



Connecting~

Educators with Oregon's Forests, Wildlife, Water, and Land

Welcome to "Connecting~" A newsletter for facilitators of the Oregon Natural Resources Education Program (ONREP). This monthly newsletter focuses on information, opportunities, and ideas that will help you stay connected. Each issue will highlight a program facilitator, a recent ONREP project or workshop, resources, tips and tools, and upcoming workshop information. We hope you find ideas you can use in workshops or to further your professional development as well as a tool for staying connected. Please submit newsletter ideas to: leeann.mikkelson@oregonstate.edu

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The Oregon Natural Resources Education Program gratefully acknowledges its main funders:

- Oregon Forest Resources Institute
- College of Forestry, Oregon State University

And it's main partners:

- Project Learning Tree
- Project WILD
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest
- Bureau of Land Management

FACILITATOR HIGHLIGHT– KATE FERSCHWEILER



Kate Ferschweiler! Kate's work over the years has been to help people understand and interact with natural resources. Kate started her pursuit of environmental education as an Environmental Education Intern with the Coos County Environmental Education Program while still in college. Her unassuming pursuit of quality environmental education continued in her work with the Forest Service, Eugene Wetlands, McKenzie Watershed Council, and as an independent contractor. As an Environmental Education contractor, Kate helped to develop curricula on Watersheds, Fire, and Upland

Riparian Areas. She has been a Project WILD and Project Learning Tree facilitator for over 20 years. In addition to conducting workshops for educators she has helped design new workshops, mentored new facilitators, and helped with facilitator training.

Submitted by Susan and LeeAnn

Simon Babcock-Mary Rellegert Award Recipient

The Mary Rellegert Forestry Education Award honors individuals and organizations making significant contributions to public education and understanding of forestry in Oregon.

Simon Babcock, now in his seventh year as forestry instructor at Philomath High School (PHS), received the award based upon his enthusiastic and inspirational teaching style, his ability to engage his school and the wider community in creative and fun forestry education projects, and the positive effects his teaching has had on his students. Babcock has also been an active leader in the Associated Oregon Forestry Clubs.

Pete Tuana, recently retired superintendent from Philomath Public Schools, described Babcock as "tireless, bold, and creative" in his forestry education work in the school and in the community.

"Simon's unyielding desire to provide positive educational opportunities for all students has promoted the standing of the Forestry program to equal standing with all the typical science courses of Philomath High," Tuana said.



Submitted by Doug Decker

Advisory Board

Sue Baker

USFS, Region 6

Nora Cohen

OSU, College of Education

***Doug Decker**

Oregon Department of Forestry

Norie Dimeo-Ediger

Oregon Forest Resources Institute

Dan Edge

Department of Fisheries & Wildlife

Rex Ettlin

Oregon Zoo

Roger Fuhrman

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Bill Hastie

Retired Aquatic Educator

Tisha Morrell

University of Portland

Pete Ready

Oregon Department of Education

Kathy Shinn

Oregon Department of Energy

Bora Simmons

NAAEE- National Project for Excellence in EE

Sue Smith

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Carol Whipple

Private Forest Land Owner

Chris Willard

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Rick Zenn

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Oregon Project Learning Tree (PLT)

Oregon Project WILD

Upcoming Opportunities

Oct. 8th: *Tiptoe through Your Schoolyard*- Hood River

Oct 10: the Big Sit

<http://www.birdwatchersdigest.com/bwdsite/connect/bigsit/index.php?sc=migration>

Oct. 23rd: *Wild Signs of the Season* TRNWR- Sherwood

Riparian Bottomland Forest: Focus on Insects-Corvallis

Wild Tools and Forest Technology-Charleston

See attached document for an upcoming Holiday calendar from Project WILD

Lost and Looking For:

With so many supplies going in and out of the office it is hard to keep track of everything. ONREP is missing some items that we need help relocating.

We are looking for the following items:

- Tree Cookie Kit- in a labeled box
- Every Tree For Itself Kit – in a labeled box
- Our Tri-Fold Display – in a large black bag with a nice handle and strap.

Please contact us as soon as you can if you know the whereabouts of the above items.



Schoolyard Safari in Vernonia

Did You Know?

2011 has been designated by the United Nations as International Year of Forests. What a great opportunity for us all to celebrate Oregon's Forests! In addition it is the centennial year for Oregon Department of Forestry and for OSU extension. The International Year of Forests will raise awareness and promote global action to sustainably manage, conserve and develop all types of forests, including trees outside of forests. The American Forest Foundation and Project Learning Tree are gearing up for the celebration as are various groups in Oregon including ONREP. Stay tuned for more information on upcoming events. In the mean time—what will you do in your community?

The October's Challenge Question:

OFRI has published an interesting booklet: Oregon Forest Facts and Figures that gives the facts of the Oregon forest story. In 2007 what was the average pay if you had a job in the paper wholesaling sector? (Find the answer in the next **Connecting~**)

Answer to last month's (Volume 1, Issue 7) challenge question:

What changes were made to the ONREP Advisory Board? (Find the answer in the next **Connecting~**)

We welcomed Dan Edge from the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife and Chris Willard from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife as well as designated Doug Decker as Chair of the Advisory Board.

MORE BRIGHT SPOTS

Congratulations to Kari O'Connell and Julie Woodward! They welcomed new additions to their families. Kari had a little girl, Anne Margaret at the end of September and Julie had 2 little girls, Mira and Nora in October. All are happy and healthy and we can't wait to meet them!



Kris Babbs & Norie Dimeo-Ediger