

Environmental Education Advisory Council Newsletter

FALL 1996

# CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

his issue memorializes Lynn Rosner - advocate for the victims of sexual assault, the physically challenged, and children. The diversity of issues that Lynn worked on is extraordinary. She was best known for her organizational work in support of rape victims and their families; yet she organized innovative programs that linked environmental education and recreation in a manner that effectively served children, including many with severe disabilities.

As the daughter of Joan and Hy Rosner, Lynn's diversity and depth of service does not surprise the EEAC community. Joan and Hy have established such an incredible record of giving in the communities where they have lived. They are two of the founders of the environmental education movement in our region and of EEAC. For years they ran the fabled Watson Ecology Workshop, which trained so many of the educators who constructed the academic and programmatic foundations on which the field is based. Their other New York environmental education

and community activities are too numerous to mention here.

Of course after "retirement" they proceeded to generate environmental education and related programs in Dade

County, Florida and in Albuquerque, New Mexico and write important "stories" documenting the work.

The Rosners have a tradition of environmental and human service to the community at large. In this issue we will learn about Lynn from those who knew her best, as a social service activist and as a person.

—Michael Zamm

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

# UPCOMING EEAC EVENTS.....

# **Steering Committee Meetings**

EEAC Steering Committee meetings are held from 4-6pm on the third Wednesday of every month. Please arrive promptly at 4pm!

All EEAC members are invited to attend and participate in the discussion. For information on the location of the meetings, contact Millard Clements at (212) 998-5495.

# **Upcoming meeting information:**

Steering committee meetings are held at New York University, Press Building, 32 Washington Square Park East in the Anderson Room. Upcoming dates are: September 18, October 16, November 20, and December 18.

## **Newsletter Deadlines**

Material should be submitted to the Editor on the first Monday of May, August, November and February. If possible, please submit on a floppy disc in WordPerfect 5.1 or 6.1 format.

### **Newsletter Committee**

Kenneth Kowald Mary Leou Joy Garland

Therese Braddick, Newsletter Editor City Parks Foundation The Arsenal, 830 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10021 (212) 360-8292



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# ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

c/o Brooklyn Center for the Urban Environment The Tennis House Prospect Park Brooklyn, N.Y. 11215-9992 (718) 788-8500

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.

#### EEAC OFFICERS

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Helen Ross Russell
Talbert Spence, National Audubon Society
Nancy A. Wolf, Environmental Action Coalition

\*Affiliations for identification purposes only.

# **Environmental Resources**

by Kenneth Kowald

# Time-Wise

The Codex Leicester, compiled by Leonardo da Vinci from 1506 to 1510, contains about 360 pen-and-ink sketches, drawings and diagrams of his theories on natural phenomena. The 72-page manuscript will be on display in the exhibition, "Leonardo's Codex Leicester: A Masterpiece of Science," from October 26 to January 1, in the American Museum of Natural History.

The bicycle is an environmentally friendly form of transportation. Through October 4, you may view the exhibit "Bicycles: History, Beauty, Fantasy," in the Paine Webber Art Gallery, 1285 Sixth Avenue (between 51st and 52nd Streets), Manhattan, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. It's free.

Through October 27, "Backyard Monsters: The World of Insects," is on view in the New York Hall of Science, 47-01 111th Street, Flushing Meadows Corona Park, Queens. It features giant, robotic models of several insects. Hours are Wednesday-Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information, call (718) 699-0005.

November 15 is the deadline for applications to the National Gardening Association's, **Youth Garden Grants Program**, 180 Flynn Avenue, Burlington, Vermont 05401. The grants are for groups which plan to garden in 1997 with at least 15 children between the ages of 3 and 18. Food gardens, beautification projects or a combination are eligible.

Everybody in the environmental movement could use more money. From December 6 through 8, the Pocono Environmental Education Center will present "Fund-Raising Essentials," a course co-sponsored by the Alliance for Environmental Education and the Association of Nature Center Administrators. To learn more, call (717) 828-2319, or write to PEEC, R.R. 2, Box 1010, Dingmans Ferry, Pennsylvania 18328.

When it opens next September, the **Everett Children's Adventure Garden** in the New York Botanical Garden will be a "state-of-the-art outdoors museum...where children can learn, hands-on, about plants, science and the natural world." To learn more about it, call (718) 817-8700.

