

THE CATALYST

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

THIS MONTH'S MEETING: Thursday 8/14/08 at 7 pm at Jennings Environmental Education Center, pizza and pop provided. 7/10/08 meeting attendance: C. Cooper, M. Dunn, V. Kefeli, C. Leininger, L. Leininger, T. Leininger

SRWC Had a Blast at Harrisville Community Day



Once again, the **SRWC** had the opportunity to participate at the Harrisville Community Day held every year on the 4th of July. The **Jennings Environmental Education Center** was kind enough to share their space, equipment, and friendly staff for the event. In addition to the SRWC displays and hand-outs, Jennings had tie-dying t-shirts with iron oxide recovered from abandoned mine drainage, a GPS geocache hunt, mining artifacts, fossils, rocks, and other interesting items. It is always great to meet other folks who live in the watershed and it is especially rewarding to hear them remark how much they have noticed that the streams have improved!!! After the day-long events and wonderful carnival food, people settled in to watch the always exciting fireworks display. A good time was had by all. Many thanks to those who participated in the event, including **Stephanie Taylor, Justine Lechner, Melissa Lambert, Valentine Kefeli, Chris Leininger, Cliff Denholm, and Margaret Dunn.**



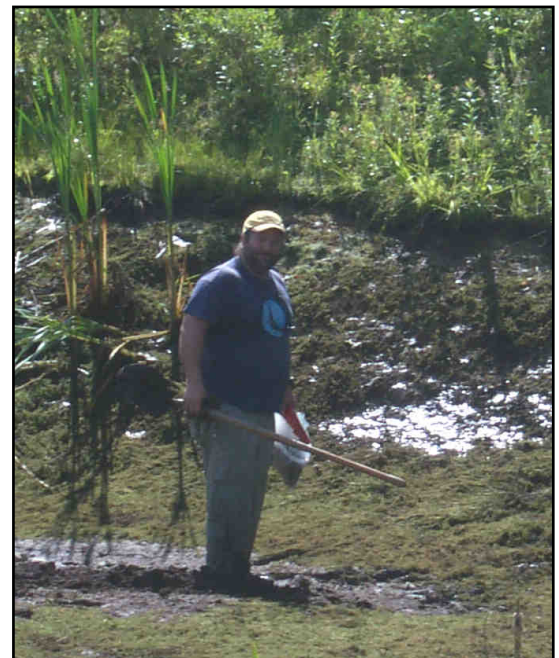
After the day-long events and wonderful carnival food, people settled in to watch the always exciting fireworks display. A good time was had by all. Many thanks to those who participated in the event, including **Stephanie Taylor, Justine Lechner, Melissa Lambert, Valentine Kefeli, Chris Leininger, Cliff Denholm, and Margaret Dunn.**

All the Way from Oklahoma...

SRWC participant **Cliff Denholm** of Stream Restoration Inc. had the pleasure to hang out with **Dr. Bob Nairn** from Oklahoma University on June 24th and assist him with collecting samples from the SR109 passive treatment system. Bob came to Pennsylvania to collect samples of organic treatment media in our oldest undisturbed vertical flow pond, which was constructed in 1998 by the **PA DEP Knox District Mining Office (Roger Bowman, PE, Designer)** and is still functioning extremely well. The samples are for one of Bob's graduate students, **Beatriz Santamaria**, who is examining how the microbial communities change over time as the systems age. Bob had to come back home to Pennsylvania to get treatment media from an older system. For those of you who do not know Bob, he is originally from Aliquippa, PA and did much of the early research on passive treatment



systems at the US Bureau of Mines in Pittsburgh along side **Bob Kleinmann, Bob Heddin, and George Watzlaf**. We are looking forward to seeing the results of this research at a future ASMR meeting!





Margaret Dunn and Chris Leininger, professor at Slippery Rock University, stand in front of the SRWC display at the Harrisville Community Days as **Cliff Denholm** shows interested attendees pottery made with iron and manganese oxides recovered from passive treatment systems.

SRWC Participants Attend ASMR Annual Meeting in Richmond

Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition participants **Margaret Dunn and Cliff Denholm of Stream Restoration Inc.**, attended the **American Society of Mining and Reclamation (ASMR)** annual meeting held this year in Richmond, VA from June 15-18. Entitled "New Opportunities to Apply Our Science", it was ASMR's 25th (!!!)



Dr. Bob Nairn from Oklahoma University (Left) and Margaret Dunn (Right) share a laugh at SRI's display table during the 25th Annual ASMR Meeting in Richmond, VA.

