

## THE CATALYST

### SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

**THIS MONTH'S MEETING:** May 9 @ 7:00 PM, Jennings Environmental Education Center, Pizza and Pop will be provided!! Due To The Symposium Last Month's Meeting Was Canceled.



### Come On Down To The SRWC Annual Get-Together!!!

Yes, it is time once again, for the Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition's Annual Get-Together, which will take place on May 1, 2002 from 6 PM to 8 PM. The fun-filled event will be held again this year at the Epiphany Catholic Church, located off of Forestville Road and State Route 308 in Boyers, PA.

We will be having door prizes and last year's favorite...piñatas for the kids. We will also be displaying a variety of the Kids Catalyst Colorings that we have received over the past year. So bring out the entire family for good food and good times. For more information and/or directions call Deanna Funkhouser at (724) 776-0161. Bring the whole family for an evening featuring: FREE FOOD; DOOR PRIZES and MORE!!!

### 7th Annual Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition Symposium — Yet Another Success

Just when you thought that the Symposium couldn't get any better, it did!! When compared to the very first Symposium in 1996, although some things have stayed the same, many things have grown and improved. This year's symposium, which consisted of three days, definitely was the best so far (!!!), a wonderful tribute to the organizing and planning skills of **Janice Belgraden, Deanna Funkhouser, and Will Taylor!!!**

On Friday April 12th, the last of the three-day event took place with **Dave Hess, Secretary of the PA DEP**, giving a very warm Key Note Address specifically recalling accomplishments of the SRWC. **Margaret Dunn** gave her traditional "State of the Watershed" address before presenting **Dave Hess** with this year's **Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition's Appreciation Award!!!** Secretary Hess is certainly deserving of this award for his tireless effort, dedication, and support of not only the Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition, but of all watershed groups throughout Pennsylvania. Secretary Hess's dedication can be easily seen through the **Secretary's Scrapbook** on the PA DEP website which chronicles his constant trek throughout the 67 counties of the Commonwealth. And yes, within his first year as Secretary of the DEP he visited at least one if not several Growing Greener watershed projects in every single county.



Following the Appreciation Award, two in-depth presentations were given to chronicle how the Coalition completes complex multi-faceted projects utilizing the public-private partnership effort model from concept through construction to outgrowth projects, education/outreach activities and operation and maintenance. The two projects used to demonstrate these concepts were the **De Sale** and the **Goff Station** Restoration Areas.

After lunch, a field tour was provided to showcase and demonstrate three projects which are in different stages of development. The first stop was Goff Station, a very unique project that has been completed. The second stop was Erico Bridge, a project under construction. The last stop was SR81, a site before construction.

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**Those attending the Symposium on April 12th, posing with Secretary Hess!!!**

**PA CleanWays Earth Day Cleanup!**

On April 27, PA CleanWays of Butler County will be removing trash from Big Run, a tributary to Slippery Rock Creek, this stream also flows through Jennings Environmental Education Center. Volunteers will meet in the unpaved parking lot near the Country Corner Store on Rt. 8 at the intersection of Staff and Hall Roads in Brady Twp. between 8:30 and 8:45am. Be sure to wear appropriate clothing! Food will be provided. For more information call Sheryl at 724-284-5305.

**Wetland Plantings Are A Great Way To Get Involved!**

On May 11th, there will be a wetland planting at DeSale! Wetlands are important for the animals who live in the area and they also remove pollutants from the water. We need all sorts of people and groups to help. Those of you who would like to get involved and help can call Shaun Busler at 724-776-0161 or e-mail him at sri@salsgiver.com A brief tour of the site and explanation of the project will be given.

