



Ozark Waters

VOLUME II, ISSUE 26

JUNE 30, 2008

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**To the Readers of Ozark Waters**

Friends:

We usually begin our weekly newsletter with a short essay in column form with various perspectives on keeping Ozark waters clean and good. We appreciate the feedback we receive on the newsletter which we hope is a handy source for water related news and views.

As usual this week we include links to a number of articles relevant to water issues. In lieu of our column, however, we have attached the report on the Foundation's priorities and work during the past year. The financial statement included is as of December 31, 2007, but the activities and accomplishments bring us up to date through this spring. I hope you will find a few minutes to review what we have accomplished and the priority projects which continue.

Thanks for reading our newsletter and for your interest and support for our work on water quality. The issues we address daily are ones which affect us all. And while it's true we all live downstream, it's also true that we live upstream as well, placing an obligation on us all to be good stewards of the water resources we enjoy.

To read the 2007 Annual Report, visit our website at [www.uwrbb.org](http://www.uwrbb.org).



John E. Moore, Jr.  
Executive Director

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MOORE@UWRB.ORG
- SARAH PADGETT**  
*OFFICE MANAGER / PROJECT ASSISTANT*  
PADGETT@UWRB.ORG

**Upcoming Events**

**July 11, 2008**  
**WATERSHED COMMITTEE OF THE OZARKS**  
**MONTHLY MEETING**

7:30 am, Open to Public  
Valley Water Mill Park, 2450 E. Valley Water Mill Road  
Springfield, MO

Presentation: Ozarks Clean Air Alliance  
For more information, call 417-866-1127 or visit [www.watershedcommittee.org](http://www.watershedcommittee.org)

**June 28-July 20, 2008**  
**THE SECCHI DIP-IN**

Nationwide Event  
Join Ohio's Kent State University in this national, three week event collecting water quality data.

Contact: Bob Carlson, Kent State University  
Phone: 330-672-3992  
E-mail: [Dipin@Kent.edu](mailto:Dipin@Kent.edu)  
Website: <http://dipin.kent.edu>



## BASIN NEWS

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### **Recycler collects attention**

Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

<http://www.nwanews.com/adg/News/230133/>

Sulser and his crew of volunteers collect more than 100 tons of plastics, cans, cardboard and newspapers a year at a distribution center, and many say the program has converted the town of 2, 278 into environmental consciousness. In April, the city won the Arkansas Environmental Stewardship Award, a yearly recognition bestowed upon organizations for environmental efforts. Sulser's project beat finalists Tyson Foods Inc., Plum Creek Timber Co. in Crossett, the Fayetteville wastewater treatment plant, the Molex Inc. connector plant in Maumelle and the Green Forest poultry processing plant.

### **Conservation may be answer to possible water woes**

Benton County Daily Record

<http://www.nwanews.com/bcdr/News/63267/>

"Everyone knows that 97 percent of all water is salty, and only 3 percent is fresh," said Serina Wilkins, education coordinator for the Benton County Solid Waste District. Of that 3 remaining percent, 80 percent of that is frozen at the North and South poles. "The remaining 6 percent represents non-frozen fresh water. This amount can be found in lakes, rivers and streams, but some of it is also unavailable because it is in the atmosphere as clouds, underground, polluted or trapped in soil. So only 003 percent is available for drinking, and that amount is shared among all the world's population. We do have enough water now, but we have to conserve it," Wilkins said.

### **OZARK : Town banks on river to pilot rebirth**

Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

<http://www.nwanews.com/adg/News/230129/>

Officials in this Franklin County town hope that its best natural feature — its Arkansas River frontage — will produce an economic boon for the community. Main Street Ozark has taken the first step toward developing the downtown riverfront with the acquisition of a \$ 200, 000 grant from the Arkansas Department of Economic Development.

