



# 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 16, 2016 Annual Meeting

### Fish of the Dragon Run



Jack with a Chain Pickerel

VIMS Emeritus Professor Jack Musick will present a talk on the Fishes of Dragon Run on November 16th at 7:00 PM. Jack will describe the aquatic habitats of the Dragon and the diversity of fishes that live there. Come and learn about the ancient, armored Bowfin and the toothy Longnose Gar which might have been the source for legends of dragons in the swamp among early European settlers. Jack will also talk about the Dragon's Lilliputian fishes: the small, beautiful Bluespotted Sunfish, the dark, weird Pirate Perch, and

the Mud Minnow which can breathe air and is not a minnow at all. Learn about the sport fishes, the voracious Chain Pickerel and the popular Largemouth Bass, and which fishes are native or introduced.

John A. (Jack) Musick, Ph.D. is the Marshall Acuff Professor Emeritus in Marine Science at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), College of William and Mary, where he has served on the faculty since 1967. While at VIMS he has successfully mentored 37 masters and 49 Ph.D. students. In 1985 he was elected a Fellow by the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The meeting is to be held Wednesday November 16, 2016 at 7pm at the Gloucester Public Library, Main Branch located at Main Street Center in Gloucester Courthouse. The program is free and the public is welcome and encouraged to attend! For information on the meeting or on Friends of Dragon Run, please contact Christine Tomblason at 804-815-0172.

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### Roadside Trash Pickup November 19th 9AM

Meet in the parking lot of Rappahannock Community College in Glens. For more information, contact Hugh Markham at [hmarkham@crosslink.net](mailto:hmarkham@crosslink.net)



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John A. (Jack) Musick, Ph.D. is the Marshall Acuff Professor Emeritus in Marine Science at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), College of William and Mary, where he has served on the faculty since 1967. He earned his B.A. in Biology from Rutgers University in 1962 and his M.A. and Ph.D. in Biology from Harvard University in 1964 and 1969, respectively. While at VIMS he has successfully mentored 37 masters and 49 Ph.D. students. Dr. Musick has been awarded the Thomas Ashley Graves Award for Sustained Excellence in Teaching from the College of William and Mary, the Outstanding Faculty Award from the State Council on Higher Education in Virginia, and the Excellence in Fisheries Education Award by the American Fisheries Society. In 2008 Dr. Musick was awarded The Lifetime Achievement Award in Science by the State of Virginia. He has published more than 150 scientific papers and co-authored or edited 22 books focused on the ecology and conservation of sharks, marine fisheries management, and sea turtle ecology. In 1985 he was elected a Fellow by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has received Distinguished Service Awards from both the American Fisheries Society and the American Elasmobranch Society (AES), for which he has served as president. In 2009 the AES recognized him as a Distinguished Fellow. Dr. Musick also has served as president of the Annual Sea Turtle Symposium (now the International Sea Turtle Society), and as a member of the World Conservation Union (IUCN) Marine Turtle Specialist Group for which he currently serves on the Red List Authority. Dr. Musick served as co-chair of the IUCN Shark Specialist Group for nine years, and is currently the Vice Chair for Science. Since 1979. Dr Musick has served on numerous Stock Assessment, and Scientific and Statistics committees for the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessment Program. He has chaired the ASMFC Shark Management Technical Committee and ASMFC Summer Flounder Scientific and Statistics Committee. His recent consultancies have included analyses of sea turtle/ long-line interactions in the Canadian and US Atlantic swordfish and tuna long-line fisheries, certification assessments for various fisheries for the Marine Stewardship Council, assessment of species recovery plans for the Australian Fisheries Authority, Fishery status reviews for FAO, and oil spill impact reviews for NOAA. In 2015 Dr. Musick served as the principal reviewer for the National Plan of Action for Shark Management prepared by Cuba, and was the keynote speaker in Havana for the formal presentation of the Plan by the Cuban Government to the U.N. Food and Agricultural Organization.

