

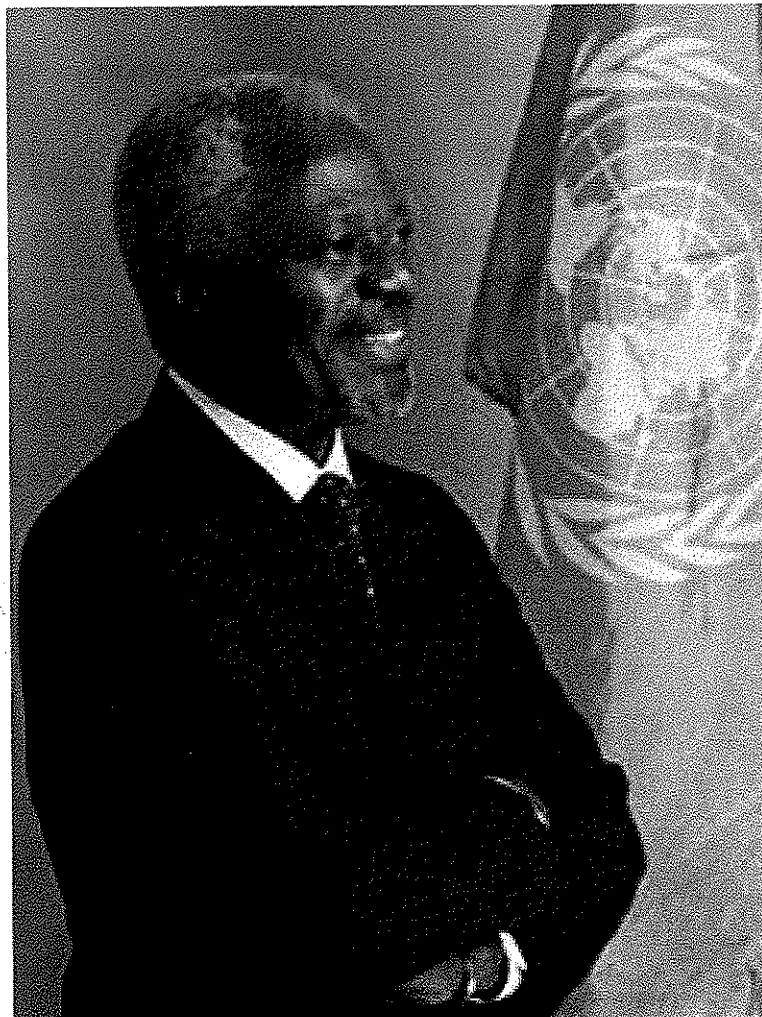
PAEE JOURNAL

The Journal of the Pennsylvania Alliance for Environmental Education

Vol. 11 No. 3

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Winter/Spring 2004



Kofi Annan, 9th United Nations
Secretary-General, at the
World Summit on Sustainable Development

“With new technology, which is able to regulate the amount of water one uses to irrigate, we may not have to use as much water or waste as much water as we do now. But it is a matter of education and preparing those who do not have that knowledge to be able to get it, and work with them to implement it and help save water.”



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INSIDE

PAEE JOURNAL CONTENTS

President's Message	1
PAEE NEWS	
Southwest PA Group Wins Environmental Education Award	2
Watershed Issues	2
2003 Conference Award Winners	
• Outstanding Environmental Educator of the Year	3
• Outstanding Environmental Education Program	3
• Environmental Education Corporate Sponsor	3
• Awards for Services to PAEE	4
Conference 2003 Workshop Highlights	
• Old Tricks for New Games	5
• Entertainment from 2003 Conference	5
• Abandoned Mine Drainage (AMD) and Wetlands... Goodbye Orange Water!	6
• Roger Tory Peterson Institute: Vernal Pools	7
• Rider University PROBE: Program for Regional Outreach and Biology Education	8
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	
Shoals Marine Laboratory Courses	9
"Lewis and Clark is the Ultimate Interdisciplinary Topic"	10
St. Vincent College	10
Workshops from DCNR	11
DCNR Reesources	11 & 29
TEACHER PAGE	
The Saga of Fred the Fish	12
WETLANDS READING LIST	18
REESOURCES	
National River Rally	28
Environmental Education for Everyone	28
Available from the National Association of Conservation Districts	28
Available from the United States Geological Survey	28
National River Rally	28
The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes	28
River of Words	29
Websites	30
Employment Opportunities	31
Membership Application	32

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: Kofi Annan, 9th United Nations Secretary-General, at the *World Summit on Sustainable Development, 2002* said: "With new technology, which is able to regulate the amount of water one uses to irrigate, we may not have to use as much water or waste as much water as we do now. But it is a matter of education and preparing those who do not have that knowledge to be able to get it, and work with them to implement it and help save water."

Also quoted at the WSSD, Isabel Allende, writer and environmentalist, said about our water resources, "We need a global approach to this from all sides. We need to educate people, we need the scientists to create new technologies, we need the engineers to create the networks, we need every human being to be aware of how precious water is and save it. Do not waste it. Everybody has to be involved in a very firm and assertive way."

