



KACEE News

North American Association
For Environmental Education Affiliate

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

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
Hutchison, Kansas



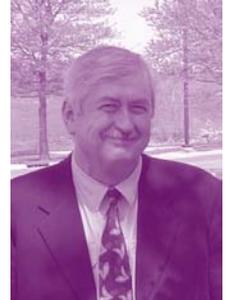
Al Batt

Registration materials for this year's Kansas Environmental Education Conference will be available online in mid-August. Printed registration materials will be in mailboxes toward the end of the month. For the first time, KACEE will be offering online conference registration! Go to www.kacee.org, your conference headquarters, for complete conference information and updates.

This year's conference features Al Batt, Wild Bird Magazine's Birder of the Year, as one of our keynote speakers. Al is also a storyteller and humorist, so be prepared for some fun stories and inspiring tales about why we watch birds and why everyone should. Also featured is Roy Beckemeyer, who will present a survey of the identification, diversity, biology, and distribution of dragonflies, using photos he has taken in the Great Plains and around the world.

We will also have special presentations by the Pejuta Mato Singers and Dance Troupe, members of the K-State Salina Global Flyer team, Rex Buchanan discussing salt and the environment of Hutchinson, and Ann Birney in the persona of Rachel Carson. An exciting Friday evening at the Kansas Cosmosphere, complete with museum admission and IMAX movies, is new this year and promises to provide time for networking as well as opportunity to learn about the connection between Kansas and the space program.

Returning to the conference this year are numerous concurrent sessions, silent and live auctions, and KACEE Awards Luncheon. For information about the conference, check out www.kacee.org or contact Shari Wilson at swilson@kacee.org or 913-287-6879. See you at the conference!



Roy Beckemeyer

NEW This Year! Rising Star Award

Do you know someone accomplishing great things in Environmental Education? Nominate them for an award! This year KACEE will give three awards for excellence in conservation and environmental education at the annual conference. Check out www.kacee.org for more information, award criteria, and nomination forms. Deadline for nominations is Friday, September 16, 2005.

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News

The 2005 Kansas Environmental Education Conference Pre-Conference Workshop *Flyways & Byways: Exploring the Places We Live* Thursday, November 3, 2005 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Join KACEE for the 2005 Pre-Conference Workshop, Flyways & Byways: Exploring the Places We Live. Participants will be among the first in Kansas to participate in and receive Project Learning Tree's new Exploring Environmental Issues in the Places We Live. The morning session will take place at the Dillon Nature Center, a 100 plus acre National Urban Wildlife Sanctuary. Workshop attendees will participate in hands-on activities and experiences that set the stage for helping learners identify and develop a sense of place in their community.

The afternoon session will move to Quivira National Wildlife Refuge, the 22,000+ acre refuge which was designated as a Wetland of International Importance by the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands in 2002. Afternoon programming will build on the morning's activities. Participants will learn about the area's salt marshes and grasslands and the many plants and animals that rely on them. Participants will also consider how this unique habitat affected human settlement in the area.

The workshop formally ends at 4:00 pm and participants will be allowed to explore Quivira on their own. There are many hiking trails and a driving tour that participants can enjoy. Participants can use the facility's new spotting scope to view the Big Salt Marsh. Sandhill cranes by the thousands and even whooping cranes use the area during their fall migration, and this late afternoon open-session is the perfect time to see "who's coming to dinner". For more information, check out www.kacee.org or contact Beth Carreno at bcarreno@swbell.net or 785-233-4721.

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.

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Val DeFever, At Large

Gary Keehn, At Large
Jackson Heights High School

Bill McGowan, At Large
Johnson Co Parks & Recreation

Mike Rader, At Large
KDWP, Wilson State Park

Kathy Season, At Large
Lee Richardson Zoo

John Shidler, At Large

Steve Swaffar, At Large
Kansas Farm Bureau

Dee Turner, At Large
State Conservation Commission

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

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Janet Loebel, Ex-Officio Alternate
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News

Multi-State Facilitator Training: Playa Lakes

Submitted by: Debbie Slobe



Educators study invertebrates at Wild Turkey Playa during Playa Lakes Facilitator Train Workshop.

Environmental educators from four Playa Lakes Joint Venture (PLJV) states gathered in Dodge City, Kansas to attend the Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education's playa lakes facilitator training workshop June 8-9, 2005. During the workshop, participants shared their experiences in playa education and received instruction on how to conduct teacher training workshops on playa in their home states. A total of about 20 participants from Kansas, Oklahoma, Colorado, and New Mexico spent two days together in the classroom and on the field learning playa teaching techniques.

