



EEAC

FALL/WINTER 2001/2002

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

A CITY OF HEROES

On September 11, 2001, the world witnessed a horrific attack on humanity that was felt around the world by people of all nations. It will long be remembered as one of the darkest days in the history of our city and our country. On behalf of EEAC, we extend our deepest sympathy to all who have suffered the loss of family members, friends, and colleagues. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the heroic efforts of our firefighters, police officers, EMS workers and other agencies, along with the thousands of volunteers engaged in the rescue and recovery efforts. No doubt there will be difficult times ahead for the nation and the city in the aftermath of this tragedy. The world-changing events of September 11 demonstrate the complexity and interconnectedness of our global community. It is a time to rethink our priorities and to reach out and connect to family, friends, and the larger community. In that respect, New York City has demonstrated a remarkable spirit and resilience, serving as a beacon of hope for all of humanity.

Our teachers also deserve special recognition for their heroic efforts on September 11th to insure the safety of 8,000 children entrusted in their care. Nothing had adequately prepared teachers to deal with terrorism or the concerns of students in the aftermath of these tragic events. Acknowledged as “quiet heroes” in UFT’s *New York Teacher*, educators in lower Manhattan put the safety of their students before their own, ushering thousands of children to safety and reuniting them with their parents. An excerpt from “Heroes All: The Untold Story” reveals the courage and determination of our city’s teachers:

“With children on their shoulders and clinging to their hands and clothing, they walked, ran, stumbled, stopped, counted, consoled, encouraged, and ran again, two miles and more to shelter in schools further north. Those educators, many of them in their first year — days, I should say — of teaching, swallowed their own terror to protect their vulnerable charges. In fact, several told me, independently, the same motivation: “The only thing that kept me from hysteria was knowing that the kids needed me to be calm.”
(UFT, *New York Teacher*, September 29)

In the days that follow, and certainly for a long time to come, teachers will have the responsibility of nurturing and reassuring students about life in a world of uncertainty. No doubt educators have an important role in the healing process, and we must work together to turn ignorance and anger into tolerance and understanding. Difficult as the task may be, it is important to remember that we still live in a world in which good triumphs over evil, where hope can prevail over despair, and where love is stronger than hate. As we revisit our priorities and our values let us not neglect the role of environmental education in building a global community and nurturing a new generation of world citizens dedicated to universal understanding and peace.

- Mary J. Leou, Ed.D.

EEAC is a voluntary organization in support of Environmental Education for New York

UPCOMING EEAC EVENTS.....

Steering Committee Meetings

EEAC Steering Committee meetings are always the third Wednesday of every month (except August) but this year the November and December meetings will take place on the second Wednesday of the month due to holiday schedules.

Upcoming Meeting Information:

Steering Committee meetings are held at New York University, Pless Building, 32 Washington Square Park East and Washington Place in the 5th floor Conference Room except for the November 14th annual meeting. (See page 5 for location.) Upcoming meetings will be on November 14, December 12, and January 16.

Newsletter Deadlines

The Newsletter deadlines are the first Monday in April, July, October and January. If possible, please E-mail articles to joy.garland@verizon.net and send longer articles as an attachment in Microsoft Word or on a floppy disc in MS Word. Typed articles should be sent to the Editor's address below.

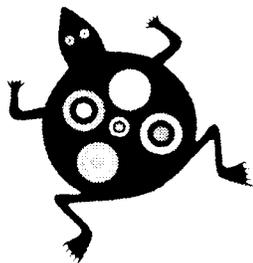
Newsletter Committee

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The Environmental Education Advisory Council (EEAC) would like to thank the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for supporting the publication of this newsletter. For information about DEP's education resources for students and teachers, visit the DEP Web site at www.ci.nyc.ny.us/dep or call (718) 595-3483.



NOTE CHANGE OF CAROL'S E-MAIL

If you are a member of EEAC and want to be part of the information sharing and discussion on the EEAC Listserve contact:

Cfranke@nycboe.net

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

c/o Brooklyn Center for the Urban Environment
The Tennis House
Prospect Park
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11215-9992

This newsletter is a publication of the Environmental Education Advisory Council (EEAC), a voluntary organization of educators, classroom teachers, administrators and other professionals in active support of environmental education. It is available free upon request.

