January, 2011 Volume 1, Issue 8

The Greenway 9



Yadkin River Greenway Council

EXPERIENCE THE GREENWAY...IT'S YOURS!

INICI	DE.	THIC	ICCI	IC.
IIV.5I	176	THIS	1.7.71	JE

2010 Construction 2 Update

- Yadkin River Green- 3 wav **Logo History**
- Volunteers Enrich The Greenway
- Special Events and **Special Moments**
- The Greenway Offers 4 **Fitness Benefits**
- **Easements and** Grants/ Is The Greenway Worth It?
- The "Fun" in Fundraising/Greenway's **New Council Mem**bers
- **Bill Clifton Retires**
- Yadkin River Green- 8 way Friends Need You!

Message from the President's Chair –

Friends of the Greenway, 2010 has been yet another year of expansion and growth but also one marked by change and regretfully, some disappointment. growth and expansion aspects of the Greenway will be covered shortly by construction committee Chair, Frank Taracido.

Change comes to the Greenway in the form of the retirement of our long serving Executive Director, Bill Clifton. Bill's outstanding 7 ½ years of service and contributions will be chronicled in an article by one of the Greenway's Special Event's Committee members, Lisa Lauftenburg.

The Greenway's new Executive Director, RG Absher, accepted the position in the spring of 2010 and assumed the position on August 1st. RG continues to "learn the ropes" and is rapidly coming up to speed. RG joined the Greenway after his retirement from the US Army Corps of Engineers with over 32 years of service at the W. Kerr Scott reservoir. RG brings a wide range of experiences to the Greenway Board and we look forward to his continued growth, leadership and development as Greenway Executive Director.

The year's disappointment comes in the form of an "attack" on the Greenway in July. Mindless vandalism wrecked havoc on a section of Reddies River Greenway when bird houses, signage, and Boy Scout Eagle Projects were destroyed.

Most of the damage has since been repaired but this wanton and callous disregard for all the hard work and efforts of the Greenway's supporters is an insult to the community at large. Despite the Councils Greenway



Vandalism

best efforts, in conjunction with the North Wilkesboro Police Department assistance, Crimestoppers advertised reward monies were unable to discover the identity of the perpetrator(s).

Despite this setback, the Greenway continues to move forward and details concerning exciting future projects will be explained shortly. So, get out and check them out! As always, I look forward to seeing YOU on the Greenway!

By Charlie White, President Yadkin River Greenway Council



This photo was taken by a security camera mounted on the water intake pump station at the Reddies Dam at approximately the same time the vandalism occurred. Have Information? Call Crime Stoppers at 336- 667-8900

GREENWAY 2010 CONSTRUCTION HIGHLIGHTS

During 2010, the Yadkin River Greenway (YRG) continued planning work on Segment I of Phase V (Lover's Leap Trail), which will extend from the existing Moravian Creek Trailhead to a new trailhead near Curtis Bridge Road. While this segment continues to be on the NC Department of Transportation-Transportation Improvement Project, (NCDOT-TIP) listing since 2004, we have reached a major roadblock with the procurement of one final easement. While we have procured easement intents from all but one of the property owners along this segment, we have not been able to make any headway with one critical property owner. As it stands today, the property owner in question has communicated to The Yadkin River Greenway that this easement will not be granted. As a result of the easement impasse, work on this segment has been placed on hold while other possible routes are investigated.

Phase III, Segment I (Smoot Park/Memorial Park) part of the YRG is now an active project. In July of 2010, the Town of North Wilkesboro was awarded a matching grant of \$197,400.00 from the North Carolina Department of Water Resources. The YRG in conjunction with the Town of North Wilkesboro had applied for this grant for the construction of this trail segment. Preliminary engineering is underway to define the proposed trail in more detail. The "No-Rise" flood study and Erosion Control Plans will be prepared by Blue Ridge Environmental Consultants and they will commence this work in early 2011. Design work is schedule to continue through the spring of 2011 with an early summer construction start-up anticipated. This segment of the Greenway is anticipated to be a significant one, as it will connect the two parks in North Wilkesboro and add 1.2 miles of Greenway trail to the total completed. If all proceeds as planned, this new segment should be completed by the end of 2011.



