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Letter From Our Executive Director

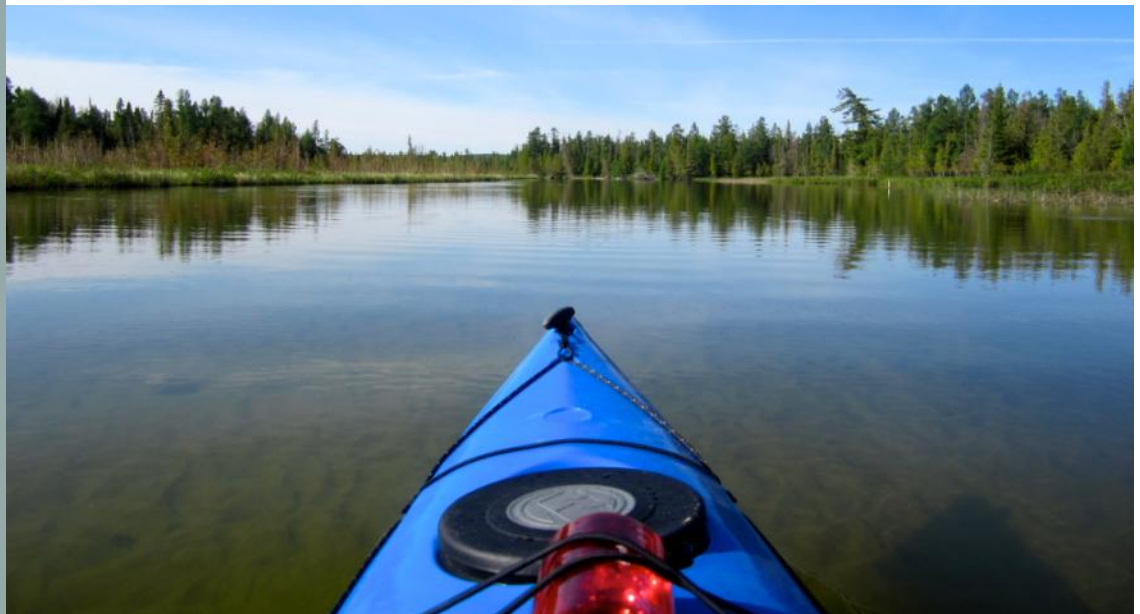
Dear Friends,

What an amazing first year we had! Our first Paddle Antrim Festival in September was a huge success that brought four communities together to celebrate our waterways. Over 300 people attended our Final Bash, while more than 100 kayakers paddled all or a portion of the Chain of Lakes, many for the first time. We could not have done any of this without our communities, businesses, organizations, donors, and volunteers. With your wonderful support, we were able to kick off our Ripple Effect Grant Program and help fund four other great projects within the region.

While we hope to continue to be known for our incredible and fun events connecting people to the waterways, we are excited to do more for the region. I am grateful to have a remarkable and strategic Board of Directors to help make that happen. Over the past year, we developed a solid plan to do great work in the region which includes being the catalyst to lead water trail development on the Chain of Lakes. Through this we can continue to build connections to our waterways and educate people on how to best protect our water resources.

I am thankful for the overwhelming support and look forward to another year of paddling, protecting, and making a “splash” in our area. Thank you for joining us on this incredible adventure.

Many thanks,
Deana



Mission

Paddle Antrim **protects** our water resources by using paddle sports to **connect people** to our waterways. Through stewardship, education, improved water trail access, and promotion of our waterways we will increase water resources protection and enhance the economic vitality of the region.

Paddle Antrim Festival

A non-competitive two-day paddle through Northern Michigan's Chain of Lakes to celebrate the amazing waterways and communities.

