

President's Message

Greetings EEAI!

I am excited to begin my service as EEAI President and very much look forward to working with the board and membership to grow our organization in new and innovative ways, promote our collective EE efforts throughout Indiana, and celebrate our EEAI traditions. As this is my first newsletter as President, I want to recognize the transition of our board membership and thank our outgoing President, Jan Sneddon, for her inspirational leadership with EEAI. I am grateful she continues to serve on the board as Past President and will have her experience and enthusiasm to guide me in my new role. I also extend many, many thanks to our outgoing board members, Brad Rody, Sara O'Hara, Matt Jones, and Jennifer Amstutz, for their service and dedication to EEAI! Please join me in welcoming our new board members, listed to the right, and get to know a little more about them by visiting: www.eeai.org.

There are great ideas and plans in progress for 2013! It is my hope that each member will find a meaningful way to be engaged and have a voice in EEAI during the upcoming year. I will use this article as a communication tool to keep membership up to speed on board meetings and discussion topics, opportunities for professional development, organization activities, and announcements. I also want to hear from you! Communication from membership is of great importance to shape program ideas, promote new initiatives, and support organization traditions. Board meetings are open to membership and your attendance is encouraged and welcomed! The board meets quarterly with three teleconference meetings and two in-person strategic planning meetings. We are trying out a new online meeting site this year for the teleconference meetings. Please read the article on page 3 for details.

Several of these activities represent significant investments of time, energy, and thought and will need the support from membership to move forward and to ensure success. The board will provide multiple opportunities for membership engagement such as feedback mechanisms, discussion sessions, and voting when needed, to ensure that these activities are also in alignment with the majority of membership. I also welcome direct discussion and feedback so please contact me with any questions, concerns, or ideas! EEAI is a special organization with a rich history. As President, I look forward to celebrating and maintaining our traditions while encouraging new ideas and opportunities for engagement.

All the best for 2013!

Kara

President — Kara Salazar
(317) 557-9658
president@eeai.org

Vice President — Bernadette de Leon
(812) 333-4667
vicepresident@eeai.org

President Elect — Jabin Burnworth
(260) 982-2196 ext. 128
presidentelect@eeai.org

Secretary — Ann Niednagel
(317) 576-9943
secretary@eeai.org

Treasurer — Paul McAfee
(260) 489-5032
treasurer@eeai.org

Past President — Jan Sneddon
(317) 257-1740
pastpresident@eeai.org

Director-at-Large — John Brady
director1@eeai.org

Director-at-Large — Shannon Bigham-Unger
(317) 524-7700
director2@eeai.org

Director-at-Large — Ericka Popovich-Coy
(574) 293-5070
director3@eeai.org

CREED is the
newsletter
of the
Environmental
Education
Association of
Indiana
www.eeai.org



One Man's Perspective: Requiem of the NREC

by Sam Carman

Walking the empty, deserted hallways of what was once the DNR's Natural Resources Education Center, it's hard to ignore the voices that still echo here. I hear the teachers who have just arrived, anxious to start a Project Learning Tree workshop; and those who are on their way out of the building, headed to Delaware Lake as part of their Go FishIN experience. Voices in the training room talk of how they plan to apply Project WET's activities in their classrooms; while just outside, laughter erupts during a frantic moment in Project WILD's "Oh, Deer". A couple of newly trained Hoosier Riverwatch volunteers are talking about the streams they intend to sample as they leave the building with test kits.

I hear muffled voices coming from behind the conference room's closed doors. I can't tell if the meeting is personnel from some division of DNR or one of the many outside groups who use the facility. But that doesn't matter anymore. Perhaps the voices I hear the clearest are those of the staff—those hard-working people who were so dedicated to their programs and to the vision of the NREC. (They ask "why?") Sometimes here before 7 a.m. to prepare the building for a workshop or pick up supplies; sometimes here past 8 p.m. putting things away or preparing for the next day; a clock cannot confine passion, but only serves as a timer for self-determined objectives to be achieved.

They knew that realizing the dream of the NREC required sacrifice and commitment, and they were

only too willing to serve that mission. The staff here was not always in harmony. Such is the price paid for putting so many highly motivated people under the same roof. But they always seemed to make it work, each taking his or her turn at cleaning the toilets, mopping the floors, sweeping, dusting, restocking supplies and dealing with a myriad of repairs and other maintenance issues required to keep a building open and functioning smoothly. But most of all, they would put any differences aside and come together to plan for joint workshops and other events to further conservation education in Indiana. The "One-Stop-Shop" for conservation education that natural resource professionals and educators alike had always clamored for was finally a reality. Two divisions of DNR housed under the same roof of a property managed by a third DNR division—the ultimate model of teamwork and cooperation—functioning rent-free with only utilities to pay.

