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Conservation Publication

A North Carolina Wildlife Habitat Foundation PROGRESS REPORT

Spring/Summer 2014



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Story on page 2

Projects, funding continue

Good fortune has escorted the North Carolina Wildlife Habitat Foundation all the way into 2014 and we continue to receive some special blessings, which is a good indication that we should be able to experience another very productive year.

Our 18th Annual N.C. Wildlife Extravaganza, which was held at the Grandover Resort in February, was more than successful and the chair person for that event, Teena Koury, sent everybody home smiling after a great night out. It was especially exciting for those whose names were drawn for the twenty $1,000 Bass Pro Shops gift cards that were given away. At the end of the day, we were able to take $60,000 to the bank to help fund additional wildlife habitat projects.

While we were still making plans for the NC Wildlife Extravaganza, Johnny Morris and Bass Pro shops announced that our organization had been selected as the beneficiary of the grand opening of the new Bass Pro Shops store in Cary. We hope that receiving this honor for the second time now is a result of how well we have demonstrated our worth. This is a great opportunity for the NCWHF to join hands with Bass Pro Shops and Toyota Motors USA to give something back to the sportsmen and outdoor enthusiasts of North Carolina and we are grateful for that opportunity.

More of our Specialty N.C. License Tags keep showing up on our streets and highways. That, along with our 3 for 1 matching grant program, will help us provide funding to purchase more Game Land property for the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. We have now received more than $10,000 in commissions from NCDOT for our portion of the revenue on sales of the tags. This will be added to the $160,000 we already have in the bank for our Adopt-An-Acre program.



NANCY SIDELINGER/Special Sections

Eddie Bridges at the 2014 Wildlife Extravaganza.

The first phase of our most recently approved wildlife habitat project has been completed and we will continue with additional work in the near future. The project is part of a Guilford County Open Space program on 500 acres at the intersection of McLeansville Road and Hines Chapel Road. The NCWHF has already planted 26 acres of warm season grasses, which is part of a Bob White Quail Habitat Demonstration Area. The NCWHF has approved a $10,000 grant to help fund the project and we are hopeful that some other organizations will join hands with us to do even more. Some additional wildlife food plots will be planted where there is available space and funds to do so. We also plan to erect some bluebird nest boxes on the property and hang some Wood Duck nest boxes on Reedy Fork Creek.

At a later date, we plan to invite school classes, scout troops and other groups to tour the property and learn more about the Hines Chapel Preserve & Wildlife Meadows. You may contact us at (336) 375-4994 for more information.

Several of our ongoing projects continue to help raise funds for our NC Quail Habitat Fund. The two most productive ones are the Duane Raver "Winter Roost" quail prints and the Remington Arms limited edition, numbered commemorative knives (only 150 available). Both are popular collectors items, which have now raised more than $12,000 for our NC Quail Habitat Fund. Prints and knives are still available for $60 and $40, with 100% of the revenue being added to the quail fund.

We are very excited about what the future holds for the NCWHF and we are especially excited about about a project our long time friend and dedicated supporter, Bob Timberlake, is planning that will have a tremendous benefit for our organization. Bob's project is being planned for a Fall of 2014 announcement and we can hardly wait to tell you how Bob plans to be certain that we "Don't Let The Dream Die."





Duane Raver "Winter Roost" quail prints and the Remington Arms limited edition knives are available for $60 and $40, with proceeds going to the quail fund.

