

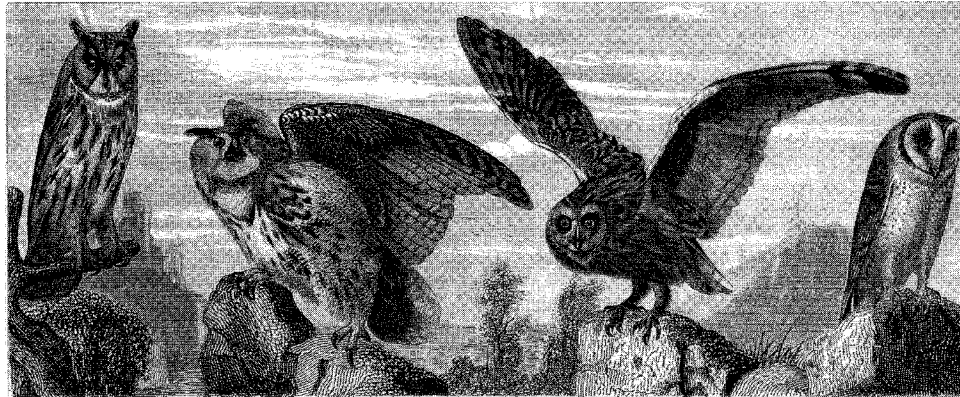


EEAC

FALL 1998

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



I attended the Biodiversity Education Summit at the American Museum of Natural History in late June. It was extremely well organized by the Museum's Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, the World Wildlife Fund and others. It appears that meaningful follow up will occur with the purpose of creating more financial and political support for biodiversity education nationwide.

Many of the museums, zoos, aquariums, non-profit community based organizations, government agencies, and conservation biology oriented national environmental groups were represented. One deficit from my point of view, and one that has occurred in so many settings, was the lack of representation from some of the national environmental organizations that have been successful at fomenting change through important legislation or through the dissemination of key written material.

The Natural Resources Defense Council, the Environmental Defense Fund, the Worldwatch Institute and the World Resources Institute, for example, were not represented at the summit. I do not know whether they were invited, but in a sense that doesn't matter – their absence is just one example that the split between Environmental Education and the environmental organizations, that has been commented on in this space several times in the past, still exists.

It isn't that the NRDC's and EDF's aren't concerned about Environmental Education – they are. They've usually responded when called upon in the past to support Environmental Education programmatic or policy efforts. And they've expanded their own Environmental Education activities. It's just that they're so focused on their own environmental change priorities, they sometimes are not aware of the legitimate opportunities to link up with environmental educators to create meaningful educational change that might lead to long term improvements in environmental policy.

Environmental educators often don't perceive the importance of involving these organizations in their attempts to expand Environmental Education, i.e., we don't think strategically in enough situations. As the follow up team to the first ever biodiversity education summit develops its plans, creating liaisons with some of the aforementioned groups should be an integral part of the process.

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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 meetings will be on September 16, October 21, and November 18.

Newsletter Deadlines

Material should be submitted to the Editor by the first Monday of May, August, November and February. If possible, please E-mail articles to joygarland@banet.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

Kenneth Kowald
Mary Leou
Roland Rogers
Joy Garland, Newsletter Editor,
440 East 20 Street, Apt. 7F, New York, NY 10009
(212) 673-6732.

Special THANKS to Con Edison for supporting the publication of this newsletter.

JOIN EEAC!

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

Listserves contact:

Carol_Franken@fcl.nycenet.edu or
(212) 828-3511.

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.

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Kenneth Kowald, Vice-Chair for Issues
Mary Leou, Vice-Chair for Programs
Millard Clements, Secretary
Kim Estes-Fradis, Membership Secretary
Ruth Eilenberg, Treasurer

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Helen Ross Russell
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Nancy A. Wolf

*Affiliations for identification purposes only.



