

Write us at:
P.O. Box 300
New Vernon, NJ 07976



ACROSS THE WATERSHED

2002 - 2003
Annual Report
Inside

Fall 2003

The Great Swamp Watershed Association

Vol. 23 No.4

Where Do Your Membership Fees and Donations Go?

By Julia Somers, Executive Director

The Annual Report provides us with the facts and figures, and even pie charts on how we spend our revenue, but that's dollars and cents and doesn't necessarily give you the whole picture. To me that picture isn't complete without commending our dedicated staff and volunteers for stretching our revenue to its limits with their hard work and our Board members for their guidance and support.

The projects we work on are varied and cover a lot of territory. Regional stormwater planning is one of our biggest issues and is an underlying theme in nearly everything we do. Since stormwater impacts are one of the Refuge's greatest problems, regional stormwater planning is also at the heart of much of the advocacy work we do. New statewide stormwater regulations are about to be put in place and we take enormous pride in the many similarities between some of these regulations and the model ordinance that the Watershed Association wrote more than a decade ago.

Clearly, the work we do has a long-term impact and sometimes it takes many, many years to see a project to fruition. Knowing that, I'd like to give you the highlights of what we've been working on this past year and some of our accomplishments:

- Organized the Adopt Loantaka Brook project, which is supported by members of our Corporate Council. Work has begun to identify and measure the levels of pollutants in Loantaka Brook, identify the sources of the pollutants, and identify strategies to reduce pollution.
- Stream team volunteers continued to collect water samples from each of the five Great Swamp tributaries and analyze them as part of the on-going effort to monitor the amount of sediment, phosphorus and nitrogen entering the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge.
- Produced a beautiful new, user-friendly membership brochure.
- Increased the number of members by 12% and increased the money donated by members by 25%.
- Organized and ran our month-long 3rd Annual "Do The Swamp Thing" spring promotion.
- Strengthened our Corporate Council.
- Made educational presentations to area residents about the benefits of Conservation Easements.
- Added new trails and improved the entrance to our Education and Conservation Area in Harding Township.
- With a new group, Morristown Friends of Great Brook, plans are underway to establish a greenway in Morristown that complements and expands the Foote's Pond project.
- Continued advocating for sound growth and development, particularly as they relate to proposed construction of a Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) by St. Mary's Abbey in Morris Township; reconstruction and expansion of the Morris County Girl Scouts Jockey Hollow Camp in Mendham Township; expansion of Great Swamp Greenhouses in Long Hill Township; three development applications around Hickory Tree in Chatham Township; and the proposed expansion of Temple B'Nai Or in Morristown. We have also been active in Bernardsville, Harding Township and Madison.

The Watershed Association has run extremely successful fundraisers, including a silent auction and endowment events. We have also offered several interesting and fun membership events which have been very well attended.

We are very, very proud of the work we do at the Watershed Association and would like to encourage you to get involved. There are opportunities to suit every personality, including: donating money, getting your hands dirty, office work, attending meetings, making presentations to schools and other civic groups, organizing events, and almost anything else you can think of.

So...please don't be a stranger. If you'd like more information about any of our projects or activities, or even think that we're missing out on an opportunity, please give me a call. We'd like to count on you to help stretch this year's budget even farther.

Across the Watershed is a quarterly publication of the Great Swamp Watershed Association. The Watershed Association works to protect the ecological, historic, and cultural integrity of the Great Swamp and its watershed. The Association promotes the conservation and restoration of the watershed's natural resources and encourages land use that is compatible with these goals.

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Missy Small, Communications Director
Julia M. Somers, Executive Director

Across the Watershed

Editor: Missy Small

Layout: John Malay

Contributors:

Diana Lemberg

Julia Somers

The Jockey Hollow Classic

As one of its most ambitious undertakings ever, the Great Swamp Watershed Association will be sponsoring a professional bicycling event known as the Jockey Hollow Classic. The event is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, June 5, 2004 and will be held in Jockey Hollow National Historical Park. The race will take place rain or shine. The Association is working very closely with the National Historical Park to make this a fun-filled day for the whole family to enjoy!

