



**Inland Bays Foundation 2016 Annual Report**

**February 14, 2017**

**501(c) (3) Nonprofit**

**Fostering Environmental Awareness and  
Action**

## Table of Contents

IBF President's Letter .....	4
2016 IBF Officers: .....	6
Inland Bay Foundation 2016 Priorities .....	6
Highlights of 2016 IBF Meetings .....	7
3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Love Our Inland Bays Dinner .....	22
Coordinators .....	26
Membership Report.....	26
Treasurer's Report .....	27
Fund Raising.....	28
Advocacy .....	28
Science.....	29
State Parks and Recreation .....	29
Public Information .....	30
Coalition Partners .....	31
Inland Bay Foundation 2017 Priorities .....	31
Donations For 2016.....	32

## Table of Figures

Fig. 1 Inland Bays of Delaware . . . . .	6
Fig. 2 The IBF Board prepares to speak with Governor Jack Markell . . . . .	7
Fig. 3 The IBF Board of Directors meets with Governor Jack Markell . . . . .	8
Fig. 4 IBF Board of Directors with our speaker Dee Durham . . . . .	9
Fig. 5 Guests and members attended our February meeting . . . . .	10
Fig. 6 Chuck Schonder discussing the Friends of Holts Landing State Park . . . . .	11
Fig. 7 Láf Erickson explaining the topography of Holts Park . . . . .	12
Fig. 8 Maria Payan speaking before the IBF meeting . . . . .	13
Fig. 9 Anthony Caputo educated the IBF meeting attendees about MS4s . . . . .	14
Fig. 10 Senator Townsend with IBF President Nancy Cabrera-Santos . . . . .	15
Fig. 11 Nanticoke's Chief Carmine spoke to members of the IBF . . . . .	16
Fig. 12 IBF member attend the Clean Water Rally in Dover . . . . .	17
Fig. 13 Dignitaries attended and spoke at Millsboro's Earth Day . . . . .	17
Fig. 14 Prayers for the Nanticoke River were led by the Nanticoke Medicine Man . .	18
Fig. 15 President Cabrera-Santos with Ms. Barbara Shamp . . . . .	19
Fig. 16 Leslie Ledogar spoke about Climate Change in DE . . . . .	20
Fig. 17 Memorializing Harry Haon's Bench in Fenwick Island . . . . .	21
Fig. 18 Stephanie Herron explains the Sierra Club Advocacy Program . . . . .	22
Fig. 19 The Sierra Club's presentation to the IBF on their Advocacy activities . . . . .	22
Fig. 20 Sen. George Bunting introducing our Key Note Speaker, Mr. Collin O'Mara. .	23
Fig. 21 Mr. Colin O'Mara Keynote Speaker at the IBF Dinner . . . . .	24
Fig. 22 Senator Bunting and Ms. Nancy Cabrera-Santos presenting an award to Secretary David Small . . . . .	25
Fig. 23 Dinner Guest picking door prize names . . . . .	26
Fig. 24 Love Our Inland Bays Raffle Quilt . . . . .	28

## **IBF President's Letter**



### **2017- The Light at the End of the Tunnel**

Dear Friends of the bays,

The Inland Bays Foundation was created by a group of environmentalists in 2010 to address the lack of progress towards "Fishable and Swimmable" Waters in Delaware's Inland Bays Estuary. After many years, there now appears to be a "faint light" at the end of the tunnel. Most all point sources of pollution have been eliminated. And we are waiting for completion of the court mandated removal of the Rehoboth treated sewage effluent from the Rehoboth- Lewes canal by 2018.

We applaud DNREC, The Center for the Inland Bays, the Sussex County Public Sewer Team, as well as the citizens of Millsboro who chose to remove sewage effluent by buying a 200-acre farm and using the technique of SPRAY disposal over their cover crops.

The on- going challenges in the tunnel are:

- To have Sussex County commit in their 2018 Comprehensive Plan to use environmentally sensitive Land Planning and stop the rezoning of AR1 lands which eliminate farming--critical to storm water management.
- To more rapidly expand the Sussex County Public Sewer Program, especially in the area of environmentally sensitive and heavily polluted wetlands along Herring Creek, Guinea Creek and Love Creek.
- Secure full funding for the Cover Crop Program
- Reduce impervious surfaces, especially in the Rehoboth and beach areas.
- Advance progress on meeting Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for Nitrogen, Phosphorous and bacteria, as promised in the 2008 "Pollution Control Strategy for the Delaware Inland Bays Estuary"
- Strive to meet the standards of the federal "Clean Water Act" as promised by Delaware in 2007.

