



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



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 OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ONLINE AT:
www.friendsofsomo.org/membership.html
 or mail in the form enclosed.*

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

Please be reminded that the Friends Annual Meeting will be held at **10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 26, 2020**. Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the restrictions on gatherings, the Annual Meeting will be held by Zoom video conference. To access the Annual Meeting, visit www.friendsofsomo.org/zoom.html or follow these instructions:

- 1) Use your web browser (such as Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, Mozilla Firefox, or others) to go to: www.zoom.us/join
- 2) Enter this Meeting ID: 780 2031 0791
- 3) Click "Join Meeting"
- 4) Enter this Passcode: SOMO
- 5) Click "Ok"
- 6) Follow prompts as necessary.

Please make plans to attend. Items on the agenda include an annual update from the Board, Election of Board Members, special recognitions, and other business as may be presented. Current Board Members whose terms are expiring are Steve Gurley and Tom Kenney. Steve and Tom have agreed to serve another term on the Board and have been nominated by the Board for re-election. Nominations will also be taken from the floor.

18th ANNUAL NATURE DAY

Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions on gatherings, the 2020 version of Nature Day has been cancelled. We do plan to bring back this annual favorite for 2021 and hope to see you all there.

FROM THE BOARD

2020 has been a difficult year for us all. It is hard to believe what a wide and far-reaching effect the COVID-19 virus has had on our communities, all the way down to a local level and our beloved South Mountains State Park. 2020 was off to a great start when the coronavirus forced the Park to close in late March. SOMO reopened May 9th and things have been roaring ever since. Despite being closed for five weeks, attendance at the Park through July is up 10% over 2019, which was a 16% increase over 2018. The Park has experienced such a significant increase in attendance that most weekends are full to capacity by 9:00 a.m. Needless to say, the Park Rangers and Staff very busy keeping everyone safe and maintaining the Park trails and other facilities. We hope that you will join us in conveying a sincere appreciation to the Park employees the next time you are out.

We look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting.

Sincerely,

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

Janice Branstrom
 Tom Kenney
 Erma Deen Hoyle



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**Join or renew
TODAY!**

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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.