Annual Meeting! As usual there were a number of interesting papers presented on land reclamation and water treatment from all around the world. In addition to ASMR's historical concentration on coal and metal mining applications, this meeting's program and field trips focused on remediation of other disturbances such as exposure of acid-sulfate materials, mineral sands mining, dredge spoil placement, and wetland impact mitigation.

Cliff presented a paper entitled "Sustainable Passive Treatment of Mine Drainage: Demonstration of Manganese Resource Recovery (A Preliminary Case Study)" detailing the efforts of SRI on recovering manganese oxides from area passive treatment systems and finding a use for them as "Green Products". SRI is currently marketing iron

and manganese oxides as a ceramic glaze ingredient, as well as pottery made using the materials through a newly created division of SRI called **Clean Creek Products**. If you haven't done so yet, please check out our e-commerce website at www.cleancreek.org. A portion of all sales are placed in trust funds to assist watershed groups in taking care of their passive treatment systems.

Cliff and Margaret enjoyed their visit to Richmond (home of the first commercial coal mine in the USA!) and were glad to have had the opportunity to talk with so many folks interested in the "Green Products" SRI is busy marketing! To learn more about ASMR, visit their web site at <http://ces.ca.uky.edu/asmr/>



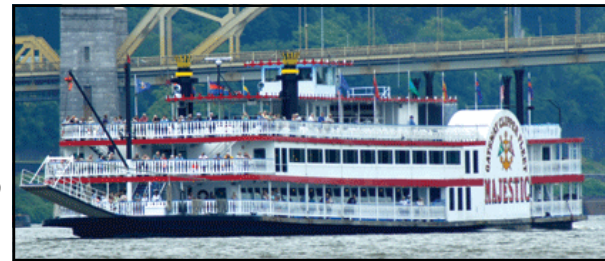
Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition c/o Stream Restoration Incorporated
A PA Non-Profit Organization
434 Spring Street Ext.
Mars, PA 16046

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 434
CRANBERRY, PA

Thanks to The William & Frances Aloe Charitable Foundation, Environmentally Innovative Solutions, LLC, Dominion Peoples, Amerikohl Mining, Inc., Quality Aggregates Inc., Drs. Ron & Kathy Falk Family, BioMost, 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), 434 Spring Street Ext., Mars, PA 16046 (724)776-0161, fax (724)776-0166, sri@streamrestorationinc.org, www.srwc.org. August distribution: 1355 copies

REGISTER FOR THE OHIO RIVER WATERSHED CELEBRATION!

The Ohio River Watershed Celebration (ORWC) Committee is pleased to announce that on September 25, 2008, the 7th Annual Ohio River Watershed Celebration will take place. We are thrilled with the popularity of this annual educational (and fun!) event as evidenced by continual growth. As a result, our steering committee has decided to add a second boat, the Empress (formerly Party Liner), to be dedicated to watershed educational activities for students K-12. This cruise is called the Imagination Cruise. The award-winning, Jennings Environmental Education Center (PA DCNR) will organize and coordinate these activities. The Gateway Clipper's Majestic will host the Networker Cruise designed for energy conservation advocates, watershed groups and professionals, government personnel, business and industry, and interested citizens. **Please register at www.streamrestorationinc.org/rsvp/.**



The **"Networker Cruise"** will board at 12:30pm and depart Station Square at 1:00 PM. We will sail on the Gateway Clipper Fleet's Majestic down the Ohio River through the Emsworth Lock and Dam. The theme for this year's event is "Innovative Energy For A Green World". Energy topics will be presented throughout the cruise. Many points of interest, current and historical, will be highlighted with a very informative narration. The history of Neville Island, water wells, and river ecology are a few of the topics that will be addressed. Over fifty (50) watershed related and energy displays will be on the Majestic. You'll have the opportunity to meet and talk directly with organization representatives. The ORWC schedule offers opportunities for every one to learn about and celebrate our rivers and watersheds at a very relaxing and fun event! **PLEASE NOTE: "The Networker Cruise" is for people over the age of eighteen(18).**

The **"Imagination Cruise"** will allow your imagination to set sail during this fascinating and fun voyage upon the Ohio River. Sixteen regional organizations dedicated to providing quality outdoor experiences will facilitate over 25 interactive activity stations aboard the Gateway Clipper's "Party Liner" boat. These stations, organized into four thematic "areas", will reveal the history, diversity and conservation of the Ohio River Watershed. Investigate water quality by sampling Ohio River water, go birding from the "top deck", interact with people portraying populations living in the region 250 years ago, touch critters that call the watershed home and create memories designed to connect your students to our watershed. This cruise is a hands-on exploration of the Ohio River Watershed for school age students, their parents and teachers. Students will receive a certificate of participation upon completing a percentage of available activities along with a wealth of free materials, information and fuel for their imagination.