

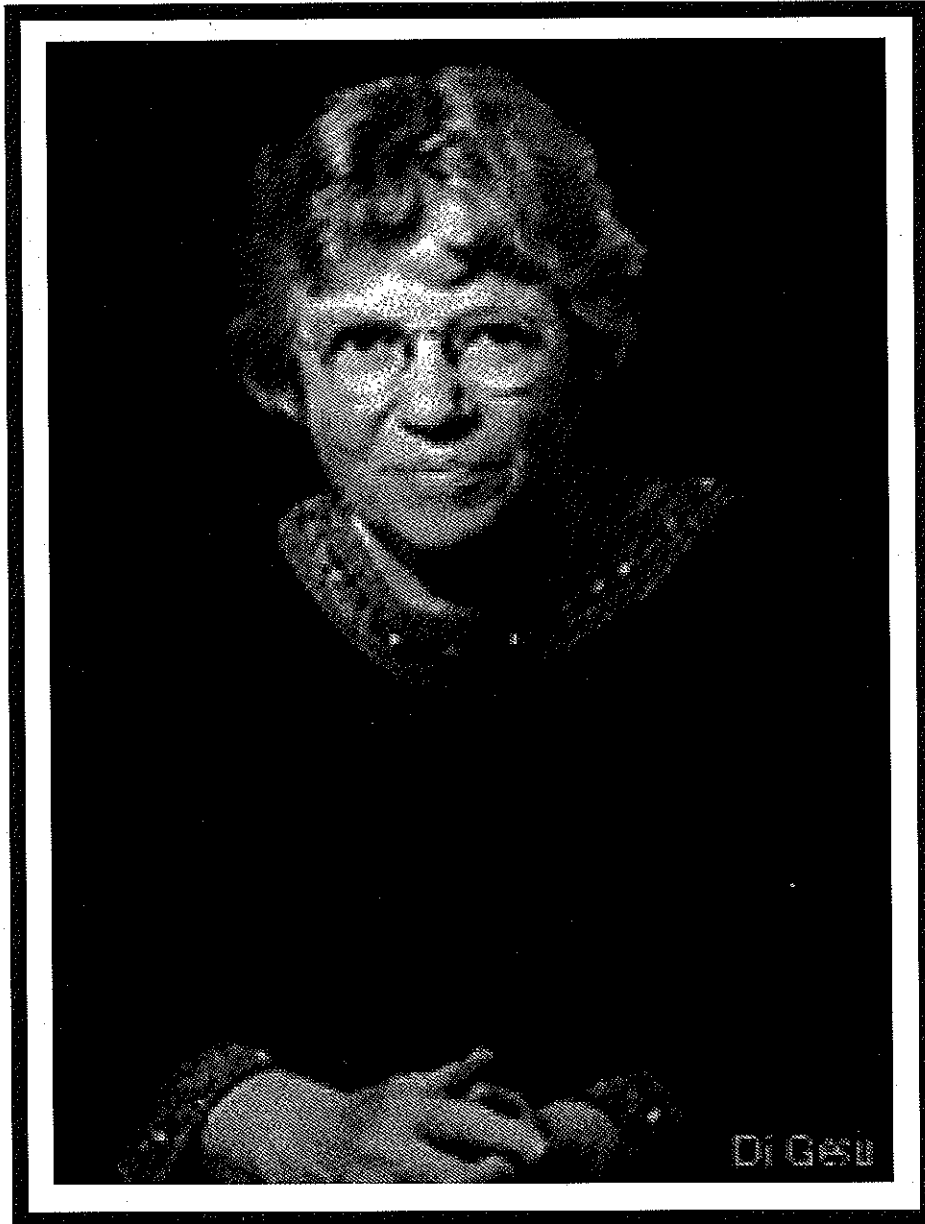
PAEE JOURNAL

The Journal of the Pennsylvania Alliance for Environmental Education

Vol. 10 No. 2

RD 1 Box 325, Discovery Road, Petersburg, PA 16669, 814-863-2000

Winter/Spring 2003



Margaret Mead (1901-1978)

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”



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PAEE JOURNAL

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**.