According to Patsy Clew, Director of Membership and Heritage Programs at the Great Swamp Watershed Association, "This event is a perfect fit for the Great Swamp Watershed Association because bicycling is a clean and healthy activity that people of all ages can enjoy. It is a very popular sport in New Jersey and continues to grow! The location is also great because the Jockey Hollow area of the National Historical Park is a special place within the Watershed that we would like more people to visit. We'd really like to make this a tradition for this area in the same way that Somerset County has the Far Hills Race Meet."

Currently the plans for the day include some fun races for children as well as the professional races sanctioned by the United States Cycling Federation. There are also some plans to highlight the historical significance of the Jockey Hollow National Historical Park by having a revolutionary re-enactment during the day as well as interpreters at the park to showcase the Soldiers' Huts and the Wick House and garden.

A limited number of corporate tent space as well as some tailgate spots along the race route will be made available in advance of the event. Anyone interested should contact Patsy Clew at (973) 966-1900 ext. 21.

We hope that all of our members will come out to support the Association by either attending or volunteering their time to help with the event. According to Patsy Clew, "It takes a lot of people to make an event like this a success; we're counting on our members to help us!"

Welcome to the Watershed Association

Please join us in welcoming **Jinnee DeMarco** as Finance Director and **Patsy Clew** as Director of Membership and Heritage Programs. They both joined the staff this summer and are welcome additions to the office.

As Financial Director, Jinnee works with the Finance Committee and manages all aspects of the organizations' financial workings, including the all-important payroll. A resident of Bernardsville, Jinnee previously worked as a manager at Alliance Capital in New York City. She holds an M.B.A. from Fordham University and a B.A. from Boston College, and volunteers as treasurer of the Somerset Hills Home & School Association.

Patsy Clew of Harding Township changed hats this summer to become Director of Membership and Heritage Programs. She was filling in as interim Finance Director and had previously put in significant time as a Watershed Association volunteer. Clew holds an M.B.A. from New York University and a B.S.B.A. from Ohio State University.

Heritage Programs is a new venture for the Watershed Association, the position was approved by the Board of Trustees in July. Julia Somers spoke with excitement about the new position. "Developing heritage partnerships with local business and commerce groups is an exciting new direction for the Watershed Association. Our mission has always called for the protection of the watershed's extraordinary historical resources and beautiful towns. Patsy's hiring will help make these resources more visible and, as a consequence, even more compelling."

The Race That Can't Be Won

by Diana Lemberg

In February of 2002, *Star Ledger* reporter Matthew Reilly published his analysis of a decade's worth of development in Hunterdon and Somerset counties. His article, "Fast Growing Suburbs Get Tax Bills to Match," charted the property tax patterns of municipalities that had actively pursued development and the patterns of those that hadn't. Reilly found that heavy development and spiking property tax bills went hand-in-hand. Echoing findings from New Jersey and beyond, he wrote, "The 'ratables chase' is a race that can't be won."

Rare is the chase that succeeds: municipalities thirsty for financial windfall from new development are instead met with increased demand for services like schools, police, and sewers. Providing these services turns the anticipated windfall into a budgetary albatross. In Washington Township, a Trenton suburb, elementary school enrollment exploded between 1993 and 2000 thanks to booming subdivision construction. The growth, however, caused property taxes to spike because the township needed money for school funding. "The owner of a typical new house in Washington Township... [who] pays \$8,000 to \$10,000 in property taxes... could expect to pay \$16,000 in five years" (from "New Jersey Metropatterns," a 2002 Amerigis study on statewide development). In 1998, American Farmland Trust studied five Monmouth county townships (Upper Freehold, Freehold, Wall, Holmdel, and Middletown) whose development patterns have very different histories. Upper Freehold, for example, offers little in the way of municipal services in order to maintain its rural character, while higher taxes complement Middletown's more extensive services. Despite these differences, though, the study found that new ratables -- especially residential ones -- are a burden on all five township budgets.

