



MILL RIVER WETLAND COMMITTEE, INC.

50



*Anniversary*

Educate Advocate Engage [mrwc-fairfield.org](http://mrwc-fairfield.org)

2017 annual report



“Teaching kids at that early age about the importance of nature and also trying to get them interested in the outdoor world is very important because it is producing environmental stewards for future generations.”

– Brian Carey, Conservation Commissioner

2017

president's report



### **What an exciting year!**

With the kick off to our 50th Anniversary Celebration in October 2016, we dedicated our efforts to developing partnerships and expanding our community outreach. In fact, we celebrated our 50th Anniversary with over 50 activities that educated, advocated and engaged our greater community.

Working with local organizations such as Fairfield Rotary, Trout Unlimited and Boy Scout Troops was just the beginning. In partnership with the Fairfield Public Library, we offered a lecture series to teach Fairfield residents how to incorporate water management practices in their own yards. We joined the Fairfield Board of Realtors to transform a vacant lot into a native plant and water management garden. And with the Fairfield University Bookstore, we brought local author Sally Pla back to Fairfield to talk about her book, *The Someday Birds*.

At our November 50th Anniversary Celebration we celebrated past accomplishments while looking toward a future fueled by a common purpose. It was an exciting evening as people of all ages and walks of life came together to show overwhelming support for our organization.

By joining with like-minded individuals and organizations, the Mill River Wetland Committee has strengthened our voice and is extending our reach even further. We're looking toward a bright future and are excited to see the impact our work will have over the next 50 years.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynn Shavinsky". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

President  
Lynn Shavinsky

2017

50th highlights



*Mike Tetreau offers encouraging words for the future.*



*Tony Hwang, Jeanette McMahon, Donna Gallo*

This year, MRWC celebrated 50 years of pursuing our mission to educate, advocate and engage the community in environmental education and awareness. It was a time to acknowledge the success of our past and to embrace the promise of our future. In 2017 we were able to significantly increase our community involvement outside the school setting. In fact by the end of last year, we had sponsored, planned or partnered in over 50 exciting community outreach events.

On November 8, 2017 old friends and new came together for our 50th Anniversary Celebration where we honored individuals whose special talents pioneered MRWC's early work and celebrated the enthusiasm of our newest supporters. We were honored to be recognized for our unique contributions to the community by the many town officials in attendance. One of the many highlights of the evening was the documentary by former Mill River Ranger, Judy Prill, detailing the history, current status and future goals of MRWC. In all, 2017 was a banner year for our organization and we look forward to making our mark on the next 50 years.



*Curriculum Contact Walter Wakeman, Cristin McCarthy Vahey, Alison Genovese*



*Lynn Shavinsky and Mary Hogue*



*Monica McCall of Kindred Spirits*



“River Lab and the Mill River Rangers showed me how to make a difference by getting involved, and inspired me to pursue a career in environmental protection...”

– Judy Prill, Mill River Ranger

2017

kudos

### **Awards and Recognition**

The following were honored for their service to Mill River Committee at our Annual Picnic at the home of Jocelyn T. (Joy) Shaw in June. We are deeply appreciative of their commitment and dedication to environmental science and the community.

#### **Kingfisher Badge**

*(10+ study trips for grades 3-6)*

Cathy Grosshart

Mindy Hersh-Walters

Juli Karacsonyi

Melissa Kinasewitz

Brendan Murphy

Danielle Panagiotidis

#### **Kingfisher 5 Year Award**

Carol Barrios

#### **Kingfisher 10 Year Award**

Amy B. DeLannoy

### **MRWC, Inc. Inaugural Scholarship**

In recognition of MRWC's 50th Anniversary, this past year saw the creation of the MRWC Scholarship for Sustainability. Each year, in recognition of their study of and commitment to science and the environment, one deserving senior from each Fairfield high school will receive a scholarship.

#### **Fairfield Warde High School Recipient**

Lindsay Faria attends Warde and the Aquaculture School where she has taken Ecology of Aquatic Species, Aquaculture Biology and an Oceanography course at UCONN. She writes in her essay, "With coral reefs dying across the world and more and more species of marine life becoming extinct, I want to be a part of their recovery and assist in reviving ecosystems. I can only imagine the increased need for ocean conservation efforts that will be necessary over the next many years."

#### **Fairfield Ludlowe High School Recipient**

William Hawthorne's environmental and education interests go beyond his pursuit of a science career and into his extracurricular activities. In addition to being a Hope Academy Animal Presenter and Educator and working at Orbit Marine, William is a SCUBA rescue diver and has been a member of the Fairfield County Fish and Game Protective Association for four years.



*Kingfisher Badge*



“With coral reefs dying across the world and more species of marine life becoming extinct, I want to be a part of their recovery and assist in reviving ecosystems.”

