



**FRIENDS OF THE CHICAGO RIVER | 2005 ANNUAL REPORT**



## FISCAL YEAR 2005 HIGHLIGHTS

Fiscal Year 2005 marked a time of great success towards achieving Friends' goals of a greener river, a more accessible river and a river that is cared for by the people of this region. Friends accomplishes its goals in three program areas, education and outreach, on-the-ground programs and policy and planning. The activities outlined in this report occurred between July 1, 2004, and June 30, 2005.



PHOTO BY KIMBERLY BEVAN

### Michigan Avenue Bridgehouse Museum

Challenging and adventurous, plans for the Michigan Avenue Bridgehouse Museum continue to move forward. Key components of bridgehouse construction were completed in FY 2005 including painting the walls, wiring the electricity and installing a heating and cooling system. All the while, development of the museum exhibit plan, the creation of downtown walking tours that start and end at the bridgehouse and fund raising for the captivating museum advanced forward. Though complications necessitated a delay in opening the museum in FY 2005, Friends is planning to open the bridgehouse in June 2007. Support for the one-of-a-kind museum celebrating the Chicago River continues to grow as the Michigan Avenue Bridgehouse Museum is poised to elevate the visibility of the river and of Friends to a whole new level.

### 13th Annual Chicago River Day

Chicago River Day, held on May 14, 2005, exceeded expectations with approximately 3,700 volunteers at 64 clean up sites along the river. The sites stretched from near the headwaters of the Chicago River in North Chicago

to Palos Heights along the Cal-Sag Channel where volunteers picked up litter and participated in a host of other activities. Volunteers included school groups, corporate teams, families and community groups. Because there was less trash on the banks than in years before, motivated volunteers focused their efforts on restoring nature trails, seeding the river-edge with native plants and removing invasive species that contribute to bank erosion. After a morning of hard work, the dedicated volunteers celebrated with a barbeque and fun activities like canoeing and flyfishing lessons at the Chicago River Day Festival.



PHOTO BY ANNE EVANS

### The 5th Annual Chicago River Flatwater Classic

The Flatwater Classic canoe and kayak race proved to be tremendous success again in 2005. Enthusiastic participants ranging in age from six to 89 enjoyed a sunny summer day paddling the river from Clark Park through the heart of downtown to Ping Tom Memorial Park in Chinatown. Among the participants were 15 voyageur canoes powered by some of Chicago's corporate elite including Marsh who placed first in the corporate voyageur challenge. The Flatwater Classic is the only canoe race on the Chicago River and highlights the river's popularity as a recreational resource and the need to further

improve water quality and accessibility of the Chicago River. The lively event, and Friends, were also highlighted as part of the PBS special *Edens Lost and Found* which will air nationally in 2006.



PHOTO BY ROB KUEHNLE

### Chicago River Summit

Friends and the Illinois Lt. Governor Pat Quinn's Office partnered for a second year in a row for Chicago River Summit. Chicago River stakeholders from around the region gathered to discuss this year's theme, "Getting to a Fishable and Swimmable Chicago River." Panel discussions lead by esteemed experts and key officials addressed public access, habitat and water quality. The Chicago River Summit is an invaluable resource to the stakeholders within the watershed because it gives them access to regional experts and key officials and an opportunity to participate in open discussions about future river projects that will effect the long-term health of the river.

### Front Cover Photos:

*Top: Paddling the Chicago River offers spectacular views.*

*Photo by Rob Kuehnle*

*Bottom: A nature trail parallels the North Branch of the Chicago River.*

*Photo by Kelli Krueger*

## PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### Education and Outreach

Friends' educational programs foster awareness, involvement, and stewardship ethic. As the capstone of Friends' educational efforts, the Chicago River Schools Network offers teachers the resources and tools they need to incorporate the Chicago River into traditional learning. The program reaches thousands of students and their teachers annually. In FY2005, the Chicago River Schools Network launched River Citizen, a program for middle school students. Through River Citizen, student "scientists" determine the main cause of pollution and develop a plan of action for how to reduce pollution in the Chicago River.