In the long-run, municipalities can save big by preserving open space from development. In Upper Freehold, residential development cost \$1.18 in services for every tax dollar raised, while open space preservation netted \$0.65 of revenue from every tax dollar raised; in Middletown, residential cost \$1.14 and open space netted \$0.64. The open-space alternative is a powerful draw outside of the state, too. Researchers at the University of Georgia recently compared the costs of different land usages in four Georgia counties. Their report, summarized by Christina McCarroll in "Measuring the Cost of Growth" (*Christian Science Monitor*, 06 Feb. 2002), concluded that "housing developments were far more costly [for municipalities to sustain] than either business development or farms or forests." To the north, a 1999 study in Massachusetts by the Trust for Public Land found that the "towns with the most permanently protected land have the lowest tax rates, on average."

(Other good sources include "All Roads Lead to Development," part of Steve Chambers' series on growth in New Jersey, published in the *Ledger* 10 June 2002; Bruce Katz's article "The Smart Money is On Smart Growth" (*Hartford Courant*, 8 June 2003); and the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commission (ANJEC)'s 2002 report, "Open Space Is a Good Investment: The Financial Argument for Open Space Preservation," which summarizes a number of cost-benefit studies performed by New Jersey municipalities; and "The Benefits of Open Space," compiled by Leonard Hamilton for the Great Swamp Watershed Association.) New Jersey, with its dense populace and already-high property tax rates, cannot afford to watch development eat up its dwindling acreage. The Amerigis study described how Washington Township's failed ratables chase is emblematic of systemic statewide malaise:

The local fiscal landscape in New Jersey is dominated by three characteristics: a highly fragmented system of local governance, relatively heavy reliance on local taxes to finance municipal services and schools, and much greater-than-average reliance on property taxes to finance those services.

The local fiscal landscape in New Jersey is dominated by three characteristics: a highly fragmented system of local governance, relatively heavy reliance on local taxes to finance municipal services and schools, and much greater-than-average reliance on property taxes to finance those services. Together, these factors place tremendous pressure on communities to attract development that will expand their

property tax bases. This pressure drives local land-use planning, encourages sprawl and increases economic and social stratification - all without contributing to the regional economy.

Sprawl is not inevitable. New Jersey voters have overwhelmingly supported ballot propositions to preserve open space. In 2002, voters passed 25 of 31 propositions, the most in the nation (see The Trust for Public Land's "Land Vote 2002: Americans Invest in Parks & Open Space"). Residents have made it clear that they value open space, and in a convergence of economics and ecology, this same open space will help to stabilize property taxes.

Public officials have a responsibility to serve their constituents with these long-term environmental and economic pictures in mind. By rejecting the allure of the ratables chase in favor of conservation and regional cooperation, they can help to protect New Jersey's fragile ecosystem and water resources, and prevent property taxes from crushing the livelihood of our citizens.

Diana Lemberg is a junior at Princeton University. Her internship with the Watershed Association this past summer was funded by the Princeton Class of 1969 Community Service Fund. Diana hails from Bernardsville, NJ.

Swamp Watch — Local Environmental

Bernards Township

The teardown trend in Bernards Township continues with two recent precedent-setting proposals. On Lindbergh Lane, a neighborhood of modest older Cape Cods and bungalows - with most ranging in size from 1,006 sq. feet to about 2,100 sq. feet - a property owner has applied to demolish his 1,034 square foot house and replace it with a 4,600 square foot building. The applicant was urged by Zoning Board of Adjustment members to redesign his plan and reduce the size to no larger than the house next door, which was recently remodeled and increased in size to 3,620 square feet. There is a concern that this project could effectively devalue other neighborhood homes to land value only, thus setting up a domino effect that would discourage home improvement and instead encourage demolition and new construction, replacing numerous affordable homes with McMansions. The hearing will be continued in the fall.