– Lindsay Faria, Coastal Carolina University



*Billy Hawthorne studies at Eckerd College and joyfully works with his professor researching fresh water turtles*

2017

river-lab program

### 2017 Highlights

- River Lab welcomed Juli Karacsonyi as our new RL3/4 Co-Director. Juli is one of our most experienced guides and guide trainers.
- We were fortunate and grateful to have Sara Jannott (RL5 Co-Director), Nicole Nuttall (RL6 Co-Director) and Heidi Gassel (Gear Manager) remain with the program.
- Nikki Vinoski and Samantha Alechman were outstanding in their first year as guide trainers.
- Over 500 parents volunteered as guides this year, building on the momentum of strong volunteer support over the past three years.
- We continue our quest to “Go Green” by shifting towards on-line guide scripts in all grade levels.

### Grade Specific

#### Grade 3 | The Living River Basin System

- Students learned about the “work” of a river (erosion, deposition and sorting) by building a model river bed, pouring water into the headwater area, then observing as the water flowed down the bed.
- RL3 guide scripts were made route specific for simplicity.
- RL3 curriculum is waiting for direction to adapt the program with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).
- Our student study trips ran smoothly and concluded on time.

#### Grade 4 | A Basin in Balance

- Students learned about absorbent vs. non-absorbent surfaces on an eco-system, groundwater storage and the effects of fast run-off caused by development.
- The Fairfield Conservation Department responded promptly to our requests.

- Sara Jannott, Juli Karacsonyi and Nicole Nuttall worked tirelessly to transition to the new on-line guide schedule using the new web site.
- Grade 4 is awaiting direction on the NGSS.

#### Grade 5 | Productivity of a River Basin System in the Spring

- After collecting water samples at the River-Lab area, students studied the samples under microscopes, discovered a variety of microscopic organisms and learned about their contributions to the river basin systems.
- River-Lab Guide Trainers created an on-line video of the water sampling procedure and the Model Leader training.
- RL5 plans to test a new student driven pilot study-trip based on the NGSS in 2018.



#### Grade 6 | River as A Link to the Sea

- RL6 in Fairfield Public Schools was postponed for fall 2017 as leaders felt some concepts to be better suited to Grade 7 NGSS standards.
- Forty-three students from Assumption and St. Thomas parochial schools participated in a study-trip to the Ash Creek Estuary.
- The study-trip was supported and guided by thirty-eight AP students from Fairfield Warde High School.
- RL6 students conducted observations and experiments studying various estuarine factors at ten different activity stations.
- This almost 1:1 student to guide ratio created an incomparable hands-on learning experience at the estuary.



2017

curriculum news

This past year, an amazing team of dedicated volunteers came together to begin the task of adapting the River-Lab curriculum to meet the changing needs of the schools we serve. The curriculum committee has identified strategies to align the program with the Next Generation Science Standards, which have been adopted by the Fairfield Public Schools. We have been consulting with school administrators to plan for changes to the current program that prioritize student questioning, observation of “phenomena,” developing models, and using data to provide evidence.

- **RL5** After months of researching, brainstorming, and planning, team members are putting the finishing touches on a pilot study trip for RL5, which will be tested out this spring with a few different schools! The pilot field experience focuses on how organisms interact with one another, transfer energy, and influence their ecosystem. Instead of relying on guides to give them detailed information, students will actively engage in the NGSS practices of observation, questioning, and data collection. Data will be shared and analyzed across classes and over time. There will be a food web modeling activity in which students are encouraged to argue from evidence. In addition, we will be working collaboratively with teachers to develop pre- and post-trip activities.
- **RL6/7** In the new Fairfield science curriculum, there was a shift away from teaching life science in grade 6. Therefore, the estuary program will be moving to grade 7. The team has been researching and studying the Next Generation Science Standards to align class and field activities with the content objectives of the new grade 7 “Ecosystems” unit. The revised estuary program will feature developing and using models, analyzing and interpreting data, and constructing explanations and design solutions.



2017

river-lab study-trip summary

	Total Guides	Experienced Guides	New Guides	Students
RL3	158	48	110	776
RL4	148	50	98	826
RL5	170	51	119	947
RL6	41	3	38	43
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>2592</b>

“How wonderful that no one need wait  
a single moment to improve the world.”

– Anne Frank

2017

luminary



*The Volunteer of the Year Award was  
presented to Christina Rescsanski  
by Nicole Nuttall and Anne Weinrod*

**Volunteer of the Year, Christina Rescsanski, River-Lab Advisor**

- Christina began guiding in 2010 when her oldest daughter was in 3rd grade. She then served as a model leader and Holland Hill Captain, while also being the Holland Hill PTA President!
- She became River-Lab Advisor in 2014, while still guiding and model leading.
- Christina has used her love of training to clarify the goals of the program.
- “Christina has definitely had her fair share of situations - stinging bee hives, absent school captains, a resignation, buses that don’t show, Rubik’s cube like schedule adjustments, the ever present weather cancellations and even a real suspicious animal on the trail, which hasn’t been an issue for the 20 years prior! And yet, things do not go wrong under Christina’s watch. They simply get addressed calmly and with poise” said Nicole Nuttall.
- Christina has many skills that make her an excellent leader and coordinator but it is her calm demeanor, complete commitment and incredible training skills that really set her apart.



