

Spring 2005



KACEE News

North American Association
For Environmental Education Affiliate

KACEE promotes and provides quality, non-biased and science-based environmental education for all Kansans

KACEE Spring Meeting—Bringing Environmental Educators Together

On April 8th, environmental educators from across the state gathered at the WATER Center in Wichita to learn, share and network about environmental education in Kansas. This year's program included a variety of speakers that addressed everything from the public's perception about the relationship between the environment and health to discussion of the wide variety of nature-based tourism sites in our state.

Our gathering began with a welcome by Libby Albers from the WATER Center, who provided a brief overview of the educational activities and opportunities available through what Libby called, "Wichita's best kept secret." Bob Gress, from the Great Plains Nature Center (GPNC) followed with a preview of the new environmental education publications available through GPNC (for more information, www.gpnc.org). Also part of the morning program was Jay Barnes, former Executive Director for the Kansas Natural Resource Council (KNRC) who presented findings from a survey of Kansans about their perceptions, attitudes and beliefs related to the connection between health and the environment. Rounding out the morning, was Barbara Chamberlin from Botanica, the Wichita Gardens, who gave a virtual tour of the gardens and discussed the ongoing role of education and outreach in their programs (www.botanica.org).

Afternoon presentations included a snapshot of many of the nature-based tourism opportunities in Kansas given by Ken Brunson from the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (<http://www.naturalkansas.org>). Also on the afternoon program, was Schanee' Anderson from the Sedgwick County Zoo who shared her experiences doing environmental education trainings with teachers in Paraguay and the ongoing partnership between Kansas and Paraguay (www.scz.org). As a great way to end the day, Libby Albers from the WATER Center took us all on a tour of the facility and showcased many of the unique and wonderful educational features throughout the center (www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Environmental/WATERCenter/).

As board member Mike Rader stated, "In addition to learning about what is happening with environmental education in the state, the KACEE Spring Meeting and the Kansas Environmental Education Conference are great opportunities for our members to network with others working in the field." If you missed out on this opportunity, we hope you'll make plans to join us for the Kansas Environmental Education Conference in Hutchison on November 4-5 (more information at www.kacee.org) and watch your mail for announcements about our Spring Meeting in 2006.



KACEE STAFF AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Back Row L to R: Hank Ernst, John Strickler, Mike Radar, Kate Grover, Brad Loveless, Steve Swaffer, Rex Buchanan Front Row L to R: Laura Downey, Janet Loebel, Schanee' Anderson, Dolores Daniels, Cindy Ford, John Shidler, Dee Turner, Shari L. Wilson, Melissa Arthur
Not Pictured: Val De Fever, Gary Keehn, Bill McGowan, Kathy Sexson, Diane DeBacker, Janet Waugh, Kim Bomberger, Edward Carney, Roland Stein, Sandy Chandler, and Jolene Amtower

WHAT'S INSIDE

Online EE Community.....	2
Upcoming KACEE Workshops.....	3
Water Celebration Planning Workshop.....	4
KEEC.....	5
Resources.....	6-7



News

Join the Kansas Online EE Community at www.kacee.org Log in to update your information & receive a membership discount in 2006

The Kansas Online EE Community is up and running at www.kacee.org, and we need your help to make this the most current and comprehensive listing of EE programs, jobs, events, materials, and resources in the state. **Log in to update your membership information and receive a 20% discount off of your 2006 membership renewal.**

The Kansas online EE Community was developed by KACEE and NAAEE with funding from EPA's Office of Environmental Education. This new web-based resource serves as a searchable clearinghouse to facilitate access to a diverse network of EE programs, people, and materials. Through the site, anyone may search for EE programs, events & resources, post & find EE jobs, and join, renew or upgrade a KACEE membership online. KACEE Organizational members are able to enter an organization profile, and list EE programs, events & resources in the searchable database. Whether you want to update your member contact information, need an easy way to market your programs & events online, or would like to search for opportunities for your own professional development, the Kansas Online EE Community is your one stop shop.

Visit www.kacee.org to update your membership information and get your organization's programs, events, and resources listed in this searchable online database. Anyone can search the site, but KACEE members must log in to enter and update information. Temporary login and password information was mailed to KACEE members in March. If you have any trouble logging in for the first time, contact a KACEE staff member.

Please give us your feedback as you explore. Email Shari Wilson at swilson@kacee.org or Melissa Arthur at MelisArth7@aol.com with comments or questions.

The Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education publishes KACEE News quarterly to communicate with environmental educators. KACEE News is a medium of information exchange on a wide range of Environmental Education topics. Inclusion of an item in KACEE News does not indicate an endorsement of an organization's stance on environmental issues.

