

Friends of South Mountains State Park

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

Please be reminded that the Friends Annual Meeting will be held at **9:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 30, 2017** at South Mountains State Park in the Visitor's Center. Please make plans to attend. Items on the agenda include an annual update from the Board, Election of Board Members, and other business as may be presented. Current Board Members whose terms are expiring, but who may be re-elected are: Steve Gurley and Tom Kenney.

15th ANNUAL NATURE DAY

Saturday, September 30, 2017, 11:00 a.m. Join us for the 15th Annual Nature Day at South Mountains State Park! It's also a great way to celebrate National Public Lands Day. A variety of programs, exhibits, hikes and music are scheduled for your enjoyment. This is a wonderful event for the whole family. Learn. Explore. Have fun! Food and beverages will be available for purchase. Contact the park office for more information at 828-433-4772.

FROM THE BOARD

It has been quite an eventful year since our 2016 Annual Meeting, most notably beginning in November 2016 with the Chestnut Knob Fire. The Board would like to express its sincere gratitude to everyone who pitched in and volunteered, in every form imaginable. As most of you are probably aware, the Chestnut Knob Fire burned over 6,300 acres, with much of the burned area lying within the South Mountains State Park boundaries. In addition to the long, hard hours labored by our Park Rangers and Staff, firefighters from across the State and from as far away as Alaska worked tirelessly for over a month to finally bring the Chestnut Knob Fire under control. All the firefighters expressed their thanks for all the meals and supplies our volunteers and community provided. Many didn't really want to leave because "they have never eaten so good."

Fortunately, there was no major structural damage caused by the fire (inside or outside the park) and no loss of life. Unfortunately, the Chestnut Knob Fire destroyed large portions of Shiny Trail and Chestnut Knob Trail. Thanks to the hard work of Park Rangers, Staff and volunteers, Shiny Trail is now fully reopened. Chestnut Knob Trail is partially reopened as portions of the trail are being rerouted due to the level and damage and also to make a more pleasurable hiking experience.

Other events that Friends sponsored or participated include numerous trail work days, including events scheduled on Earth Day and National Trails Day. Looking forward, Nature Day is quickly approaching on September 30th, then we will continue to work with the Park through the full reopening of Chestnut Knob Trail, and then we will turn our attention to an entirely new trail planned around Clear Creek Lake on the Morganton side of the Park.

We look forward to seeing you again, or for the first time, at our Annual Meeting and welcome you to enjoy Nature Day.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Summerlin, President
Walt Gravley, Vice President
Steve Gurley, Secretary
Lenore Wortman, Treasurer

Janice Branstrom
Tom Kenney
Dan Jones



Visit us on the web at:
www.friendsofsomo.org
for more information and for
links where you can ...



Join or renew
TODAY!

Friends of the South Mountains
State Park, Inc.
3001 South Mountain Park Avenue
Connelly Springs, NC 28612
Email: info@friendsofsomo.org
Web: www.friendsofsomo.org



Photos Courtesy of the NC Division of Parks
and Recreation. Photos by W. Stubbs
(waterfall) and T. Johnson (vista).

Friends of South Mountains State Park

Join / Renew My Membership Today!!

Name: _____

Joint Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Return to: Friends of the South Mountains State Park, Inc.
Attn: Membership Renewals
3001 South Mountain Park Road
Connelly Springs, NC 28612

Individual/Family Memberships:

- Student/Senior Annual Membership: \$15.00/yr
- Individual Annual Membership (18+): \$20.00/yr
- Joint Annual Membership: \$30.00/yr
- Founder's Society: \$100/yr

Business Memberships:

- Business Bronze Membership: \$300/yr
- Business Silver Membership: \$500/yr
- Business Gold Membership: \$750/yr
- Business Platinum Membership: \$1,000/yr

Additional Contribution Categories:

- Bedrock: \$500.00 gift
- Hemlock: \$1,000.00 gift
- Ridgeline: \$5,000.00 gift
- High Shoals: \$10,000.00 gift
- Other \$ _____ gift

Total Paid: \$ _____

For more information email: info@friendsofsomo.org

Friends of the South Mountains State Park, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) registered not-for-profit organization. Your membership and contributions may be tax deductible. Please consult your tax advisor for more information.



Visit us on the web at:
www.friendsofsomo.org
for more information and for
links where you can ...



**Join or renew
TODAY!**

Friends of the South Mountains
State Park, Inc.
3001 South Mountain Park Avenue
Connelly Springs, NC 28612
Email: info@friendsofsomo.org
Web: www.friendsofsomo.org



Photos Courtesy of the NC Division of Parks
and Recreation. Photos by W. Stubbs
(waterfall) and T. Johnson (vista).