Newly paved section on Moravian Creek

During 2010, the Greenway Council was able to procure several grants to extend the YRG from the existing Moravian Creek Trailhead to the bridge at NC Hwy 268. This part of the trail constitutes two of a total of three segments that will eventually take the Greenway to the Wilkes Community College by following Moravian Creek along the west bank and connecting to the existing Wilkes Community College Walking Trail. The Moravian Creek Trail (Phase V) project is approached in three (3) segments. The first segment extends from the existing Moravian Creek Trailhead to the northeast corner of Town of Wilkesboro property. The second segment extends from the Town of Wilkesboro property to the north side of the bridge on Highway 268. The third and final segment extends from the bridge on Highway 268 to the Wilkes Community College Trail System. As part of this phase, a "No Rise" study was complete in 2010. This study covered all three segments and has cleared the way for design and construction of Phase V. The Town of Wilkesboro sewer construction project has delayed the construction of the first two segments. However, in October of 2010, we were able to start construction of the first segment along the Yakin River to the confluence of Moravian Creek. As soon as the Wilkesboro sewer project is completed in this area, the balance of Segment 1 will be constructed. We have yet to finalize the easement that will allow us to connect to NC Hwy 268, but negotiations are in progress and we expect to be able to complete Segments 1 and 2 by the early summer of 2011. Segment 3 is under study and design, and will require the procurement of easements before we can apply for grant funding.

In November of 2010 we completed a joint effort with the Wilkes YMCA at Becky's Park. The YRG purchased four outdoor fitness stations and the YMCA carried out the site preparation and installation of the equipment. This new outdoor fitness station is located just North of the picnic shelter and next to the Greenway trail. The YMCA has agreed to maintain the fitness station which will benefit both the YMCA members and all others that enjoy the Greenway. The proposed fishing pier on the Yadkin River, which has been in the planning stage with the NC Fish and Wildlife Commission for the past three years is finally scheduled to be constructed in early 2011. The NC Fish and Wildlife Commission have completed the construction drawings. In November of 2010, members of the YRG construction committee met with representatives of the NC Fish and Wildlife Commission at the site of the proposed fishing pier to finalize the location and meet the construction supervisor. The YRG has procured an easement adjacent to the Greenway where the proposed pier is to be constructed. This easement area will have accessible parking spaces that will service the new fishing pier. As soon as the pier is constructed, the Greenway will construct the new parking area and a small connection ramp to the pier as agreed with the NC Fish and Wildlife Commission. The new pier should be in operation by early summer of 2011. We continue to press forward with new routing options for the Greenway and planning for construction of those segments that have easements secured. We expect to see the construction of the first two segments of the Moravian Creek Trail completed in the coming year of 2011. The Smoot to Memorial parks segment is another major addition that will be undertaken during 2011. As always, we are very grateful to all the "Friends of the Greenway" for their past support and look forward to their continued support as we endeavor to expand the Greenway in 2011.

By Frank Taracido, Construction Chair

Volume 1, Issue 8 Page 3

THE YADKIN RIVER GREENWAY LOGO HISTORY

In 1998 during a Yadkin River Greenway Council Meeting under the leadership of Dr. Phil Carlson, the "Logo and Sign Development Committee" was formed. Dr. Carlson and Freida Matthews co-chaired the committee. The committee was tasked to plan signage for the newly developing Yadkin River Greenway.

After discussion by the committee, it was decided to offer a contest to the public to design a logo for the greenway. The first section of the Yadkin River Greenway would initially be built along the Yadkin and Reddies Rivers on the North Wilkesboro Side of the River. Then additional sections would later be added in both Wilkesboro and North Wilkesboro.