2004-2006 KACEE Board of Directors

Kate Grover, President
City of Topeka Water Pollution Control

Val DeFever, At Large

Ed Carney, Ex-Officio
KS Department of Health and Environment

STAFF:
Laura Downey
Executive Director

Cindy Ford, -President Elect,
Pittsburg State University

Gary Keehn, At Large
Jackson Heights High School

Diane DeBacker, Ex-Officio
KS State Department of Education

Shari L. Wilson
Special Projects Coordinator

Rex Buchanan, Secretary
Kansas Geological Survey
University of Kansas-West Campus

Bill McGowan, At Large
Johnson Co Parks & Recreation

Janet Loebel, Ex-Officio Alternate
KS State Department of Education

Beth Carreno
Coordinator of Education Programs

John Stridder, Treasurer
KACEE Fund Development Chair

Mike Rader, At Large
KDWP, Wilson State Park

Janet Waugh, Ex-Officio
KS State Board of Education

Melissa Arthur
Coordinator of Statewide Water Celebrations Project and Program Development

Brad Loveless, Past President
Manager, Biology & Conservation Programs, Westar Energy

John Shidler, At Large

Kim Bomberger, Ex-Officio,
KS Forest Service

Sandy Chandler
Business Manager

Schane' Anderson, At Large
Sedgwick County Zoo

Steve Swaffar, At Large
Kansas Farm Bureau

Hank Ernst, Ex-Officio
KS Water Office

Jolene Amtower
Office Manager

Dolores Daniels, At Large
KCK Community College,
Campus Childcare Center

Dee Turner, At Large
State Conservation Commission

Roland Stein, Ex-Officio
KS Dept of Wildlife and Parks

News

Coming Attractions: KACEE Workshops

For additional information on these workshops or other KACEE programs, please contact Beth Carreno at bcarreno@swbell.net or 785-233-4721.

Upcoming 2005 Workshops & Events

June 1st & 2nd: Topeka-Project WET and WET in the City

June 8th & 9th: Dodge City-Playa Education Multi State Facilitator Training

June 22nd & 23rd: Wichita-Wichita Water Workshop with Projects WET and WET in the City

September 22nd & 23rd: Topeka-Statewide Water Celebrations Training with Project WET

October 13th-15th: Rock Springs Ranch-Investigating Your Environment (IYE)

November 3rd: Hutchinson-Pre-Conference Workshop; Flyways & Byways: Exploring the Places We Live

November 4th & 5th: Hutchison-2005 Kansas Environmental Education Conference; Exploring EE—Underground to Outer Space
Additional workshops are being scheduled at locations across the state. Additional upcoming workshops will soon be posted at www.kacee.org.

2005 Water Celebration Planning Workshop

The 2005 Water Celebration Planning Workshop will take place September 22-23, 2005 in Topeka. Registration forms for first time and alumni participants are available online at www.kacee.org. A limited number of travel stipends are also available. This will be our third and final workshop in this three-year series, and it's shaping up to be the best one yet! Don't miss out on this opportunity to have a behind-the-scenes Topeka Water Festival experience, network and learn from experienced water festival organizers, become eligible for water celebration grant funds, be entertained by Green Elvis, and more! Contact Melissa Arthur at melisarth7@aol.com or visit www.kacee.org for more information.



Investigating Your Environment (IYE) Workshop Scheduled for October 2005

KACEE has scheduled an Investigating Your Environment Workshop (IYE) for October 13-15, 2005. This fall's workshop will be returning to Rock Springs 4-H Camp near Junction City. This hands-on 2 ½ day workshop provides both formal and non-formal educators an introduction to the process and problem-solving approach to learning, using the environment as a teaching vehicle. Participants conduct forest, water, wildlife, soil and natural resource investigations, as well as designing their own group investigation. Rich with instruction on cooperative learning, the environmental investigations are ideal for use for a variety of environmental education settings. This workshop also serves as the training program for KACEE volunteer facilitators for Project Learning Tree (PLT), PLT Secondary Modules, Project WET, Project WILD and Project WILD Aquatic. This workshop is also available for credit through several universities.

If you are interested in attending this workshop, would like more information, or if you are a workshop "grad" interested in assisting and sharpening your facilitator skills, please contact Beth Carreno at 785-233-4721 or bcarreno@swbell.net

Urban Environmental Education: Project WET & WET in the City

The state's population is becoming increasingly urbanized. KACEE and many of its partners recognizes the need to provide professional development to formal and non-formal educators. KACEE is working with partners in Topeka, Wichita, and the Kansas Department of Health & Environment Bureau of Water to provide two urban-based workshops this summer. Topeka Project WET & WET in the City is scheduled for June 1 & 2 and Wichita WATER: Project WET & WET in the City is scheduled for June 22 & 23. Both workshops will offer field trips and activities related to the urban area's specific water issues. If you are interested in either workshop, please contact Beth Carreno.