## OPINIONS

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### **Farming: Money for nothing**

St. Louis Post Dispatch

<http://www.stltoday.com/blogzone/the-platform/published-editorials/2008/06/farming-money-for-nothing/>

With grocery prices up nearly 6 percent over the past year, it might seem odd that the federal government is paying farmers a fortune to not grow food. Odd but true. The government last year paid \$1.8 billion to farmers for agreeing to not plant crops or graze herds on 36 million acres of land — an area bigger than Arkansas. That includes 1.6 million acres in Missouri and another million in Illinois.

## WATER NEWS

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### **Trouble in the Pipes: Aging sewers threaten environment, public health**

Springfield News-Leader

<http://www.news-leader.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=200880623028>

Deteriorating pipes, overwhelmed by volumes of water they were never designed to carry, release billions of gallons of raw sewage into rivers and streams each year. The spills make people sick, threaten local drinking water and kill aquatic animals and plants.

### **Native Americans confront problem of poor water quality**

Minnesota Public Radio

[http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2008/06/24/water\\_ceremonies/](http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2008/06/24/water_ceremonies/)

Some traditional Native American ceremonies involve people drinking water directly from the natural bodies of water. But these days, water isn't safe drink directly from lakes and rivers. As a result, some Native Americans are adjusting the way they celebrate some ceremonies.

### **Pentagon fighting EPA orders**

Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

<http://www.nwanews.com/adg/National/230121/>

The Defense Department is resisting orders from the Environmental Protection Agency to clean up Fort Meade and two other military bases where the EPA says dumped chemicals pose "imminent and substantial" dangers to public health and the environment.

### **War Eagle repairs : Historic bridge celebrates 100 years, awarded \$950,000 for renovations**

Benton County Daily Record

<http://www.nwanews.com/bcdr/News/63245/>

The 100-year-old structure of the War Eagle Bridge is failing under the traffic pressures of the modern world, and the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department says something needs to be done. However, County Judge Gary Black's new bridge comment a few years ago was met with a resounding "no." "There was an uproar in this community about building a new bridge; they wanted to keep the old one," Black said during a ceremony on Friday celebrating the 100 th anniversary of the bridge. "We've tried to limit the traffic over the bridge because it was built during the horse-and-buggy days. The Model T and A were just coming into existence."

### **Report: Two-thirds care for environment because it's God's creation**

USA Today

[http://www.usatoday.com/news/religion/2008-06-25-green-god\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/religion/2008-06-25-green-god_N.htm)

From Christians in Hawaii to Buddhists in Connecticut, and from Jews in New York to Muslims in Wisconsin, people of all walks of faith are finding a myriad of ways to care for the environment, according to a first-of-its-kind report from the Sierra Club.



# ANNUAL REPORT

To Foundation Trustees and Friends:

During the summer of 2007 the Foundation, after appointing a new executive director, spent time reviewing its mission, accomplishments and priorities. Significantly, the vision and mission statements were reaffirmed and a set of priorities emerged to guide the Foundation's focus during the year.

The mission of the Foundation continues to promote water quality in the upper White River watershed through bi-state collaboration on research, public policy and action projects basin-wide in both Arkansas and Missouri. The vision is to have the four cleanest man-made lakes in North America.

The following are priorities identified last summer:

1. Monitor and report on water quality in the basin.
2. Serve as an advocate on policy issues which affect water quality and watersheds through regulatory and legislative means.
3. Emphasize public information, education, promotion and



## ***Mission***

***To promote water quality in the upper White River watershed through bi-state collaboration on research, public policy and action projects in Arkansas and Missouri.***

## ***Vision***

***With your help we will work together to make Beaver, Table Rock, Taneycomo and Bull Shoals lakes the four cleanest manmade lakes in North America.***



communication about water quality issues.

4. Support, encourage and capitalize on allied watershed groups working for common purpose.
5. Seek long term funding support for the Foundation and watershed work in the Ozarks.



This report highlights activities undertaken during the year in support of the Foundation's mission and priorities. All of the priorities have been addressed and work on them is underway. Full implementation of several will take more than a single year, as for example, the basin-wide water quality monitoring and reporting project.

The effort to develop sustainable funding for watershed work likewise is underway with full implementation yet to be completed. While limited entries are included for these projects in this summary report, they have in fact taken up considerable time during the past year.