The logo contest rules were published in the local media and in the Wilkes County Public School system. Following review by the Yadkin River Greenway Council, the final design was chosen by a design sent in by council member, Andy Sutorius of Moravian Falls. Sutorius was an Attorney from Moravian Falls, NC and business owner of Image

Solutions.

After closely examining the turtle and bird in the logo design, an unusual discovery was made. The border images appeared to make two faces looking across the river at each other. Some suggested that indeed that the two faces representing the towns of Wilkesboro and North Wilkesboro with the river flowing in the middle were reaching out to each to work together on a mutual project for the benefit of the entire community. Today we know this project as the Yadkin River Greenway.

Upon looking at the logo, the white between the images represents the walking trail and the trees in the logo resemble the hair on the heads of the images. Many have commented on the beauty of the logo and confirmed these descriptions for themselves.

Today, the Yadkin River Greenway provides access to health benefits, recreation, and relaxation to thousands who enjoy it. It's a place where one can experience the wonders of the river environment, the natural resources, and a the common thread connecting all of Wilkes, the beautiful Yadkin River. The logo has served the Yadkin River Greenway well, recognized as representing a world class greenway.

By Freida Matthews, Volunteer Projects Chair

VOLUNTEERS ENRICH THE GREENWAY

There's nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer – Winston Churchill

Since the Greenway Volunteer Committee was established 8 years ago, The Yadkin River Greenway Council (YRGC) has become stronger and more active. With the committee in place, we have had numerous project requests. We extend our deepest appreciation to all the volunteers for their dedication and hard work, many times in harsh weather conditions. These individuals have indeed increased the greenway's beauty, enjoyment, and accessibility for fitness and exercise.

Some of the note worthy contributions include, the work accomplished by Boy Scouts earning their Eagle rank. BSA Eagle Scout Trent Cleary landscaped a site along River Edge trail. BSA Eagle Scout Elliot Allen Hincher installed thirteen birdhouses along the greenway trail at River's Edge. In addition, BSA scout Chris Hamby, for his Eagle project installed four new Ironwood benches (two at Jefferson Turnpike and one along the Reddies River and one near Pardue Crossing. BSA scout Miles Hubbard also working on his Eagle project, is constructing a canoe launch near Pardue Crossing.

The Adopt-A-Trail, started in 2007, has been very successful in keeping our greenway landscaped and beautiful. Several partici-

pants include: Gary Johnson, Tyson Trailhead to Pardue Crossing, John Battle, Pardue Crossing to Coffee Tavern, Ginger and Harvey Barlow, grooming landscaping at the Coffee House Tavern parking lot, Jennifer Lankford, weeding along recognition wall, Joyce wiles, weeding Blueberry Garden at Reddies Confluence, Master Gardeners, new plants installation, Charles White, weed control near bridges and decks, and Freida Matthews, weeding around River's Edge and East Coast Millworks trailheads. We are also very appreciative of the tremendous work that the Towns of Wilkesboro, North Wilkesboro and the County of Wilkes assists with maintaining the greenway.

The Recognition Wall, constructed in 2002, has been a wonderful and inviting addition. This year, we are also pleased that 6 new names have been added to the recognition wall. W. Kerr Scott Reservoir, Furches Evergreens, Inc, Wilkes Board of Education, Simon and Annette Lawrance and BSA Eagle Scouts Elliot Hincher and Trent Cleary. With our impending expansion of the Yadkin River Greenway, The council members can use additional volunteers. If you are your or organization are interested in volunteering for a project, please contact the YRGC office at 336-651-8967 or Freida Matthews at 336-838-4938



Eagle Scout Elliot Hincher

By Freida Matthews, Volunteer Projects Chair

Page 4 The Greenway News

SPECIAL EVENTS AND SPECIAL MOMENTS

What was your special event on the Yadkin River Greenway (YRG) this year? Wilkes County is fortunate to have an asset that provides a variety of opportunities to make our daily lives special.