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear EEAC members,

Many, many thanks go to Therese Braddick of the City Parks Council, who leaves her post as editor of the EEAC Newsletter after eight years. Under her tenure, Therese has maintained the high standard of this critical resource, and through it has increased both our membership and our influence in the educational community. We are very grateful, and we acknowledge and applaud her sterling contribution and dedication.

As the new editor, I welcome your ideas about how this important means of communication can best serve your needs. If there is an environmental issue you'd like explored or an article you'd like to submit, I can be reached at my E-mail address- JoyGarland@banet.net or (212)673-6732. Larger articles should be attachments in MS Word, if possible. If you can't forward an article by E-mail or a floppy disc for Microsoft Word, articles can be sent to me at 440 East 20th Street, #7F, New York, NY 10009. I look forward to hearing from you!

Greetings and best wishes to all, Joy



LIVING WITH BIODIVERSITY: What You Can Really Do for the Environment

Free Program:

Four Mondays, September 28 to December 7

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

in the Kaufmann Theater,

American Museum of Natural History
(entrance at 79th Street under ramp)

September 28

Biodiversity and Your Food

October 26

Biodiversity and Your Water Supply

November 23

Biodiversity and Energy

December 7

Biodiversity and What You Buy

This series is sponsored by the Museum's Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, and the Departments of Education and Membership.

U.S. EPA 1999

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION GRANTS

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announces the 1999 Environmental Education Grants. Seed and start-up funding is available for environmental education projects focusing on teacher education in Environmental Education., educating students, teachers and/or the public about environmental health threats, community-based environmental health education, building local capacity to deliver Environmental Education. Programming, environmental career education and environmental justice. Most grants are for \$5,000 to \$25,000 from the EPA Region 2 office in New York City; grants are available in amounts up to \$250,000 from EPA's Headquarters in Washington, DC.

Complete information and forms are in the solicitation notice, which is available from EPA's Region 2 office. Call (212) 637-3671. The solicitation notice can also be viewed on EPA's grants information website: <http://www.epa.gov/epahome/grants.htm>

If you are an Environmental Education. professional, are interested in learning more about grant writing and have an interest in being a peer reviewer for the EPA grant applications (and are not planning to apply for the funding this year), call Terry Ippolito at (212) 637-3671.



EEAC MEMBER'S PROGRAM ON ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Date: Wednesday, October 28, 1998

Time: 4:30 p.m.- 6:30 p.m.

Location: 1234 Fifth Avenue

(Arsenal North-1 East 104th Street) Rm.201

Environmental Justice is an important issue, particularly in urban areas. As environmental educators and members of EEAC, we must prepare to confront a wide range of concerns on this subject in an effort to improve the quality of life in our city and to sustain it for future generations of New

Yorkers. Our member's program this fall will focus on issues of water quality, open space, air pollution, health, and solid waste disposal which currently affect many of our inner city neighborhoods, including Greenpoint, Red Hook, Harlem, and the South Bronx. A detailed description will be mailed out in September to our membership. This is a program none of us can afford to miss. Mark your calendars. Bring your friends and colleagues and join us! For more information contact: Dr. Mary Leou, (212) 360-2745.

Timely Stuff

After the wonderful EEAC membership meeting on June 30 in the Hall of Biodiversity of the American Museum of Natural History, there is more to come! “**Living With Biodiversity**” is a free program, presented on four Monday nights in the Museum, from September 28 to December 7. For details, see article in this issue. The Center for Biodiversity and Conservation is sponsoring, together with the Hastings Center, a conference exploring the biological, political and ethical dimensions of wolf restoration, October 21-23, in Garrison, New York. For details, call Janet Brower at (914) 424-4040, ext. 202....Leaders in Biodiversity Conservation will be the topic of a free awards ceremony and discussion in the Museum on the evening of October 5. For more information, call (212) 769-5200. The same number can yield information about a series on “**Biodiversity and Plants**,” which meets on four Monday afternoons from October 5 to November 2, or four Thursday evenings from October 8 to October 29.

