

# ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATORS OF NORTH CAROLINA

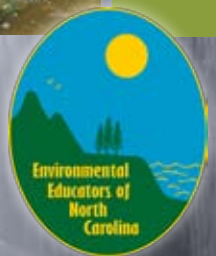
winter 2010



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## PRESIDENT'S PEN

Hello EENC members!  
First, a few words of gratitude.

Thank you for your continued membership and support of EENC. In our current economy, supporting a strong professional organization is important so that we have the funding to promote our profession. While the work is done by a cadre of highly regarded professionals who donate their time and talent, there are some services we have to pay for (our website and postage, to name but two). We appreciate your support and encourage you to invite colleagues to join as well.

As you likely know by now, President Obama's budget is calling for "environmental literacy" to be a focus in education. The success of that effort is due, in large part, to the advocacy of EENC members and other affiliate members of

the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE). We've kept the pressure on for the past several years, and are seeing the results.

On the home front, we also saw the positive results of our efforts to persuade state lawmakers to restore funding to the Office of Environmental Education. Thanks to all of your phone calls, letters, emails and such. My challenge to you is to continue to extend event invitations to your elected representatives. It's important to have them see the quality of education their funding provides. Also, thank you to all returning EENC board members: Diane Silver, Dee Rudolph, Tom Shepherd, Elizabeth Burke, Sarah Fuller, Sean Higgins, Kelly Hoke, Sandra Weitzel. A special hello to our new board members, Blair Ogburn, Keith Bamberger, and Mir Youngquist-Thurow. More about them elsewhere in the newsletter.

Goals for the year? As president, I'm focusing on working together more efficiently and creatively with other state

environmental education organizations. Sometimes in our daily activities, we forget that we're not in this alone. Many other smart and hard-working environmental educators have the same struggles we do for money, lesson planning, and marketing. As the professional organization, EENC serves to connect us with one another. We're moving forward to nurturing these networking opportunities. Look for more section outings, volunteer opportunities, and online networking.

We're also moving back to the woods so to speak with our Conference this year, at the Blowing Rock Conference Center October 7-10, 2010. What could be more beautiful and relaxing than autumn in the mountains. Make sure you register early, as space will be limited for this Conference, our 20th Annual!

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**"This is, without a doubt, a great time to be an environmental educator."**

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If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact a board member through the contact form on our website. If you're been honored for your work, please let us know. If you have ideas for newsletter articles, section events or outreach, we want to know that as well.

Finally, we are also gearing up to host the 2011 NAAEE conference. Lois Nixon is our representative on the conference planning committee. Her article in this newsletter provides you with an update on the conference and volunteer opportunities we need to fill to get the planning off the ground.

This is, without a doubt, a great time to be an environmental educator, and there's no better place to ply our craft than in North Carolina.

I can't wait for the year ahead.

Shelby Gull Laird  
President

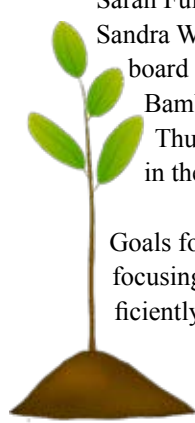


# Comments Welcome

.....  
*Elizabeth Burke*  
*Communications Chair*  
.....

We've made a few major leaps in the communications department over the past year, moving from our printed newsletter to an electronic one, and employing the services of In Your Head Advertising's Matt Besch to redesign our website. We are still in the process of tweaking the website and figuring out the best way to organize the newsletter. I welcome your suggestions. And, if you'd like to assist with the newsletter, media contacts, or see a way in which your skills can be used here in the communications department, I'd welcome you talents.

I also want to draw your attention to the beautiful article by one of our newest board members, Blair Ogburn. Sometimes, in the heat of all the budgeting and policy issues we deal with as an organization and profession, we lose sight of what makes us tick. "Why We Do What We Do" will be a regular feature of News Notes. If you'd like to contribute, please contact me through the communications link on the eenc.org website. In our summer issue, Blue Ridge National Park Service Ranger Amy Renfranz will offer a glimpse into her motivation for doing environmental education.



