



Newsletter

WINTER 2019

In case you missed it...

Paddle Splash



Our inaugural Lake Jocassee **Paddle Splash** event was a great success, as eighty racers in kayaks, canoes, surf skis and paddleboards competed over three and six mile courses along the shores of South Carolina's premier inland paddling destination. The event brought beginner and experienced paddlers to Lake Jocassee, and was designed to promote the Jocassee Gorges area as a recreation destination. One of the races in the Southeast Paddle Sport Championship

UPCOMING FOJ EVENTS

FEBRUARY 14
**FOJ Quarterly
Talk** w/Bill Routh
10:00 AM @ Devils
Fork State Park

MARCH 11
**Adopt a
Highway**
12:00 PM @ DFSP

MARCH 16
BellFest 2019
10:00-3:00 @
DFSP

APRIL 29
**Spring Water N
Wildlife Day**
9:00-12:00 @
Keowee Toxaway
State Park

Series (SEP), the Paddle Splash will return on **October 5, 2019**. [Follow this link to see photos and videos of the 2018 race, and details to register for the 2019 race.](#)

First Day 5K



FOJ Annual Meeting

October 26th dawned extremely cold and rainy as FOJ members gathered for the Annual Meeting at Duke World of Energy. Guest speaker, Mikayla Kreuzberger, Duke Energy Corporate Communications, shared the history of Duke Energy's Keowee-Toxaway Project. This included an inside look at one of the most massive engineering projects in the Upstate – a project heralded by the American Society of Civil Engineer as its 1974 project of the year. After the presentation, members had

SEPTEMBER 14

VIP Day

9:00–12:00 @
DFSP

OCTOBER 5

**Paddle Splash
2019**

Early morning
start @ DFSP

OCTOBER 17

**FOJ Annual
Meeting**

details TBA

*Additional events
will be added as
they develop.*

time to visit the exhibits before having a covered dish lunch.

Water N Wildlife Day

A group of about 20 FOJ members gathered at Keowee Toxaway State Park on November 10th to complete much-needed projects. These included highway cleanup, adding new plants to the pollinator gardens, adding rocks to the bio swale, trail maintenance, rain garden improvements and highway cleanup. The volunteers enjoyed a complimentary Subway lunch at the picnic shelter area after the work was completed. Plan to join us for another workday at KTSP this April 29th from 9:00–noon.

SAVE THESE DATES

We hope to see you at FOJ events planned this year!

FREEZE WITH SOME FRIENDS FISH OFF

**THIS EVENT IS
OPEN TO ALL
FISHERMAN**

TOURNAMENT FEE
\$40 Team Tourn-
ment
\$10 Big Fish

This is a great opportunity
to learn what the Friends of
Jocassee would like to do to
preserve this beautiful area



March 9th, 2019
Safe light - 3PM

WHERE
Devils Fork State Park
161 Holcombe Cir, Salem SC 29676

WWW.FRIENDSOFJOCASSEE.ORG

SPONSORS
Friends Of Jocassee

BENEFITING
All who have the pleasure of
fishing on the most beauti-
ful lake in the south east

Contact Ray Felton for more information about this event rfelton@scprt.com.

BellFest 2019

Saturday, March 16th

10:00am – 3:00pm



Join *Friends of Jocassee* at Devils Fork State Park as we celebrate the rare Oconee Bell flower, *shortia galacifolia*. Historical presentation about the search for this rare flower, as well as, a medicinal plant walk and guided naturalist trail hike to see the “bells”.

Craft vendors & exhibitors, local musical talent, a bluegrass band, cloggers, silent auction, pontoon boat rides on Jocassee, and food truck! State Park entry fees apply. [Visit our website at for more information.](#)

Donated items are needed for the SILENT AUCTION. All proceeds will benefit Oconee Bell Projects. Donations are tax deductible and can be dropped off at Eclectic Sun in the day use area at DFSP. Please contact Beth at Rbc7@earthlink.net for more info.

Quarterly Talk

Thursday, February 14th

10:00am

In the Holcombe Room at Devils Fork State Park



Speaker will be **Bill Routh**, main instructor, owner, and operator of Lake Jocassee Dive Shop and Off the Wall Diving Charters.

As an avid diver and long-time resident of the Jocassee community, Bill Routh is credited for rediscovering much of Jocassee Valley's history deep under the dark water of Lake Jocassee. Through the years Bill found the old Mt. Carmel Baptist Church cemetery, the stone pillars that marked the entrance to Camp Jocassee for Girls, and the old steel bridge that crossed the Whitewater River. His most famous discovery is the Attakulla Lodge, which is believed to be the only structure remaining in Jocassee Valley. Join Friends of Jocassee to hear Bill's stories about the fascinating history of Jocassee Valley.

Spring WNW Day

Monday, April 29th

9:00am – noon

Work day at Keowee Toxaway State Park.

We will do similar projects to our previous events and help out at the new Group Camp area, which is scheduled to open this spring off Old Chapman Bridge Road.

Memberships Due

It is time to renew your FOJ membership for 2019.

You can do this on the FOJ website via PayPal

or complete the form and return by mail.

[JOIN or RENEW Your Membership ONLINE!](#)

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - Sherrie Whitten

Vice President – Chris Rucker

Secretary – Mallory Dailey

Assistant Secretary – Zac Setzer

Treasurer – Debbie Laughridge

Co-Treasurer – Beth Clark

Grants – Heyward Douglass

Emeritus Board Member - Allan Boggs

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Brooks Wade

Kay Wade

Dan Whitten

Kevin Evans

Mike Atkins

Ken Sloan

Jennifer Bausman

Sheryl White

Cydney Phillips

FRIENDS OF JOCASSEE wishes to congratulate to our newest board members:

Zach Setzer

Sheryl White

Cydney Phillips

Our deepest appreciation is extended to **Ray Felton** and **Cathy Foster**,

who have rotated off the board after 5 years of service.

Thanks to **Chanda Morrison** who is now publishing our newsletter.



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Email

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