

# SWEP Capital Chapter Quarterly Newsletter



## SWEP Capital Chapter presents the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual "Making Environmental Connections" Conference!

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It's hard to believe that our 5<sup>th</sup> annual conference is fast approaching. It seems like only yesterday that SWEP members brainstormed about how our organization could be instrumental in making the public aware of the latest environmental issues, as well as, reaching out to tomorrow's environmentalists. The end result from

the meshing of everyone's ideas was, of course, our "Making Environmental Connections" conference! This conference provides an excellent forum for companies, regulators, academia and interested persons to come together to present and share their knowledge and experience about emerging environmental concerns.

This year's conference will follow the same format as previous years. Our opening speaker will talk about public participation in environmental protection. Two concurrent panel sessions will immediately follow the opening talk, one titled Marcellus Shale Gas-Effective



Management and the other Sustainable Waste Management. Participants will be able to choose which session they would like to attend. The student and professional mentoring and networking session will commence after the morning sessions. We are proud of the number of success stories regarding students who were able to gain employment as a direct result of the professional contacts they made through this unique opportunity.

Further into the program, Water Quality Benefits of Forested Riparian Buffers will be presented during our lunch break. The afternoon's concurrent sessions

will be, Climate Change-What's Next? and Water Quality-New Regulations and Emerging Issues. Following a short break, the closing presentation will be about Public Participation in Environmental Legislation. At the conclusion of the conference, we will announce the winners of the scholarships!

Don't forget registration is free to students! This is made available through the generous contributions from our sponsors. You will have an opportunity to visit the sponsors' booths throughout the day.

The registration fee is only \$50 for environmental professionals. But hurry, the deadline to register is February 18, 2010. space is limited!

If you have any questions about registration or sponsorship, please contact Sharon Hill at [shill@state.pa.us](mailto:shill@state.pa.us).

### Events at a Glance

- **March 4, 2010-** Making Environmental Connections Conference





## SWEP Holiday Open House: Heidi Biggs



SWEP hosted a "Holiday Open House" on Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The social was held at HACC Mid-town Campus on the corner of Reily St and 3<sup>rd</sup> St in Harrisburg. The event was an opportunity for students to meet local environmental professionals and get advice on pursuing

environmental careers. It was also a chance for the professionals and students to sit back, relax and enjoy pizza, snacks and cookies (provided by SWEP members) during the busy holiday season and students' finals week! Fifteen professionals attended including SWEP members and non-members from DEP, Skelly and Loy, PENNVEST, American

Water and HACC. Eight students attended, many take classes at HACC Mid-town or Harrisburg campus.

Special thanks to Shelia Ciotti and Julia Knight for making this event a success by leading SWEP to such a great venue!



## Member's Corner: Spotlight on Lyn O'Hare

In August 2009, Lyn O'Hare joined Spotts, Stevens, and McCoy, Inc, an engineering and consulting firm located in Reading, PA. As a Water Resources Specialist, Lyn is now responsible for writing source water protection plans for Pennsylvania water authorities, developing watershed management projects and grants, and business development. She remains as the lead of the Schuylkill Action Network's Agriculture Workgroup, participates on the SAN's Planning Committee, and is a corporate representative for the Berks Agricultural Resource Network. Most recently, Lyn was the Assistant Manager of the Berks County Conservation District, where her responsibilities included the role of Berks County Coordinator for the Coastal Resource Management program, environmental education programs and development and administration of grants. Lyn is a Penn State



school activities and renovating their house. Son Michael is graduating from Governor Mifflin High School this year, and will be attending Penn State Berks in the fall. Daughters Meagan and Caitlin are both in 9<sup>th</sup> grade and involved in the school's music program. Lyn is also a board member for the Greater Governor Mifflin League, which sponsors Shillington's annual Community Days, and serves as Treasurer for the middle school's parent-teacher committee.

As a member of SWEP, Lyn actively participates on the Website/Newsletter committee.



The SWEP Capital Chapter would like to make "Member's Corner" a reoccurring feature in our newsletter. Please consider submitting a short piece about something that has impacted the path of your personal or professional life.

Member's  
Corner

### Save the date:

March 4, 2010

For the 5th annual "Making Environmental Connections" conference



Welcome to Member's Corner - A venue to introduce and share information about your fellow SWEP members!

## Roberto Clemente Park Wins Phoenix Award for Community Impact: *Mary Gattis Schell*

Revitalized Roberto Clemente Park in the City of Lancaster has won the **2008 Community Impact Phoenix Award**.

The award winning brownfield redevelopment project was the result of public and private collaboration led by the Inner City Group, in cooperation with the Lancaster County Planning Commission and Environmental Standards Inc.

impact upon the community. In notifying the group of the award, Denise Chamberlain, Chair of the Phoenix Awards Executive Committee, had this to say, "Your project is an excellent model for other communities and groups to replicate, and we are pleased to acknowledge your project with this premiere environmental award."

