Have you heard the news today? (Oh, boy…) It seems anytime opening a newspaper, turning on the evening report, or daring a glance at a news-feed, you’re met with bad news. Certainly so for anyone who concerns themselves with nature, science and the environment. Under a deluge of threats, catastrophes and uncertainties, it can be hard not to become numbed or paralyzed into inaction. As our sea level rises, this particular sea of challenges continues growing at an alarming rate. What, against an oncoming current of problems, can one person do? As it turns out, one person can do a great deal. We are now in our fortieth year of operation and we’ve seen firsthand an individual’s power for change.

The individuals whom we’ve chosen to highlight and honor in this edition of our newsletter are changemakers. All of them came to the river and the organization in their own unique ways and have made their presence felt with their personalities and their contributions. While recognizing these exemplary people, know that they also represent many more volunteers and supporters. At Ipswich River Watershed Association we rely on our members, our volunteers and our community to inspire each other.

Our accomplishments and all our work are fueled, and made possible, by all of you.

For forty years, you’ve fostered a love for the river and its wildlife by bringing others out on the water and into the woods. You’ve strengthened our base of knowledge by monitoring the river and its wildlife. More recently, when plans for a pipeline threatened, you raised your voices against it. You stepped up again when the drought brought the river low.

There is more to be done. Our waters continue to be at risk from pollution: through expanding the reach of the Greenscapes North Shore program we aim to help communities with controlling polluted runoff and unnecessary outdoor water use. The drought’s effects were wide-reaching: we need to continue our monitoring efforts and persevere in maintaining the river’s flow. The future of the EPA is uncertain and the MA Department of Environmental Protection is underfunded: advocacy in the coming years will be key to ensuring our natural resources are protected.

We are lucky to have grown from a base of support filled with generous, passionate and ingenuitive people. That the Ipswich River is viewed as a gem of the North Shore is because people like those in the articles to follow have treasured it like one. (We hope that their care and stewardship will be taken on and magnified.) To all of you who have shored us up over these forty years, thank you. Together we are the Voice of the River.
Where There’s a Will

Many volunteers come to organizations drawn by a particular program. In the case of Butch Conary, the program came with him. For the past 26 years, Butch has been organizing and participating in River Clean Ups in his home-town of Reading. The effort includes surveying the area to define the pollution hot-spots, deciding the distribution of volunteers and arranging for everything from tools to food. “Most of the time,” Butch says, “I was paying for it out of my pocket.” Inspired by his dedication and example, we’ve been happy to take over some of the financial and time burdens in the last few years. Now our Programs Coordinator, Ryan O’Donnell and Butch work together to plan the Clean Ups. “I have found that it’s tough,” says Butch, “to get people out on a Saturday morning to remove trash and logs out of a river.” Keeping the river and landings clean is a full time effort and we thank Butch for recognizing that and doing more than his fair share. If anyone is interested in helping, please meet at the Ipswich River Park Gazebo on June 3 at 8 am. As Butch says, “Bring saws, gloves, boats and enthusiasm for a great time!”

Dynamic Duo

Like all rivers, the Ipswich River begins at the confluence of several smaller creeks and brooks known as the headwaters. These headwater streams are the most important part of any watershed since anything that impacts these sensitive areas will affect the entire river. That the Ipswich River is so special today is due in large part to Suzanne Sullivan and Martha Stevenson of Wilmington. These two have steadfastly protected the headwaters for more than 25 years. Suzanne and Martha together are an unparalleled force and have done as much to protect our river as anyone else.

Considering their importance, it is unfortunate that the headwaters of the Ipswich River are located in the most developed area in the watershed. The towns of Burlington, Wilmington and Reading have a lot of residential and commercial development and the region is crisscrossed by numerous roads and highways. This development has had a clear negative impact on the river. This means the headwaters need people like Suzanne and Martha more than any other section of the watershed. Over the years, Suzanne and Martha have defended the river against powerful forces. They kept the state from disposing of millions of tons of contaminated soil from the Big Dig in the headwaters. While bringing polluters to justice, they continued striving to protect the last undeveloped areas. On numerous occasions they prevented needless impacts to the wetlands and streams that make the river whole. Almost single-handedly, they’ve helped to keep the river out of harm’s way.