*Zen Ride "Sweat for the Wetlands"  
fundraising event for MRWC*



*Overwintering Walk on  
Martin Luther King Day Holiday*



*Boy Scouts install culvert reminders and  
promote education about the impact of runoff  
for an Eagle project in Lake Hills.*



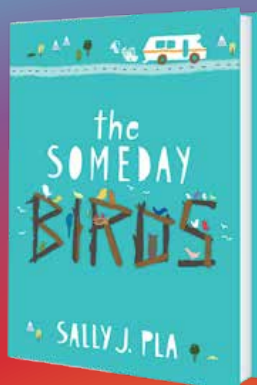
*Author and River-Lab graduate,  
Sally Pla shared at her book signing how the  
River-Lab Program impacted her youth.*



*Demonstrations at Fairfield Earth Day,  
Rotary Club, Trout Unlimited  
and Fairfield Clam Clinic.*



*Dedication of Rockland/Wilson Road  
native plant garden established in conjunction  
with the Fairfield Board of Realtors and  
Sleepy Hollow Landscaping.*



“MRWC is planting important little seeds, at a time when both nature and children need it more than ever. Who knows what wonders may sprout!”

– Sally Pla Author and River-Lab graduate

Roxanne Abder	Claudia P.Brown	Mr. DeSaid	Lauren Gillmor	Boris Keppler
Callie Acker	Amy Calandriello	Marc Desy	Krisztina Godo	Dana Kery
Jillian Adelsburg	Jenny Caldwell	Greg Diamond	Eileen Gombos	Leslie Kimsey
Halla Akach	Dan Camarro	Jon Dilley	Adam Goodman	Nina King
Ela Alkatib	Heather Cameron	Dave Dobbs	Karine Goosen	Molly King
Amber Allen	Jessica Campbell	Meghann Dockum	Susan Goughary	Kelly Kingston
Erik Almanza	Mary Campbell	Teresa Domnauer	Suzanne Graceffa	Samuel Klein
Amity Almond	Courtney Canter	Patty Donahue	Kimberly Grant	Lulu Kleinbeck
Karina Alonso-	Alison Cantor	Pooh Donohue	Melinda Gremse	Erin Kleinman
Ferrari	Diane Carafotes	Andrei Dragoi	Sara Grooms	John Kofron
Marcia Geovanna	Annalise Caron	Amanda Driscoll	Cathy Grosshart	Pierre Kolakowski
Alvarez	Brian Carroll	Jen Duffy	Alex Grutkowsky	Christine Kopeck
Karen M. Anahory	Pamela Carter	Heather Duncan	Carol Guernsey	Cristin Kral
Samantha Anderson	Ryan Carter	Kyra Dwyer	Dawson Gunn	Andrea Krollman
Carin Andreski	Melanie Carvallo	Marcy Eddinger	Elizabeth Haas	Clare Kurlander
Andrew Antrobus	Christy Casella	Melissa Edwards	Tawn Hahn	Eric Kurzenberger
Edward Arnold	Richard Cassa	Rhonda Eleish	Shelley Hall	Katie Kwok
Rachel Aroeste	Beth Catanesi	Melvin Encarnacion	Sierra Hall	Suzanne LaBella
Anthony Aromando	Amy Cawman	Sarah Felice Evans	Julia Hanan	Gail Lacugna
Faith Aronson	Rebecca Chandler	Ana Fabrizio	Abigail Hanson	Meg Lahey
Erica Asaro	Anthony Chiaverini	Victoria Facella	Betsy Harrington	Colleen Lahey
Alma Aurilio	Christine Chisholm	Kim Fahey	Katie Harris	Catherine Lainas
Jennifer Ayers	Hannah Choi	Don Fairbanks	Michael Harwood	Jenn LaPlante
Kyle Bader	Shanna Cito	Sandy Farber	Lisa Haughton	Leslie LaSala
Grace Badger	Amelia Clark	Mary Faulkner	Corina Havard	Karen Lawson
Steve Baker	Mark Clarke	Josh Feay	Nicole Lea Hawkins	Chris Leavay
Deb Baker	Jacob Colao	Sara Feica	Olivia Hawkins	Edward Lee
Scott Banta	Nicole Collins	Jen Ferrando	Emily Healy	Kristine Lefebvre
Maria Baptista	Serene Compare	Chris Ferrando	Megan Hogan	Kevin Lennon
Amy Barrett	Kate Compton	Julie Finneran	Pamela Holden	Kate Levieff
Joan Barrow	Sally Connolly	Ed Firgeleski	Brian Hoover	Hallie Levine
John Bayers	Bettina Cooleen	Joan Fleming	Milton Hopkins	David Lewey
Jane Becker	Jeffrey Copperthite	Stacey Fletcher	Annette Hunter	Kristen Lewey
Jill Belinky	Leslie Corrigan	Kim Flynn	Andrew Hurlbut	Myra Lewis
Ginny Bentley	Patrick Costanzo	Alison Foito	Jason Hyde	Ivo Lindemeyer
Robin Bernier	Elizabeth Courtney	Angelica Fontanez	Gabrielle Inchoco	Jackie Lore
Magdalena	Susan M. Coyne	Leslie Ford	Christie Ippolito	James M. Lugo
Besterfield	Clare Coyne	Daniel Forgie	Satish Itty	Kristen Lundbye
Lori Blessey	MaryAnne	Kelly Foster	Jessica Jacqmin	Kristen Lynch
Aamie Blow	Cristodero	Patsy Fox	Cristin Jameson	Robert Mackenzie
Erin Blute	Ryan Crum	Kristin Frame	Sara Jannott	Keith Magner
Carrie Bocian	Peter Cullen	Erin French	Meredith Jeffery	Anjali Maheshwari
Amy Boland	Scott Curran	Nancy Fuller	Jana Joham	MaryAnn Mahfouz
Ashley Bongiovani	Ray Currytto	Nicole Gammino	Adrienne Johnston	Sol Mahoney
Laura Booth	Jessica Curtis	Laurie Gannon	Beth Jones	Nicolas Marihet
Dabney Bowen	Benjamin Dachman	Lina Gardauske	Marla Joyce	Laurie Markus
Courtney Bradley	Jennifer Dalto	Mary Kate Gardiner	Matthew Jusino	Laura Martinsen
Keara Brady	Gerri Davis	Poojadeep Garg	Ari Kambas	Shauna Mauri
Annie Braley	Jeanette Debek	Heidi Gassel	Matt Karaban	Caroline Mazza
Suzanne Brancale	DD deCalice	Kristina Gates	Juli Karacsonyi	Daniel McAleese
Charlene Brauns-	Heather DeGregorio	Claudio Gaudio	Sarah Karlson	Michelle McBean
Schindler	Ryan Delaney	Steven Geaney	Ann Katis	Tricia McBride
Vivienne Brennan	Girlye Delizo-Jasper	Amy Geckeler	Jean Kaul	Kerry McCane
Kimberly Brenner	Michelle DeMartino	Alison Genovese	Michele Kellner	Margaret McClure
Lynne Brocklesby	Rachel Derken-	Greg Gerber	Colin Kelly	Eileen McCormack
Amy Broderick	Bratton	Susan Gilligan	Fiona Kennelly	Gerry McCormack

