



KACEE News

North American Association
For Environmental Education Affiliate

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

Keynote Speakers for Kansas Environmental Education Conference Announced

KACEE is pleased to announce the keynote speakers for the 9th Annual Kansas Environmental Education Conference. This year's conference, **Digging EE: Uncovering New Connections** will take place in Hays, Kansas, on November 2 and 3. A pre-conference workshop will be held on November 1. Keynoters include:



Dr. Cheryl Charles

Dr. Cheryl Charles, President of the Children & Nature Network. Dr. Charles has worked closely with Richard Louv to develop training and education for emerging regional leaders in the children and nature movement. Cheryl also is co-chair of the Education for Sustainable Development Working Group of the Commission on Education and Communication, World Conservation Union (IUCN-CEC). She has served for nearly 20 years as national director of the two most widely used environment education programs in North America, Project Learning Tree and Project WILD. Dr. Charles will be speaking about the connections between children and nature, and her work at C&NN.

Dr. Gary Hulett, retired professor of biology at Fort Hays State University. Dr. Hulett has extensive research and teaching experience in grassland ecology and environmental science and has international experience as a teacher and researcher in Canada, Australia, Great Britain and Egypt. He is the author of numerous scientific publications, a contributor to several books and co-author of three books. Presently, Dr. Hulett is Chairman of the Dane G. Hansen Foundation Scholarship Committee, which awards 265 scholarships totaling \$610,000 each year to high school seniors in Northwest Kansas. He will be speaking about his 2005 photographic trek to Mt. Kilimanjaro, the highest point in Africa, and the status of its glaciers and surrounding environment.



Dr. Gary Hulett



Heather Click-Cuellar

Heather Click-Cuellar graduated in 1999 Cum Laude from the University of Texas at El Paso with a Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies degree/ Minor in Elementary Education and Specialization in Life/Earth Science. Heather completed her M.Ed., also at UTEP, as an Instructional Specialist in Science in May 2006. She taught for seven years in El Paso and for the Topeka 501 Public School District prior to accepting the position as Education Program Consultant in Science for the Kansas Department of Education. She will be speaking about the connections between environmental education and 21st Century Learning Skills.

"We have an outstanding lineup of keynote presenters at the conference this year," said KACEE President Cindy Ford. "I am looking forward to the exciting information and knowledge they will bring to Kansas educators." Registration materials will be arriving in mailboxes in early September. Check www.kacee.org for online registration and additional information about the conference.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Online EE Toolbox.....	2
2007 International PLT Conference.....	3
WRAPS Capacity Building Forum.....	4
Upcoming Water Festivals.....	5
Resources.....	6-7



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News

Online EE Community Tips Toolbox

Online Conference Registration!

Where do I go to register online for the Kansas Environmental Education Conference?

--Go to www.kacee.org, and click on "Register Online for the EE Conference!"

What information do I need before I start the online registration process?

--You will need a copy of the Registration Packet, also available online, in order to review the options for field experiences, meals, registration fees, and exhibits.

--You will also need to decide whether to pay online through PayPal or whether to request that KACEE send you an invoice. You can also renew your membership or make a donation to KACEE which helps to fund quality, unbiased, science-based environmental education in Kansas.

How do I get a PayPal account? Will using PayPal place my personal information at risk?

--Go to www.paypal.com, and click on "Sign Up Now!"

--Review the account types available. For most people who use PayPal for online shopping and ebay purchases, a free Personal Account will be sufficient. Click "Start Now!"

--Complete the online form, review the user agreement and privacy policy, and click "I Agree. Create My Account."

--On the next screen, you will see instructions for confirming your e-mail address. Once you have followed these instructions, your PayPal account will be live and you can follow the instructions for completing your personal profile.

--In order to make payments through PayPal, you will need a credit card.

--All types of PayPal accounts have 24-hour fraud surveillance. *PayPal is a widely used and secure method of online payment site.*

--When paying through PayPal, KACEE never sees or has possession of your credit card information.

