

Bull Run
Mountains
Conservancy

Education · Research · Stewardship

Annual Report
FY 2017

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From the President

As we move towards the third decade in our still young millennium, we have experienced nature changing beneath us. The flip-flop temperatures, intense rains and drought periods, extraordinary fires, tornado's, floods, insect infestations and tree decimation, to name the most obvious examples. Like a pet or a child the message communicated is not expressed in verbal language, it resonates for meaning at a deeper level. Are we good stewards to the earth we have to live on? What do we really need to make our lives whole? What should and must we take to thrive and, what can we leave be? What do we cherish? What do we protect and nurture?

In the scope of our personal daily lives we take time for walks "out of doors", we shop for food, and we work our flower and vegetable gardens, we tend to our animals, we recycle our finished trash, we conserve expensive heating and cooling resources, we try to educate ourselves with subjects beyond our own professional and personal limit, we make caring contributions to organizations who work on problems for our common good.

We do our best in our private sphere. We are carried forward in our lives, or put another way, our term on this earth. Our clever systems that distribute our lifestyle essentials may have become antiquated to meet the current stage of our needs, or, our once efficiencies may substitute and rob us of some aspect we find valuable.

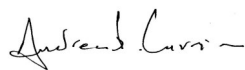
We must awake to the changes we notice in our lives and determine whether we like them or not, and depending, how we can adjust ourselves for a more agreeable experience.

With our physical base, our planet Earth, we need to listen for her messages and see ourselves as an important part of a larger whole, a give and take partnership, a steward for continuing generations of living natural systems: water, air, trees, animals and our own healthy human selves.

At BRMC, related to these questions and concern, we will examine specific subjects from the microscopic level to the macroscopic trends.

Please join us for our Speaker Series as we discuss interesting phenomenon of the natural world that we exist in partnership with. We look forward to having you participate in these conversations in our new year ahead.

Sincerely,



Andrea B. Currier



From the Executive Director

Bull Run Mountains Conservancy's (BRMC) education and research endeavors work hand in hand to promote the preservation, enhancement and sustainability of a valuable resource—the Bull Run Mountains, while also benefiting the general public. Thank you for supporting our mission.

BRMC's mission to help people become better stewards of the land has never been more important. We were organized by local landowners who wanted to promote the preservation and improvement of natural resources on the Bull Run Mountains through educational, charitable, and scientific means for the benefit of the general public. BRMC offers educational programs to adults and children, with a strong link to local history. We served nearly 3,000 adults and children with over 10,000 impact hours through our public education programs in 2017. BRMC has a high leader-to-participant ratio that ensures a focused and quality education experience. All of our programs endeavor to teach how important it is to care for and protect the Bull Run Mountains.

Research underpins our education program. For 23 years, BRMC has sponsored and assisted numerous baseline studies that add important data to our understanding of the landscape. These studies have focused on stream/water quality, forest ecology/health, insect surveys including important pollinator populations of butterflies, moths, and beetles, American Chestnut restoration, and the impact of white nose syndrome on bat fauna populations.

Members' donations facilitate a vibrant volunteer corps that yearly logs in more than 2,000 hours assisting our education programs, research, and stewardship. Your membership and contributions have leveraged over \$57,000 in matching funds from private foundations over the past several years. In addition, our members have inspired in-kind support from local businesses and clubs allowing us to build a reputation as the guardian of the Bull Run Mountains.

Warmest regards,



Michael J. Kieffer

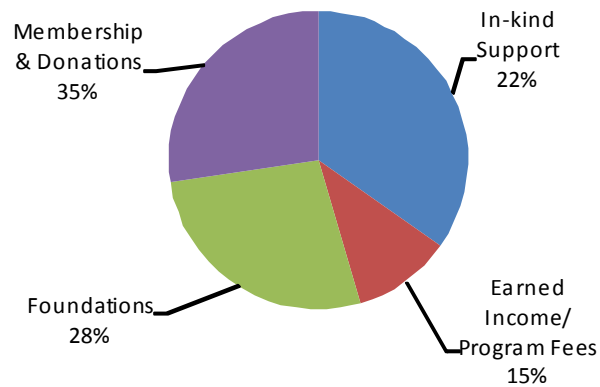


Financial Report

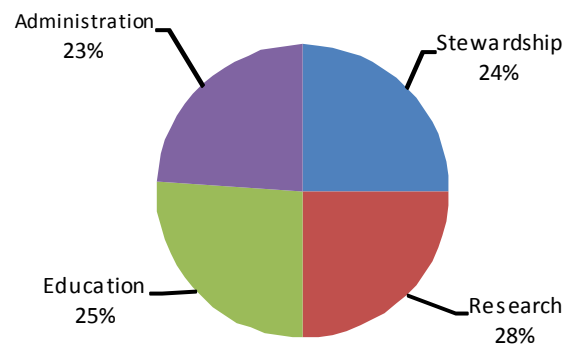
Financial highlights for the 2017 fiscal year include:

- Member renewal rate of over 70%;
- Piedmont Chapter VNPS funding of Native Plant Project during 2017 field season;
- Offering of fourteen scholarships to children's camps.

Funding



Expenses



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 helping with Halloween Safari, monitoring bluebird boxes, 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 2017 student interns:

Andrew Colon, Sean Lynch, Kaden Ring, Joseph Ritter, Samuel Ritter.



Andrew Colon



Sean Lynch



Kaden Ring

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(Donations received between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017)

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Annual Visitors & Programs

Over 2,300 people per year visit the Conservancy to hear our lectures, attend our public programs, and participate in school field trips.

Our 2017 public programs included:

<i>Hikes With a Naturalist</i>	<i>Amphibians of Spring</i>
<i>Annual Fundraising Event</i>	<i>Woodcock Watch</i>
<i>Homeschool Program Series</i>	<i>Halloween Safari</i>
<i>Trail Work Days</i>	<i>Old Home Sites Breakfast</i>
<i>Weekend Guided Hikes</i>	<i>Budding Naturalist Camp</i>
<i>Hopewell Observatory</i>	<i>Summer Nature Camp</i>
<i>Orienteering Workshop</i>	<i>Chesapeake Watershed Workshop</i>
<i>Herpetology Camp</i>	<i>Chesapeake Watershed Teacher Workshop</i>
<i>Migratory Bird Walk</i>	<i>Monthly Speaker Series</i>
<i>Geology & Life on the Mountains</i>	
<i>Cultural & Natural History of Broad Run Creek</i>	



Herpetology Camp kids with Marty Martin, June 2017

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