



Night time is the right time for your next Parkway adventure.

Camp out to enjoy the projects you've generously supported. Learn more inside.

Picnic on the Blue Ridge Parkway

Scott Ramsey's photograph of the Milky Way at Waterrock Knob, milepost 451, was the winner in the 13th annual Appalachian Mountain Photo Competition's Where the Parkway Meets the Sky category. The contest is now accepting shots for the 2017 judging process. Visit appmtnphotocomp.org to submit your best photographs from the Parkway and beyond.



Spend the night on the Parkway!

Turn your scenic drive into an overnight adventure at two campgrounds that highlight your support

Eight developed campsites on the Blue Ridge Parkway allow visitors to become part of their surroundings—sleeping under the stars, waking up to the sunrise, and making unforgettable memories. Each of the sites has a lot to offer, both in amenities and activities, to help you make the most of your camping trip. We've highlighted two of the locations below with onsite or nearby Foundation projects that our Community of Stewards has supported. We hope that you will have a chance to drop in and pitch a tent this year.

Peaks of Otter

Milepost 85.9

86 tent sites, 58 RV sites

Peaks of Otter is made up of Flat Top, Sharp Top, and



Photograph by Vicki Dameron

Sharp Top Mountain and Abbott Lake

Harkening Hill and provides stunning views of the mountains and Jefferson National Forest. The Peaks of Otter campground is located at the foot of Sharp Top mountain and offers campsites shaded by a

thick canopy of leaves, as well as tables, campfire rings and grills. There are numerous hiking opportunities ranging from demanding uphill treks to an easy stroll around Abbott Lake. In the springtime, hikers are likely to stumble upon one of the mountain meadows, filled with wildflowers and migrating butterflies, while a fantastic assortment of foliage can be seen in the fall. You can often see animals such as deer and turkeys at the campground. Summer interpretive programs are provided for visitors to learn about the wildlife as well as the history of the area.

Your Stewardship in Action

Three Foundation projects have been completed in the



Historic Polly Woods Ordinary

Peaks of Otter area in the past year. The one-mile loop trail at Abbott Lake has been paved, making it the first complete ADA trail on the Parkway. Polly Woods Ordinary, a historic lodge and

tavern built in the early 1800s, sits on the northeastern shore of Abbott Lake and has been restored. Located a short walk away is historic Johnson Farm, an old mountain farmstead that has also been restored and preserved thanks to your support.

Julian Price Memorial Park

Milepost 297

119 tent sites, 78 RV sites

Julian Price Campground is the largest of the developed campgrounds on the Parkway and is adjacent to Price Lake, a 47-acre body of water that sparkles against the backdrop of the Blue Ridge Mountains. There are numerous activities to enjoy in the area. Canoe rentals are available at Price Lake and other nonmotorized boats are permitted. Fishing fans can cast their lines from a designated dock. Price Lake Trail is a relaxing and easy 2.7 mile trek around the shore, and the more challenging Boone Fork, Green



Price Lake

Photograph by Monty E. Combs

Knob, and Tanawha trails can be accessed through the campground.

Your Stewardship in Action

With your support, the Foundation replaced picnic tables, fire grills, and repaved walkways throughout the campground. We are currently raising funds to construct a new comfort station that will provide ADA accessible restroom facilities and showers for campground visitors. Visit brpfoundation.org to learn more and support this project.

Not a camper? No problem

The Foundation is fortunate to have several partner lodgings that give back to the Parkway. Guests can show their appreciation for the scenic route by donating \$1 per night to support initiatives. **Peaks of Otter Lodge** is a great base for exploring Abbott Lake, Polly Woods Ordinary, Johnson Farm, and nearby trails. Partners near Julian Price Memorial Park include **Chetola Resort at Blowing Rock, Mountaineer Inn & Cabins, and Meadowbrook Inn**. Visit brpfoundation.org for more information.

Parkway campgrounds are open from May through late October, weather permitting. Reservations can be made for most sites at recreation.gov or by calling (877) 444-6888.

Community of Stewards spotlight: Billie Brandon Howell



Billie Brandon Howell supporting the Parkway at Chetola's Corkscrew 5K.

My father, Bill Brandon, fell in love with the Appalachian Mountains at 15 years old when he traveled from York, South Carolina, to this area with his father in a produce truck. They were stocking up on staples for the local grocery store that my grandfather operated for many years on York's Main Street, where locals gathered

around potbellied stoves and talked about the times. After serving in World War II, my father returned home and married Doris Farris. My parents worked very hard for 35 years and after retirement, traveled extensively. Even after visiting many wonderful places, the Blue Ridge Parkway remained at the top of their list as a favorite destination.

In 2004, they moved to Blowing Rock. My mother and I enjoyed frequent walks around Bass Lake at Moses H. Cone Memorial Park. My father's physical health did not allow him to join us. However, he always enjoyed the beautiful vista from Flat Top

Manor and chatting with other folks about the estate and the Parkway. The time we spent at the estate inspired my keen interest in the restoration and preservation of this historic treasure. Like many families, we spent invaluable time together here and it will always hold a special place in my heart. I'm thrilled to play a role in ensuring its future through the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation.