In September, Millington Quarry Inc. submitted to the Planning Board a proposal involving destruction of most of the remaining historic houses in the original hamlet of Lyons. In this application, three mid-19th Century homes would be demolished immediately. Demolition of an adjacent fourth historic house will be part of a future subdivision plan. This would be the first township project involving multiple demolitions of historic houses - somewhat reminiscent of old urban redevelopment schemes. Six large houses on two new cul-de-sacs will replace the current streetscape of modest vernacular buildings which were characteristic of early township settlement.

MQI was also in the news in August when it won approval from the Planning Board for a nine-lot subdivision on 21.5 acres off South Maple Avenue. The nine houses will line up along a 2100 ft cul-de-sac, all facing the NJ Transit tracks. The close proximity to the railroad prompted the Planning Board to approve reduced front yard setbacks so the cul-de-sac could be located 25 feet farther away from the tracks. Waivers from the township steep slope ordinance were granted for two of the houses. The project will require removing 302 trees, and a waiver was granted to allow MQI to replant 719 rather than the required 829 new trees. A conservation easement will run along part of the property.

A rare early 19th Century side-by-side house on the property was previously razed by MQI.

Ann Parsekian

Mendham Township

On July 10, the Mendham Township Board of Adjustment granted preliminary approval for the Morris Area Girl Scouts Council's (MAGSC) plan to expand its camp at Jockey Hollow, subject to a number of conditions. The Board also granted final approval to MAGSC to replace the two existing swimming pools and to widen and improve the driveway onto the site. At the discretion of Township experts, retaining walls may be used to reduce cut into the hillside and tree loss. The plan proposes exclusive use of composting toilets and a gray water drip disposal system that will also minimize loss of trees. At this time, it is understood that MAGSC must still undertake some archeological studies, and must pursue a wastewater management plan amendment and a NJPDES permit from NJDEP. The camp expansion is to include new opportunities for historic and environmental programs on site. MAGSC recently announced the start of a new fundraising campaign for the camp expansion.

The recharge beds of the Drakewick development's package sewage treatment plant are being rebuilt. Known as the Mendham Township East Sewer Treatment Facility, and constructed by its developer to serve Drakewick, the recharge beds recently failed. Treated effluent is temporarily being trucked offsite for disposal until the beds can be used again.

At a May 15, 2003 joint meeting of the Mendham Borough Open Space Advisory Committee and the Mendham Township Open Space Trust Committee, Irene's Spring Tree Farm's proposed subdivision was among the topics discussed. The group also discussed contiguous areas, joint ventures, and continuation of walking trails. The Farm is located upslope from the Passaic River and there are headwaters to the River on site. Roadscapes, viewsheds and tree protection are of particular interest. Irene's Spring Tree Farm is one of the largest, privately-owned parcels of land remaining in the Great Swamp watershed. Recently, the Planning Board granted preliminary approval for the 16-lot subdivision. At this time, the Township is debating a cluster ordinance for the Township. As a result, additional open space on the site may be saved while still permitting the owners to develop.

Julia Somers

Chatham Township

Chatham Township to Bid for Open Space near Loantaka

In July, the Township Committee approved an effort by the Open Space Committee to bid on the 1.6-acre Parisi Property, formerly the Lotti Lackey tract, on Shunpike Road. The goal is to protect the site's wetlands that are headwaters to the Black Brook, as well as to preserve the open vista the site provides to farmland and Loantaka Park.

Mr. Parisi, a local builder, succeeded earlier this year in getting permission from the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to fill in wetlands to build a single-family home on the property.

Run Off Quagmire for Rolling Hill Proposal

The Planning Board, in July, continued to examine the Storm Water Management Plan for the four-lot proposed development on hilly Candace Lane. The applicant, Mr. Harvey Caplan, has an engineering plan before the Board to meet the township's no net increase in storm water runoff requirement through a system of drywells and surface swales. The main discussion in July centered on the sizing and maintenance of the storm water system.

At issue is whether Caplan's engineer should redesign the stormwater management system to allow for the maximum build-out of the lots by future homeowners. The current storm water plan will accommodate the 28,000 square feet of impervious coverage from the proposed new homes, but not the maximum impervious coverage of 43,000 square feet allowed by the Township's Impervious Coverage Ordinance.