Then came word from above that the NREC was ordered to close, with all staff to be relocated elsewhere. What started auspiciously with the cutting of a ribbon by the DNR Director in 2001 ended unceremoniously with a directive from an unknown origin and reasons that remain a mystery.

Now the halls are dark and the voices have faded to silence. Only painful stillness now exists, except for the voice in my head that continues to ask, "Why?"

Views expressed are those of the author and are not endorsed or reviewed by EEAI.



2013 EEAI Board Meetings

The 2013 meeting dates are listed below and will be posted on the website with agendas a week prior to the meeting date. We are trying out a new Adobe Connect site this year for the teleconference meetings.

Teleconference Meetings

- Tuesday, April 16, 2013 from 4-6 pm
- Wednesday, August 7, 2013 from 4-6 pm

EEAI Adobe Connect Site: <http://connect.iu.edu/eeai/>

To connect into the meeting, click on the link above and log in as a guest with your name. It is recommended that you use a headset if you are going to use a microphone as the feedback from your computer speakers can be very problematic.

In-Person Strategic Planning Meetings

- Saturday, February 23, 2013 from 10 – 3
 - Location: Home of Jabin Burnworth in North Manchester
 - Please email Kara for directions and to confirm attendance at karaasalazar@gmail.com
- Saturday, June 15, 2013 from 1 – 3 PM (time subject to change)
 - Location: Marion University EcoLab
 - Please email Kara for directions and to confirm attendance at karaasalazar@gmail.com
- Sunday, October 6, 2013, Directly After Annual Meeting

The board has started discussing potential activities for 2013 and will determine priorities, timelines, and next steps during the February strategic planning meeting. The activities we will discuss include:

- updating the strategic plan to guide organization efforts and fund raising opportunities
- enhancing and adding communication tools and techniques to promote membership engagement
- continuing discussion and communication with EEAI members regarding potential Indiana Conservation Alliance (INCA) membership
- determining working group structure and next steps for the Environmental Literacy Plan and Children and Nature Network
- considering the addition of Envirothon as an EEAI initiative or working group
- discussing proposed bylaws changes for board membership duration

Update your member information today!

It is that time of year again to update the membership directory and I need your assistance. Please fill out your current contact information on the Member Information Update sheet and return to me at the following address or via email at krista@elkhartcountyparks.org:

Krista Daniels
EEAI Membership
211 W. Lincoln Ave.
Goshen, IN 46526

As I receive updated contact information from all members, I will update the Membership Directory. When it is complete, I will make it available on our

website at www.eeai.org. You will need to use the password michaud2009 to access it.

If you no longer wish to receive EEAI mailings and/or you no longer have an interest in being a member of EEAI, please let me know, so I can reflect that in the next directory and in my records. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns regarding the directory or your membership status. I hope you have a great end to 2012, and a fabulous start to 2013. Thanks!

*Krista Daniels,
EEAI membership committee*

2012 Conference Recap

by Kara Salazar

Thank you to all who attended, volunteered, and presented at the 2012 EEAI annual conference, *Environmental Literacy: Creating Stewards for a Sustainable Indiana* held Friday, October 5 to Sunday, October 6. Around 70 attendees converged at beautiful Jameson Camp in Indianapolis to learn more about supporting and implementing the proposed state-wide Environmental Literacy Plan (ELP).

Friday included fun and engaging activities with Jameson Camp's Brent Cummins and the annual song writing contest. Clint Kowalik took home the song writing contest award this year for his original, creative, and entertaining song. Saturday contained the majority of the conference content and began with an early morning bird hike with Paul McAfee.

The three nationally-known keynote speakers (Dr. Frances Ming Kuo, Sarah Bodor, and Traci Price) and the seven local concurrent session speakers followed the conference themes of What: Importance of Developing a State Environmental Literacy Plan; Who: Building Support for a State Environmental Literacy Plan; and How: Implementing and Evaluating a State Environmental Literacy Plan. Throughout the day, attendees received updates on the ELP Guidelines public comment process, learned about collaborative state-wide initiatives, received information on conducting program evaluation, and heard from youth describing environmental literacy as they participated in a PhotoVoice project.

