



# THE Quill

## SEEING GREEN AT THE SCHUYLKILL CENTER (GREEN ROOF THAT IS) *By Dennis Burton*

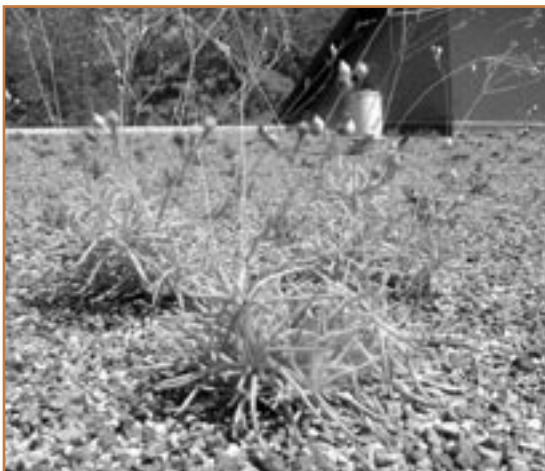
The Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education (SCEE) has always been known for excellence in environmental education. We are proud that our dedication to the Center's mission - to promote, through environmental education, the preservation and improvement of our natural environment - is increasingly reflected in everything we do. One of our most recent and exciting activities has been the addition of a green roof to our main Education Building, which houses the Center's programming as well as the Green Woods Charter School.

negative impact on human health and the environment. Overall, it's a combination of building techniques and technologies that the Center is using to retro-fit its pre-green facilities.

A green roof is a thin layer of living plants installed on top of a conventional roof. To determine the type of green roof best suited for the Center's Education Building, we examined the structure of the existing roof. The building called for a two inch soil depth and three species of Sedum: succulent, drought tolerant plants best suited for hot, dry conditions such as those found on a rooftop in direct sunlight. Funded by The McLean Contributionship, the roof was designed by Roofscapes, Inc., and installed by David Brothers Landscape Nursery and Contractors.

The environmental benefits associated with green roofs are many, including controlling stormwater runoff; absorbing atmospheric pollution; improving water quality; creating wildlife habitat; conserving energy; cooling and cleaning the air; and extending the roof's service life. An added benefit for the Center is that the roof requires minimal maintenance. The green roof will ultimately be used as an educational tool with signage to explain its benefits and to educate visitors about its positive effects on the environment. Additionally, the Center will partner with students from Drexel University to monitor the amount of stormwater runoff as compared to a traditional roof surface.

Almost three months have passed since our green roof installation. It is doing well and the plants have grown significantly. We hope you will take a moment to stop by and check it out. For more information on green roofs, see [www.roofscapes.com](http://www.roofscapes.com).



*A close up view of the Sedum plants installed on SCEE's green roof.*

The Education Building was built in 1968 at a time when environmentally-friendly or "green" construction was in its infancy. Now a growing movement, green construction encompasses sustainable building designs that conserve natural resources, increase energy efficiency and reduce



*SCEE's new green roof, shown here in a panoramic view, will help conserve energy and decrease stormwater runoff.*

### FALL EVENTS

#### October

- 1&2 Fall Bird Seed Sale
- 1 Teacher Workshop: IPM
- 5 Boy Scout Badge Workshop
- 8 SCEE Bird Club Cruise
- 15 Re-Use ReFuse Art Opening
- 15 Boy Scout Badge Workshop
- 28&29 Halloween Hikes/Hayrides

#### November

- 5 Girl Scout Workshop
- 5 Teacher Workshop: Recycling
- 24 Center Closed

#### December

- 3 Teacher Workshop: Geology
- 25-31 Center Closed



at a glance

### HALLOWEEN HIKES/HAYRIDES

Friday, October 28th  
 Saturday, October 29th  
 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm  
*See back cover for details.*

**Hours of Operation:**  
 Mon-Sat 8:30 am - 5:00 pm  
 Sun 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

**Bookstore Hours:**  
 Mon-Sat 8:30 am - 4:30 pm  
 Sun 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

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Mary Salvante, Director of Art Programs  
Nancy Szostek, Administrative Assistant

\* Deceased



## CHESTNUT BREEDING PROGRAM ESTABLISHED

By Fran Lawn

For those who have hiked the trails at The Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education (SCEE), you may know of the two and a half acre area called The American Chestnut Grove. This restoration site was established by Dennis Burton, then SCEE's Director of Land Restoration, in the spring of 2001. With the help of volunteers he planted approximately 70 seedlings in the hope of reestablishing the once prevalent tree back into our forests. This action was in response to the lethal fungus that was accidentally imported from Asia in 1904 which killed off most eastern American chestnut trees.

