

# THE CATALYST

## SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

**Next meeting: Wednesday 2/10/1999.** Macoskey Center - Harmony House, 247 Harmony Road, SRU, Slippy Rock, PA (See article below.) Prior Meeting (1/13/99) was canceled due to inclement weather. Thanks to every one who called and discussed the upcoming events anyway!

### **"If at first..." FEBRUARY MEETING TO BE HELD AT HARMONY HOUSE!!**

**This month's meeting to be held at the Harmony Homestead on WEDNESDAY February 10 at 7 p.m.!!!** Thanks to Dr. Valentin Kefeli for rescheduling the meeting at the Homestead (Harmony House). Many people called and said how much they were looking forward to touring this unique facility and learning about developments in sustainable systems!!! The Harmony House is located at the Macoskey Center on Harmony Road on the East side of the SRU campus. (From SR 173 in Slippy Rock turn east onto Keister Road (as you would normally go to Vincent Science Hall) go about 1 mile and turn left (north) onto the first township road (Harmony Road, a.k.a. Redmond Rd.) past the SRU tennis courts. The Harmony House is located on the east (right) side of Harmony Road about one-half mile from this intersection. Pop 'n Pizza to be provided.

### **1999 SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION SYMPOSIUM**

**Friday, April 16, 1999** is the scheduled date for the fourth annual SRWC Symposium. Thanks to Jennings Environmental Education Center for offering their facilities!!! The setting could not be more beautiful or appropriate. Please mark your calendar!!! Anyone who wants to contribute, let us know!! We need greeters, photographers, organizers, writers, etc. More later...

### **HARRISVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MEN'S BREAKFAST (1/23/99)**

Thanks to John Stalker and the Methodist men for their interest in the activities of the Slippy Rock Watershed Coalition. The information packet, the new(!) SRWC hats, and the ever-changing SRWC poster were well received. Several of the men provided insightful, first-hand information about the mining history and the role of the railroad in the headwaters. Needless to say, this was a very rewarding (and educational!) experience for Tim Danehy and Margaret Dunn. Thanks again to Bob Stalker, Albert Castor, Bruce Rider, Donald Miller, Willard Morse, Richard Hogue, Vance Riddle, Paul Taggart, Charles Fryman, Mike Agostino, Carl Eakin, Warren Critchlow, Dallas VanDyke, and John Stalker for their warm hospitality.

### **PRESENTATION WELL-RECEIVED AT ECOLOGY CLUB, SLIPPERY ROCK HIGH SCHOOL**

About 80(!!!) students attended the monthly meeting (1/28/99) of the Slippy Rock High School Ecology Club. The presentation by Timothy Danehy and Margaret Dunn addressed the causes of and environmentally-friendly solutions to the problems associated with abandoned minelands. Overheads were used to explain the various types of passive treatment systems and to depict the difference between the old mining methods (both surface and underground) and the new methods which reduce the impact and, in the case of re-mining, are designed to improve the land and water resources. The attentiveness of the students and the genuine interest expressed after the presentation were an inspiration. The Club's advisor, Tony Consbruck (biology/applied ecology teacher), and his students in addition to monitoring McMurray Run in the Slippy Rock Watershed are interested in expanding their activities to include the evaluation of organic media in the treatment of mine drainage and more involvement in the Coalition's activities!!! Thanks again to Tony Consbruck for all of his efforts!! (By the way, the SRWC stickers, magnets, and hats were a hit with the students!!!)

Note of appreciation: As mentioned above there are new baseball-type caps imprinted with "Slippy Rock Watershed Coalition". These hats were ordered on short notice from Coalition participant Richard Robbins, who had to travel by snowmobile to deliver the order to post office! Thank you Richard!!

### **NEXT ISSUE**

- Girl Scouts install weir at discharge SR 64
- Three Rivers Sportmen's Club project moving forward
- Slippy Rock Creek restoration effort acknowledged in 1/1/99 PA DEP "Update"