



The Dragon's Tale

PO Box 882
Gloucester, VA 23061

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Friends of Dragon Run, Inc. is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to the preservation, protection, and encouragement of wise use of the Dragon Run and its watershed.

November 8th General Meeting with Dr. Bryan Watts

Osprey Within the Chesapeake Bay

Dr. Watts has worked with osprey within the Chesapeake Bay region for over 25 years.



Osprey are one of the most iconic and visible species of the Chesapeake Bay and one of the best indicators of estuary health. Join Friends of Dragon Run, Wednesday November 8, 2017, to hear Dr. Bryan D. Watts discuss the recovery and ecology of this magnificent species.

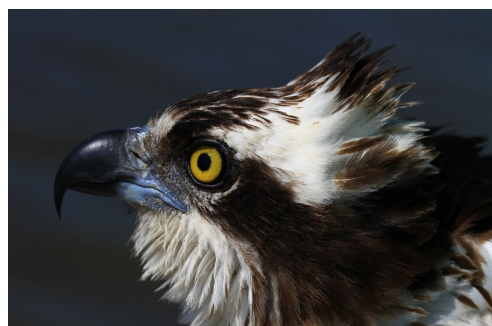
Dr. Watts is the Director and Co-Founder of the Center for Con-

servation Biology at the College of William and Mary and the Virginia Commonwealth University. The mission of the Center focuses on research aimed at ensuring the sustainability of bird populations. Dr. Watts has designed and conducted or directed over 250 research projects involving avian species or communities within the mid-Atlantic region of North America, and virtually every avian community within the Coastal Plain.

Dr. Watts is also recipient and first holder of the Mitchell Byrd Professorship, an endowed professorship in honor of legendary bird conservationist, Mitchell A. Byrd. An endowed professorship is the highest academic award a University can bestow on a faculty member honoring their research achievements. The presentation will be held



Wednesday, November 8th at 7 pm in the Gloucester County Library Community Room located at 6920 Main Street, Gloucester, VA 23061. There is no charge for the program and the public is invited. For more information about the program or Friends of Dragon Run, please contact Christine Tombleson at 804-815-0172.



Inside this issue:

<i>FODR's Corps of Engineers</i> by Janice Moore	2
<i>President's Letter</i>	3
<i>New Fall Paddle Season</i> by Janice Moore	3
<i>Nominating Report</i> by Teta Kain	4
<i>Help Wanted</i> by Janice Moore	5
<i>Equipment Needed</i> by Janice Moore	5
<i>Big Island Box</i> by Janice Moore	5
<i>SignUp Genius on Website</i> by Janice Moore	5
<i>Electronic Newsletter</i>	6
<i>FODR Hats and T-Shirts to order</i>	6
<i>Important Contacts</i>	7

Roadside Trash Pickup November 19th @ 9AM

Meet in the parking lot of
Rappahannock Community
College in Glenss. For more
information, contact
Hugh Markham at
hughr.markham@gmail.com



Move Over, Army Corps of Engineers *by Janice Moore*

You've heard folks say "It takes a village [to do important things]." Some folks say that for a tough job that involves construction, especially around water, you need the Army Corps of Engineers. Only the Corps can figure out how to do the job; only the Corps has all the tools needed; only the Corps has the muscle to get it accomplished. Well, FODR has a crew to match whatever the Corps could bring.

On Wednesday, October 4, a group of FODR members spent the day on the new water trail from Mascot down to Robert Gibson's farm clearing blowdown, floatdown, beaver dams, and whatever obstacles might interfere with our Fall Paddle Season. They also installed gates on the beaver dams and mounted "dragons" on a few trees to mark the new trail.

As you can see from these photos, there was plenty of work to do. With two chain saws, a hacksaw and other tools, two canoes, three kayaks, a tall ladder, four very strong men and two very determined women, we got it done.

Thanks to John Jensen, Teta Kain, Janice Moore, Jim Pettyjohn, Dave Rhodes and Roger Weakley, for clearing our new trail and making this important fundraiser possible.



PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Janice Moore

Another Eventful Year for FODR



Our last newsletter celebrated the successes of our 2017 spring paddle season. The Board decided to build on that success and have a fall paddle season. It will be short (only 7 days of paddles), and it might have ended by the time you read this newsletter. We are hoping that it will be successful in as many ways as our other paddles by introducing more people to the magic of the Dragon, especially in the midst of beautiful fall foliage. Many thanks to all the volunteers who agreed to serve as crew members on these trips.