The YRG offers an area to witness wildlife, often in the middle of our towns. Perhaps you saw a family of gray foxes emerge from the corn field on a quiet, misty morning or, maybe you stopped suddenly when you saw a big snake on the Jefferson Turnpike! You most likely enjoyed seeing the bluebirds emerge from their houses. Have you seen the great blue heron fishing in the Reddies River? It is quite a sight. The NC Wildlife Resources Commission noticed the birds on the YRG and designated it as a North Carolina Birding Trail. The greenway is a haven for birders!

The YRG provides a recreational and social area for people of all ages in our community. On any given day you might see a mother strolling a new baby, a child learning to ride a bike, or even an adult re-learning cycling and trying to keep up with the youngsters! It is a common sight to see both young couples and Senior couples walking the greenway. One thing for sure, the YRG provides a convenient place for friends to meet for both exercising and socializing.

The YRG also affords Wilkes County with an area to host a large event. The annual Trail of Treats draws thousands at Halloween time. This unique event is sure to be a special memory for our children who are fortunate enough to participate in this safe alternative to trick or treating. It is sponsored by the North Wilkesboro Police Department and Samaritan's Kitchen. This year's participants donated an estimated 1700 pounds of food to help those in need in our community.

In the future there will be even more opportunities at the YRG for special events. The installations of the fishing pier and the canoe ramp will provide great access to the Yadkin River. The expansion of the YRG between Smoot and Memorial Parks and from Moravian Creek to Wilkes Community College. Encourage a friend to experience Wilkes County on the Yadkin River Greenway, so they too will become a Friend of the Greenway.

By Lisa Laufenberg, Secretary and Special Events Chair

The GREENWAY OFFERS FITNESS BENEFITS

The Yadkin River Greenway (YRG) is an avenue to achieve fitness for residents of Wilkes County. Whether you'v just started an exercise routine or you've trained for years as a seasoned athlete, the YRG can help you reach your fitness goals.

In addition to the 7 miles of trail, the Yadkin River Greenway Council has developed a new opportunity to improve fitness this year through a partnership with the YMCA. Next to Becky's Park, six exercise stations have been installed and an additional station will soon be added.



New Fitness Equipment near Becky's Park

There are stations for doing chin-ups, pull-ups, sit ups and stretching exercises . The YMCA has received positive responses from the addition of the new equipment. This is certainly an example of what can happen when the YRG partners with another organizations. The partnership benefits Wilkes citizens and all greenway visitors.

Council members often attend local health fairs, assisting in educating the public about the positive health benefits offered by the YRG. In September, the YRG participated in the Department of Transportation Health Fair at the John A Walker Center, and in October, the Wilkes Heritage Museum Community Health Fair. Both health fairs allowed the Yadkin River Greenway Council the opportunity to network with the public and other agencies.

Whether you are trying to improve your health or improve your time for your next race, you know that our community is fortunate to have a beautiful, maintained trail for people of all ages and abilities to walk, run and bike.

Lisa Laufenberg, Secretary and Special Events Chair

Page 5 The Greenway News

EASEMENTS AND GRANTS PAVE THE WAY

The two most challenging aspects of building a greenway are obtaining easements and construction grants. Without the generosity of landowners to give easements we are powerless to obtain grants for construction. In a project that will add a 1.2 mile stretch from Smoot to Memorial Park in downtown North Wilkesboro, the remaining easements were obtained in 2010. Soon after securing these easements, news came in July of 2010 that the Town of North Wilkesboro obtained a \$197,400 NC Division of Water Resources matching grant to build a greenway segment from Memorial to Smoot Park in North Wilkesboro. The funds to complete the project will come from other grant sources and additional fundraising initiatives.