## MEMBERSHIP

# Membership Renewals Are Easier than Ever

.....  
*Sarah Fuller*  
*Membership Co-Chair*  
 .....

Thank you to everyone who has renewed their membership during the 2009 conference. All members whose membership expired at the end of December received an email invoice, if I had a current email address on file. If I did not have an email on file, a paper copy was sent to your home address. Please contact me if you receive an email or postcard and I will help you get your membership current. Also, please let me know if your contact information has changed since last year.

I would also like to tell everyone about our new options for renewing membership and upgrading membership. Membership fees are listed below, but this year we are starting a new campaign for lifetime membership. Lifetime membership is still \$300.00, but you have the option to pay \$100.00 a year for 3 consecutive years. I hope by having this offer it lessens the burden of paying \$300.00 upfront, but gives everyone the chance to be the lifetime member they dream of! If you miss a \$100.00 payment, your membership fee will be considered a donation and you are no longer eligible for the lifetime membership payment plan.

Professional: \$30.00  
 Student/Senior: \$15.00  
 Organization: \$80.00  
 Lifetime Member: \$300.00 or 3 yearly payments of \$100.00  
 Corporate: \$100.00  
 Life Organization: \$800.00

You can renew membership one of two ways this year:

1) Go to our new website [www.eenc.org](http://www.eenc.org) and find the membership form under the "About EENC" tab. Fill out the form to pay online through Google Checkout.

or

2) Mail in your payment to PO box 4904, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27515-4904.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me, Sarah Fuller, at [sfuller@randolph.k12.nc.us](mailto:sfuller@randolph.k12.nc.us) or call me at (336) 301 3832.



## A FEW MORE CERTIFIED EDUCATORS AMONG US!

Newly certified environmental educators are given a year's membership in EENC. We hope you'll come to our section meetings and conference, to learn more about what we do.

Melissa Coe	Michael Eisch
Matthew Mutel	Jill Fegley
Melissa Painchaud	Tracey Gnagey-Sparks
Steve McMurray	Dia Hitt
Grace Harrison	B. Phil Howell
Donna Snead	Sunmi Lee
Amy Bernhardt	Tedi McCanus
Sandra Disdee	Stefanie Misner
Rich Bowerman	Jane Srail
JoAnn Burtness	Elizabeth Vaughn
Adam Carver	Aaron Otten



**NO CHILD LEFT INSIDE**



**What No Child Left Inside means for North Carolina**

.....  
*Sarah Yelton*  
*PreK-12 Environmental Education Program Manager*  
*N.C. Office of Environmental Education*  
 .....

No Child Left Inside. It’s a term typically used in reference to federal legislation. What is it and what does it mean to North Carolina educators?

In short, NCLI is designed to provide:

- Funding to train teachers to deliver high quality Environmental Education and utilize the local environment as an extension of the classroom.
- Environmental Education that is integrated across core subject areas.
- Incentives for states to develop State Environmental Literacy Plans to insure that every student is prepared to understand the environmental challenges of the future.
- Encouragement for teachers, administrators, and school systems to make time and resources available for environmental education for all students.

with EE centers, non-profit organizations, natural resource agencies, colleges and universities and others to develop and evaluate new programs for teacher professional development and capacity building in environmental education. Included would be teacher training institutes, programs providing outdoor experiences for students, new policy approaches for incorporating EE into the curriculum at the state or district level, and evaluating the effectiveness of EE in improving student achievement. But to be eligible for either of these grant programs, North Carolina must have in place a plan that ensures graduates of our state educational system will be environmentally literate.

