

THE CATALYST

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 7/14/99 @ 7:00 pm, Macoskey Center - Harmony House. Pizza 'n pop will be provided!!! Prior Meeting (6/12/99) attendees: Janice Belgredan, Steve Smith, Kitty Peart, Darcy Peart, Will Taylor, Jesse Allen, Charlene Wick, Charlie Cooper, Valentin Kefeli, Frank Cetera, Tim Danehy, Margaret Dunn (The special treat was a "yummy" salad made with organically-grown veggies by **Galina Kefeli**.)

HOORAY!!! SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION RECEIVES 1999 THREE RIVERS ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD

Out of over 100(!!!) nominees in 10 categories, the SRWC was chosen to receive the award in the category, Community-Environmental Organization!!!! The award was announced 6/1/99 after a gourmet dinner as part of a spectacular pictorial presentation which centered not only on the natural beauty and outdoor recreational activities in western Pennsylvania but also on the contributions made by each of the 29 finalists towards improving the environment. The SRWC was the last finalist in the last category. Anticipation and excitement was high among the 20 SRWC participants in attendance. We were all elated when Peggy Finnegan, Newscaster, WPXI-TV, read our name!!!

The photo below and "write-up" are copied from the bulletin given to each of the over 300 attendees of the event. Special thanks to the Pennsylvania Environmental Council and Duquesne Light Company, for sponsoring the event, and to their nationally-recognized photographer, Alan J. King for his talents and patience(!) while taking all of the fabulous photographs depicting our activities.

This partnership of colleges and universities, youth groups, government agencies, businesses, and nonprofit organizations is battling the environmental effects of a century of coal mining in the Slippery Rock Creek watershed. In 1998, the Coalition constructed two passive treatment systems along the Creek that are neutralizing more than 15 million gallons of acidic water



annually---and also reclaimed a 50-acre former mining site. In addition, the Coalition shares its commitment to restoring the Creek's watershed through monthly meetings, a newsletter, field tours, and an annual symposium attended by nearly 200 people. Thanks to the Coalition's efforts, fish have been seen in a formerly degraded section of the Creek---for the first time in 100 years.

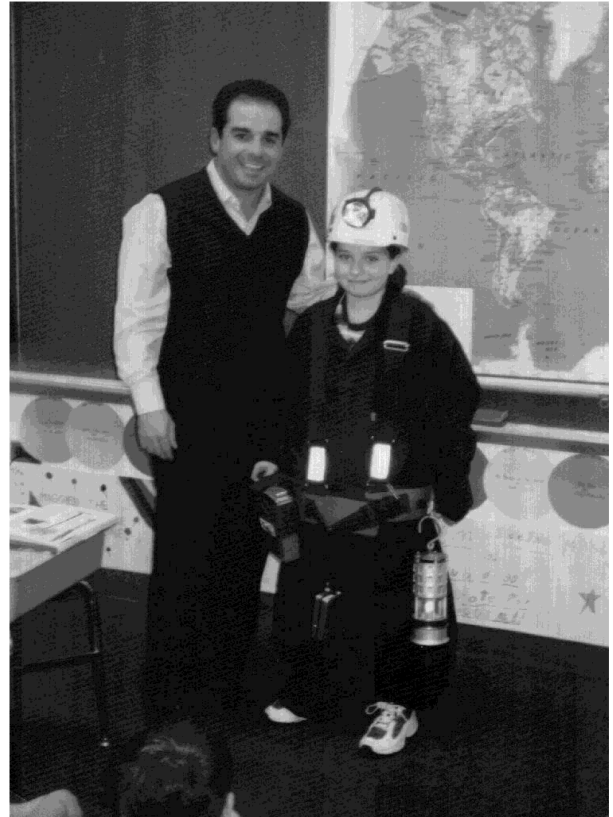
The festivities were enjoyed by the following SRWC participants: homeschool student **Darcy** and her mother **Kitty Peart**; Girl Scouts and Leaders **Danielle, Lisa, and Karen Duncan, Deborah Bowser, and Marion Hall**; Volunteers **Janice Belgredan and Steve Smith**; SRU Macosky Center **Dr. Valentin Kefeli** and his wife **Galina**; Quality Aggregates **Jeff Ankrom, Manager**; SRU **Dr. Dean DeNicola, Biologist, and Dr. Michael Stapleton, Geochemist**; Jennings Environmental Education Center staff **JoAnn Albert and Will Taylor**; Chester Engineers **Robert Zick**; CDS Assoc., **Charles Cooper, PE, PLS**; Stream Restoration Inc. **Tim Danehy, EPI, and Margaret Dunn, PG**.

The \$1000 award was donated to the Institute for the Environment at Slippery Rock University to be used in the continuation of the watershed effort by Dr. Dean DeNicola, Biologist. This will provide the opportunity for more students to be involved in our efforts. (THANKS again and more thanks to the sponsors for making this possible.)

Josh First, Director of Education, PA Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources and Jeff Allio, Local Government Liaison, PADEP also helped to make this a memorable event with their words of encouragement and congratulations.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH

To illustrate safety and to recognize the increasing role of women in the mining industry, Claire Aloe donned underground mining safety equipment and participated in a recent presentation by Joseph Aloe, President, Quality Aggregates Inc. to 60(!!!) of her classmates in the fourth grade at the Baker Elementary School in Upper St. Clair. The presentation also placed emphasis on environmental responsibility in mining both limestone and coal. Needless to say, Claire and Joe provided a fun learning experience!!



Thanks to The William & Frances Aloe Charitable Foundation, Amerikohl Mining, Inc., Quality Aggregates Inc., and Allegheny Mineral Corporation for their support. For more information contact: Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition, c/o Stream Restoration Incorporated (PA non-profit), 338 Glen Eden Road, Rochester PA 15074, (724)774-2813, fax (724)774-1219, sri@ccia.com. July Distribution: 384 copies