Our most current project involves building a greenway trail from the trailhead on the Yadkin River at the north end of Collegiate Avenue down the Yadkin to Moravian Creek and up Moravian Creek to Wilkes Community College. Segment one and two will take us to Highway 268. We are in the process of obtaining easements for these segments and have obtained grants for a portion of the construction. We have a \$35,000 grant from Lowe's Charitable and Education Foundation, a \$30,000 enhancement grant from NC DOT, a \$17,000 grant from the National Park Service Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail, a 7,000 dollar grant from Wilkes Tourism Development, a \$4000 grant from NC Adopt-A-Trail, and a \$1,000 grant from Wilkes Community Foundation. In addition, a \$4,000 grant from Wilkes Tourism Development along with a private match funded amenities to the Moravian Creek Trailhead at the north end of Collegiate Avenue. In support of the administration and operations the County of Wilkes, Town of North Wilkesboro, and Town of Wilkesboro again provided funding totaling \$12,600. Major contributions for Greenway construction include donations from the Dwight & Anne Pardue, the Kulynych Family Foundation, the Leonard G. Herring Family Foundation, and the Mr. & Mrs. James N. Andrews Family Foundation.

By RG Absher, Executive Director, Yadkin River Greenway

IS THEYADKIN RIVER GREENWAY WORTH IT?

Since most readers of the YRGC newsletter presumably are advocates of the Greenway, maybe this article is preaching to the choir. Still, not everyone in Wilkes County has opened their hymnal. I am reminded of Ebeneezer Scrooge (pre-Christmas) when I consider the handful of property owners who are blocking completion of gaps in the greenway, and I hope that readers of this article will join in the efforts to convince these folks to cooperate. We have tried almost everything except sending Dickens' ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future, and maybe we'll try that next.

While nobody seems to have an exact accounting, YRGC Treasurer Gary Cogdill has estimated the total cost of construction to date at around \$2.2 million. Because many people and organizations in Wilkes County currently are struggling to make ends meet, it is very legitimate to ask what benefits the YRG has generated for this substantial investment, and whether it is worth it.

Various studies have been conducted around the nation to identify the benefits of greenways. I will mention a couple of them, although the benefits are understated since I have not adjusted for statistical changes and inflation. You can easily find these and other relevant studies on the Internet.

One of the most obvious greenway benefits is better public health. A 1988 study found that "People who exercise regularly have 14 percent lower claims against their medical insurance, 30 percent fewer days in the hospital, and have 41 percent fewer claims greater than \$5,000."

A study by the National Park Service determined that "Exercise derived from recreational activities lessens health related problems and subsequent health care costs. Every year, premature deaths cost American companies an estimated 132 million lost work days at a price tag of \$25 billion. Finding and training replacements costs industry more than \$700 million each year. In addition, American businesses lose an estimated \$3 billion every year because of employee health problems." Aside from objective benefits cited above, our society also stands to benefit subjectively from the efforts, experience, wisdom, knowledge, love, and inspiration that our senior citizens can offer others, when their healthy years are extended through use of greenways.

Not everyone can afford the cost of home exercise equipment or a membership at the "Y" but anyone who can travel to the YRG can use it for free. Greenway users can easily adjust their pace to achieve the degree of exercise appropriate to their abilities and needs.

(Continued page 7)

The Greenway News Page 6

We Put the "Fun" in Fundraising

Our primary fundraising events in 2010 were again the Turtle Regatta and our annual Golf Tournament. These not only provided needed funding for the administration and operation of the Yadkin River Greenway Council, but they also provided an opportunity for involvement of our council members and "Friends of the Greenway" to meet with members of the community to express our thanks and to update them on the progress we have made.

Our 8th annual Turtle Regatta was held Saturday, May 22. A total of 1572 toy turtles were adopted and

went unclaimed. there's always

floated down the Reddies River at "crawl speed". A large variety of prizes were awarded with first place being a bicycle donated by Cook's. Prizes were awarded by Charlie White, President of Yadkin River Greenway Council. Ken Noland from the town of Wilkesboro and Hank Perkins from the town of North Wilkesboro, were our judges. The event raised \$9,050.