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COVER: Margaret Mead's famous words were quoted by all three keynote speakers at the 2002 conference. The quote seems especially applicable to PAEE which was established in 1977, and whose members have made a huge difference in the quality and quantity of environmental education in the Commonwealth of PA in those 25 years .

President's Comments

By Jay Gregg, 2003 PAEE President

Happy 25th Anniversary



Happy 25th Anniversary to us! First, let me extend thanks to all who have contributed their time and talents toward promoting and supporting environmental education activities and efforts throughout Pennsylvania over the past 25 years. And kudos to Erika Scarborough and the rest of the 2002 Conference Committee for an enriching and invigorating 25th Anniversary Conference and Celebration.

During the Conference, I had the opportunity to speak with several people who expressed interest in increasing their involvement in the Alliance. PAEE seeks, and greatly benefits from, the active involvement of its members. I know what the reader is thinking right now: "Here it comes. The new guy is going to tell me all about why I should step up to help out with what he has gotten himself into." Yes, I will gladly speak with anyone who feels ready, right now, to volunteer with PAEE. But what I really need, what PAEE really needs, is for you to let me know what this organization can do for you.

PAEE has relied upon its members for the fire that gives it life. Today, that fire needs to be rekindled. How should this be done? I believe that as our members are re-energized, the Alliance will be strengthened.

So, what can PAEE do for you? Offer professional development? Publications? Teaching resources? Social events? More statewide events? Group insurance rates for independent centers? Purchasing cooperatives? Management training? T-shirts?

PAEE needs to know what will best ensure that you will be a member when we celebrate our 30th anniversary. What will help you to convince a colleague to become a member, and stay a member? What will entice lapsed members to bring their experience back to the organization?

We will begin crafting the future of PAEE by considering thought-provoking comments made on the 2002 Conference evaluations. Conference costs, venues, event types and information content all were of concern to our members. What Conference features should be reconfigured, reduced or eliminated? To which programs is Conference fees best applied? How can Conference costs be reduced? Can you suggest facilities that could accommodate our Conference at lower costs?

Some participants noted that the Conference seemed geared most strongly to teachers and offered too little for resource agency personnel. What topics, forums or features will most benefit this important segment of our membership?

More emphasis on Academic Standards was requested. We will certainly reach out to Dr. Vathis to present relevant information, and to suggest programs to feature that are addressing the Standards in unique ways.

Many participants expressed desire for more unstructured or loosely structured time for social interaction and networking. How can we best accommodate this request for 2003?

Is the traditional time frame still relevant? Would other time frames be more attractive?

The 2003 Conference will operate within a new paradigm, by pulling together, for the first time, a statewide Conference Committee rather than a regional based committee. I very much want for this new paradigm to include responding to the wishes and needs of our members.

PAEE, as a membership organization, has most often asked *of* its members. We are now going to start asking more *about* our members. Please share your thoughts, needs and suggestions as to how we can make PAEE what you want it and need it to be. PAEE is *your* professional association - send ideas, request information, or volunteer to fill a role, by emailing contactpaee@hotmail.com. You may also call our new office at Shaver's Creek Environmental Center at 814-863-2000.

I am honored and proud to have been chosen as the President of the Pennsylvania Alliance for Environmental Education, the statewide professional organization that fosters appreciation for the natural world and motivates personal action to solve environmental problems. I look forward to serving you and the Alliance in its continuing efforts to develop a motivated citizenry and membership across our Commonwealth.