**Bob Beran At MS3 Seminar Series**

On Wednesday April 3rd, **Bob Beran** from Aquascape Inc., spoke on *Incorporating Biodiversity into Treatment/Constructed Wetlands* at the MS3 Sustainable Systems Seminar Series. This series is being sponsored by Slippery Rock University. The seminars take place on Wednesdays from 1-2:15 in room 304 in the Physical Therapy Building. The last seminar will take place on May 1st. MaryAnn Frazier, Entomology PSU, will speak on *Honey Bee Biology and the Role of Honey Bees in Agro-Ecosystems*.

**SRWC Has Adopted—A—Highway!!!**

The Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition now has a portion of I-79 to keep clean. **Chris Treter**, OSM Intern, applied for the program last year and the signs were recently erected between mile markers 100 & 101 heading both North and South on I-79!! Be sure to look for them next time you drive I-79!!! We will need to clean the area four times a year so watch for opportunities to help us keep our watershed clean!!!!

**More about...**

### The 2002 SME Convention

Everything started to happen thanks to **Mike Leon, a Senior Engineer at Harding ESE, Inc. and the Environmental Division Program Planning Chair for SME.** An article was published in the December 2001 issue of "**Mining Engineering**" (16,000 subscribers) about our presentations at the 2/25/02 convention. As previously noted in "The Catalyst" (April 2002), there were two sessions (10 papers!!) focusing on "Conquering AML Issues with Public-Private Partnerships".

**Abstracts** were provided in the conference program with the **papers on disk** which were given to each of the over 3000 attendees. The papers included

**PA Department of Environmental Protection's Growing Greener Program - A Public-Private Partnership**  
by **David Hogeman**, PG, Director, PA DEP Bureau of Environmental Sustainability

**A Public-Private Partnership Success Story: Treating AMD at Jennings Env. Ed Center**  
by **Will Taylor**, Env. Ed. Program Coordinator & **Dave Johnson**, Center Mgr, Jennings Env. Ed. Center; **Margaret H. Dunn**, PG, SRI.; **Janice Belgraden**, Educational Consultant

**Fabricated Soils: An example for Scientific Contributions by a Public-Private Partnership Effort**  
by **Valentin Kefeli**, PhD, Soil Scientist, BioMost, Inc.

**Federal Cooperation to Protect Watersheds Degraded by Coal Mine Drainage from AML**  
by **Bernie Sarnoski**, Coal Mine Drainage Initiative Coordinator, US EPA

**Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition: A Public-Private Partnership for Stream Restoration and Education**  
by **Fred Brenner**, PhD, Biology Dept., Grove City College

**Slippery Rock Watershed Public-Private Partnering: A Means to Restore AML in Western PA**  
by **Margaret H. Dunn**, **Tim Danehy**, **Shaun Busler**, & **Cliff Denholm**, Stream Restoration Inc.

**Effectiveness of PA's Remining Program in Abating AMD: Part I - Water Quality Impacts**  
by **Michael Smith**, Dist. Mining Mgr., **Keith B. C. Brady**, PG, Bureau of Mining & Rec., PA DEP

**Effectiveness of PA's Remining Program in Abating AMD: Part II - Efficacy of BMPs**  
by **Jay Hawkins**, US Dept. of Interior, OSM; **Ken Miller**, Statistician & **Joan Cuddeback**, Sr. Env. Eng., DynCorp; **Keith B. C. Brady**, PG, PA DEP Bureau of Mining and Rec.

**Office of Surface Mining and National Endowment for the Arts Coal Country Initiative**  
by **T. Allen Comp**, US Dept. of Interior, Office of Surface Mining

**The Dark Shade Brownfields Project: Abandoned Coalfields as Brownfields**  
by **D. C. Ciotti**, AMD & ART, Inc.

**Because of these presentations, the AML efforts in Pennsylvania are being acknowledged not only na-  
tionally but also internationally. Next month, sharing the vision of public-private partnering with visi-  
tors from Peru!! Thanks to Mike Leon and everyone at SME for giving us this opportunity!!!**

### **The Kids Catalyst**

For this month's Kid's Catalyst, take a picture of a stream near you! Label the picture and tell us the stream's name and where it is! Send us your photo and we will send you a Gift Certificate! Or if you would rather draw us an original picture that would work as well!!! A lot of your pictures were on display at the Symposium, and everyone loved them!!!!!! Look for your pictures to be displayed at the Get Together! Great job and keep sharing your talents with us!!!