One of the sponsors of the Topeka Workshop is the USD 501 / Outdoor Environmental Education Program (through a grant with the EPA Section 319 Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Grant #C90074510). The summer staff of this program will be attending the workshop with other educators in preparation of the Outdoor Environmental Education Summer Camp program for students in Topeka! Students in the Topeka school district have the opportunity to attend one of four week-long sessions.



News

Energy Hog at Kennedy Elementary

The Energy Hog (www.energyhog.org) made an appearance at the Kennedy Elementary School for an energy extravaganza. Included in the extravaganza were hands-on activities from Project Learning Tree that explored renewable and non-renewable resources, energy audits and more. This was part of KACEE's energy education program-to find out more about how to get this program and the Energy Hog at your school, please contact Beth Carreno at bcarreno@kacce.org or 785-233-4721



Lee Richardson Zoo Celebrates Earth Day

Photo by: Cheri Miller



The Lee Richardson Zoo welcomed nearly 1000 students from Southwest Kansas to celebrate the 35th anniversary of Earth Day on April 20th. Students learned about water habitats and animals, composting, gardening, Kansas habitats and animals, hazardous wastes and much more. They were able to make a birdfeeder, a CD fish, go on a GPS scavenger hunt to learn how scientists use GPS to study wildlife, and calculate their daily home water use. Richard Renner from Vodvill Entertainment, Lawrence, entertained everyone with his Amazing Recycle Show. Aza, the new spokesperson for the American Zoo and Aquarium Association made an appearance, charming kids and adults alike.

Leopold Education Project in Kansas

Based on the writings of Aldo Leopold, the Leopold Education Project (LEP) is a 6th-12th grade supplemental environmental education curriculum that uses the *Sand County Almanac* as a focus for a series of hands-on activities for both indoor and outdoor investigations. Nationally coordinated by Pheasants Forever, KACEE was recently approached to coordinate the delivery of LEP in Kansas. The Board of Directors of KACEE determined that LEP was a good fit with our current EE trainings that include Project Learning Tree, Project Learning Tree Secondary Modules, Project WET, WET in the City, Project WILD and Project WILD Aquatic. KACEE agreed to become the state coordinator for LEP and immediately undertook a project to help make the LEP materials more applicable to Kansas Educators.

With generous funding provided through our Kansas Chapter of Pheasants Forever, KACEE gathered a team of educators to develop a Kansas specific supplement to the popular Leopold Education Project. Included in this supplement are background information for each activity with a Kansas focus, additional resources and literature connections, and connections to PLT, WET, WILD and Aquatic. In addition, the educator team correlated the LEP materials to the state core curricular standards in Reading, Writing, Math, Science and Social Studies. Our educator team, comprised of Cheri Miller, Mandy Charles, Gary Keehn, Todd Carreno, Marty Birrell, and Sarah Winfrey, met with KACEE staff on three Saturdays in January and February and did additional work over the course of many weeks as this project took shape. Thank you to this team for their outstanding efforts in completing this project! Additional thanks to the Stone Nature Center and to Ren Newcomer and Newcomer Funeral Services Group / Penwell-Gabel for their generosity in providing locations for these work sessions.

The supplement is currently in final editing and review. Watch for the announcement of our first LEP workshop coming soon! For more information, contact Beth Carreno at 785-233-4721 or bcarreno@swbell.net. For more information on the Leopold Education Project, visit the website at: <http://www.lep.org/>



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

JOIN US AS WE TAKE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION TO SUPERSONIC HEIGHTS AT THE

SEVENTH ANNUAL KANSAS ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

✦ EXPLORING EE ✦ UNDERGROUND TO OUTER SPACE

★★★ November 4 - 5, 2005 ★★★
Grand Prairie Hotel & Convention Center
Hutchinson, Kansas

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



KEYNOTE SPEAKER
AL BATT
WILD BIRD MAGAZINE'S BIRDER OF THE YEAR. STORYTELLER AND HUMORIST



KEYNOTE SPEAKER
ROY BECKEMEYER
DRAGONRY AND FLIGHT EXPERT

SPECIAL PRESENTATION



BY
K-STATE—
SALINA GLOBAL FLYER TEAM MEMBERS!