PHOTO BY MARGARET FRISBIE

*Students from Gage Park High School spend the day sharing with their peers as part of this year's Student Congress. This annual Chicago River Schools Network event involved nearly 300 students and included student-led workshops, art displays and other river-themed activities.*

With nine corporate adopters, Adopt A River Downtown continues to flourish. These dedicated corporate adopters have been working with Friends to develop and pilot river improvements projects that engage, educate, and benefit the river. Along the river downtown, river-themed sculpture, flower boxes and cultural programs attested to the program's success in FY 2005. The adopters to date include: Ace USA, The Boeing Company, General Growth, KPMG, Nuveen Investments, Prime Group Realty Trust, Two North Riverside Plaza, Unitrin and Winston & Strawn.

### On-the-Ground Projects

Friends' on-the-ground projects physically improve the health of the river for the

plants, animals and humans within its watershed. Because stormwater runoff is one of the major sources of pollution in the Chicago River, Friends launched the Riparian Residents Outreach and Education program in FY2005. This program introduces groups of river-edge landowners to the river and to their watershed and gives them the training and information they need to implement practices on their property that will help the river. The program worked with three homeowners groups who incorporated native plants into their home landscaping because native plants reduce runoff pollution and benefit the river. We estimate that 100 households planted over 1,000 plants in FY2005.

Friends, in partnership with other organizations, developed the North Branch Watershed Project in 1996 with a goal to reduce runoff pollution, flooding, streambank erosion and to improve the habitat of the Chicago River. Because they met these goals, 10 new on-the-ground projects were recommended for funding by the North Branch Watershed Project and were awarded grants by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency in FY2005.



PHOTO BY KELLI KRUGER

*On a workday at Sutton Place in Lincolnshire, homeowners showed their approval of the hundreds of newly planted native plants they planted in their community.*

Through Friends' Adopt A River program sections of the riverbank are being cared for regularly by local community groups. One group, the Riverbank Neighbors, located on the North Side of Chicago, completed a large-scale restoration project they started in 2003 with Friends' help. Coordinated by Friends, the industrious group, aided by other community

adopters, added 110 tons of rock followed by soil and native plant cover to lessen the slope of the riverbank and protect the bank from erosion.

### Policy and Planning

Through policy and planning initiatives Friends works towards lasting and systematic river improvements. In FY2005, Friends' Planning Committee worked closely with the Chicago Department of Planning and Development to create zoning changes specific to Bubbly Creek, an area of the Chicago River watershed that has suffered from many years of abuse and neglect. The new zoning requirements are different from other parts of the Chicago River because they include a stormwater focus to improve water quality and the requirements also protect more open space along the river.



PHOTO BY KRISTIE WILLIS

*As redevelopment of the area surrounding Bubbly Creek, the south fork of the South Branch of the Chicago River, continues to move at a rapid pace, Friends, as part of a task force led by the City of Chicago, is working in the community as plans for redevelopment of the area take shape.*

As a result of Friends' advocacy, Mayor Richard M. Daley and Illinois Lieutenant Governor Pat Quinn have embraced a vision that the Chicago River be fishable and swimmable by 2020. With a grant from The Joyce Foundation, Friends hired its first ever full-time director of policy and planning to spearhead the creation of a blueprint for a swimmable and fishable Chicago River. Since joining Friends as director of policy and planning, Todd Main has worked closely with both the Lieutenant Governor's Office and the City of Chicago on a number of initiatives that will have a lasting impact on the water quality of the Chicago River.

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The board of directors, staff and volunteers of Friends of the Chicago River recognize and thank all of the people and organizations who have supported our work.