Now you're ready to register online! Simply read through the online form and enter the information requested. The online form will total your fees and, should you choose to pay through PayPal, automatically link you to that website.

If you have any questions, contact Shari Wilson at swilson@kacee.org.
We look forward to receiving your registration.



Conference Registration Is Now Open!

NAAEE 36th Annual Conference
Wednesday - Saturday, November 14-17, 2007
Virginia Beach, Virginia

Download the complete registration brochure or register online at
<http://www.naaee.org/conference/registration>

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.

News

PLT 2007 Conference – There’s No Place Like Home May 7–11, 2007 in Wichita, KS



KACEE was honored to host the Project Learning Tree International Coordinator's Conference in our great state earlier this year. Approximately 110 participants from 39 states, Japan, and Mexico participated in this specially designed professional development opportunity for those who coordinate the delivery of PLT to educators across the world. With the help of a strong Kansas committee, we were able to treat the PLT Coordinators to a conference, that according to Kathy McGlaufflin, the national director of Project Learning Tree, was "the best conference yet!"

Ray Aslin, State Forester with the Kansas Forest Service helped kick off the conference along with a special video welcome from Governor Kathleen Sebelius. Also at the opening session, Kansas Association for Conservation and Education (KACEE) signed their MOU with PLT.



Participants integrating GIS/GPS Technology with the PreK-8 Guide & Places We Live during one of the Concurrent Sessions

Kansas native, Mike Hayden, Secretary of Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks gave the keynote address at the Outstanding Educators Luncheon.

Over the course of four days, conference attendees received in-depth training on new PLT curriculum materials, learned how to address the needs of special audiences, shared ideas for strengthening their state programs, and more.

In addition the conference sessions, the Kansas Committee organized several off-site events designed to share with participants some of wonderful places that make Kansas so unique. Conference attendees were treated to a private reception and buffet at the Sedgwick County Zoo where they heard from entertaining speaker Chad Pregracke of Living Lands and Waters, viewed a

special screening of "Last Stand of the Tallgrass Prairie," and explored the zoo's exhibits. The full-day field trip to the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve was a magical day that provided an opportunity for more networking, outdoor learning, and fun. "The tornadoes had blown themselves out, allowing us to enjoy sunshine, a vast expanse of rolling green dotted with colorful wildflowers, and a big sky!" said Vanessa Bullwinkle, PLT Conference Coordinator.

Participants explored the prairie on foot and by bus, toured the ranch house and barn, and topped the day off with a meal highlighting Kansas products in the big old barn, and cowboy songs and poetry by Kansas working cowboy, Billy Whitfield.



Billy Whitfield entertained the PLT folks at TallGrass Prairie National Preserve



Many, many thanks to our Kansas Committee who worked so hard to make this such a memorable experience for PLT folks from around the world: John Strickler, Kim Bomberger, Connie Leger, Mike Rader, Cindy Ford, Schanee' Anderson and the staff and docents at the Sedgwick County Zoo and all the KACEE staff!



Participants exploring the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve

News

WRAPS Capacity Building Forum: Recruiting & Engaging Stakeholders



In partnership with the Kansas Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) program, KACEE has developed a series of professional development opportunities for WRAPS coordinators and their watershed-based teams. KACEE's goals for the WRAPS Capacity Building Forums include providing assistance in community engagement/outreach processes, leadership development, networking opportunities, and support and access to resources that will facilitate local community success in the planning and implementation of WRAPS projects at the local level.

Our second event in the WRAPS Capacity Building Forum series was held on 3 May, 2007 at the McPherson Opera House. The forum engaged participants in discussion and activities on the topic of recruiting and engaging WRAPS Stakeholders. Forty WRAPS coordinators, team leaders, service providers, and agency personnel attended the day-long forum, designed to draw

upon local expertise and explore lessons learned from WRAPS leaders as they develop their local projects.