Bill and Doris Brandon at the Linn Cove Viaduct

The Blue Ridge Parkway leaves each of us with special memories and a deep connection to the mountains. We invite you to share your experiences, remembrances, and the favorite places from your journeys at brpfoundation.org/shareyourjourney.

Howell lives in Boone, North Carolina, and has been a dedicated member of the Foundation's Community of Stewards for more than a decade. She is currently serving on The Denim Ball event planning committee.

A new look for brpfoundation.org

We've revamped our website with a new design and fresh features. We hope you'll explore it to get involved:

Explore the Parkway: Check out this guide with handy links to Parkway information, fun trivia, and historical facts.

How to Help: Learn about the many ways you can support the Parkway, from purchasing a North Carolina specialty license plate to sharing your own story.

Your Gifts at Work: A list of initiatives you can support all along the scenic route.

Events: Mark your calendar for exciting Foundation events!

Blog: Our new blog is a hub for Parkway news, project updates, history flashbacks, and tales from the road.



Our new website is easy to use and responsive to mobile devices.



Join us for The Denim Ball

Put on your dressiest denim and join us on Saturday, August 6, 2016, for The Denim Ball at Chetola Resort in Blowing Rock, N.C. The proceeds raised will support a multiyear plan for the preservation of Moses H. Cone Memorial Park on the Blue Ridge Parkway. With more than 250,000 visitors each year, the 3,500-acre estate is a jewel of the High Country. The event will feature dinner, drinks, dancing, and a live and silent auction.

Tickets are \$100 each and may be purchased by visiting brpfoundation.org/thedenimball or calling (866) 308-2773, ext. 245.

Interested in donating to our auction or becoming an event sponsor? Please contact Mandy Gee at (866) 308-2773, ext. 364, or mgee@brpfoundation.org.

A special thank you to our sponsors:



Would you like to host a fundraiser for the Parkway? Contact Willa Mays at (704) 267-1598 or wmays@brpfoundation.org for more information.

2016 High Pass Boogie



Julio Paez, Carlos Dao, and Pablo Gonzalo traveled from Florida to participate in the High Pass Boogie. Photographs by Perry Hebard.

On May 14, the Asheville BMW Riders' third annual Blue Ridge High Pass Boogie saw nearly 100 riders depart from Eurosport in Asheville to participate in one of three rides to benefit the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation. A mixer on Friday night featured a silent auction to further the club's effort to support the Parkway. Both events were a great success, raising more than \$10,000. The club designated its donation to Moses H. Cone Memorial Park. The gift will be doubled to \$20,000 thanks to the Centennial Challenge Matching Program. A huge thank you goes out to the Asheville BMW Riders for all of their generous support!



Kids in Parks opens Citizen Science TRACK Trail

They aren't wearing white lab coats, but there are already young citizen scientists collecting data at Front Lake at Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site in Flat Rock, N.C. On April 27, the Kids in Parks program opened its first Citizen Science TRACK Trail designed to engage kids in learning and caring for the park's ecosystem while assisting staff researchers and natural resource managers.

Citizen Science is a new approach to data collection that enlists the public's help in making observations and taking readings for studies and research. With the new trail, children and families can get in on the action. Kids use a new brochure to locate marked stations around the lake, where they perform observations and experiments such as taking air and water temperature readings and measuring the pH of the lake. In addition to helping researchers, children learn new skills related to environmental science, connecting the dots between outdoor adventures and protecting natural resources.



A fourth grade student uses binoculars to make observations about Front Lake's ecosystem.

"We're extremely excited to have the Kids in Parks program's first Citizen Science-based TRACK Trail here at Carl Sandburg," said Sarah Perschall, Chief of Visitor Services. Park staff and the Kids in Parks team collaborated to create the site-specific brochure and experiment stations. Kids can submit their observations and data to

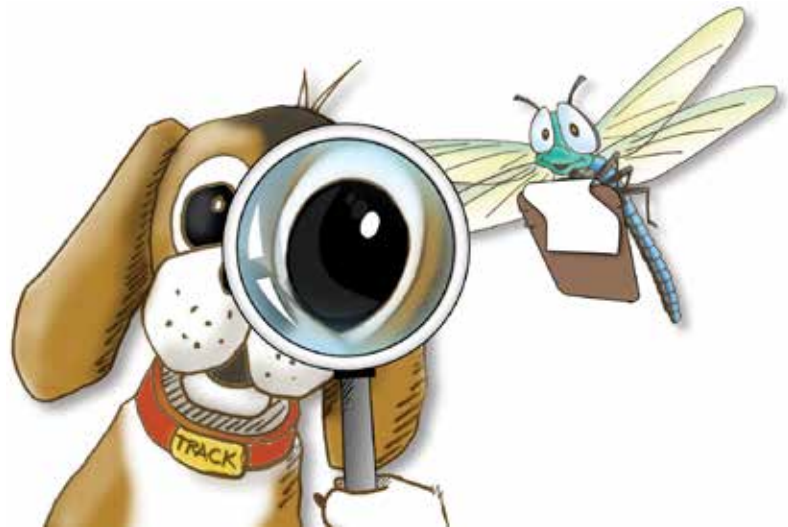
the Carl Sandburg staff by registering their scientific journey at kidsinparks.com. Scientists from the park can then download the data and monitor the health of the lake over time.