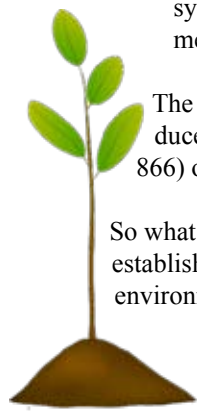
For North Carolina to be in a position to use NCLI funding, the N.C. Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) entered into a partnership, in fall 2008, to develop a state environmental literacy plan. In April of 2009, the Environmental Literacy Plan (ELP) Working Group, which includes stakeholders from the education and environmental communities (such as EENC and the NC Association of EE Centers), convened for the first time with DPI and DENR Office of EE staff to develop our environmental literacy plan.

According to the NCLI Act, there are three main objectives for the environmental literacy plan:

- Show how our state educational system will prepare students to understand, analyze, and address major environmental challenges facing North Carolina and the United States.

The No Child Left Inside Act (NCLI) of 2009 was introduced into the 111th session of Congress (H.R. 2054 and S. 866) on Earth Day 2009.

So what does this mean to North Carolina? The NCLI Act establishes funding for two new federal grant programs for environmental education. School districts will be able to partner



- Provide field experiences as part of the regular school curriculum and create programs that contribute to healthy lifestyles through outdoor recreation and sound nutrition.
- Create opportunities for enhanced and ongoing professional development for teachers that improves their environmental knowledge and skills in teaching students about environmental issues, including the use of interdisciplinary, field-based and research-based learning as well as innovative technology in the classroom.

When complete, North Carolina's environmental literacy plan will describe how DPI will measure the environmental literacy of students, including relevant academic content standards regarding EE and a description of how the plan relates to graduation requirements. It will also provide for teacher professional development opportunities that support environmental literacy of students and explain how DPI will implement the plan, including securing funding and other necessary support.

Much of the ELP Working Group's work thus far has been to define environmental literacy, as each state is charged with deciding exactly what environmental literacy means to them. This definition will impact how well we are able to measure the environmental literacy of students. The ELP Working Group has been working with DPI on designing new Essential Standards, particularly for Science and Social Studies. We have aligned each draft of the Science and Social Studies Essential Standards with the NAAEE PreK-12 Guidelines for Learning ([http://www.naaee.org/npeee/learner\\_guidelines.php](http://www.naaee.org/npeee/learner_guidelines.php)) to determine the extent to which the new standards will support environmental literacy. We provided comments on the draft standards and suggestions for improvement to DPI staff based on this alignment. Representatives from the Science and Social Studies sections have also actively participated in the ELP Working Group discussions. We have benefited greatly from their expertise and perspective throughout this process, and I am particularly grateful for the enthusiasm with which they have embraced this project.

The ELP Working Group is looking ahead to 2010, with meetings already scheduled in February and April. We plan to have a draft available for public comment in the fall. We welcome input and participation from the North Carolina environmental educa-



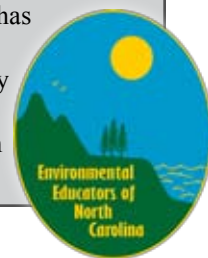
tion community during this process. If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to find out more about the ELP process, please contact me at the NC Office of Environmental Education at [sarah.yelton@ncdenr.gov](mailto:sarah.yelton@ncdenr.gov) or 919-715-4453.

An earlier version of the NCLI Act passed the U.S. House of Representatives with broad bipartisan support before the 110th session of Congress ended in 2008. Those working to get the word out to the public and members of Congress about this important legislation are hopeful that both Houses of Congress will pass the bill this year. In North Carolina, Representatives Price, Shuler and Etheridge have signed on as co-sponsors of the bill so far.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO:

### *A note from the EENC Board*

What can you do? First off, learn more about the NCLI Act at the national No Child Left Inside Coalition web site at [www.nclicoalition.org](http://www.nclicoalition.org). EENC is a member of the NCLI coalition, but you can also sign the petition as an individual or through your place of work. There are other ideas on the site for actions you can take to have your voice heard. Invite parents to your children's programs so they understand what environmental education has to offer. Finally, please consider taking the time to read North Carolina's Environmental Literacy Plan when it is posted in the fall for public comment. Your ideas will help to make our plan attainable.