The Elementary School Science Association’s 21st Annual Saturday Science, “**The Blaustein Conference**,” will be held on November 21 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 Program Chair, Marian Berke-Sloane, at (718) 377-7999. Registration must be received by November 10. It is \$5 for ESSA members, \$10 for non-members, and \$15 for registration plus membership. Checks should be sent to Stanley Leibowitz, 2534 Ridgmont Court, Toms River, New Jersey 08755. For any other information, call (718) 763-5492. Last year, ESSA drew more than 800 people to this event.

The deadline for the **17th Annual Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge Photography Contest** is October 31. Subject matter is limited to the natural history of New York and New Jersey’s coastal area and may include wildlife, scenic views and people in nature. Young naturalists can compete in the 14 years and under category. For additional information, call (718) 318-4340.

It will probably still be open by the time you get this. “It” is the **science playground of the New York Hall of Science**, and it features the scientific principles of motion, balance, sound and sight. For details about the exhibit, which features two dozen hands-on activities, call (718) 699-0005. The Hall of Science is at 47-01 111th Street, Flushing Meadows Corona Park, Queens.

“**Water Works: A Bronx River Grant Program**” is sponsored by the Partnership for Parks and the Urban Resources Partnership, and they are looking for proposals. The next two funding cycles end October 15 and February 15. To find out more, call Jenny Hoffner, Bronx River Coordinator, Partnership for Parks, at (718) 430-4648.



An exhibition exploring some of the materials and designs used in capturing **solar energy** is on display through October 25 in the garden of the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, 2 East 91st Street. For details, call (212) 849-8300....Also at the Museum, through October 11, is “**Fountains: Splash and Spectacle**,” an exhibition of drawings, prints and photographs examining the history of fountain design, beginning in the 1400s.

On September 16 and October 14, the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects is offering free guided **walking tours of Governors Island** (whose future is still up in the air at this writing). Reservations are required. Tours begin at 10 a.m. For more information, call (212) 683-0023, ext. 21.

Another former military establishment, **Fort Totten**, in Bayside, Queens, may be on the verge of becoming quite an interesting spot for a host of non-profit organizations and activities. While the final plan is not in place, some things are happening now. For example, the Bayside Historical Society is hosting an exhibit presented by the New York Fire Museum, “**Fire House—Symbol, Shelter and Civic Function**.” It is on display in the Officers Club on Saturdays and Sundays through January. For more information, call (718) 352-1548.

The Prospect Park Alliance and the Urban Park Rangers are offering a “**Behind the Fences Tour**” of the newly restored Prospect Park Ravine, where the first two stages of restoration have been completed. For a schedule of these free events, call Milagros at (718) 965-6988.... And, to help raise money for the Woodlands endowment, a Green-A-Thon will take place on October 24. Participants, who are being sponsored to walk, will trod four miles of path in the Park, including back areas very seldom visited, plus a portion of the restored Ravine. To find out about this and other activities, call (718) 965-8960.

Other Stuff

The New-York Historical Society, 2 West 77th Street, at Central Park West, has opened a new permanent exhibit, “**Kid City**,” which recreates Broadway between 82nd and 83rd Streets just as it appeared in 1901. There are hands-on activities. The point of the exhibit, according to the Society, is that “everything has a history, from the bagels you eat to the subway you ride on.” For more information, call (212) 873-3400.

The Regional Plan Association and the Environmental Action Coalition have published a comprehensive and informative report, *Keeping the Green Promise: An Action Plan for New York City’s Urban Forest*. To obtain a copy, write to RPA at 4 Irving Place, New York 10003....RPA has been surveying what is being done locally about the effects of climate change in this area and has produced a report of its initial findings, *Government Actions on Climate Change in the Metropolitan NY/NJ/CT Region: A Preliminary Study*.