A "Peer Panel" of experienced WRAPS coordinators fielded questions on a variety of stakeholder-related issues, and followed up by leading round-robin discussion groups addressing themes that emerged during the panel discussion. Jim Triplett of Pittsburg State University shared his expertise on defining stakeholder roles, and Laura Downey of KACEE led the group in a WRAPS case statement development activity. Lively discussion continued throughout the day.

Many thanks to the forum committee, participants, and presenters for contributing your energy and talents for a successful event! Contact Melissa Arthur or visit www.kswraps.org for more information on WRAPS capacity building forums.



Photos by: Sheryl Ervin



**Learn more about
Kansas WRAPS and list
your organization's
WRAPS-related
services in the online directories at
www.kswraps.org**

The website was developed by KACEE and the WRAPS Capacity Building Committee in partnership with Sprout Software, and serves as a one stop shop for current and potential WRAPS leaders, service providers, stakeholders, administrators, and interested citizens to learn and share WRAPS-related resources. The website also features searchable online directories for WRAPS Partners, Service Providers, and WRAPS Projects statewide. Visit www.kswraps.org today!

Environmental Education Plan for Kansas Available on KACEE Website!

The 2006-2008 Environmental Education Plan for Kansas is now available to view on the KACEE website, www.kacee.org. Look under EE Resources. After you've had a chance to look the plan over, let us know where your programs and future plans fit in! Drop a note to Shari Wilson at swilson@kacee.org. KACEE will be compiling a review of the plan's progress later this year, and we'd like to include what you are doing!

News

Upcoming Kansas Water Festivals

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 2007. 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. Visit <http://www.kacee.org/festivals/> for more information.



Location	Date	Contact Person
Olathe AquaFest*	August 25, 2007 Raindate: September 15, 2007	Carley Adams cadams@olatheks.org Paul Krueger pkruieger@olatheks.org
Atchison Missouri River Education Day & Cleanup Day*	September 7, 2007	Maria Miller projects@atchisonkansas.net
W.A.C.K.Y. Day - Wildlife Agriculture Conservation Knowledge for Youth	September 12, 2007	Jean Stapel jean.stapel@ks.nacdnet.net
Leavenworth Water Festival	September 18-19, 2007	Susan Garrett susan.garrett@ks.nacdnet.net
Make a Splash Topeka Shawnee County Water Festival	September 20, 2007	Beth Carreno bcarreno@kacee.org
Twin Lakes Water Festival	September 25, 2007	Katie Miller katie.miller@ks.nacdnet.net
Missouri River Watershed Festival	October 6, 2007	Larry O'Donnell info@littleblueriverwcc.org
Walnut River Water Festival	October 16, 2007	Sandy Koontz sandy.koontz.ks.nacdnet.net Dr Paul Langley blangley@butlercc.edu
McPherson County Children's Water Festival	October 24, 2007	Carla Pearson carlap@mcpbpu.com



HELP US GUARANTEE THAT NO STUDENT IS LEFT INSIDE WHEN IT COMES TO THE LEARNING ABOUT THEIR ENVIRONMENT THROUGH QUALITY, NON-BIASED AND SCIENCE BASED ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION!!!

Consider calling or writing a letter urging your Representative to co-sponsor the No Child Left Inside Act of 2007 and support inclusion of environmental education in No Child Left Behind (NCLB). For more information or for a sample letter that you can e-mail and/or fax visit www.eeNCLB.org. For contact your representative's information, go to: <http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

KACEE Awards Nominations Available Online

Know someone deserving of a KACEE award? For the first time ever, you will be able to nominate that person or organization online! The Awards Nomination form is available at www.kacee.org. This year's deadline for nomination is Friday, December 14. Recipients will receive their awards at a special event next spring. Questions? Contact Shari Wilson at KACEE, swilson@kacee.org.

Resources

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

New Junior Master Gardener Curriculum now available!



The second module of the Junior Master Gardener Level 2 curricula is now available. This module of the JMG Level 2, written for grades 6-8, allows students to participate in novel, hands-on activities focusing on Soil and Water concepts.