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## **“NEW” Meeting Time –ANNUAL MEETING STARTING AT 7PM**

In response to many members’ requests, we will be starting the business and program of our general meetings at 7 pm. In the past, we have convened at 7 pm and had refreshments and socialized until 7:30 pm. Many of our members found this kept them out too late at night. In addition, the library doors are locked at 8 pm, and we don’t want to be there any longer than we have to after that. We appreciate the member feedback, so we’re going to try starting at 7 pm and see how that goes. We will still have refreshments, and we’re happy to socialize after the business meeting and program.

PLEASE ARRIVE AT THE LIBRARY PROMPTLY AT 7:00 SO THAT YOU CAN  
HEAR THE  
NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT AND VOTE!!!!

## PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Janice Moore



### *A great year in 2016*

Thanks to the 27 members who came out on September 17, and especially Molly Broderson and Bambi Thompson, for a successful annual picnic. There are more details in this newsletter, but please let us know your ideas for future picnics. What timing, menu, etc., would you prefer? Do you have ideas that might attract more families/young people to attend?

I hope that you'll join us on November 16, at our Annual Meeting, when we'll conduct the important business of electing officers and directors of Friends of Dragon Run. In response to requests from many members, we're going to start the meeting at 7 pm and enjoy socializing AFTER the program, rather than before the meeting. Please come on time so that you can vote!! The Nominating Committee Report is included in this newsletter, including short biographies of the new candidates for the positions of Treasurer and Vice President. In addition, you'll be treated to a program about the fish species of Dragon Run from Jack Musick, Professor Emeritus at VIMS.

I encourage everyone to keep track of what's going on by checking our website <http://www.dragonrun.org/> frequently. Very soon, you'll be able to order and pay for our new Dragon Run tee shirts and hats using our website. And follow us on Facebook!!

Don't forget to send me an email ([jrmoore27@gmail.com](mailto:jrmoore27@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!!

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## FODR Annual Picnic Report

Molly Broderson and Bambi Thompson did a wonderful job organizing and staffing our annual picnic at Big Island on September 17. All the folks (27 total) who attended the picnic really helped! They also seemed to enjoy the event. The BBQ and sides were delicious, thanks to all the members who prepared or purchased the side dishes and desserts.

We don't know whether Teta or Davis was in charge of the weather, but it was FANTASTIC – a gorgeous day to be at Big Island! Location was perfect; Big Island is such a lovely place, and those who went for a short paddle were rewarded with ideal conditions. The site was well prepared, with special thanks and kudos to John Jensen and Davis Rhodes for cutting and trimming the grasses and brush in the area, getting the porta-potty delivered, hanging the rain/sun tarp, and bringing the lovely trailer containing everything from paper towels to the grill for heating the BBQ and beans. Also, special kudos to Teta for delivering the kayaks!

The dogs in attendance were quite well behaved. The "taxi driver" (Teta and sometimes her canine companion, Bravo) was quite attentive to the needs of her passengers coming from the designated parking areas.

And many thanks to all the members for pitching in to clean up. Special mention to Roger Weakley and Davis Rhodes for coming back on Sunday to take down and stow the rain/sun tarp.

We are looking for feedback and ideas for future picnics. What timing, menu, etc., would you prefer? What can we do to encourage more families/young people to attend?

## 2016 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Members of the 2016 Nominating Committee are Teta Kain (Chair), Jed Dolan and Rachel Williams.

The following slate will be presented to the membership for election to the following positions at the 2016 annual meeting on November 16, 2016. Terms will begin January 1, 2017.

Nominations for Officers are:

- President - Janice Moore
- Vice-president - Jeff Wright
- Secretary - Anne Ducey-Ortiz
- Treasurer - Roger Weakley

### **Vice-President—Jeffrey “Jeff” Wright Northumberland County**

After careers in government and industry, Jeff is now “90% retired.” His focus is on whittling down the “10% still working” and two key pursuits:

- To further the measurable impact of habitat protection related organizations and causes
- Support solutions for Virginia’s Rivers and Bays and Ocean and Coasts

