

# EEAC

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

FALL 1997

## Chairman's Message

*As* the Fall semester begins, please let those deep seated feelings for Environmental Education (EE) be realized through EEAC. We have a full slate of opportunities for involvement. Become a member and you can attend our monthly steering committee meetings which are chock full of information about what's going on in EE and are usually highlighted by a special presentation or two. Join one of several committees and you can be in on the real action in the organization. Attend the three to four membership meetings that occur during the year and you'll learn about and experience a variety of EE facilities and programs or learn new skills.

Access our organization through this newsletter (see membership form on the back), by calling me at (212) 788-7900, by reaching any of the steering committee members you may already be familiar with (see list in front), or by asking for our table at major conferences such as the gathering of the Elementary School Science Association (ESSA) in November.

This school year we are co-sponsors of both the Green Horizons (September 30th) and Art and the Environment (November 11th) conferences. The first will help intermediate school kids learn about environmental careers, the second will link EE to a very important aspect of the curriculum. We are continuing our efforts, as part of the Green Education Coalition and through separate endeavors, to convince the Chancellor and his staff to further integrate EE into the city's schools. Our technology committee is working hard to help EEAC access the web in as many creative ways as possible. Our counsel with regard to EE matters big and small, is sought frequently.

Still, we remain a work in progress, open to new ideas, strategies and styles. So become a part of us this Fall, and invite some of your colleagues to participate as well.

Thanks!

*-Mike 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: October 15, November 19, and December 17.

### 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

Joy Garland

Kenneth Kowald

Mary Leou

Therese Braddick, Newsletter Editor

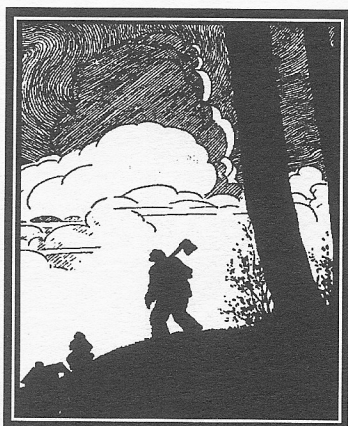
City Parks Foundation

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

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

### STEERING COMMITTEE \*

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Therese Braddick, City Parks Foundation  
Millard Clements, New York University  
Joanne Dittersdorf  
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Ruth Eilenberg  
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Marcia Kaplan-Mann, Environmental Quest/UFT  
Kenneth Kowald  
Mary Leou, UFEP, City Parks Foundation  
Jeffrey Liggins, USDI, Gateway National Recreation Area  
Maggie Mahoney, Wave Hill  
Barbara Miller, NYC Board of Education  
Regina McCarthy, Gateway Environmental Study Center  
John Padalino, Pocono Environmental Education Center  
Gail Pasternack, Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Barry Weinbrom, Brooklyn Center for the Urban Environment  
Michael Zamm, Council on the Environment of NYC

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Michael Mann, Clearwater  
John C. Muir, Brooklyn Center for the Urban Environment  
Helen Ross Russell  
Talbert Spence, National Audubon Society  
Nancy A. Wolf

\*Affiliations for identification purposes only.





## Elizabeth “Sunny” Guthrie

*Elizabeth “Sunny” Guthrie, one of the pioneers in environmental education, died recently, in her 90th year. Joan Rosner, a founder of EEAC, wrote a tribute to her, which has been edited for the “Newsletter” by Ruth Eilenberg and Kenneth Kowald.*

**D**ecades before “networking,” “mentoring” and “partners in education” enjoyed their current popular connotations, Sunny Guthrie helped create the molds for what have now become significant buzz words. Although Elizabeth’s name may be unfamiliar to many people reading this tribute, she was one of New York City’s major and outstanding progenitors of today’s environmental education movement, as well as its precursors.

As long ago as 1976, Elizabeth’s (then) 25 years of accomplishments in environmental education were recognized nationally when she was given the American Motors Award for non-professional conservationists in the field of renewable natural resources. The citation read in part:

“Over more than 25 years, there is scarcely a worthy conservation-related project in the entire New York area in which she has not been a contributor, often as the driving force which brought the project into being or assured its success.”