Release of Liability for the site under the Pa DEP's Voluntary Cleanup Program (Act 2).

There were two significant challenges associated with the project according to Jane Pugliese, former Executive Director of the Inner City Group. First was the need for meaningful community involvement. "Without the extensive community involvement process, the project would not have been successful," said Pugliese, now director of Housing and Economic Development Planning for the Lancaster County Planning Commission (LCPC). "There's no substitute for having a good community process for deciding what needs to happen at a site. If we had gone ahead and just improved Roberto Clemente Park without input from the neighborhood, by now, the park would have deteriorated back to a blighted condition because the neighborhood would not have had any sense of ownership of the park (see figure 2). Because the neighborhood was a decisive force in deciding what improvements were to be made and how



Figure 1: Roberto Clemente Park, Circa 2001

Roberto Clemente Park, once an underutilized and neglected site (see figure 1) in the South Duke Street neighborhood, today is considered to be an asset to the community. This public recreational space features an attractive and well maintained park and a new playground for children.

The Phoenix Award winners represent outstanding revitalization projects from each of the 10 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regions as well as one projects having a special community impact. The winning projects were specially selected by a panel of environmental professionals and business and government leaders based on a set of five criteria: magnitude of the project, innovative techniques, solutions to regulatory issues, solutions to social issues, and

The project participants were honored at an awards ceremony during *Brownfields 2009* in New Orleans, Louisiana. Environmental Standards and the Lancaster County Planning Commission showcased their involvement with a poster presentation.

"This project demonstrates that a good plan, that is supported by and involves the community in a meaningful way, is the key to a successful urban revitalization effort," said Mary Gattis-Schell, Senior Environmental Planner with the Lancaster County Planning Commission. Gattis-Schell served as manager of Lancaster County's U.S. EPA Brownfield Assessment Pilot grant which was used to conduct Phase I and II environmental assessments and secure a



Fig. 2: Historical fill, Circa 2001

it was going to be managed, the park has continued to be a well maintained recreational area and neighborhood asset used by all."

**The second significant challenge was the complexity of the envi-**

**Attention Members!**  
See bottom of pages for new Website!

If you have any interest in presenting your area of study at a future SWEP lunch and learn please contact Sharon Hill at [shill@state.pa.us](mailto:shill@state.pa.us) or (717)787-6842.

## ROBERTO CLEMENTE PARK (CONT.)

ronmental issues faced at the site. Gerry Kirkpatrick, Principal with Environmental Standards, who served as the technical consultant under contract to the County of Lancaster remarked that "it was very important to have the support of all the community groups during the remediation; there was a great deal of curiosity surrounding what we were remediating and the help of the local liaisons proved invaluable."

The Phoenix Awards™ are affiliated with the Phoenix Awards Institute, Inc., an environmental and community service foundation, located in Mechanicsburg, PA. Created in 1997, this prestigious award honors individuals and groups who are working to solve the critical environmental issue of transforming abandoned industrial areas into productive new uses. The Phoenix Awards are widely recognized as the premier award of excellence in Brownfield redevelopment and revitaliza-

tion. The competition is open to any individual, group, company, organization, government body or agency. For a list of all the award winners, see [www.phoenixawards.org](http://www.phoenixawards.org)

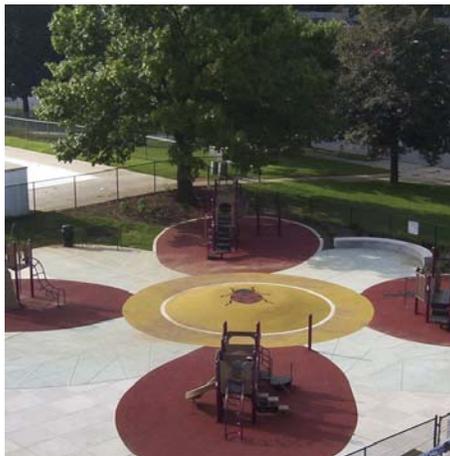


Figure 3: Roberto Clemente Park today

### Affiliation/Sponsors

The Phoenix Awards were created and are coordinated by Denise K. Chamberlain, a brownfields expert,

and are affiliated with the Phoenix Awards Institute, Inc., an environmental and community service non-profit, located in Mechanicsburg, PA (Harrisburg area). The Executive Committee members include: Denise K. Chamberlain, ARCADIS, Phoenix Executive Committee Chair; Dennis Alvord, U.S. EDA; Charlie Bartsch, ICF International; Linda Garczynski, Brownfields expert; Don Green, U.S. HUD; Ken Komoroski, K&L Gates; David Lloyd, U.S. EPA; Terri Smith, Environmental Liability Management, Inc.; and James P. Snyder, ARCADIS.

