## Kalish, Robin

From:

David Claude Bailey [davidclaudebailey@ohenrymag.com]

Sent:

Monday, June 23, 2014 1:09 PM

To: Cc: Hanging Rock Peek. Charlie

Subject:

Attention: Robin Kalish

Hi Robin,

I'm taking a moment from a very busy day to both express my appreciation and admiration for your staff in general and Sam Cook. Here's why:

Friday I went fishing on the Dan River at the put-in at the Indian Creek Trail. After I'd fished somewhat successfully my way up the river, I took the loop trail back to the parking lot and slipped my fly rod underneath my friends car since I didn't have keys to the vehicle. We, of course, drove off without putting my rod into the car, so when I got home, I called the Sheriff's nonemergency number and asked if a ranger wouldn't contact me. Sam Cook did and listened patiently and sympathetically to my sad story of losing a piece of equipment that I've come to think of as an old friend. I told him I understood that my fly rod ranked pretty low on the scale of things a park ranger had to worry about, but if there was any way that in the next day or so he could have a look-see, I'd really appreciate it. An hour later he called to say he had my rod.

At a time when I know your agency and people are required to do more and more with less and less money, may I say that I'm impressed that someone like Sam still finds time to quite literally go out of his way to help people. His demeanor at all times was both professional and cordial. Our state is lucky to have someone like him working for us.

Since I missed him when I drove up yesterday, please extend my personal thanks to him. I was particularly impressed how, when I asked him whether I could bring him some barbecue or chocolate-chess pie, he said that he couldn't accept anything. That he was only doing his job — and, yes, he was, in a most extraordinary fashion. It made me proud to be a North Carolinian.

David Claude Bailey
O.Henry magazine
1848 Banking Street
Greensboro, NC 27408
(336) 617-0090
davidclaudebailey@ohenrymag.com