature teaches life lessons that can only be found there. Nature teaches patience, self reliance and the nurturing effects of quiet and uninterrupted time. Nature reminds us that our creation is a gift, and if appreciated becomes a classroom for how life was intended to be lived, un-judged, simple and with patience, a wink from our creator of what our real home has waiting for us. A connection with the outdoors and wildlife is something that only a generation before us had as part of their life. The land was who they were and their survival depended upon it. Today with overstocked stores for every need, there is no connection to the land, to wildlife, to a way of life that our grandparents before us knew as sacred. Today without this tie to the land younger generations are easily drawn inside technology. Once there they are bombarded with information overload and unrealistic and unsolicited suggestions of who they should be and become. Immediate gratification, glitter idols, unfiltered dialogue, and the "me immersion" can be overwhelming and the effects can shatter young impressionable lives.

There is no easy solution to what the technology generation will have to ultimately come to grips with, but one thing that the NCWHF is sure of is a need to balance the scales. It would be unrealistic to think that future generations will abandon this media driven culture but what is realistic is that there can be a marriage of the two. If technology is now part of the culture, then let's use it to show how time spent in appreciation of Wildlife and Nature can enhance life. Let us show the joys of a trout caught on a mountain stream go viral rather than using video to bully. Let's show a Gobbler peering across the grassy meadow to a call on slate, rather than one more picture of

someone's embarrassing moment. The voice of the media today tells our youth too often that they are not good enough, contrarily God speaks through nature saying that what he has created is perfect and offers us thousands of examples in every flower, every bird every deep breath of the outdoors. The NCWHF believes that our youth are our future and is excited to take a lead in offering opportunities for youth from all demographics an opportunity to explore a life that is grounded in the outdoor experience. The formation of "Future Generations" is our first step towards this effort and we cannot be more excited. In the near future we will be unveiling an extremely aggressive and exciting program that will impact thousands of children across our State. God created a world for us all to enjoy and she reveals herself to us in nature and wildlife and our response to its beauty. If you, like us, believe this, then join us in our efforts to introduce nature to a generation that in many cases is missing out. Our generation, their future, Gods time.



Kelly Harrill  
Board Member, NCWHF

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### Bass & Saltwater Fishing Expo

January 13-15, 2017

North Carolina State Fairground - Raleigh, NC

### Bob Timberlake Gallery

December 10th Christmas Open House

Bob's Birthday - Sunday 1/10/17

"Bob's World" Art Show Opens Monday 1/23/17

1714 E Center St Ext - Lexington, NC

### Carolina Outdoor Expo

January 27 - 29, 2017

303 SW Greenville Blvd.

Greenville Convention Center - Greenville, NC

### 37th Annual Dixie Deer Classic

March 3-5, 2017,

North Carolina State Fairground - Raleigh, NC

### Cape Fear Wildlife Expo

March 17th - 19th, 2017

Crown Complex Arena - Fayetteville, NC



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People who display the North Carolina Wildlife Habitat Foundation Specialty License Plate on their vehicles are making a substantial contribution to purchasing more Game Lands for the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. Proceeds from the tags are earmarked for our Adopt-An-Acre program and we get 3 for 1 matching gifts through this program. This means that every active tag generates \$40.00 each year, which we use to purchase land and donate it to the NCWRC to be included in the Game Lands Program.

This results in being a long-term permanent gift for our children and grandchildren. This is an exceptional bargain and your local DMV Office can arrange for you to get the tag.

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## Projects funded

NCWHF-Bur-Mil Park, Frank A. Sharpe Jr. Wildlife Education Center .....	\$300,000
Adopt-an-Acre .....	\$250,000
NC Quail Habitat Fund .....	\$108,000
Fish-Friendly Piers (NCWHF, Duke Power Co., NC Wildlife Resources Commission, NC State).....	\$50,000
Sandhills Quail Habitat Projects .....	\$43,000
Jordan Lake Bass Habitat Project .....	\$25,000
Wildlife Seed Distribution Project .....	\$25,000
Core Sound Waterfowl Museum, Willow Pond Restoration.....	\$18,000
Caswell County Marsh Project, Waterfowl Impoundment (NCWHF,NCWRC, Ducks Unlimited) .....	\$16,500
The Don W. Michael Wildlife Conservation Fund .....	\$28,000
Hines Chapel Wildlife Meadow.....	\$10,000
Native Fish Conservation Area .....	\$10,000
Trout Stream Restoration, Peak Creek.....	\$7,000
Invasive Exotic Plant Management, Wilson Creek.....	\$5,000
Cataloochee Wildlife Enhancement Project (controlled burn at Cataloochee Valley) .....	\$5,000
Black Bear Study, Tim Langer, NC State.....	\$5,000
Buck Paysour Fishing Pond at Bur-Mil Park.....	\$5,000
Lake Jeanette Wood Duck Nesting Box Trail .....	\$3,000
Reddies River Angler Access Steps .....	\$3,000

## Financial report

Wells Fargo Investment Fund.....	\$1,363,729.92
Wells Fargo Advisor Account.....	61,128.47
Suntrust Investment Account.....	952,670.61
Raymond James Investment Account .....	470,012.83
Raymond James Dividend Account.....	27,719.80
American National Checking Account .....	55,281.75
Hillsborough Property .....	47,000.00
Reidsville City Lake Property.....	25,000.00
Wildlife Art.....	137,160.00
Toyota Tundra Crewmax, 2013.....	38,000.00
Other Assets .....	12,000.00
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## Gifts

*Received since the last Progress Report.*

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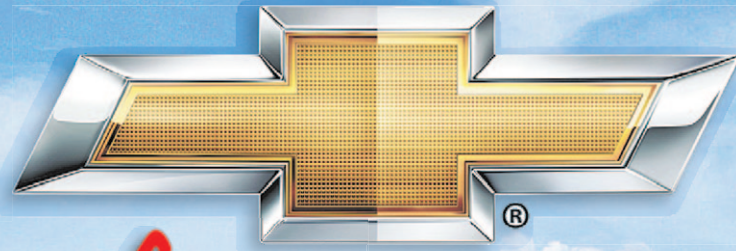
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**Donald West, N. Chesterfield, VA**  
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## Acknowledgements

*The North Carolina Wildlife Habitat Foundation Gratefully acknowledges the following companies, organizations, and individuals for their gifts to support our N.C. Wildlife Extravaganza and important causes.*

584 Grill  
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