FUNDRAISING

# FUNDRAISE FOR YOURSELF!

.....  
 Diane Silver  
 .....

A new answer to the age old question: If I volunteer for the conference can I get in for free?

If you're like most environmental educators I know, you got into this business for "heart" reasons and not for the money. As educators, we all have a frugal streak. As such, EENC gets a lot of inquiries from folks wanting to trade a little volunteer time for free registration for the conference.

The problem is, if we offered free registration to all our volunteers, we'd never meet our conference expenses. But wait – you say you want to volunteer in exchange for free registration? Well, if you would volunteer to help with that expanded fundraising, then, in fact, we could do it! So we've started a new opportunity. It's called the volunteer scholarship program. Here's the gist:

If you raise \$1000 for EENC in small donations from untapped community businesses, we'll offer you a \$250 scholarship to cover your conference expenses. Note: this is not payment for work. The scholarship is only for documented expenses, so if your expenses are less than \$250, that's the amount you would receive. Also, the scholarship is paid as a reimbursement after the conference is complete. If you qualify for a scholarship and then it turns out you can't come, you will not receive a cash payment for your work. It's not a payment, it's a scholarship to attend the conference.

That said, fundraising is not as hard as you think. It's all about your attitude. You are not asking for money. You are offering local businesses the opportunity to support EE and to market their business to our membership. For various levels of giving, EENC offers a variety of benefits involving acknowledgement in our conference program, on our web-

site, in our newsletter, etc. That acknowledgement is valuable publicity for a business. Their \$100 is tax deductible. That's pretty good value for \$100. If you can get just 10 local businesses to participate, that would be \$1000. If you can get them to donate \$200, you'd only need five.

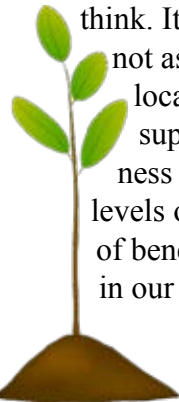
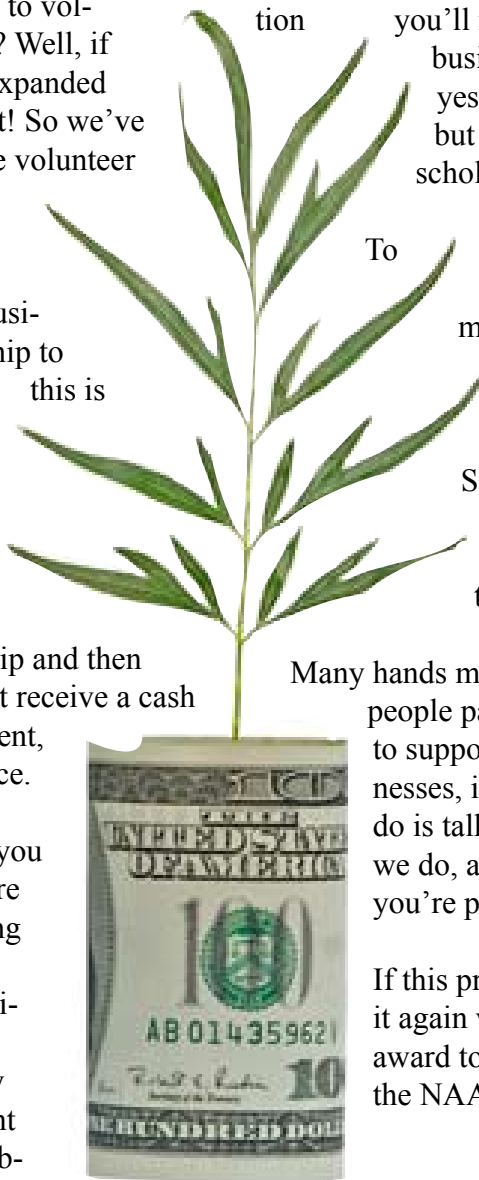
It's not hard if you break it down to 15-minute increments for phone calling and e-mail follow-ups. That's the volunteer time we need! The best part is that you get to do your volunteer work before the conference, so during the conference you get to participate because your work is already done.

