

Newsletter for CREEK CONNECTIONS Based at Allegheny College in Meadville, Pennsylvania

Sensational Symposia!

Gathering at Allegheny College Getting Wild at Kon-O-Kwee

By Sarah Dippold, Allegheny College graduate

By Sara Salisbury, Allegheny College student

On April 3rd 2009, Creek Connections held its annual Northwestern PA/Southwestern NY student research symposium. There was a turn out of 21 schools with around 600 students. The campus center at Allegheny College was bursting with excitement as students presented their work in posters and in oral presentations. The keynote speaker for the event was Dr. Len Smock from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia. He encouraged the students to pursue environmental careers as well as to continue to put the issues they learned about in Creek Connections this year into practice for years to come. Staff from numerous area environmental groups and agencies were on hand to interact with the students. The environmental professionals explained how the students could pursue a career in their field as well as lead

Creek Connections hosted its symposium for the Pittsburgh area schools at YMCA Camp Kon-O-Kwee on Friday, April 17, 2009. Approximately two hundred and fifty students attended and took part in a myriad of activities, ranging from macro-invertebrate testing and identifying skulls to nature hikes and fly tying. One of the most exciting and popular activities was put on by The Animal Rescue League Wildlife Center, who brought in a skunk and an owl for the students to



Allegheny College Symposium - Continued from page 1

fun and interesting activities. The student display projects that really impressed the Creek Connections staff were all from different schools. From Lakeview Middle School a project called "The James Run Journal" showed that this new participating school will be a strong influence in years to come. From Youngsville High School a project called "Go Green at Home" taught us the various practices and green products

available to us for more environmentally friendly homes. From Saegertown High School a project entitled "Dam It" demonstrated the effects of constructing dams in our streams and rivers. These projects traveled to the Pittsburgh Area Student Research Symposium on April 17th showing off these students' hard work. Congratulations to everyone on a job well done this year. We hope to see you all next year!



Pat McShea from Carnegie Museums interacts with visiting pre-schoolers.



Mr. Van Doren from Fort LeBoeuf Middle School checks out the DCNR Bureau of Forestry display.

Symposium at YMCA Camp Kon-O-Kwee - Continued from page 1

observe. The students themselves created a variety of project displays to present at the symposium. Among the top displays were projects were, "Beaver Rap" from West Mifflin Area High School, "Maple Syrup Project" from Seneca Valley Intermediate High School and "Runoff Race," from Gateway Middle School. The students who created these displays were awarded t-shirts displaying a wood turtle on them. In

addition to these winners, three more t-shirts were awarded to students from Shady Side Academy, Gateway Middle School and Pittsburgh Perry High School who won the Creek Connections t-shirt contest, where they had to correctly guess the animal displayed on the shirt. Everyone appeared to have a fantastic day, and students left with a plethora of new and exciting information about the environment they live in.



Students from Seneca Valley IHS show off their project.



Former Creek Campers talk about what they did at camp and encourage students to attend this year.

Creek to Creek



Students performing an environmental puppet show for younger students at the Youngsville High School symposium.



Pittsburgh Brashear High School students visiting their creek.



Gateway Middle School students visiting their creek.



Slippery Rock Elementary School students braving the weather to test their creek.

Creek Camp 2009

Come spend a week at Allegheny College with the Creekers!

- Explore the French Creek watershed in depth
- Meet regional watershed experts

Register on line at:
<http://creekconnections.allegheny.edu/creekcamp.html>



Become a Fan!

Check out the Creek Connections pages on Facebook. There is a page for Creek Camp and one for Creek Connections.

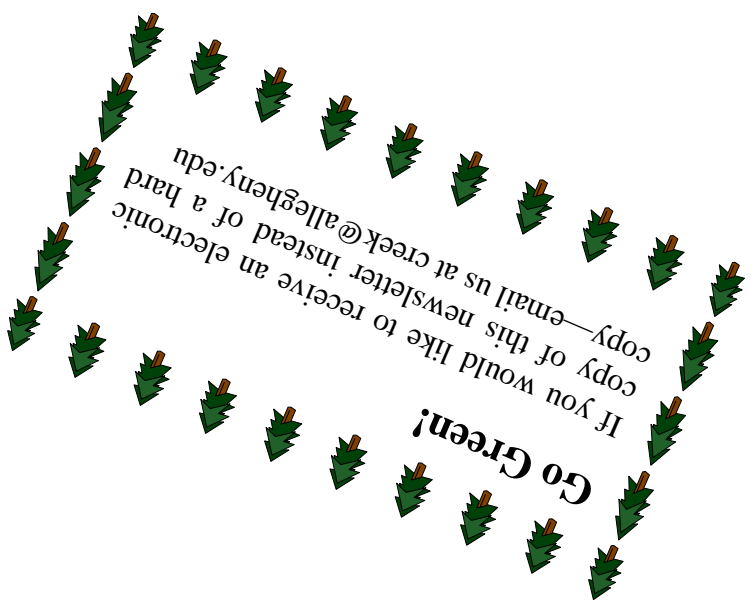


Creek Connections staff thanks you for another successful Creek year!

TO SEE MORE FULL COLOR PHOTOS FROM THIS YEAR'S SYMPOSIA:
<http://creekconnections.allegheny.edu/symposia.html>

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