The Muscatatuck bookstore made a welcomed return appearance and Jennifer Amstutz coordinated an impressive silent auction that netted \$724 in donations for future EEAI conference scholarships!

After the traditional Sunday Inspirational Hike with Paul Steury, a new service experience was introduced as the Sunday conference activity to engage participants in tree planting and invasive exotic species removal on the grounds of Jameson Camp. Trees Indiana and Jameson Camp staff coordinated and facilitated the activity to promote service learning as a best practice to promote environmental literacy. To view the photos and conference materials, please visit www.eeai.org and click on Annual Conference.

The 2013 conference planning is well underway with the theme of HOPE and will be held at McMillen Program Center, Fort Wayne, IN, October 4-6! Look for 2013 conference updates on the website and information in the next newsletter.

The 2012 conference successfully brought together interested stakeholders and EEAI membership with the purpose of raising awareness about the need for an ELP and to discuss best practices for implementation. The ELP working group will re-convene in January to incorporate feedback from the public comment process and the conference into the K-12 Guidelines document and also determine next steps for moving the initiative forward. Updates on next steps and results of the public feedback process will be highlighted in the next CREED.



EEAI members enjoy an evening of camaraderie and conversation

Congratulations to 2012 Award Winners Recognized at 2012 Conference

President's Award

David Garner, Indiana State Parks and Reservoirs, EEAI Webmaster
Bernadette de Leon, Indiana University, EEAI Vice President and breast cancer survivor



Joe Wright Award

Clint Kowalik, Go FishIN, IDNR

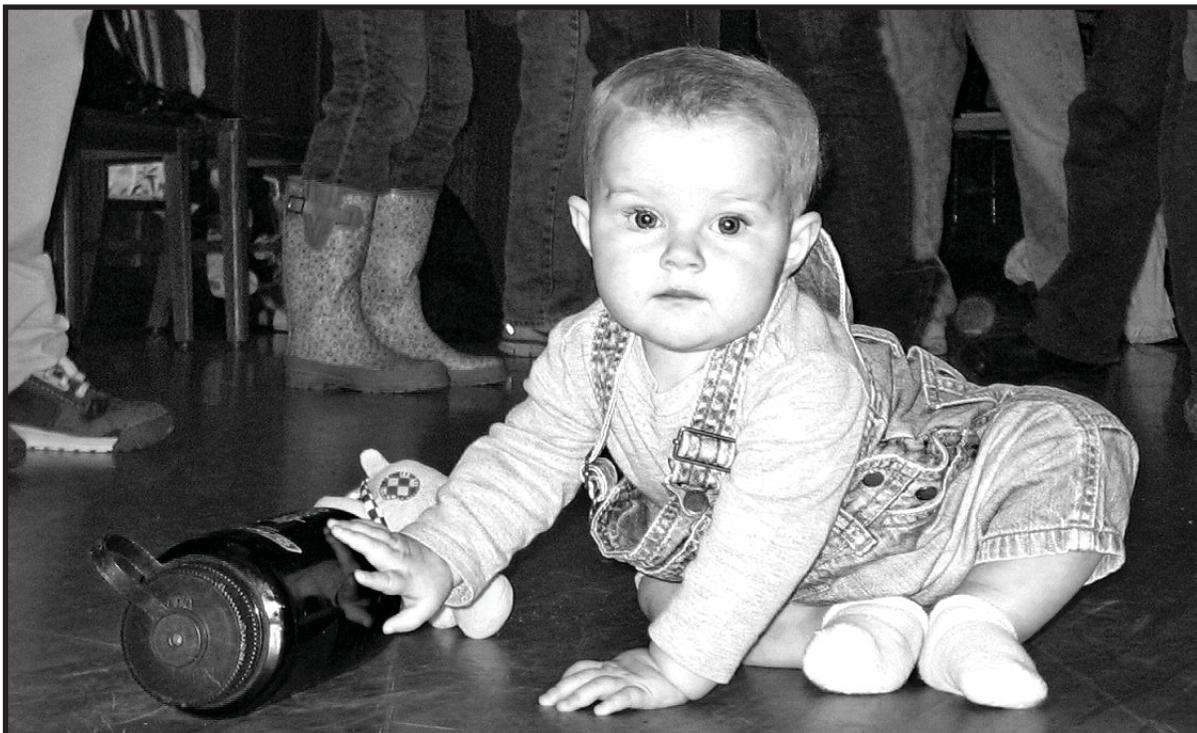


Howard Michaud Award of Environmental Excellence

Paul Steury, Merry
Lea Environmental
Education Center,
Goshen College

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The 2013 annual conference will be at Camp Agnes S. McMillen near Fort Wayne on October 4-6, 2013. This year's theme is HOPE. As new information becomes available, it will be posted on our website and sent via the email listserv, so please check in often.