She worked with the Museum of Natural History, the Board of Education, the National Audubon Society, the City Garden Club of New York, the Parks Council, the New York Botanical Garden, the Central Park Conservancy and the Dreyfus Foundation, and this list is not exhaustive. She helped create and expand the New York City Teacher Workshops at the Audubon Greenwich Center, an achievement of which Duryea Morton, retired Vice President of Education of the National Audubon Society, wrote: “Elizabeth’s strong leadership helped change the lives of thousands of participating teachers and opened the eyes of their students to the beauty and majesty of the outdoors and our responsibility for the natural world.”

Elizabeth’s work touched many lives. Betsy Barlow Rogers, who developed the Central Park Task Force and became the City’s first Central Park Administrator, wrote: “Sunny must have earned her nickname long before I met

her. By the time we became acquainted when I was a new New Yorker (and she one of long-standing) she was precisely that: a sunny force for good in the burgeoning conservation/preservation movement. She was constantly encouraging in her belief that young women volunteers, such as I was, could make a real difference in the life of the metropolis. Her sense of civic obligation was very helpful to me as I strove to develop my own. At her request I gave the Central Park cops a lecture on the creation of Central Park by Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux. Never mind if I feared I might bore them—Sunny was there, cheering me on!”

Although Elizabeth was honored many times, countless thousands of people were unaware of her work, because her unassuming, behind-the-scenes approach kept her out of the limelight, even though she was essentially the person who spearheaded innovative programs and ideas. Self-effacing, but alert, she was, when necessary, an “out front” advocate for the causes she espoused.

Years ago, she worked with “At Risk Kids” in the then “600 schools.” Shortly before her final illness, she took the initiative in trying to develop a plan, in cooperation with EEAC and the Central Park Conservancy, to establish a turn-of-the-century version of the simple but highly effective program she had established almost a half century ago.

Her impact was best summarized, perhaps, by Steven Katonah, President of the College of the Atlantic, who wrote in a letter to the family, after Elizabeth’s death:

“Sunny was a once-in-a-lifetime person. She knew more about conservation, birds, gardens, nature and the ocean; had more energy; was more curious, and was more committed to service than anyone we knew. She barely slowed down, even at 88...She was a boundless source of enthusiasm, encouragement and inspiration. May we all live lives of such great beauty and helpfulness to nature and people.”

## OF TIME AND PLACES

"City in Play: Toys and the Transformation of the City of New York, 1865-1945" is on display through the end of December in the South Street Seaport Museum, 213 Water Street. To learn more, call (212) 748-8600.

"A Dream Well Planned: The Empire State Building," is on view in the Museum of the City of New York, Fifth Avenue and 103rd Street, until January. It contains more than 100 objects about the landmark and a 51-minute film about the building's construction. For more information, call (212) 534-1672.

"Saturday Science: The Blaustein Conference," presented by the Elementary School Science Association, will be held Saturday, November 15, in Francis Lewis High School, Queens. For more details, call Marian Sloane at Brooklyn STAC, (718) 763-5492.

"It's All in Your Head" will be open October 4 through January 18 in the New York City Hall of Science, 4701 111th Street, Flushing Meadows Corona Park, Queens. You'll be able to step inside a 12-times life-size model of the human brain. Call (718) 699-0005 to find out more.

"Brain Games" runs from September 22 through January 4 and "Mysteries of the Bog" from October through December in the Liberty Science Center, Liberty State Park, Jersey City. In November, a new energy exhibit will open. For details, call (201) 200-1000.

You may still have time to see "The Lost World: The Life and Death of Dinosaurs," on view through September 30 in the American Museum of Natural History. Call (212) 769-5100 for more information.

## OF PLACES AND OTHER ITEMS

The City has established a Quality of Life Hotline where the police receive calls about just that, including noise complaints, which, in the first few months of the program, registered the highest number of complaints, by far. Call (888) 677-LIFE.

The Enid A. Haupt Conservatory of the New York Botanical Garden has undergone an extensive renovation and has been reopened to the public...The Garden is looking for recruits for its volunteer and docent programs. To learn more, call Margaret Fretz, Manager of Volunteer Services, (718) 817-8564...Bronx Green-Up, the community garden program of the Garden, has two publications, "Green-Up Times" and "Bronx Green-Up Update," both of which may be obtained free of charge by calling (718) 817-8026.