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Karen S. Harrer	Steven and Linda Mandel	Sherry McFall	Richard and Carole Spreitzer	Equity Group Investments
Mrs. David J. Harris	Daniel and Rose Marchuk	Teresa J. Potasiak	Jeffrey Sriver	Robert G. Friedman
Kerry Haulotte	A. J. and Charlotte Marks	Henry Pukala	David Stanford	Foundation
Sharon Haynes	Mark Marsjau	Jeffrey and Cheryl Pytlarz	Brian Stanislawski	General Growth
L. Hall Healy, Jr.	Barry Matchett and	Michael Quigley	Robert E. Stanley	Properties, Inc.
Joy Hebert	Sarah Schrup	William and Susan Quinlan	Valisa Star	Grand Victoria Foundation
Susan Hedman	Matthew Matusiak	Barry and Barbara Quinn	Jon Steffen	KPMG
Will Heelan and	James McAley	Delia Ramirez	Seth and Carol Ann Stein	LaSalle Bank
Patricia Snowdon	Robert and Maria McCabe	Ruth Ramsey	Ali Stout	Nuveen Investments, LLC
Jim Heideman	Diane McCarthy	Kristian Randall	Eileen Subak	Polk Bros Foundation
Harold and Amy Hensold	Laura J. McCotter	Daniel Raymond	John and Sally Sullivan	Prime Group Realty Trust
Nina Hike-Teague	Terrence McGuan	Perry Rech	Julie Summers	Prince Charitable Trusts
Tracy Hixon	Theresa McGuan-Janson	Elizabeth A. Rehberg	Daniel and Susan Swett	Unitrin, Inc.
Richard Hodgkins	Bill McLaughlin and	Alane A. Repa	Jennifer C. Syfu	Winston & Strawn
Judith Holley	Carolyn Cullen	Ray and Sandra Ribich	Charles A. Tausche	
Ude Hollis	Noel and Michele McNally	Iris Richter	Henry O. Taylor and	<b>\$5,000 to \$14,999</b>
Terrance and Karyn Holm	Iva McRoberts	William and Gail Riggs	Lynn Martin	Arie and Ida Crown
Mary Holschlag	Stephen and	M.H. and Ellen C. Riley	Phillip A Taylor	Memorial
Paul Homer	Sandra McVeigh	William and	Edward and Karen Tenner	William Blair & Company
Dave Huisman	Allan and Linda Mellis	Kathleen Riordan	Karl and Christine Teske	Brunswick Corporation
Bobby Hutchinson	Rita Meltzer	Elaine Robbins	Nancy Thornton	ComEd, An Exelon
Randy and Deborah Iaboni	Jon Mendelson	Susan Roberts	Mary M. Tierney	Company
John and Donald Jackanicz	Gail Merritt	Jim Robinett	Robert and Christine Tyler	Dr. Scholl Foundation
Irvin M. Jana	Russell Mester	Anna Lou Robinson	Robert A. Ulaszek	Earth Share of Illinois
Timothy E. Janecyk	Roger K. Metz	Richard and Cindy Roche	William J. Valenta	Robert T. Friedman
Carolyn Johnson	Eric Mieland	Steve Rodgers	Lori Vallelunga	Family Foundation
Paula Jones	Mikel N. Milks	Denis and Barbara Rogers	Norman Victorson	Haffner Foundation
Norton and	Jonathan Miller	Wilbur and Baiba Rosenkranz	Ivar and Mara Vilcins	Henrietta Lange Burk Fund
Barbara Josephson	Nick Minear	Jim Rospopo	Edward and Constance Wachs	HNTB Corporation
Arlene Kaganove	Floyd and Tobi Mittleman	Mia Ruyter	Victor and Jane Walchirk	Mayer & Morris Kaplan
Betty Rae Kaiser	Carol Momi Jahn and	Richard A. Rykhus	Thomas and Shari Warwick	Family Foundation
Tom and Colleen Keaveny	Dennis Hebson	Hirao 'Smoky' Sakurada	Lawrence E. Weaver	Kraft Foods
Robert and Marion Kelliher	Anthony Montag and	and Alyce Hong	Budd Weed	McDougal Family
Edward J. Kelly	Katherine Griem	Luis and Natalia Salces	Jennifer Welch	Foundation
Paul Kendall and Vicki	John D. Moore	Anthony and Emily Salemi	Jennifer Wells	Midwest Generation EME
Hague-Kendall	Michael Moore	Ulrich and Ellen Sandmeyer	Edward Westkerna	Morrison Family Foundation
Patricia H. Kiley	Martin and Colleen Mulroe	Kennith Schenatzki	Kristine Westerberg	The Oppenheimer
Lucy Knight	Christopher Mulvaney	Ben and Marianne Schenker	Ron and Nancy Wick	Family Foundation
John Knox	Marshall and June Mussay	Wayne and Gail Schimpff	Raymond and Donna Wiktor	Ozinga Chicago
Anna Koosmann	Kenneth and Janet Muszynski	Philip and Enaj Schlak	William Wild	PricewaterhouseCoopers