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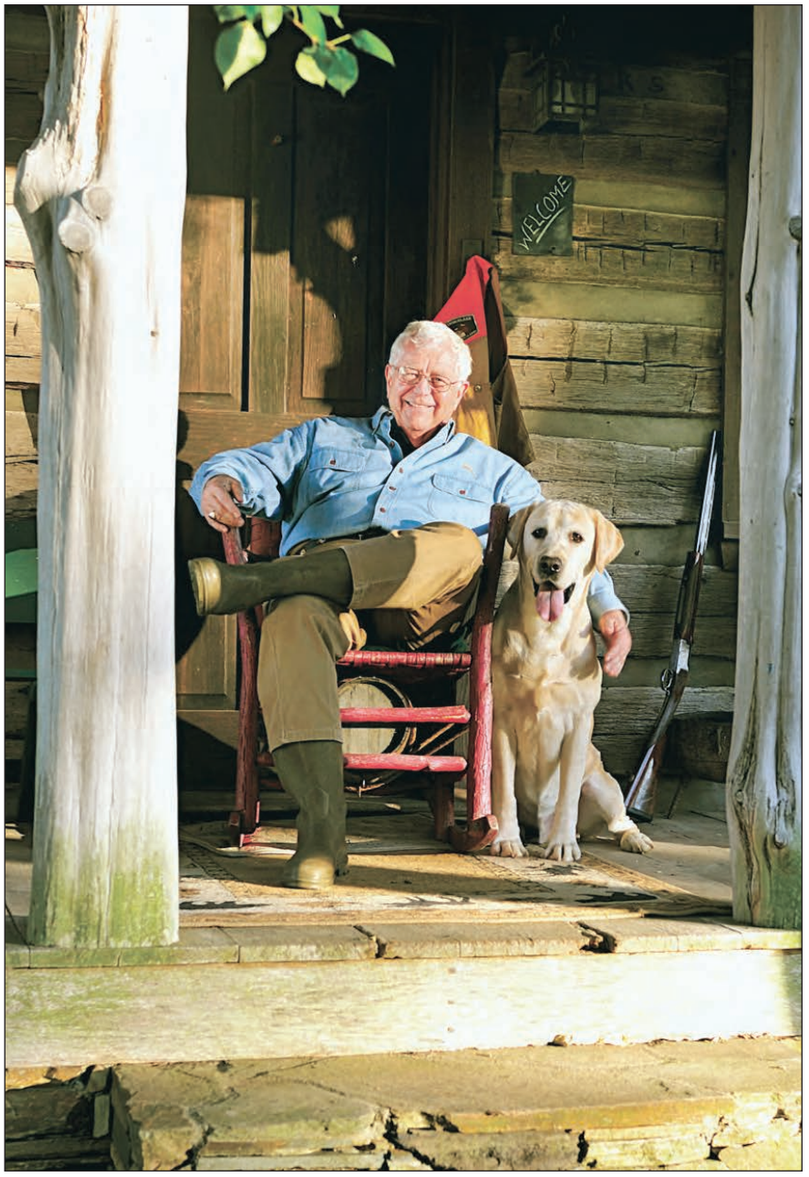
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Courtesy of Bob Timberlake

Bob Timberlake to release limited edition print to benefit NCWHF

Bob Timberlake, a North Carolina Wildlife Habitat Foundation Major Donor, has announced that he plans to reproduce a painting that he recently presented to his long-time friend Eddie Bridges, who is a nationally-recognized wildlife conservationist.

The painting is a waterfowl scene, which is familiar to many duck hunters. It is a place where Bob and Eddie have enjoyed hunts together.

The print will be a signed and numbered limited edition and the proceeds will benefit the North Carolina Wildlife Habitat Foundation.

The release will be scheduled for the fall of 2014. For more information, contact the Bob Timberlake Gallery at 1-800-244-0095 or the NCWHF at (336) 375-4994.



ALLEN SHARPE/NCWHF

500-acre quail habitat at Hines Chapel receives grant

The North Carolina Wildlife Habitat Foundation has approved a $10,000 grant to provide funding for a quail habitat demonstration area on a 500-acre tract of land at the intersection of Hines Chapel Road and McLeansville Road in Guilford County. John Isenhour, a North Carolina wildlife biologist, and Ben Dawkins, a local sportsman, have already planted 26 acres of warm season grasses on the prpoerty. Additional food plots will be planted in the near future. The project wil also have a great deal of benefit for other small game species as well as song birds and other non-game wildlife.