Participants also worked together in state teams to develop agendas and action plans for additional playa workshops across the PLJV region. A highlight of the two-day training was a field trip to Wild Turkey playa where educators became students, learning about the plants, invertebrates, soil characteristics and water quality of the playa. The training was organized by KACEE and funded by a PLJV/ConocoPhillips grant in 2004. For more information, please contact Beth Carreno at bcarreno@swbell.net or 785-233-4721.

Environmental Education Plan for Kansas

How can we better coordinate environmental education (EE) efforts in Kansas? How can we increase communication and cooperation between groups working in the environmental education field? These are but two of the questions a Convener's Group is working to answer through development of an Environmental Education Plan for Kansas.

The Convener's Group has held two meetings with EE stakeholders representing regional or statewide organizations in Kansas. A facilitator has led these discussions, which focused on issues and suggestions that may be incorporated into the final plan. A draft of this document is underway and will be placed on KACEE's website so that anyone may comment on it. Please watch your e-mail for a notice that the draft document is available. (If KACEE does not have your e-mail address, you may send it to Jolene Amtower, jamtower@kacee.org.)

The Convener's Group is comprised of organizations representing a statewide constituency. They include KACEE, Kansas Farm Bureau, Kansas Natural Resource Council, Kansas State Department of Education, Kansas Water Office representing the State's natural resource agencies, Pheasants Forever, and The Nature Conservancy. The planning process is funded partially through an environmental education grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. For more information, please contact Shari Wilson, KACEE, at swilson@kacee.org or Ken Grotewiel, Kansas Water Office, at kgrotewiel@kwo.state.ks.us.



Board Member John Shidler takes KACEE on the road to the 2005 KDHE Composting and Recycling WORKS! Conference.

News

Registration deadline for the Water Celebration Planning Workshop is September 8, 2005

Register by August 23 to receive a travel stipend to cover mileage and hotel costs



The 2005 Water Celebration Planning Workshop will take place September 22-23 in Topeka, Kansas. This will be our third and final water celebration workshop in a three-year series, and it's shaping up to be our 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 celebration organizers, become eligible for water celebration grant funds, be entertained by Green Elvis, and more! The workshop is open to anyone currently implementing, or wishing to implement a water celebration event in Kansas. Special alumni sessions for past participants include a "Water Festival 911 Emergency" forum, a water festival share-a-thon, and more! Alumni registration is \$20.00. For first time participants, registration is \$15.00, and a limited number of travel stipends to cover mileage and lodging costs for the workshop are available.

The registration deadline for those applying for travel stipends is August 23, and the final deadline for workshop registration is September 8, 2005. Registration forms for both first-time and alumni participants, workshop agendas, and grant information are available online at www.kacee.org. For more information, or to receive a hard copy of the registration forms, call or email Melissa Arthur at 785-597-5452 or marthur@kacee.org. Many thanks to the Kansas Department of Health & Environment's Bureau of Water and the Water Celebration Planning Committee for making this workshop possible.

KACEE workshop and program scheduling for the 2005-2006 school year and summer has already begun!

If you would like a workshop or program in your area or are interested in assisting with workshops and other "ee"-related events, please contact Beth Carreno at bcareno@swbell.net or 785-233-4721 as soon as possible.

North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) 34th Annual Conference *Sustainability and EE: Focus on the Future*

October 25-29, 2005
Albuquerque, New Mexico
For more information, please visit the web-site
www.naaee.org

Lee Richardson Zoo Attended Celebration!

Submitted by: Kathy Sexson



The Lee Richardson Zoo helped the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks celebrate their 100th anniversary with Buffalo Days at the Sandsage Bison Range and Wildlife Area in Garden City. Several hundred people attended the event, which included tours of the range to view the bison herd, historical re-enactors, and millions of gorgeous wildflowers blanketing the prairie. The zoo display allowed people to see live native wildlife like spotted ground squirrels, box turtles, snakes, toads, lizards, spiders and a kangaroo rat, as well as touch biofacts from other native species such as fox, bison, elk, bobcat, and badger.