Relations Foundation  
 Jack Ringer Family  
 Foundation  
 The Siragusa Foundation  
 Wm. Wrigley Jr. Company  
 Foundation

**\$1,000 to \$4,999**

Ace INA  
 Action Electric Sales, Inc.  
 Alliance for the Great Lakes  
 Amundsen High School  
 Aon Employee Matching  
 Gifts Program  
 Bank One, NA  
 Francis Beidler Foundation  
 Blue 13  
 The Boeing Company  
 Bridgestone/Firestone  
 Burke, Warren,  
 MacKay & Serritella  
 Calvanese Family  
 Foundation  
 Christy Webber Landscapes  
 CNA Foundation  
 The Conservation Fund  
 Crain's Chicago Business  
 Earth Tech  
 Ernst & Young LLP  
 Fay's Point LLC  
 Forest Preserve District of  
 Cook County  
 General Iron Industries  
 Henry Crown & Company  
 HSBC  
 Industrial Developments  
 International

The Edith B. and Lee V.  
 Jacobs Fund No. 3  
 Abigail Blue Lurie  
 Foundation  
 Merchandise Mart  
 Properties  
 MWH  
 National Sports Network  
 LLC  
 NAWBO  
 Pattishall McAuliffe  
 Newbury Hilliard  
 & Geraldson  
 Prairie Group  
 Streska Family Foundation  
 Tom's of Maine  
 The Howard J. and Paula M.  
 Trienens Foundation

**\$500 to \$999**

CDM  
 Chicago Evergreen  
 Management, Inc.  
 The D2 Realty Services, Inc.  
 Des Plaines River Canoe  
 Marathon  
 Graphic Converting, Inc.  
 Hitchcock Design Group  
 Kendall College  
 Lincoln Park Juniors  
 Boat Club  
 Lincoln Park Zoo  
 Mead Witter Foundation  
 Skidmore, Owings, &  
 Merrill LLP  
 The Twintrees Foundation  
 Wendella Sightseeing

Co., Inc.  
 The Winnetka  
 Public Schools  
 Wolff Clements &  
 Assoc. Ltd.  
**\$25 to \$499**  
 Anonymous  
 Applied Ecological  
 Services, Inc.  
 Art & Linda's Wildflowers  
 Baetis Environmental  
 Services, Inc.  
 Bank of America Foundation  
 Chicago Wheelers, Inc.  
 Christopher B. Burke  
 Engineering  
 Continental Paper  
 Grading Company  
 Creighton R. Helms Trust  
 DeGrazia Development &  
 Realty Inc.  
 DePaul University  
 Draper and Kramer  
 Incorporated  
 Follett Corporation  
 Goose Island Beer Company  
 Hospira Employee  
 Giving Campaign  
 Hu-Friedy Manufacturing  
 Co., Inc.  
 Illinois Tool Works  
 Foundation  
 Integrated Lakes  
 Management  
 John G. Shedd Aquarium  
 Lake Forest Garden Club  
 Lawrence's Fisheries, Inc.