It is the sincere hope from the Inland Bays Foundation that we will have the cooperation from our key stakeholders:

**We ask the Sussex County homeowners** to repair or replace failing septic systems.

**We implore Sussex County officials** to stop invading and rezoning AR1 land (Agricultural with one house per acre).

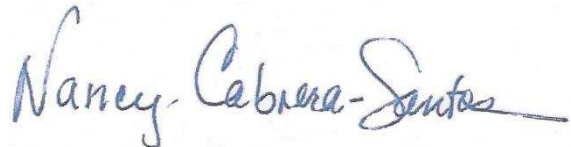
**We ask farmers** to cease using ever expanding amounts of chicken litter in their ground applications.

**For our state legislature**, we request full funding of the Cover Crop program in order to qualify for federal matching funds.

**For DNREC**: we have a standing petition with the EPA to designate the Inland Bays as an MS-4 area (Municipal Small Stormwater System), bringing us in line with what exists in the western parts of our state.

**Friends, let us capitalize on the progress made to date, and finally, unquestionably, emerge from the tunnel into the full light of day.**

With all the hopes for outstanding progress in 2017,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nancy Cabrera-Santos". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Nancy" being the most prominent.

Nancy Cabrera-Santos

President

Inland Bays Foundation

Note: The IBF's Guiding Principles are: Find and use environmentally friendly solutions that use existing technology and regulations, require little or no taxpayer money, and, if at all possible, produce new "Green" jobs and business opportunities. If all else fails, use the courts to mandate compliance.

Visit our web site- [www.inlandbaysfoundation.org](http://www.inlandbaysfoundation.org) or Facebook page for more information, to become a member, or make a donation.

## **2016 IBF Officers:**

**Nancy Cabrera-Santos - President**

**Vacant – President Elect**

**Frances Hart – Secretary**

**Dave Jaeger – Treasurer**

**Vacant – Vice President/Past President**

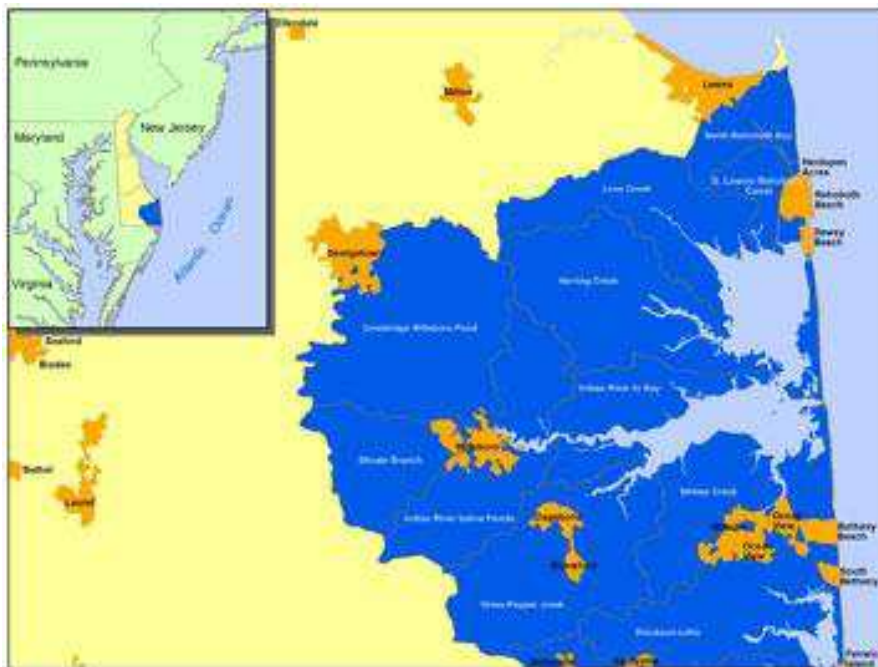


Fig. 1 Inland Bays of Delaware

## **Inland Bay Foundation 2016 Priorities**

- Pinnacle NPDES Permit
- Rehoboth Outfall
- Anchorage Canal Drainage Pollution (MS4)
- Cover Crops
- Clean Water Bill
- Love Your Inland Bays Dinner
- Advocacy
- 2018 Sussex County Comprehensive Plan

## Highlights of 2016 IBF Meetings

1. The IBF held its annual meeting with Governor Jack Markell on January 13, 2016. Our agenda was clean water, water pollution, and water quality. Members of the Board of Directors received a warm reception from Governor Markell and DNREC Secretary, David Small. President Nancy Cabrera-Santos laid out IBF's 2016 agenda stressing the importance of Governor Markell and Secretary Small's support of the clean water legislation currently being crafted within the Clean Water Task Force led by State Senator Bryan Townsend. A lively discussion ensued over such topics as: Questions surrounding Allen Harim's Wastewater Permit, contamination in the Anchorage Canal, lack of MS4 Operators in the entire Inland Bays, and the need for more funding for DNREC's Cover Crop program. Finally, IBF asked for the Inland Bays to be designated as "Waters of Critical Environmental Significance". Pictured in Figure 2, below, are: Anthony Caputo, Helen Truitt, Nancy Cabrera-Santos, Carl Mantegna, Frances Hart, and Lew Podolske. Photography by Dottie LeCates.