Only a few generations ago the American chestnut tree was the heart of eastern forests. It was among the most important trees from Maine to Georgia, with one out of every four trees being a chestnut. Mature chestnuts averaged up to five feet in diameter and 100 feet tall. In addition, the tree provided an annual food source for animals like birds, bears, squirrels and deer.

The reintroduction of the American chestnut at SCEE provides an opportunity to partner with The American Chestnut Foundation, whose mission is "to restore the American chestnut tree to its native range within the woodlands of the eastern United States". Fran Lawn, SCEE's Acting Director of Land Restoration, is working in conjunction with the Foundation's Pennsylvania Chapter to start a Chestnut Breeding Program on SCEE's grounds.

*The Land Restoration Department would like to thank Jeff and April Clarke of Lund Bros. Nursery in Hatfield, PA for their generous donation of nursery containers. The pots are being used for herbaceous plants to be sold at the 2006 Native Plant Sale next spring.*



*The American chestnut flower, shown here, grows in SCEE's American Chestnut Grove.*

Research is being done to cross the American chestnut with the Chinese chestnut, which is immune to blight, in order to cultivate a tree that is resistant to the lethal fungus. It is the common goal of both SCEE and the Foundation to conserve the gene pool of surviving American chestnuts while developing blight-resistant lines adapted to local environments.

This past spring, Fran collected pollen from SCEE's local Chinese chestnut trees and then traveled to The Mill Grove Preserve in Audubon, PA to pollinate the flowers of the American chestnut tree. He will be harvesting the chestnuts produced from these trees to plant in The American Chestnut Grove site at SCEE. The entire breeding process will take many years before an American chestnut actually proves resistance to the blight. As SCEE forges ahead with the breeding program, there are currently 40 (originally planted) healthy and maturing trees within the restoration site. Please take the time to come by and experience our exciting new program!

To learn more about the American chestnut visit The American Chestnut Foundation at [www.acf.org](http://www.acf.org).

## CHANGES AT SCEE

### LIBRARY GETS A NEW HOME

This past summer, our education staff undertook a major review of our Library and Resource Center. After removing books containing outdated science and donating other materials to schools and nonprofit organizations, we have relocated our collection to its original home in our conference/classroom. These resources will be utilized by the Center's staff and the environmental education graduate students in the Arcadia University program. The old library space is being modified this year to accommodate our growing partnership with the Green Woods Charter School.



## THE SCHUYLKILL CENTER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

SCEE is proud to join its neighbors and other local community organizations as a part of the new Schuylkill Center Community Council. The group will partner on joint efforts and initiatives to improve the ecological vitality of the Schuylkill River Watershed.

*Pictured left to right: (top row) Claudia Phillips, Dolores Voelker, Anne Bockarie, Dennis Burton, Ruth Ann & John Fitzpatrick, (bottom) Tavis Dockwiler, Christina Binder, Wendy Willard (not shown: John Howard, Liz Einsig, Kris Soffa)*

# art program update

## IS IT TRASH OR ART? MAYBE IT'S BOTH!

By Mary Salvante

Our current gallery exhibition, Re-Use ReFuse, presents work made by artists from products and materials recognized as trouble makers in our landfills. Discarded plastics, metals and electronics are in abundance worldwide and growing at a staggering pace. The concept and practice of recycling may be our only defense. Artists have been using recycled and found materials to create art objects for decades. This exhibition brings together a few artists who have designed and created inspiring and clever functional objects to be used in any home.

In his work, David Edgar, a North Carolina artist, transforms used plastic containers into whimsical, colorful, and fanciful lamps that echo the form and shapes of marine life. Ni Luh Wayan Ayu, an artist from Indonesia, creates handbags by heating discarded plastic bags and infusing other materials such as fabric and



David Edgar, *Recycled plastic containers*

Jeff Davis, *Record Bowls*



string to create colorful, textured surfaces. Leo Razzi, from Philadelphia, welds together found and discarded metal to create playful, yet functional furniture. Neil Benson, from Philadelphia, creates furniture and suitcases from discarded license plates, street signs and blue jeans. Originally from Oregon, Lena Helen, produces artists' books that reuse supermarket paper and plastic bags, and Jeff Davis, from Brooklyn, NY has discovered that old vinyl records make the perfect soup bowl and wall clock.

