

# “Mother Nature needs our Help...”

**Dear Friend of the New River:**

We have a story. It is very important to save and protect special places such as Camp Elk Shoals for so many different reasons. Number one...**Mother Nature needs our help** to keep these places such as the New River for our enjoyment now and for future generations to have a place where we can retreat for renewal of mind, body and soul. Our world as we know it now is fast changing and it is not always for the best. We can and should make it our priority to **save and protect this wonderful earth** we have been blessed with.

We all have the responsibility to future generations to protect our natural resources and we ask for your monetary support of New River Conservancy's efforts to save these special places along the New River.

We first met our new friends at New River Conservancy at their annual meeting in July. Having been very involved with the former Methodist camp in Ashe County, NC, Camp Elk Shoals, we were excited to learn of the New River Conservancy's plan to purchase the property to add additional acreage to New River State Park. What a gift to all of us!

Our children were very young when we first were introduced to the New River through Camp Elk Shoals. We began visiting Elk Shoals on our church's Elk Shoals Day for a community picnic, riverside devotion, and an afternoon of river fun. We would tether the children's inner tubes to ours where they thought they were "on their own" in the river. Later, our daughter was a summer counselor at Camp Elk Shoals. We've volunteered for many years in various capacities from being camp director, serving on the board, building and installing benches in the outdoor chapel, making much of the wooden signage throughout the camp and other various projects.

The New River and **Camp Elk Shoals** has a very special place in our hearts because it has made such a difference in our family's life. Our children grew up there as our "get-away" place. We have watched bald eagles soar, deer fording the river, searched for rare flowers growing on the property, picnicked on the banks, floated down the river on lazy afternoons and enjoyed campfires at night under the stars.

**Make your gift to the New River Conservancy today!** Help continue to protect those special places we all love throughout the New River Watershed. Help inspire others to understand the gift of this wonderful, natural world, and to be ever grateful to have these special places to share with future generations.

For the River,

Anthia and Michael Reid

(Read Anthia and Michael's full conversation with New River Conservancy on our website, [www.newriverconservancy.org](http://www.newriverconservancy.org))

Cover and Panel Photo Credit: Carl Galie

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The New River Conservancy is recognized by the IRS as a 501c3 organization. All contributions are fully tax deductible.

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Post Office Box 1480  
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## Meet Antha and Michael Reid

Antha and Michael met in high school in 1962 and have been together ever since! Antha was a stay-at-home mom raising two children, son Keith and daughter Roxanne. In her free time, Antha learned to make elaborate sugar eggs and decorate cakes, which eventually turned into more than just a hobby. Antha still makes sugar eggs. She spent many years as the United Methodist North Wilkesboro District Children's Ministries Coordinator where part of her responsibility was to plan summer weeklong camp for third-sixth graders at Elk Shoals Methodist Camp. Antha currently enjoys volunteering with Leader Dogs for the Blind and the Lions Club. Michael is retired from Pet/Flavor-o-rich Dairy in Wilkesboro after 40 years with the dairy. Michael enjoys woodworking and has been active with the Lions Club since 1974 serving as past District Governor. Michael's love of woodworking can be seen throughout Camp Elk Shoals from benches in the outdoor chapel to various wooden signage. He also has been involved with Special Olympics. Both Antha and Michael are very active in their church, Wilkesboro United Methodist Church.



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