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### PARKWAY TRIVIA

Did you know there are more than 3,000 vista openings along the Blue Ridge Parkway?

These openings provide ample opportunity to enjoy the Parkway's beauty.



With summer now in full swing, so are the blooms on the Blue Ridge Parkway. July is prime viewing time for Black-Eyed Susans, Ox-Eye Daises, Milkweed and Bellflowers just to name a few.

The next time you're fortunate enough to be traveling the Parkway, slow down just a tad so you can fully enjoy nature's beauty that surrounds you!

For a complete list of Parkway blooms, including where you're likely to see each, visit the Blue Ridge Parkway [website](#).

## PARKWAY LINKS

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Blue Ridge Parkway  
Information Line  
828.298.0398

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## CONTACT US

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## FRIENDS News

### FRIENDS Volunteer Spotlight

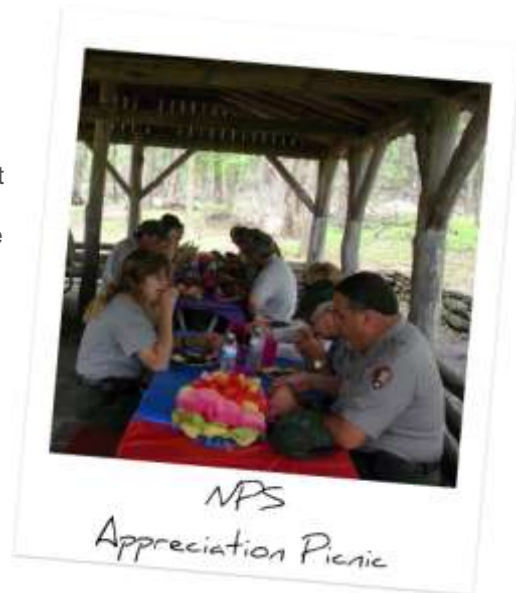
*Recognizing Those Who Graciously Serve*

FRIEND Rocky Knob Chapter prepared and served a picnic lunch to 30 maintenance and facility employees Tuesday, June 1, 2010. It was an honor for this Chapter to entertain these hardworking men and women who have put their hearts into cleaning up the Parkway after so much destruction was experienced during the winter weather.

Under the leadership of Rick Baker, Facilities Manager, and Roger Williams, Maintenance Supervisor, FRIENDS Rocky Knob Chapter has helped to clean some of the trails and the campground to ready them for the summer season.

During the picnic, which was held at the Rocky Knob picnic shelter, Rod Broker, FRIENDS Coordinator of Programs, was introduced to the group. Jim Newlin, who has assumed his new duties as FRIENDS Rocky Knob Chapter Chair, was also introduced to those present.

A big THANK YOU goes out to the Rocky Knob Chapter for donating and preparing the delicious food. Way to go!



Contributors:  
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## **FRIENDS Golf Tournament**

### *Save the Date*



Keep Tuesday, October 26th, open on your calendar! You'll want to attend FRIENDS' upcoming Golf Classic hosted by The Cliffs at Walnut Cove in Arden, NC. Play is limited to only 30 foursomes. So, be ready to register early.

Also, there are tournament sponsorship slots still available. For more information, please email [FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge Parkway](mailto:FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge Parkway).

More tournament details to come....stay tuned.

## **FRIENDS Needs Volunteers**

### *Office Opportunities Available*

The FRIENDS office in Roanoke, VA is in need of a few good men and/or women.

We are looking for people interested in data-entry and mail room duties.

For more information about these opportunities, please email [Eva O. Gray](mailto:Eva.O.Gray), FRIENDS Volunteer Coordinator.



## Our Newest FRIENDS

### *Membership Continues to Rise*



We would like to cordially welcome the following new FRIENDS members:

LaRue Alford; Joseph and Wilma Arrington; Arthur Boyd; John Derdin; Scott and Rebecca Fleshman; Frederick Goudin; John Griffin; Darryl Gumz; Amy Halsted; Susan Hardy; Jessica Harig; Karl Hess; Brian Hochmuch; Kathy Kellam; Michael Kriegel; Camille Kurtz; Bob and Dianna Labrek; Suzanna and Jeffrey Mallick; Sarah and Glen Moore; Tim Pegram; Robert Reynolds; Doug Rogers; Mary Shephard; Jeremy Teel; Umberto Veltri; David Ward; Joe and Pam Wiggins and Susan Williams.

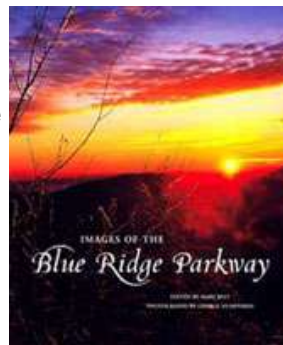
Thank you for joining us in our effort to help preserve, promote and enhance the Blue Ridge Parkway. Not a member of FRIENDS? For information, including how to join, please visit our [website](#).

