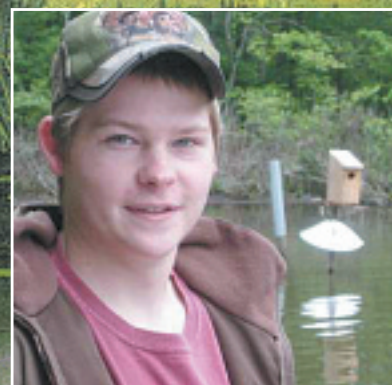


FREE
Conservation
Publication

A North Carolina Wildlife Habitat Foundation PROGRESS REPORT

Spring/Summer 2013



Inside:

Connor Bachmann places duck houses near Lake Jeanette for senior project. Story on page 11.

Don't Let the Dream Die



A busy year awaits

Our 17th Annual N.C. Wildlife Extravaganza, which was held at the Grandover Resort in February, was a complete sell-out, and our chairperson, Teena Koury, was again given high marks for making the event superior to the previous one. Our only regret was that some of our regular supporters were too late in requesting tickets and missed the event. Hopefully, they will mark their calendars for Feb. 22, 2014, and be included in our next royal bash.

Our profit from the Extravaganza was more than \$60,000, a great beginning for 2013.

A highlight at the 2013 Extravaganza was announcing the election of seven new board members who come with a great deal of enthusiasm and wildlife conservation knowledge. We feel confident that they will greatly enhance the growth of our organization.

The new members are: Sandy Brady, Gary Graham, John McKee, David Murphy II, Allen Sharpe, Tobe Sherrill and Will Stewart. We hope you will welcome them and support their efforts to spread the word about the success and benefits of the NCWHF.

Board member Michelle Sharpe spent a lot of time this past year collecting applications for our NCWHF Specialty License Plate. She has now reached the minimum number of 300, which is required to produce the plates, which were designed by Katie Pequigney. It has been approved by the N.C. DMV and we expect to start



Photo courtesy of David and Kendall Murphy

Eddie Bridges and his grandson, Sterling Sharpe, pose with Bella, a black Lab that was sold in a silent auction at the 2013 Wildlife Extravaganza.

GET IN TOUCH: PHONE OR ONLINE

- For more information about the NCWHF, call (336) 375-4994.
- For a general overview of the organization and to download various forms, go to their website at <http://www.ncwhf.org/>

seeing it on our streets and highways in the near future. If others who are sincere about doing something beneficial for wildlife conservation in North Carolina will purchase the tag, that will generate thousands of dollars for this cause. More information is on page 7.

We recently announced that our board has approved grants to help fund three cold water fish restoration projects in the western part of the state. One grant is for Invasive Exotic Plant Management on Wilson Creek, near Edgemont in Caldwell County,

which is a Wild & Scenic Corridor (\$5,000).

Another project is Angler Access Steps on the Reddies River in North Wilksboro, which is a hatchery supported river with a delayed harvest (\$3,000).

The third project is creating a Native Fish Conservation Area on the Little Tennessee River in Graham County. A \$10,000 grant was approved.

Our new N.C. Quail Habitat Fund continues to grow and the Duane Raver "Winter Roost" quail print has contributed to that cause substantially. More than \$6,000 has now been raised from print sales and we presently have more than \$100,000 in the fund. We welcome any tax-deductible gifts to support this program. More information about the print is on page 11.

We have several events planned for the balance of 2013 and we would be pleased to have you join us for any or

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all of them. A listing of these events is on page 5.

Take a look at our website and get a much better understanding of all the things we are doing to make outdoor life better for your children and grandchildren.

What we do is not for us, but strictly for them.

With your support, we can be more certain that we "Don't Let The Dream Die."

Eddie Bridges, Executive Director

ABOUT THIS SECTION

The News & Record produces this Progress Report for the North Carolina Wildlife Habitat Foundation twice a year. Find out more at ncwhf.org.

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TROPHY SHOTS



Photo courtesy of Jason McKinney

At right, Teena Koury, of Burlington, is shown with a 10-point buck she took with a bow and arrow. Her buck won the Female Archery Award, presented by the N.C. Bowhunters, and she was selected as the Female Bowhunter of the Year at the NCBA Convention. Teena serves as Vice Chairman of the North Carolina Wildlife Habitat Foundation and has organized the N.C. Wildlife Extravaganza for 17 years.