Responsibility for maintenance of the drywells and swales system, according to Mr. Caplan's attorney, would lie with a future Homeowner's Association. Planning Board members suggested that the deeds to the four lots should have easements and restrictions for the protection and maintenance of the drywells and swales.

Mr. Caplan introduced his Steep Slopes Disturbance Plan in July and the Board requested more complete information on driveways and retaining walls. The Board also reiterated the possibility of a conservation easement to prevent future development on the wooded western section of the property.

Kathy Abbott

Bernardsville

Two projects in Bernardsville are currently adversely impacting the watershed, and another is likely to do so if approved. They all demonstrate the risks inherent in building in an area of steep slopes and clear streams. A development approved by the board of adjustment two years over the Association's pointed objections has yielded the anticipated outcome. A large home built on a ridge that only a mountain goat could scale in winter, overlooking Indian Grave Brook, has resulted in the siltation of a portion of the stream and the adjacent exceptional resource wetlands.

Two new athletic fields built by the Borough on a formerly wooded hillside overlooking Chestnut Brook, also a trout production stream, has had disastrous consequences due to poor design, faulty construction and apparent indifference to fundamental soil erosion controls. Massive amounts of sediment have washed off the field, ruining the brook through its length in the Audubon sanctuary and filling the recently dredged historic pond on the Dreesen property along Hardscrabble Road.

Further, the Borough is presently contemplating the widening of Hardscrabble Road, which would necessitate the elimination of exceptional resource wetlands and transition areas. An effort is underway by neighboring residents to have the area designated as an historic district which will increase the level of protection.

Daniel E. Somers, Esq.

Long Hill Township

The Great Swamp Greenhouse application for expansion has been denied. With the backdrop of expert testimony from the Watershed Association and forceful questioning and documentation from the public, the Long Hill Board of Adjustment unanimously turned down the application on September 16.

Two weeks prior, an entire 3-hour meeting was devoted to testimony by the Watershed Association's expert witness, John Thonet. In a tour de force led by attorney Daniel Somers, Thonet chronicled the project from its inception in 1979 and laid out a withering set of failures of the applicant to abide by Board of Adjustment resolutions and repeated expansions without proper environmental considerations. Thonet pointed out that this large commercial operation has absolutely no stormwater management provisions, despite the fact that it is surrounded by the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. Recognizing that the applicant was a 'victim of his own success', Thonet said that the operation had simply outgrown the land. Thonet went on to outline two scenarios that would improve the quality of stormwater runoff during small storms and even gain partial control of the volume of runoff, but that the applicant had chosen to put parking in the very places that this might be achieved.

The applicant's attorney, Kevin Coakley, repeatedly tried to skate around the Municipal Land Use Law by claiming Right-to-Farm exemptions. Ultimately, the Board did not even mention the Right-to-Farm Act in final deliberations, characterizing the operation as a commercial retail garden center instead. One of the board members got it right when he suggested that the applicant was not so much a victim of his own success as he was a victim of poor planning—the engineer's site plan had simply not addressed any of the important issues in a meaningful way.

If past experience is an indicator, the applicant will appeal the decision, but the Board of Adjustment did its job during the hearings and constructed a powerful defense of Long Hill's Master Plan and stormwater ordinance.

Len Hamilton

Morristown

Temple B'Nai Or

The Watershed Association presented stormwater testimony and suggested changes to the project to allow protection of Great Brook and Foote's Pond. Opponents of the project will present their case shortly.

Julia Somers

KINGS FUNDS EDUCATION PROGRAMS

As part of an ongoing month-long celebration of Earth Month, Kings Super Markets, Inc. gave a grant to Great Swamp Watershed Association to support environmental education projects. Gerry Burke, Manager of Kings, Morristown is seen presenting the check to Robert Blanchard, Chairman of the Watershed Association as Cheryl Good, Community Relations Manager of Kings looks on.