Figure 2 The IBF Board prepares to speak with Governor Jack Markell



Ms. Cabrera-Santos highlighted the need for designating the bays as environmentally critical: The public needs to know that the EPA rates the majority of our state's waterways as impaired. Not only does this impact fish, bay grasses, and recreational activities, but the health of our citizens as well, since toxins are incorporated into our food chain. Pictured in Figure 3, below, are DNREC Secretary David Small, Lew Podolske, George Bunting, Chuck Schonder, Dottie LeCates, Nancy Cabrera-Santos, Carl Mantegna, Governor Jack Markell, Tony Caputo, Frances Hart, Helen Truitt and Bob Chin. Photography by Dottie LeCates



Fig. 3 The IBF Board of Directors meets with Governor Jack Markell

2. Dee Durham, Co-founder DE Plastic Pollution Action Coalition and also founded Brandywine Chapter of Sprouts Roots and Shoots related to the environmental work of Dr. Jane Goodall. A reusable bag will replace 1000 plastic bags. They cog storm water and waste management systems, have both direct and indirect environmental costs. DSW doesn't want them in the recycle bin. Bags in the environment get into the ecosystem endangering animals. Do not biodegrade but break down into tiny toxic particles. 54% of world has a ban on plastic bags.



No state in US has done it statewide. Ms. Durham asked the IBF to support HB 202, introduced June 2015 coming up in 2016 to legislate a 5 cents surcharge on the use of plastic bags that would be kept by retailer to pay for their recycling program. Senator George Bunting mentioned that there aren't enough "end use" places to accept all the plastic bags. Need to get away from "throw away" society, to be more sustainable. Pictured in Figure 4, below, are Lew Podolske, Carl Mantegna, Nancy Cabrera-Santos, Dee Durham, Frances Hart, Chuck Schonder, Dave Jaeger, George Bunting, Anthony Caputo, Helen Truitt, and Bob Chin. Photography by Dottie LeCates



Figure 4. IBF Board of Directors with our speaker Dee Durham

3. At our February meeting three IBF members gave us an overview of their activities. This open meeting was well attended by the public and our room at the South Coastal Library in Bethany Beach was full. Figure 5, on the next page, shows a few of the attendees: Ken Haynes, Joanne Haynes, Barry Goldman, Maria Payan, Shirley Price, and Judy Morris. Photography by Dottie LeCates.



Figure 5. Guests and members attended our February meeting.

Chuck Schonder presented about the Friends of Holts Landing State Park. He talked about the founding (the IBF cosponsored the Friends group) and the characteristics of the park. This was the second year that the IBF has cosponsored the Friends group. Mr. Schonder encouraged everyone to participate in the Trail Day activities and attend the three summer Family Fun Nights at the park. Pictured on the next page in Figure 6 are Lew Podolske, Nancy Cabrera-Santos, Chuck Schonder and Dave Jaeger. Photography by Dottie LeCates.

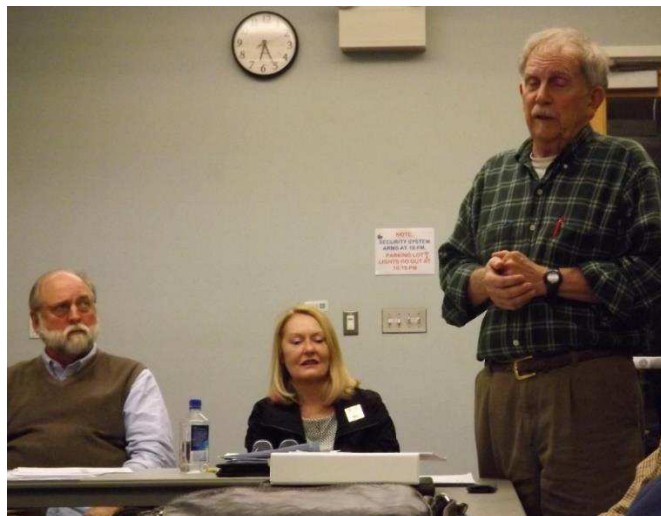


Figure 6. Chuck Schonder discussing the Friends of Holts Landing State Park

Chuck's presentation was augmented by discussion from the Friends Trail Boss, Láf Erickson. Restoration activities accomplished were discussed as were plans for future. Among future plans are rerouting trails that are currently wet most of the time to higher ground, widening trails to make them suitable for horses, and improving signs along the trails. Figure 7 shows Láf Erickson answering one of many questions from the IBF meeting audience. Photography by Dottie LeCates.