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Millard Clements, Ph.D., Secretary
Kim Estes-Fradis, Membership Secretary
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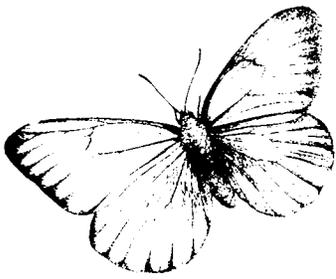
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THE SEARCH FOR SUSTAINABILITY

by Pamela Peeters

What are the most dominant characteristics of the world's pattern of doing business? I believe it's the continuous exploitation of natural and human resources without considering the long term effects on the whole Earth community. It's all about making the best impression and closing the deal as quickly as possible with only one shot at it. This behavior encourages short-term investments and does not contain a long-term vision. What is lacking is an understanding and commitment to sustainable development. This concept is crucial when it comes to making choices that have implications for the generations to come. Environmental education is one of the most important assets we have today to contribute to the creation of a more conscious and just global society.

NEWLY DEFINED CITIZENSHIP

The citizens of the 21st century are nurturing the creation of a new international ethic called "sustainability", and established principles are being redefined. The integration of environmental and social concerns within economic society deflates the masculine image that many nations carry, and different definitions of citizenship and leadership are emerging. A softening of the global patriarchal society becomes a reality and size becomes less relevant. The voices that will be heard in the future are those of countries, companies, and people that show social integrity, environmental respect, and preservation of these principles in their words and in their deeds. Our priority should be the development of a true understanding of planet Earth's mechanisms for long term sustainability and actions which seek to achieve a balanced integration of economic, environmental, and social needs. The nations that achieve this balance will have comparative advantages over other countries and people.

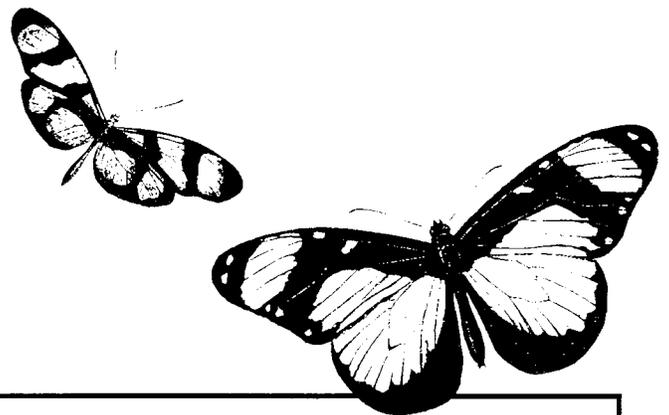
GREENING OF THE WORLD

Philanthropy has never been a driving force for a greening of world trade. The rise in financial, economic, and health related expenses linked to maintaining current production systems are such that they change the design of many production patterns and production modes. With the current state of technological development and a growing concern for an economic recession, the evolution towards a "greener" and a more sustainable world trade is said to be a choice between doing business as usual for short term economic gains or taking a more balanced approach which includes protection of the environment. The prevailing division is maintaining uncertainty as to how to direct the global economies towards economical practices that are healthy for the economy, the environment, and the society as a whole. It is there that the importance of communication becomes clear and that distribution of objective messages will be needed to bridge information gaps.

REDESIGN OF INFORMATION

The freedom to address quality issues and to question business practices has increased thanks to the worldwide implementation of the internet where more and better information is being shared on a global level and in a timely manner. New trends in communication will further continue to impact societal behavior. Sustainable marketing and information campaigns are more and more often containing messages with an intrinsic value. Besides the commercial tone there is room for education, and intelligent entertainment is not far away. Environmental education has a very bright future with many challenges since its audience is better informed and requests increasing levels of quality. The design of a clear map that shapes our lives towards a more sustainable world is an essential tool, and the educators of today have an important role to play in guiding our citizens towards the achievement of a more sustainable tomorrow.