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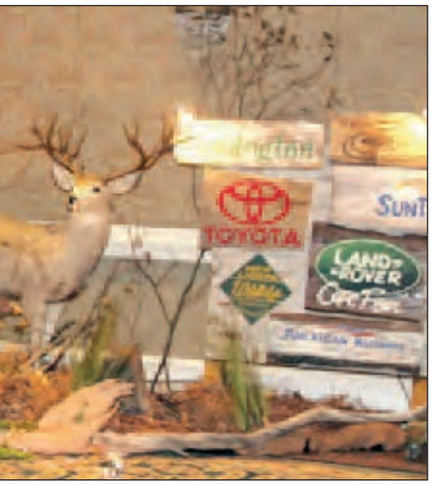
Wildlife Extravaganza







PHOTOS BY NANCY SIDELINGER/Special Sections





















Some of the attendees of the 2014 Wildlife Extravaganza, held at the Grandover Resort in February.

A dynamite obituary: 'Go be what you want to be!'



Circa 1977, Aycock Jr. High School, 1st day of seventh grade, Mrs. Patenaud's class. "Welcome to seventh grade English. As your first writing exercise, pretend you are 90 years old and have just passed away. Now write your own Obituary." Dead silence in the room, no pun intended. Take a few minutes and think about what you would like said about you after you have left this earthy home our teacher said. Think about what you want to accomplish with your life, your dreams, your personality, the children you might have she said. Write your birthday at the top of the page, and the year 2053 at the bottom. Now fill in the page. The remainder of the class was amazing as lively conversations of dreams, passions; astronauts, doctors, lawyers, professional athletes and scientists all filled the room. We dreamed and Mrs. Patenaud smiled, as she knew she had just turned a light on. She let us talk and dream and ended the class by saying, "What is stopping you from becoming what you have just written down. 7th grade is the beginning of the rest of your lives and you can do and be anything you set your mind to." She wrote on the corner of the chalk board, "Go be what you want to be" and it stayed there the entire school year.

Then there is story of Alfred Nobel, the inventor of dynamite. Alfred was reading the newspaper one morning when to his astonishment he turned the page and discovered his obituary in the day's paper. As it turns out, his brother had died, and the newspaper had published Alfred's obituary by mistake. The obituary read, "The merchant of death is dead. Dr. Alfred Nobel, who became very wealthy by finding ways to kill more people faster than ever before, died yesterday."

Alfred was horrified and shamed by the way in which the world was going to remember him after his death and vowed to change his destiny.

Today, Nobel is not remembered as the merchant of death, but as the founder of the Nobel Prizes, and a great humanitarian. Having read his obituary while he was still alive gave him the opportunity to change his legacy.

I have been very fortunate in my life to know some extraordinary people that have since passed away. After their passing I always find myself reading their obituaries or listening to the remembrances at their funeral and can't help thinking what might be said about me one day. I have also had the unfortunate experience of sitting a funeral of someone who led a very self-centered life that was filled with reckless choices and little faith to help guide their lives. Those Obituaries often read like news stories, He was born, he lived here and there, he worked here and there, and he died.

So how do we want to be remembered? How do we fill in the space between the dates on the page? If we have been fortunate enough to be born healthy into a loving family with resources that allow us to grow up well-educated and nurtured in our sprit and faith, then I hope we would feel an obligation to use our lives as a blessing to the so many that are not as fortunate.

The world we live in today calls and needs us to be the best we can be. We have learned that we are at our best when we are in service to others. We are best when we are not ego-driven, but focused on the lives of those in our family, community and world that need our help. We are best when we turn away from the notion that the accumulation of possessions mark the success of our lives and find sturdy ground in the understanding that our success is ultimately in the things we can't take with us.

We are all given freely this miracle we call life and should celebrate this gift that goes beyond our ability to understand it. As my faith has grown as a Christian over the years the more the teachings of Jesus guides the direction of my life. I am able to find that every aspect of my life can be of service to others whether in work or in play. Each of us has a unique gift to offer and all our lives are equally important regardless of the titles we give ourselves. Imagine the blessings the woman in poverty-stricken Uganda gave to her village as she trekked daily 10 miles to fetch water for her entire life. Compare that to the life of Bill and Melinda Gates who have used their wealth to change the lives of millions. Both will stand as equals in celebration before God one day because they served.