# **EEAC-Wise**

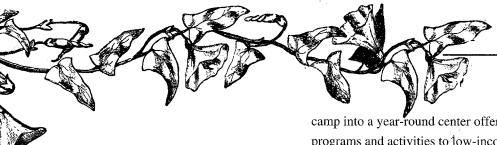
Here are some of the things you missed if you did not attend recent EEAC Steering Committee (third Wednesday of every month, except August) and Membership meetings:

- We Health advice about eating sport fish caught in the waters of the Lower Hudson River, New York Harbor, marine waters of New York and fresh waters of Long Island. Don't despair: William Ledwitz, Environmental Educator for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, will share his information with you, if you call him at (718) 482-4949, or write to him at 47-40 21st Street, Long Island City 11101. We expect Bill to be one of the environmental educators at the October 1 "Green Horizons" conference in the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.
- Since 1987, The River Project, a nonprofit, taxexempt organization, has provided an infrastructure for research and education concerning the ecology of the Hudson River Estuary. Located at Pier 26 in Manhattan, it is open from May through November. To learn more, call (212) 431-5787.
- All kinds of interesting things are happening in Wildlife Centers of New York City (the zoos and the Aquarium!), as we learned at a Membership meeting in the Prospect Park Wildlife Center. For materials about what is going on, write to the Wildlife Conservation Society, Education Department Registrar, 450 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn 11225-3704. For information about HELP (Habitat Ecology Learning Program), which provides teachers in grades 4-6 with ways to integrate the teaching of ecology with required life science curricula, call Ann Robinson at the Bronx Zoo/Wildlife Conservation Park, 1-800-YES-5131, or (718) 220-6856, or write to HELP, Education Department, Bronx Zoo/Wildlife Conservation Park, Bronx 10460....At that meeting, Terry Ippolito of Region 2, United States Environmental Protection Agency, had copies of "The Happy Earth Day Coloring and Activities Book," which may be obtained by writing to her at 26th floor, 290 Broadway, New York 10007, or calling (212) 637-3671. Terry, too, will be an environmental educator at the "Green Horizons" conference on October 1.

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# IN MEMORIAM: LYNN ROSNER

ithin the environmental education community there are many people who have felt the impact on their lives of the founding members of EEAC, Joan and Hy Rosner. This is true not only of EEAC, but also in the development of the Alley Pond Environmental Center, the Elementary School Science Association, the Children's Natural Science Workshop and Watson Family Camping.

Their contributions to the environmental community are legendary. They have touched the lives of tens of thousands of adults and children.

In their personal lives, Joan and Hy raised their family of two daughters, Lynn and Suzie, to live by the beliefs they hold dear. They have recently suffered the loss of their older daughter, Lynn, who fought a valiant fight against cancer but passed away on February 29, at the age of 52.

Lynn's interest in the outdoors, her love of folk music, her sensitivity to those in need all came together in a career of advocacy for women, children and people with disabilities. In her work she used the beauty and majesty of the environment in Albuquerque and its surrounding area.

Lynn went to Albuquerque in 1971, on an anthropological dig. Joan and Hy joined her there when they retired some 20 years ago, not long after the founding of EEAC. After working for seven years as director of the Albuquerque Rape Crisis Center, Lynn became Director of the YWCA's Albuquerque Pinon Canyon Center. In her nearly eight years there she transformed a summer-only

camp into a year-round center offering environmental programs and activities to low-income elementary and middle school students, including the severely challenged. At the time of her death she was Director of Therapeutic Recreation Programs for the Albuquerque Department of Family and Community Services.

She was, as one would expect, a founding member of the Environmental Education Association New Mexico (EEANM).

At a memorial service in Albuquerque, many friends and colleagues spoke eloquently about Lynn. Some of them have shared their thoughts with EEAC and we have tried to highlight them for our members, in recognition of Lynn's remarkable contribution in support of the values we all share with Joan and Hy. Our loving thoughts are with them and all whose lives Lynn touched. The editing has been done by Ruth Eilenberg, Kenneth Kowald and Dove Lusterman.

Jean Wamboldt, former director of APEC: Lynn Rosner, a beloved child of dear friends, was mature and out of the nest when we first crossed paths with her parents. We met her only a few times and then she was off to New Mexico. Since neither of us trusted the friendly skies, all our further contacts were by telephone.

I remember her most vividly at a mountain retreat. She was running around the edge of a small lake. She was running. Not racing. Not jogging. Just running: expressing all the joy of being young and alive and doing so with the grace of a dancer and the fluidity of a superb athlete. It was a sight equal to all the natural beauty surrounding her and one I will always cherish.

On the phone she displayed the same grace and beauty she displayed on the running track. We weren't acquaintances from different generations. We were friends and she cared about me and what I was doing. She was never rushed. She was always ready to help. She made me happy that I had a chance to speak with her.

I wasn't there to see Lynn's professional accomplishments, but I know they were many and profound. I barely knew what she "did"—but I knew what she was: a warm, loving, caring friend, a joy to know.

Floyd A. Thompson III, Sandia District Ranger, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lynn left a legacy of advocacy for women, children and all people with disabilities that is hard to match. Our station abuts the Pinon Canyon Center, where I saw her work tirelessly to bring the wonder of nature and all things environmental to those who did not have many chances to experience these wonders.