For many of these projects, detailed papers have been prepared outlining plans and logistical arrangements. Other projects are underway and documentation is available through the Foundation office. This report summarizes the activities and efforts of the past year to provide an easily readable report on what has been done. I hope you will find this report of interest and benefit.

Sincerely,

John E. Moore, Jr.  
Executive Director



## ACCOMPLISHMENTS



### Monitor and Report on Water Quality

- Convened a science advisory panel of university and U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) staff to shape and evaluate plans for basin-wide monitoring system and annual “state of the watershed” report.
- Initiated new water quality monitoring sites through USGS and continued testing at existing sites. Signed contracts with USGS for this service.
- Developed additional water quality evaluation protocols involving stream surveys of macro invertebrates and geomorphic analysis with Missouri State University.
- Projected preliminary state of the watershed report, based on USGS monitoring data.  
*Planned release: Fall 2008*

### Serve as an Advocate on Policy Issues

- Completed a study of local and county building and development codes and their accommodation of low-impact development; report distributed and placed on Foundation website.
- Testified in case of Terra Renewal permit application to land apply near-liquid bio-waste near Green Forest, Arkansas. Following a hearing and consultation with Terra Renewal officials, the permit application was withdrawn.
- Initiated communication with governors of Arkansas and Missouri proposing the establishment of a bi-state compact pledging communication and cooperation on water issues in the upper White River watershed.
- Identified a need for model ordinances to establish liability in the installation of clustered wastewater treatment systems where municipal treatment facilities do not exist. Panel is being convened to draft a model ordinance.
- Studied water law in Arkansas, Missouri and other states and identified needs for legislative initiatives to address emerging public policy issues involving water use and water quality.

### *Accomplishments, continued*

## Emphasize Public Information, Education & Promotion of Issues

- Completed Foundation website with all available reports, GIS maps, newsletters and video documentary. Visit [uwrp.org](http://uwrp.org).
- Revised weekly newsletter and expanded distribution list to include key influentials throughout the region.
- Collaborated with local media to devise a water blog focused on issues of concern in the basin area.
- Produced a video documentary on water quality issues in the Ozarks entitled *White River Heritage: Guarding the Treasure*.
- Served as co-sponsor with the James River Basin Partnership for the “Ripple Effect” conference on stormwater management principles and techniques.
- Substantially completed EPA Targeted Watershed Grant with final report prepared, including projects accomplished, tasks completed and lessons learned.
- Closed Bradleyville sewer project in an amicable manner. Evaluated the project, process and lessons. (See final EPA report)
- Established first annual “Water Warrior” award.

## Support, Encourage and Capitalize on Allied Watershed Groups Working for Common Purpose

- Developed working relationships with state and federal agency officials, USGS offices and university staff in Arkansas and Missouri.
- Served as invited speaker/consultant on water resource issues for groups and organizations.
- Assisted Missouri Department of conservation in identifying potential stream bank stabilization projects through the “More Fish Campaign.”
- Met regularly with directors and staff of other watershed groups to discuss common issues and efforts.
- Completed Kings River Watershed Management Plan through collaboration with Kings River Watershed Partnership.



*Accomplishments, continued*

## Seek Long-Term Funding Support for Foundation and Watershed Work

- Advanced efforts to develop sources of sustainable funding through the “water keepers” and “cardboard for conservation” programs. The former project, involving the “rounding up” of utility bills to the next whole dollar has been placed on hold pending further interest from electrical utilities. The latter project, now in planning stages, involves recycling cardboard through a consortium of business firms and institutions.
- Obtained grant support from the Coover Foundation and the Walton Family Foundation for water quality monitoring and operations.
- Completed audit of management control policies and procedures.



*Beaver Lake*

## THE CHALLENGES AHEAD

Although reports of this sort generally have a retrospective focus on priorities established and projects accomplished, it is also appropriate to look ahead as well. The broad mission of the Foundation to promote water quality in the upper White River watershed is an ongoing challenge, given the threats to water resources attending the continued growth and development of the Ozarks region. We believe, however, that with commitment and effort we can have both economic development and a healthy environment.