We will provide you with sample scripts for phone calls, follow-up letters, a list of the benefits available at various levels of giving, and all the other information you'll need to offer this opportunity to businesses in your community. And yes, if you secure some contributions, but less than \$1000, we'll offer you a scholarship up to 25% of that amount.

To ensure professionalism (such as not asking the same business multiple times), you need to sign up to participate in this program, so we can coordinate who is contacting whom. Please e-mail Sandy Ruble at [samtclift@earthlink.net](mailto:samtclift@earthlink.net), or Diane Silver at [eenc-business@diane-silver.com](mailto:eenc-business@diane-silver.com) to join the team.

Many hands make light work. Imagine, if just ten people participate, we could raise \$10,000 to support EENC! \$100 from 10 local businesses, in eight months, and all you have to do is talk to people about who we are, what we do, and why EE is so important – and you're passionate about that already.

If this program is successful, we will offer it again with a higher level of scholarship award to meet the full registration costs of the NAAEE conference in Raleigh in 2011.



# Why We Do What We Do:

## *The connectedness of things...*

.....  
*Blair Ogburn*  
*Education Chair*  
.....

Hiking in the leaf-strewn woods feels colorful and messy, like a kid's taped together scrapbook. I am inspired to play the I Spy game. Spying the work of an industrious sapsucker drilled neatly into the bark of a tall tulip tree, I ask Sam (my six year old son) what made the neat line of bark holes. "Woodpeckers" he says and I explain that a woodpecker did indeed tap out these little caverns.

From the holes, tree sap will flow and provide nour-



ishment to animals via sticky goo. Sapsuckers, other birds, and insects will come to the tree café and enjoy lapping some sap.

Sam takes a turn at I Spy and delights me with "I spy a tree's nose". I look around for a nose, perhaps nostril holes or a slimy fungus, but my eyes find only twigs and vines. Then I notice a wooden wedge pushed forth from furrowed bark of a dead standing tree (or snag). The growth Sam spied is actually a fungal shelf, appearing like a big black nose on the face of a

dying tree. We take a closer look and find a pulsing web of life on the mossy shelf nose. There are beetles, scarlet colored mites, and dark spiders in webs from

underneath.

Shelf fungi form dense anchors and send fungal fingers through snags and logs to weaken them. The wood then begins to rot and decompose. Wood munching insects and other recyclers move into softened wood to take advantage of a food source. Mother Nature is on the job to create 'new' soil from old wood.

Peeking from a little nature nook in the snag, Sam and I find a golden mouse, our last discovery in today's game of I Spy. The mouse's fluffy fibrous nest is tucked inside the safe haven of the rotting tree. Thanks to decomposers like the shelf fungi, a mouse can find warmth and shelter from cold, wind and rain. As Sam and I are done spying on nature for the day, we turn back home to seek shelter of our own.



NAAEE 2011 CONFERENCE

# RALEIGH CONFERENCE PLANNING HAS STARTED

Lois Nixon  
EENC

Plans are beginning to get underway for NC to host the 2011 NAAEE Conference in Raleigh. The big date when environmental educators from all over the world will arrive is October 11-16, 2011, so if it isn't on your calendar yet, please add it now.

The conference theme has been chosen by the Conference Executive Committee, which includes NAAEE staff and the President-elect of NAAEE. The huge shimmering oak tree on the side of the Raleigh Convention Center was the inspiration for "Rooted in Time, Branching to the Future." The conference logo will now be developed by the NAAEE graphic designer to illustrate the theme. We'll feature the final logo in an upcoming newsletter.

2011 Conference "Strands" and "Threads" have also been chosen (sounds like we're building a bird nest in that tree, doesn't it?).

