

Annual Report

FY 2016

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From the President

Each of us carry with us a sense of belonging to something: a family, a belief system, a place. The Board of Directors of Bull Run Mountains Conservancy carries this kind of belonging for the Bull Run Mountains. Many individuals as founding board have carried this identification and responsibilities for 24 years, others longer. Some have moved within range of these mountains more recently and discovered in them a touch-stone, a point of view, a calling to contribute their care and protection.

Bull Run Mountains Conservancy Members have a similar connection to these mountains inside the Natural Area Preserve which is revealed in their unpaid volunteer work.

There is an energetic history and present attachment of multitudinous connected strands; scientists from the Commonwealth's Division of Natural Heritage, Smithsonian entomologists, and independent scientists who inventory the measurable flora and fauna in the Preserve. Educators with their students assist in the research and study of this collected natural resource material. Ultimately, colleagues and families disseminate what they learn and the web of affection for the mountains carries forward in an expanding manner.

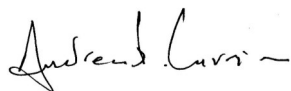
Travelers commuting on Interstate-66, residents of Prince William County looking west across their Rural Crescent, see and take note of the gentle green mound, and residents of Fauquier County as they look east to the metropolitan suburbs and to the United States Capitol, Washington, D.C., do so with the lens of the last and highest Piedmont natural feature.

We are, ultimately, all nomads passing through this present place we call home. This can intensify the meaning we award our near-by "local" enduring monument the Bull Run Mountains within its Natural Area Preserve. Each of us are a piece in, and a part of, its living system and welfare.

Let us continue to work for the greater good of the Preserve's health, and our greater health and meaning in this chosen path.

Best wishes to all for a positive New Year.

Sincerely,



Andrea B. Currier



From the Executive Director

Members' support is always critical to BMRC's mission to protect the Bull Run Mountains and over the past year has provided the means to diversify our programs, continue research studies, and advance stewardship practices.

In 2016, nearly 3,000 local and regional schoolchildren, teachers, and adults participated in BRMC programs that engaged adults and children in the outdoors, through summer camps, the Chesapeake Watershed Workshop for teens, a Terrestrial Ecology Teacher Workshop for local educators, naturalist hikes, Halloween Safari, the Homeschool Hike Series, and after-school workshops with local schools. Our educational programs seek to develop an insatiable curiosity about the amazing natural diversity of Virginia and a desire to help preserve these resources for future generations. We serve as a unique, and easily accessible, outdoor classroom for local public, private and home schools.

BRMC also supports professional-caliber ecological research of lasting importance and offers internships and research opportunities for middle school, high school, college, and graduate students. In 2016, BRMC was able to sponsor and assist a Bat Survey on the Bull Run Mountains Natural Area Preserve that the Virginia Natural Heritage Program conducted. We are excited to be hosting Chris Hobson, who conducted the Survey, to discuss the results later this month as part of our monthly speaker series.

Members' donations facilitate a vibrant volunteer corps that yearly logs in more than 3,000 hours assisting our education programs, research, and stewardship. Your contributions have leveraged over \$50,000 in matching funds from private foundations over the past several years and inspired in-kind support from local businesses and clubs.

To us, preservation does not mean a hands-off policy, but rather a focus on drawing people to appreciate the resources at hand, and the completion of research to better understand and protect those resources.

We look forward to the year ahead, and continuing our work to aid in the protection of the mountains that we call home.

Warmest regards,



Michael J. Kieffer
Executive Director

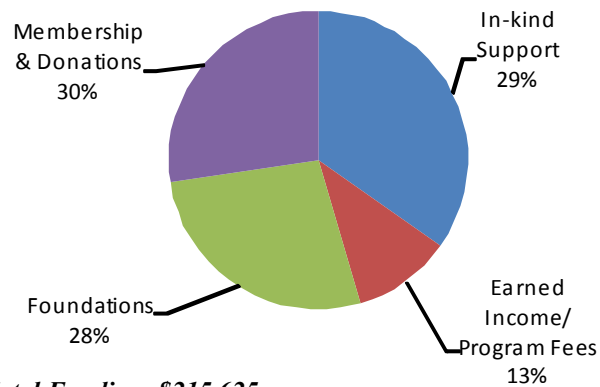


Financial Report

Financial highlights for the 2016 fiscal year include:

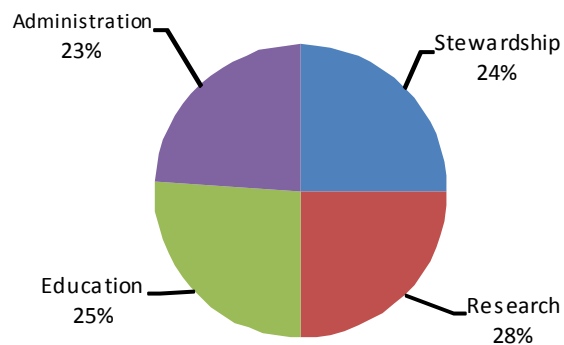
- Member renewal rate of 72%
- Funding for Bat Survey during 2016 field season
- Ability to offer eleven scholarships to children's camps

Funding



Total Funding: \$215,625

Expenses



Total Expenses: \$214,451

Thank You!



Bull Run Mountains Conservancy would like to say thank you to all our volunteers and interns. ***We could not do it without your support!***

Our volunteers and interns are involved in every aspect of the Conservancy—from being Weekend Warriors and trail workers, maintaining the website, conducting Eagle Scout projects, to updating the database.

For all the help that you provide with our educational programs and beyond, we would also like to thank our 2016 student interns:

Tyler Crossen, Kristina Fauss, Sean Lynch, Kaden Ring, Joseph Ritter, Samuel Ritter, and James Verrochino.



Interns & Campers



Sean Lynch



Kaden Ring

Contributors

(Donations received between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016)

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Wrinkle in Time Foundation
Sacharuna Foundation
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Annual Visitors & Programs

Over 2,800 people per year visit the Conservancy to hear our lectures, attend our public programs, and participate in school field trips.

Our 2016 public programs included:

Hikes With a Naturalist

Amphibians of Spring

Annual Fundraising Event

Woodcock Watch

Homeschool Program Series

Halloween Safari

Trail Work Days

Old Home Sites

Weekend Guided Hikes

Budding Naturalist Camp

Owl Prowl

Summer Nature Camp

Wildflower Hike

Freshwater Ecology

Herpetology Camp

Chesapeake Watershed Workshop

Migratory Bird Walk

Vernal Pool Teacher Workshop

Hopewell Observatory

Animal Tracking & Winter Woods



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at the Mountain House 2016

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BRMC Publications