ACCOMMODATIONS

GRAND PRAIRIE HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER
SPECIAL CONFERENCE ROOM RATE— \$69
5 FAMILY SUITES AVAILABLE AT \$119

FEATURING

THE PEJUTA MATO SINGERS AND DANCE TROUPE

NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS USE TRADITIONAL EARTH CONCEPTS AND DANCE TO SHOW "WE ARE ALL RELATED"



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT SHARI WILSON AT SWILSON@KACEE.ORG OR 913-287-6879



Resources

*****KACEE does not necessarily recommend or endorse items and programs on these pages*****

NORTH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION (NAAEE) 34TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND 2ND ANNUAL EE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM



NAAEE is pleased to announce that its 34th Annual Conference will be held Oct. 25-29, 2005 in Albuquerque, New Mexico! The Environmental Education Association of New Mexico has graciously agreed to help host the event. Visitors to Albuquerque will enjoy a diverse array of cultural and biological wonders. The towering Sandia Mountains provide a

stunning backdrop, while the Rio Grande itself flows through the heart of the city. Historic Santa Fe is just an hour away. For more information visit their web-site www.naaee.org.

ENERGY EDUCATION RESOURCES

Transportation Links

US Department of Energy, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

www.eere.energy.gov/EE/transportation.html

Guide to purchasing energy smart vehicles

www.eere.energy.gov/consumerinfo/energysmart_vehicles.html

US Environmental Protection Agency

www.epa.gov

Guide to buying fuel efficient vehicles

www.epa.gov/greenvehicles/

Bureau of Transportation Statistics

www.transtats.bts.gov

Transportation Curriculum Resources

Environmental Protection Agency

www.epa.gov/teachers/cruic-index.htm

Department of Transportation

www.dot.gov/citizen_services/education_research/index.html

Wind Activities

Districts across the nation are installing wind turbines to power schools with wind energy, generate revenue for districts, and provide educational opportunities for students. There are resources for teachers to incorporate wind energy into their classrooms. New standards-based curricula for all grade levels have been developed to get wind energy into science education. Go to www.kidwind.org to find out more about upcoming workshops on wind energy in the classroom.

WHAT'S FAIR GOT TO DO WITH IT Diversity Cases From Environmental Educators

We all struggle with issues of diversity, of knowing enough about groups that are different from our own, of doing the right thing in the right way and of learning from our inevitable missteps. In *What's Fair Got To Do With It*, diverse environmental educators from across the country were selected to tell us their stories, to illuminate in brief personal narratives experiences that others can learn from. Each of these compelling cases is accompanied by expert commentary and guidance for facilitating case discussions. To sample excerpts go to <http://www.wested.org/cs/we/view/rs/727> or order online, visit www.WestEd.org/products.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EDUCATION NETWORK (EdNet)

Get the news that National Geographic explorers, researchers, and writers use to stay up-to-date. The twice-weekly news digest EarthCurrent contains links to articles on classroom-perfect topics. EdNet is an online service offering education news, resources, discussion, and other educational tools. After a free registration at www.ngsednet.org, you can access EarthCurrent News Digest articles on science, exploration and adventure, peoples and cultures, animals and much more. Also available is information about teacher training, teacher-leadership programs and other professional development opportunities. Find out more at www.ngsednet.org/about/index.cfm.

Have Environmental Education News to Share?

Send your articles, pictures and resources to Jolene Amtower at: jamtower@oznet.ksu.edu

ALIENS IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Invasive species know no boundaries; the aliens are in your neighborhood, and your students can help! *Aliens In Your Neighborhood*, produced by the National Park Service, is not a curriculum about weeds, but instead provides a model for integrating a theme within a school's curriculum at the middle school level, as well as expanding it to multiple grade levels and subjects (math, language arts, social studies, art, etc.). The *Aliens* curriculum now includes cross-links to related activities by Project Learning Tree, Project Wild and Project Wild Aquatic. For more information go to www.nps.gov/invspcurr/aliengettingstarted.htm

Resources

*****KACEE does not necessarily recommend or endorse items and programs on these pages*****

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM (EQIP)

In 2004 the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) officially recognized Kansas' forest lands as a natural resource concern – a big enough concern to offer \$100,000 to help landowners start work on such management practices as



thinning and planting trees. As a result in 2005 the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) received 37 applications requesting a total of \$125,159 to improve the forest health on 1,234 acres of Kansas woodlands through the Environ-

mental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). EQIP is a continuous program which means woodland owners are encouraged to apply anytime at their local NRCS County Office, located within USDA Service Centers. Kansas Forest Service foresters will then visit the property and prepare a Forest Stewardship Management plan. Applications are ranked in order of priority based on wildlife species at risk, soil productivity, distance to water and cost effectiveness of the project. In 2004 almost all applications were funded.