Martha and Suzanne know that to have maximum impact you need to become a decision maker. Both have served on countless local and statewide boards and committees where they enacted policies and regulations to protect the river. Suzanne served on the Wilmington Board of Selectmen where she was instrumental in getting restitution during the town’s fight against the Olin Chemical Superfund site for contaminating the town’s drinking water. When asked about her years of dedication to protect the river, Martha said, “It’s great to take a look back and celebrate all our hard work. Let’s hope we can inspire a new wave of volunteers to keep the river alive and thriving into the future.” Without local advocates like these our river would be a very different place today. What a team!
Portray of a Successful Year

ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY

Millions
Reached During National Coverage of Ipswich River Drought

1,011
Times People Used Our Canoes & Kayaks

398
People Support First Paddle-a-thon

BETTER TOGETHER

159
Volunteers!

PARTNERSHIPS

20
Years of RiverWatch Monitoring

CONNECT YOUTH TO RIVER

1
Pipeline Shelved

VOLUNTEERS

159 Volunteers!

ADVOCACY

1 Pipeline Shelved
2016 Financial Summary

Thanks to the generosity of our members and individual donors, the Ipswich River Watershed Association ended fiscal year 2016 in a strong position. A successful Annual Fund and membership growth, combined with careful management of expenses, resulted in a positive bottom line for the year. A copy of the complete audited financial statement is available at the Riverbend office in Ipswich.

Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Member Dues</td>
<td>81,296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions*</td>
<td>172,499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants**</td>
<td>241,543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs, Rent, Investments</td>
<td>77,211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenue</td>
<td>572,549</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td>441,985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Services</td>
<td>82,115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>35,091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>559,191</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Change in Net Assets

| Change in Net Assets | 29,319 |

* Does not include donated goods & services
** Includes Fee for Services

Balance Sheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td>600,588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and Equipment</td>
<td>1,364,434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>1,965,022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities and Net Assets</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities</td>
<td>14,365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets</td>
<td>1,920,657</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Leave a Lasting Legacy

Making a bequest to the Ipswich River is a simple way to protect the river you love. You can name Ipswich River Watershed Association as a beneficiary of your will, trust, retirement plan or life insurance policy. Anyone can make a bequest and no amount is too small. If you have already done so, please let us know so we can thank you properly.

For more information: ipswichriver.org/leave-legacy or, email Trish: taldrich@ipswichriver.org
Thank you.

The Ipswich River Watershed Association is the voice of the Ipswich River. Together, we work to ensure there is enough clean water for the 350,000 people and businesses that get their water from the river while protecting nature and providing places for people to connect to the outdoors in 18 cities and towns on the North Shore of Massachusetts.

Staff

Wayne Castonguay, Executive Director
Trish Aldrich, Development Director
Kristen Grubbs, Environmental Planner
Brian Kelder, Restoration Program Manager
Ryan O’Donnell, Programs Coordinator
Rachel Schneider, Outreach Manager
Gail Sorenson, Bookkeeper

Board of Directors 2016

Christine Sandulli, President
David Comb, Vice President
Richard Jacobson, Treasurer
Dave Williams, Secretary
Donald Bowen Jr.
Diane Dixon
Linda Dix
Erica Fuller
Richard Howard
Miriam Lasher
Robert Paine Metcalf
Gregory Murrer
Judy Schneider
Suzanne Sullivan
Brian Tinger
Susan Winthrop

irwainfo@ipswichriver.org
Supporters 2016

We are grateful for each and every gift you make.

River Stewards
Each of these leadership donors provides $1,000 or more in support through membership, Annual Appeal or other gift. Your leadership support makes a world of difference!