Re-Use ReFuse, a competition organized in partnership with Philadelphia Sculptors, will run through January 7th, 2006. The opening is Saturday, October 15, 2005 from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m and is free to the public.

## WHEELS TO THE WOODS

The Schuylkill Center is a popular field trip destination for Philadelphia elementary schools, many of whom lack the financial resources to afford both program fees and transportation costs. We are seeking contributions to our Wheels to the Woods Fund which helps schools in need to visit SCEE, and

give students the opportunity to explore and learn from our diverse natural environment. Please call Jennifer at (215) 482-7300, ext. 124 to learn more about how your donations to this fund will help students in the Philadelphia region.

## grants, gifts and donations

April 1- June 30, 2005

We graciously thank the following foundations, corporation, and businesses:

Baker Street Bread Co.  
The Baldwin School- 8th grade class  
Ballard, Spahr, Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP  
Becker & Frondorf  
Blue Tree Landscaping  
Brandywine River Museum  
Bucks County River Country  
Car Program, LLC  
Cathedral Village  
Cedar Hollow Inn Restaurant & Bar  
Choral Arts Society of Philadelphia  
CinCin Restaurant  
The Colonial Theatre  
Combination Lock & Key  
Countryside Gardeners  
W. S. Cumby & Son  
The Lee F. & Phoebe A. Driscoll Foundation  
Environmental Standards, Inc.  
Fork Restaurant and Bar  
Four Seasons Hotel  
French Creek Ridge Vineyards  
The Garden Club of Philadelphia  
The Gardeners  
GlaxoSmithKline  
GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.  
Hill Company

Horsham Valley Graphics  
Integrated Network Consulting, Inc.  
Isdamer & Company, LLC  
Jacques Whitford Company  
The JDB Fund  
Jubilee Chocolates  
Kimmel Center, Inc.  
Langsam Stevens & Silver, LLP  
Lee's Gallery and Framing  
Little Hill, Inc.  
Marrakesh  
The McLean Contributionship  
McNally's Tavern  
Mesa Environmental Sciences, Inc.  
Milky Way Farm  
Mutter Museum of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia  
National Fish & Wildlife Foundation  
National Greyhound Adoption Program  
Network for Good  
Octoraro Native Plant Nursery  
Osaka  
Paul W. Steinbeiser, Inc.  
PECO Energy, an Exelon Company  
PECO's McCall Golf and Country Club  
Penn Distributors, Inc.  
Pennoni Associates, Inc.

Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust  
People's Light and Theater Company  
Philadelphia Live Arts Festival & Philly Fringe  
Philadelphia Mineralogical Society  
The Philadelphia Phillies  
Philadelphia Water Department  
PSC - Philip Services  
Randolph's Fine Jewellery  
Random Garden Club  
Recycle First  
Redbud Native Plant Nursery LLC  
Redner's Markets  
Resurrected Treasures  
Rolf Sauer & Partners  
Shuler's  
Sun and Earth, Inc.  
Susan Beard Design Studio  
Trader Joe's  
United Way of Kitsap County  
United Way of SEPA  
Universal Hair Studios  
URS  
Valley Green Inn  
Villanova University  
Waterloo Gardens  
WHYY  
Wild Bird Center

### GIFTS IN HONOR/MEMORY:

#### In Memory of Henry H. Meigs

Mrs. Pierre Fraley  
Ms. Karin James  
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Maun  
Ms. Eleanor M. Morris  
Mr. Clarence W. Rhoda, Jr.  
Julie & Bob Spahr  
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Wells

#### In Memory of Petey the Fish

Mr. & Mrs. Roger Michaud

#### In Memory of Justina Putsher

Mr. & Mrs. J. Michael Dzuba

#### In Memory of Cheryl Beth Silverman

Mr. & Mrs. Rodney R. Bartchy, Jr.

### MATCHING EMPLOYEE GIFTS:

The ACE INA Foundation  
Aetna Giving Campaign  
Johnson & Johnson Company  
The PQ Corporation  
United Technologies Matching Gift Program



# calendar of events

For information about listed events and registration, please call (215) 482-7300, ext. 110.

## October

**Sat/Sun | 1st/2nd** *Fall Bird Seed Sale*  
During SCEE's regular business hours  
Order early and save money. The trailer  
will close at 4:30 pm both days.

