**2013 Annual Report**

**Mark your calendars!**

**Awards Presented**

- **Partnership Award:** Fargo Park District Forestry Department, City of Fargo Forestry Department, City of Fargo Department of Planning and Development

- **Environmental Award:** *Living with a River* publication

- **Volunteers of the Year Award:** Marlo and Terri Sloan

- **Friend of the River Award:** Bob Stein

- **Outgoing President:** Cindy Gray

- **Water Festival 10 Year Volunteer Recognition:** Ginger Deitz

**2013 Profit & Loss**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S.S. Ruby/Canoe &amp; Kayak Rentals</td>
<td>$12,265.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memberships</td>
<td>$15,979.08</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appropriations</td>
<td>$105,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sponsorships/Donations</td>
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<td>Sablease</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc. &amp; Project Income</td>
<td>$6,581.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$239,732.65</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
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<tr>
<td>Office Expense</td>
<td>$31,713.24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Expenses</td>
<td>$25,219.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll Expenses (11 staff)</td>
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| **Net Income/Loss**                         | **$12,192.49** |

**Board of Directors**

Barry Nelson, Pres.  
Angelique Kube, V.P.  
Mitch Martel, Sec/Treas.  
Cindy Gray, Past Pres.  
Laurie Boulger  
John Brummer  
Troy DeLeon  
Camille Grade  
Renee Gnuchalla  
Ardis Haaland  
Christina Hargiss  
Don Krogstad  
Sue Legatt  
Karen Nitzkorski  
Jan Ulferts Stewart

**Full Time Staff**

Bob Backman, Executive Director  
Christine Laney, Project Manager

**Bookkeeper**

Jeannie Baskerville

**2013 Annual Meeting:** 5:30-7:00 p.m. on March 27 in the Executive Suite of the Loretta Building, 208 Broadway in Fargo.

**Make Your Own Rain Barrel Workshop:** 6-8 p.m. on April 28 at River Keepers. Pre-registration encouraged.

**Walk This Way:** 7 p.m. on May 20 at Oak Grove Park. Pre-registration encouraged.

**Build Your Own Compost Tumbler Workshop:** 6-7:30 p.m. on May 5 at the Rabanus Park. Pre-registration encouraged.

**Plant it 4 the Planet:** 9:30 a.m. on May 16 at Iven Park.

**Race the Red:** 6 & 7:30 p.m. on June 9, Lindenwood to Dike East. Pre-registration encouraged.

**River Keepers’ Golf Scramble:** 1 p.m. on June 16 at Rose Creek Golf Course. Pre-registration encouraged.

**RiverArts Fishing Clinic:** 5:30-8:00 p.m. on August 12 at Memorial Park. Free.

**Red River Water Festival:** September 15-19 at Hjemkomst Center. Pre-registration required.

**Celebrate Our Red Fundraiser:** 6-8 p.m. on September 28 at the Hotel Donaldson.

**Look for River Keepers at many community events throughout the basin. For more information about any of these events, go to www.riverkeepers.org; find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/RiverKeepersFM; or contact us at christine@riverkeepers.org or 701-235-2895.**

**Income**

- **S.S. Ruby/Canoe & Kayak Rentals:** $12,265.80
- **Memberships:** $15,979.08
- **Appropriations:** $105,000.00
- **Grants:** $29,466.88
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- **Sablease:** $9,784.92
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- **Total Income:** $239,732.65

**Expense**

- **Office Expense:** $31,713.24
- **Project Expenses:** $25,219.65
- **Payroll Expenses (11 staff):** $170,325.00
- **Misc. Expenses:** $282.27
- **Total Expense:** $227,540.16

**Net Income/Loss:** $12,192.49

**Partnership Award:** Fargo Park District Forestry Department, City of Fargo Forestry Department, City of Fargo Department of Planning and Development

**Volunteer Hours:**

Almost 600 people contributed 2300 hours to River Keepers’ projects and committees.