Using *Operation W.A.T.E.R.: Dr. Thistle Goes Underground*, middle school students can investigate a new mystery while they learn important concepts about soils and water. Topics include: soil texture, aquifers, watersheds, wetlands, soil nutrients, the water cycle, soil improvement, soil structure, and water & soil conservation.

Junior Master Gardener curricula can be ordered online at www.jmgkids.us or call 888-900-2577. *Operation W.A.T.E.R.: Dr. Thistle Goes Underground* retails for \$35.00. This price includes shipping and handling.

Teens For Planet Earth



You are invited to join the third Teens for Planet Earth Leadership Institute on October 18-20, 2007 at the Bronx Zoo and help teens make a difference!

The Institute will train teachers, educators from living institutions around the world, and leaders from national and community-based organizations, to provide thousands of teens with the skills and support necessary to execute meaningful conservation-based service-learning projects in their communities. We will explore the challenges of team dynamics, how to network with experts and legislators, how to motivate teens by using zoos and other living institutions, and much more.

Participants are expected to attend all three days of the Leadership Institute. The \$100 registration fee will be waived if registration is received by September 17, 2007. For more information, go to <http://teens4planetearth.com/teestakeaction/adultadvisors/leadershipinstitutes>.

HAVE A STORY TO TELL OR A
BOOK REVIEW TO SHARE?
Send it to Jolene Amtower at
jamtower@kacee.org

U.S. South Pole Station



U.S. South Pole Station offers a multimedia look at research underway on earth's coldest, highest, driest, and windiest continent -- and the least hospitable to human life. Find out what makes the South Pole a unique place for studying astronomy, air and ozone, seismic science, off-world simulations, and life sciences. See videos, panoramas, photos, and stories about the station and its crew, instruments, and forbidding environs. Visit http://www.free.ed.gov/resource.cfm?resource_id=1904

Educators Environmental Excellence Award



This program recognizes outstanding environmental educators in the region's four states of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska. If you have questions about this awards program, or are unable to download the applications, please contact Denise Morrison at EPA Region 7, toll-free at 800-223-0425 or morrison.denise@epa.gov.

Soil-Net.com

Soil-Net.com is a free and compelling environmental Internet resource for Key Stages 1-4 providing teachers and students extensive curriculum-based information about soil. As one of the three major natural resources, alongside air and water, soil is vital to the existence of life on earth. Soil-Net.com will help you discover what soil is, the teeming life in soil and about the many environmental threats facing soils. Visit <http://www.soil-net.com>. Remember, soil is all around us, just under our feet!

Maps in Our Lives



Maps in Our Lives looks at surveying, cartography, and geographic information systems. Learn how surveying has evolved since 1760, as shown in maps of George Washington's farm (1760 - 1999). See 40 items that show recent advances in cartographic interpretation and design. Find maps of countries of the world, California's population and ethnic distribution, North America's natural gas system, the Middle East, and Iran. Visit http://www.free.ed.gov/resource.cfm?resource_id=1909

Resources

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President's Environmental Youth Awards



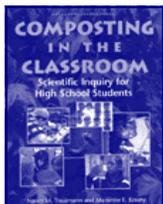
Since 1971, EPA has sponsored the President's Environmental Youth Awards (PEYA). The program recognizes young people across America for projects which demonstrate their commitment to the environment. Young people in all 50 states and the U.S. territories are invited to participate in the program. For more information, visit <http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/peya/index.html>

Secret Lives of Wild Animals



Secret Lives of Wild Animals looks at new technologies being used to observe animals in their natural environments. See video clips and stories about tracking white-tailed deer, ocelots, agoutis, dragonflies, zebras, and seals. Visit http://www.free.ed.gov/resource.cfm?resource_id=1907

Composting in the Classroom: Scientific Inquiry for High School Students



Now you can download this comprehensive guide for teachers interested in guiding composting research projects by high school students. It was selected by the National Science Teachers Association to be included in NSTA Recommends, a collection of the best science education books. Download a copy at <http://compost.css.cornell.edu/CIC.html>.