Start 'em young!

Paul-itics with Paul Steury

Views expressed are those of the author and are not endorsed or reviewed by EEAI.

In December they held the 18th United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Doha, Qatar where they decided to address global warming, by having nearly 200 countries agree to extend the Kyoto Protocol, a treaty that limits the greenhouse gas output of some rich countries, but will only cover about 15 percent of global emissions.

Global emissions of carbon dioxide were at a record high in 2011 and are likely to take a similar jump in 2012, according to scientists from the Global Carbon Project on November 25 — the latest indication that efforts to limit such emissions are failing.

According to CBS last year, all the world's nations combined pumped nearly 38.2 billion tons of carbon dioxide into the air from the burning of fossil fuels such as coal and oil, according to new international calculations on global emissions in the journal *Nature Climate Change*. That's about a billion tons more than the previous year.

The total amounts to more than 2.4 million pounds of carbon dioxide released into the air every second – 3% more than last year... Yikes... That's hard to understand.

They also talked of disconnect. People still don't believe in climate change even if they are seeing change happen everywhere.

My staff mate's 12 year old son had his seventh grade science teacher tell the entire class that he did not believe in climate change...

Our job as the Environmental Education Association of Indiana is to help everyone connect the dots.

I believe there are 7 billion people on this earth – fact right? Each person consumes – correct? And everything that is consumed had to have some sort of energy to create it – right? And when that energy is expressed it releases some sort of waste. Multiply the amount of waste/exhaust/emissions that you personally produce by 7 billion and that adds up.

All I am saying is that we need to lower our carbon production so the blanket of CO₂ in the earth's atmosphere blanket doesn't continue to thicken

because I know when I am sleeping and I have too many blankets on I can just remove one of those comforters to decrease my heat production. Reducing the size of our blanket in our atmosphere is none too easy – except through reducing our carbon releases which means reducing our consumption.

Could there be a cycle of warming? Sure – it can be part of the situation – I am a holistic person.

But the 7 billion consumers.

So I am saying we should reach out and enthusiastically embrace our membership to the Indiana Conservation Alliance (INCA)

According to Angela Hughes, the Coordinator of the INCA and Government Relations Associate at The Nature Conservancy she told me INCA is a group of approximately 30 conservation-based organizations who shares a common interest in the protection, stewardship and sustainable use of our natural resources. We encourage shared actions, exchange factual information and share resources for mutual benefit and common purpose. We work in a non-partisan manner at all times and promote a common set of priorities at the beginning of each legislative session.

The organizations that join INCA work together priorities that are created by the membership. Last year their targets were Phosphorus in Lawn Fertilizers, Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Bonds, Sustainable Natural Resources Task Force, how to utilize the Indiana Heritage Trust, Clean Water Indiana. And if we are members we can get our voice on next years priorities.

And to join our forces has Biblical power!! Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor; For if they fall, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls and does not have another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm. But how can one be warm alone? And while a man may prevail against the one, the two will withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Our mission is to work cooperatively (does that mean with other similar organizations? Sure does!) to promote opportunities (that INCA helps prioritize at the state house) that will educate, motivate, and inspire the citizens of Indiana (which is why I became an environmental educator!) to conserve natural resources and meet the needs of our society while maintaining a healthy environment now and in the future (which Earth Charter Indiana, Amos Butler Audubon, Central Indiana Land Trust, Hoosier Environmental Council, Indiana Organic Gardeners Association, Izaak Walton League, Sierra Club and all the other members have in common – they want to make Indiana a great place to swim, hike, bike, and live!).

Our INCA membership will create a bond of emotional and morale strength of other like minded organizations that are working on similar missions.

Author Paul Hawken has spent more than a decade researching organizations dedicated to restoring the environment and fostering social justice. From billion-

dollar nonprofits to single-person dot. causes, these groups collectively comprise the largest movement on earth, a movement that has no name, leader, or location and that has gone largely ignored by politicians and the media.