# THE SRWC SYMPOSIUM 2002 Cont.

## “Building Partnerships for the Future”



On Thursday, April 11, student presenters, their professors, and environmental professionals met at the Wolf Creek School Café for dinner and discussion, a great networking opportunity. Thank you, John Stilley and Amerikohl Mining for sponsoring the dinner and believing in this evening as much as we do!!!

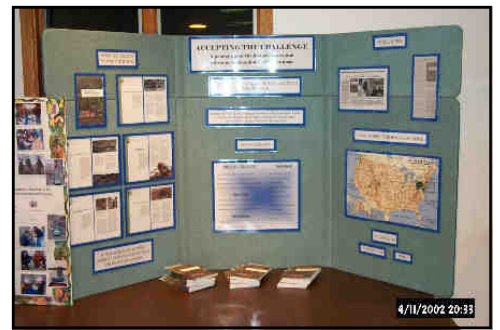
After dinner, we continued to Jennings Environmental Education Center to hear the students excellent presentations. In addition, **Cliff Denholm**, SRI, gave an overview of SRWC activities and **Joan Clippinger**, DCNR, discussed some of PA's great natural resources. **Shaun Busler**, SRI, spoke about his journey from student to professional working with the Coalition. The students who spoke were: **Susan LaRue** and **Jamie Skoloda** from GCC with **Dr. Brenner**; **Michele Gauger** and **Theresa Reustle** from SRU with **Dr. Borsari** and **Dr. Kefeli**; **Joelle Kerr** from SRU with **Dr. DeNicola** (see above); **Todd C. Crouch** from SRU with **Dr. Stapleton**; **Timothy Elder** from SRU with **Dr. Borsari**; **Spencer Welton** from SRU with **Dr. Borsari**; as well as **Craig Fisher**, **Jose-lynn Hohenwarter**, **Rachel Orwan** and **Kirk Sander** from SRU with **Dr. Stapleton**. A **HUGE THANK YOU** goes out to ALL THE HARDWORKING AND DEDICATED students who have played an essential role in documenting the amazing improvements we have seen in the watershed AND who are helping to develop the technology needed to make it happen!!!! A Thank You also needs to go out to their professors!! Without their guidance and knowledge none of this would be possible!!!! More about the students in the next issue...

## Sunday's Community Watershed Tour

On Sunday April 7th, about 50 people assembled at Jennings Environmental Education Center to hear **Will Taylor** speak about the Slippery Rock Creek Watershed. Will covered everything from the time before the dinosaurs to problems we face today. To be able to understand the future we must always look towards the past and Will was able to show those in attendance just how we came to face the problems we do today.

Following the presentation we toured the onsite passive treatment system at Jennings and got to see first hand what mine discharges do to our water. Will continued to educate us as those in attendance asked questions and wanted to learn more.

A poster on *Accepting the Challenge* illustrated where the book has traveled so far (see photo to the right). And everyone was invited to take a copy with them. Thank you to those who came and participated! And thank you Will for being such an excellent guide through our watershed!!!



Thanks to The William & Frances Aloe Charitable Foundation, Amerikohl Mining, Inc., Quality Aggregates Inc., Allegheny Mineral Corporation and PA DEP for their support. For more information contact: Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition, c/o Stream Restoration Incorporated (PA non-profit), 3016 Unionville Road, Cranberry Twp., PA 16066, (724)776-0161, fax (724)776-0166, [sri@salsgiver.com](mailto:sri@salsgiver.com), [www.srwc.org](http://www.srwc.org). May Distribution: 869 copies



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