Thanks to Dr. Bryan Watts, who will present the program at our annual meeting. I do hope that you can join us on November 8 at 7 pm for a valuable educational experience about our precious Chesapeake Bay watershed. We also need you to come out and vote on our slate of officers and directors to serve you during 2018 and beyond.

Be sure to keep track of what's going on with the fall paddle season and other news by checking our website <http://www.dragonrun.org/> frequently. Remember that you can now pay your membership dues and also order and pay for our new Dragon Run tee shirts, long-sleeved performance shirts, and new hats using our website and PayPal. And follow us on Facebook!

Don't forget to send me an email (jrmooore27@gmail.com), call me (703-217-0610), write me a letter (P.O. Box 247, Deltaville, VA 23043), or post a comment on our Facebook page and let me know what you are thinking. I hope to see or hear from you very soon.

2017 Fall Paddle Season – SOLD OUT *by Janice Moore*

The 2017 paddle season will begin **Friday, 20 October, running for seven days, October 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, and 29 (weather permitting)**. At this point, all spots are reserved, but if you want to paddle with us, the best thing to do is to follow us on Facebook. All cancellations are posted on Facebook, and then you can go to our website and use SignUp Genius to make a reservation. To make a reservation, you will need to provide your name as trip organizer, the date you wish to paddle, the number of people in your party, your email address, and (very important) a phone number that will reach you the day before and the morning of the paddle in case we have to make any changes because of weather. Hope to see you on the Dragon this fall!



2017 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT *by Janaice Moore*

Members of the 2017 nominating committee are Teta Kain (chairman); Wanda Eberle, and Rachel Williams. The committee nominates the following individuals for 2018 officer positions:

The following slate will be presented to the membership for election to the following positions at the 2017 annual meeting on November 8, 2017. Terms will begin January 1, 2018.

President - Janice Moore, a recently retired lawyer living in Deltaville, has agreed to serve another year as President.

Vice-president - Jeff Wright, a master naturalist and birder living in Ophelia, has agreed to serve another year as Vice-President.

Secretary - Adrienne Frank, a long-time board member and former FODR treasurer living in Williamsburg, has agreed to serve as Secretary.

Treasurer - Roger Weakley, a retired pharmacist living in Deltaville, has agreed to serve another year as Treasurer.

The committee nominates the following individuals for 2018 board positions:

Board members Terry DuRose and Davis Rhodes have agreed to stand for re-election to 2-year terms on the board of directors.

Anne-Ducey Ortiz and Anne Atkins have agreed to run for 2-year terms on the board of directors.

Anne Ducey-Ortiz has served as Secretary for the past year, and we are grateful for her efforts in faithfully recording the minutes of our board and other meetings. We look forward to her continued membership and service as a board member.

If elected, this will be Anne Atkins first time on the board. Anne retired from the Commonwealth of Virginia in 2013 after a career of almost 40 years. Her last positions included Director of Communications for the Department of Motor Vehicles and Director of Communications for the Virginia Department of Veterans Services. She is experienced in public relations, non-profit marketing, branding, media relations, organizing outreach events, website planning, development of promotional materials, crisis communications, and strategic planning. Since retiring, she has become a Hanover Master Gardener, keeps bees, kayaks, edits dissertations, and is enrolled in the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden botanical illustration certificate program. Dragon Run captivated her after her first paddle in 2016, and she served on our paddle crew for the 2017 spring and fall paddle seasons.

Directors whose 2-year terms ended this year and who chose not to serve again are: Bambi Thompson, Molly Broderson, Jack Musick, Jim Pettyjohn, and Jed Dolan. For health reasons, Curtis Hill resigned his board membership earlier this year. We thank these individuals for their years of service to FODR and look forward to working with them as loyal FODR members for many years to come.

HELP WANTED: FODR Property Monitors

Love to be outside? In the woods? Looking at the Dragon Run? Our Property Manager, John Jensen, is looking for volunteers to help monitor all of FODR's properties. We have asked the VA Department of Forestry to update all of the land management plans for our parcels, so we need to be prepared to monitor all the properties with those plans in mind. If you become a property monitor, you will work with John to choose one of our 11 parcels to monitor, learn the boundaries of that parcel, and walk those boundaries as frequently as needed – quarterly or annually – noting things like litter, vandalism, storm damage, and trail disruptions, and then filing a report. You will work with John to schedule workdays and lead a work crew, as appropriate. If you have questions or want to help, please contact John directly at hopesdadjohn@aol.com or you can use the FODR email, President@dragonrun.org.