Former laureate of the Belgian prize of the Minister of Foreign Trade, environmental economist and international ECO-consultant Pamela Peeters blends economic and ecological know-how with new media applications to inform an international audience about the green and not so green trends of New York and American society. Her new bi-monthly television show "Our Planet" can be seen on Channel 67, 9:30 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month. She has created a Unit for Environmental Education at Columbia University and develops educational multimedia projects to promote public initiatives such as the Sustainable Development policy. For people deprived of Manhattan cable access there is "Pamela's Urban Ecology", a Website (<http://www.pamelapeeters.net>) about the integration of social and environmental trends in city life. She can be contacted at <pamela_peeters@hotmail.com>.



EEAC News...

Environmental Links...

Upcoming events...

Visit our website

<http://members.aol.com/wleou/eeac.html>

Dates and Places

On Saturday, November 17, from 6 to 9 p.m., the **Alley Pond Environmental Center** will celebrate **25 years** at its location on Northern Boulevard in Little Neck. The event will honor William Neiter for his quarter century of commitment to APEC. For information, call (718) 229-4000.

You have until November 25 to see "**Lost New York in Old Postcards**," an exhibition in the Museum of the City of New York, Fifth Avenue and East 103rd Street. The 170 postcards show parks, subways, hotel, restaurants, and stores in New York from 1899 through 1958. For details, call (212) 534-1672.

Plan now. The **2002 conference of the Science Council of New York City** will take place on Saturday, March 23. The location will be announced closer to the date.

Around New York City

The new **Natural Science Area of the Brooklyn Children's Museum**, 145 Brooklyn Avenue at St. Mark's Avenue, includes the Con Edison Greenhouse and City Plant Adventures, which teaches the relationship between crops and what people eat and wear. To learn more, call (718) 735-4400.

Speaking of Con Edison, the company has created two booklets with energy conservation tips. They are *Everyday Energy-Saving Tips* and *Appliance Guide*. To obtain copies, call 1 (800) 609-4488.

The new **Discovery Room at the American Museum of Natural History** invites children to emulate scientific investigations both on and off the field. To find out more, call (212) 769-5100.

For a copy of the New York Botanical Garden's *Educational Programs for Elementary School Students and Teachers*, 2001-2002, write to Children's Education, 200th Street and Kazimiroff Boulevard, Bronx, NY 10458-5126.

The New York Conservation Education Fund has published a reference work, *New York Citizen's Guide to Government and the Urban Environment*, which serves as a resource for whom to contact at all levels of government and what concerned citizens can do themselves. To obtain copies, call the Fund at (212) 361-6350.

Earlier this year, the Green Guerillas devoted a special edition of its *Vitis Vine* publication to a very comprehensive portrayal of the problem of the **Asian Longhorned Beetle**. It was written by our own Naomi Zurcher and is, in the opinion of this writer, the best one-stop source of information about this pest that you will find. For copies, call the GGs at (212) 594-2155 or write to them at 151 West 30th Street, 10th floor, New York, NY 10001.

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection has reprinted a fascinating booklet, *A Walker's Guide to the Old Croton Aqueduct*, which was originally produced by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. This handsome publication is useful for those who might walk all or part of the Old Croton Aqueduct, as well as for those who just want to know about it. To obtain a copy, write to DEP at 59-17 Junction Boulevard, Corona, NY 11368-5107....While you're at it, ask for a copy of the **2000 Drinking Supply and Quality Report**.

The New York City Program of the Trust for Public Land has published *New York's Community Gardens-A Resource at Risk*, which demonstrates the benefits provided by gardens, from reducing stress, building community, and teaching children, to making surrounding property more valuable. To obtain copies, call (212) 677-7171 or write to 666 Broadway, New York, NY 10012.

Glenn Phillips is the Director of Education for the new Prospect Park Audubon Center. To reach him, call (718) 965-8901, or write to him at Litchfield Village, 95 Prospect Park West, Brooklyn, NY 11215.