Figure 7 Láf Erickson explaining the topography of Holts Park

Dotty LeCates talked about the Indian River and efforts of POIR (Protect Our Indian River) and gave us a quick overview of the history of fighting Allen Harim and the POIR. Ms. LeCates explained that, if we can open conversations with each other, we can become caretakers, treating the river with dignity and respect. She developed a plan to "Celebrate the Indian River" on April 22nd, Earth Day. In 2014 Ms. Maria Payan's organization, SRA (Socially Responsible Agriculture) to assist the POIR. Maria Payan explained her efforts to stop the implementation of 100 chicken farms within 50 miles of the river. The Allen Harim site is designated a brownfield. Sussex County is now seeing very large

chicken operations (600 ft. barns). Now it has become a big business, absentee owners, foreign interests, (not Chesapeake Bay families). Figure 8 shows Maria Payen's animated discussion of her clean water efforts. Photography by Dottie LeCates.



Figure 8 Maria Payan speaking before the IBF meeting.

Tony Caputo, IBF member who lives in South Bethany, give us an overview of MS4s, Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer Systems. Clean Water Act in 1971 & 1977, charged EPA to carry out its requirements. EPA delegated responsibility to administer the act to the states, in DE, DNREC is the responsible state department. DNREC declares "who" is an MS4 Operator (localities/towns/ community by census data). In 2010 the program was expanded by EPA to include "small MS4s". None were identified for the Inland Bays, although the area west of Rt. 113 has several. The IBF is continuing to support making MS4s on the Rt. 1 corridor, especially South Bethany where most of the surface area from Bethany south go into the South Bethany canals, including the Anchorage Canal Forebay. Letter was sent asking for the Forebay to be an MS4. It was denied, a hearing scheduled March 4th with the Environmental Appeals Board. Barry Goldman gave the audience a brief overview of the handling of

NPDES permits. Pictured in Figure 9, below, is Mr. Caputo explaining MS4s. Photography by Dottie LeCates.



Figure 9 Anthony Caputo educated the IBF meeting attendees about MS4s

4. Our March 16<sup>th</sup> speaker was State Senator Bryan Townsend, who presided over the Delaware State Clean Water Task Force, comprised of a diverse group of citizen advocates, scientists, non-profit organizations, and legislators. Their mission was to pass legislation to impact Delaware's inland bays, rivers, and tributaries, 90% of which are impaired, according to the DE Dept. of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC). Senator Townsend explained that clean water is critical to our economy, our health, and our future. We have the technology to fix it—we just need the political will. Governor Markell's proposal did not gain traction, and advocacy through 2015 did not lead to legislation. The Task Force has met for many months now, and had broad and thorough discussions. He was hopeful that the report would be finalized by April, 2016. He asked for input from the attendees at the IBF meeting. Senator Townsend ended the discussion with a call to action for the attendees to contact their legislators, write letters to the editor, and form grassroots groups to support



the Clean Water bill. Pictured in Figure 10 on the next page are Nancy Cabrera-Santos and Senator Brian Townsend. Photography, on the next page, by Dottie LeCates.



Fig. 10 Senator Townsend with IBF President Nancy Cabrera-Santos

5. The Inland Bays Foundation (IBF) met with the first female chief of the Nanticoke Indian Tribe, Natasha Norwood Carmine, at the April 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Chief Carmine grew up on the Indian River. She spoke from her heart about crabbing and fishing in clean waters. After graduating from high school she pursued a career in New Castle County. She is now back to lead and support her people in the Oak Orchard and surrounding areas. Photo by Dottie LeCates. Pictured are: 1st row left to right: Joanne Haynes, Chief Carmine, Nancy Cabrera-Santos (IBF President), Frances Hart (IBF Secretary) 2nd row left to right: Kenneth Haynes, Chuck Schonder (President, Friends of Holts Landing). Pictured in Figure 11 on the next page, are Joanne Haynes, Ken Haynes, Chief Carmine, Chuck Schonder, Nancy Cabrera-Santos, and Frances Hart. Photography taken by Dottie LeCates.

6.