EQIP is only offered in the eastern 1/3 of Kansas to woodland owners in the following counties: Allen, Anderson, Atchison, Bourbon, Brown, Butler, Chase, Chautauqua, Cherokee, Clay, Coffey, Cowley, Crawford, Dickinson, Doniphan, Douglas, Elk, Franklin, Geary, Greenwood, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnson, Labette, Leavenworth, Linn, Lyon, Marion, Marshall, Miami, Montgomery, Morris, Nemaha, Neosho, Osage, Pottawatomie, Riley, Shawnee, Wabaunsee, Washington, Wilson, Woodson, and Wyandotte.

An EQIP contract can be written to implement practices over a 10 year period or to end a year after the practice is installed. All practices must be maintained for a period of time following installation. Interested landowners can find out more about EQIP and begin the application process by completing a Self-Assessment Tool which are available on the Web at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/eqip/> or Gaye Benfer can provide Kansas-specific information at 785-823-4569. The locations and contact information for all county NRCS offices also is on the Web at www.ks.nrcs.usda.gov.

FOR MORE EE RESOURCES, EVENTS,
& PROGRAMS

Visit the Kansas Online Community at
www.kacee.org

21ST ANNUAL "WALK WITH WILDLIFE"

Saturday, June 11, 2005

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Admission \$2 per person

Great Plains Nature Center in Wichita, Kansas

This annual event allows visitors of all ages a chance to view. Over 60 species of live native Kansas wildlife: mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, insects and more. A great activity for families, youth groups, photographers and wildlife enthusiasts of all ages! Visit the Owl's Nest Gift Shop for a great selection of nature-related merchandise. Concessions will be available and all facilities are wheelchair accessible.

New this year: Dyck Arboretum of the Plains - Hesston, Kansas - will have native plants for sale. Experts will be available to help with your selections.

Just For Kids 12 and Under: The 4th Annual Wichita Eagle Kids Fishing Clinic. Register by sending child's name, age, parent's address and phone number to: Kid's Fishing Clinic, The Wichita Eagle, PO Box 820, Wichita, KS 67201. This clinic is free with the \$2 entrance fee to the Walk With Wildlife. Equipment is furnished. Preferences for morning or afternoon fishing slots will be taken. For Fishing Clinic registration after May 15, call 268-6288.

For more information, call the Great Plains Nature Center at (316) 683-5499.

PARTNERS IN WETLAND EDUCATION

In 1971, environmental leaders from all over the world met in Ramsar, Iran to consider the plight of wetlands. Eighteen countries signed a convention on the Conservation of Wetlands of International Importance and began to identify and designate wetlands all over the world that are of vital importance to the world and its wildlife. Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area, The Nature Conservancy Cheyenne Bottoms Preserve and Quivira National Wildlife Refuge have all received this designation.

Great Bend Convention & Visitors Bureau has consistently supported both Cheyenne Bottoms and Quivira with its marketing efforts. Educating the public about the wetlands has been a focus for the Bureau. Its Board of Directors and Executive Director have been closely involved with the planning and implementation of the new Wetlands Education Center to be located at Cheyenne Bottoms. For more information, visit Great Bend Convention & Visitors Bureau at <http://www.visitgreatbend.com/wetlands.htm>.



KACEE Membership & Request for Information

- Organizational Membership (\$50/year)** **Individual Membership (\$20/year)**
 Additional donation to support quality, non-biased, science-based environmental education in Kansas \$ _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Organization/School/Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

I am interested in the following:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assisting and/or hosting a workshop in my area | <input type="checkbox"/> Becoming a project facilitator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serving on a committee or working with a project | <input type="checkbox"/> Presenting at a workshop or conference |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Providing educator scholarship in my community | <input type="checkbox"/> Becoming a school or district liaison |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attending a workshop: <input type="checkbox"/> PLT <input type="checkbox"/> PLT Secondary | <input type="checkbox"/> Becoming a corporate sponsor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Investigating Your Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> WET <input type="checkbox"/> WILD <input type="checkbox"/> WILD Aquatic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ | |



Please return completed form to:

KACEE
2610 Claflin Road
Manhattan, KS 66502-2743
(phone 785-532-3322)

Internal Use:

Membership Category: _____

Date Received: _____



2610 Claflin Road
Manhattan, KS 66502-2743

Non-Profit
U. S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 1
Manhattan, KS
66502



Printed on Recycled Paper