At a recent EEAC Steering Committee meeting (reminder: they are open to all members and friends!), Terry Ippolito, a member of the Steering Committee, distributed copies of a fine new publication from the U.S. EPA, *A Resource Guide of Solid Waste Educational Materials*. You may obtain it without charge by calling Terry at (212) 637-3671, or writing to her at U.S. EPA, CD/26th Floor, 290 Broadway, New York 10007-1866.

Con Edison has published its *1997 Environment, Health and Safety Report*, a more than 20 page document detailing its work in these fields. To obtain a copy, write to M. Peter Lanahan, Vice President, Environment, Health and Safety, 4 Irving Place, New York, NY 10003.

Five nonprofit organizations have created a partnership with community gardeners from Park Slope, Brooklyn; the Lower East Side; Far Rockaway, Queens, and the Crotona section of the Bronx. The new entity is called **City Farms**. The five groups are the Green Guerillas (GGs), Just Food, Cornell Cooperative Extension-NYC's "New Farmers, New Markets" program, Food for Survival and the Northeast Organic Farming Association-NY. City Farms programs will be held throughout the year. For information, call the GGs at (212) 674-8124, and ask for Kathy Lawrence on ext. 100 or Steve Frillman on ext. 101.

The New York City Department of City Planning has produced a set of NYC **Cycling Maps** covering all five boroughs and showing established greenways and bike lanes, recommended on-street routes and detailed bridge access routes. The maps are free and are available at the City Planning bookstore, 22 Reade Street, Mondays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., or from local bike shops....North Brooklyn's "Recycle-A-Bicycle" program has issued a **Bike Tour Map of Greenpoint/Williamsburg**, which covers 8.5 miles of the area, with information about 28 separate points of interest. It is available free from the Council on the Environment of New York City at (212) 788-7900, or write to Suite 228, 51 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007.

PROBE (Project to Research Our Bay Environment) is a program of the Alley Pond Environmental Center in which volunteers and students take frequent samples of water from Little Neck Bay and Alley Creek for scientific analysis and reports. To learn more, call APEC, (718) 229-4000, or write to 228-06 Northern Boulevard, Douglaston, NY 11361.

The Bureau of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs of the New York City Department of Environmental Protection has published a useful sheet of information, "**Environmental Education Resources for Students and Teachers**." You may obtain copies by calling EEACers Kim Estes-Fradis, Director of Education, or Doreen Bader, Research Scientist/Environmental Educator, at (718) 595-3523, or by writing to them at 59-17 Junction Boulevard, Corona, NY 11368.



GREEN HORIZONS

The Third Annual Green Horizons event, which EEAC co-sponsors with New York ReLeaf—New York City Region, will take place on Tuesday, October 6, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the Queens Botanical Garden. This is a free conference on careers in natural resources for middle school students and their guidance counselors. The target audience is eighth graders. Registration will begin as soon as school resumes in early September. The Environmental Action Coalition is the coordinating agency for Green Horizons 3. For more information, call Nancy Wolf at (212) 677-1603.

STUYVESANT COVE

If you love the waterfront and would like to lend your support to the restoration of the East River site known as Stuyvesant Cove, please join us on Thursday, October 22nd from 6:30 - 9PM to let our political leaders know that you care.

The Waterfront Committee of Community Board 6 is planning a park with native estuary and woodland plantings to attract wildlife and to involve children and adults in learning more about marine and urban ecology. For more information and details about the location, call Community Board 6 at (212) 679-0907.

PROSPECT PARK EDUCATION EXPO

Add 526 acres to your school!

Sunday, November 15, 1998

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Picnic House, Prospect Park,

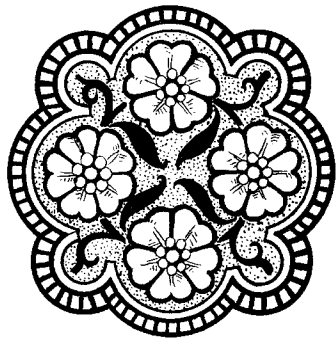
Brooklyn New Teacher Credit Available

(enter at 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sts. & PPWest)

To register call (718)965-8984

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 Committee and the Park's Education Collaboratives Group whose members include the Prospect Park Alliance, the Brooklyn Center for the Urban Environment, the Urban Forest & Education Program of City Parks Foundation, the Wildlife Conservation Society, the City of New York/Parks & Recreation Urban Park Rangers, and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. The Education Expo is funded by the New York City Council, Council member Kenneth Fisher and the Lila Wallace Reader's Digest Fund, with professional support from the Environmental Education Advisory Council.