Fig. 11 Nanticoke's Chief Carmine spoke to members of the IBF

7. On March 31st, the IBF sent a petition to Shawn Garvin, Regional Administrator of the EPA Region III in Philadelphia. It requested that the EPA employ its authority to regulate the non-urbanized small MS4s in the Inland Bays Watershed. Such regulation will ensure that the requirements of the Inland Bays' nutrient and bacterial TMDL's are met and protect one of Delaware's greatest treasures, DE's Inland Bays. As documented by the extensive sampling done through the University of Delaware's Citizen Monitoring Program, and other scientific efforts, these discharges are responsible for high levels of pollution in the Inland Bays. The IBF is asking for concrete action to clean up the pollution in our Inland Bays. Our petition cites the high levels of enterococcus bacteria found in the Anchorage Canal in South Bethany (up to 2,500 times acceptable levels as set by DNREC) as one troubled example in our watershed." MS4 designations have been made throughout the state of Delaware. Examples are cities such as Seaford and Laurel in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Sadly, this is not the case in our own Inland Bays Watershed where "voluntary" efforts are more the norm. Statewide, up to 90% of our waterways are impaired for swimming or fishing – a disgrace that must be addressed for the benefit of our future and that



of our children. On November 16<sup>th</sup>. Shawn Garvin, EPA Regional Director, sent us a reply stating that analysis of the petition is “ongoing” and we would have resolution by the end of the year. As of this report, the EPA has not responded to the IBF’s petition

8. On June 7<sup>th</sup> members of the IBF supported “Clean Water Day” sponsored by the Delaware Nature Society in Dover, in front of Legislative Hall. The rally included short speeches from some of the strongest clean water advocates in the state and information stations about improving water quality. Afterward, attendees lobbied their state legislators on water issues. Pictured, on the next page, in Figure 12 are Allen Allenspach, Ken Haynes, Dottie LeCates, Lou Podolske, Nancy Cabrera-Santos, Dave Jaeger, and Frances Hart. Photography courtesy of the Delaware Nature Society. Photograph below is courtesy of the Delaware Nature Society.



Figure 12. IBF member attend the Clean Water Rally in Dover.

9. The IBF cosponsored Earth Day in Millsboro, DE on the Indian River. Chief Natasha Norwood Carmine was the featured guest at the first Millsboro Earth Day Celebration and Ceremony for the Indian River on April 22nd in Cupola Park. Several Delaware public figures attended. Former State Senator George Bunting represented the IBF and spoke at the ceremonies. The event was highlighted by the attendance of students from Millsboro Elementary School and by stories and prayers for the river by members of the Nanticoke Indian Tribe.

Pictured in Figure 13, on the next page, are: Ruth Briggs King (DE State Representative), Rich Collins (DE State Representative), Chief Natasha Norwood Carmine, Senator Hocker, John Thorogood (Mayor of Millsboro), Dottie LeCates, and Senator George Bunting. Photography by Dottie LeCates.



Fig. 13 Dignitaries attended and spoke at Millsboro's Earth Day

Pictured, below, in Figure 14 are Linda Harmon, Lind Wright, Herman Jackson, Raggatha Calentine, all members of the Nanticoke Indian tribe blessing the Indian River. Photography by Dottie LeCates.



Fig. 14 Prayers for the Nanticoke River were led by the Nanticoke Medicine Man

10. At the IBF's May meeting, Charlie Gifford, CEO, U.S. Agrisoils talked about progress on the Seaford Agrisoils plant which expects to open later this year. He also explained the process for creating a marketable fertilizer from chicken litter. Chicken litter, the combination of bedding and manure, is mostly dispersed unprocessed onto Delaware's farmlands. Unfortunately, through water runoff, it contributes to high levels of nutrient pollution (nitrogen and phosphorus) as well as harmful pathogens in waterways. It also leads to algae blooms, low dissolved oxygen, and generally unhealthy aquatic conditions for fish and humans.
11. On Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Barbara Shamp, local author and committed environmentalist, presented "DIRICKSON CREEK: RED ZONED and ON FIRE.". She spoke to the IBF about her work with the CIB (Center for the Inland Bays) on their "Your Creeks" program. Barbara is a volunteer on the Dirickson Creek team, the second creek surveyed following Love Creek last year. Barbara presented the history of the area and described the ongoing efforts that are being done to study the Dirickson Creek area for pollution, flooding, and aquatic life. Pictured, below, in Figure 15 are Nancy Cabrera-Santos and Barbara Shamp. Photography by Dottie LeCates.



Fig. 15 President Cabrera-Santos with Ms. Barbara Shamp

12. Leslie Ledogar spoke to the IBF on Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> about Climate Preparedness and the 2018 Sussex County Comprehensive Plan. She is an environmental attorney, who ran for Sussex County Council in last year's election. Our coastlines are constantly changing. DE has lowest elevation of all 50 states, it is sinking and the average rise is sea level that is twice the global average, 3.4 mm per year. Delaware needs to turn this into an opportunity to demonstrate that it is a great place to live and invest. Ms. Ledogar presented her 5 step plan to accomplish this: 1) Include climate resilience, and disaster planning in the 2018 Comprehensive Plan. Update the county code to take risks into consideration; 2) partner with other agencies to fund and implement programs to address climate change; 3) develop emergency preparedness plan for county residents such as safe evacuation routes; 4) protect drinking water from salt water intrusion; and 5) save taxpayer dollars, leverage other programs for funding, starting now. Ms. Ledogar ended her presentation by warning us that if we don't rise to this challenge it will be too late for our children and grandchildren. Pictured, below, in Figure 16 is Leslie Ledogar. Picture from her web site.