Lynn and I believed that all our citizens should enjoy the priceless treasures that are held in the heritage of lands within our National Forests and that we must be vigilant against complacency and apathy toward preserving the common heritage that belongs to all of us.

Sarah Kotchian, Director, Albuquerque Environmental Health Department: Lynn and I worked on many projects together. One of my vivid memories is from the early 1980s. We were sitting on someone's rug, folding and sorting one of the many mailings for the Women's Health Network. Whether it was making herbal tea, or cookies, or setting out refreshments for a workshop on women's health—Lynn was there, between work and night meetings, between softball games, whenever and wherever she was needed.

She made everyone feel welcome and important. For me, this has been especially true for my son and daughter. She made them feel special at camp and whenever she saw them.

She helped them not to feel lonely or shy on their first day, making all the difference in their ability to have confidence in making friends and joining in.

In all these ways, Lynn touched not only her own generation, but the next generation of children who will love each other and the earth better because she was here.

Dolores Varela-Phillips, Naturalist Resource Teacher and Treasurer, EEANM: I will remember Lynn every time I pass the I-40 Eastbound exit marked "Tijeras." There, in the foothills of the Sandia Mountains is the Pinon Science Camp. It came into being because of Lynn's vision and hard work. There fourth and fifth graders from the Albuquerque area not only experience, in a hands-on way, an appreciation of nature and an understanding of its interdependence, they are immersed in nature with the best resource people available.

I met Lynn in 1988, when my Los Padillas Elementary fifth graders were the pilot class for the first Pinon Camp experience. Lynn was a gentle, soft-spoken bundle of energy, who had high expectations for herself as well as for the kids, a global vision of what needs to happen in order to maintain a healthy quality of life on earth and an understanding of teaching integrated content, strategies and techniques that really turn kids on.

Her work and her spirit made an indelible mark on all who knew and worked with her.

Chris O'Connor, Interpretive Naturalist at Pinon Camp: Lynn was my boss, my mentor—and most of all my friend. She shared her vision of using nature to educate all children in a happy and engaging manner, especially those who tend to slip through the cracks.

Through the YWCA's Environmental Discovery Camp, which she started, and the summer camp, she instilled her sense of love and concern in all around her. She encouraged people to reach out to others, whether it was through the Peace Corps, the education of children, teen mom programs, or affirming, life changing roles.

Of all of Lynn's many wonderful gifts, the most precious was the gift of herself.



Those who wish to make a donation in Lynn's honor may do so through the Memorial Fund the family has set up:

Lynn Rosner Memorial Fund Albuquerque Community Foundation P.O. Box 36960 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87176-6960

# **Environmental Resources**

# Continued from page 3

# Other-Wise

Educators for Gateway is helping to spread the news that free bird feeders are available for use in the classroom. Send the request, listing grade, name, school and address to **Feeding for Fun**, Droll Yankees, Inc. 27 Mill Road, Foster, Rhode Island 02825.

New Yorkers are able to **report environmental crimes** by way of a toll-free hotline: 1-800-EN-CRIME (362-7463). The new line is linked to the State Attorney General's Environmental Crime section, which works with the State Department of Environmental Conservation and other State agencies to investigate and prosecute polluters.

"Breaking Ground" is a collaboration between the Brooklyn Botanic Garden and the Brooklyn Children's Museum, to teach children 3 to 12 about plants. Among the programs in this permanent exhibition is one exploring the use of plants in daily life in the Museum and a discovery garden at the Botanic Garden that includes different habitats. To learn more, call the Garden, (718) 622-4433, extension 416, or the Museum, (718) 735-4400.

If Sam Holmes, past Chair and now Honorary Member of EEAC, says it's good, it must be. It is "Gateway, A Visitor's Companion," by John T. Tanacredi, with 50 line illustrations by David Taft. It is available in many bookstores, as well as the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge and the Sandy Hook Visitor Center. The price is \$14.95. It may be obtained by mail from Stackpole Books, 5067 Ritter Road, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania 17055. Sam reviewed the volume in a recent issue of the publication of Friends of Gateway, on whose Board he serves.

The New York City Police Department has gotten serious about graffiti. In its booklet, "Combat Graffiti," it notes "graffiti vandalism is a crime punishable by a jail term, monetary fine and/or community service." The Department's Graffiti Hot-Line is (212) 374-5914 and operates 24 hours a day, every day. The Hot-Line operator assigns each caller a code number and the caller may remain anonymous.

