

*****NEWS FROM THE HAW RIVER*****

**The Haw River Canoe & Kayak Company – Electronic Update
January 2007**

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***** Thanks Andrew & Best Wishes *****

If you called the office and had the opportunity to talk with Andrew Downs or were fortunate enough to spend time with him on the Haw River, I know you enjoyed his enthusiasm and love for protecting the river. For the past several years, he dedicated himself to developing new recreational accesses in both Alamance and Chatham Counties while doing his best to protect both cultural and natural history values. His work was more than just a job.

Andrew has accepted a job with the Appalachian Trail Conservancy and will be moving to Asheville, NC. We'll miss his passion for conservation and his gift of being able to see the value in everyone with whom he works. We wish him the best and thank him for all that he has done to make the Haw River Paddle Trail a reality.

***** What's New for 2007 *****

Lots! For beginners, we will be offering not only new guided trips and a new stretch of river for rentals of both canoes and kayaks, but we will also be offering the opportunity to rent sea kayaks on the lake-like portions of the Haw River.

Some of the new, guided trips are Paddle & Potlucks, Pedal & Paddles, Sunset Paddles, Introductory Paddles at Bynum, clean-ups and more Paddle Dinners. As in 2006, we will continue to offer Full Moon Paddles, Stargazing Floats, Owl

Prowls and trips from the Town of Haw River to the Town of Swepsonville and from the Town of Swepsonville to the Town of Saxapahaw.

***** Calendar of Courses & Trip for 2007 *****

If you are interested, a calendar of courses and trips is available for the asking from The Haw River Canoe & Kayak Company. Don't rely on our website (www.hawrivercanoe.com) for a complete list of offerings. It has not been updated. To request a copy of the calendar, either give us a call at 336/260-6465, reply to this e-mailed newsletter or send us an e-mail to info@hawrivercanoe.com.

By the way, the temperature was in the 70s for the Polar Bear Paddle. Perhaps it should have been titled the Sunshine in the Tropics Paddle. Everyone participating was in sea kayaks, which made paddling against the current a whole lot easier. Hopefully, next year, we'll have cooler weather.

***** "Celebrate the Haw River" Spring Break Paddle *****

The dates for the "Celebrate the Haw River" spring break paddle are set. Matt Steible, an Elon University History Education major, will depart from the Haw River State Park in Guilford County on Friday, March 16. His plan is to paddle the Haw River to its confluence with the Deep River in Chatham County. The State Park is planning a celebration to send him along his way. We anticipate that Matt will arrive near Glencoe, NC by Saturday afternoon.

Right now, the plan is for individuals and organizations to join Matt on both Saturday and Sunday, March 17 & 18. His trip on Saturday will coincide with the Haw River Assembly's annual Clean-Up-a-Thon, which takes place all along the river. The trip on Sunday morning will be for only those with whitewater paddling experience. Those with little to no paddling experience can join the paddle on Sunday afternoon.

The following Saturday and Sunday, March 24 & 25, the venue will switch to Chatham County with whitewater paddles on two river stretches and flatwater paddles upstream of the Highway 15-501 bridge and on Jordan Lake.

The "Celebrate the Haw River" spring break paddle will be a wonderful opportunity for non-profit organizations to raise money for themselves and their causes by getting people, organizations and businesses to sponsor the number of miles paddled either by Matt as their surrogate or by other paddlers involved in the Celebration. If you would like to know how to get involved, just contact us at 336/260-6465 or info@hawrivercanoe.com.

***** Guide & Instructor Training *****

In our last electronic newsletter, we announced that we are looking for folks to apply for some of our available positions. I am happy to say that we received several well-qualified applications for the Registration Manager position and will be interviewing folks this month.

We are still looking for individuals that might be interested in guiding, instructing and handling rentals. Realizing that not everyone who might be interested in these positions will feel qualified, we will be offering this spring a guide/instructor orientation and training program. So, if you think you might enjoy being involved with our paddlesports business, don't let your current skill and experience be a deterrent. If you give us a call (336/260-6465) or send us an e-mail (info@hawrivercanoe.com), we'll be happy to send you the appropriate job description(s).

If you do not wish to receive future editions of "News from the Haw River", an Electronic Update provided by The Haw River Canoe & Kayak Company, please send an e-mail message to info@hawrivercanoe.com with the word "Unsubscribe" in the subject field. Thanks.