Over 100 paddlers joined us at the Paddle Antrim Festival in September. With dropout points along the way, each paddler chose the "perfect day of paddling" for them. On Friday, 89 paddlers took to the Upper Chain of Lakes to paddle from Ellsworth, through Central

Lake to Bellaire. On Saturday 58 paddlers braved the stormy weather to paddle from Bellaire to Elk Rapids. Even though the event ended early due to extreme weather after 9 miles, paddlers were in great spirits and over 300 people celebrated with us at the Final Bash in Elk Rapids. Thank you to each of the communities, sponsors, donors, volunteers, and paddlers for making our first event so memorable.

Join us for the
2016 Paddle
Antrim Festival
September 16 &
17, 2016



The event was so well organized. We had a discount on our room and the food all weekend was plentiful. Thanks for the great event, we will be there next year" -2015 Paddler



HALL OF FAME PADDLERS

Festival Facts

- 115 paddlers
- 1,827 miles paddled
- 47 kayakers entered the "Hall of Fame" by paddling the entire route both days
- 300+ people celebrated at our Final Bash
- Over \$20,000 raised

Giving Back to the Community



Paddle Antrim is so excited to be able to give back our first year. In December we awarded \$3,925 as part of our new bi-annual Ripple Effect Mini-Grant Program. The Ripple Effect Mini-Grant Program is our way of giving back to the community by providing funds to government entities and other non-profits doing work which aligns with our mission. The 2015 awardees are:

CPR Manikin for water rescue training– We awarded \$925 to Antrim County Emergency Management to purchase a water rescue CPR manikin to assist with training for all local fire departments.

Water & Stream Ecology Education Program - We awarded \$1,000 to Grass River Natural Area to assist with launching a “Links in the Chain Outreach Initiative” to educate residents and visitors on water and stream ecology.

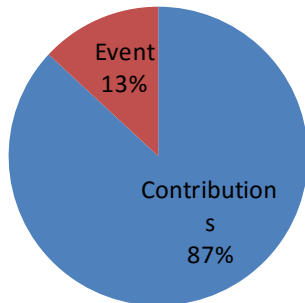
Water Quality Testing Equipment - We awarded \$1,000 to Intermediate Lake Association to purchase new water quality monitoring equipment to monitor levels in Intermediate Lake.

Universal Kayak Launch - We awarded \$1,000 to Milton Township to assist with the development of their Waterfront Park which includes the first universal kayak launch on the Chain of Lakes.



2015 Financial Report

Revenue

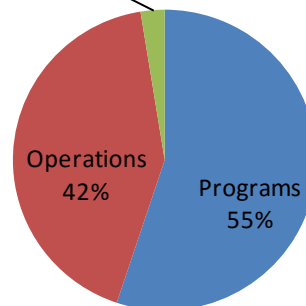


Revenue		Expenses	
Contributions	\$49,941	Program	\$19,313
Program Income	\$7,522	Operations	\$14,514
TOTAL	\$57,463	Awards	\$900
		TOTAL	\$35,019

Beginning Net Assets	\$6,467
Change in Net Assets	\$22,444
Ending Net Assets	\$28,911

Cash/Grant Awards
3%

Expenses



THANK YOU

Our deepest gratitude to you for helping us make a difference

Sponsors

Butch's Tackle & Marine
Dockside Restaurant
Fischer Insurance
Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy
Grand Traverse Resort and Spa
Green Carbon, Inc.
Imperial Beverage
Parallel Solutions
Shanty Creek Resorts
Short's Brewing Company
Smith Haughey Rice & Roegge Attorneys at Law
Stobert Dental

Organizational Support

Bellaire Rotary Club
Charlevoix County Community Foundation
Elk Rapids Rotary Club

Individual Donors

Sean Carey (by Katelyn Carey)
Matthew Drake
Mary Faculak
Jay Fowler
Jim & Diana Huckle
Mark Irwin
Deana Jerdee
Megan Olds
Dianna Robinson
Patti Savant
Tom Shelder

In-Kind Support

Alden Lumber
Alden Outfitters
Art Zelenak
Bailey Designs
Blue Pelican Restaurant
Cellar 152
Family Fare in Bellaire
Image 360
King Orchards
Kiss Carpets
Kym's PHOTO-Kopies & More
Northwoods Soda
Paddles & Pedals
The Place, Inc.
Stone Waters Inn
Torch River Ace Hardware
Village Market
Wildflower Soapworks



Thank you to all our donors and volunteers. If you see an error or would like to be recognized differently, please contact us at 231-492-0171.

