

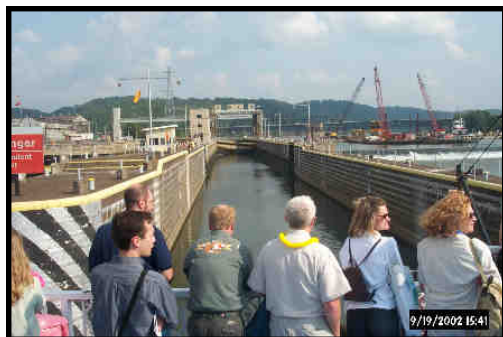
# THE CATALYST

## SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

**THIS MONTH'S MEETING:** Thursday October 10th at 7pm Jennings Environmental Education Center, pizza and pop will be provided. 09/12/02 Meeting Attendance: T. Danehy, M. Dunn, D. Johnson, C. Cooper, V. Kefeli, W. Taylor, C. Denholm, D. Treter, C. Treter, J. Belgraden, S. Smith, J. Reidenbaugh, M. Busler, M. Shreggler, E. Best, M. Crostley, M. Stapleton

## 1st Annual Riverboat Cruise *Celebrating the Ohio River Watershed*

On Thursday September 19th, approximately 275 people boarded the Gateway Clipper Partyliner for 3 informative and fun filled hours on the Monongahela River. The day began at 1:30 with a press conference where representatives from over 50 partners and 15 sponsors posed for photographs. In addition, a mock-up road sign was unveiled. The sign, pending Penn DOT approval, will be posted to inform travelers that they have entered the Ohio River Watershed! Special thanks to **Deb Simko** for all her hard work in this endeavor. Boarding of the



boat began at 2:15. All those attending were given a "goodie bag" filled with many different items including a Resource Binder with information collected from partners. A visiting priest from India spontaneously joined the diverse group and the SRWC was well represented with over 25 attending and wearing SRWC name tags! The **Washington County Envirothon** winning class greeted guests with leis on land, while on the boat people were treated to the world champion Ragtime Piano Player, **Dan Mouyard**. The ship set sail at 2:30 with a blessing from **Rev. Huett Fleming** from the Church of the Good Shepherd in Hazelwood PA. Shortly af-

ter, the narrative began explaining some of the history of what we were seeing as we floated along. For those enjoying conversation, a Guidebook was provided so they could pick up and follow along. Special thanks to those who narrated: **Maggie Hall, Mike Koryak, Jim Volanski, Bruce Engelhardt, John Harper, Bruce Green, and Davitt Woodwell**. A yummy spread of fruit, cheese and crackers was enjoyed as well. The highlight of the cruise was our visit to the increasingly popular Braddock Lock and Dam. The **US Army Corps of Engineers** was very generous and granted the boat priority locking so we could experience this wonder of engineering. As we returned from Braddock, a wonderful array of door prizes were



handed out. Special thanks to those who donated items too numerous to mention. Following the prizes, we were once more entertained by **Dan Mouyard** with his talented piano playing. When we finished our ride on the Monongahela we had some time to travel up the Allegheny. It was exciting to see the new stadiums from a different perspective. Prior to docking, guests were surprised to receive a briefcase provided by the **Pittsburgh Conference on Analytical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy**. Thank you Pittsburgh Conference for your generous donation. As we docked it was apparent that everyone had enjoyed their trip



had already begun. Some funding has already been received. Thank you to all those who attended and we hope to see you again next year!!!!



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**Matt Beran** resting after his big day at the capital for the Governor's Award.

## SRWC Receives Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence!!!

On Wednesday September 25<sup>th</sup>, members of the Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition traveled to Harrisburg to receive the Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence in the category of Environmental Education/ Outreach.



**Bob Beran** of Aquascape and **Cliff Denholm** of Stream Restoration accepted the award on behalf of the Coalition. Education and Outreach has always been an important element of the SRWC's restoration effort. Through over a dozen tours and workshops every year; *The Catalyst* which is distributed monthly to nearly 1000 people all over the world including Canada, Mexico, Peru, Germany, Australia, and Saudi Arabia; our website [www.srwc.org](http://www.srwc.org); our publications **Accepting the Challenge** and the recently unveiled **ABC's of Our Watershed** coloring book; we seek to provide educational opportunities to everyone who is interested in learning about abandoned mine drainage, passive treatment systems, wetlands,

wildlife habitat, public-private partnerships and watershed restoration. Thanks to **Governor Schwieker**, **Secretary Hess**, and **Deputy Secretary Thumma** who were on hand for the ceremony as well as the DEP for their recognition of our efforts! The SRWC also received an official Congratulations from State Senator **Jane Ori**e and a Citation from State Representative **Daryl Metcalfe**. These mean so much to us!!!

