

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Protecting Wildlife
.....2

BU Sailing Pavilion Update
.....3

CRWA Annual Meeting
.....4

On the Charles in the 1920's
.....5

News from Along the Charles
.....6-7

Volunteer Opportunities
.....8

Staff Changes at CRWA
.....8

Meet Jim Fitzgerald
.....9

Ted Littlefield Remembered
.....9

Watchdog for the River
.....10

Calendar
.....11

Fisheries on the Charles

Go with the Flow

By Kathy Baskin

Development in the upper Charles River watershed is the fastest in Massachusetts and the demand for drinking water is the highest ever. Meanwhile, new pavement and buildings are cutting off rainwater from groundwater, and the water supplies to businesses, homes, and the Charles River are decreasing. Residents, politicians and municipal officials are acutely aware of the low flow problems as summer watering bans are regularly in effect and development of new water supplies becomes increasingly difficult. To prevent water shortages, Charles River watershed communities such as Holliston and Bellingham have proposed recharging treated wastewater effluent to groundwater. Bellingham, Franklin, and Medfield have also proposed recharging stormwater to the groundwater as a way to offset development and water demand pressures.

Water supply is not the only feature of the Charles that suffers with

diminishing flows. Fish and other aquatic organisms are seriously harmed when food supply, oxygen, habitat, and spawning areas are limited during low flows. Temperature increases can become inhospitable to certain fish under low flows. Riverbanks, needed by fish for protective cover, dry up. Fish



Dudley Bonsal, CRWA Field Scientist, collecting sample.

requiring the run of the river become stranded in larger pools as connections between the pools nearly dry up. Eventually, the fish population can shift from a group of fish most comfortable living in a flowing river

or stream to a group better suited for lakes and ponds.

With a grant from the Massachusetts Environmental Trust, CRWA is looking to the river itself to determine effects of low flow. CRWA is working with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to assess aquatic habitat and to determine minimum streamflow requirements in the Charles River watershed. In October, USGS trained CRWA staff to perform habitat assessments, using proce-

(continued on page 2)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Protecting Wildlife

By Kelly McClintock

You have read much in these pages about CRWA's work to assure clean, sustainable water supplies for watershed communities, and our strikingly successful efforts to raise water quality standards to fishing and boating levels. These are important goals of CRWA, and will continue for the foreseeable future. We strive to make the river continually healthier, more beautiful and fun for the people who live, work, and visit in our watershed.

But CRWA is also concerned with wildlife: the bass, herons, turtles, muskrats and countless other species that join us in calling the Charles River home. Another of our major goals is to restore a diverse aquatic and wildlife habitat to the river and its banks.

The lead article in this Streamer describes a new CRWA project. In conjunction with the United States Geological Survey (USGS), we are assessing the suitability of our river as aquatic wildlife habitat.

Certainly, our on-going work to clean up the river for the benefit of its human dependents naturally also benefits wildlife. But other factors for instance, the speed and depth of water passing over shallow riffles might be uniquely important to certain fish species and other aquatic organisms we would consider necessary indicators of a healthy river system. Calculating those hydrological requirements is important because they will help USGS determine necessary stream flows for these species. These requirements, in turn, will ultimately provide a firm scientific and legal basis for regulators to incorporate the needs of wildlife in determining the timing and amount of permissible water withdrawals.

This is a small project, a little step down a long road. But it is CRWA's first project focusing our technical and scientific expertise specifically on wildlife issues. The project thus points us in an important new direction, and is a big step for us!

depths at riffles in the river. Riffles, where water flows as rapids over rocks, are excellent areas for studying the effects of low flow on a river because they are the shallowest stretches of the river and are, therefore, the first areas to become too shallow for fish to swim through during low flow. If a riffle habitat remains suitable for fish passage, even under low flow, then scientists can assume that nearby habitats such as pools should also be able to provide suitable habitat. Riffle locations being monitored by CRWA include two in the Charles River, downstream of Echo Lake in Milford and upstream of the USGS streamflow gage in Medway, and one in Mine Brook, just upstream of its discharge to the Charles River in Franklin.

Evaluating the suitability of the Charles as habitat for fish and other organisms is an exciting new direction for CRWA and the Charles River. As we develop in-house capability to perform habitat assessments, we hope also to develop baseline information related to low flow and habitats, to educate citizens of the ecological consequences of low flow, and to identify policies that could increase flow and improve habitat.