Telling the story about the importance of water quality is somewhat akin to preaching the gospel; the message is the same, but there are many ways to tell it to reach those who need to hear it. And these stories must be repeated regularly. Accordingly, in the years ahead we will continue many of the initiatives and efforts now underway.

Among the most important of these is the project to monitor, measure and report on water quality throughout the basin. The science upon which this unique project is based will be reviewed regularly and the annual “state of the watershed” report will be publicized and promoted



extensively. The benefits will come from the greater awareness and understanding of water quality issues among the larger public. Growing public support for maintaining water quality will be the ultimate payoff of the effort.

The work of non-profit organizations like the Foundation and allied watershed groups requires financial support and obtaining this support is a continuing challenge. The “cardboard for conservation” project being developed by the Foundation will be a continuing priority as a means to provide sustainable funding for watershed work. There is much potential here and a compelling rationale for companies and institutions to participate in this consortium effort.

The daily operation of the Foundation—the publication of the weekly e-newsletter, the participation in meetings and the exchange of information with allied organizations, the continued advocacy in varying forums—will continue to be important parts of our work. The follow-up to promote bi-state collaboration, the development of a model wastewater treatment ordinance and planning for a regional conference will all be projects ahead in fulfillment of the Foundation's mission.

We look forward to reporting on these projects and more in our next annual report. The ultimate issue for the Foundation and all other groups promoting water quality is the impact of these efforts. Is the water cleaner? Are we maintaining water quality? Have we made a difference through our projects and programs? Is the public more aware and more committed to our purpose? We will endeavor to address these kinds of questions as we continue our important work and report the results.

## FINANCIAL POSITION

### *Statements of Financial Position and Net Assets*

As of December 31, 2007

### ASSETS

#### CURRENT ASSETS

Cash	\$304,025
Pledges receivable	2,500
Total Current Assets	306,525

#### PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

net of accumulated depreciation	8,273
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ENDOWMENT FUND	1,039,375
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TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$1,354,173</u>
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### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

NET ASSETS	\$1,354,173
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TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$1,354,173</u>
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*Statements of Activities and Changes in Net Assets*

Year ended December 31, 2007

**CONTRIBUTION & GRANT REVENUE**

Contributions Received	\$200,285
Pledges receivable	<u>36,855</u>
Total Contributions and Grant Revenue	<u>237,140</u>

**EXPENDITURES**

**EXPENDITURES**

Grant disbursements	100,000
Salaries	138,583
Employee benefits	3,302
Payroll taxes	9,268
Professional fees	66,022
Supplies and technology	2,818
Telecommunications	3,929
Postage and delivery	377
Occupancy expense	6,430
Printing and publications	906
Travel and meetings	6,574
Insurance	1,159
Membership Fees	1,257
Advertising	580
Other expenses	5,476
Depreciation expense	<u>1,741</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<u><b>348,422</b></u>

**OTHER INCOME AND EXPENSE**

Endowment fund income	72,955
Interest expense	(819)
Other	<u>4,000</u>
<b>TOTAL OTHER INCOME AND (EXPENSE)</b>	<u><b>76,136</b></u>

**DECREASE IN NET ASSETS**

	(35,146)
Net assets at beginning of year	1,389,319
Net asset at end of year	<u>\$1,354,173</u>

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 John Tyson is Chairman of the Board of Tyson Foods, Inc.

**Joe White**, Kanakuk Kamps  
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 President of Kanakuk Kamps.

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### *In Memoriam*

**John Lewis—  
 Arkansas Vice  
 President,**  
 Beaver Water District  
 Lowell, Arkansas  
 2003–2007

We are grateful for your  
 years of service.



*"Beaver Lake can't protect itself. Our community must therefore act in ways that will ensure its long term health and viability." -- John Lewis (1939–2007)*



**UWRB**  
Upper White River Basin Foundation

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