Fig. 16 Leslie Ledogar spoke about Climate Change in DE



13. The Sierra Club kindly donated a memorial bench dedicated to the memory of former member, Harry Haon, a member of both the Sierra Club and the IBF. On Aug. 5, representatives of the Sierra Club met with members of the Board of Directors of the Inland Bays Foundation to dedicate a memorial bench in honor of the late Harry Haon. The memorial bench, made of 100 percent recycled material and inscribed with a brass appreciation plate, was placed in front of the Fenwick Island Town Hall. Mr. Haon was known as a champion of environmental causes in Delaware. In addition to supporting the activities of the Sierra Club, Mr. Haon was a member of the Fenwick Island Town Council, and participated as a board member at both the Center for Inland Bays (CIB) and the Inland Bays Foundation (IBF). Pictured, on the next page, in Figure 17 are Carolyn Haon, widow of Harry Haon, seated at center-left, and their grandson, Jay Haon, seated at right, gathers with Stephanie Herron of the Sierra Club, seated at center, and the IBF Board of Directors, back row and kneeling, at the dedication of a memorial bench for the late Fenwick Island Town Council member and environmental advocate. Picture used with the permission of the DE Chapter of the Sierra Club.



Fig. 17 Memorializing Harry Haon's Bench in Fenwick Island

14. Stephanie Herron, Outreach Coordinator for the DE chapter of the Sierra Club based in Wilmington, gave a presentation to the Inland Bays Foundation at their monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 12 at 6 pm in the South Coastal Library in Bethany Beach, DE. Stephanie spoke about several initiatives of the DE Sierra, including the efforts to stop plastic bag pollution and their campaign to strengthen the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). RGGI is the regional emissions trading program between DE and the other states in the Northeast/Mid-Atlantic regions. The Sierra Club efforts also include the Chesapeake Climate Action network by helping citizens with their air monitoring projects and working to stop a proposed coal power plant. The IBF supported the Sierra Club in their Plastic Pollution effort to get a bill passed to eliminate plastic bag pollution in the state of DE. Pictured, below, in Figure 18 is Stephanie Herron speaking to the IBF meeting. Photography by Dottie LeCates.



Fig. 18 Stephanie Herron explains the Sierra Club Advocacy program

Pictured, below, in Figure 19 is the Sierra Club presentation.

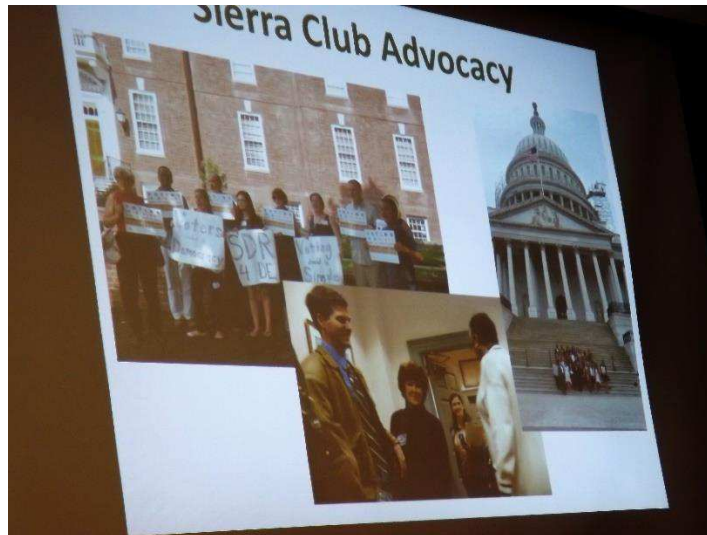


Fig. 19 The Sierra Club's presentation to the IBF on their Advocacy activities.