Morton Grove  
 Woman's Club  
 Newport Builders, Inc.  
 Pioneer Tree Farm  
 Power Outdoors  
 Project Exploration  
 Quantum Machine Tool  
 Service & Repair, Inc.  
 Roosevelt/Clark  
 Development L.P.  
 The Lakota Group, Inc.  
 The Prairie Club  
 The Vitale Family  
 Foundation  
 Torstenson Glass Co.  
 UBS Foundation USA  
 Matching Gift Program  
 Winning Wheels

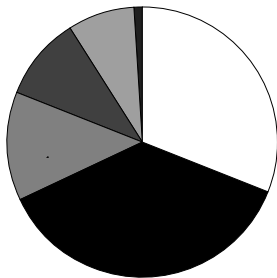
**GOVERNMENT GRANTS  
 AND CONTRACTS**

City of Chicago,  
 Department of  
 Environment  
 Chicago Park District  
 Chicago Public Schools,  
 Adopt An Ecosystem  
 Program  
 Chicago Public Schools,  
 Museum Partners  
 Program  
 Illinois Conservation  
 Foundation  
 Illinois Environmental  
 Protection Agency  
 Illinois Lieutenant  
 Governor's Office  
**IN-KIND DONATIONS**

America Outdoors  
 Bremner, Inc.  
 Central Beverage  
 Chicago Marine Towing  
 Chicago Department of  
 Streets and Sanitation  
 Cintas Corporation  
 Costco Warehouse  
 Cub Foods  
 The Fairmont Hotel  
 Timothy and Joyce Greening  
 Goose Island Beer Company  
 Hold Brothers  
 Jewel-Osco  
 Kraft Foods  
 Leon's Sausages --  
 Sausages by Amy  
 Pete Leki and  
 Deborah Albano  
 Libra Industries  
 McDermott Will &  
 Emery LLP  
 Erin McKenna Nowak  
 Ozinga Chicago  
 Pactiv Corporation  
 Bruce Pape  
 Promote A Message  
 Schulze and Burch  
 Biscuit Co.  
 Trader Joe's  
 The Union League  
 of Chicago  
 Paula Yearly

**FY2005 FINANCIAL REPORT**

Audited Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the 12 months ending June 30, 2005.



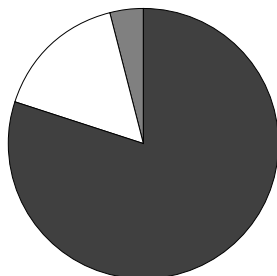
Revenues		
○ Government	31%	\$430,905
● Foundations	37%	\$501,565
● Individuals	13%	\$170,419
● Corporations	10%	\$133,964
● Special Events	8%	\$107,744
● Other	1%	\$15,634
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,360,231</b>

**Net Assets at Beginning of Year  
 \$586,390**

**Increase in Net Assets  
 \$130,988**

**Increase in Endowment  
 \$56,982**

**Net Assets at End of Year  
 \$774,360**



Expenses		
● Programs	80%	\$974,159
○ Fundraising & Development	16%	\$202,016
● Administration	4%	\$53,068
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,229,243</b>