Alison McCoy  
Colleen McCurley  
Jennifer McGowan  
Maureen McKenna  
David McKinnis  
Michele McMahan  
Elizabeth McManus  
Monica McMullen  
Bridget McNamara  
Sean McSweeney  
Kelly McWhinnie  
David Meader  
Gabriela Merino  
Leslie Mertz  
Shannon Messina  
Tina Mikos  
Sherry Milam  
Gordon Miller  
Mary Jane Miller  
Gabrielle Miller  
Ali Mitchell  
Alexander Mocarski  
Brian Monahan  
Cynthia Morales  
Adele Morant  
Rose Morgan  
Mindy Morgan  
Kelly Morgan-  
Randolph  
Erin Morris  
Ashley Moser  
Brendan Murphy  
Michael Murphy  
Berkeley Murray  
Priya Narang  
Abrianna Natoli  
Sarah Neafsey  
Ai Nguyen  
Kristin Nierman  
Spencer Nightingale

Emiko Nomoto  
Nicholas Novia  
Nicole Nuttall  
Magda Nyiri  
Aimee Guerrero  
O'Brien  
Mary O'Dell  
Caitlin Olson  
Kathryn O'Mahony  
Tracey O'Neill  
Sue O'Neill  
Carolyn O'Neill  
Ted O'Neill  
Kelsie Oreta  
Ken Osborn  
Adrienne  
Oziemblewski  
Joanne Pagnello-  
Fremont  
Adam Palmer  
Belinda Papageorge  
Amy Parent  
Rena Paris  
Joe Parker  
Kyle Parker  
Michele Penake  
Sarah Perkins  
Lourdes Pertesis  
Kari Pesavento  
Beth Peto  
Ann-Marie Petri  
Tony Phillips  
Terri Pisseri  
Tina Poff  
Cynthia Pohlmann  
Janice Price  
Chrissy Proulx  
Kari Pulsifer  
Suzanne Ramsteck  
Jeffrey Ransden