15. The IBF held its 2016 Annual Meeting at the South Bethany Library. The main focus of the meeting was to elect officers for the coming year. Nancy Cabrera-Santos was re-elected President, Ron Wuslich remained Past President, however he later resigned this position due to family concerns. Dave Jaeger was re-elected to the Treasurer's position. Frances Hart was re-elected to the Secretary position. The President Elect position remains open.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Love Our Inland Bays Dinner**

The Inland Bays Foundation held their 3rd Annual Awards Dinner at the Irish Eyes Restaurant in Lewis, DE November 30th. The 80 attendees, representing the League of Women Voters, the Sierra Club, the Center for the Inland Bays, the Eden Corporation, the DE Nature Society, and the Surfriders enjoyed an evening of fun and networking. VIP guests included Representative Ron Gray and his wife Candice. Senator Gerald Hocker and his wife Emily, DNREC



Secretary DAVID SMALL and Sen. George Bunting (of IBF). Pictured, below, in Figure 20, are Mrs. O'Mara, Mr. O'Mara, and Senator Bunting. Photography by Russ Kruglack.



Fig. 20 Sen. George Bunting introducing our Keynote Speaker, Mr. Collin O'Mara

Mr. Collin O'Mara, President and CEO of the National Wildlife Federation, gave the keynote speech on environmental concerns. He emphasized that in the current political climate the way forward is for environmental advocates to form coalitions with not only environmental groups, but also community stake holders like farmers, business owners, industry, watermen, developers, real estate agents, and boaters and fishermen to improve water quality in the Delaware Inland Bays. Pictured, on the next page, in Figure 21 are Senator Gerald Hocker, Krish Vignarajah, Collin O'Mara, Nancy Cabrera-Santos, and Brenna Goggins. Photography by Ross Kruglack.



Fig. 21 Mr. Collin O'Mara speaking to the dinner attendees

Top IBF Environmental awards were given to three recipients. Last year's award winner, Ken Kristl, gave the FIRST IBF award to DNREC Secretary, David Small. Former Sen. George Bunting made the next award to Gov. Elect John Carney (received by Collin O'Mara in Carney's absences). Nancy Cabrera-Santos, IBF President and host for the evening delivered the night's final award to DE Sen. Bryan Townsend (received by Brenna Goggin of the DE Nature Society). Pictured, on the next page, in Figure 22 are Mr. O'Mara, Secretary David Small, Ken Kristl, and Nancy Cabrera-Santos. Photography by Ross Kruglack.



Fig. 22 Senator Bunting and Ms. Nancy Cabrera-Santos presenting an award to Secretary David Small.

The dinner ended with a touch of fun. IBF board member, Frances Hart, awarded numerous door prizes to the crowd. Pictured, below, in Figure 23, in the foreground are Cynthia and Walter Stepowij drawing the next prize winner's name. Photography by Ross Kruglack.



Figure 23 Dinner Guest picking door prize names.

16. Ten IBF members continued throughout 2016 to support clean water efforts for the Inland Bays by monitoring and conducting weekly water testing at 10 sites. Results are sent to the Citizen Monitoring Program at the University of DE, where samples are tested and data gathered in reviewed and recorded. The data is then available to graduate students, local environmental groups, and DNREC. Reports can be found on the web at <http://citizen-monitoring.udel.edu/reports/>.

## **Coordinators**

### **Membership Report**

The IBF began 2015 with 65 members and ended with 73 members.

The IBF was saddened by the passing of two of its members. Mr. Anthony Caputo died on September 3, 2016. Mr. Caputo was a CPA in his professional life and used his background to help local organizations such as the South Bethany Town Council, Sussex County Republican Committee,

South Bethan Water Quality Committee, South Bethany Property Owners Association as well as the IBF. Among his contributions to the IBF were his investigation into the EPA's MS4 process and education of members about it, so that the IBF could petition to have MS4s established in the Route 1 corridor of Sussex County, his work on our publicity committee, his meetings with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation to get guidance, and his presence lobbying in Dover.

Mr. William Moyer died on Dec 24, 2016. Bill was the first President of the IBF and a DNREC retiree. He was a true Delawarean, born in Lewes, grew up in Laurel, and called Dover home for over 40 years. His leadership, along with the early Board Members, began the IBF's journey to be a driving force for the environment in Sussex County, DE when the IBF had only a few members and no money. Bill worked on to formalize our By Laws and obtaining our 501(c) (3) nonprofit status as well as other organizational challenges. He was a tireless steward of the environment in his determination to make our bays fishable and swimmable. He wrote numerous letters to the editor, wrote columns for Delaware publications, and frequently testified before the State Legislature on the importance of protecting Delaware's precious watershed.

### **Treasurer's Report**

- 2016 beginning cash balance was \$8,316.27
- 2016 income was \$ 6,397.65
- 2016 expenditures were \$5,266.02
- 2016 ending cash balance was \$9,447.90



## Fund Raising

For the first time, the IBF initiated a fund raising activity. Frances Hart made and donated a queen sized quilt picturing silhouettes of native fish, birds, and activities. The quilt is being raffled and the winner will be drawn at the 2017 Annual Meeting. Member sales began in September of 2016. Tickets were also sold at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Love Our Inland Bays Dinner and on our web site. Pictured, on the next page, in Figure 24 is the raffle quilt. Photography by Dottie LeCates.