Holiday lights on street trees are only legal between November 15 and February 1 and a permit is required to install them. Long-term holiday light installation will kill a tree by girdling it. To report violations, call the Parks Enforcement Patrol at 1-800-201-PARK, and follow-up your call with a letter to Henry J. Stern, Commissioner, City of New York/Parks & Recreation, the Arsenal, 830 Fifth Avenue, New York 10021.

"Albany Law Environmental Outlook" is published by Albany Law School students, "to present a neutral forum for the presentation and exploration of current environmental debates." The third issue, "Outlook on Citizen Suits," is available by calling (518) 472-5863.

Membership in **Environmental Associates** is available free to any nonprofit group in New York working on environmental or environmental health issues. Membership includes publications, legislative updates and telephone support on Statewide issues. Write to 353 Hamilton Street, Albany 12210, or call (518) 462-5526.



# **NEW DUES SCHEDULE**

At its July meeting, the Steering Committee of EEAC voted to institute a new dues schedule, as follows:

Basic Membership: \$20 per year. Sustaining (Organizational) Membership: \$50 per year. Life Membership: \$200.

This schedule is to take effect immediately, BUT, if you respond to the recent dues reminder sent out before the July Steering Committee action, you may use the old schedule. Another reason to renew your membership ASAP!

# NEW at the Urban Forest Ecology Center Van Cortlandt Park, Bronx, NY

The Urban Forest Ecology Center is the only environmental education center dedicated solely to the study of urban forests. We are currently offering several new programs at the center: an after school program, a weekend family club, and a teacher workshop series.

### Partners in Ecological Research

9th & 10th Grade

Students in this weekly after school program conduct scientific research on a real environmental issue or problem in VanCortlandt Park. Students become problem-solvers and after thorough site analysis must agree on a solution. A restoration plan is created and implemented as the final project. Registration is limited to 15 students.

Time: 4pm - 6pm, once a week.

## **Family Birding Club**

Parents and children ages 6 and up

To expand our outreach to families, we've created the Family Birding Club at the Urban Forest Ecology Center. Participants explore and learn to identify our forest birds. The club features Special Club Sundays once a month highlighting guest speakers, bird crafts, or prize-winning contests.

Time: 10am - 12pm, Sundays

# Forest Web of Life Series

This series of workshops features presenters on a variety of forest topics including forest restoration, birdwatching, urban wildlife, and tree identification to encourage the use of our city's forests as outdoor classrooms. New teacher credit is available.

Time: Fall and Spring, weekday evenings and Saturdays

For more information, or to register, please call: JoVeda R. Hornedo, Center Manager

(212) 360-2798

## **EEAC Membership Program**

GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP ON EPA SMALL GRANTS

Presenter: Terry Ippolitto November 14th, 1996, 4-6 P.M. Federal Plaza, 290 Broadway New York, New York

To register please call: Mary Leou, Vice-Chair of Programs (212) 360-2745.

(workshop limited to 50 participants)

For more information on the solicitation of EPA Grants for 1997 call Terry Ippolito at (212) 637-3671.

# ENVIRONMENTAL 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:

You can vote for each of the Officers for a two year term. Space is provided for write-in candidate(s) of your choice.

Chairperson	
■ Mike Zamm	<b></b>
Vice-Chair for Issues	
☐ Kenneth Kowald	<b>_</b>
Vice-Chair for Program	ms
□ Mary Leou	<u> </u>
Secretary	
Millard Clements	<b></b>
Membership Secretary	
☐ Kim Estes-Fradis	
Treasurer	
☐ Ruth Eilenberg	
Class of '99 (Vote for s	six)
☐ Dennis Bader	☐ Therese Braddick
☐ Jeff Frank	☐ Ingrid Hopkins
Jeffrey Liggins	Regina McCarthy
or write-in candidate(s)	of your choice:
	<u> </u>
	nts (Vote for three) Terry Ippolito □ Nikki Schulak
or write-in candidate(s)	•

On **November 20** we will hold our Annual Meeting at N.Y.U., Main Building, 100 Washington Square East, Room 713 from 4:00 to 6:00PM. If you plan to attend, you will have an opportunity to meet the candidates and submit your ballot.

If you cannot attend, please vote by mail and send your ballot by November 14, to Mike Zamm, Council on the Environment, 51 Chambers Street, Room 228, New York, N.Y. 10007.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION	
New Member Renewal	
Name:	
Address:	
Phone: ( )	
Affiliation:	
Title/Position:	
Address:	
Phone: ( ) Date:	

Select either a \$20 dues payment to cover the cost of membership in EEAC for a calendar year, OR a \$200 Life Membership. A membership entitles you to receive EEAC newsletters, program information mailings, and conference announcements.

Membership dues are tax deductible. Make all checks payable to EEAC.

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

Ruth Eilenberg EEAC Treasurer 401 East 86th Street, Apt. 4F New York, NY 10028

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