Lauren Raps  
Jeannine Raymond  
LaQuinda Reams  
Andrea Reed  
Kristin Renzulli  
Dave Renzulli  
Christina Rescsanski  
Alexander Ressi di  
Cervia  
Vincent C. Riccio  
Jennifer Richard  
Jessica Richards  
Stefanie  
Richthammer  
Liz Riggs  
Margot Ring  
Maria Rodriguez  
Andrea Rodriguez  
E.A. Roman  
Deirdre Ronan  
Erik Roos  
Melanie Ross  
Erin Rossitto  
Charlie Rowan  
Robert Rowley  
Kyle Rubin  
Caroline Rullo  
Jill Sardo  
Matt Sargeant  
Anupama Sasi  
Madhavi Satram  
Alison Savona  
Rebecca Scalera  
Sarah Schunk  
Kathy Seaver  
Daina Senatore  
Andrea Shantz  
Laura Shea  
Elizabeth Sheehan  
Jennifer Sherriff

Lee Siegel  
Leigh Smith  
Jonathan Sollinger  
Jinnie Song  
Melissa Speight  
Julia Spelman  
Violetta Speranza  
Wendi Speranza  
Nikole St. Peter  
JoAnne P. Stauss  
Alexander Steele  
Michael Stein  
Stephanie Stellato  
Roseann Stenson  
Monica Strada  
Torey Strauser  
Gloria A. Strazza  
Allison Stupak  
Kris Sullivan  
Manus Swan  
Teryl Taglieri  
Kelly Takacs  
Julie Tamayo  
Kali Tanase  
Alex Taylor  
Lisa Tennaro  
Marcia Tenreiro  
Meghan Tetro  
Valerie Theissen  
Dawn Theodorsen  
Anne Thidemann  
Rose Thomas  
Jennifer Thomas  
Heather Toll  
Jennifer Tomasulo  
Marika Toothaker  
Page Tremaine  
Mei-ching Tseng  
Natalie Van Dalen  
Dan Van Horne

Melanie Verrengia  
Colleen Vinci  
Nikki Vinoski  
Krista Vitanza  
Sue Voltz  
Kent Voltz  
Jacob Von der  
Linden  
Malini Vyas  
Victoria Wagenbach  
Liz Waiksnis  
Cindy Wakeman  
Andrew Walsh  
Andrea Ward  
Toby Waring  
Carolyn Wasserlauf  
Kara Wayne  
Matt Webber  
Bob Weber  
Carmen Weber  
Melissa Weinstein  
Matthew Weiskopf  
Andrew Werrner  
Jennifer Whelpley  
Amy White  
Kristen Willett  
Garrett Wilson  
Angela Wilson-Taylor  
Michael Wojnoski  
Anna Wood  
Heather Woodworth  
Michelle Yorke  
Robert Zarra  
Heather Ziac  
Pamela Ziegler  
Lauren Zipp  
Monica Zwynenburg



“Service to others is the rent you  
pay for your room here on Earth.”

– Muhammad Ali

Heartfelt thanks to all who made donations in 2017.  
Every contribution supports our work to help educate  
our youth to be stewards of the Earth.

2017

contributors

**\$10-50**

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Stephanie Barnes  
Grace Curry  
Cathy Deitrick  
Eleanor H. & Palmer Y.  
Epler, Jr.  
Robyn Filippone  
Alison Genovese  
Andrea Krollman  
Ms. Laura Lawlor  
Alexandra Moran  
Linda Murphy  
Josephine Olsen  
Paula Sakofs  
Alison Sterner  
Judy Wilkinson  
Frances S. Baldwin  
Frank DiZoglio, Jr.  
Jeff Galdenzi  
Joyce Gentilozzi  
David Gibson  
Edward Grzeda  
Barbara Jenkins  
Roger E. Lasky  
Lynn McNulty  
Ellen Moore  
Sandra Naughton  
Curtis Osborne  
Nancy C. Scott

**\$50-99**

Jim & Wendy Accomando  
Anonymous  
Jim & Wendy Accomando  
Gina Agustin  
Laura & Joseph Amicucci  
Kathryn Braun  
Lisa Broder  
Mrs. Linda K. Chandler  
Roberta Clark  
Mrs. Vidal S. Clay  
Mary Beth Colleran  
Bob Dies  
Anne DiFrancesco  
Margaret Mary Fitzgerald  
& Tom Flynn  
Venkat Gade  
Mary M. Gasker  
Jessica Gerber  
Mr. & Mrs. Nelson  
Gonzalez  
Carole Heller  
Amy Jennings  
Mrs. Cindy Leighton  
Michele & Dominick  
Modugno  
Nicole & Paul Nuttall  
Cathy & Paul Rado  
John Udaloy  
Vinoski Family