**Sat | 1st** *Teacher Workshop: Integrated  
Pest Management*

**9:00 am - 12:00 pm**  
**\$15 per person; call about scholarship  
opportunities**

What defines a pest? We will explore the natural history of organisms that we consider a nuisance, and learn how Integrated Pest Management can be used to control population density using methods that are environmentally sound. This workshop will provide materials and strategies for addressing PA Environment & Ecology standard 4.5.

**Pre-registration is required.**

**Wed | 5th** *Boy Scout Environmental  
Science Merit Badge*

**4:00 pm – 6:00 pm**

See Notes section for workshop details.

**Sat | 8th** *SCEE Bird Club  
"Back Bays" Cruise*

**8:00 am - 5:00 pm**  
**\$20 for 2 hour boat trip, additional \$10  
for van transportation**

Join the SCEE Bird Club on a boat trip with Captain Bob Carlough aboard The Skimmer through the waters of Cape May Sound. We will also stop at other nearby locations to continue our observations of migrating shorebirds. Please bring a bag lunch. We will depart from SCEE; call early to reserve a seat on the van.

**Pre-registration is required.**

**Sat | 15th** *Re-Use ReFuse Gallery Opening  
and Reception*

**3:00 pm - 5:00 pm**

**FREE**

Group exhibition of artists selected through call for entries in partnership with Philadelphia Sculptors. Artists use original means of addressing the theme of recycling. The artists have re-used materials that were once functional objects and transformed them into new objects with a real or perceived practical function.

**Sat | 15th** *Boy Scout Environmental  
Science Merit Badge*

**12:00 pm – 3:00 pm**

See Notes section for workshop details.

**Fri/Sat | 28th/29th** *Halloween Hikes and  
Hayrides*

**6:00 pm - 10:00 pm**

**\$5 members/\$7 nonmembers**

**(Hike, includes Hayride)**

**\$4 members/\$6 nonmembers**

**(Hayride only)**

**(\$30 max. per family)**

Join us for our annual Halloween Hikes! Explore SCEE by flashlight and learn about the nocturnal animals that inhabit our forests and fields. This year, for the first time, we will also offer evening hayrides through our woodlands. Refreshments, s'more-making by our campfire and pumpkin painting will be available after the activities! **Pre-registration is required.**

## November

**Sat | 5th** *Team Building and Low Ropes  
for Girl Scouts*

**10:00 am - 1:30 pm**

**\$16 per scout**

Engage your girl scouts in fun, challenging initiatives that help them acknowledge their identity as a team! Scouts will participate in trust-building discussions and activities to thoroughly prepare them for the low ropes experience.

**Pre-registration is required.**

**Sat | 5th** *Teacher Workshop: Recycling  
with RecycleBank*

**9:00 am – 3:00 pm**

**\$20 per person; call about scholarship  
opportunities**

RecycleBank, an innovative new company in Philadelphia, will introduce its incentive based program that is increasing the rate of recycling in a number of local communities. This workshop will also provide you with a variety of strategies for teaching about natural resource conservation and recycling. After lunch we will tour the Blue Mountain Recycling facility in Philadelphia. Act 48 approved.

**Pre-registration is required.**

**Thu | 24th** *Center closed for holiday*

## December

**Sat | 3rd** *Teacher Workshop: Geology of  
the Wissahickon*

**9:00 am - 3:00 pm**

**\$20 per person; call about scholarship  
opportunities**

Increase your understanding of the rock cycle and the formation of local geology. Learn new strategies for infusing these topics into your curriculum. This workshop is facilitated by Sarah West, Arcadia University adjunct faculty. We will be hiking to many interesting geological features along the Wissahickon Creek, which includes some steep terrain. Meet at SCEE and bring a bag lunch. Act 48 approved. **Pre-registration is required.**



**Sun - Mon | 25th – January 2nd**  
*Center closed for holidays*



## WISH LIST

The Schuylkill Center is always in need of different supplies. The items contributed annually allow us to perform state of the art environmental education programming as well as give discounts to participating schools. Please check out the list below to see if you can help. In order to donate any of the items listed, please call (215) 482-7300, ext. 110!