Fisheries

(continued from page 1)

dures established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. CRWA is examining vegetation, land use, sediment, available cover, channel alteration, bank stability, and protection at several locations in the river. CRWA staff has already begun to assess aquatic habitat in the river, starting just downstream of Echo Lake, a drinking

water reservoir located in Hopkington which supplies water to the town of Milford. CRWA has observed that, while the habitat in this area benefits from its remote location, it suffers from the limited flow released from the reservoir and is essentially a series of pools connected by a trickle of water.

CRWA is also assisting USGS in studying the cross-sections, channel slopes, and water

Action Alert!

There is a critical opportunity for the public to comment on BU's DEIR for a new sailing pavilion on prized Esplanade land until January 7, 2002 and CRWA urges you to write to EOEI Secretary Bob Durand with your concerns at EOEI, attn: LeAndrea Dames, 251 Causeway Street, 9th Floor, Boston, MA 02114 Comments should reference MEPA #12520.

Two Superior Locations Identified for BU Sailing Pavilion

By Margaret Van Deusen

An independent analysis of alternative locations for a new Boston University (BU) sailing pavilion by the environmental consulting firm of Beals and Thomas, Inc., has just been completed. CRWA commissioned Beals and Thomas to perform the analysis to insure that the public's interests affected by construction of a large private boathouse on the banks of the Charles River Esplanade are adequately considered.

The guiding principle for this study has been the public's use, access and enjoyment of the parkland and water sheet of the Basin. Beals and Thomas examined the impacts on the public trust at each site to determine which sites would cause the least encroachment on the public interest and still meet BU's needs.

The report analyzes five potential locations between the BU and Mass. Ave. Bridges and concludes that two sites in this section of the Basin — one on the water downstream of the MIT boathouse in Cambridge near the Mass. Ave. Bridge (Site 6B), and one near Charlesgate on the Boston Esplanade (Site 5) are far superior locations for protecting the public trust nature of this historic and cherished parkland. In contrast, BU's chosen site on the widest lobe of parkland near the Sherborn Street footbridge — an area heavily used by the public with scenic views of the river and the skyline — was determined to be the worst location under the public interest criteria developed.

According to the study, a boathouse adjacent to the Cambridge seawall on the water would have the least public interest impacts. There would be no user displacement or pedestrian flow and safety issues and a boathouse here would fit in with the "Boathouse Row" character of the Cambridge bank. It is also easily accessible to emergency and delivery vehicles. While there would be some negative visual impacts resulting from a boathouse at the Charlesgate site, there are few passive recreation users here and the location marks the beginning of the concrete maze of Storrow Drive ramps and the end of the green space. It is adjacent to an underutilized section of the Basin and BU's regatta

course. This site also presents an opportunity to enhance the public trust by strengthening the historical connection between the river and the Back Bay Fens. An October public meeting confirmed the independent findings: those attending ranked Sites 6B and 5 as far preferable to BU's site.

BU recently filed its draft environmental impact report (DEIR) under the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA). The university now concedes that its location is not the best site, but says that moving 300 feet further west will eliminate

most concerns. In an apparent strategic ploy, BU resurrected a site east of the exercise deck as its second preferred alternative, a site that was roundly rejected by community groups two years ago because of its sweeping views. BU's insistence that this location is better than Site 6B or 5 highlights the DEIR's lack of objectivity and BU's determination to annex the boathouse to its campus. While proposed public bathrooms would be an addition (open only when the boathouse is open), many feel that a concession stand, bringing vehicles and trash, is not desirable. The fenced dock will be open only to facility users.

The DEIR finds other locations "unacceptable," primarily because they are too far from campus. Yet Site 5 is only an additional 5-minute walk. Other reasons for rejecting Site 5 — little wind for sailing, obstruction of river views for drivers merging onto Storrow Drive, and displacement of parkland users (visits confirm little passive recreation) seem equally disingenuous.

Environmental Affairs Secretary Bob Durand is accepting comments on the DEIR until January 7, 2002. Now more than ever, it is important to write or email him at bob.durand@state.ma.us with your concerns, referencing EOE #12520 and copying LeAndrea.Dames@state.ma.us. You can visit our website at www.charlesriver.org to read the Executive Summary/full text of the alternatives report, for information to comment on the DEIR, and to see a Basin panoramic view with the boathouse at each site.



Sites analyzed by Beals and Thomas, Inc.