Fig. 24 Love Our Inland Bays Raffle Quilt

## Advocacy

The IBF began work to insure the Sussex County Comprehensive Plan includes language and provisions to improve the water quality of the Inland Bays. To that end, we met with the Sediment and Storm Water Program Manager of the Sussex County Conservation District to learn

more about its work. During 2016 IBF members attended several forums hosted by the League of Women Voters to make sure clean water issues were included in the 2018 Comprehensive Plan.

The IBF will continue to monitor and lobby the DNREC efforts to eliminate all point source pollution from the Inland Bays Watershed. At this time, the only remaining point sources are the Allen Harim facility on Iron Branch Road near the Possum Point community and the City of Rehoboth wastewater treatment plant.

The Advocacy committee chair, Bob Chin, discussed getting the chicken industry to adopt a new Business Plan which will get everyone from hatchery to consumer to share in the cost of environment remedies with Secretary Kee at the Eden conference in Dewey. Secretary Kee thought it was a good idea to have a new agreed industry-wide business plan, and added the industry is already doing some of this. The IBF's role is to use nudge lobbying to get the industry to do what the parties would want to do anyway. Research on this issue continues.

## **Science**

The IBF is continuing to search for a Science Coordinator to keep us up to date on scientific information related to the Inland Bays Watershed.

The IBF intends to continue to look for ways to stop, remove, or legally benedicte the over one million Tons of Toxic Coal Ash deposited contiguous to our Indian River Bay in violation of the Clean Water Act. As it is being added to every day we burn coal in our local Indian River Power Plant Power Plant, the damage only increases, exacerbated by Climate Change, accompanying "Sea Level Rise ", and more frequent violent storms like "Sandy " with accompanying extreme tidal flood surges.



## **State Parks and Recreation**

2016 was a very productive year for the Friends of Holts Landing State Park, which is cosponsored by the IBF. In our second year, we doubled our membership. In March, we coordinated with Scout Troop 281 of Ocean View on their Annual Wilderness Campout to remove hundreds of pounds of debris and installed new trail markers. In April, we opened the largest boat ramp on the southern side of Indian River Bay from Millsboro to the Indian River Inlet, a 44 ft. wide, double lane facility. The entrance was dredged out 400 ft. into the bay. We installed a new fish identification board at the fishing pier. We worked with Eagle Scout Candidate Jack Wittham of Troop 254 of Lewes to install 12 new bird houses (4 bluebird, 4 bat, and 4 wood duck) throughout the park. We produced 3 Family Fun Nights during the summer. Events included: live music, hands on seining and fish identification by the Center for The Inland Bays experts, yard games (horse shoes, corn hole, and ladder golf), bonfires, marshmallow roasts, and star gazing/constellation identification by a park naturalist.

## **Public Information**

The Cape Gazette newspaper, in April, had an article about the Inland Bays Foundation sending a petition to EPA to designate small municipal MS4s in the Inland Bays watershed.

Reporter Molly Murry wrote an article for the December 2nd New Journal about the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Love Our Inland Bays Dinner. She described how Former Environmental Secretary Collin O'Mara told his audience that forming a coalition of stakeholders is necessary to make the Delaware Inland Bays waters clean again.

Reporter Laura Walter wrote an article for the December 9<sup>th</sup> Coastal Point about the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Love Our Inland Bays dinner describing how

President/CEO of the National Wildlife Federation and former DNREC Secretary considers clean water to be “a value” not a political issue.

During 2016 the IBF Web page had 240,836 pages visited in 48,129 visits, and 657,034 total hits. The Facebook page had 287 likes.

## **Coalition Partners**

The IBF supported a variety of initiatives from our coalition partners including: Friends of Possum Point; Friends of Holt's Landing State Park; DNREC's Cover Crop program; LWV Land use initiatives; CIB conservation programs; state Clean Water Task Force; EDEN Corporation septic system upgrades; and ongoing DE Nature Society's Clean Water lobbying activities.

## **Inland Bay Foundation 2017 Priorities**

Pinnacle NPDES Permit

Rehoboth Outfall

Anchorage Canal Drainage Pollution

Cover Crops

MS4

## **Donations For 2016**

### **Friends** (Individual \$50-\$99)

Vickie York  
John Yanowitz

### **Sponsor** (Individual \$100-\$199)

Til Purnell  
Nancy Cabrera-Santos

### **Patron** (Individual \$300-\$499)

Allan Allenspach  
George Bunting  
Lewis Podolske

### **Friends** (Business \$100-\$199)

Employees of Community Bank