Children at Carl Sandburg cut the ribbon on a new Citizen Science TRACK Trail.

"Over the past six years, we have created a network of TRACK Trails designed to get kids and families unplugged, outdoors and reconnected to our parks," said Jason Urroz, Director of Kids in Parks. "I think our Citizen Science TRACK Trails will only add to that connection. And, who knows? Maybe some of the children will become scientists."

Kids in Parks will be launching new Citizen Science TRACK Trails in the future. To learn more, visit kidsinparks.com.





Come Celebrate Mountain Music

Programs at the Blue Ridge Music Center are made possible with the support of the National Park Service and funding from the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation. The Foundation invites you to participate in the preservation and celebration of traditional Blue Ridge Mountain music at the Music Center.



SEPT. 3 WAYNE HENDERSON

Blue Ridge Music Center

Open May-October, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily
(276) 236-5309

Milepost 213, Blue Ridge Parkway
700 Foothills Road, Galax, VA

2016 Concert Season

SATURDAYS, 7 P.M.

(except where noted)

Join us for old-time, bluegrass, country blues, mountain gospel, flatfoot dancing & more!

- June 4** Big Ron Hunter + Martha Bassett Band (\$10)
- Fri., June 17** Steep Canyon Rangers + Dori Freeman (\$25)
- June 25** Crooked Road Ramblers + Mountain Park Old-Time Band (\$10)
- July 2** Bryan Sutton and his Bluegrass Band + New Ballards Branch Bogtrotters (\$20)
- July 9** Jeanette Williams Band + Zoe & Cloyd (\$10)
- July 16** Carlene Carter + Reed Island Rounders (\$20)
- July 23** Five Mile Mountain Road + Hard Cider (\$10)
- July 30** Bill and the Belles + South Carolina Broadcasters (\$10)
- Aug. 6** Diali Cissokho & Kaira Ba + Mason Via (\$10)
- Aug. 20** The Church Sisters + Larry Sigmon & Martha Spencer (\$15)
- Aug. 27** Lonesome River Band + Carson Peters & Iron Mountain (\$20)
- Sept. 3** The Joe Wilson Memorial Festival: Wayne Henderson, Helen White & Herb Key + Elizabeth LaPrelle + The Barr Family + Linda & David Lay & more (1-9 p.m., \$20)
- Oct. 15** The Virginia Luthiers (indoors, 5 p.m., \$15)
- Oct. 29** Craver, Watson, Hicks & Newberry (indoors, 5 p.m., \$15)

For season passes, tickets & concert info, call (866) 308-2773, ext. 245, or visit

blueridgemusiccenter.org

Roots of American Music Museum

Visit the award-winning, interactive exhibit honoring the living musical history of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Midday Mountain Music Shows

(noon to 4 p.m. daily)

Bring a chair and sit a spell as talented local musicians perform on the breezeway at the Visitor Center.

supporters:

designated venue of:

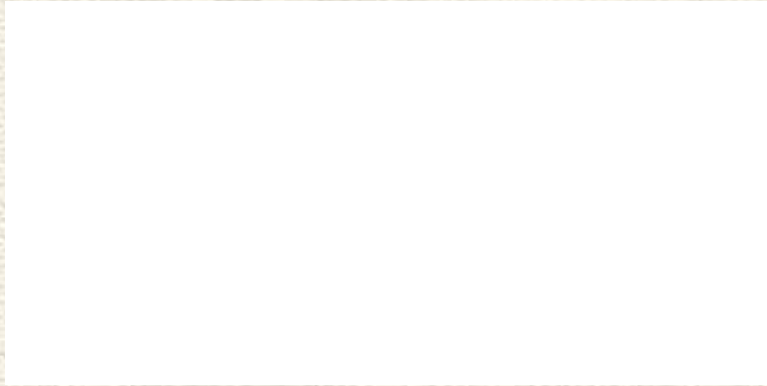




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Contact us for subscription requests, address changes, or cancellations:
info@brpfoundation.org.



Protect the Parkway. Get the Plate!

Take a piece of the Blue Ridge Parkway with you everywhere you go by purchasing a North Carolina specialty license plate for your car or motorcycle. For each new or renewed specialty plate fee, \$20 goes to the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation to protect and enhance the scenic route. Join thousands of drivers proudly displaying their support for this exceptional place.

Apply online at GetThePlate.org.