### Land Restoration

- ☐ Sturdy work gloves & tool belts
- ☐ Loppers, leaf rakes, watering cans & shovels
- ☐ Gas weed whip
- ☐ 1 or 2 quart plastic potting containers, round or square
- ☐ Label maker & aluminum plant signs
- ☐ GPS unit and GIS software
- ☐ 2"x10" wood planks

### Education

- ☐ Digital Blue QX5 Computer Microscope
- ☐ N-P-K soil test kits
- ☐ Fishing poles
- ☐ Pond nets
- ☐ Stopwatches
- ☐ Trail bags
- ☐ Aqua Scope Periscopes
- ☐ LaMotte Leaf Pack Flash Card sets
- ☐ Binoculars
- ☐ Television Monitor
- ☐ VCR/DVD Player
- ☐ Pavilion Tent (10' x 10')

## THE ENVIRONMENT –WHAT’S NEXT?

By Diane Actman

### Energy

At the end of July, Congress approved an energy bill (H.R. 6) that includes about \$1.3 billion for energy conservation and efficiency programs and \$3 billion for alternative energy sources, primarily wind power. The final bill also included substantial tax breaks (\$8.5 million) plus billions more in subsidies for the coal, electricity, natural gas, nuclear and oil industries. The bill keeps fuel-economy standards for vehicles at current levels; eases federal laws governing clean water and air; requires power companies to produce at least 10 percent of their electricity from renewable sources by 2020; and sets reliability standards for regional electrical grids. Additionally, the bill requires an inventory of oil and gas deposits in all coastal waters; funds clean-coal technologies, streamlines hydroelectric licensing; and requires increased use of corn-based ethanol as a gasoline additive.

### Budget/Appropriations

Also at the end of July, Congress approved the final Interior Appropriations bill (H.R. 2361) which sets the funding levels for some federal departments including the Environment Protection Agency (EPA). The bill cuts the EPA's 2006 budget by almost \$200 million compared to this year's budget. The biggest cut was funding for wastewater treatment plants across the country.

For more information regarding environmental legislation, please see the Environmental Protection Agency at [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov) or the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's site, [www.dep.state.pa.us/](http://www.dep.state.pa.us/).

## SCEE SPORTS NEW SIGNS

New signs along the roadways around the Center, the Schuylkill Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic, and in our parking lot, are making it easier for visitors to find us! In addition to sporting our new logo, the color of the signs relates visually to our main entrance sign and more clearly identifies the Clinic— which just happens to be at a location different from our main building— as a part of the Center! We are also the first site to debut the new Schuylkill River National & State Heritage Area medallion as a part of our signage: you will soon see it popping up along the Schuylkill River as a part of a comprehensive effort to identify cultural and recreational resources surrounding the river.

This project was supported in part by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources through the Schuylkill River Heritage Area Grant Program.

## Notes

### CALLING ALL LAPSED MEMBERS!

This fall, volunteers will be calling friends of The Schuylkill Center whose memberships have lapsed. Membership dollars support every aspect of the Center's work, from wildlife rehabilitation and environmental education to land restoration and environmental art. None of it would be possible without member support! If you would like to join as a member, renew your membership, or help us make phone calls, please contact Liz Einsig at [leinsig@schuylkillcenter.org](mailto:leinsig@schuylkillcenter.org) or (215) 482-7300, ext 116. We need your help!

### HELP SCEE EDUCATE OTHERS!

Want to help us spread the word about our programs? We need people to help distribute *The Quill* to local libraries and information spots. Please contact Ashleigh Poff at (215) 482-7300, ext 139 or [apoff@schuylkillcenter.org](mailto:apoff@schuylkillcenter.org).

### CAR DONATIONS BRING CASH FOR SCEE!

If you must part with your old vehicle, consider donating it to SCEE! You can receive a tax deduction, and the proceeds will benefit the Center! Please contact Liz Einsig for more information at [leinsig@schuylkillcenter.org](mailto:leinsig@schuylkillcenter.org) or (215) 482-7300, ext. 116.

### BOY SCOUT WORKSHOP DETAILS

All Boy Scout Troops are welcome to join SCEE as we host our Environmental Science Merit Badge Workshop. This series of events is designed to assist scouts in meeting Environmental Science Badge requirements. Two 2-hour after-school sessions and one 3-hour Saturday session will include many of the badge's required activities, including opportunities for the outdoor study areas. SCEE's Scout Programs Coordinator is an Environmental Science merit badge counselor and will oversee and sign off on each scout's badge upon meeting all requirements. *Pre-registration and pre-payment is required.*

### Sessions will be held:

- Wed, Sep. 28th 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
- Wed, Oct. 5th 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
- Sat, Oct. 15th 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm

### COST IS:

**\$40 for all three programs or  
\$15 for individual sessions**



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A special thank you to all of our new members- you are most appreciated! Please let us know if you prefer to see your name with a different spelling or format by calling (215) 482-7300 x 110. Membership contributions received after June 30th will be acknowledged in our next issue of the Quill.



## BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR MIGRATING RAPTORS

By Ashleigh Poff

Toward the end of September and early October, an amazing thing happens around Southeastern Pennsylvania. Various types of raptors begin their annual migration from the north and can be seen all over the Philadelphia region. Raptors are birds of prey or carnivorous birds that hunt and kill other animals. Many can be seen flying over The Schuylkill Center. Some have been cared for at our Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic.

The Sharp-shinned Hawk, pictured here, was treated at the Clinic last winter for an injured wing. These raptors resemble a scaled-down version of the Cooper's Hawk, which has similar brown and white coloring. The Sharp-shinned Hawk can be identified by its slender body, short, rounded wings, and a long, rudder-like, square-tipped tail. Juveniles are typically brown with a light underside that contains dark streaking and have yellow eyes. As the hawk matures, the outer feathers turn grayish in tone and their eyes develop into a reddish color. In addition, the bird's wingspan ranges from 18 inches to over 2 feet; its length can vary from 9 to 13 inches and it can weigh anywhere from 3 to 8 ounces. Interestingly enough, the Sharp-shinned Hawk has reverse-size sexual dimorphism, which means that the female is nearly twice the size of the male. When migrating, the hawk typically travels alone. It soars, but glides and flaps its wings frequently. As an Accipiter, this type of hawk preys mostly on songbirds and can be found frequently near bird feeders.

# fur and feathers



*This Sharp-shinned Hawk receives state of the art care at SCEE's Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic.*

In addition to observing these birds at The Schuylkill Center, a wide variety can be seen at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in Kempton, PA. For more details about the best times to view these raptors or directions to the Sanctuary, visit [www.hawk-mountain.org](http://www.hawk-mountain.org).

*The Schuylkill Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic was temporarily closed for admissions this summer while changes were made that will improve services for our animal patients. We plan to reopen again this fall, and will continue to depend on our supporters for volunteer time, donations of supplies, and financial contributions. Watch for more details in the next Quill. Thank you for your support & patience!*

## staff news



Special thanks go out to all of our summer camp counselors and interns: Kelly Raymond, Emily Soda, Bianca Wallace, Peggy Frankenberger, Calli Ritter, Stacy Davis, Megan Brady, Erin Walker, Matthew Askey, Arden McAllister, and Sara Beth Kane, who successfully conducted this year's camp season. We hope to see you all again next summer!

SCEE has also said goodbye to two employees, Jen Rost and Maura Lee. Jen, an Environmental Educator, began working at SCEE as our Growing Greener Coordinator and was an integral part of the Education Department. Our Membership Services Coordinator, Maura Lee, has been working at SCEE since 2003, and assisted the Development Office with many tasks. Both ladies are moving on to pursue other interests and we wish them the best of luck!

Our newly appointed Acting Executive Director, Dennis Burton, has been named President of the Society for Ecological Restoration's Northeast Chapter. Congratulations, Dennis! In addition, we have added a new seasonal employee, Joanne Malfatti, to our Land Restoration Department. Pictured here, she is helping to pull down dead trees outside the main Education Building. Welcome, Joanne!



# education initiatives

## NATURE RAMBLERS RULE AT SCEE



SCEE's Education Department has been busy indeed! Karen Foster, the Acting Director of our very successful Nature Ramblers Summer Camp, reports that over 215 children joined in the environmental fun this summer! From the weekly field trips to extended forays in SCEE's fields, forests, ponds and streams, the children had a wonderful time connecting with the natural world. Different camp themes each week persuaded many children to return throughout the summer. Camila Rivera-Tinsley, the Summer Camp Director, recently returned from maternity leave and is already deep in conversation with Karen about new ideas and themes for the summer of 2006!

## EDUCATION GETS INNOVATIVE

Jennifer Hoffman, Director of Education, is enthusiastic about the creative program development occurring at SCEE.

"The diversity of our programs is exceptional. From our expanding summer camp to our popular low-ropes challenge course, our Act 48 teacher workshops to the numerous school programs offered, and of course, our active partnership with the Green Woods Charter School, SCEE is at the forefront of environmental education."