The one thing that I have learned above all other life lessons is that we will not be judged by our title, the length of our accomplishments or our possessions. We will only be accountable for how we served and treated others. This is God's perfectly balanced playing field that allows all of his children to participate equally.

Gratefully, my life has afforded me the chance to give back and some of my proudest efforts have been those with the N.C. Wildlife Habitat Foundation. Few things have brought me more joy than knowing that our Foundation will preserve the opportunity for future generations a chance to know the same natural habitats that our generation have. It is in the sereneness of nature and these pristine habitats where I feel most connected to our creator and where the pressures of our world fade away and allow for piercing of the veil where prayer and life's purpose meet. I am eternally grateful that I have had the opportunity to serve alongside such a great group of volunteers with the NCWHF.

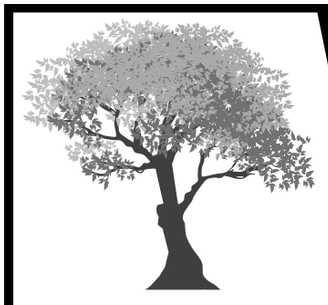
On the last day of class Mrs. Patenuad pointed to the chalkboard again and read, "Go be what you want to be." She then added, "Don't let yourself get in the way. No one will get in your way to a happy life more that you. Focus on others, not yourself and the world will be yours." It was heavy at the time, but I have never forgotten that valuable life lesson.

So how will we all be remembered after we leave our "School for the Soul" as I like to call it? If I have a choice it will be simple and will go something like this:

"He loved his family, he loved his friends, he loved people from every walk of life, he loved his dogs, he was closest to God when he was fishing, gardening and listening to music. He loved serving with the NCWHF, Rotary and church. He loved to laugh and needed to cry. He knew God loved him. He lived and knew he would live on."

I'll see you outdoors,

Kelly



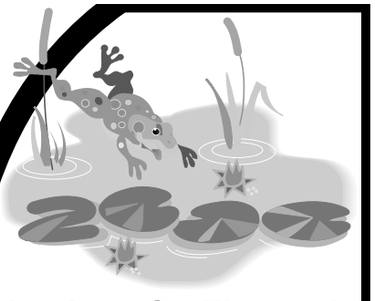
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NCWHF-Bur-Mil Park, Frank A. Sharpe Jr. Wildlife Education Center	$300,000
Adopt-an-Acre	$250,000
NC Quail Habitat Fund	$108,000
Fish-Friendly Piers (NCWHF, Duke Power Co., N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, N.C. State)	$50,000
Sand Hills Quail habitat projects	$43,000
Jordan Lake Bass Habitat project	$25,000
Wildlife seed distribution project	$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	$15,000
Hines Chapel Wildlfie 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, N.C. 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



ALLEN SHARPE/NCWHF

John Isenhour, a North Carolina wildlife biologist, and Ben Dawkins, a local sportsman, load seeds into a planter at intersection of Hines Chapel Road and McLeansville Road. The North Carolina Wildlife Habitat Foundation has approved a $10,000 grant for a 500-acre quail habitat demonstration area.

Financial report

Wells Fargo Investment Fund	$796,416.54
BB&T Investment AAccount	521,178.30
BB&T Conservation Account	384,232.01
1st Citizens Invewstment Account	260,264.62
Raymond James Investment Account	234,158.76
Raymond James Dividend Account	6,552.05
Wells Fargo Advisors Account (Stocks)	54,934.19
American National Money Market	230,858.62
American National Checking Account	241,230.34
Hillsborough prpoerty	47,000.00
Reidsville City Lake property	25,000.00
Wildlife art	135,085.00
Chevrolet Equinox, 2012	20,000.00
Toyota Tundra Crewmax, 2013	48,000.00
Other assets	12,000.00
Total assets	$3,045,910.43



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