

PAEE JOURNAL

The Journal of the Pennsylvania Alliance for Environmental Education

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"When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect."

Aldo Leopold, Conservationist



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The **PAEE Journal** is published regularly by the Pennsylvania Alliance for Environmental Education. Individuals or organizations are encouraged to submit suggestions, ideas, articles and items for the calendar of events to the PAEE office. Please note, all submissions must be typed and are preferred emailed but can be mailed or faxed to the PAEE office.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Pennsylvania Alliance for Environmental Education, Inc. (PAEE) is to promote environmental education activities and efforts throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The ultimate outcome of such a mission is a citizenry that understands and appreciates its relationship to the natural world, recognizes and accepts responsibility for their impact upon natural systems, and is motivated to take positive action to solve environmental problems.

Six different categories of membership are available through PAEE:
 Student—\$20.00 Individual—\$30.00 Affiliate—\$75.00
 Contributing—\$100.00 Donor—\$500.00 Patron—\$1,000.00
 Each category of membership receives the **Journal**.

PAEE, C/O Shaver's Creek Environmental Center
 The Pennsylvania State University, RD 1 Box 325,
 Discovery Road, Petersburg, PA 16669
 Telephone (814) 863-2000, Fax (814) 865-2706
 Visit our WEB site at <http://www.paee.org>

2003 PAEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Jay M. Gregg
 Education Director
 CCWA/Paradise Farm Camps
 1300 Valley Creek Road
 Downingtown PA 19335
 Phone: 610-269-9111 x202
 Fax: 610-269-3646
 Email: jay@paradisefarmcamps.org
 Website: www.paradisefarmcamps.org

VICE-PRESIDENT

Roy Boyle
 Pennsylvania State University
 167 Chambers Building
 University Park, PA 16802
 phone: 814-63-3496
 fax: 814-863-7602
 email: rab304@psu.edu

TREASURER

Pat McKinney "Porcupine Pat"
 Schuylkill Conservation District
 1206 AG Center Drive
 Pottsville, PA 17901
 phone: 570-622-4124 x113
 fax: 570-622-4009
 email: porcupinepat@yahoo.com

SECRETARY

Kathleen Geist
 Program Coordination
 Delaware Valley Earth Force
 100 Greenwood Avenue
 Wyncote, PA 19095
 Phone: 215-884-9888
 Fax: 215-884-9895
 Email: kathleen.geist@verizon.net
 Website: www.earthforce.org

PUBLICATIONS DIRECTOR

Judith Gratz
 Director of Env. Education
 Wissahickon Valley Watershed
 Association
 12 Morris Road
 Ambler, PA 19002
 phone: 215-646-8866 x13 (w)
 phone: 215-997-1063 (h)
 email: email.weitzhuis@comcast.net (h)

PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR

Mike Snyder
 American Water Works Association
 1309 Bridge Street, Lower Level
 New Cumberland, PA 17070
 phone: 717-774-8870 x102
 fax: 717-774-0288
 email: mikesnyder@pawwa.org

SC REGION DIRECTOR

(former Region 4)
Heidi Boyle
 Canoe Creek State Park
 RR2 Box 560
 Hollidaysburg PA 16648
 phone: 814-695-6807
 fax: 814-696-6023
 email: hboyle@state.pa.us
 email: batboyle@hotmail.com

NE REGION DIRECTOR

(former Region 5)
Sioux Baldwin Petrow
 Consultant, Free-lance Env. Ed.
 P.O. Box 192
 Harford PA 18823
 email: sioux@nep.net

SE REGION DIRECTOR

(former Region 6)
Deborah Hemphill
 Tyler Arboretum
 515 Painter Road
 Media PA 19063-1134
 Phone: 610-566-9134 x218
 Email: educators@tylerarboretum.org

Positions open and needing volunteers for one year:

LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

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(former Region 1)

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COVER: "Victor, a student at King's Highway Elementary School in Coatesville, PA, seen here picking a potato he helped grow, is one of the many children who benefit from the gardening program started by environmental educator Dawn Lawless. Read more about this program on page 10."



President's Comments

By Jay Gregg, 2003 PAEE President

I have encountered the theme of Sustainability often in the first few months of 2003. Sustainability is, of course, Pennsylvania's 2003 Earth Day theme. I hope all of you have received a copy of the impressive Earth Day Education Packet loaded with information, resources and activities, produced by the Departments of Environmental Protection and Conservation & Natural Resources.

I was invited to represent PAEE at the Delaware Valley Regional Sustainability Summit held in February. While the President's Day Blizzard raged outside, a *committed group of individuals* created a blizzard of ideas that coalesced into a strategy for establishing and maintaining a community whose members, systems and resources can thrive in a balance focused on the future.

I recently visited a facility that is completing the latest of an impressive series of renovations and expansions that has and will continue to allow an impressive program to grow. Most impressive, however, was the philosophy that an expanded facility or program alone is not enough. Responsible planning must include not only the means for building a facility or program, but also the means for sustaining it into the future.

As Earth Day rapidly approaches, I am eagerly anticipating the help of local students in sustaining a familiar and historic resource at Paradise Farm Camps. Young Sugar Maples will be planted along our main entrance to eventually replace the veterans planted in 1913 when the camp opened.

These anecdotes represent many different approaches, scales and topics. The common thread binding them all, however, is conscious planning focused on the future, driven by a desire to give those that follow us a thriving and dynamic environment, not one that is overburdened and weakened.

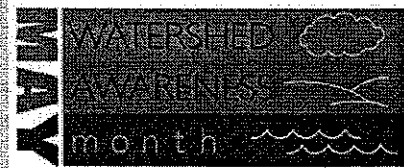
After celebrating our past and present with our 25th Anniversary, PAEE is looking to its future as well. We want to ensure that a vibrant and healthy PAEE celebrates its 50th Anniversary. To accomplish this, the Board of Directors is focusing on several initiatives. First, as you have seen, we have moved to a new home at Shaver's Creek Environmental Center. We hope this arrangement will provide us with a stable home in which we can grow into the future. Second, we are exploring new ways to focus on and provide benefits to our members. PAEE is, first and foremost, an alliance of environmental education professionals, and we must work to provide the benefits and services our members want and need. In the coming months, look for a revamped Affiliate Membership program. Third, professional support is needed to develop more sophisticated operations for PAEE. To this end, Patrick Naugle will be joining us as a part-time Administrator. Patrick has extensive business experience, and was Director of PECO Energy's Muddy Run facility. He currently teaches Business part-time at Eastern College, and has played a key role in establishing a local watershed association. Patrick will be focusing his efforts on development work for PAEE.

Finally (for now), PAEE has enlisted the services of Jim Cunningham to guide us in organizational planning and development. Mr. Cunningham has successfully worked with several EE organizations across Pennsylvania to broaden and increase their funding and stability, and we look forward to his efforts to do the same for PAEE.

I hope that each of you, our members, are as excited as I about PAEE's growth, development and future.



Watershed Awareness Month



May has been designated as Watershed Awareness Month in Pennsylvania, featuring the theme "The Watershed Connection: Land, Water and You!"

For more information contact Pennsylvania Organization of Watersheds and River (POWR) (717)234-7910; fax (717)234-7929