According to Good, working with the Great Swamp Watershed Association "is a wonderful way for Kings to participate in Earth Month. Together we've been able to promote activities in and around the Great Swamp. We're also proud to be able to present this grant to the Watershed Association in support of their environmental education programs." The watershed area covers

55 square miles in Morris and Somerset Counties.

Bonnie Gannon, Development Director, echoes Good's comments and adds: "We've enjoyed working with King's and particularly appreciate their support through this grant. Since only 42% of our expenses are covered by membership dues, we rely on grants like this to be able to continue promoting environmental health."

Morris Township

The Township Planning Board is racing to complete St. Mary's Abbey's massive site plan application for a Continuing Care Retirement Community and a large new athletic facility for the Delbarton School on property next to the National Historical Park. GSWA's opposition to the project has been well documented in this newsletter and in local newspapers and our position has not changed. We expect presentation of the application to the Board to be finished in October. The Township has submitted a draft Wastewater Management Plan to NJDEP for the Township on which the Watershed Association is submitting substantive comments. Our "spot zoning" lawsuit against Morris Township and St. Mary's Abbey is expected to go to trial in Morristown October 6, 2003. It is anticipated that the new statewide stormwater regulations, when adopted, will cause the CCRC to have to be changed from what is now being proposed to the Planning Board.

Julia Somers

Event Calendar

What's Happening In the Great Swamp Watershed

Following is a highly selective listing of events and activities offered to the public by private and county agencies that have facilities within and near the Great Swamp watershed. Many of these organizations offer far more activities than those listed, including day and weekend trips to other areas. Call for complete information.

In addition to programs and activities, many of the agencies are also staffed by naturalists and maintain extensive hiking trails, nature-center displays and exhibits, and book sales. For many listings, advance registration is required; for all, it is advised. To register, to receive additional information, or for directions, call the telephone numbers given below.

Ongoing

Free Nature Walks: Scherman- Hoffman Wildlife Sanctuary; Every Friday and Saturday, 8-9am. No pre-registration—just show up! Walks focus on birds, butterflies, wildflowers, and all other aspects of natural history. Led by Scherman-Hoffman naturalists, these walks are fun and informative. Meet at the Hoffman Parking Lot. (908) 766-5787

Ford Mansion Tours; 10am, 11am, 1, 2, 3, 4pm Daily. Morristown National Historical Park. (973) 539-2016

Birding and Natural History Walks at Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. First and third Sunday of the month. October through December. 8:00 to 10:00 A.M. Meet at the Wildlife Observation Center on Long Hill Road

October

10-11, Full Moon Camping and Highland Hiking (Ages 10 and up). A night outdoors under the full moon and a morning of hiking at Mahlon Dickerson Reservation in Jefferson Township. BYO food, sleeping bags, and hiking gear. Begins 5 p.m. Friday and end 1 p.m. Saturday. Great Swamp Outdoor Education Center. 973-635-6629.

24, Celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Outdoor Education Center. 6:30-9 p.m.: Enjoy the fun, sing-along music of Walkin' Jim Stoltz, along with crafts, displays, information, and refreshments. Free. Great Swamp Outdoor Education Center. 973-635-6629.

November

1, Identify Invasives 10:00 -12:00 p.m.: Learn the basics of identification of invasive exotic plants and how they affect our natural areas. Workshop includes information, a guided walk and a plant removal project. Great Swamp Outdoor Education Center. 973-635-6629.

4, Scales-n-Tales 3:00 -4:30 p.m.: Stroke the Skin of a snake, touch the shell of a turtle and see the scales of a fish. Morris Museum Exhibitions 973-971-3718.

9, All That Slithers Is Not Slimy. 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.: If you really and truly believe that snakes are slimy, then this is the class for you! We will dispel the incorrect myths about snakes, learn the

real and amazing facts, and have the opportunity to meet a real, live snake!! Somerset County Park Commission. 908-766-2489.