News

Upcoming Water Celebrations 2005 Calendar

Water Celebrations are popping up all over Kansas, with each community using local resources to address local water issues in their own unique way. Below, you'll find a list of upcoming water festivals for 2005. A " * " indicates that a festival is a community event, with no special arrangements required for you to attend. Others listed are school-based events with limited access to the general public. Contact festival organizers to find out about volunteer opportunities and VIP tours for access to school-based festivals.



Location	Date	Contact Person
Twin Lakes Water Festival Council Grove, KS	9/21/05	Katie Miller 620-767-5111 katie.miller@ks.usda.gov
Topeka Water Festival Garfield Park	9/22/05	Judy Boltman 785-267-5721 judy@sccdistrct.com
Quad County Water Festival Eureka Downs	9/28/05	Robin Jackson 620-374-2577 robin.jackson@ks.usda.gov
*Colby Water Festival Colby, KS	9/28/05	Lynette Koon 785-462-7482 ext. 304 tccd@st-tel.net
Melvorn Lake Water Festival Allen, KS	9/30/05	Paul Ingle 785-640-2645 pbingle@juno.com
Blue Rapids/Waterville Water Celebration Valley Heights School	10/05/05	Rachel Herpel 402-434-2740 rachael@groundwater.org
Clay Center Water Celebration Clay Center, KS	10/07/05	Tom Meek 785-632-3550 tom.meek@ks.nacdnet.net
*Missouri River Watershed Festival Kaw Point Kansas City KS	10/07/05	Larry O'Donnell 816-356-4040 turtle5@aol.com
Children's Water Festival McPherson, KS	10/18/05	Carla Pearson 620-245-2530 carlap@mcpbpu.com
Walnut River Water Festival Butler Co. Community College El Dorado KS	Fall 05 TBA	Sandy Koontz 316-320-5891 sandy.koontz@ks.nacdnet.net
WACKY Carnival Phillipsburg, KS	Fall 05 TBA	Jean Stapel 785-543-2518 jean.stapel@ks.usda.gov

Resources

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

SAVE THE DATE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION WEEK

Second Annual National EE Week will take place
April 16-22, 2006.



Launched during April 10-16, 2005, National EE Week, a program of the National Environmental Education & Training Foundation (NEETF), quickly became the largest environmental education event in U.S. history. In

its first year, more than 400 partner organizations participated, which translates into 400,000 educators bringing 100 millions hours of environmental learning to over 10 million students across America. Serving as an aspiring and disciplined weeklong educational prelude to Earth Day, National EE Week was a huge success and will only grow each year. For more information, please visit the website <http://www.eeweek.org>.

NASA'S EARTH EXPLORERS SERIES

Monthly National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) series introduces a variety of learning adventures and lesson plans designed for K-12 educators and students. Current issue has students investigating the migration of land and marine animals such as eagles, turtles, dolphins, swans, and harp seals. Please visit their web-site at http://science.hq.nasa.gov/education/earth_explorers/index.html

EXPLORE THE WORLD WITH SHOREBIRDS!

A revised curriculum is now available for the Shorebird Sister Schools Program. *Explore the World with Shorebirds!* is a multidisciplinary education guide specifically targeted towards 2-12 graders with sections on "How to Adapt" for preschool-1st grades, home schools, youth groups, and nature centers. It has been updated to include information and activities relevant to the Great Plains states and is available on CD. English and Spanish versions of "Shorebirds -- Migratory Super Heroes!" are available. This activity guide has word puzzles, coloring pages, and other activities for students at several levels. SSSP workshops are also offered by request. Please contact Suzanne_Fellows@fws.gov or 303-236-4417 for more information or to obtain a copy of the curriculum.

CLEARING: Teaching Resources for Ecology, Sustainability and Community



This is the kind of resource that every environmental educator needs to have for learning new ideas, exploring creative teaching strategies, or discovering the latest in EE books and teaching material.

CLEARING is a 48-page quarterly magazine for environmental and place-based education that contains innovative ideas, teaching strategies, perspectives, activities and resources for integrating environmental education into the K-12 classroom or non-formal education setting.

Published since 1979 by a non-profit educational organization, *CLEARING* is a highly regarded source of information and inspiration for teaching in the classroom and community. Many of the top environmental educators in North America have written for *CLEARING*, including Bill Hammond, Mike Weilbacher, Tony Angell, Greg Smith and David Orr.

If you are interested in looking at a sample issue, visit the *CLEARING* website at <http://www.clearingmagazine.org>.

