

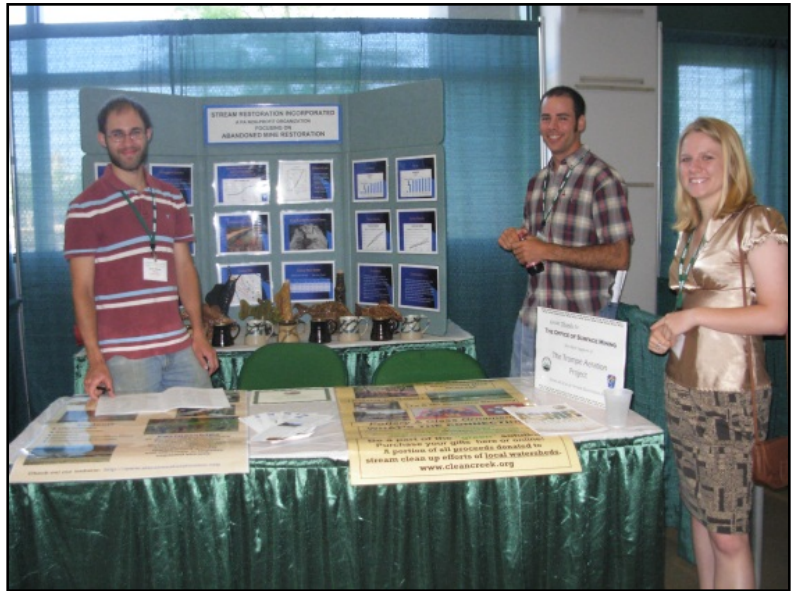
THE CATALYST

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

THIS MONTH'S MEETING: To be held 7/12/12 at Jennings Environmental Education Center, pizza and pop provided. There was no June meeting due to the ASMR Conference.

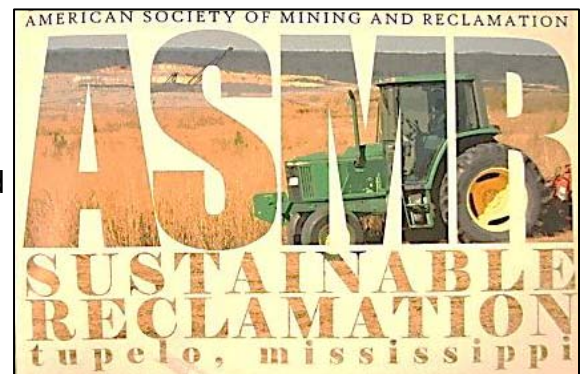
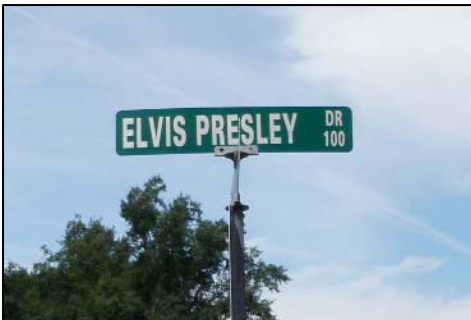
A Taste of Southern Living at 2012 ASMR Conference

The 2012 meeting of the **American Society of Mining and Reclamation** was held in **Tupelo, Mississippi**, also known as the birthplace of the king of Rock 'n Roll, Elvis Presley. Not only was the hospitality of Tupelo evident and appreciated throughout the week, but the food and experiences were great as well. Hosted at the Bancorp South Arena and the Hilton Garden Inn, the meeting was a great success with over 75 presentations, 14 scholastic posters and numerous social and informative events. Three presentations were given by BioMost employees and SRWC participants: **Bryan Page**, Env. Chemist, presented the "Permitting and Construction of a Micro-Hydroelectric Power Facility Utilizing Treated Mine Drainage", **Buck Neely**, EIT, presented "The Beginning: Stages of the Passive Treatment of a Highly Acidic Mine Drainage (AMD) Discharge", and last but certainly not least, **Kelsea Palmer**, student intern, presented the "Preliminary Evaluation of a Limestone-Based Passive Treatment System for Low-pH Acid Mine Drainage in Andean Bolivia". **Tim Danehy**, QEP, was given the honor to act as a moderator for a presentation session. Also involved in the presentations were professors **Dr. Bob Nairn** of the University of Oklahoma and **Dr. Bill Strosnider** of Saint Francis University. **Cliff Denholm**, **Margaret Dunn**, and **Ryan Mahony** rounded out the representatives from BioMost and the SRWC at the conference.



Above: SRI's Ryan Mahony (Env. Sci.), Buck Neely (EIT), and Kelsea Palmer (Student Intern) at the SRI/CCP vendor booth.

Coming away with a poster presentation award, Kelsea Palmer expressed her thoughts on the 2012 ASMR meeting: "I had a great time and was able to socialize, learn and network with some of the most effective and influential people in my field. As an undergraduate student, I was honored and lucky to be there and I am looking forward to next year's meeting in Wyoming." Other attractions at the meeting included a silent auction and many vendor booths including Stream Restoration Inc. and Clean Creek Products. Stream Restoration Inc. was able to display new information on the Trompe technology based on the work done under an Applied Science Grant award by the US Office of Surface Mining, while Clean Creek Products was able to display some pottery and ceramic fish, which were well liked. So, whether participants were listening to colleagues' projects and goals, being tourists of the Automobile Museum of Tupelo, traveling along the Natchez Trace, or visiting Elvis' birth home, a great time was had by all. (See also the "Photo of the Month".