In his book *Blessed Unrest* he explores the diversity of the movement, its brilliant ideas, innovative strategies, and centuries of hidden history. He says, ““We” means all of us, everyone. There can be no green movement unless there is also a black, brown and copper movement.

What is more harmful resides within is, the accumulated wounds of the past, the sorrow, shame, deceit, and ignominy shared by every culture, passed down to every person, as surely as DNA, as history of violence and greed.”

I feel joining the INCA group will benefit EEAI greatly through strength in numbers so we can become more of an active change component for the entire state of Indiana!

Winners are chosen in four categories:
K– GRADE 2
GRADES 3–5
GRADES 6–8
GRADES 9–12

For Students K–12

2013 Endangered Species Youth Art Contest

Artwork should highlight one or more endangered species.
 Entrants are encouraged to depict species found in their area.

See www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered
 for photos and information about endangered species in the upper Midwest

For complete contest Guidelines and Entry Form, visit www.endangeredspeciesday.org Submissions must be postmarked no later than March 15, 2013

Higgins Eye Parakeet by Madison Benson, Grades 3-5

Whooping Crane by Kimberly Tec, Grades 6-8

Karner blue butterfly by Sky Waters, Grades 3-5

Organized by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Endangered Species Coalition, the Association of Zoos and Aquariums and the Ogden Museum of Southern Art/ University of New Orleans.

Opting for Conscience Rather Than Convenience

by Sam Carman

In this issue of CREED, Paul Steury presents a case for EEAI aligning itself with the Indiana Conservation Alliance (INCA). I consider Paul a good friend whose dedication to caring for our natural environment and environmental education are beyond question. But on this issue, I respectfully disagree with Paul. As a member of EEAI since 1975, I deeply oppose EEAI aligning itself with INCA or any other advocacy group. It's not that I disagree with INCA's mission; on the contrary, I am a member of some of the groups that are part of INCA. If this seems contradictory, please read on.

Whether EEAI joins INCA is a question of convenience versus conscience. It would be convenient for us to ride the coattails of INCA in getting legislative support for environmental literacy standards, and definitely much less work than developing our own means of increasing visibility with legislators. But because INCA is an environmental advocacy group, EEAI would be stepping off a slippery slope to become a member of it, and would be violating the principle of objectivity in education. We have a long-standing practice of striving not to put our organization in the position where we can be accused of bias in our approach to education. Joining INCA would change the very fabric of our organization. Once we enlist EEAI as a member of INCA, we have essentially signed a petition in support of whatever positions they adopt. Education should not involve taking sides on issues, but rather opening minds to all sides and developing critical thinking skills to make rational decisions.

The role of the advocate is much different from that of the educator, and public perceptions of each are very different. Advocates are often viewed as crusaders who will shape information to suit their causes. (Whether this perception is justified or not doesn't matter; the fact that they are perceived as such will render their message ineffective or, at best, considered slanted.) Taking on a role of advocacy, public perception of EEAI would likely be tainted as well. Advocacy groups are

needed, but so are groups like EEAI that are objectively dedicated to education free of advocacy. Sticking to our role as impartial educators, EEAI can make INCA's job easier and more effective — if we are serious about doing our jobs.

I should qualify my position on advocacy because I believe EEAI should be an advocate in one area, and that is for objective environmental education. If there is to be political discussion regarding legislation or policy related to education itself, we should be at the table. INCA's mission is to identify and lobby for various issues related to the natural environment; environmental education is our cause, and no other group in the state is better prepared or will feel as passionately about it as EEAI.

EEAI is the only organization in which I have a "Life" membership. When considering life membership in any group, I always ask myself, "How likely is it that the principles of this organization might change after I've become a life member?" The possibility of EEAI aligning itself with an environmental advocacy group is exactly the reason I hesitated for several years before becoming an EEAI Life member. I believe INCA is a good organization and I support their efforts and would encourage other EEAI members to support them as individuals; but aligning EEAI with INCA or any advocacy group is a violation of our educational objectivity which, in good conscience, I cannot accept.

For relative new-comers to EEAI, this may not seem like a big deal; for those of us who have seen EEAI retain its objectivity for decades, it represents a serious change in direction and is truly a matter of conscience.

*Views expressed are those of the author
and are not endorsed or reviewed by EEAI.*

NAAEE Advocacy Committee's Action Network

by Jan Sneddon

Every month, NAAEE hosts a conference call to discuss legislative issues related to environmental education. If you are interested in knowing more about what goes on in Washington and across the country on issues such as funding, environmental literacy plans, and national initiatives such as the Green Ribbon Schools program, you should join these calls!