CRWA Annual Meeting

By Meg Gray and Louise Taylor

CRWA celebrated Bob Zimmerman's 10 year as Executive Director at its annual meeting at the Newton Marriot on November 14th. John DeVillars, former U.S. EPA Region 1 Administrator; Arleen O'Donnell, Deputy Commissioner of the MA Department of Environmental Protection; CRWA's project manager Kathy Baskin, CRWA's Past President Ralph Abele, Director Ro Bloom and current President Kelly McClintock spoke with alacrity of Zimmerman's outstanding achievements for the Charles. Remarks were interspersed with lighthearted roasts. Also, on behalf of EOEA Secretary Bob Durand, Sharon McGregor presented Zimmerman with the Green Seal Award in honor of his 10 years of commitment to cleaning up and preserving the Charles.

During the evening, CRWA also honored six outstanding individuals for their exceptional efforts on behalf of the Charles.

CRWA's highest honor, the Anne M. Blackburn Award, was presented to Dr. Attila Klein, Professor of Biology at Brandeis University. Each year, he draws students and citizens to the river, teaching them how the river system works and inspiring them to develop projects leading to a better understanding of the river's problems and their solutions. Additionally, Dr. Klein serves as a technical advisor to CRWA's in-house lab.

Laury Coolidge, a long-time member and friend to CRWA, received CRWA's 2005 Award, established to honor individuals who make significant contributions toward making the Charles swimmable and fishable by the year 2005. For over 16 years, Laury has volunteered countless hours cleaning the brush from the banks of the Charles between the Hatch Shell and the BU Bridge to allow people a better view of the river.

CRWA's Citizen Activist Award went to Linda Cox and Jeryl Orestaglio, co-presidents of the

Esplanade Association for their work in creating a stunning new playground on the Esplanade and for their involvement in the campaign to ensure full environmental and public review of BU's proposed sailing pavilion on prime Esplanade land. The

Esplanade Association works to restore, preserve, and enhance the historic Charles River Esplanade.

State Representative Paul Demakis was the recipient of CRWA's Public Official Award. Rep. Demakis is a strong advocate for environmental issues and has worked with CRWA to protect and promote the Charles River Esplanade. His efforts include securing state funds for land and facilities upkeep and advocating for a proper review and public process of BU's proposed sailing pavilion.

Michael Hutto was honored with a Special Recognition award for donating his time and talent to the design of the *Charles River Recreation Guide*.

One of CRWA's longest-serving volunteers, John F. Cronin, was given the Volunteer Award. John has faithfully helped at the Run of the Charles Canoe and Kayak Race since it began in 1982. He heads the rescue operation at the breached Bemis Dam in Watertown, where he has thrown life lines to capsized paddlers from as many as 30 boats in a single year.

McClintock thanked retiring Board members Ro Bloom, Caroline Standley, and Joanne Turnbull for their dedication to CRWA and the Charles River. Four new members were welcomed to CRWA's Board of Directors: Brian O'Donovan of West Newton, COO of the New England Revolution Soccer Club and VP of the New England Patriots; Charles D. McCrea, CEO of Environmental Careers Organization; John Palfrey, Vice President of Operations at Analine Technologies; and Liz Levin of Boston, a Senior Vice President at Rizzo Associates.

CRWA thanks the Newton Marriot for generously supporting the annual meeting each year.



Receiving awards at the annual meeting from CRWA Executive Director Bob Zimmerman (back center) were: (front from left) Laury Coolidge, Attila Klein, and Michael Hutto; (back from left) John Cronin, Representative Paul Demakis, Linda Cox, and Jeryl Orestaglio.

On the Charles in the 1920's

This is part one of a three-part series on the Charles River written by Barbara Winslow who grew up on the Charles.

Part I. The Boathouse

Across the street from our house, on the Charles River, lounged a brown-shingled boathouse which bore on its back the Waltham Odd Fellows Hall. A huge swaying planked apron stretched over the river bank providing a launching pad for canoes, rowboats, and racing shells. The boats rested, gunwales down, on wooden racks, one over another in ranks of three, extending far into and behind the wide doors that rolled open with a rumble we could hear from our front porch.