A Virginia Master Naturalist, Jeff stays busy as a retiree supporting conservation organizations and citizen science initiatives. Among other organizations, he served on the 2016 FODR paddle crew, and he volunteers for the VA DGIF Birding and Wildlife Trail Network, the Voorhees Preserve on the Rappahannock River, the Virginia Coast Reserve for the Nature Conservancy, and the VA DGIF VA Breeding Bird Atlas 2 project. Jeff also serves as a Board member of the Northern Neck Audubon Society, a newsletter contributor, a bird walk leader, and a speaker on the topic of Birding Tools. Key hobbies are kayaking, photography, bird watching, musical theater, and hiking. Jeff and Kathy Wright live along the Little Wicomico River in Northumberland County where they are attempting to raise three hounds and a few oysters.

### **Secretary—Anne Ducey-Ortiz Mathews County**

Anne Ducey-Ortiz joined FODR about 15 years ago and served on the paddle crew for many years. She served as secretary for a several years until she had to step down when she became Director of Planning for Gloucester County. She returned to the Board a few years ago and was elected Vice President. Now, she has agreed to serve (and looks forward to serving) as Secretary of the Board instead of Vice President since we had to replace Cynthia Honablue, who needs to care for her aging father.

### **Treasurer—Roger Allen Weakley Middlesex County**

Roger graduated from the MCV School of Pharmacy in 1971. He started King William Pharmacy in 1974 in Aylett, VA, retiring in 2007 after turning the business over to his children. He has been a member of the Virginia Pharmacist Association for his entire career and served for several years as chairman of the Legislative Affairs Committee. He has been a member of the King William Ruritan Club for 40 years, chaired the Business and Professions Committee, and has been auditing the books for the Ruritan Club for the past 8 years. He has been involved in several successful businesses over the years and usually kept the financial records and served as CEO and/or Chief Financial Officer. Roger recently joined FODR after enjoying a few paddles down the Dragon, and he lives in Deltaville.

### **Directors to be nominated for another two year-term:**

Robert Gibson  
Curtis Hill  
John Jensen  
Teta Kain  
David Milby  
Christine Tombleson  
Adrienne Frank

Leaving their Positions on December 21, 2016:

Three members who chose not to serve in their respective positions this year are Adrienne Frank, Treasurer, Cynthia Honablue, Secretary, and John Lucy, Board member.

We are especially grateful to Adrienne, our long-standing Treasurer, who wishes to trade the duties of keeping financial records for more time to work on her butterfly and bird journals. We are delighted that Adrienne will remain on the board as a director for another term.

We are also grateful to Cynthia, our long-standing Secretary, who must devote more time to care for her aging father. She has faithfully recorded the minutes of the board meetings for the past seven years, has provided snacks at our general meetings, and arranged through her church to provide tables and chairs and whatever else we might need from time to time. Cynthia has been an especially valued marketer for FODR at Farmer's Markets and similar events, helping to bring FODR to the community and the community of FODR.

We are also grateful to Jon, who has served on the board and as a valuable member on the paddle crew providing muscle whenever and wherever needed. Jon cites personal obligations which limit his time to serve on the board for a second term.

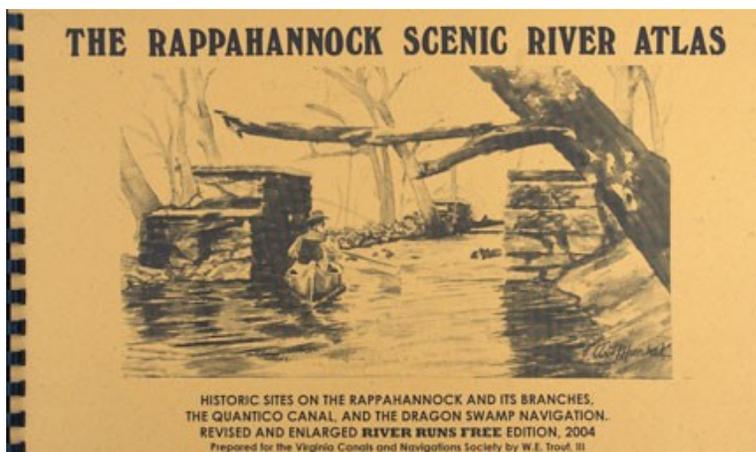
We look forward to working with Adrienne as a Board member and with Cynthia and Jon as regular loyal FODR members and hope to see them as regular volunteers for our meetings, events, and other activities.