You may not be hearing so much about the Asian Longhorned Beetle these days as you did last Spring, when there were infestations in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, and Amityville, Long Island. While much has been done to control this pest, it may still be around. To find out about it, call Trees New York, (212) 227-1887.

The world's first museum devoted to tall buildings, the Skyscraper Museum, is now open at 44 Wall Street (at William Street). To find out about exhibitions and times, call (212) 968-1961.

Do you know of a barren traffic triangle or mall that could use some touches of green? City of New York/Parks & Recreation's "Greenstreets" program can do just that. "Green streets Partners," community groups and volunteers, are needed to sponsor sites by helping to water, weed and keep the sites clean. For more information and to suggest sites, call (212) 360-1369.







Fort Wadsworth, part of the Gateway National Recreation Area, is now open on the Staten Island side of the Narrows. Hours are Sunday from noon to 5pm and during the week by appointment. Call (718) 354-4500.

The De Jur Aviary at the Bronx Zoo collapsed during a snowstorm in February 1995, but is now reopened to the public. For details, call (718) 367-1010.

New York City's gardens have always been in peril of being "wiped out" and now that the City's economy is improving, there is danger that many or most of them will be taken over for building developments of some kind. How gardens might be preserved is the subject of a Resource Sheet from the Green Guerillas. Write to 625 Broadway, 9th floor, New York 10012, or call (212) 674-8124.

The Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York has published a pamphlet listing 138 organic farms in the State. You may obtain a copy by sending a stamped, self-addressed business-size envelope to NOFA-NY, Box 21, South Butler 13154.

"The Gallery of Time" has opened in the Tourneau Time Machine, at 57th Street and Madison Avenue. It is open 7 days a week, evenings included.

"A Clear View," published by the Environmental Working Group, devoted a recent issue to the "Assault on Environmental Education." To learn more, write to CLEAR, Suite 600, 1718 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009, or call (202) 667-6982.

Educators for Social Responsibility sometimes has per diem and salaried positions for trainers, facilitators and staff development specialists. ESR metro is a nonprofit organization of educators, parents, students and community leaders dedicated to teaching and learning social responsibility. Write or call Room 554, 475 Riverside Drive 10115, (212) 870-3318.

## FINAL NOTE

Recently, Dr. Arthur Levine, President of Teachers College at Columbia University, noted that students were more involved in the world than they were a few years ago. He said one of his students told him, "I can't do anything about the theft of nuclear weapons, but I can clean up the local pond." Who knows? Maybe the message is getting through.

## ART WORKS '97 NYCATA/UFT

Theme: Art Education and the Environment

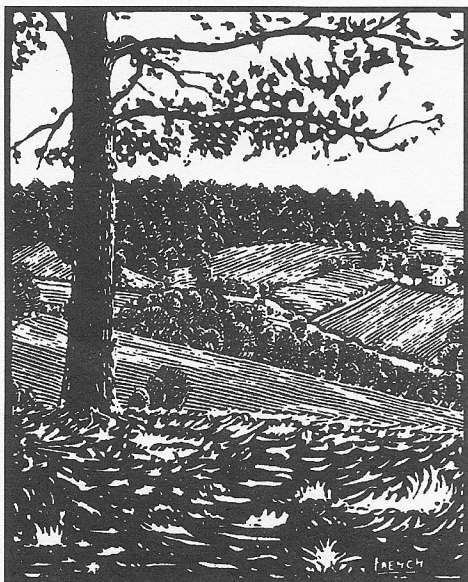
Join UFT/Outdoor Environmental Education Committee, the New York State Outdoor Education Association, Inc. And EEAC on

Tuesday, November 11, 1997  
8:00am - 4:30pm

Fiorello LaGuardia High School of the Arts  
(65th Street and Amsterdam Avenue)

For information and registration forms, please call Nyree McCray, UFT, 260 Park Avenue South, NY 10010 at (212) 598-9298

# Environmental Resources



## EEAC Fall Program

*by Dr. Mary Leou, Vice Chair of Programs*

The EEAC Programs Committee welcomes you all back from summer vacation. We are busy planning an exciting year of tours, programs, and workshops for our members. Our first program will take place on October 7th at City-As-School (CAS) located at 16 Clarkson Street, New York City from 4-6 p.m. Join us and find out how educators, environmentalists, and guidance counselors transformed a rubble-strewn lot at a housing development on the Lower East Side into a multicultural, intergenerational, landscaped community garden!