Hopefully, by the time this reaches you, the election will be over and we will know who will be in charge of City government for the next four years. But the work of **Parks 2001** will continue "to restore, reform, and revitalize parks and recreation services in New York City," and especially to have 1% of the City's expense budget devoted to parks. For material about Parks 2001, call (212) 490-1440 or write to Parks 2001, 355 Lexington Avenue, 3rd floor, New York, NY 10017.

The Environmental Action Coalition has created and sustained the "**Greening Gray Neighborhoods**" campaign and, by the end of this year, expects to have generated more than 1,600 tree requests and more than \$800,000 in municipal tree planting funds in underserved areas of the City. To learn about the program, call EAC Director Paul Berizzi, at (212) 825-3367.

Around New York State

The **New York State Department of Environmental Conservation** has moved its offices to 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233. To find addresses and telephone numbers for DEC offices, check the Department's Web site <<http://www.dec.state.ny.us>>.

Watershed science classroom materials, written for middle school and high school teachers and students to help incorporate the study of the watersheds into science classes and clubs, are available from the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, NY 14850 or call (607) 254-2489.

Elsewhere

The Communities Committee is a product of the 7th American Forest Council held in 1996, and it publishes a newsletter that may be obtained by contacting Ann Moore, Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy, 803 First Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85719. For more information, e-mail the Chair of the Committee, Carol Day: cdaly@digisys.net.

Teachers and students who garden should know about a program to slow down rainwater so that it can soak into the ground rather than erode the soil. Clagett Farm, a large organic farm in Maryland, can supply information. Call (301) 627-4393. Also ask for a copy of *Native Plants and Wildlife Habitats*, compiled by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

The American Chestnut Foundation is trying to bring back the wonderful tree that suffered such a terrible blight in the middle of the last century. To find out about its work, write to 469 Main Street, Bennington, VT 05201-4044 or call (802) 447-0110.

The National Park Service staff has developed age-appropriate educational worksheets on biology, geology, and history, which they are distributing for free, along with classroom sets of Parks brochures. Call Annette East at (805) 370-2348 and give the grade level, the number of students in the class, and the area of study. You may also send her an e-mail addressed to: annette_east@nps.gov.

New York City Audubon Society publishes *Look Around New York*, a series of one page nature newsletters for children who read fourth to sixth grade level. Each year we make sets available for free to educators, plus an order form to request additional copies. Please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope for \$.57 cents postage to: Naola Gersten-Woolf -LA, New York City Audubon Society, 71 West 23rd Street. Rm. 1529, New York, NY 10010. Requests are due by December 15th.

Announcements from the Gateway Environmental Study Center

1. Volunteers needed for maintenance of John Kominski Wildlife Garden. If you have ideas you would like to try we will provide space for your vision. We have lots of space for anyone who wishes to develop their own garden. Just promise you'll donate some time to ours.

2. Anyone wishing to learn more about birding, we have the feeders and plenty of visitors. We need volunteers to record numbers of birds for Classroom Feederwatch. Call, Regina McCarthy, (718) 252-7307 or e-mail Jamaicabay@aol.com.

Audubon New York Needs You

For the Birds! is Audubon New York's school based and after school program which teaches students about science, nature, and the environment through the study of birds. Started in 1997 by the National Audubon Society, *For the Birds!* has reached thousands of children in the New York City area. Field trips to local natural areas, habitat improvement, research projects, and classroom visits by renowned scientists, artists, authors, and real birds from the Theodore Roosevelt Audubon Center are only a few of the experiences available through the *For the Birds!* Program.

We need volunteers (ages 18+) to keep *For the Birds!* growing for the 2001-2002 school year. Join bird walks and lend a hand with habitat improvement projects while helping children learn science and develop an appreciation for nature. All programs are offered during the school day or after school. Teaching experience is appreciated, but not required. Please contact Lynn Tiede, Audubon NY Education Coordinator, at (212) 979-3073 or: ltiede@audubon.org for more information.