## Welcome New Newsletter Editor!

Sherrie Hill has agreed to serve as our next editor of *The Dragon's Tale*. Sherrie and Curtis Hill have been FODR members since they built their house on the Piankatank River in 2004 – on Meggs Bay just at the mouth of the Dragon. Sherrie just finished her master's degree in communication and is currently Program Manager for the adult education program at Rappahannock Community College. We hope to see Sherrie paddling the Dragon more frequently, now that she is "out of school", but we are especially grateful that she's agreed to devote time to editing *The Dragon's Tale*.

### Thanks and Farewell to Jingwei Song

We owe a lot to Jingwei Song, a Masters student at VIMS. A year ago, he agreed to step in and edit *The Dragon's Tale*, to end our year-long search for a new editor to follow Susan Bober, who needed to step down after many years of service to FODR. Jingwei worked tirelessly to learn about the Dragon and about FODR. He learned how to use *The Dragon's Tale* software, became a meme of FODR, came to Board meetings, general meetings and workdays, and even paddled the Dragon on the coldest trip of the year. Alas, he must devote more time to his research and writing for his masters thesis in the fisheries department at VIMS about temperature local adaptations of speckled trout. We will always be grateful, Jingwei, and we wish you the best always.



Copies of *The Rappahannock Scenic River Atlas*, with a special nine-page section on Dragon Swamp, are available for \$12.38 plus postage and tax from the Virginia Canals & Navigations Society, [www.vacanals.org](http://www.vacanals.org).



Around the table, left to right - Ms. Davelin Gresham, Associate Minister, Lebanon Baptist Church, Bonnie Page, Gordon Page, Cynthia Honablue, Secretary



Foreground - Jed Dolan, Ted Broderson (Molly's better half). Table in background - Roger Weakley, Kathryn Gregory, Adrienne Frank, Treasurer, Janice Moore, President

## Friends of Dragon Run Hats and T-Shirts

Order Your Christmas Gifts Now!

Hats and T-Shirts—\$20.00 each

\$5.00 for shipping

To Order Yours Contact:

Terry DuRose

804-693-7862

chesapeakebay\_mgr@equitylifestyle.com



**PayPal Coming Soon**

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**



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

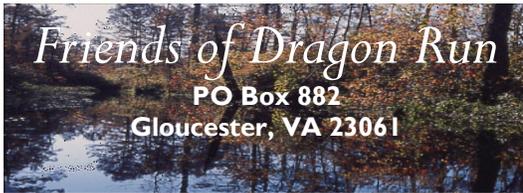


**IMPORTANT CONTACTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Janice Moore	President	703-217-0610	jrmooore27@gmail.com
Anne Ducey-Ortiz	Vice President	804-725-1259	aduceyortiz@earthlink.net
Cynthia Honablu	Secretary, Hospitality	718-496-6149	chonablu5000@aol.com
Adrienne Frank	Treasurer	757-566-4009	adrienne-gary@cox.net
Bruce Pully	Imm. Past President	804-642-5243	bjpully@verizon.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
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Like US on Facebook!  
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Contact Deb at [debcrollins@gmail.com](mailto:debcrollins@gmail.com) to receive your copy via email today!

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

## ***FODR Activities for 2016***

### **November**

- 16 Annual Meeting
- 19 Highway Trash Pickup
- 28 Business Meeting

### **December**

- 5 Planning Meeting

### **Did You Know?**

When FODR members choose to receive the Dragon's Tale electronically, they reduce paper waste, as well as printing and mailing costs. Those saved funds are redirected toward our primary mission of the preservation, protection and encouragement of the wise use of the Dragon Run and its watershed.

Contact [debcrollins@gmail.com](mailto:debcrollins@gmail.com) to sign up for FODR e-newsletter.