KOMINSKI FUND REPORT

June was a busy month, with many events taking place in John's honor. The High School for Environmental Studies, John Bowne High School and Boys and Girls High School each chose two recipients for awards honoring student environmental activism. The schools set up their own criteria for the awards and chose the recipients based on those criteria.

On June 10, at Senior Honors Night at John Bowne High School, Ruth Eilenberg and Kenneth Kowald presented medals to Andrea Kominski and Jennifer Putnam. Both young women were cited for notable accomplishments, and the award to John's daughter was especially poignant.

On June 25, Terry Ippolito presented \$50 cash awards (the school's choice) to Shara Alfred and Roy Barclay, at the graduation ceremony of Boys and Girls High School (John's alma mater when it was Boys High School—and the alma mater of Terry's father, too). That same morning, at a breakfast hosted by Friends of the High School for Environmental Studies, Ruth Eilenberg presented the school's principal, Alexander Corbluth, with a plaque honoring John as the Founding Director of the School. The plaque will be the first on a Wall of Honor in the entrance hall. At the graduation ceremonies which followed, Gregory Jenkins and Cathleen Poon received Kominski Environmental Leadership medals and Friends of HSES added \$100 to each award. The text of the plaque is as follows:

John W. Kominski
1945-1997
Founding Director
High School for Environmental Studies
1992-1993

Science educator, artist, humanitarian and tireless environmental advocate. An articulate spokesman for a better world every day of his all-too-short-life. Enshrined in the memory of a grateful community.

Environmental Education
Advisory Council
June 1998

This summer, two Brooklyn middle school students, Michael Charles and Jason Cuevas, attended the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Camp de Bruce in Livingston Manor, on one-week scholarships in John's memory. The DEC waived tuition for the students, and the transportation for them was underwritten by a contribution from long-time EEAC member, Eneas Arkaway.

Work continued through the spring and summer on the Wildlife Garden at the Gateway Environmental Study Center, a living memorial to John's involvement with this center of environmental excellence. Those who wish to help should contact Regina McCarthy at (718) 252-7307. The Alley Pond Environmental Center is considering naming the Tulip Trail for John. Eastern District High School has been mentioned as a possible venue for the Environmental Art Gallery in John's memory.

The Elementary School Science Association has agreed to work with EEAC to establish the criteria and determine the awardee for an annual EEAC recognition of "an outstanding environmental educator who shows promise of future leadership." In late July, a meeting was held to begin this process with Stanley Mandel, current President of ESSA; Marian Berke-Sloane, a past President; and Kim Estes-Fradis and Kenneth Kowald of EEAC.

In June, Mike Zamm, Chair of EEAC, wrote to members and friends, urging financial support for the Kominski Fund, which was started with a \$1,000 contribution from the EEAC treasury. As of this writing, contributions to the fund total \$1903 and have been received from the following (in the order of receipt): Carol Franken, Elaine and Kenneth Kowald, Doreen and Dennis Bader, Grace Shevel, Lenore Miller, Janice Ellenbogen, Joan Davidson, Rose and Elliott Blaustein, John Lancos, Denise and Gary Rosenberg, Ruth and Howard Eilenberg, Sandra Bullock, Judy Isacoff, Eneas Arkaway, Kim Estes-Fradis, Patricia Campbell, Helen Ross Russell, Barry Weinbrom, Michael Mann, Joy Garland, and Joan and Hy Rosner. The notes enclosed with these contributions underscore the love and regard that so many people felt for John.