Message From the President

By Jay Gregg, 2003 PAEE President

I usually depart a Conference both exhausted and energized. Since leaving Altoona, however, I have only felt energized. What an exciting Conference – kudos to Heidi Boyle, Roy Boyle, Jan Arnold and the entire Committee for providing a great opportunity for networking and professional development. As always I enjoyed seeing long time friends and colleagues, but I especially enjoyed meeting and welcoming many new folks to PAEE. Lots of ideas energized me as well. Dan Dziubek worked with a diverse and spirited group to look towards PAEE's future. The ideas generated will provide our Board of Directors with fresh perspective, and we are eager to carry forward the enthusiasm in which it emerged.

The 2003 Conference was, for the first time, organized through a statewide effort rather than through a regional effort. We are continuing on with this model, and I am excited that several educators from across the Commonwealth have already volunteered to work on organizing our 2004 Conference. You can still be a part of next year's Conference Committee. Please contact me, or any member of the Board, if you are interested in being involved in this kind of professional leadership. Plan to head to the Wyoming Valley in Northeast PA November 12 –14, 2004.

I am looking forward to the energy infused into the Alliance by new members of our Board of Directors. Dan Dziubek, SW Region, will bring a wealth of previous Board experience into the position of Vice President. Also riding in from the west will be Ruth Roperti representing the Southwest Region, and Tim Hart representing the Northwest Region. Congratulations to both and we thank them for sharing their wisdom and vigor.

Welcoming new leaders means parting with others. Special thanks to Mike Snyder, Heidi Boyle and Roy Boyle for their service and dedication these many years.

PAEE continues to move into an exciting time of change and new undertakings. Even if you did not attend Dan's conference workshop to help chart PAEE's course, you can share your ideas, suggestions, questions or concerns for what PAEE can or should be. Please contact me at jay@paradisefarmcamps.org and I will present your input at the January Board meeting. PAEE is YOUR professional organization, and will benefit from what YOU think.



Keynote Speaker from 2003 Conference



Fred Wilson, the conference keynote speaker, inspired educators with his presentation about his national award-winning environmental middle school program, STREAMS (Science Teaching in Rural Environments for Aquatic Management). Seen here with Fred are some of his students with a plethora of posters showing their research efforts.

ATTENTION: PENN STATE STUDENTS

You are receiving a complimentary copy of the journal. We hope you will join PAEE, the professional organization for environmental educators. You will find a membership form on the inside of the back cover. Thank you for your participation in the 2003 conference

**The PA Alliance for
Environmental Education has
a new address for its list.**

It is now pae@actionpa.org
If you still have pae@envirolink.org in
your address book, please update it.

PAEE NEWS

Southeast PA Group Wins Environmental Education Award

Delaware Valley Earth Force recently received the Outstanding Service to Environmental Education Organization - Global Level award by the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE). The award is presented annually to an organization that has made significant contributions to the environmental education movement.



Delaware Valley Earth Force (DVEF) is the local office of a national environmental education organization, Earth Force Inc., headquartered in Alexandria, Va. DVEF instructs teachers how to empower and activate young people to become effective environmental problem solvers, stewards and citizens in their communities. Through Earth Force programs, young people take the lead and become actively involved in developing and implementing community service projects within the context of established public policies and community practices.

“Earth Force is honored to receive this award and be recognized with previous winners such as the World Wildlife Fund, that have truly done incredible work in environmental

education,” Earth Force President Vince Meldrum said. “We believe we are making significant strides in the areas of youth engagement and environmental education. This award reflects the commitment to our mission of everyone involved with Earth Force.”

Since 1994, more than 90,000 young people have participated in Earth Force programs nationwide. Locally, throughout the five-county Delaware Valley Region, more than 10,000 young people have participated in Earth Force programs.



Watershed Issues

Here are several watershed issues to consider when teaching middle school and high school students.

Municipalities and watersheds

Most watersheds have more than one municipality within their boundaries. When teaching about watershed issues, one must look beyond the immediate community into the total watershed. Look at different issues relating to water that might arise because different municipalities having different water quality, usage, and other regulations, etc. Research the literature to find out how municipalities have solved the problem of working cooperatively for the benefit of their watershed and for all the citizens within. What issues have been the most difficult (or impossible) to resolve? Hypothesize a plan to deal with the difficult issues.

Surface and Groundwater:

Why is it important to understand the relationship between surface water and groundwater? How can this understanding be put to good use in a variety of economic endeavors?

Dams:

Are you a proponent or an opponent of future dam construction? Why or why not? Explore the various issues involved with damming a river.

Groundwater laws:

Which level of government – federal, state or local – should establish and regulate groundwater laws and why? How might

each argue its case? How might groundwater regulation be different under the control of each?

Policymaking:

Name 2 water agencies in PA and discuss how their policies are similar and/or in conflict. Suggest a model for policy-making that could be used by a new agency that would absorb and supplant the two to make the new one more effective than each separately.

Cattle and water issues:

Milk and beef cattle farming can be a huge cause of non-point source pollution. Research various methods being used to deal with this problem. Discuss possible incentives, which the farmers might accept to change the practices they use that lead to water pollution, contamination and poor quality. What would it cost the taxpayer, and how could policymakers get the taxpayer to accept the additional burden?

By looking at a watershed using a comprehensive approach, students can better understand the complexities involved in good watershed management. Couple this with an all-day bus tour of your watershed, a visit to a wastewater treatment plant, an evening at a meeting of the local municipal governing body when they discuss an issue related to watershed quality (such as development or zoning) and a trip to the municipal water supply facility, and your students should have an excellent grasp of the issues.