Photo courtesy of Teena Koury

At Left, NCWHF member Jackson McKinney shot a 22-pound turkey from 12 feet.



Photo courtesy of Michelle Sharpe

The NCWHF donated four bluebird houses to the Greensboro Science Center in honor of the late Karen Fawcett Kelly. Boy Scout Troop 216 put them up on April 13. From left are Todd Klass, Douglas Mills, Charlie Catherine, Philip McClement, Ben Stevens, Charlie Hutchison, Spencer Adams, Robbie Hutchison and Bill Kabrich. Bo Adams is not pictured.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

For more information or to make a contribution, call (336) 375-4994 or the number listed.

DATE: May 25

EVENT: Drake Naylor

Invitational, Sporting Clays Event. Fundraiser for Cerebral Palsy Association.

For more information, go to www.shanessportingclays.com or call 202-8546.

DATE: Aug. 17

EVENT: N.C. Bowhunters Youth Education Day, Bur-Mil Park.

DATE: Sept. 28

EVENT: The 2nd Annual McLeansville Wild Game Dinner will be at the McLeansville Wildlife Club. This year's event, by request, will be a seafood buffet with all the trimmings. We will have some

special wild game dishes and we will also have the popular Stamey's Cobbler.

Only 100 tickets will be sold for the event at \$100 per person. We will have a drawing for door prizes; the grand prize a new gun.

All proceeds from the event will be earmarked for the Don W. Michael Conservation Fund, with a goal of \$10,000. All of the fund's earnings will be allocated to wildlife conservation projects in the community.

This will be a great way to celebrate National Hunting & Fishing Day.

For more information or to reserve tickets, call (336) 697-8459.



NANCY SIDELINGER/Special Sections

The NCWHF will hold their annual Hunting and Fishing Gear Yard Sale on Oct. 12 at Bur-Mil Park. Decoys were sold at a previous event.

DATE: Sept. 29

EVENT: Uwharrie Conservation Quail Banquet, Miracle Valley Grand Garden, Liberty.

Contact: Julian Butler at (336) 226-2825.

DATE: Oct. 12

EVENT: The annual NCWHF Hunting & Fishing Gear Yard Sale will be held at Bur-Mil Park at the Frank A. Sharpe Jr. Wildlife Education Center in conjunction with the Bur-Mil Fall Fest. The sale will last from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

We will have hundreds of items available, which will be priced from \$1 to \$25. All proceeds will go to the NCWHF Endowment Fund, which pays for a great variety of wildlife conservation

projects all across our state.

If you have hunting or fishing gear items that are in good condition, that you would be willing to donate for this sale, we would be pleased to have them and your donations would qualify as tax deductible gifts.

DATE: Oct. 26

EVENT: Acorn Open — Sporting Clays Event, Shane's Sporting Clays.

For more information, go to www.shanessportingclays.com.

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FINANCIAL REPORT

Through April 1, 2013

Wells Fargo Investment Account	\$976,213.87
BB&T Investment Account.....	580,798.58
Wells Fargo Securities (Stocks).....	48,853.40
American National Money Market	230,365.40
Raymond James Investment Account	202,066.20
American National Checking Account	375,252.58
Hillsborough Property	47,000.00
Reidsville City Lake Property.....	25,000.00
Wildlife Art	132,345.00
2012 Chevrolet Equinox	24,000.00
Other Assets.....	12,000.00
TOTAL ASSETS.....	\$2,653,895.03

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Alamance Wildlife Club, Burlington	Jim Davis, Raleigh	The Dickson Foundation, Charlotte
Camp-Younts Foundation, Franklin, VA	Deep River Sporting Clays, Sanford	John & Amy Scott, Clemmons

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Albert Postlewaite, Wheeling, WV, By Bruce Byrd, Greensboro
Rev. Wilbur C. Teachey, Beaufort, By Sterling & Joyce Baker, Burlington