It is the hope of EEAC that we will be able to maintain and implement the awards that have been made for many years to come. Contributions should be earmarked EEAC, John W. Kominski Fund and may be mailed to Ruth Eilenberg, Apt 4F, 401 East 86th Street, New York, NY 10028. The contributions are deductible to the full extent allowed by law, and matching gifts from corporations are welcome.

The Kominski Memorial Fund Committee is chaired by Ruth Eilenberg, and the members are Marcia Kaplan-Mann, Kenneth Kowald, Mary Leou, Michael Mann, Regina McCarthy and Barry Weinbrom. Ideas and suggestions for the fund may be sent to any of the committee members.

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

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I want to express the gratitude of all EEAC'ers to Therese Braddick for her excellent 8 year stint as editor of the newsletter. Under Therese's guidance the newsletter emerged as one of the finest products of EEAC and an important quarterly statement about Environmental Education in this city and region. Thanks Therese!!

And thanks too, to Joy Garland, who is taking over as newsletter editor. Joy brings a great deal of insight and energy to the job.



Congratulations to Dennis Bader, who has been my sidekick at CENYC for the last 12 years. He's moving on to be a biology teacher and an athletic coach at the Stony Brook Preparatory School on Long Island. Dennis, Doreen and Justin will reside in a beautiful house on campus - Doreen will continue to work with all of us through her job at DEP; Dennis will step down from the steering committee but remain a member.

I'm sure Dennis will bring the same energy and skill to his new job that he displayed in his work at CENYC where he trained over 4,000 high school kids to organize environmental improvement projects that significantly enhanced the environment of the city, especially the Coney Island/ Rockaway area. Many of Dennis' students have gone on to be involved in community improvement or environmentally related careers. Good luck, Dennis, and thanks for a job well done!!! — Michael Zamm



METRO FOREST COUNCIL NEWS

by Marge Gargueillo,
President of the Metro Forest Council

Metro Forest Council is a new organization whose mission is to generate and share information about forests in the New York Metropolitan region. Our intent is to increase understanding of and support for forests among educators, land managers, researchers, politicians, conservation groups, planners, and the public at large.

The Metro Forest Council hopes you will join us and become part of our network. Membership includes our newsletter and access to our listserve. We provide speakers, field trips and programs on forest management and current research. We offer members technical advice on flora, fauna, forests, ecology, and restoration. Every member increases our information and outreach base and helps to preserve and restore forested land in the Metro Region. To find out more or to become a member, please write to: Metro Forest Council, 95 Prospect Park West, Brooklyn, NY 11215, or call (718) 965-6590.

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 or write in candidates of your choice for a two year term:

- Chairperson**
Mary Leou _____
- Vice-Chair for Issues**
Kenneth Kowald _____
- Vice-Chair for Programs**
Terry Ippolito _____
- Secretary**
Millard Clements _____
- Membership Secretary**
Kim Estes-Fradis _____
- Treasurer**
Gail Pasternack _____

Class of 2001
(Vote for five candidates or write-in candidates of your choice)

- Susan Clark _____
- Jo Ann Dittersdorf _____
- Ruth Eilenberg _____
- Joy Garland _____
- Barry Weinbrom _____

Class of '99 replacement

(Vote for one or write-in candidate of your choice)

- Deborah Winiarski _____

Class of 2000 replacement

(Vote for one or write-in candidate of your choice)

- Judy Intraub _____

On Wednesday, November 18, we will hold our Annual Meeting from 4p.m. to 6p.m. at the High School for Environmental Studies, 444 W. 56 Street (between 9th and 10th Avenues) in the Principal's Conference Room. If you plan to attend, you will have an opportunity to meet the candidates and to submit your ballot.

If you cannot attend, please vote and mail your ballot by November 11 to Michael Zamm, Council on the Environment of New York City, 51 Chambers Street, Room 228, New York, NY 10007.

