

# Waterway Views

Winter 2006

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Haywood Waterways Association, Inc.

## HWA Holds Annual Membership Meeting

Haywood Waterways Association recently conducted its annual membership meeting at Lake Junaluska's Lambuth Inn. The evening's festivities included the election of five HWA board directors, awards presentations, highlights of HWA accomplishments for 2005, a buffet dinner and a presentation by Don McGowan, owner of Earthsong Photography. The turnout was diminished by the forecast of freezing rain; however 48 members and guests braved the weather for an evening of good food, fellowship and a stunning photographic journey presented by Don.

The HWA membership re-elected Bill Eaker, Peggy Melville, Jennifer Pratt, Marty Prevost

Highlights of 2005 included the publication of Stewardship Begins in Our Backyards, a Landowners Guide to Protecting our Land and Streams, receiving the 2005 Natural Resource Enhancement Award from the Hugh Hammond Bennett Chapter of the Soil & Water Conservation Society, the Board's efforts in strategic planning, and grant acquisitions exceeding \$1.5 million. Key grants were received from the Pigeon River Fund, US Environmental Protection Agency and the NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund. These grants were received in collaboration with our key partners the Haywood Soil and Water Conservation District and the Southwestern NC Resource Conservation and Development Council. There's not much we could get done without them!



Tony Able (L) and Richard Alexander (R) receive their awards from HWA President, Dave Dudek (not pictured: Tim Garrett) (Photos by Charles Schaefer)



Don McGowan, the 2006 feature photographer for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park calendar, provided the evening's entertainment. His program Earthsong: Photographic Rhythms in Nature, a series of his photographic slides set to music, highlights the natural beauty of western North Carolina and truly captures why Haywood Waterways exists, to help protect our mountains and streams.

and Gordon Small to serve a three-year term on the HWA Board of Directors. Ron Moser and Eric Romaniszyn presented HWA's 2005 accomplishments, which included an update on membership, grants received, water quality monitoring, education programs, and current projects. Charles Schaefer also gave an update on Greenway efforts.

Bill Eaker presented the annual HWA awards honoring two individuals and one government agency that have provided tremendous support to HWA and our efforts to improve water quality in the county. Each recipient received a beautiful framed print of a different waterway in the watershed.

### Correction

In the summer 2005 newsletter, the article Pigeon River Re-introduction Efforts was contributed by Joyce Coombs. Joyce is a research specialist at the University of Tennessee and is part of the Pigeon River Recovery Project, a group working to restore the Pigeon River in North Carolina and Tennessee. HWA apologizes for the error.

**HWA plans to expand its Board of Directors and is seeking candidates for the new positions. If you believe clean water is a valuable resource, have fundraising or member recruitment skills and a desire to serve HWA, please contact us at 828-452-9077.**