PROJECTS FUNDED

NCWHF-Bur-Mil Park, Frank A. Sharpe Jr. Wildlife Education Center.....	\$300,000
Adopt-an-Acre	\$200,000
NC Quail Habitat Fund.....	\$100,000
Fish-Friendly Piers (NCWHF, Duke Power Co., N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, N.C. State)	\$50,000
Sand Hills Quail habitat projects	\$43,000
Jordan Lake Bass Habitat project	\$25,000
Wildlife seed distribution project	\$22,000
Core Sound Waterfowl Museum, Willow Pond restoration	\$18,000
Caswell County marsh project, waterfowl impoundment (NCWHF, NCWRC, Ducks Unlimited)	\$16,500
Native Fish Conservation Area	\$10,000
The Don W. Michael Wildlife Conservation Fund	\$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, N.C. State	\$5,000
Buck Paysour Fishing Pond at Bur-Mil Park.....	\$5,000
Lake Jeanette Wood Duck Nest Box Trail.....	\$3,000
Reddies River Angler Access Steps.....	\$3,000

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the pace
of nature:
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patience.*

Ralph Waldo Emerson

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In the photo at right, Jane Murphy, Greg Drees, Bob Timberlake, Janet Murphy and David Murphy Sr. take in the festivities. Below is a dessert plate from the dinner.



Photos courtesy of David and Kendall Murphy

Wildlife Extravaganza



Ellie Verchick, Elizabeth Stuart and Maggie Harrill with Bella, a black Lab, who was sold in a silent auction. Below, John Saslow, a founding NCWHF board member, with the "Mayberry deputy."



Tim and Connie Hansen browsed the items available through silent auctions. Displays touted the work of the NCWHF.





The art of distraction vs. wonder

I sat in front of my TV the other morning and found out a lot about myself that I wasn't aware of. Apparently, I needed to lose weight, I probably had a terrible illness, my car was not as good as my neighbors', my knives were dull and my vacuum cleaner wouldn't lift a bowling ball. Those lines on my forehead were causing my friends to judge me and since I'm now close to fifty, I needed to rub on some under-arm testosterone so that my wife wouldn't leave me. Tough morning.

The truth is, our society is constantly bombarding us with superficial news stories and products that tell us that we are missing something and our lives are not complete without the two-for-one, star-sparkle, lemon fresh product they are offering that ships free until midnight. Watch TV long enough, and you will become a shriveled-up paranoid prune of a person with a maxed out credit card and sparkly white teeth. This is what I call the Art of Distraction.

I recently had the honor of speaking to a confirmation class of eighth-graders at my church about the wonders of our earth and universe and how it relates to my own faith journey. A few eyes rolled initially as I spoke about the grandness of space and the smallness of the world we cannot see and contrasted that against the world that is constantly being fed to them through media. How unbelievable is it that there are some 200 billion stars in our own Milky Way galaxy and more than 100 billion galaxies that we know of? I asked them to do the math on how many stars there are in all the galaxies and suggested that they feel special that they are a part of something that was virtually incomprehensible in size.

I got their attention.

I explained that scientists believe that for as large as the universe is, the scale going in the other direction is equally as small. If they still thought the atom is the smallest particle, they had some catching up to do. Add 34 zeros to the right side of the decimal and you'll find yourself in a place where the same particle can exist simultaneously in two different places, I said. Welcome to God's Country. This is where wonder lives and

where my faith begins, I explained, and most importantly they needed to understand that we were all chosen to be a part of it.

How unbelievable is it that we are a part of this creation but we allow ourselves to be distracted by the menial conversations of our society? I centered my conversation on how the wonder of our universe has strengthened my faith because the same God that created it wants to have a personal relationship with each of us and I challenged them to spend some quiet time with that thought. This truth and magnitude of this, I explained may seem unimaginable, but in reality, it is perfectly God. I explained that our society will do its best to distract them from this relationship. But once they embraced it, the wonders of the earth and universe would be forever theirs.

We are living in a critical time, and it seems that our society is asking all the wrong questions and the conversation has to change. Our society has become distracted and disengaged from the real questions of our existence, and we are seeing the results being played out in our families, our neighborhood and the world. If you feel as I do that our existence is about serving and loving your neighbor, then all the other material talk that is consuming us just becomes noisy background chatter.

I recently posted the following on my Facebook page that subsequently started a healthy off line conversation with many of my friends about our true nature as humans.

"What's your distraction? Guilty I plead to mine. So if it's not making me kinder, gentler, more compassionate, then it's a distraction. If it doesn't help me see the bigger picture of our existence, then it's a distraction. Call it what you will, Sin...the Devil, addiction or indifference....all the same...just a distraction to our true nature. The truth is as it always has been; we are here for everyone else but ourselves but society feeds on telling us differently, Have more, get more, serve the Ego. If we were only here a moment, would we act differently? Truth: We are only here a moment."