16, Mystery in the Swamp (Ages 8-11) 1:00 to 4:00 pm.: Come help the Naturalist figure out who stole Gorden (our fat-tailed gecko). That's right...Gorden has disappeared and there is a mystery to solve. Learn how to finger print suspects, collect clues, analyze handwriting, and other crime solving techniques. Come for an afternoon of fun and mystery. Snack will be included. Somerset County Park Commission. 908-766-2489.

16, Animal Olympics (Ages 3 and up) 2 p.m.: Join environmental educator Diana Dove to learn about the amazing things animals do and how litter can affect them. Great fun for kids and families including songs, puppets, costumes, and more. Great Swamp Outdoor Education Center. 973-635-6629.

18, Nature Hikes for Tykes Series I "Deer Diary" (Ages 2-3 with parent) 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.: It is never too early to begin exploring nature. Bring your tyke for a hike and activities that focus on using the five senses. Somerset County Park Commission. 908-766-2489.

22, Confessions of a Wildlife Photographer, 2 p.m.: Wildlife biologist / photographer Blaine Rotheuser will bring you on a slide-show journey through the wilds of New Jersey as he tells tales of his photographic adventures. Great Swamp Outdoor Education Center. Free. 973-635-6629.

December

10, Star Trekkers (Ages 6-8) 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.: You may have seen the swamp during the day but now it is time to come and see it in the dark. Learn which animals are awake at night, what stars twinkle over the park, and how even you adapt to the night. No flashlights please! Somerset County Park Commission. 908-766-2489.

19, Winter Solstice Celebration, 7 p.m.: Celebrate the coming of winter with a bonfire, stories, hot cider and s'mores on the beach at Sunrise Lake in Lewis Morris County Park. Bring a blanket or lawn chair to sit on and dress warmly. Great Swamp Outdoor Education Center. 973-635-6629.

What Will You Leave Behind?

As you focus on year-end financial planning and review your estate plan, think about leaving a legacy for the land. Planned giving to the Great Swamp Watershed Association is not only financially sound, but will provide a legacy to future generations and continued protection for our most precious resource...land.

Please call **Bonnie Gannon 973-966-1900 x 18** for details about some of the many ways you can give. What will you leave behind?

Remember!

Watershed Association members receive a 10% discount at Blue Ridge Mountain Sports!

ANNUAL REPORT July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003

FINANCIAL REPORT: STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003

INCOME

Contributions	312,682
Endowment	17,025
Grants	
Restricted	54,000
Unrestricted	55,083
Interest Income	2,002
Miscellaneous	5,272
TOTAL INCOME	446,064

EXPENSES

Programs	
Projects	81,996
Local Issues	187,423
Education	90,192
Land Conservation and Restoration	56,097
Total Program Expense	415,708
Management and General	60,174
Development	29,069
TOTAL EXPENSES	504,951

SUPRLUS/(DEFICIT) (58,887)

ENDOWMENT ACTIVITY

Contributions	17,122
Investment Income	14,849
Gain/Loss on Investments	334
Market Value 6/30/03	455,545

GSWA SUPPORTERS FOR 2003

Corporate Council

Atlantic Mutual Companies
Briarpatch, Inc.
Honeywell International Fnd., Inc.
Integrated Communications Corporation
Kings Super Markets
Maersk Inc.
Pharmacia Corporation
PSE&G
Schering-Plough Corp.
Wyeth Corp.

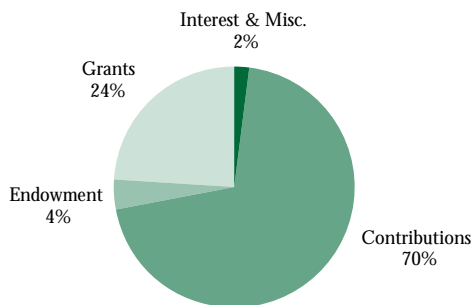
\$5,000 +

A.P. Kirby, Jr. Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Marshall Bartlett
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Blanchard
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Deeks
F.M. Kirby Foundation, Inc.
Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation
Gladys & Raymond Pearlstine Trust
Ms. Harriet Grose
Janes Family Fund
Mr. Steven D. Meyer
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Snell
The Leavens Foundation, Inc.
Mr. Francis Tweed
Withington Foundation, Inc.