One of the famous long-time contributors to the understanding of coal mine drainage, **Gwen Geidel, PhD, JD, Univ. of South Carolina** supported our outreach efforts by purchasing pottery at the 2012 ASMR meeting. Thank you Gwen!!!! Proceeds from the sale of pottery with glazes that use metal-bearing material recovered from passive systems are donated to watershed groups.

In Her Own Words...By Our Newest Student Intern, Kelsea Palmer

Hello! My name is Kelsea Palmer and I come from DuBois, Pennsylvania. I am currently a student at Saint Francis University of Loretto, Pennsylvania and I am studying to become an Environmental Engineer. I chose to go to college “among the pines” of Loretto for its extremely beautiful campus, small class sizes and welcoming, value-driven atmosphere. I stayed throughout the last three years for those same reasons as well as for the wonderful experiences I have had, and still am receiving, within my curriculum. In the SFU Environmental Engineering Department’s four years of existence, gifted professors **Dr. Joel Bandstra** and **Dr. William Strosnider** have led me and my classmates on many learning adventures in the classroom and through the woods. One of those adventures included a Study Abroad / Service Learning Research Experience in Andean Bolivia. Alongside my best friend and fellow “engineer in the making” **Ashley Neptune**, our two professors, **Dr. Bob Nairn**, and his students from Oklahoma University I set out to the great unknown... at least to me. While there, we aided in the construction of an open limestone channel passive treatment system, collected water samples, and took spot readings to monitor the progress of the passive treatment system.



Moving on with my academic career, I presented the resulting data from our trip to Bolivia at the 2012 American Society of Mining and Reclamation Conference in Mississippi and I am swiftly moving toward my senior year at Saint Francis University. Because of my great interest in the reclamation of abandoned mine drainage (AMD), I was introduced to BioMost Inc. and now fortunately hold the student intern position with them. I have participated in many exciting activities and tasks so far, including machine operation and writing, field work including sampling and measurements, report research, and have learned a great amount of information that only further encourages my interest in the Environmental Engineer’s career and more importantly, my passion for restoring and protecting the environment. I am excited to see what other things I can get added to my “TO DO” list this summer.

Thanks to all at BioMost for answering my many questions and offering me such great experiences.



The KIDS Catalyst

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION FUN ACTIVITY



Insects Word Unscramble

There are over 1 million species of insects in the world! You certainly won't see anywhere close to all of them this summer, but summertime is a great time to learn more about insects. You may even want to start your own collection! Books and web sites online can help you identify the insects you see. Some are pretty amazing, and pretty fast! For example, a horsefly has been recorded moving at 90 MPH! Other insects are known for their bite or sting. The insect with the most toxic venom? Harvester ants, most common in the southwest United States. How long do most insects live? Most live less than a year and are seasonal. However, some wood beetles can emerge from wood where they live after as long as 40 years! In one recorded case, the beetles came out of wood that had long ago been cut down and made into a bookshelf. There is also a queen termite known to have lived 50 years! We have given you pictures of 9 insects below. The letters spelling out their names have been scrambled. Do your best to unscramble the words and write the names on the lines. If you mail us your completed paper, we'll send you a free gift certificate! And don't forget to look for these and other insects when you're outside this summer!



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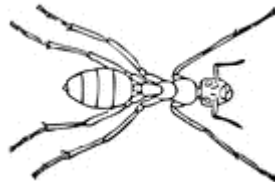
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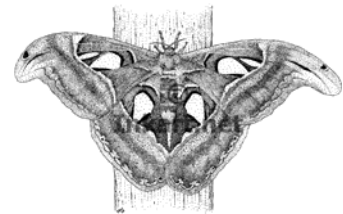
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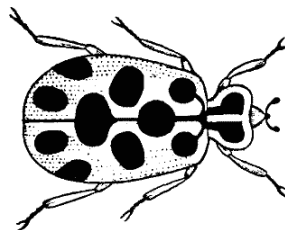
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Mars, PA 16046

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ORWC Online Registration Opens — July 13th!

Don't let the date pass by, especially if you plan to register your child or student for the Imagination Cruise! **Friday, July 13th** will be the first day for registration for the Ohio River Watershed Celebration, for both the adult/professional cruise aboard the *Majestic* and the student/education cruise on the *Empress*. You can register online at www.orwc.org **beginning at 10 AM**. Space is limited and last year's Imagination Cruise filled up in just a few hours, so be sure to register as soon after 10 AM as you are able. Please remember to **sign up each participant individually, not as a single family or group/organization**. A waiting list may be made available if needed.

The riverboat cruise is a free event open to the public, and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. The ORWC will be taking place **September 27th**, from 10 AM until 4 PM, with the boat cruise running from 1 PM to 4 PM. Please remember boarding will begin promptly at 12:30 PM and many pre-cruise activities are available for all ages at the Station Square dock area in the morning. You won't want to miss this fun-filled day on the river, complete with picturesque Pittsburgh in full autumn bloom! This year's theme is "Our Rivers—Get to the Point" and promises to be another fun, exciting opportunity to celebrate and learn more about the watershed's many valuable resources.



The Networker Cruise, for people over the age of 18, will offer highlights of many points of interest, both current and historical, in a very informative narration. In addition, watershed and energy efficiency presentations will be presented throughout the cruise, and over 60 watershed and energy-related displays will be on the *Majestic*. The Networker Cruise is for Watershed Groups, Energy Conservationists, Professionals, Government Personnel, Business and Industry Leaders, Educators, and Interested Citizens. The Imagination Cruise, held on board the *Empress*, will once again be offered to students K-12 and their families. Exciting activities related to the history, ecological communities, importance, environmental challenges, and suggestions for the protection and conservation of the Ohio River Watershed will keep students busy with fun learning experiences! A trip through the Braddock Lock and Dam will be a highlight of the voyage! We hope to see you there!!!