**\$100-199**

Mr. Steven Baker  
David & Jill Brant  
Cindy Burnim  
Bernadette Skubly Butts  
Rebecca Chandler  
Country Club of Fairfield  
Mr. Lincoln W. Craighead  
Michelle DeMartino  
John T. Kristy, VMD /  
Engelberg Kristy Animal  
Hospital LLC  
Alan & Betty Feldman  
Alan & Alana Fodeman  
Dennis & Donna Gallo  
Deb & Josh Garskof  
Paul Berg & Gay Gasser  
Greenfield Hill Garden Club  
Lori Hashizume  
Sara Jannott  
Maureen Kane  
Kathleen Kane  
Colleen Connor & Brian  
Kelahan  
Karen Kirchner  
Nancy Lefkowitz  
Main Street Foundation  
Kathy Bowler Mitchell  
Phillip & Elizabeth  
Neugebauer  
Michele Onofrio  
Katharine & Dan Pengue  
Sally Pla  
Jan Reber  
Diane Rossiter  
Carrie Rullo  
Charlene Brauns-Schindler  
& Ed Schindler  
Mary B. Shaw  
Walter & Barbara Siemon  
Mrs. Subha Sunder  
Pat & Doug Urquhart  
Cristin McCarthy Vahey &  
Brian Vahey  
Lili Whitmer  
Yvonne Zeisler

**\$200-499**

Fairfield Garden Club  
Garden Catering Black  
Rock, LLC  
Megan & Phil Hogan  
Reini & Michael Knorr  
Janet Banks-Mott & Peter  
T. Mott  
Steve & Kate O'Mahony  
John Pacilio  
Ruscito & Head  
Families-Ruscito Family  
Foundation  
Sasqua Garden Club  
John Selig  
Patrick & Ginny Thomas  
Jennifer & Blake Titrud  
Mr. Roger W. Van Voorhees  
Anne & Richard Weinrod  
Mr. & Mrs. R. G.  
Woolworth, Jr.

**\$500-999**

Burr Elementary School  
PTA  
Fairfield Woods Middle  
School PTSA  
Holly Franquet  
Holland Hill School PTA  
Jennings School PTA, Inc.  
McKinkley School PTA  
David & Elizabeth  
McKinnis  
Mill Hill School PTA, Inc.  
The North Stratfield PTA  
Osborn Hill School PTA  
Riverfield School PTA  
Roger Ludlowe Middle  
School PTSA  
Roger Sherman School  
PTA  
The Ruth Krauss  
Foundation  
Stratfield PTA, Inc.  
Timothy Dwight School  
PTA  
Tomlinson Middle School  
PTA



**\$1000+**

Mary Hogue & Guy  
Gleysteen  
Marta Jo Lawrence  
Fairfield Council PTA  
Jocelyn T. Shaw  
Town of Fairfield

**Grants**

Fidelity Charitable

**Gifts**

In Memory of Harry L.  
Shaw  
Given by Jocelyn T. Shaw  
Honoring MRWC's 50th  
Given by Mrs. Vidal S. Clay  
Given by Grace Curry  
Given by Fairfield Garden  
Club  
Given by Joyce & Tom  
Flynn  
Given by Marta Jo  
Lawrence  
Given by David & Elizabeth  
McKinnis  
Given by Jocelyn T. Shaw  
Given by Mr. & Mrs. R. G.  
Woolworth, Jr.  
Honoring Joy Shaw  
Given by Mr. & Mrs. R. G.  
Woolworth, Jr.

**Matching Gift Companies**

ECMC Group  
The GE Foundation  
Morgan Stanley  
Pitney Bowes Foundation

**Goods and Services**

Jim Accomando  
Jillian Adelsburg  
Ela Alkatib  
Sandy Alvarez  
Samantha Anderson  
B-Good  
Bagel King  
Steve Baker  
Barlow's  
Stephanie Barnes  
Amy Barrett  
Carol Barrios  
Bear & Grill  
Berlin Productions  
Robin Bernier  
Lori Blessey  
Dabney Bowen  
Courtney Bradley  
Charlene Brauns-Schindler  
Amy Broderick  
Centro  
Claire Cohenuam  
Roberta Clark  
Scott Curran  
Custom Meats  
Amy deLannoy  
Steve Dineley  
Elements  
Sarah Felice Evans  
Events by Heidala  
Fairfield Museum and  
History Center  
Fairfield Wash  
Frame & Save  
Freezing Moo  
Nancy Fuller  
Donna Gallo  
Ganim's Garden Center

Deb Garskof  
Heidi Gassel  
Jen Geaney  
Alison Genovese  
Guy Gleysteen  
Carol Guernsey  
Hair & Company  
Hands On Pottery  
Abigail Hanson  
Megan Hogan  
Mary Hogue  
Pamela Holden  
Brian Hoover  
Sophielbanez  
Sara Jannott  
Juli Karacsonyi  
Kasson Jewelers  
Dana Kery  
Kindred Spirits & Wine  
Reini Knorr  
John Kofron  
Suzanne LaBella  
Brooke Lalumiere  
Karan Lawson  
Sue Leibrock  
Lara Linsenmeyer  
Little Pub  
Sheila Marmion  
Eileen McCormack  
David McKinnis  
Alex Moran  
Mindy Morgan  
Nails 2000  
Sarah Neafsey  
Nicole Nuttall  
Kate O'Mahony  
Jo Olsen  
Panera  
Pantry