ANIMAL DIVERSITY WEB

University of Michigan Museum of Zoology online virtual museum with a searchable encyclopedia of animal natural history, distribution, classification, and conservation biology designed to facilitate inquiry-driven education. Please visit web-site at

<http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu/site/index.html>

DON'T FORGET TO SIGN ON TO THE KANSAS ONLINE EE COMMUNITY!

If you are an organizational member of KACEE, don't forget to sign on to the Kansas Online EE Community and update your contact information and enter your environmental education programs. Usage of the online community is increasing and you don't want to miss out on opportunities to get out the word about your events! For assistance logging in or if you have questions, please contact Shari Wilson at swilson@kacee.org or Melissa Arthur at marthur@kacee.org.

Resources

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STEWARD OF THE LAND AWARD

Nominations for the 2006 Steward of the Land Award are now



being accepted. Don't miss your chance to nominate a farmer to become AFT's 10th Anniversary winner of the \$10,000 Steward of the Land Award. For more information, please visit website at <http://www.farmland.org/steward>.

Deadline for nominations is November 4, 2005.

KANSAS WATER INFORMATION NETWORK NOW AVAILABLE BY COUNTY ON THE WEB

Do you know what the largest use of water is in the State of Kansas and your county? Did you know that you can check the streamflow of streams and rivers throughout the state and your county for recreation, such as canoeing and fishing, and for potential flooding during heavy rains?

These questions are answered and more water information is found on the newly released Kansas Water Information Network (KWIN), developed by the USGS Kansas Water Science Center. The web site provides access to real-time and historical water information by county, for thousands of surface-water, ground-water, and water-quality measurement sites in Kansas. The network also includes county facts, water use information, land cover, and links to other sources of water information.

You may access the KWIN on the USGS Kansas Water Science Center website at: <http://ks.water.usgs.gov/kswater>. To view other USGS water information in Kansas, visit: <http://ks.water.usgs.gov>.

The USGS serves the nation by providing reliable scientific information to: describe and understand the Earth; minimize loss of life and property from natural disasters; manage water, biological, energy, and mineral resources; and enhance and protect our quality of life.

FOR MORE EE RESOURCES, EVENTS,
& PROGRAMS
Visit the Kansas Online Community at
www.kacee.org

APPLIED ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION

Applied Environmental Education and Communication seeks to advance a relationship between research and practical information to help readers solve real problems. The journal provides practitioners and academics with specific recommendations based on experience and research. This quarterly, scholarly journal also examines environmental initiatives in government, corporate, mass media, and world-wide education and communication campaigns. To access an online sample, go to:

<http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/1533015X.html>.

KANSAS RENEWABLE ENERGY & ENERGY EFFICIENCY CONFERENCE

The Kansas Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Conference will be held Tuesday and Wednesday, September 20 & 21 at the Ramada Inn Downtown, Topeka. Planned is an exciting 1-1/2 day conference with regional, national and international speakers and exhibitors in the fields of renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy education.

Randy Udall of Aspen, CO, is slated to give one of the keynote addresses. Udall has served as the Director for the Community Office of Resource Efficiency (C.O.R.E.) since the office opened in August 1994. C.O.R.E. is a non-profit organization that promotes renewable energy, based out of Colorado. The office tracks both national and global energy trends and works with government agencies to promote more sustainable energy options. C.O.R.E. started the nation's first "solar production incentive" program that rewards local residents for using solar photovoltaic systems, and the world's first Renewable Energy Mitigation Fund.

He is the son of former Congressman Morris Udall; and his brother, Mark, is currently a Congressman from Colorado's Second District. An uncle, Stewart, served as Secretary of Interior for President John F. Kennedy. Laura Downey, KACEE, will also be on hand to discuss current energy education initiatives.

Conference details, registration and hotel accommodations are posted on the conference web site: <http://24.124.26.33/ksrenew/conference/index.html>

You can pre-register on the web site, or by phone, (785) 832-8866. Conference cost: Tuesday: \$20; Wednesday: \$50; Both days: \$65. The conference is sponsored by the Kansas Corporation Commission Energy Office.



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:

Assisting and/or hosting a workshop in my area

Serving on a committee or working with a project

Providing educator scholarship in my community

Attending a workshop: PLT

Investigating Your Environment

PLT Secondary WET

Other (please specify): _____

Becoming a project facilitator

Presenting at a workshop or conference

Becoming a school or district liaison

Becoming a corporate sponsor

WILD WILD Aquatic



Please return completed form to:

KACEE

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

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