$1,000 & up
Chris & Deborah Abbott
Fiona Stewart & Mark Aversmann
Ayco Charitable Foundation
Peggy Bodenhorn & Tom Kelly
Ray & Joan Best
Susan K. Borel
Robert L. Borsetti
Donald Bowen, Jr.
Andrew & Susan Brengle
Herb Brown
Linda Coe
Sandy & Janice Colby
Timothy R. Collins
David Coss
Marilyn L. Cough
Joan P. Coughenour
Helen Danforth
Chris Eaton & John Greenbaum
James V. Ellard
Jereem Earsworth
Richard & Linda Fates
Jamie & Maureen Fay
John Frike & Lisa Freeman
The Gaffney Foundation
Gina Snyder & Bo Garrison
GE Foundation
Angela W. Getchell
Graystone Consulting
Michael & Phyllis Greene
Dan & Elisabeth Harrigan
George & Marina Hatch
Whitney & Tazzy Hatch
Timothy T. Hilton
Lily Rice Hsiu
Timothy A. Ingham
Inter-Fluve
Ipswich Ale Brewery
Richard N. Jacobsen
Allison Ryder & David Jones
Jared M. Delkett
Holly Langer
Ninam Lascher
Ken & Amy Machalcy
Elton McCausland
Meridian Associates
Alan & Karen Morell
Barbara Ostberg
Peter Phippen & April Bowling
John & Beth Pinner
The Ruth & Robert Satter Charitable Trust
S.W. Fund of The Essex County Community Foundation
Paul E. Sackman
Joe & Kris Sandulli
Bink & Pruce Shorts
Mary & Jim Steppgal
Loring Bradley & Janet Stone
Tordyman, Inc.
Brian T. Tinger
Fred & Susie Winthrop
Zumi’s

$5,000 & up

Analog Devices, Inc.
Cell Signaling Technology
Coastal Zone Management
Don & Linda Comb
Division of Ecological Restoration
EBSCO Publishing
Charles & Natalie Grigg
Institution for Savings
Kelly Automotive Group
Mary & Bob Marble
National Wildlife Federation
New England Biolabs Inc.
New England Biolabs Foundation
Shelburne Family Foundation
Campbell Steward
The Echo Charitable Foundation

Donated Goods & Services
Donald Bow, Jr.
Linda Coe
Dick’s Sporting Goods
Foote Brothers Canoe Livery
Ipswich River Provision
Jacqueline’s Gourmet Cookies
Pat Amato
Kelly Automotive Group
Sara & Rob Bond
George & Marina Hatch
Linda Coe
Tom & Sue Ackerman
Bill & Bob Puleo
Tom & Sue Ackerman
Tim & Sue Ackerman

Business Support
$10,000 & up
Analog Devices, Inc.
Cell Signaling Technology
EBSCO Publishing
Ipswich Ale Brewery
New England Biolabs Inc.
Institution for Savings
Kelly Automotive Group
$1,000 & up
Graystone Consulting
Ipswich Ale Brewery
Inter-Fluve
Ipswich Ale Brewery
Tordyman, Inc.
Zumi’s

$100 & up
Bank of America Philanthropic
Benjamin Nutter Associates, Architects
The Bicycle Shop of Topsfield
Brick Ends Farm
Ipswich River Provision
Ipswich River Provision
Ipswich Shellfish Fish Market
Jacqueline’s Gourmet Cookies
Kathy Albrich
Matt Allen
Kristine Alster
Mary & Jim Steppgal
Loring Bradley & Janet Stone
Tordyman, Inc.
Brian T. Tinger
Fred & Susie Winthrop
Zumi’s

$5,000 & up

Analog Devices, Inc.
Cell Signaling Technology
Coastal Zone Management
Don & Linda Comb
Division of Ecological Restoration
EBSCO Publishing
Charles & Natalie Grigg
Institution for Savings
Kelly Automotive Group
Mary & Bob Marble
National Wildlife Federation
New England Biolabs Inc.
New England Biolabs Foundation
Shelburne Family Foundation
Campbell Steward
The Echo Charitable Foundation