**Presentations:**

Presentations were made to over 20 groups, reaching almost 1000 people.

**Finances**

- **Sustaining Sponsors:** Buffalo-Red River Watershed District, Southeast Cass Water Resource District.

**Government Members:**
City of Fargo, City of Moorhead, Clay County, Fargo Park District

**Ruby Crew Operations Manager:**
Donna Tosso

**Ruby Crew Captains:**
Bob Backman  
Christine Laney  
Jay Leitch  
Gary Prosser  
Donna Tosso

**Getagging Intern:**
Grant Tosterud

**Ruby Crew Purser:**
Sam Benson  
Thomas French  
Christine Laney  
Rachel Leitch  
Nora Meyer  
Donna Tosso

**Ruby Crew First Mates:**
Sam Benson  
Thomas French  
Mike Slotten
Board Leadership: 
River Keepers’ Board of Directors conducted four successful fundraising events that raised almost $15,000 for River Keepers! These volunteers also participated in an educational tour of the Red River and its amenities in Fargo-Moorhead.

Downtown Riverfront Cleanup: 
Along with City of Fargo Forestry, Fargo Park District Forestry, and City of Moorhead, the Red River Clean Team, managed by River Keepers, removed two tons of tree trimmings and 400 pounds of trash from the downtown riparian area. They also planted over 300 trees.

Red River Watershed Center: 
River Keepers, the International Water Institute (IWI), and the Red River Basin Commission have established common office space at 1120 28th Avenue North, Suite B in Fargo. All three non-profit organizations have water-related missions and have agreed to collocate in the Red River Watershed Center to increase efficiency and explore expanded opportunities to work together.

Race the Red: 
Organized the canoe and kayak races with 7 competitive and 22 (the most ever!) fun teams participating. We had our first stand up paddle board entry! Fourteen volunteers provided about 22 volunteer hours.

S.S. Ruby and Canoe & Kayak Rentals: 
Almost 1500 passengers heard about the Red River via the S.S. Ruby.

Geotagging Intern: 
Thanks to the support of the Barry Foundation, we had an eager full time summer intern that ‘geotagged’ the urban reaches of the Red. Geotagging is combining photographs with GPS location. Among other uses, this data is used in reforestation plantings.

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Storm Drain Marking Program: 
Collaborated with City of Fargo, City of Moorhead, Concordia College, Fraser, and a Boy Scout group to mark storm drains with a “Do Not Dump” message. Over 60 volunteers contributed 124 volunteer hours.

Water Quality: 
With the support of the North Dakota Department of Health, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and the assistance of volunteers, we took semi-monthly water quality samples during ice-free conditions. With grant support from the Minnesota Department of Health, River Keepers convened an advisory group and researched community outreach messages and protocols for pharmaceutical disposal.

Riverfront Development: 
Continue to encourage local agencies to develop set back ordinances. Along with a board member, staff participated in the Moorhead Greenway Committee. Staff also participates in activities such as the Metropolitan Council of Government’s Bike and Pedestrian Committee where we advocate for more riverfront trails and connectivity.

On-the-Water Clean-Ups: 
Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we were able to replace an old balky outboard with an excellent low polluting motor that starts every time! Volunteers including a scout family with the assistance of staff cleaned up several reaches of the Red.

Workshops: 
Partnered with Cass County Soil Conservation District and Moorhead Community Education to produce a Make Your Own Rain Barrel Workshop, a Make Your Own Compost Tumbler Workshop, and a Composting Workshop. Asssembled and sold rain barrels.

Living Lab: 
After our lease was cancelled at the Living Lab, we continue to research potential replacement sites.

Water Trail: 
Advocated for additional access and riverfront camping sites. We continue encouraging the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to resolve issues related to the failed portage/enhanced fishing access project at the North Dam.

Other Activities: 
Stay connected with River Keepers, learn about volunteer opportunities, and community events on our webpage at www.riverkeepers.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/RiverKeepersFM.