THANK YOU

Our deepest gratitude to you for helping us make a difference

Paddle Antrim Festival Event and Safety Support

Antrim County RACES
Antrim County Emergency Management
Antrim County Sheriff & Marine Patrol
Banks Township Fire Department
Bellaire Chamber of Commerce
Bellaire Fire Department
Bellaire Police Department
Central Lake Chamber of Commerce
Central Lake Fire Department
Central Lake Police Department
Elk Rapids Downtown Merchant Group
Elk Rapids Fire Department
Ellsworth Lioness Club
Milton Township Fire Department
Torch Lake Township Fire Department
Township Ambulance Authority

Volunteers

Brandon Barber
Jim Barber
Prudence Barber
Diane Blamer
Jessica Bond
Jennifer Campagne
Paul Campagne
Bob Clore
Chris Clore
Rick Conrad
John Curtis
Pat Curtis
Duane Drake
Pat Drake
Aaron Dunham
Craig Duprey
Jared Elm
Kendal Fifield
Shannon Fender
Michelle Frattini
Paulo Frattini
Connie Garcia
Dick Garcia
Dean Ginther
Sharon Ginther
Mary Haley

Michael Haley
Butch Hauser
Dave Hauser
Greg Hiser
Libby Hiser
Sue Kelly
Bob Kingon
Karen Kingon
Dan Klinkner
Martha Klinkner
Mark Kubat
Adam Jankowski
Carol Jankowski
Trevor Jerdee
Lewis Lake
Shelley Lake
Dave Lawicki
Denise Lawicki
Bonnie Miller
Pat Mikula
Cassidy Munger
Carol Nelden
Dana Orr
Victoria Peck
Marci Palajac
Phil Palajac
Greg Payne
Susan Payne
Ed Pietrowicz

Charlie Raymond
Dan Roketenetz
Diane Roketenetz
Patrick Rupp
Brenda Rust
Bill Sabo
Jim Sak
Shawn Schlicker
Jackie Schnackenberg
Jim Schnackenberg
Karen Shaw
Ted Shaw
Carrilyn Stobert
Laurie Strauss
Todd Strauss
David Truax
Debbie Ulrey
Russ Ulrey
Madeleine Vasquez
Paula Vivyan
Ray Vivyan
Janeen Wardie
Ron Wardie
Linda Yencich
Steve Yencich
Ron Yocum
Kathy Young
Steve Young



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Paddle Antrim

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Stay Connected:

Online: www.paddleantrim.com/newsletter-signup



Connecting people
to the waterways

Thank You
Suzi!



As her term ended this year, we sincerely thank Suzi McGuire for her dedication as Paddle Antrim Secretary. We appreciate all of your hard work forming Paddle Antrim and sharing your passion with us.

The Future...

Paddle Antrim is dedicated to the waterways and communities. Thank you for helping us make our first year a success. In the coming months, you will hear more about how we plan to implement these exciting things:

- **Connect people to the waterways and communities through more paddling events.** Through these events we encourage the use of our waterways, educate individuals on why these waters are important, and promote their safe use in a non-impactful way.
- **Increase amount available for our Ripple Effect grant program.** Through this program we can support efforts which educate the public, improve water trail access, and improve water quality, quantity, habitat and other concerns which impact the watershed.
- **Promote an active water trail on the Chain of Lakes.** Water trails are a great resource which provides recreational and conservation opportunities improve the economic vitality of the area. We will lead this effort to make it a reality for our region.

We could not do these things without your support. To learn more about how you can donate your time, services or funds, contact us at 231-492-0171 or go to www.paddleantrim.com.