They are generally held on the first Thursday of every month (although the January 2013 meeting will be held on January 10) from 1 to 2 pm ET. To join the calls, call 1-888-537-7715 (pass-code: 33446061#).

The December call was wrought with information as usual.

The Fiscal Cliff

In case you hadn't heard, there's an epic standoff going on in Washington these days between the White House and the Republican House over the fiscal cliff. At the moment, there is no deal on the table and the issues that both sides bring to the table do not even look the same. If a budget deal is not reached by midnight on January 1, 2013, there will likely be an 8-10% cut in agency budgets across the board. This might very well result in further cuts to EE programming funding sources such as NOAA and EPA, which have already seen EE funding slashed over the past two years. A team of green advocates recently went to the Hill asking that green initiatives not be used as bargaining chips in upcoming budget negotiations. But massive budget cuts would undermine that tenuous request. If you'd like to take action, contact your members of Congress that sit on the Appropriations Committee, especially those in the House. Let them know how important EE is and that it should not be used as a bargaining chip for economic conversations.

To find Appropriations Committee Members, visit:

- <http://appropriations.house.gov/about/members/>
- <http://www.appropriations.senate.gov/about-members.cfm>

Green Ribbon Schools

This program is off to a great start with 40 states now enrolled – and Indiana is one of them!!! YEAH! The Obama Administration is fully committed to this program which will allow for a really solid foundation to be laid over the next four years that will hopefully protect the program from future cuts.

For more information, visit:

- <http://www.doe.in.gov/achievement/curriculum/green-ribbon-schools>
- www.greenribbon.org

University Sustainability Program

This program, which passes as part of the Higher Education Act four years ago, was the first new EE legislation in the past 20 years. Efforts are underway to ensure that this program gets funded in the 2014 budget when the Higher Education Act is up for renewal. Proponents are trying to gain Republican support with primary targets being Senator Kirk (IL) and Senator Alexander (TN).

Green Star

This is an effort to get the Department of Education to conduct a survey of state green schools policies and then award the top one or two states for their efforts.

If you'd like the full version of notes from this meeting, contact Jan Sneddon (jsneddon@earthforce.org). To find out more about the NAAEE Advocacy committee, contact Traci Price (tp@traciprice.net). Those of you who attended the 2012 EEAI conference will remember Traci as our evening keynote speaker!



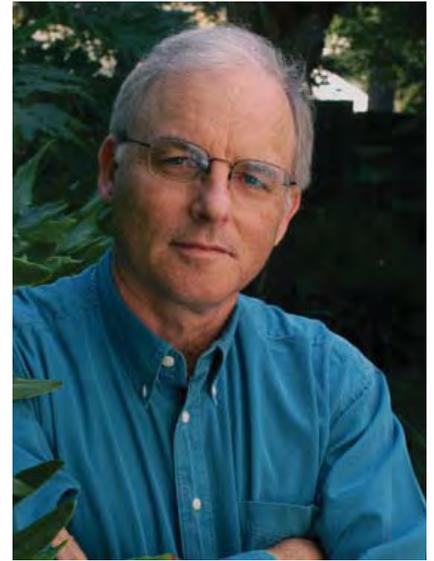
Save the Date for Richard Louv

April 12, 2013 1-3pm at the Indiana Memorial Union - Whittenberger Auditorium, IU Bloomington Campus

The Department of Recreation, Park, and Tourism Studies invites you to the Reynold E. Carlson Lecture featuring guest speaker, Mr. Richard Louv, journalist and author of eight books about the connections between family, nature, and community. In his New York Times bestseller *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder*, Louv sparked a national debate that spawned an international movement to reconnect kids and nature. He coined the term nature-deficit disorder, influenced national policy, and helped inspire campaigns in over eighty cities, states, and provinces throughout North America. In *The Nature Principle: Human Restoration and the End of Nature-Deficit Disorder*, Louv delivers another powerful call to action – this time for adults presenting a compelling case that the time has come for us all to re-envision our future, put aside scenarios of environmental and social apocalypse and instead tap into the restorative powers of the natural world. Most recently, on April 16, 2012 Richard gave the closing keynote at the first White House Summit on Environmental Education.