## SRWC Attends the PA Watershed Conference

The annual Pennsylvania Watershed Conference was held at the Four Points Hotel in Greensburg, PA on September 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. The conference brings watershed groups, governmental agencies, non-profits, and private industry together to discuss watershed issues and celebrate successes. About 10 SRWC participants attended the conference. **Bob Beran**, Aquascape, discussed incorporating biodiversity into constructed naturally-functioning treatment wetlands. **Will Taylor**, Jennings Environmental Education Center, presented the new DCNR State Parks watershed education program. **Dr. Fred Brenner**, Grove City College and **Margaret Dunn**, Stream Restoration, discussed the importance and value of partnering with colleges and universities. **Tim Danehy**, BioMost Inc., co-moderated the Ohio River Basin Networking session while **Deanna Treter**, Stream Restoration, moderated the Wetlands session. **Shaun Busler**, **Cliff Denholm**, and **Chris Treter**, were also on hand to take part in the conference activities with two posters.



# The KIDS Catalyst

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION FUN ACTIVITY



## Crossword Puzzle

See if you can finish this crossword puzzle. The words are at the bottom if you need help! Remember to send in your completed crossword puzzle, because the first 50 we receive will get a gift certificate!

The SRWC has just released a coloring book called, "The ABCs of Our Watershed" if you would like a copy please call 724-776-0161 or write to 3016 Unionville Rd. Cranberry Twp., PA 16066. We are asking for a \$4 donation to help offset printing costs.

1 A large stream

2 A way to get across a river

3 A type of boat that is on a river

4 How water levels are controlled on a river

5 The name of a river in Pittsburgh

6 The name of the era 100 years ago

7 A metal that Pittsburgh is famous for

8 A place where things are made

9 A black rock that is found in Pennsylvania

10 A type of boat used to haul things on the river

**WORDBANK**

- |        |            |              |       |
|--------|------------|--------------|-------|
| RIVER  | RIVER-BOAT | FACTORY      | COAL  |
| BRIDGE | DAM        | BARGE        | STEEL |
|        | RAGTIME    | MONONGA-HELA |       |

**Save This Date... Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup**

It is time once again to clean up our mile of Interstate 79 (mile marker 100-101) as part of the Adopt-A-Highway program. We will once again meet at the "park and ride" along 422 just west of the interchange with I-79 at noon on Friday November 1st. Everyone is welcome! Food, drink, and materials will be provided. To participate, please contact us at 724-776-0161.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

## SRWC Participant Presents at Energy Conference

On Monday, September 23rd **Margaret Dunn**, was a panelist at the Pennsylvania Energy Conference held at the Radisson in Greentree. Margaret spoke about environmental sustainability with regards to energy sources. Other SRWC participants in attendance were: **Tim Danehy, Shaun Busler, Deanna Treter and Chris Treter**. Other topics discussed during the conference include; new energy sources, sustainable energy sources, and cost effective energy technologies. Thank you to the Pennsylvania Energy Conference for inviting us to speak, it is always nice to share our knowledge and experience with others!!

## Home-School Students Tour SRWC Sites



On September 6<sup>th</sup>, a group of home-school students accompanied by their mothers/teachers participated in a tour of two SRWC projects. **Bob Beran** of Aquascape and **Cliff Denholm** and **Shaun Busler** of Stream Restoration led the tour. The students and teachers were given an overview of abandoned mine drainage, passive treatment systems, wetlands, and wildlife habitat. The tour began at Erico Bridge in order to see the passive treatment system that is currently being constructed by **Quality Aggregates**. We then moseyed on over to Goff Station where they could see a completed restoration project full of unique passive treatment innovations, exceptionally diverse naturally-functioning constructed wetlands, and other

wildlife habitat improvements. The highlight of the tour for the students seemed to be the final effluent emanating from the polishing wetland that was built in the footprint of a former gob pile where they splashed in water of excellent quality (pH ~ 6.5 and virtually no metals) and found several crayfish living in the riprapp spillway. They also had an opportunity to examine a variety of beautiful wetland plants some of which were flowering. Afterwards we ate lunch and talked. Everyone had a great time! The students have already made plans to come back to help plant the 7 acres of wetlands at Erico Bridge. Thanks to the **Beeching, Bonnetti, and Fike** families for coming out and spending a beautiful Friday with us in the field!



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: Slippy 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). October Distribution: 948 copies



Slippy Rock Watershed Coalition c/o Stream Restoration Incorporated  
A PA Non-Profit Organization  
3016 Unionville Road  
Cranberry Twp., PA 16066

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ORGANIZATION  
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