Thursday September 23 was the date of our 7th annual Yadkin River Greenway Benefit Golf Tournament, held at Oakwoods Golf Club in Wilkesboro. A total of 51 golfers enjoyed a great round of golf on a beautiful day. Thanks to the generous sponsorships from local businesses and individuals, we raised \$6,175 for the Greenway. While the "hole-in-one" prize of \$10,000 sponsored by Village Inn Pizza Parlor



Carolyn Frazier-Pardue, Freida Matthews and Vickie Church sign in golfers

Let the Turtle Regatta Begin!!!

next year. Our "Friends of the greenway" donation program raised \$8,275 through annual donations of both small and large gifts. Thanks to all who participated in these fundraising events, whether you made a donation by "adopting" a turtle, playing golf or joining the Friends the Greenway and providing funding for this organization. With your continued support, we can continue our goal of building a greenway system from W. Kerr Scott Reservoir to Smoot Park.

By: Keith Johnston, Fund Raising Chair and R. G. Absher, **Executive Director**

GREENWAY COUNCIL CONTINUES STRONG

At year end 2010, the Yadkin River Greenway Council membership consists of Charles White, President & Chairman, Carl McCann, Vice President, Gary Cogdill, Treasurer, Lisa Laufenberg,, Secretary, and other Council members: Lee Bentley, Vicki Church, Gary Johnson, Keith Johnston, Freida Matthews, Carolyn Frazier-Pardue, Chuck Smithey, Steve Steele, Sam Stroud, Frank Taracido, and Roy Williams, and new board members, Susan Buchanan and Darrell Groves. Executive Director is RG Absher. We thank these individuals for their service and participation in the success of the Yadkin River Greenway.

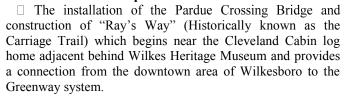
Look us up on the internet www.vadkinrivergreenwav.com and to learn more "About Us", when the YRGC meets (always 4th Tuesday of the month), dates of events, etc. Web-site is currently being updated by Matt Van Buskirk with Web Solutions to be more informative and attractive.

Volume 1, Issue 8 Page 7

BILL CLIFTON RETIRES AFTER 7 1/2 YEARS

Bill Clifton retired from his position as Executive Director of the Yadkin River Greenway Council this past September. During his 7½ year term, the Council has benefitted from his many skills as engineer and leader, which vastly enabeled the Yadkin River Greenway to improve and expand. Council members have praised both his organizational skills and his ability to work with people as individuals and inspire groups to become involved with the Greenway and its expansion.

During his tenure, many Greenway projects have been completed without the need for a major capital campaign to fund them. This has been made possible largely due to Bill's ability to secure grants from many funding sources. It is interesting to note that when Bill was being interviewed for the position, past Greenway Council President, Keith Johnston, asked Bill during the process how much grant writing experience he had and he replied "none," When asked how he became so successful at finding grants and funding sources he has been able to secure over the years he said, "I just 'boned up' on the process!" And what a fine job of "boning up" he has done!) Major expansion projects under Bill Clifton's leadership include:



□ 1.7 miles of new Greenway along Lowe's Park at River's Edge, including installation of a bridge near the skateboard park and one of the Greenways most complicated engineering challenges, the viaduct, (or "boardwalk" as others refer to it) where the Greenway extends over the bank of the Yadkin.

☐ The Fish Dam Creek section of the Greenway along the face of the W. Kerr Scott Reservoir which presently terminates near Brown's Ford Road.

☐ The "Jefferson Turnpike", along the Reddies to Suncrest Orchard Road, was improved and incorporated into the Greenway system.

Future projects which Bill Helped Launch, included The Greenway Expansion from the confluence of the Yadkin River and Moravian Creek to the Wilkes Community College trails, the Smoot to Memorial Parks Greenway section, and a handicapped accessible fishing pier near Pardue Crossing.