New Website Feature

Please check out our new look at www.dragonrun.org! Thanks to our hardworking webmaster, Debbie Rollins, we have a new tab on our website for SignUp Genius. Reservations for the fall paddle season were managed entirely online – except for a few glitches on the first day. Every cancellation has been posted on our Facebook page and then booked by someone else. We'll be able to use this system for all our FODR events, and we're really looking forward to it. Check it out! As you know, we provide all the equipment for our members and guests who paddle down the Dragon with us.

Equipment Wanted

Our fleet of kayaks and other equipment is aging rapidly, and we need to enhance our equipment for the 2018 paddle season and beyond. We would greatly appreciate new or gently used paddles, life vests, paddling gloves, and kayaks (12 feet long or less) in good condition. We are so grateful for our members who have generously donated gently used kayaks, life vests, and paddles, and we need to continue building our inventory. If you have anything that might be useful or know any outfitters who are updating their equipment, please contact our President, Janice Moore, at 703-217-0610 or President@Dragonrun.org. Of course, we would also welcome cash donations so that we can purchase equipment to replace items that are no longer useful. You can send us a check or donate online.

New Décor at Big Island

If you happen to visit Big Island in November and walk along the trail that leads away from the picnic area and launch site and runs parallel to Dragon Run, you might notice something new. We have been looking for a place for off-season storage for our kayaks and other equipment because we didn't want to wear out our welcome in members' garages and barns. The solution: a Conex box! We have purchased a container measuring 40' x 8' x 9.5' to be delivered at the end of October. It will sit in the woods off that trail and will provide locked weather-tight storage for kayaks and all the other FODR equipment, adding to its useful life.

Friends of Dragon Run Hats and T-Shirts



Ball Caps and T-Shirts—\$20.00
Bucket Hats—\$25.00
Shipping \$5.00

Order online at dragonrun.org

They make great Christmas presents.

Welcome New Members

Jack Furnas
Richard Stearns
Raynell Smith
Kathleen Mehfoud
Gena McKinley
Kati Rubis
Shawn & Jan Towne
John F. Fox

FODR's board has decided to send electronic copies of Newsletter beginning in 2018. The next copy of Dragon Tales will be sent out electronically to your email address. Please contact Deb Rollins at debrollins@gmail.com to be sure you don't miss your copy.





Pay your dues on
line! Go to
dragonrun.org
and click the
PayPal "Donate"
button!

Be sure your Amazon account is
set up to donate to FODR! For
every purchase you make,
Amazon will donate to FODR!

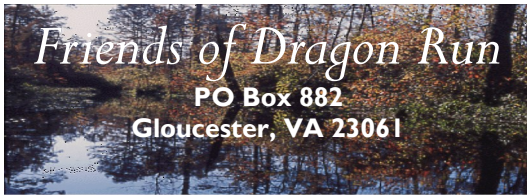


IMPORTANT CONTACTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Janice Moore	President	703-217-0610	jrmooore27@gmail.com
Jeff Wright	Vice President	703-801-0239	pec11908@me.com
Roger Weakley	Treasurer	804-241-4223	
Anne Ducey-Ortiz	Secretary	804-725-1259	aduceyortiz@earthlink.net
Davis Rhodes	Fundraising, Safety Program, Community Service Coordinator	757-651-2260	s.d.rhodes@verizon.net
Teta Kain	Paddle Trip Program, Nominating Committee	804-693-5246	tkdragonrun7@gmail.com
John Jensen	Property Manager	804-769-1565	hopesdadjohn@aol.com
Christine Tombleson	Facebook, Speaker Program	804-815-0172	christine@vims.edu
Terry DuRose	Merchandise	804-693-7862	Chesapeakebay_mgr@equitylifestyle.com
Sherrie Hill	Newsletter Editor	804-514-4639	sherriehill@live.com
Rebecca Day	Publicity	804-339-3528	rebeccaday@aol.com
Hugh Markham	Roadside Cleanup	804-443-3571	hmarkham@crosslink.net
Debbie Rollins	Webmaster	804-725-0401	debcrollins@gmail.com

Like US on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/FriendsofDragonRun





Have a Change of Address? Just send to FODR, PO Box 882, Gloucester, VA 23061

FODR Activities for 2017

Did You Know?

November
8 Annual Meeting
19 Highway Trash Pickup
28 Business Meeting

December
5 Planning Meeting

You must contact Deb
Rollins to receive your
electronic copy of
Dragon's Tale.