## FRIENDS Book Winners

### *Members Receive Images of the Blue Ridge Parkway Book*

Each month, FRIENDS holds a drawing for an *Images of the Blue Ridge Parkway* book. This is a beautiful coffee table book by George Humphries. Only members who renew their membership and provide us with their email address are eligible for the drawing. We would like to congratulate the following recent winners:

- April: Elaine Barker
- May: Michael & Judith Sporakowski
- June: Vicki Jones



Would you like to be entered to win this month? Just give us your email address when [renewing your membership](#) and we'll throw your name in the hat! This book is also available for purchase in our [online store](#).

## National Trails Day 2010

### *NBATC Participates*



The Natural Bridge Appalachian Trail Club (NBATC) celebrated [National Trails Day](#), June 5, 2010 on the Sharp Top Trail at Peaks of Otter. National Trails Day is an annual event promoted by the [American Hiking Society](#). Various organizations throughout the U.S. held events to promote hiking and hiking trails.

Approximately 8.3 miles of NBATC's section of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail (AT) lies on Blue Ridge Parkway land. David Helms, NBATC member, stated that "the Parkway personnel were well prepared with all of the equipment the club needed." This preparation, needless to say, made the club's work day go a little smoother.

FRIENDS would like to thank the NBATC volunteers and the Parkway staff who assisted with this well planned and productive work day!

## The 469-Mile Club

### *Recent Award Recipients*

Congratulations to all of you for traveling all 469 miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway. What an accomplishment!

Carol Ackerman; Bill Detzner; Forrest Duryea; William Hanna; Chris Larsen; Keith McCrea; John & Ileen Moorman; Gene & Linda Ormond; Robert Ritchie; Trisha Ritchie; Scott & Barbara Sabilia and James Woodall, Jr.

If you have driven, biked, hiked or walked the full length of the Parkway, we invite you to complete our online 469-mile award [application](#).



## Merchandise Item of the Month

### *FRIENDS Water Bottle*



Just in time for your summer hiking and trail walking on the Parkway, this water bottle is sure to keep you hydrated. It is constructed from polycarbonate material which is virtually unbreakable.

Our exclusively designed bottle comes with a sporty neoprene wrap and carabiner. Quick-flip, easy-open lid reveals a durable rubber straw and offers a spill-resistant closure while you are on the move. As an added bonus, it fits all standard car cup holders and holds 22 ounces of liquid.

This item is available in our [online store](#) for only \$6.00 plus shipping.

## FRIENDS Chapter News

Want to get involved with the work of one of our Chapters?

Contact one of our Chapter Chairs below for information on how you can help make the connection!



Humpback Rocks  
Mileposts 0-20  
[Rod Broker](#)

Fisher Peak  
Mileposts 200 - 217.5  
[Lewis Shropshire](#)

Appalachian State  
Student Chapter  
[Heather Preston](#)

Peaks of Otter  
Mileposts 60-90  
[Rod Broker](#)

West Jefferson  
Mileposts 217.5 - 270  
[Ken Canter](#)

Asheville  
Mileposts 364 - 410  
[Hugh Stephens](#)

Roanoke Valley  
Mileposts 80-130  
[Regina Desper](#)

Boone/Blowing Rock  
Mileposts 270 - 316  
[Mike Keibelbeck](#)

Cherokee  
Mileposts 410 - 469  
[Tonya Jenkins](#) & [Robert Jumper](#)

Rocky Knob  
Mileposts 130-200  
[Jim Newlin](#)

## Floyd Fest Volunteers Needed

*Enjoy a Day of Fun and Fellowship*



It's that time of year again when we ask for your help by volunteering to work at [FloydFest](#). The benefits are a wonderful day and the FRIENDS Rocky Knob Chapter will receive a donation from FloydFest. This year's event will take place from July 22 - 25.

There are various shifts available throughout the weekend to accommodate your schedule. Duties include beer ticket sales, merchandise tent and offsite camping helpers. For more information please email [Marcia Ardissonne](#), FRIENDS Rocky Knob Chapter Volunteer Coordinator.

## National News

## Join the Conversation about America's Great Outdoors

### *Attend a Listening Session*



In April 2010, President Obama launched the [America's Great Outdoors Initiative](#). The initiative's goal is to reshape America's conservation policy. Now, the American public is being given the opportunity to individually participate.

Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks Tom Strickland, National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis and other senior administration officials will

participate in a listening session on this initiative to hear from people in the Asheville, NC area about solutions for building a 21st century conservation and recreation agenda and reconnecting Americans with the outdoors. [more details](#)

Additional listening events are scheduled in Colorado, New Mexico and Pennsylvania. [see schedule](#)

Your input is also requested on the America's Great Outdoors [website](#). They want to hear from you about the "places you love, your community's efforts to protect them, and how they can better support modern-day land and water conservation efforts happening in communities across the country."

Now is your chance to get involved and let your voice be heard!