Donated Goods & Services
Donald Bow, Jr.
Linda Coe
Dick’s Sporting Goods
Foote Brothers Canoe Livery
Ipswich River Provision
Jacqueline’s Gourmet Cookies
Pat Amato
Kelly Automotive Group
Sara & Rob Bond
George & Marina Hatch
Linda Coe
Tom & Sue Ackerman
Bill & Bob Puleo
Tom & Sue Ackerman
Tim & Sue Ackerman

Business Support
$10,000 & up
Analog Devices, Inc.
Cell Signaling Technology
EBSCO Publishing
Ipswich Ale Brewery
New England Biolabs Inc.
Institution for Savings
Kelly Automotive Group
$1,000 & up
Graystone Consulting
Ipswich Ale Brewery
Inter-Fluve
Ipswich Ale Brewery
Tordyman, Inc.
Zumi’s

$100 & up
Bank of America Philanthropic
Benjamin Nutter Associates, Architects
The Bicycle Shop of Topsfield
Brick Ends Farm
Ipswich River Provision
Ipswich River Provision
Ipswich Shellfish Fish Market
Jacqueline’s Gourmet Cookies
Kathy Albrich
Matt Allen
Kristine Alster
Mary & Jim Steppgal
Loring Bradley & Janet Stone
Tordyman, Inc.
Brian T. Tinger
Fred & Susie Winthrop
Zumi’s

$5,000 & up

Analog Devices, Inc.
Cell Signaling Technology
Coastal Zone Management
Don & Linda Comb
Division of Ecological Restoration
EBSCO Publishing
Charles & Natalie Grigg
Institution for Savings
Kelly Automotive Group
Mary & Bob Marble
National Wildlife Federation
New England Biolabs Inc.
New England Biolabs Foundation
Shelburne Family Foundation
Campbell Steward
The Echo Charitable Foundation

Donated Goods & Services
Donald Bow, Jr.
Linda Coe
Dick’s Sporting Goods
Foote Brothers Canoe Livery
Ipswich River Provision
Jacqueline’s Gourmet Cookies
Pat Amato
Kelly Automotive Group
Sara & Rob Bond
George & Marina Hatch
Linda Coe
Tom & Sue Ackerman
Bill & Bob Puleo
Tom & Sue Ackerman
Tim & Sue Ackerman

Business Support
$10,000 & up
Analog Devices, Inc.
Cell Signaling Technology
EBSCO Publishing
Ipswich Ale Brewery
New England Biolabs Inc.
Institution for Savings
Kelly Automotive Group
$1,000 & up
Graystone Consulting
Ipswich Ale Brewery
Inter-Fluve
Ipswich Ale Brewery
Tordyman, Inc.
Zumi’s

$100 & up
Bank of America Philanthropic
Benjamin Nutter Associates, Architects
The Bicycle Shop of Topsfield
Brick Ends Farm
Ipswich River Provision
Ipswich River Provision
Ipswich Shellfish Fish Market
Jacqueline’s Gourmet Cookies
Kathy Albrich
Matt Allen
Kristine Alster
Mary & Jim Steppgal
Loring Bradley & Janet Stone
Tordyman, Inc.
Brian T. Tinger
Fred & Susie Winthrop
Zumi’s

$5,000 & up

Analog Devices, Inc.
Cell Signaling Technology
Coastal Zone Management
Don & Linda Comb
Division of Ecological Restoration
EBSCO Publishing
Charles & Natalie Grigg
Institution for Savings
Kelly Automotive Group
Mary & Bob Marble
National Wildlife Federation
New England Biolabs Inc.
New England Biolabs Foundation
Shelburne Family Foundation
Campbell Steward
The Echo Charitable Foundation

Donated Goods & Services
Donald Bow, Jr.
Linda Coe
Dick’s Sporting Goods
Foote Brothers Canoe Livery
Ipswich River Provision
Jacqueline’s Gourmet Cookies
Pat Amato
Kelly Automotive Group
Sara & Rob Bond
George & Marina Hatch
Linda Coe
Tom & Sue Ackerman
Bill & Bob Puleo
Tom & Sue Ackerman
Tim & Sue Ackerman