Park Lane Opticians  
Kate Peloso  
Terri Pisseri  
Pizza Palace  
Judy Prill  
Jeannine Raymond  
Kristin Renzulli  
Christina Rescsanski  
Deirdre Ronan  
Richard Rossiter  
Carrie Rullo  
Lori Scala  
Ed Schindler  
Lynn Shavinsky  
Joy Shaw  
Jennifer Sherriff  
Melissa Squeo  
Nikole St. Peter  
Starbucks  
Roseann Stenson  
Laurie Strazza  
Subha Sunder  
Nikki Vinoski  
Vintage Garden  
Sue Voltz  
Matt Webber  
Bob Weber  
Anne K. Weinrod  
Richard Weinrod  
Wild Birds Unlimited  
Wild Rice  
Zen Ride  
16 Handles





*MRWC Board and 50th Anniversary  
Planning Committee*



*Guide Trainers*



*Volunteer Guides*



*Students participating in RL6*



*Students participating in RL5*

**2017** board of directors

**Officers**

- President  
Lynn Shavinsky
- Vice President  
Anne Weinrod
- Treasurer  
Megan Hogan
- Recording Secretary  
Deborah Garskof

**Members of the Board**

- Charlene Brauns Schindler
- Donna Gallo
- Mary Hogue
- Reini Knorr
- Sheila Marmion
- Katherine O'Mahoney
- Christine Rescsanski
- Carrie Rullo

**Advisors to the Board**

- Lincoln W. Craighead, Engineering
- Brain Fagan, Education
- MRWC and River-Lab Program  
Founder/Author/Illustrator  
Jocelyn T. (Joy) Shaw
- Director of Curriculum  
Alison Genovese
- Office Manager  
Roberta Clark

**2017** program officers & staff

**Officers**

- Advisor  
Christina Rescsanski
- Co-Directors  
Sara Jannott: RL5  
Juli Karacsonyi: RL3 & RL4  
Nicole Nuttall: RL6
- Gear Manager  
Heidi Gassel