## Commemoration of Parkway's 75th Anniversary

### *Resolution Introduced to U.S. House of Representatives*

Rep. Tom Perriello has introduced a resolution in the U.S. House of Representatives that "commemorates the 75th Anniversary of the Blue Ridge Parkway and acknowledges the historic and enduring scenic, recreational, and economic value of this unique national treasure."

The resolution, H.CON.RES. 294, boasts 15 bipartisan co-sponsors from Virginia and North Carolina and recognizes the continuing cultural and economic impact of the 469-mile scenic highway over the last 75 years. [read more](#)



## Parkway News

## Insider View of the Blue Ridge Parkway

### *Celebrating the Parkway's 75th Anniversary*



Major James P. Dodge Jr.,  
NC Highway Commission

A Wilkes County (NC) woman had a frontline view of the development of the Blue Ridge Parkway while working for a man she called the "unsung hero" of this massive project.

Elizabeth Jennings Stahl of Wilkesboro was 18 and fresh from a year of business classes at Women's College (now the University of North Carolina at Greensboro), when she was hired as administrative assistant to Major James P. Dodge Jr., N.C. Highway Commission senior claims adjuster for acquisition of land for the Parkway. [continue reading](#)

## Parkway In Urgent Need of Volunteers

### *Roanoke Campground Hosts Needed*

Roanoke Mountain Campground is in dire need of campground hosts. You don't need a fancy motorhome or a deluxe camper. Some hosts just bring tents and do the car-camping thing!

The area rangers would be happy to take on folks who can just commit to weekends. Without hosts, this campground operation may not be able to accept many campers. The Parkway's 75th Anniversary is sure to bring in a lot of campers which intensifies this need.

If you are interested, please visit our [website](#) and complete our online volunteer application. Thank you in advance!



## Help Celebrate the Blue Ridge Parkway's 75th Year

### *Activities Planned to Commemorate Event*



As you have probably heard by now, 2010 marks the 75th Anniversary of the Blue Ridge Parkway. To commemorate this significant milestone, numerous celebratory events are planned all along the Parkway's 469 miles.

The Blue Ridge Parkway 75 [website](#) has an extensive list of these activities in calendar form. Be sure to check it often, as new events are being added. A couple of events that you won't want to miss are:

**The Parkway's 75th Anniversary Festival** - This is a "multi-day, multi-venue event staged in and around Cumberland Knob Recreation Area in North Carolina." This event will take place September 10 - 12. Volunteers are needed to help make this event a success. For more information, contact [Rod Broker](#), FRIENDS Coordinator of Programs. ([learn more](#))

**Blue Ridge Parkway 75 Symposium** - Virginia Tech's College of Natural Resources in cooperation with Blue Ridge Parkway 75, Inc. is hosting "Imagining the Blue Ridge Parkway for the 21st Century: *Sustaining Communities, Environments, and Economies.*" This is the second in a two-part conversation about the past and future of the Blue Ridge Parkway and will take place October 14 - 16 in Roanoke, VA. ([learn more](#))

Make plans now to attend the events in your area and be a part of history!

## Select Parkway Campgrounds Now Accepting Reservations

### *Service Offered Online*

The Peaks of Otter Campground (MP 86) is now offering campers the option to reserve campsites online. The campground utilizes [ReserveAmerica](#), a company that provides online campsite reservation processing. This service is also available for the following campgrounds on the Parkway: Mount Pisgah (MP 408), Linville Falls (MP 317) and Julian Price (MP 297). The Parkway plans to offer this service at the Rocky Knob and Doughton Park campgrounds in the future.

About 40% of the campground's sites are available for reservations. The remaining sites will remain on a first-come, first-serve basis. So, what are you waiting for...make those reservations, get out your camping gear and enjoy!



## Blue Ridge Parkway is Completely Open

*Drive 469 Miles Detour Free*



As of 2:00 p.m. on July 2, 2010, all 469 miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway are open and free of detours. A 6 1/2 mile stretch had been closed since October 2009 because of the possibility of rock slides. One lane is now open which means the Parkway can again be traveled from end to end without interruption or detour.

Much of the roadway in North Carolina has been closed since winter ice storms devastated the area. Since that time, Parkway personnel, contractors and volunteers have worked hand in hand to clean up fallen debris and trees.

There is still clean-up to be done, but should not hinder Parkway travel. So, what are you waiting for? Get out there and fully enjoy the Blue Ridge Parkway. And, if you see a Parkway employee along the way, be sure and offer your gratitude for their diligent work. Happy travels!



Make a  
**Donation**

FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge Parkway utilizes volunteer services, but needs your support to fund our programs. FRIENDS is unique - for every dollar you invest in FRIENDS, Parkway volunteers provide \$3.00 of volunteer service back to the Blue Ridge Parkway -together we are making a difference! Please offer your generosity in support of our mission to preserve, promote and enhance the Parkway. Thank you..