SAVE THE DATE

EEAC'S ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, November 14, 2001
4-6PM

at New York University's
Kimball Hall Lounge,
Greene Street and Waverly Place
(entrance on Greene Street)

Program and speaker's name will be
mailed separately to members.

Refreshments will be served.

JOHN KOMINSKI OUTSTANDING ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATOR AWARD

The Environmental Education Advisory Council and the Elementary School Science Association would like to recognize an outstanding environmental educator by presenting the John Kominski Memorial Award to a K – 12 teacher.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The John Kominski Memorial Award will be given to a New York City public or private school teacher who has demonstrated leadership in effecting positive change in environmental education and practice with students and/or personnel within the school or the community.

Examples may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Organizing a new environmental project with students and/or staff
- Taking initiative to infuse EE across the curriculum
- Creating a new EE curriculum unit
- Organizing a student environmental club
- Organizing a school environmental task force to effect and monitor change
- With students and staff, organizing a community environmental event
- Creating an environmental newsletter for educational outreach
- Helping students to identify and solve an environmental problem in the school or community

Individuals may nominate themselves or school personnel, or students may nominate a teacher. The cover letter should include the name, address, phone, or e-mail of the individual, plus the school's address and phone. Indicate the subject and grade(s) taught by the nominee and the number of years the nominee has taught environmental education.

Attach a letter, not exceeding one typed page, with details of the nominee's achievements, including dates, goals, results, and who took part. Please include two letters of support, one from the nominee's principal/supervisor and another from someone who was affected by the nominee's work either in the school or community. Documentation in the form of photos and press clippings is welcome, but no tapes or videos should be sent. The EEAC/ESSA Selection Committee may request further information. Stamped self-addressed envelopes should accompany any materials you wish to have returned.

The successful candidate will receive a check for \$100, a Certificate of Recognition, and be featured in the EEAC and ESSA Newsletters.

All materials should be sent in one package to Kim Estes-Fradis, NYC Dept. of Environmental Protection, 59-17 Junction Blvd. Corona, NY 11373. Materials must be postmarked no later than January 26, 2002. Notification will be sent to the winner of the award by February 28, 2002.



Saturday Science



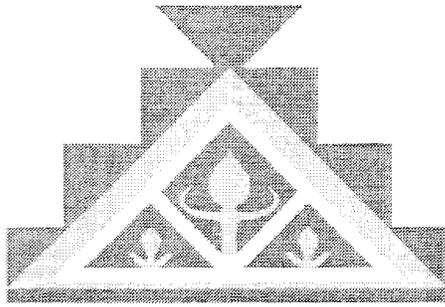
The Elementary School Science Association's 24th Annual Saturday Science, "The Blaustein Conference," will be held on Saturday, November 17th, in Francis Lewis High School, 58-20 Utopia Parkway, Flushing. There will be no plenary session and no walk-in registrations. As of this writing, presenters may still be needed. To find out, call Marian Sloane, at (718) 377-7999. Participants may attend three hand-on workshops and visit the vender's area for a look at new materials and books. New teacher credit is available. Registration, which includes a continental breakfast, must be received by November 4. It is \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members, and \$20 for registration plus membership. Checks should be made out to E.S.S.A. and sent to Stan Mandel, 783A Heritage Hills, Somers, NY 10589.

The following organizations are EEAC members...

**Central Park Conservancy
New York Botanical Garden
Christodora - Manice Education Center
New York City Audubon Society
Environmental Action Coalition
New York City Department of Environmental Protection
Environmental Study Center - CSD 22
Sustainability Education Center
Friends of Marine Park - Gerritsen Creek
The River Project
Wave Hill**

We thank the above organizations for their support of EEAC by becoming EEAC members.

Please ask your organization to become a member of EEAC too. A membership form is located on the back of your EEAC newsletter.



**PROSPECT PARK
EDUCATION EXPO**
Add 526 acres to your school!

Sunday, November 18, 2001
11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Picnic House, Prospect Park,
Brooklyn

New Teacher Credit Available
(enter at 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sts. & PPWest)
To register call (718) 965-6929

**Teachers, science coordinators,
and administrators
come to the Expo
and
learn about environmental education
resources in Prospect Park.
Indoor and outdoor activities
will include
hands-on workshops, exhibits, tours,
and demonstrations.
Family members welcome.**

Also open to the public.