The boathouse and everything pertaining thereto was magic. As a girl of ten or eleven, I could sit on the slope and watch the Charles glide or roil by, or watch the owner, Jim Bergen, slosh soapy water over the gleaming varnish, paint and gold scrolls of an upturned canoe, souse it with clear water, and sponge it carefully. The keel and ribs of these canoes were hand-sawn, planed and bent, thwarts hand-carved and fitted. The canvas was cut, stretched and hand-painted. The gunwales raking curves were elegant with dark green, red or blue colors and the boats moved through the water as effortlessly as swans. Jim Bergen was a good paddle carver, and his store of them leaned against the wall in a corner of the office at the edge of the wharf. Tall paddles, middle



Barbara Winslow, 1931

sized, and “shorties” gleaned pale yellow. They were so inviting, that before touching one, you knew how easily your hand would slide along the handles, how satisfying the curves would feel.

I dimly remember one night being held up to the window of the bedroom I shared with my sister Frances to see red flames soaring into the night sky and reflected on the water of the Charles when one of the boathouses burned. The spectacular fire was nearly a funeral pyre for canoeing because that boathouse was not rebuilt, and the damage to Jim Bergen’s property took a long time to repair—especially to replace the canoes. By the time they were ready, the day of the canoe had passed and public fancy had veered another way. It became rare to see a canoe drifting in the morning twilight, the bandstand on Fox Island fell to pieces, and the regattas were no longer held. Jim all too often washed and cared for his canoes, sliding and heaving them back onto their racks, without them having been wetted in the Charles.

Jim’s wharf always had been, and continued to be, a gathering place on summer evenings for local men and boys. Only. No girls allowed. I know cusswords were used over there, and expect the camaraderie turned into real language at times. Jim was a good storyteller when he got going. His cronies could hold their own, too. A lot of spit and tobacco juice spiced the Charles’ current. It was prohibition days, but in cellars around Waltham Dandelion, Dago and Concord grape wine was certainly being brewed, and there were rumors of home brew blowing caps and corks. I think my father knew the smell of alcohol, although he didn’t know the substance. The wharf was forbidden territory for me after supper. Evenings, pressing my forehead against the bedroom window screen, I could see the glow of light bulbs over the boat doors, the waxing and waning of cigar and cigarette tips, and hear the rumble of men’s voices punctuated by muted crows of laughter. I could hear the hail as a late canoeist brought his craft alongside the wharf, and the rasp and slither of paddle and canoe on the boards; watch and hear Jim cross to the office to put paddles away, hear the goodnights and the sharp sounds of car doors opening and slamming shut. On summer evenings, I used to go to sleep with those sounds. They, too, were a part of the river and all that it meant to me.

Run of the River

By Anna Eleria and Dudley Bonsal

Upper Watershed

Milford Water Quality Continues to Stagnate

The Charles continues to show significant concentrations of fecal coliform bacteria at Central Street in Milford. On October 18, 2001, CRWA and EPA officials obtained water samples from the outfall and in the main stem of the Charles – locations of CRWA's monthly sampling program. In addition to the usual high levels at these locations, a sample was taken further upstream which showed, according to EPA test results, concentrations of 194,000 colony forming units per 100 ml (cfu/100ml) of river water. According to Massachusetts water quality standards, surface water is not considered swimmable if the concentration exceeds 200 cfu/100ml. CRWA and the EPA are presently working to locate the source of the high concentrations.

Industrial Rezoning Proposal Defeated

At the **Milford** October 25th town meeting, a plan to rezone 100 acres of land from residential to industrial use was defeated. The rezoning would have been the preliminary step to develop 1/2 million square feet of office space. The land involved is located north of the I-495/Rte. 85 interchange and south of Echo Lake. Opponents of rezoning cited the proximity of the land to Charles River headwaters and the possibility of water supply complications. The area voted on is part of a 500-acre development

plan. The other 400 acres of land, currently zoned for 2-acre lots, has been eyed to accommodate a golf course and residences. The rezoning proposal for this land will probably be voted on in the spring, says Town Planner Reno DeLuzio. CRWA has met with the project proponents and will be closely maintaining it.

New Corporate Park

Developers for the proposed **Bellingham** Corporate Park have issued a notice of project change and requested a Phase I waiver to eliminate preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the entire site prior to allowing for phased development. Originally, the project scope included 1.6 million square feet of office/research and development space, four hotels, three restaurants, and a health club and day care facility, which together, would generate 95 acres of impervious surface. Now, the project proponents want to eliminate the health club and day care facility and replace it with a 300-unit apartment complex that would result in four more acres of impervious surface and increases in water use and wastewater generation. CRWA has strongly urged MEPA to deny a Phase I waiver and requested that the proponents conduct a comprehensive alternatives analysis on wastewater issues.