The Carlson Lecture is held in honor of environmentalist Reynold E. Carlson, who supervised the development of Indiana University's leadership in outdoor

recreation education in the 1970's, helped found the National Association for Interpretation, and established Indiana University's own program at Bradford Woods Outdoor Education Center. Perhaps no one else has so significantly touched the lives of faculty, staff and students in the field of parks and recreation during his era, he was recognized as a dynamic leader in the areas of outdoor recreation/education, conservation, and organized camping, and a beloved figure at Indiana University.



The Reynold E. Carlson Lecture is free and open to faculty, staff, and students in the School of Public Health-Bloomington, campus colleagues, and the general public. Inquiries about the Reynold E. Carlson Lecture may be directed to deadavis@indiana.edu. If you have a disability and need assistance, arrangements can be made to suit most needs. Please call 812-855-7815 to let us know how we can accommodate you at the lecture.

News from the Regions

Region 8

Our very own Clint Kowalik won the singer songwriter contest at the annual EEAI conference. For those of you who missed it he represented our region well. The song was stirring and highly entertaining. Give it up to Clint. We had participants from all around the city at the conference. It was a great time.

Please join region 8 for our informal gathering. Drinks and snacks will be provided. Come share your ideas and see what others are doing. More information will be sent via email when the date and time are set. If you have a preference on dates and times to meet please email me.

Ann Niednagel, Region 8 Chair
ann.niednagel@gmail.com

Photo Voice and the Environmental Literacy Plan (ELP) by Ann Niednagel

Our draft of Indiana's ELP was years in the making. Seeking the voice of as many members of the community, we did not want to ignore the students. So over the summer Mary Hayes and I put to use the pedagogical tool of Photo Voice using the issue of Indiana's ELP. Photo Voice puts cameras into the hands of students and asks them to answer questions through photos. With the help of Brent Cummins at Camp Jameson's CITs (Counselors in Training) volunteered their time and took over a dozen photos of their home communities, documenting the ways people affect their environment. Three of the CIT's were able to join us for the Photo Voice presentation and dinner at the EEAI conference. What a wonderful experience it was for all involved. If you would like to see the presentation we will be presenting at HASTI on Feb. 8th @ 9:30am.

GET INVOLVED IN EEAI!

Want to be active in raising the profile of Environmental Education in Indiana? Join a committee!!!!

New EEAI Committee Structure

Note: We will change the organizations bylaws this winter to reflect these changes, but are adopting this new structure now to better serve the organization. Further changes may occur as organizational planning continues.

Communication: website, listserv, CREED, publicity, marketing and history

Chair: Ann Niednagel (secretary@eeai.org)

Activities: programs and activities outside of the EEAI annual conference

Chair: Bernadette de Leon (bernie.deleon@gmail.com)

Conference: planning and administration of annual conference

Chairs 2013: Krista Daniels (krista@elkhartcountyparks.org) and

Tom Enright (parks@middleburyin.com)

Chair 2014: Paul McAfee (treasurer@eeai.org)

Membership: management of membership

Chair: Jabin Burnworth (jabinburnworth@gmail.com)

Finance: funding, annual budget, audits

Chair: Jan Sneddon (pastpresident@eeai.org)

Nominations/awards: manages nomination of board members and award recipients

Chair: Paul McAfee (pmcafee@toast.net)

Key Member: Warren Gartner (WGartner@dnr.in.gov)

Another way to be involved — attend quarterly Board meetings to participate in discussions governing EEAI. Contact any of our board members (see page one) for more information.

Map of Regions



Regional Chairs

To improve networking and communications within our organization, EEAI members are organized into regions with each region having a Chair. If you have any questions, suggestions, events to report, lesson plans to share, or anything else you feel would be beneficial for other members to know, please pass it along to your Regional Chair. Here's who to contact and how to contact them:

Region 1: Niki Schmutte, Region1@eeai.org

Region 2: Brad Rody, Region2@eeai.org

Region 3: Paul Steury, Region3@eeai.org

Region 4: Sam Carman, Region4@eeai.org

Region 5: Megan Gutierrez, Region5@eeai.org

Region 6: Carissa Lovett, Region6@eeai.org

Region 7: Donna Stanley, Region7@eeai.org

Region 8: Ann Niednagel, Region8@eeai.org

Out of State: Bernadette de Leon, vicepresident@eeai.org

Active communications within regions can greatly increase the benefits you receive from being an EEAI member. PLEASE take advantage of it!