The six strands are:

- Climate Change
- Conservation Education
- EE Goes to School
- Environmental Issues in EE
- Environmental Justice
- Network and Leadership Development

2011 conference threads are:

- Arts
- Business and Industry
- Diversity
- Innovative Programs and Practices
- International EE
- No Child Left Inside
- Research and Evaluation
- Sustainability Education

The Strands are pretty firm, but the Threads are still being discussed, so if you have ideas for changes, please contact me at [lois@eenc.org](mailto:lois@eenc.org).

The Conference Executive Committee is now working on keynote speakers and narrowing down a large list that has been suggested by many members. Due to the selection of the Climate Change Strand, we have extended an invitation to former Vice-President Al Gore to be a keynote. Nothing is confirmed yet, but we are hopeful that he will accept!

So, there's another good reason—outstanding speakers and professional development-- to put this conference date on your calendar and start planning now to attend, and even be a volunteer. More on volunteer opportunities in the next issue.

Lois Nixon  
Conference Chair for host-  
EENC  
2011 NAAEE Annual  
Conference  
Raleigh, NC  
October 11-16, 2011  
919-744-0117  
[www.naaee.org](http://www.naaee.org)  
[www.eenc.org](http://www.eenc.org)  
[lois@eenc.org](mailto:lois@eenc.org)



Promoting excellence in  
environmental education

## Save the Dates

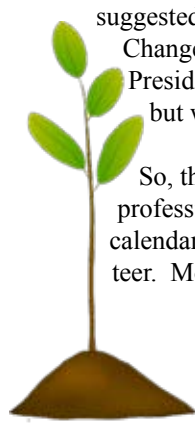
**October 8 – 10, 2010**

It's EENC's annual conference and our 20th anniversary! Join us at Blowing Rock Conference Center for some great workshops and sessions. We'll have plenty of certification workshops, and will also focus on refining skills that are critical to being a good naturalist.

**October 12 – 16, 2011**

The North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) is bringing everyone to North Carolina for that organization's 40th annual Conference. The theme, apropos to the City of Oaks, is "Rooted in Time, Branching to the Future." Workshops and sessions will take place at the Raleigh Convention Center but field trips and "mobile workshops" will bring members to every region in our beautiful state.

According to Tom, "The next two years are exciting times for members of Environmental Educators of North Carolina, highlighted by our role as the official State Affiliate to the North American Association for Environmental Education 40th annual conference. The EENC Conference committee is forming now!" Oh, he also warns, "Volunteer today, or risk being appointed later." To avoid the latter, visit the EENC website, follow the contact link to submit your name and contact information.



# Welcome to our New Board Members

## Blair Ogburn Education Chair

Education Chair Blair Ogburn, has been in environmental education for 10 years. For the five years prior to that, she was a field biologist, specializing in ornithology. “My favorite part of being a naturalist and educator,” she says, “is working with children and sharing my passion for science and nature with kids of all ages and from all socioeconomic backgrounds.”

Her goals for the year ahead include creating effective and dynamic displays for EENC exhibits; to become more familiar with statewide EE activities, policies and issues to be the best resource possible for teachers, students and other interpreters; and to better establish a line of communication with teachers statewide in the hopes of recruiting more environmental educators and enabling more hands-on training in nature programming.



## Keith Bamberger Membership Co-Chair

We are also grateful to have the talents of Membership Co-Chair Keith Bamberger on the board. Keith has been working in science, museum, and environmental education for most of the last twenty years. Highlights include creating an education and outreach program for Western office of the North Carolina Division of Air Quality, and developing hands-on, mind-active exhibits at the Colburn Earth Science Center, in Asheville North Carolina.

Keith has been active with the Western Section of EENC since becoming a member, and has plans to make it easier for individuals within EENC to promote



EENC and the profession of Environmental Education. Membership goals for this year include: creating a set of recruiting tools, including letters and press releases to assist people in hosting local get-togethers with others interested in environmental education; work more closely with colleges to help the students become aware of EENC, and to better define the benefits of being an EENC member.