PAEE Board Briefs

Actions Taken by the Board: September 14, 2002

1. A presentation was made to the Board by Jim Cunningham, an independent consultant with Gronlund Sayther Brunkow, a national consulting firm. Board was in agreement that the professional fundraising assistance offered by Jim, (at one-half his normal fee) would be of great value to PAEE. However, it is essential for PAEE to have a paid staff person to provide the time and consistency needed to work with a fundraiser.
2. Board named a search committee to post a job description, conduct interviews, and hire a new staff person to replace Director Christie Ward, who has left PAEE for a full-time position. The search committee will include: Roy Boyle, Pat McKinney, Judith Gratz, and Regional Directors as needed.
3. After reviewing the nominees, the Awards Committee presented their recommendations to the Board. Committee recommendations were approved by the Board. Awards

recipients will be announced at PAEE's Annual Banquet at the upcoming November Conference. A special award will also be presented for "Distinguished Service to the Environment."

4. The Conference 2002 Committee reported that the Pa. Department of Education had made two last-minute workshop requests. The recommendation from the Committee for two additional presenters was approved by the Board.

5. The Board moved to approve the selection of the Blair County Convention Center as the location of the 2003 Annual Conference. Dates of the Conference will be November 6-9, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Geist, Secretary



PAEE GETS A NEW HOME OFFICE

PAEE has moved its office to Shaver's Creek Environmental Center! Shaver's Creek is located in Centre County, very near State College, Pennsylvania. With this move to central Pennsylvania, PAEE will be able to share space and a small amount of personnel time with the center, creating opportunities to maintain day-to-day operations and hold meetings and other PAEE-related events at a location central to the state and with excellent facilities.

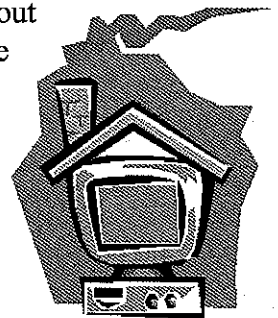
At this time, our e-mail will remain contactpae@hotmail.com.

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The Pennsylvania State University
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Phone: 814-863-2000
Fax: 814-865-2706



YOUR ALLIANCE NEEDS YOU

PAEE needs a few good volunteers to share an important job which can be done at home. We need some people to maintain our website. This means update it after each Journal and newsletter comes out by putting an article or two and any breaking news items online. The list of Board members will have to be updated once a year, and conference announcements and registration brochure will be made available online in September. That's it. Randy Newcomer is helping out until we can get some other folks involved. Contact Randy at randy@randysbooks.com or Judith Gratz at weitzhuis@comcast.net - and thank you.



PAEE NEWS

PAEE Receives Challenge Zone Grant

This fall the Pennsylvania Alliance for Environmental Education received funding through an NEEAP pilot project for increasing diversity and outreach in state environmental education organizations. The project, called "Challenge Zone: A Partnering Project," is designed to aid organizations such as PAEE in their efforts to build capacity, diversity, and connections within their state. PAEE will receive \$4,250 to build a long-range strategic plan for fostering partnerships with major environmental organizations and foundations in Pennsylvania and to create a planned giving campaign.

This will strengthen PAEE's efforts to maintain an office, hire staff, and develop programs and projects that will provide essential professional development for environmental educators throughout the Commonwealth.

The Challenge Zone project is managed by the National Environmental Education Advancement Program (NEEAP)

to develop sustainable and effective EE organizations through capacity building. A diverse organization with structures in place to train leaders and reach out to the community directly and indirectly involved with environmental education strengthens environmental education programs at the state and local levels. Challenge Zone strives to help state EE organizations like PAEE to be more inclusive and representative of all of the constituencies and organizations that are either providing environmental education programs and /or are a target audience for mainstream EE programs.

Working with and through the Pennsylvania Alliance for Environmental Education is beneficial to both PAEE and to your organization. Please contact us to explore the possibilities of partnerships, promotions, and growing with the PAEE. Phone: (814) 863-2000 or contactpae@hotmial.com



PAEE COOKBOOK

Kathleen Geist, PAEE's esteemed Secretary, continues to collect favorite recipes that will be compiled into a book/booklet to buy. Everyone is invited to submit favorite dishes: the ones you most enjoy making, or the one your family & friends rave most about. Recipes should be "your own" - either created by you, family, or friends, or an old cookbook standard so tweaked, improved, and adapted by you that it is now paraphrased rather than plagiarized! Please include a title, a category: i.e. breakfast, soup, salad, appetizer, entree, dessert, etc., full recipe: ingredients, quantities, preparation and cooking instructions. A nice touch would be an introductory sentence. As a footer to each recipe, please also include your name and region.