## Directors

### President

Craig Coit, *Aon Corporation*

### Vice President

Cy H. Griffith, Burke, *Warren, MacKay & Serritella, P.C.*

### Vice President

Bryan Whitehead, *PricewaterhouseCoopers*

### Vice President and Treasurer

Daniel Drew, *The Drew Group*

### Secretary

Lois Morrison, *The Nature Conservancy*

### President Emeritus

Fred Axley, *McDermott Will & Emery*

Kenneth M. Arenberg

Kent Brown

Kate Chappell, *Illinois Institute of Technology*

Tom Cohrs, *Metal Management*

Grant Crowley, *Crowley's Yacht Yard*

Joel Fink, *Allied Metal Company*

Robert Friedman

Jim King, *LaSalle Bank N.A.*

Charles Kubert, *Environmental Law & Policy Center*

David M. Solzman

Max West, *Marsh*

David Wong, *Arthur Wong & Associates*

## Staff

Margaret Frisbie

Executive Director

Cynthia Fox

Manager of Stewardship and Volunteers

Sasha Kerlow

Manager of Education

Kelli Kruger

Watershed Programs Assistant

Todd Main

Director of Policy and Planning

Joni Marin

Education Coordinator

Margaret Meyers Development and Communications Assistant

Marta Nelson

Project Coordinator

John Quail

Manager of Watershed Programs

Tina Stubbs

Special Events Coordinator

Kristie Willis

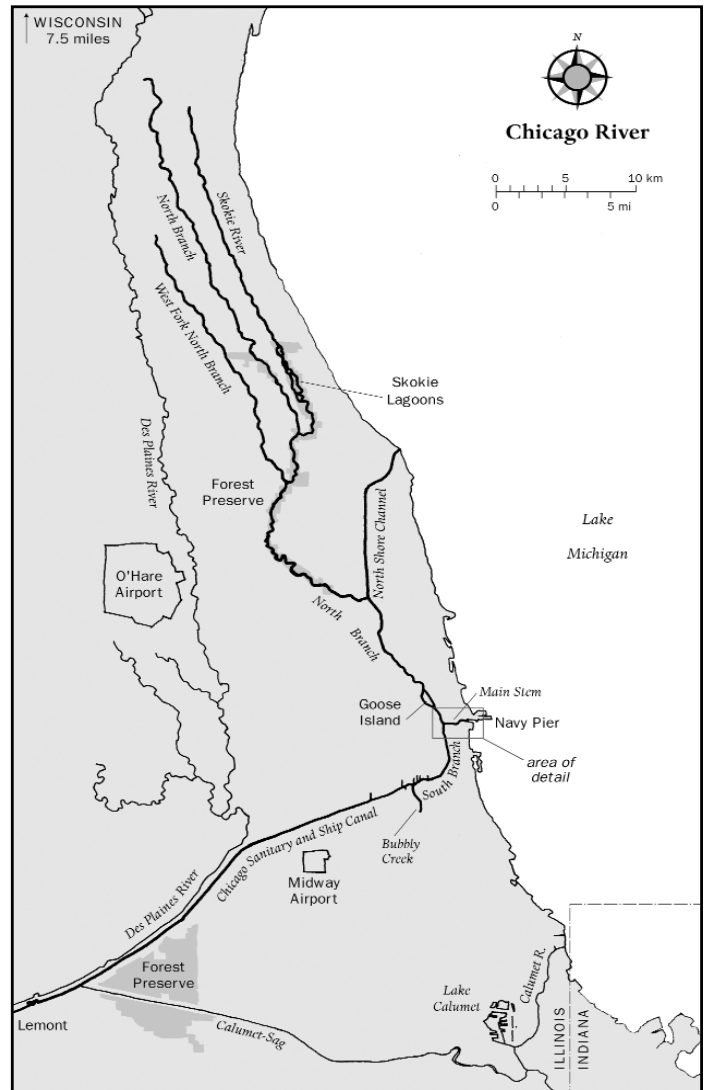
Associate Director of Development  
and Communications

## Statement of Organization's Mission

The mission Friends of the Chicago River is to preserve, protect, and foster the vitality of the Chicago River for the plant, animal, and human communities within its watershed. Friends achieves this mission through three program areas, education programs that foster awareness, involvement, and stewardship ethic, on-the-ground projects that physically improve the quality of the Chicago River, and policy and planning efforts that result in systematic river improvements.

## Eligibility to Receive Deductible Contributions/Appeal for Support

Friends of the Chicago River is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation and is eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions. The governing body of Friends is the board of directors which sets the organization's policies and procedures, controls



its fiscal affairs, manages its assets, and oversees the executive director. The executive director is an ex officio voting member of the board of directors and is the principal executive officer of the organization.

## The Chicago River

The Chicago River watershed extends from Lake County to southern Cook County and includes the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal and the Cal-Sag Channel. The Chicago River has a fascinating natural and cultural history and has undergone many human modifications from channelization to the reversal of its flow. An increasingly popular recreational resource, the river also supports a diversity of wildlife and economic uses. The Chicago River has played a central role in the development of the Chicago region and continues to do so today as a natural, economic and recreational resource, loved, cherished and used by the people of this region.

## Friends of the Chicago River

407 South Dearborn Street, Suite 1580  
Chicago, Illinois 60605-1119

Telephone: (312) 939-0490 Fax: (312) 939-0931

[www.chicagoriver.org](http://www.chicagoriver.org)