The Council honored Bill and Karen, his wife of 50 years, for his service, at a retirement dinner held at the North Wilkesboro Elks Lodge on October 6th. Current and former Council members attended, as well as present Executive Director, RG Absher. Council President, Charlie White, past Presidents, Carolyn Frazier-Pardue, Keith Johnston and Dick Sloop, and Council members. All praised Bill for his contributions to the Greenway. Bill was presented with a distinguished service plaque for his untiring efforts. His service and Karen's support will be further memorialized with



Charlie White Presents Bill with a Plaque at the retirement dinner

a granite mileage marker which will be installed on the Greenway segment to be constructed between the Smoot and Memorial Parks.

By Lisa Laufenberg, Secretary and Special Events Chair

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

GREENWAY'S WORTH

Greenways provide a venue for friends to enjoy each other's company and the beauty of nature while they stroll along. Moreover, time spent on the greenway is time away from less productive pursuits like watching television, smoking, and eating junk food.

Let me mention a recent personal experience that demonstrates dramatically the positive cost/benefit impact of the Yadkin River Greenway. Last summer my sister suffered an unexpected heart attack and subsequent cardiac bypass surgery, which might have been avoided if she and I had been exercising regularly on the greenway as we do now. Her medical expenses were well in excess of \$100,000. If the YRG can help even ten people avoid heart attacks, it will have essentially paid back its cost.

Hopefully our community will eventually achieve the grand vision of a continuous greenway connecting not only the heart of the Yadkin River Valley around the Wilkesboros, but also linking to the planned regional trail networks. Those who experienced the Internet revolution in the 1990s can attest to how much more useful computers became when they were linked to each other and the world at large. Similarly, a fully connected trail network will produce dramatic benefits, probably some that cannot even be anticipated yet. We must not settle for anything less.

By Sam Stroud, Wilkesboro, NC

YRGC Member

The Yadkin River Greenway Council Newsletter

Yadkin River Greenway Council P. O. Box 191 North Wilkesboro, NC 28659

Phone: 336-651-8967 Fax: 336-838-3628

Email: yrgreenway@pcshome.net

Mailing	Address	Line	l
Mailing	Address	Line	2
Mailing	Address	Line	3
Mailing	Address	Line	4
Mailing	Address	Line	5



"FRIENDS OF THE GREENWAY" NEEDS YOU!

"Friends of the Yadkin River Greenway" has completed its 8th year as a "grass roots" support organization. "Friends of the Greenway" added 13 new members during 2010 and now totals 241 who have joined. Of these, 83 have renewed their membership during the past year and we hope all will renew during 2011.

Contributions since the past 8 years to "Friends of the Greenway" now total \$77,060, These donations go along way towards covering the administration expenses to run the Yadkin River Greenway Council, thus enabling us to fulfill our mission of developing a greenway system in our community. Annual membership is open to all people and, by being a 501(C)3 non-profit organization, membership dues are tax deductible to the extent possible.

We offer opportunities to our members to volunteer time on specific greenway events and projects, helping in the greenway office, and contacting prospective new members. This newsletter and other communications will keep our members informed of Greenway activities.

In January, based on membership anniversary date, we will begin contacting each "Friend of the Greenway" to renew their membership and to continue their support of the greenway. Regular mem-

berships are: \$20 for individuals, \$40 for families, \$12 for youth, \$100 for businesses, and \$50 for organizations. Also to be recognized as a "Trailblazer," categories are: \$100 for Daniel Boone, \$250 for Sir Walter Raleigh, \$500 for Henry Hudson, and \$1000 for Lewis and Clark.

Thanks again for your continuing support .If any questions...Phone: 336-651-8967. RG Absher, Executive Director



Past President's Honor Bill Clifton
Left To Right: RG Absher, Carolyn Frazier- Pardue, Bill
Clifton, Dick Sloop, Charlie White, and Keith Johnston