Rejection of Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan

Despite the dire need for better wastewater management, **Bellingham** voters in October rejected a \$47 million Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan (CWRMP) and

sent the proposal back to the Citizens Advisory Committee for further study until May 2002 when voters will again decide the fate of the plan. Residents elected to table the article due to the project's cost and the nation's economic uncertainty and job insecurity. If the plan is approved, it will connect 2,900 homes to 46 miles of sewer lines and add 20 new pump stations and a new sewage treatment plant.

Middle Watershed

More Greenway Space

The Metropolitan District Commission has purchased 17.5 acres of land in **Dedham** from the Dedham Historical Society. The property, located on the west bank of the river between the Ames Street Bridge and Mother Brook, will become part of the network of land along the Charles River designated for public access and open space protection. According to MDC Park Ranger Kevin Hollenbeck, the land has traditionally been used for fishing and hunting. It will be kept as open space in order to protect wildlife habitat and preserve the floodplain.

The MDC has also recently purchased 0.14 acres of land upstream of the former Dedham Historical Society land to be used as a boat launch. Once ready for use, the launch will provide access for short paddles to Riverdale Park, Millennium Park in West Roxbury, and Nahanton Park in Newton.

Run of the River

Dredging Needham Pond

An Environmental Notification Form (ENF) has been filed by the **Needham** DPW to dredge the Needham Sportsmen's Club Pond and remove some 3,200 cubic yards of sediment, about 200 cubic yards of clay and an inactive sewer line. The project also involved the construction of a permanent weir. CRWA, concerned with this overly-engineered "solution" for reducing sediment accumulation, suggested project proponents analyze alternatives to the weir and discuss a comprehensive plan for controlling stormwater runoff, sedimentation, and erosion using best management practices. The club has now withdrawn its request for a weir.

New Apartment Complex

Developers in **Newton Upper Falls** are proposing a 294-unit apartment building with 4.08 acres of impervious area. The development would have significant stormwater impacts to the nearby South Meadow Brook (1,000 feet from the site) and to the Charles River. In response to the project's ENF, CRWA suggested that the use of natural landscaping and plants that will promote infiltration and require minimal watering and fertilizer or pesticide application be explored.

Pollution Discharge

In September, a sanitary overflow from a manhole located at Nonantum Road near Hyde Brook outfall in **Newton** resulted in a sewage discharge to the Charles River. CRWA monitoring results downstream of the Hyde Brook outfall

exceeded the state boating standard for fecal coliform bacteria. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection issued the city a notice of non-compliance which outlined remedial actions and deadlines. The city has cleaned and flushed the sewer line and is currently investigating long-term and short-term solutions to the problem.

Hospital Redevelopment

Because the McLean Hospital represents a large portion of the overall land area in **Belmont** and, therefore, will generate a large amount of the town's stormwater runoff when expanded, CRWA recommended in its draft EIR comment letter that the proposed stormwater management plan be consistent with the town's expected stormwater discharge permit to be issued by March 2003. CRWA also requests that developers offset any additional and unplanned water consumption related to the operation of the research and development facility and minimize wastewater flows to the existing sewer infrastructure. Finally, project proponents should describe in detail how 120 acres of open space will be protected from traffic, equipment, and debris during construction.

Lower Watershed

Rotten Eggs Along the Charles?

Since early fall, rowers, walkers, and joggers have complained of a 'rotten egg' or 'low tide' smell in the Charles River just upstream of the Western Avenue Bridge in **Cambridge**. A representative from

Harvard University informed CRWA that the smell was originating from a university construction site at One Western Avenue. Excavators are digging through a layer of decaying plant material that emits hydrogen sulfide gas and gives off a distinct odor even at extremely low levels. EPA has confirmed that the contractor's protocol for dealing with hydrogen sulfide is protective of the environment and of public safety. In addition, EPA conducted their own air testing and found no health risks.

Stormwater Opportunities for the MFA

The Museum of Fine Arts(MFA) in **Boston** is planning new construction and renovation. The MFA has stated that it will explore the use of underground rainwater storage tanks, the reuse of gray water, and new oil and grit separators for all new parking lots. The development calls for new wings that will create a substantial increase in roof surface that, without any stormwater controls, would result in greater runoff and pollutant concentrations. Whatever specific measures are called for in the plan, CRWA hopes to see the museum incorporate innovative, state-of-the-art technology for reducing or eliminating stormwater runoff. The proximity of the MFA to the Muddy River makes such technology that much more vital in order to prevent area flooding, reduce pollution, and to restore baseflow to the Muddy.