Recipes contributed thus far include Baked Oatmeal ("like a warm oatmeal cookie"), "To Die For" Chocolate Cake, Vegetarian Comfort Soup, Cold Killer Chicken Soup, the World's Best Bran Muffins, Cuban Black Beans, and more.....

Kathleen will continue collecting recipes until there is a suitable amount to collate and print. Depending on the response, first editions may be on sale at Conference 2003. All profits will benefit PAEE. Send Kathleen your venison specials! Your vegetarian delights! Your grandma's secret recipe!

Kathleen Geist
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TEACHER PAGE

Art Grows in the Garden

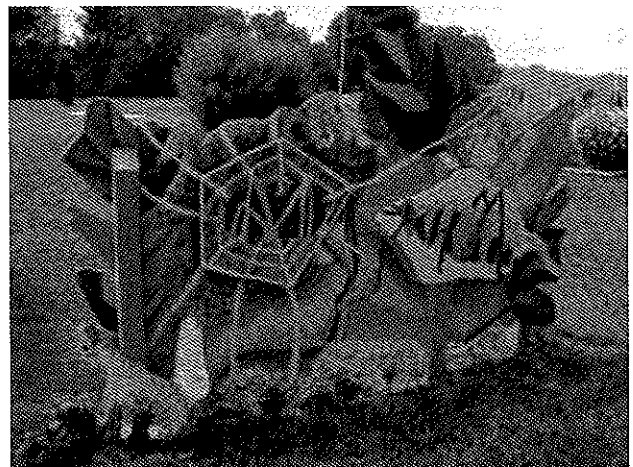
By Dawn Lawless, 2nd Grade Teacher & K-12 Science Coordinator,
Coatesville Areas School District



A rabbit turning its nose up at marigolds, a ladybug eating aphids, a potato beetle hugging a potato, an owl watching over the animals and vegetables... these are just some of the components to a large painted plywood collage created by the second grade students in Mrs. Lawless' class at King's Highway Elementary School in Coatesville, PA. Last fall students started a special Artist in Residency project with visiting artist Cindy Snodgrass. Students spent many hours and days researching and sketching the plant-animal relationships in the garden. Wooden pieces were cut out of plywood. Students and parents helped to sand and caulk the edges on approximately 30 pieces.

This past spring, Snodgrass returned to Lawless' classroom to complete the second phase. Students first traced their object, either an insect, animal, vegetable, or flower and then colored the paper silhouette with markers. This allowed them to experiment with colors and patterns. Then students painted a miniature version on paper to again practice and experiment with various painting techniques. Excitement built as students finally started to paint their boards.

When not painting, students researched and learned a great deal about ecology, agriculture, and integrated pest management. Lawless states, "I was very impressed with the amount of patience and maturity my students demonstrated. Teamwork was a resounding theme; everyone chipped in to help one another and there was a sense of class ownership in the project." Parents also helped immensely, doing such things as digging postholes, pulling up sod, drilling holes, painting, and lending tools. The project is mainly installed in the school's organic fruit, flower and vegetable garden as well as on the front of the school building. Student David Duane said, "It looks beautiful and gorgeous!" Kyle Walton stated, "We had a lot to do, and somehow we managed to pull it off."



The artwork will also serve as a teaching tool for teachers to teach about the new PA Academic Environment and Ecology Standards, in the areas of Agriculture & Society and Integrated Pest Management. Lawless said, "It was a wonderful chance to allow students to study a subject in depth and show what they've learned by completing this project. I hope when they graduate from high school and college they can come back to visit and remember having fun and learning about the environment and our need to protect our Earth."