"We have spent much time over the past year considering the content of our existing programs, and we continue to improve programming to help teachers meet the Pennsylvania Academic Standards for Environment & Ecology. As an example, we have developed several new initiatives related to the soil ecosystem, invasive organisms, water quality and wetlands. This year we are excited to offer Saturday Teacher Workshops that will prepare teachers to use a variety of curriculum supplements advocated by the PA Department of Education."

## RETIRED AND LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO?

Come join the Pennsylvania Senior Environment Corps at SCEE, which is part of the Environmental Alliance for Senior Involvement (EASI). EASI is a joint venture of the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Citizens' Volunteer Monitoring Program, and the Department of Aging.



The group meets at SCEE on the second Thursday of each month for two to three hours. Our mission is to monitor tributaries that supply the Wissahickon Creek by taking water samples and performing field and laboratory tests. The results are then forwarded to the DEP for future reference. Opportunities are also available for Senior Environment Corps members to teach with SCEE Educators on the many water education programs we offer!

No experience is necessary and you may choose to work in the lab or the field. Come on out and learn, enjoy the camaraderie of fun loving and concerned folks and help protect the waterways in our communities. For information, contact Virginia Ranly at (215) 482-7300, ext. 129.

# book store

**Don't miss our Blue Dot Sale!** Sale lasts through fall. Save on wooden puzzles for children and adults. Receive 20-30% off selected items.

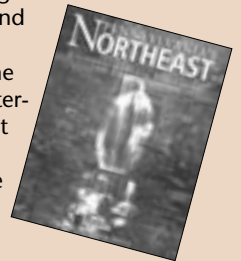
*Animals in Flight*  
By Steve Jenkins & Robin Page

This colorfully illustrated children's book explains how, when and why creatures like birds and insects took flight. It's easy to read and great for all children.



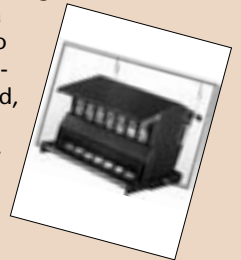
*Pennsylvania's Northeast: Poconos, Endless Mountains, and Urban Centers*  
By Ruth Hoover Seitz

Explore northeastern Pennsylvania with this book that includes 185 color photographs by photographer Blair Seitz and essays from Ruth Hoover Seitz. The book includes interesting facts about history, parks, forests and game lands ranging from Bradford to Pike County.



*The Absolute Bird Feeder*

This "squirrel proof" bird feeder is adjustable to be hung or mounted on a pole. It is easy to open or fill, eliminates wasted seed, and includes a seed level indicator window.



### Hours of Operation:

Mon-Sat 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM  
Sun 1:00 PM-4:30 PM





8480 Hagy's Mill Road  
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Phone: 215-482-7300  
Fax: 215-482-8158  
E-mail: [scee@schuylkillcenter.org](mailto:scee@schuylkillcenter.org)  
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Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic  
Phone: 215-482-8217  
Fax: 215-482-4981

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Philadelphia, PA  
Permit No. 1571

## NATIVE PLANT SALE

**Saturday April 29th  
& Sunday April 30th**  
Stay tuned for more details...



## Gift Membership

Have you thought about the perfect gift? Why not give the gift of a Schuylkill Center membership. There are year round activities for "kids" of all ages. Why not ease your yearly giving hassle and call 215-482-7300, ext. 117 to order your gift membership today. Some of the benefits of membership include: unlimited admission, discounts at the bookstore, special invitations to member-only events and much, much more!

Individual: \$40

Family: \$60

Wildlife: \$75

Contributing: \$100

Carson Fellow: \$250

Leopold Fellow: \$350

Seton Fellow: \$500

Thoreau Fellow: \$1,000

## Save The Date

### Halloween Hikes and Hayrides

October 28th & 29th from 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Hike (including hayride): \$5 members / \$7 nonmembers

Hayride only: \$4 members / \$6 nonmembers

*(\$30 max. per family)*

Come "trick or treat" along our trails while you meet giant woodland characters that will tell you about life in the forest. For the first time ever, we are also offering hayrides in conjunction with the hikes. A campfire, pumpkin painting, and refreshments will be awaiting guests as they finish activities. For those coming to hike, please bring a flashlight. Groups leave every fifteen minutes for the approximately hour long hike. Reservations are recommended, please call (215) 482-7300, ext. 110.