Kelly

So how do we turn the table in our lives and society and engage in what is important? For me, it starts with the message of Christ, and starts with the kids. Turn off the TV and get outside. Put the phones and pads down and marvel at the magnificence of God's creation.

A kid that fishes, hunts, hikes, kayaks and mountain climbs will be grounded in nature rather than absorbed in the frenzy of media materialism. Our society needs to push against the temptations to have the best of everything and allow for a simpler existence, freeing us from the anxieties of never having enough.

We need to spend more time reaching out to the "least of these" and find solitude that only serving can bring. Stand in a trout stream and feel the perfectness of nature. Support groups like the NCWHF that have embraced these universal concepts and act to preserve

our natural resources for future generations to enjoy. Seek out opportunities to be with friends and family where people are lifted up, appreciated and share in understanding that we are perfect just the way we are.

God will show herself to us through the wonders of the earth, if we will just slow down and take the time to see it — beautiful and majestic, perfect and unhurried. Distractions push us to let go of our foundation, our purpose and turn us toward an ego-led lifestyle. Wonder on the other hand sheds light on our lives and allows for a vision that we are created to do good in the world even if it is the expense of our own comforts. This was Christ's message, a message of wonder.

I choose wonder.

Kelly Harrill, Chairman

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All classes are held at the Frank Sharpe Jr. Wildlife Education Center at Bur-Mil Park. Registration is required. Call (336)373-3818 weekdays or (336) 373-3802 on weekends.

A FISHY TALE

Date: June 6 at 9:30 a.m., **Ages:** 3-6, **Cost:** \$4

In this class we'll learn about what makes a fish a fish, then try our hand at catching some! Poles and worms will be provided for children. This class is part of the Little Hands Nature Series.

RECYCLING IN GREENSBORO

Date: June 11 at 6:30 p.m., **Ages:** All, **Cost:** Free

This class covers the importance of recycling, what happens to recyclable materials when they leave the recycling center, and how every citizen's contribution leads to a cleaner Greensboro.

SUMMER SOLSTICE HIKE

Date: June 22 at 10 a.m., **Ages:** All, **Cost:** \$3

Celebrate the first Saturday of Summer 2013 with a pleasant guided saunter around Bur-Mil! We will discuss some seasonal changes in our area and what they mean for the local flora and fauna.

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



Project: Replace duck boxes

Connor Bachmann's love of the outdoors and hunting prompted him to devote his Page High School senior project to conservation.

Deteriorating duck boxes at Lake Jeanette were researched and replaced by Bachmann with the mentoring of Eddie Bridges with the North Carolina Wildlife Habitat Foundation. Bridges helped with funding by donating a painting that Bachmann raffled. He also sourced a builder for the boxes, who was a member of NCWHF.

The boxes are mounted on poles near the shore, several feet above the water line. A protective shield prevents unwanted visitors from climbing the poles.

Connor, 18, will be attending Clemson University in the fall. He hopes to major in wildlife management and forestry. The middle son of George and Anita Bachmann, his brothers are Cole, 20, and Harrison, 16.



Photos courtesy of Anita Bachmann

Connor Bachmann, a Clemson-bound senior at Page High School, replaced 10 wood duck houses at Lake Jeanette for his senior project. He is working on mounting them at various locations around the lake near the shore. Eddie Bridges of the NCWHF provided advice and funding.



Gilles Tran / AFZ

WILDLIFE PLOT SEED AVAILABLE

Each year, the North Carolina Wildlife Habitat Foundation distributes a variety of seed for planting field borders on unused land to enhance wildlife habitat. The seed is distributed free to NCWHF members; only a small shipping fee is charged. For more information, call (336) 375-4994.



Photo by Laurent Bonnal, CIRAD

Milo seed will be given away for shipping fees only to NCWHF members.



LIMITED EDITION 'WINTER ROOST' PRINTS FOR SALE

"Winter Roost," Duane Raver's latest wildlife print, is now available. All proceeds will be earmarked for the N.C. Quail Habitat Fund, which provides funding for quail habitat improvement. In some cases, matching funds may be available to private land owners who are interested in improving quail habitat on their property.

The signed and numbered limited edition prints are \$60. Sixty signed, numbered and remarked artist proofs are available for \$100. Boxes of 12 note cards/envelopes with the "Winter Roost" image are also available for \$12.

Additional information about the fund can be found at www.ncwhf.org/quail.php



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