Business Support
$10,000 & up
Analog Devices, Inc.
Cell Signaling Technology
EBSCO Publishing
Ipswich Ale Brewery
New England Biolabs Inc.
Institution for Savings
Kelly Automotive Group
$1,000 & up
Graystone Consulting
Ipswich Ale Brewery
Inter-Fluve
Ipswich Ale Brewery
Tordyman, Inc.
Zumi’s

$100 & up
Bank of America Philanthropic
Benjamin Nutter Associates, Architects
The Bicycle Shop of Topsfield
Brick Ends Farm
Ipswich River Provision
Ipswich River Provision
Ipswich Shellfish Fish Market
Jacqueline’s Gourmet Cookies
Kathy Albrich
Matt Allen
Kristine Alster
Mary & Jim Steppgal
Loring Bradley & Janet Stone
Tordyman, Inc.
Brian T. Tinger
Fred & Susie Winthrop
Zumi’s

$5,000 & up

Analog Devices, Inc.
Cell Signaling Technology
Coastal Zone Management

Volunteers
Volunteers are vital to our strength and vibrancy. You are the caretakers of the mission and the catalyst for us to grow and sustain the river for future generations.

Heather Azley
Kathy Aldrich
Cindy Allen
Bruce Amazanen
Catherine Banister-Marx
Donna Barnes
Rob Barossi
Kelvey Bernard
Robert Ballmann
Bow Borsetti
Loring Bradleef
Kathelyn Brown
Katharine Brown
Maggie Brown
Jessica Cabral
Deborah Cascady
Linda Coe
David Cobb
Sarah Garcehnece
Laura Cannit
Gabby D’Apostro
Kelvey Doby
Diana Davis
Mike DeAmore
Suzan DeAmorin
Diane Dixon
Kathie Dixon
Zoe Doran

Robert Wyman
Brian York
Andrea Young
James M. Younger
Your Cause Chevron
Zuitt’s
Zwicker Press

For:

Paddle-a-thon
Family/Individual $40

New Membership
Patron $250

Renewing Membership
In honor of

You may make check payable to IRWA and mail to: IRWA, PO Box 576, Ipswich, MA 01938-0576 or click “Donate Now” at www.ipswichriver.org. Thank you for your support!

DONATE BY CREDIT CARD

Enclosed is my tax deductible donation of:

□ River Steward $1000  □ Supporter $100  □ Student/Senior $25
□ Patron $250  □ Family/Individual $40  □ Other ______

For:

□ Where needed most
□ Paddle-a-thon
□ Renewing Membership
□ New Membership

Name on Card: __________________________________________________________________

Signature: _______________________________________________________________________

For: [ ]

Address: _______________________________________________________________________

Town/City _______________________________________________________________________

Zip: _________________________________________________________________________

Phone: _______________________________________________________________________

Email: _______________________________________________________________________

Card #: _______________________________________________________________________

Exp. Date: __________  Security Code: __________

Name on Card: __________________________________________________________________

Signature: _______________________________________________________________________

2016 Annual Report
irwainfo@ipswichriver.org
Stream Teamer with Steam

Katharine Brown is a RiverWatcher and Stream Teamer from the town of Middleton. Sadly (for us), she’ll soon be moving on to Rye, NH — leaving some very energetic shoes to fill.

Q: What first drew you to get involved with the Ipswich River and Middleton Stream Team?

Oddly enough, I saw a small ad in a local freebie newspaper, way back when such existed. It was a solicitation for the [RiverWatch] program. Then by chance I found out that Pike Messenger, my freshman high school biology teacher from Melrose High School, was also doing the monitoring, so that sealed it. I saw it as an opportunity to do something for an issue close to my heart that someone I valued was already involved in. It turned out to be a wonderful experience. It took very little time, got me outdoors in all weather and I felt like I was part of something important.

Q: What’s something you volunteered on that you especially enjoyed?