Everyday Mysteries



Did you ever wonder why a camel has a hump? If you can really tell the weather by listening to the chirp of a cricket? Or why our joints make popping sounds? These questions deal with everyday phenomena that we often take for granted, but each can be explained scientifically.

Everyday Mysteries will help you get the answers to these and many other of life's most interesting questions through scientific inquiry. In addition, we will introduce you to the Library of Congress' rich collections in science and technology.

All of the questions presented on this Web site were asked by researchers and answered by librarians from the Library's Science Reference Services. Check it out at www.loc.gov/rr/scitech/mysteries/.

Kansas Environmental Leadership Program (KELP), Class 9

Recruitment is under way for the Class of 2008, Kansas Environmental Leadership Program (KELP). This will be the ninth class since 1999. Over 191 local leaders throughout Kansas have participated in the program, with 24 in the Class of 2007.

Emphasis is placed on including representatives from all facets of Kansas life: agriculture, industry, government, urban, and rural communities. Extension agents are asked to nominate producers who will be future agricultural leaders and who will benefit from leadership and environmental awareness. Especially encouraged is participation by two citizens from the same area, such as an extension agent who can attend in tandem with a local producer or landowner or governmental official.

KELP focuses on training participants in leadership skills and in water-related issues. Five, 3-day sessions are held, with the first session occurring in January and the final session in October. The five session locations and dates for 2008 are: Hays (Jan. 9-11), Topeka (Feb. 27-29), Garden City (Apr. 16-18), Independence/Ft. Scott Aug. (13-15), and Wichita/Hutchinson (Oct. 29-31). Each session begins at noon on Wednesday and ends before noon on Friday.

Tuition is partially underwritten by a 319 grant, leaving \$850 the responsibility of the participant. All meals, lodging (double occupancy), bus trips, activities, and materials are covered. Each person is only responsible for getting to and from each meeting and for time away from work to attend.

Academic credit and continuing education credits are available. More information is available on the KELP website <http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/kelp/> or by calling Judy Willingham or Morgan Powell at (785) 532-5813.

PLT GreenWorks! Grants



Have an idea for an exciting service-learning or community action project for your students but don't have enough funds to implement it? Why not apply for one of PLT's *GreenWorks!* grants? *GreenWorks!* is the service-learning, community action program of PLT that partners PLT educators, students, and communities in environmental neighborhood improvement projects. To learn more, visit www.plt.org. Deadline date is October 31, 2007

NOW
AVAILABLE!
Join and manage your
membership online at
www.kacee.org

KACEE Membership & Request for Information

Organizational Membership (\$50/year) Individual Membership (\$20/year)

Student Membership (Grade 9-Undergraduate \$10/year)

Additional donation to support quality, non-biased, science-based environmental education in Kansas \$ _____

Primary Contact: _____ Date: _____

Organization/School/Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Fax: _____ E-mail Address: _____

If you are joining as an individual member or primary contact for an Organizational membership, how would you like to receive your KACEE newsletter and Communications: Paper Electronic

(NOTE: Student members and Organizational member contacts will receive KACEE news via e-mail only)

Organizational members may list up to two additional contacts at no extra charge (please list on a separate sheet). For more than two additional contacts, please include \$10 per additional contact (beyond two additional contacts included with organizational membership)

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"/> WET <input type="checkbox"/> WILD <input type="checkbox"/> WILD Aquatic <input type="checkbox"/> WET In the City <input type="checkbox"/> Leopold Education Project | <input type="checkbox"/> Becoming a corporate sponsor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Investigating Your Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ |



Please return completed form to:

KACEE
2610 Claflin Road
Manhattan, KS 66502-2743
785-532-3322 Fax: 785-532-3305

Internal Use:

Membership Category: _____

Date Received: _____



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