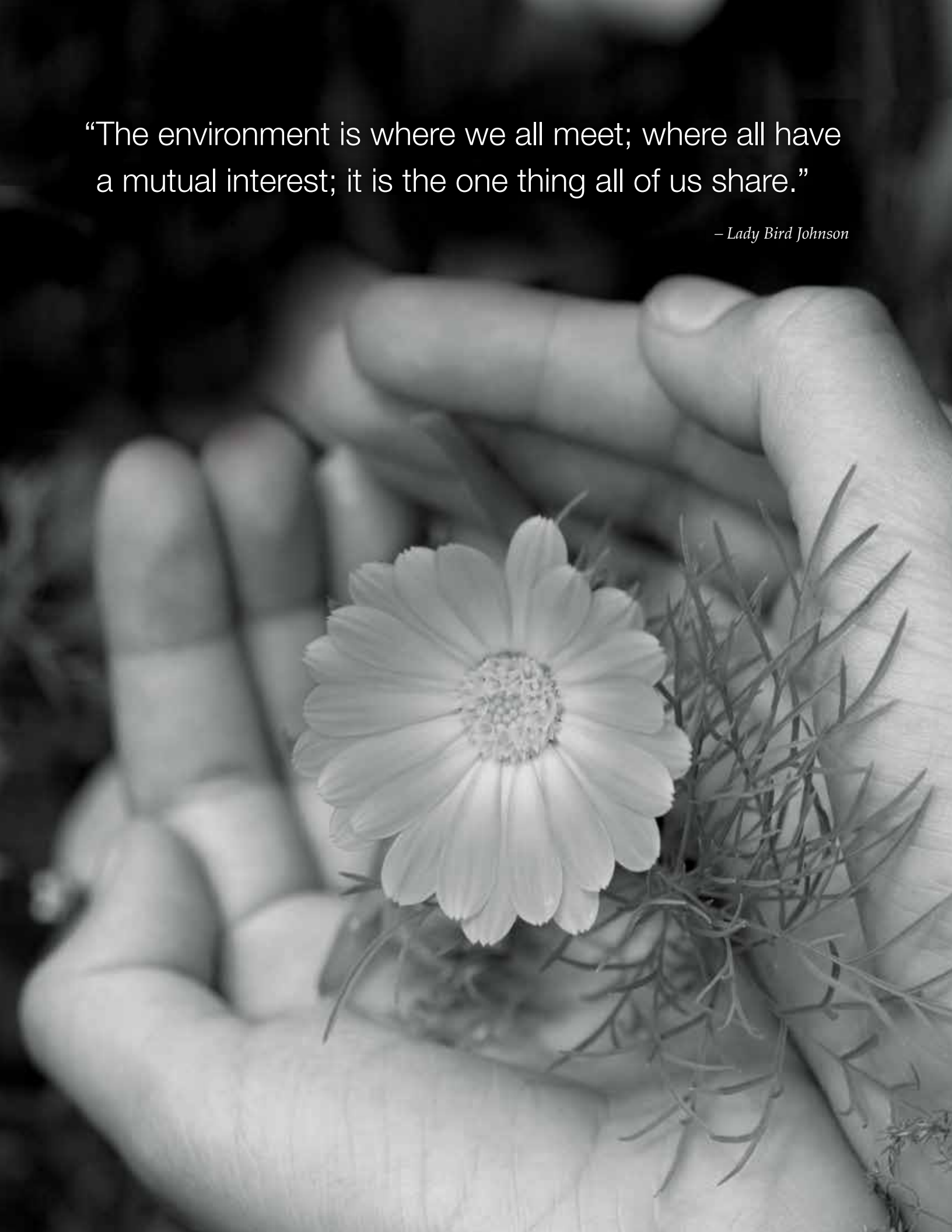
**Guide and  
Classroom Trainers**

- Samantha Anderson
- Steve Baker
- Carol Barrios
- Charlene Brauns-Schindler
- Alison Genovese
- Sara Jannott
- Juli Karacsonyi
- Reini Knorr
- David McKinnis
- Nicole Nuttall
- Kate O'Mahony
- Christina Rescsanski
- Lynn Shavinsky
- Subha Sunder
- Nikki Vinoski



“The environment is where we all meet; where all have a mutual interest; it is the one thing all of us share.”

– Lady Bird Johnson



2017

## financial report

Mill River Wetland Committee, Inc  
January 1, 2017 - December 31, 2017

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>12/31/2017</b>	<b>12/31/2016</b>
<b>Donations</b>		
General/Memorial	12,485.00	15,603.02
Annual appeal	2,065.00	285.00
Company Match	250.00	0.00
PTA donations	8,000.00	8,200.00
<b>Subtotal Donations</b>	<b>22,800.00</b>	<b>24,088.02</b>
<b>River-Lab Program Income</b>		
Study Trips	9,500.00	*16,240.00
Reimburse Classroom Materials	0.00	0.00
<b>Subtotal River-Lab Program</b>	<b>9,500.00</b>	<b>16,240.00</b>
<b>Fundraising Income</b>		
Fairfield County Giving Day	2,200.00	2,418.18
Trivia Night	1,160.00	1,395.00
Earth Day	0.00	150.00
Giving Tuesday	2,075.00	320.00
Amazon Smile	94.23	63.03
Merchandise/Other	731.50	79.00
50th Anniversary Event	11,029.45	0.00
<b>Subtotal Fundraising</b>	<b>17,290.18</b>	<b>4,425.21</b>
Grants	886.00	6,250.00
Aquarion Award	0.00	0.00
Dividend/Interest Income	1,405.26	2,033.17
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>51,881.44</b>	<b>53,036.40</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<b>MRWC Expenses</b>		
Insurance	10,621.00	10,312.00
Copying	314.02	1,840.95
Office Storage	2,884.00	2,591.12
Office/Business Expenses	4,111.60	9,550.78
Annual Report Preparation	500.00	0.00
Scholarship Fund	500.00	0.00
<b>Subtotal MRWC Expenses</b>	<b>18,930.62</b>	<b>24,294.85</b>
<b>River-Lab Program Expenses</b>		
Guide & Teacher Materials	94.97	106.75
Study Trip Expenses	4,588.41	9,605.89
<b>Subtotal River-Lab Program</b>	<b>4,683.38</b>	<b>9,712.64</b>
<b>Payroll Expenses</b>		
Staff Payroll	21,700.00	20,881.48
Employment Taxes	1,885.80	1,986.64
Payroll Service Fee	2,261.51	2,037.67
<b>Subtotal Payroll</b>	<b>25,847.31</b>	<b>24,905.79</b>
<b>Fundraising Expenses</b>	2,159.99	121.77
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>51,621.30</b>	<b>59,035.05</b>
<b>Net Cash Flow</b>	<b>260.14</b>	<b>(5,998.65)</b>
Checking Account Balance as of 12/31	5,296.26	13,293.83
<b>INVESTMENTS</b>		
Vanguard Inter-Term Treasury Funds	39,457.18	38,847.84
Vanguard Inter-Term Treasury Funds*	26,517.28	26,107.76
Vanguard Short-Term Treasury Funds*	22,699.38	22,633.14
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>88,673.84</b>	<b>87,588.74</b>

\*These restricted investments are funds from HUD for the dam restoration



**Mill River Wetland Committee, Inc.**  
203.259.1847  
476 Old Mill Road  
Fairfield, CT 06824

**We're Social | Follow us**