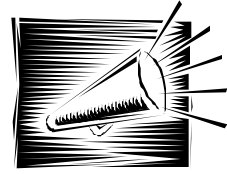
CRWA Staff Changes

In early October, **Kris Finn** left CRWA to become the Executive Director of the Lemelson-MIT program, which is best known for the \$500,000 prize it awards every year to a prominent inventor. As well as CRWA's External Relations Coordinator, Kris was editor of the *Streamer*, and oversaw membership. While at CRWA she was the driving force behind important publication projects such as the *Charles River Canoe and Kayak Guide*. We miss Kris' verve and wish her the very best.

We are happy that **Louise Taylor**, who has already assumed responsibilities for membership at CRWA, will

now head up the department. Louise slips into this role with previous fundraising experience from DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park as well as the Maine College of Art. An author and poet, Louise brings a creative dimension to her new position.

CRWA warmly welcomes **Meg Gray** as its new Office and Publications Manager. Prior to joining CRWA, Meg was Program Director of Massachusetts Community Water Watch and comes to us with a background in environmental organizing. Among her assignments at CRWA, Meg will be responsible for the production of the *Streamer*, maintaining CRWA's website, and coordinating the *Run of the Charles*.



Call for Volunteers!

Join CRWA for monthly water quality sampling along the entire length of the river. Volunteers are needed immediately in the Millis, Medway, and Franklin areas. Volunteers also needed on the wait list in all areas for quick coverage of newly vacated sites. Contact Peggy Savage for more information at savage@crwa.org or 617-965-5975 extension 221.

Join the 3rd Annual Charles River Cleanup Saturday, April 20th, 2002



We are looking for individuals or organizations to host a cleanup in their area, as well as volunteers to participate in the effort.

If interested, contact Pattie Weikert at 617-879-7735 or email: cleanup02@hotmail.com.

This event is sponsored by CRWA, Massachusetts Community Water Watch, the Clean Charles Coalition, Senator Steven Tolman's Office, and the Charles River Stream Teams.

MEET JIM FITZGERALD: CRWA'S LAB MANAGER

Streamer: Compare the lab today to when you started at CRWA in January 1996.

Jim: CRWA didn't have a lab when I started; I built it from scratch in the basement. Bob Zimmerman (CRWA's Executive Director), worked side-by-side with me constructing the lab. He was so excited about the lab that he took me out during a blizzard on my first day of work to look at used equipment. Today, the lab is certified by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, an indication of a quality program. We keep busy performing 16 different lab tests, including fecal coliform bacteria, phosphate, nitrate, total suspended solids and biochemical oxygen demand. The lab runs over 2000 tests each year for CRWA and other groups. Next, I plan to develop capability to run more tests and automate the lab with new equipment.



Streamer: What do you do for other groups?

Jim: CRWA's Lab provides free or discounted lab services and answers questions on equipment and methodologies. The lab has helped the Ipswich, Mystic, and Neponset River Watershed Associations, Merrimack River Watershed Council, University of Massachusetts, Northeastern University, Metropolitan Area Planning Council, and high school students.

Streamer: What trends have you seen in water quality in the Charles?

Jim: Water quality in the Charles has improved a good deal in the last six years, though the data also show that there are still trouble spots where more work needs to be done.

Streamer: Tell us about the highlights of your job.

Jim: It's been great creating and maintaining a good reputation for high quality lab results from the ground (basement) floor up. I enjoy working with the interns. We've had about 35 since I started. Here, they can see the whole lab operation, from sample collection, through reporting and invoicing. Also, CRWA's location is great. It's a lot of fun to have the river right behind us. I'm very happy to be here.