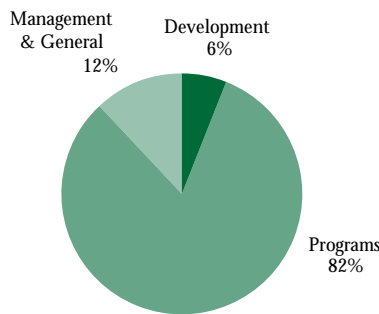
\$1,000 - \$4,999

Anonymous
Baker Street Trust
Mr. & Mrs. David Budd
Mr. & Mrs. Stewart L. Carr
Cassa Family Charitable Fund
Mr. & Mrs. Rory Corrigan
Mr. John H. Dorsey
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Essner
Mr. & Mrs. Roger Ford
Fred Fatzler Foundation
Gant Family Foundation
Garden Club of Morristown
George T. & Francele Boyer Fund
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Gill
Ms. Kathy Grano
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Haedrich
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Harding
Mr. & Mrs. Gates Helms Hawn
Ms. Chris Hepburn
Hite Foundation
Dr. & Mrs. Edward Kirby
Mr. Wade H. O. Kirby
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Kleemeyer
Mr. & Mrs. James H. Mueller
Drs. Daniel & Janet Murnick
Ms. Arlene Newman
Mr. & Mrs. William Paknis
Dr. & Mrs. Grant V. S. Parr
Mr. Nick Platt
Ralph M. Cestone Foundation, Inc.
Recorder Community Newspapers
Residents for Rural Harding
Mr. & Mrs. Aaron A. Rich

INCOME



EXPENSES



Audited Statements available upon request.

Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Rich
R.M.Ellis Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. C. Graydon Rogers
Scott and Linda Pinkus Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Jackson Shepard
Mrs. Dorothea Stillinger
Stony Point Foundation
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Many thanks to our other contributors in the Family, Member and Student/Senior categories whose generous support is invaluable to our organization.

Staff Notes

Welcome to **Jinnee DeMarco**, Finance Director and **Patsy Clew**, Director of Membership and Heritage Programs.

Project Director **Karen Patterson** attended the Center for Watershed Protection's week-long Watershed Restoration Institute in Maryland at the end of September. The Institute is an intensive week of lab and field training in urban watershed restoration. Karen used Loantaka Brook as her case study and plans to use what she learned to develop a restoration plan for the headwaters of Loantaka Brook.

Julia Somers, ever-popular speaker, packed the rooms at the Madison Rotary Club and Chatham Perennial Garden Club. She and **Blaine Rothausser** spoke to the Sierra Club and will speak to the Summit Area Community School, providing an overview of the 250 million year history of the Great Swamp.

Communications Director **Missy Small** moonlights during the summer as catcher for the "Swamp Thangs," a women's softball team competing in the Springfield Recreation League. Sporting "Do The Swamp Thing" t-shirts, the Thangs had a great season, finishing with 3 wins, 3 losses, 1 tie, and only 2 broken nails.

SAVE THE DATE!

Fall Cocktail Party and Annual Meeting November 14, 2003

Silent Auction Donations Needed

Now's the time to collect prizes to auction off at our cocktail party. According to Development Director Bonnie Gannon, our annual silent auction is a wonderful source of revenue for the Watershed Association. Nearly anything can be auctioned off including gift certificates for stores, restaurants, spas, vacation homes and airline miles, and almost any type of service. If you have prizes to donate or have questions, contact *Bonnie Gannon* (973) 993-1900 x 18.

Honoring Author John Cunningham at Annual Meeting

New Jersey historian and author John Cunningham will be receiving the Marcellus Hartley Dodge Memorial Award. Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen, R-11, will be on hand to present the award.

Remember, Friday, November 14, 2003, Mead Hall, Drew University!

Contact us at 973.966.1900 or visit our web site at www.greatswamp.org

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Save the date!
Great Swamp Watershed Association
Annual Meeting on November 14th!

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