I’ve enjoyed the creative aspect of lots of the Stream Team work. I think I enjoyed the first year of the Middleton Stream Team (MST) photo contest the most. Everything we did was new — contacting organizations, finding sponsors, finding judges. In addition, we had a fun paddle for people who wanted to get out to take pictures on the river.

The core MST group was unusual and perfect. If you had an idea they liked, they’d make it happen. Perfect from my point of view. I got the satisfaction without the work!

Q: What have you accomplished through your volunteer work that you’re most proud of?

The MST offers creative opportunities. It is blessed with well-meaning, creative, committed, capable individuals. There’s a lot that I’m proud of but not much I can claim for my own. I guess the display case in the [Middleton Post Office lobby] is the most physical evidence of my work. That project required negotiation with the building owner, raising money from local businesses, getting a good solid case built and designing a display which was the raison-d’etre for the project. Greenbelt helped us get a National Geodetic Survey map delineating Middleton’s subwatersheds [which required] hours of modifications. I put together a great display (in my humble opinion) illustrating how watersheds work and enabling anyone in Middleton to find their street on the map to see which stream was impacted by things they did on their property. The display case has continued to offer a place for the MST to make an impact on those passing through the lobby.

Q: Why would you recommend volunteering to others?

Volunteering can offer opportunities to be creative and to work with wonderful individuals.

Help the River

Make a life-time friend. Have an experience with nature that stirs you. Our 40th year will be full of great events and programs: and they’re only made possible with your help! Whether you prefer going it on your own in the tranquility of nature, or being part of a group, there’s something for everyone to try.

- Paddle-a-thon: volunteers needed for day-of!
- Herring Count: counters needed!
- Beginners’ Paddles: paddle guides and instructors needed!
- Estuary paddle: paddle guides needed!
- Garden Clean Ups: gardeners needed!
- River Clean Ups: Help keep our river clean, beautiful and healthy. Grab a bag and walk a trail or hop in a boat. On the shore or in the water, let’s keep the river garbage-free!
- Interested in volunteering? Contact Ryan O’Donnell rodonnell@ipswichriver.org or 978-412-8200.

To learn about more volunteer opportunities visit our events page: ipswichriver.org/support/event-calendar

Every Fish & Counter Counts

Conservation efforts throughout the world have shown the impact the reintroduction or disappearance of one species can have. When the Ipswich was called the Agawam, runs of million of herring made their way up the river’s course to spawn. Due to the blockage of dams and the repurposing of spawning grounds, those numbers have dropped to only hundreds today

We are working on restoring those numbers and the vitality that the herring give to the river, but to see where we’re going we need to know where we are. That’s where our Fish Counters come in. Lindsey Williams and other volunteers dedicate their time recording the herring’s return to spawn. This offers valuable feedback on our efforts.

Lindsey has been with the program for the long haul, for which we are immensely grateful. The more watchful eyes we have out there, the more Lindseys, the more accurate our counts will be. As Lindsey says, “Doing fish counts is such a simple way to contribute to trying to keep the Ipswich River as healthy as possible. I really love doing fish counts because it’s great to be outside and on the beautiful river and I get a bit of a thrill every time I see a fish come up the ladder.” We are always looking for more counters to join us in this endeavor. Thank you to all our fish counters and may your time slots be blessed with sunny weather!

Former Executive Director Kerry Mackin presents the Golden Fish Award to Lindsey Williams for doing the most herring counts. Thank you, Lindsey!
Raise a Paddle for Clean Water!

Join us at the Ipswich River Watershed Association’s second Paddle-a-thon, **Saturday, June 17th** at the Topsfield Fairgrounds. The event starts at 9 am with an 8-mile Social Paddle. Afterwards, partake in lunch provided by Baja Taco Wagon and liquid refreshment provided by Ipswich Ale Tapmobile. After lunch, there will be kayak races, with $150 LL Bean gift cards for the winners. Enjoy music by the Orville Giddings Trio and socialize while raising funds and awareness for the river.

Visit [ipswichriver.org/paddle-a-thon-2017](http://ipswichriver.org/paddle-a-thon-2017) to learn more, register to paddle, or volunteer!