Remembering Ted Littlefield

This past November, the Charles River community lost a dear friend, long-time volunteer, and river advocate, Ted Littlefield. For almost twenty years, Ted, originally from Hampden, Maine, has cleaned up trash and tended to the trees and grass at Riverside Boat Club and around Magazine Beach in Cambridge. Ted volunteered his time and energy without anyone requesting his services. Despite partial paralysis from a motorcycle accident during college, Ted took care of the land

and greeted people regardless of the weather conditions. He was a constant friendly face on the river banks, always saying hello and asking people how they were. Ted was passionate about preserving and protecting the river and its banks. His love of the river originated while he was in graduate school at the Sargent College of Boston University where he learned how to row. He spent countless hours in a rowing shell on the Charles River. In addition, his work extended beyond the river and included the

grounds of the Morse School. In 1997, Ted received a commendation from the City of Cambridge for his work along the river and in the community. He was a good friend and will be greatly missed by Riverside Boat Club, Morse School and the local community. A memorial fund has been established and contributions can be sent to the Ted Littlefield Scholarship Fund, Riverside Boat Club, 769 Memorial Dr., Cambridge, MA, 02139, or to a charity of choice.

Watchdog for the River

CRWA tracks projects throughout the watershed, providing input to development and infrastructure proposals to make sure the river's best interests are taken into account.

Below is a list of the projects on which CRWA commented to the state, town, or developer between June 15, 2000 and November 21, 2001. Copies of comment letters are available at CRWA, 2391 Commonwealth Avenue, Auburndale (Newton) 02466.

Town	Project
Bellingham	Notice of Project Change for Maplebrook Commons Condominiums
Bellingham	Phase III of Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan/Environmental Impact Report for the Town of Bellingham
Bellingham	Notice for Project Change and Request for Phase I Waiver Bellingham Corporate Park
Bellingham	Environmental Notification Form for High Ridge Estates
Belmont	Draft Environmental Impact Report for McLean Hospital Redevelopment
Boston	Environmental Notification Form for Proposed Boston University Sailing Pavilion
Boston	Draft Environmental Impact Report for Emerald Necklace Environmental Improvements Master Plan and Phase I Muddy River Flood Control
Boston	Environmental Notification Form for Museum of Fine Arts Expansion
Needham	Environmental Notification Form for Dredging of Needham Sportsmen's Club Pond and Section 401 Water Quality Certification
Newton	Environmental Notification Form for Avalon at Upper Falls Apartment Project
Statewide	Barriers Commission Subcommittee Title 5 and Zoning Draft Reports
Statewide	Water Resources Commission's Draft Stressed Basin Policy on the Massachusetts Instream Flow Task Force

Thank You!

CRWA extends heartfelt thanks to individuals and organizations for your contributions since our last Streamer. We're so glad you believe in the work we're undertaking to bring the Charles River and its watershed into better ecological balance. We couldn't do this vital work without your loyal and generous support, whether through membership, the Annual Appeal, or both.

By Thanksgiving, less than a month since the 2001 Annual Appeal was launched, donors had already contributed \$14,000. Six individuals joined or renewed memberships in the Millennium Society with contributions of \$2,500 or more. They include two anonymous donors, **Mr. and Mrs. John C. Bloom, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ladd, Lucy Caldwell Stair, and Mr. and Mrs. Burgess Standley.** **Compaq Computer Corporation** and **Phillip Morris Companies, Inc.** contributed at the Millennium Society level as well. New and rejoining Headwaters Society contributors of \$1,000 or more include **Mr. and Mrs. Rodrigo Botero, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Burnes, Jr., Stephen Burrington and Abigail Swaine, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Chandler, Larry R. Gottesdiener, Peter A. Humphery and Juliann Bannon, Carolyn and John King, Olivia Manice, Mrs. Jeannette McC. Atkinson, Mrs. Edward Richardson, Jr., Marion Mackenzie Stegner, Joanne J. Turnbull, Daniel G. Wheeler, and Mr. and Mrs. Holyoke L. Whitney.** Companies and organizations contributing at the Headwaters Society level were **Gillette Company, Hitachi Foundation, the Paul and Edith Babson Foundation, and Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada.** Thanks to all!

Since the publication of our last newsletter CRWA received a number of significant grants. The **Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection** awarded two \$50,000 grants, one of which is for studying total maximum daily loads, and the other for stormwater assessment in the upper watershed. We received an \$18,895

(continued on page 11)

C A L E N D A R

January 23 and 30, 6:30-8:30 pm

Organic Lawn Care

Learn how to create a healthy, green lawn without turning your yard into a hazard zone. This two week course will teach organic cultural practices including pest and weed control, fertilizing, and seed collection that are beneficial to the environment, cost effective and reduce lawns dependence on chemicals. For more course information call the Arnold Arboretum: 617-524-1718 or email:web@arboretum.harvard.edu

January 26, 1-2pm

Charles River Esplanade Tour

Organized by the MDC, discover how and why this beautiful waterpark was constructed. Meet in front of the Museum of Science.