Project Grow is City-As-School's landscape design and gardening program. Since 1992, students and staff have collaborated with design, architecture and greening professionals and others involved in experiential and service learning to develop a composting greenhouse. Working in collaboration with GreenThumb the site has been transformed into a high school-based ecology center. The site includes culturally and historically relevant murals, a mini-park on the raised brick courtyard of CAS, and a compost-heated greenhouse which houses the school's horticultural program.

Mary Ellen Lewis and Gail Rothenberg, Project Grow Coordinators, along with Linda Huntington of GreenThumb, will host this event. We look forward to seeing you there. Look for more program information in the mail and be sure to invite friends and colleagues to our programs! For further information please call (212) 360-2745.

## Got Any Big Environmental Ideas?

*By Dennis Bader*

Well no matter what the size, you are cordially invited to come and share your thoughts and ideas about environmental initiatives at the 6th Annual ADPSR's Environmental Clearinghouse on Thursday, October 16, from 6:30 to 9:30pm at the Van Alen Institute located at 30 West 22nd Street (between 5th and 6th Avenues in Manhattan).

Who is ADPSR? Architects Designers and Planners for Social Responsibility is a national non-profit membership organization. We are committed to correcting the imbalance between the need to provide for common defense and the need to promote the well being of all citizens. If you are interested in attending and/or submitting a written entry application for presentation selection (75 words or less), include your name, the title of your topic, audio visual needs, your telephone/fax numbers and mailing address. Please send your written topic description to ADPSR, 175 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2210, New York 10010. The deadline for application submission is September 26th and each presentation is limited to 5 minutes. For additional information, please call (212) 539-7650.



The Hudson River Foundation, in cooperation with the New York/New Jersey Harbor Estuary Program is offering a seminar series on scientific issues related to the environmental quality and resource management of the New York/New Jersey Harbor Estuary. All seminars will be held at the Hudson River Foundation, 40 West 20th Street, 9th Floor. For information about the series, including dates and topics, please call (212) 924-8290.



## 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:

Class of '99 (Vote for six):

\_\_\_\_\_ Julie Beck  
\_\_\_\_\_ Meg Domroese  
\_\_\_\_\_ Carol Franken  
\_\_\_\_\_ Marcia Kaplan-Mann  
\_\_\_\_\_ Cecil Corbin-Mark  
\_\_\_\_\_ Barbara Miller

or write-in candidate(s) of your choice:

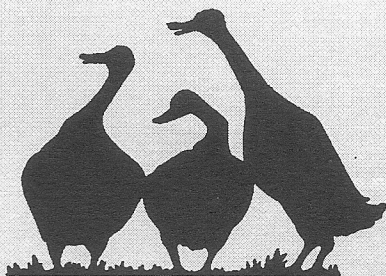
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On Wednesday November 19, we will hold our Annual Meeting at N.Y.U. University, Main Building, 100 Washington Square East, Room 901 from 4:00 to 6:00 P.M. If you plan to attend, you will have an opportunity to meet the candidates and submit your ballot.

If you cannot attend please vote and mail your ballot by November 12 to Mike Zamm, Council on the Environment, 51 Chambers Street, Room 228. New York, NY. 10007

JOIN THE EEAC LISTSERVE! If you are a member of EEAC and want to be part of the information sharing and discussion on the EEAC listserve  
contact: Carol Franken  
carol\_franken@mail.ilt.columbia.edu or (212) 868-3511

## Protect your Information Environment!



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E-Mail: [lff@lff.org](mailto:lff@lff.org)

WWW: <http://www.lff.org>

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

☐ New Member

☐ Renewal

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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 love to become involved in a committee.

Please provide me with information about the following committees:

☐ Exhibits ☐ Issues ☐ Membership ☐ Newsletter ☐ Programs ☐ Youth

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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