## Mir Youngquist-Thurow Central Section Chair

Central Section Chair Mir Youngquist-Thurow holds a bachelor's degree in Biology and Education, a Master's in Environmental Education, and is a North Carolina Certified Environmental Educator. She's been a full-time naturalist since 1986 (Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Minnesota and North Carolina) and is the Environmental Education Director at the Agapé Center for Environmental Education where she's been working since 1996.



Mir has given generously of her time to EENC over a good many years. Her goals for the year ahead are to:

- Keep the Central Section membership informed about EENC events;
- Alert the Central Section EENC members to EE opportunities in our region; and
- Arrange several events for EENC members to attend.



SECTION REPORTS

**Eastern Section**

**WELCOME UNCW: EENC'S FIRST STUDENT CHAPTER**

*Pat Curley*

The University of North Carolina Wilmington is developing the first student chapter of the Environmental Educators of North Carolina. EENC has extended the chapter a one-year probationary membership. However, in order to be recognized by UNCW as a student organization, the chapter must first advance through the chartering process.



Currently, the chartering documents are under development and it is anticipated that approval will be granted this spring. Drs. Jeff Hill (Department of Environmental Studies) and Rich Huber (Watson School of Education) are co-faculty sponsors of the organization. Emily Jones, a graduate student in Environmental Studies, and employee at the North Carolina Aquarium at Ft. Fisher is spearheading the effort. Says Dr. Hill, "The opportunity for UNCW to partner with EENC in developing this chapter is very exciting. We are anticipating that the organization will draw students from diverse academic backgrounds across campus. We would really like to thank EENC for their support."

I am excited to begin my service as the Eastern Section Chair and a little apprehensive, Sarah is a hard act to follow! My first order of business is to develop an accurate email distribution list of eastern section members. If you reside in the eastern section of EENC, please send an email to [pwcurley@gmail.com](mailto:pwcurley@gmail.com) and use the subject EENCeast.

I am also planning a series of gatherings over the year along the coast. The gatherings will range from organized outings to informal meetings that will take place during other environmental based events such as area events, festivals or outdoor shows. If you would

like to host one of these events in your area please contact me.

Our first gathering will be in Wilmington on Saturday March 20th. We will meet for a free lunch between 11:30 and 1:00 at the Cape Fear Museum [www.capefear-museum.com](http://www.capefear-museum.com). All members and friends are invited to come. If you are planning on attending, please email [pwcurley@gmail.com](mailto:pwcurley@gmail.com), so that we can plan for food and beverages.

While you are in Wilmington, on the 20th, don't forget to stop by the Cape Fear Wildlife Expo (<http://www.capefearwildlifeexpo.com/expo.htm>). All EENC members will receive a \$1.00 discount on the \$6.00 cost of admission.

An updated email distribution list of all members of the eastern section is being created. If you would like to be on the distribution list to receive notifications of events, gatherings and opportunities please send an email with your name and organization to [pwcurley@gmail.com](mailto:pwcurley@gmail.com).

**Western Section**

*Kelly Hoke*

Western section get ready! The 2010 conference will be in our backyard this year at Blowing Rock Conference Center October 8-10th. As many of you know the conference would not be possible without the countless volunteer hours that are put in by our member base. There are many seats to be filled on the conference committee, so if you have some time contact our conference chair Tom Shepherd at [tom.shepherd@highpointnc.gov](mailto:tom.shepherd@highpointnc.gov).

Also, keep an ear out for an environmental educator who is really shining. Nominations for the annual awards will be needed prior to the conference. The awards can be found on our website.

No section gathering is planned at the moment, but I am open to suggestions and help. Let me know if you have an idea for us in the west to get together.

**Central Section**

*Mir Youngquist-Thurow*

First, a big THANK YOU to Mickey Jo Sorrel and Sarah Fuller for leading the Central Section for quite awhile! They've provided a lot of wonderful opportunities to our members. 2010 also has several events planned for the EENC Central Section. The first will take place on May 22.