March 12, 5:15 p.m.

The Unplanned City: Filling in Boston's Tidal Flats and Changing Its Topography

Take part in the Boston Environmental History Seminar series sponsored by the Massachusetts Historical Society. For more information contact Jean Powers at 617-646-0513 or jpowers@masshist.org

February 16, 1-2pm

Charles River Dam Tour

Reserve a spot with the MDC for a tour of the Charles River dams by calling 617-727-9650 x 445.

April 20th

Charles River Earth Day Cleanup

Kick off your Earth Day celebration by volunteering at the 3rd Annual Charles River Earth Day Cleanup. Volunteer at the event or work with CRWA to organize your own site on the Charles. For more information contact Pattie Weikert at 617-879-7735 or email cleanup02@hotmail.com.



April 28

Run of the Charles Canoe and Kayak Race

Support CRWA by being part of the race as a volunteer, racer, sponsor or spectator. Call 1-800-969-RACE or 508-698-6810 or email rotc@crwa.org.

The Streamer

is published by the

Charles River Watershed Association

2391 Commonwealth Avenue, Newton, MA 02466

Phone: (617) 965-5975, Fax: (617) 332-7465

Email: crwa@crwa.org, Web:www.charlesriver.org

CRWA is a tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation established in 1965 to protect and enhance the health, beauty and enjoyment of the Charles River and its tributaries. CRWA is a member of EarthShares and the Massachusetts Environmental Collaborative.

Board of Directors

Kelly McClintock, *President*

Phillip L. Hillman, *Vice President/*
Environment

Jane Sender, *Clerk*

William Tedoldi, *Treasurer*

Edward E. Watts, III, *Asst. Treasurer*

Ralph W. Abele, *Past President*

Lee Breckinridge

Stephen H. Burrington

Lucy Caldwell-Stair

John P. DeVillars

Elizabeth C. Gilmore

Richard G. Gonci

James Healy

Jonathan D. Katz

Virginia M. Lawrence

Elizabeth Levin

Charles D. McCrea

Brian O'Donovan

John G. Palfrey, Jr.

William D. Rieders

Staff

Robert Zimmerman, Jr.,

Executive Director

Margaret VanDeusen,

Deputy Director, General Counsel

Kathleen Baskin, *Project Manager*

Dudley Bonsal, *Environmental Scientist*

Kenneth Dews, *Finance Administrator*

Anna Eleria, *Environmental Scientist*

James Fitzgerald, *Laboratory Manager*

Meg Gray, *Office & Publications Manager*

Nigel Pickering, *Senior Engineer*

Peggy Savage, *Environmental Scientist*

Louise Taylor, *Membership Manager*

Interns: Loretta Fernandez, John Carney,

Lindsay Maderia

Streamer Logo: Lou Mucci

Line Art: Carol R. Johnson, Associates

Thank You

(continued from page 10)

grant to do habitat assessment from **Massachusetts Environmental Trust**. In partnership with USGS, CRWA received a \$51,000 grant from the **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency** for the CharlesCast project to develop statistical correlation between rainfall and river pollution.

Earth Share, formerly the Environmental Federation of New England, provided \$1,389 through workplace giving pro-

grams. For the fifth consecutive year, **Nantucket Nectars** hosted a fundraiser, "Charity for the Charles," at its Cambridge headquarters during the Head of the Charles regatta and donated \$2,500 in proceeds to CRWA. The featured music for this fun event was the local group Bim Skala Bim. Other in-kind donations were provided by **Boston Ski and Sports Club, John Harvard Brewery, Finagle a Bagel and Rebecca's Café**.



Celebrating 37 years of
improvements
to the Charles!

20th Anniversary

RUN OF THE CHARLES CANOE AND KAYAK RACE

Sunday, April 28, 2002

Sponsored By *Boston Duck Tours* With Support From You!

How Did the Paddler Cross the Road?
With YOUR help!



Volunteer!

Recruit your Company as a Sponsor!

Paddle!

GET IN ON THE *Run of the Charles* ACTION!

Call (508) 698-6810, 1-800-969-RACE or email rotc@charlesriver.org,
or visit CRWA on-line at www.charlesriver.org

Printed on recycled paper



Streamer

Charles River Watershed Association
2391 Commonwealth Avenue
Auburndale, MA 02466

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NATICK, MA
PERMIT NO. 61