



# the scenic

Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation – Fall 2017



Autumn paints the mountains surrounding the Linn Cove Viaduct in red, amber, and gold.

**Up for a challenge?  
Join us to match funding  
for historical projects**

Learn more inside >>>

**“** *What man can stand with autumn on a hilltop and fail to see the span of his world and the meaning of the rolling hills that reach to the far horizon?* **”**

– Hal Borland



# Take the Challenge

*Your gifts to protect four historical sites will be matched!*

Great things are already happening this fall! Through the Centennial Challenge grant program, the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation and National Park Service are teaming up to rehabilitate key historical sites on the scenic route: Humpback Rocks Farm, Sharp Top Shelter, Mabry Mill and Groundhog Mountain, and Moses H. Cone Memorial Park.

## Give today!

To donate, simply return the enclosed envelope or visit [brpfoundation.org](http://brpfoundation.org).



To keep the recently replaced waterwheel turning at Mabry Mill, the leaking flume must be repaired.

***We need your help to ensure these projects go forward.*** The Foundation must raise \$287,358 as a match to qualify for these federal grants. Your gift will be more than doubled, providing \$747,000 worth of critical improvements for these treasured sites.

Each of these specially selected locations tells a story about our mountains. Humpback Rocks Farm illustrates the tough but rewarding life of pioneers. Sharp Top Shelter at Peaks of Otter is a testament to the adventurous spirit of those who trekked to the summit long before a road reached the top. As the

waterwheel turns at Mabry Mill, today's visitors are reminded that Ed and Lizzie Mabry counted on the simple mechanics to serve nearby farmers. And the stone walls at Moses H. Cone Memorial Park are a signature design element of the carriage trails enjoyed for more than 100 years. Your gift will preserve these storied places for generations to come.

## You're invited!

*Join us to cut the ribbon on these completed projects*



### Building Bridges

A new footbridge on the High Meadows Trail at the Blue Ridge Music Center, milepost 213, makes for a safe crossing over Chestnut Creek. Join us for a ribbon-cutting and short hike at 1 p.m., Saturday, October 21.



### Happy Campers

Visitors at Price Lake Campground, milepost 297, can enjoy a creature comfort thanks to the opening of a new six stall shower facility! Come celebrate the project with us at 10 a.m., Tuesday, October 24.



## Protect the Parkway. Get the Plate!

Take a piece of the Blue Ridge Parkway with you everywhere you go with a N.C. specialty license plate. For each new or renewed plate, \$20 is given to the Foundation to protect and enhance the scenic route.

**[GetThePlate.org](http://GetThePlate.org)**





Luther and Cindy Davis with Sarah and Frank McLane enjoying the Denim Ball.

## Good times for a great estate

*Denim Ball raises more than \$120,000 for Moses H. Cone Memorial Park*

The second annual Denim Ball was fun for all, while raising more than \$120,000 for rehabilitation efforts at Moses H. Cone Memorial Park, milepost 294. We couldn't have done it without the support of our fantastic volunteers, sponsors, and you.

The event brings us even closer to our overall goal of \$3 million to take on critical projects and maintenance needs at the Cone Estate, including repairs to Flat Top Manor and the lovely grounds crisscrossed by miles of carriage trails. So far, you've given \$1.85 million to reinvigorate one of the High Country's most beloved public spaces.

We're keeping up the momentum! The third annual Denim Ball is set for August 3, 2018, at Chetola Resort at Blowing Rock. Be sure to mark your calendar now. We can't wait to see you there as we continue our efforts to remake history at Moses H. Cone Memorial Park.



Tim Vines and Janet Cone. *Right:* Susannah and Susan Thomas and C. David Gelly were crowned Denim Queens and King.



## A bright future for Waterrock Knob

In 2016, the Blue Ridge Parkway received a land donation of 5,329 acres surrounding Waterrock Knob, milepost 451, for the largest expansion of the park unit in 60 years. The Foundation is proud to be collaborating with the National Park Service, nearby communities, and stakeholders



to gather and provide input on the future of this fragile natural resource. The project is made possible by grants from the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area and the Pigeon River Fund of the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina. We're excited to help envision a bright future for this pristine place.

## Employer Matching Gifts

Many companies offer matching gift programs to encourage employees and their spouses or retirees to contribute to charitable organizations. Please check with your employer to find out if they will match your gift or volunteer hours to the Foundation. Funds from your company will be designated to the same project as your original contribution, which means the boost will protect the Parkway places you love. To learn more, contact Mandy Gee at [mgee@brpfoundation.org](mailto:mgee@brpfoundation.org) or (866) 308-2773, ext. 364.



## Autumn concerts at the Blue Ridge Music Center



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Don't miss the last two concerts of the 2017 Roots of American Music season at the Blue Ridge Music Center, milepost 213, near Galax, Virginia. On October 7, Anna & Elizabeth bring old mountain songs to life with sparse atmospheric arrangements featuring guitar, banjo, fiddle, and their voices in close harmony. Dom Flemons takes the stage on October 21, pulling from the traditions of old-time folk music to create new sounds. These indoor shows begin at 5 p.m. *Tickets at [BlueRidgeMusicCenter.org](http://BlueRidgeMusicCenter.org).*

For subscription requests, address changes, or cancellations, e-mail [info@brpfoundation.org](mailto:info@brpfoundation.org) or call (866) 308-2773, ext. 364.



## Steward Story: Debby Fleischer & Patty Baldwin

In 1980, our parents, Sue and Bliss Williams, bought a yet to be built condominium behind the Green Park Inn in Blowing Rock. After its completion, our family spent many happy times exploring the area, and some of the most memorable moments were picnics at the Julian Price Memorial Park on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

The afternoons at the park were spent throwing footballs, hiking the trails, cooking hamburgers, and gathering around the picnic tables our mother had carefully laid with her red and white tablecloths. We always had a game of Othello going with our dad leading the winners circle and challenging the grandchildren. We carried on that tradition for more than 20 years.

Prior to the afternoon picnics, our mother would often walk the path around Bass Lake, as she did many days of the week. Following our dad's death in 1998, she continued to spend a great deal of time at the lake and made many friends along the way. She saw a need for restrooms at Bass Lake and was so happy to participate in the funding of the project.



Sue and Bliss Williams with their dog, Huck.

Our parents' great-grandchildren have recently enjoyed visits to the Parkway. Our family now has a 35-year and four-generation history with the Blue Ridge Parkway. — **Debby Fleischer & Patty Baldwin**

*In 2007, the Sue and O. Bliss Williams Endowment Fund was established to support Moses H. Cone Memorial Park. To create an endowment, contact Ashley Edwards at [aedwards@brpfoundation.org](mailto:aedwards@brpfoundation.org) or (866) 308-2773, ext. 170.*