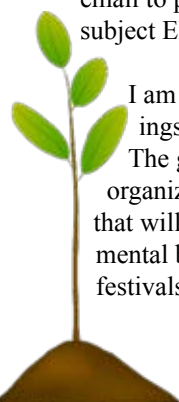
May 22, 2010: "Birding by Ear." The Central Section is for the birds! If you want to learn more about our feathered friends and how to identify them by sound, join us at the Agapé Center for Environmental Education for "Birding by Ear" on May 22, 2010. The Agapé Center is near Fuquay-Varina.

Mike Campbell, NC Wildlife Resources Commission Education Specialist will be leading this 4-hour "Birding by Ear" workshop. This workshop will offer information to learn the songs and calls of resident and neo-tropical migratory songbirds, and match these vocalizations with field marks to identify these birds. Useful tips, tricks and mnemonics will be provided to help with identification. Weather permitting, this entire workshop will be held outdoors and will cover several habitats. This workshop will qualify for public school CEU credit, as well as NC OEE Certification.

Bring your own lunch to enjoy afterwards. Picnic space is available. Reservations required; space limited to 24 participants.

When? May 22  
 Time? 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
 Cost? FREE for EENC Central Section members. You're welcome to bring others. Non-EENC members: \$15.00 – includes refreshments.  
 Where? Agapé Center for Environmental Education, Fuquay-Varina, NC ([www.agapekurebeach.org/aceabout.htm](http://www.agapekurebeach.org/aceabout.htm))

To register contact:  
 Mir Youngquist-Thurow  
 Central Section Chair  
[ACEed@agapekurebeach.org](mailto:ACEed@agapekurebeach.org)  
 919-552-9421 x 210



# What is greener than Shrek & more influential than the Incredible Hulk?

*A. Our Blockbusting 2009 Annual Conference,  
"Green Spaces in Urban Places" Sponsors*

**Total grants and donations received for  
the conference in 2009 reached \$7,400!**

#### "Jade" Sponsor

**\$3000 - \$5999**

Progress Energy Foundation  
Raleigh, NC

#### "Spring Green" Sponsors

**\$0 - \$599**

Great Outdoor Provision Company  
Raleigh, NC

#### "Vivid Green" Sponsor

**\$600 - \$1499**

Piedmont Natural Gas Foundation  
Charlotte, NC

#### EENC Members

Lois Nixon  
Sandy Ruble  
Dingo Brown



**And a special note of appreciation to  
Brandi Byrd, for our conference logo.**

<http://www.brandibyrd.com/>

## Upcoming EENC Sponsored Events

### March 20, 2010

Our Eastern section will have a gathering in Wilmington's Cape Fear Wildlife Expo. Section Chair, Pat Curley is finalizing details. Get on his list by contacting him at [pwcurlley@gmail.com](mailto:pwcurlley@gmail.com). Pat has some great events shaping up for the year ahead.

### April 17, 2010

Archdale Community Day on April 17th, 11-3 pm. Environmental Groups welcomed to set up a table. Archdale Library, Archdale, NC. If you have questions, contact Sarah Fuller at [sfuller@randolph.k12.nc.us](mailto:sfuller@randolph.k12.nc.us).

### May 22, 2010

Birding By Ear at the Agapé Center. To register: [ACEed@agapekurebeach.org](mailto:ACEed@agapekurebeach.org)  
Free for EENC members. For more on this event, see our Central Section update.

### October 8-10, 2010

It's EENC's Annual Conference and our 20th Anniversary! Please join us for a wonderful weekend of professional development at Blowing Rock Conference Center.

To find additional workshops outside of the EENC community, visit the Office of Environmental Education at [http://www.enr.state.nc.us/html/environmental\\_education.html](http://www.enr.state.nc.us/html/environmental_education.html) and click on EE Calendar under News and Events.