The Education Expo is a program of the Prospect Park Alliance's Community Committee and the Park's Education Collaboratives Group whose members include the Prospect Park Alliance, the Brooklyn Center for the Urban Environment, the City Parks Foundation, the Prospect Park Zoo, the Urban Forest & Education Program of City Parks Foundation, the City of New York/Parks & Recreation Urban Park Rangers, and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. The Education Expo is funded by the Keyspan Foundation, the New York City Council, and Councilmember Kenneth Fisher, with professional support from the Environmental Education Advisory Council. We are again seeking volunteers from EEAC to help with hands-on activities, registration, and as guides for the event. If you can help, call Dr. Mary Leou at (212) 998-5474.

**ENVIROMENTAL EDUCATION
ADVISORY COUNCIL
BALLOT**

The by-laws of EEAC provide for elections at the Annual Meeting of a new three year "class" of members of the Steering Committee, which functions as the EEAC Board of Trustees. The Nominating Committee has prepared the following slate:

Class of 2003 (Vote for six): or write-in candidate(s)
of your choice:

- Susan Clark _____
- Joy Garland _____
- Ariff Hajee _____
- John Lancos _____
- Claudia Toback _____
- Barry Weinbrom _____

On Wed. November 14, from 4 - 6 p.m., we will hold our Annual Meeting at the Kimball Hall Lounge of N.Y.U. located on the ground floor of Greene Street and Waverly Place. If you plan to attend, you will have an opportunity to meet the candidates and submit your ballot.

If you cannot attend please mail your ballot by, November 8, to Dr. Mary Leou, Wallerstein Collaborative, NYU, East Bldg. Rm. 637C, 239 Greene St. NY, NY 10003 or e-mail to maryleou@aol.com.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

New Member

Renewal

Name: _____

Address: _____ Apt. _____ Zip Code _____

If sustaining Organization, Name of Contact Person _____

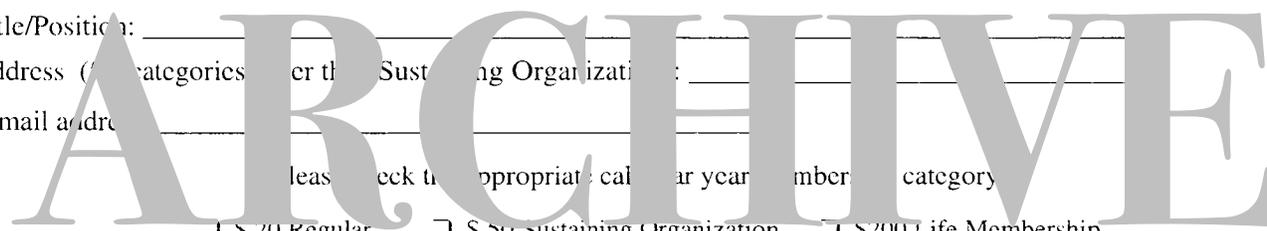
Business Phone () _____ Home Phone () _____

Affiliation (for categories other than Sustaining Organization): _____

Title/Position: _____

Address (for categories other than Sustaining Organization): _____

E-mail address: _____



Please check the appropriate calendar year membership category

\$ 20 Regular \$ 50 Sustaining Organization \$200 Life Membership

Please make checks payable to EEAC. Thank you! EEAC is a 501-C-3 organization.

I would like to become involved in a committee.

Please provide me with information about the following committees:

- Exhibits
- Issues
- Membership
- Newsletter
- Programs
- Youth
- Technology
- Kominski Fund

Please complete the application and mail it, with your payment, to:

Joanne Dittersdorf, EEAC Treasurer, P.O. Box 408, Cooper Station, New York, NY 10276



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**DON'T MISS EEAC'S ANNUAL MEETING,
NOVEMBER 14TH!**