Public and private sector sponsors support the program, including ALCOA, ARCADIS, K&L Gates, Koppers, Inc., and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.



## Capital Area Greenbelt—Tim Poole

Over a century ago, Mira Lloyd Dock and other visionary civic leaders brought the City Beautiful Movement to Harrisburg. A keystone of their plans to clean up and improve the city was the creation of a system of parks and open spaces encircling the city, akin to Boston's Emerald Necklace and similar efforts of the period. Some of their plans came to fruition, and we have them to thank for jewels like Riverfront Park. In other areas, work was never undertaken or fell into neglect and disrepair during the ensuing decades of suburbanization and financial crises. In 1990, a new group of citizens and government officials came together to resurrect and complete this vision, now known as the Capital Area Greenbelt. 2010 is our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. Our main goal of the past 20 years has been

achieved, with a largely-complete system of parks and pathways stretching nearly 20 miles into Harrisburg and four other municipalities. The Riverfront is now connected to Wildwood Lake, Reservoir Park, neighborhoods, schools, and business districts, providing opportunities to walk, bike, get exercise, visit historic sites, observe nature, relax, and on and on. 2010 will be a year of celebration and transition. For the first time in our history, we will be engaged in a strategic planning process to guide our future efforts to preserve, maintain, and enhance the Greenbelt. We are also planning a variety of activities related to this milestone year, and will make every effort to keep SWEP and others informed as details become available. One key event for us this year will be our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary Tour de

Belt. This is a bike tour (not a race) around the Greenbelt, and our major annual fundraiser, held each June in conjunction with National Trails Day. Over the past ten years the tour has grown to attract several hundred riders. For this special 20/10 anniversary year, we have set a goal of 1,000 riders! We hope you can join us and help us reach this goal. Mark your calendar for Sunday, June 6 and visit [www.caga.org](http://www.caga.org) closer to the date for registration details. Not a bike rider – no problem. It takes lots of great volunteers to pull off this event. You could work at registration, staff a rest stop, or help in a multitude of other ways. For more information or to volunteer, call Tim Poole at 798-3334 or email [caga@caga.org](mailto:caga@caga.org).



## Regulatory Update Seminar: *Diane Wilson*

On November 5, 2009 staff from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) gave regulatory updates on various programs to an enthusiastic audience as part of a seminar sponsored by the Capital Chapter of the Society of Women Environmental Professionals.

Kim Hoover, an Energy Program Specialist from DEP's Office of Energy and Technology Deployment explained Pennsylvania's Climate Change Action Plan that includes measures the state could take to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. Working with the Climate Change Advisory Committee, DEP has prepared this Climate Change Action Report, which identifies 52 specific actions that would result in a 95.6 Million Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (MMtCO<sub>2</sub>e) reduction of Pennsylvania's greenhouse gas emissions by 2020.

DEP's Deputy Secretary for the Office of Field Operations, Mike Sherman, talked about the status and future of regional office activity.

This office implements Pennsylvania's environmental protection programs, including water management, air quality, water supply, waste management, environmental cleanup, radiation protection, watershed management, emergency response, West Nile and black fly programs, laboratory accreditation, and laboratory operations.

Tracey Vernon, DEP's Director of Brownfield's Action Team in the Office of Community Revitalization and Local Government Support gave an update on community revitalization projects that are large in scope, have the potential for statewide or national impact, or involve large scale investment from domestic or international groups.

John Hines, who serves as DEP's Deputy Secretary for the Office of Water Management talked about a variety of topics relating to the statewide protection and enhancement of water resources.

Some of the emerging issues included the codification of a process for nutrient trading, total dissolved solids limits in surface waters, and revisions to DEP's erosion and sedimentation regulations.

DEP's Acting Deputy Secretary for Waste, Air and Radiation Management presented information on new and proposed regulations, a recycling fee extension, air toxics monitoring near schools, Marcellus Shale formation activities as they relate to air pollution impacts and numerous other topics.

John Stefanko who is an Executive Assistant in DEP's Office of Mineral Resources discussed emerging issues related to programs for surface and underground coal and industrial mineral mining, oil and gas exploration and production, deep mine safety and the reclamation of abandoned mines and wells.



## SWEP Members Attend Stream and Buffer Ecology Workshop: *Angela Bransteitter*

On October 14, 2009, eight SWEP members attended a "Stream and Buffer" workshop held at Stroud Water Research Center (SWRC) located in Avondale, Pa. SWRC is an independent facility that focuses on the study of the physical, chemical, and biological processes of streams and rivers, the life histories of individual organisms, and the ecology of watersheds.

The workshop was presented by Dr. Bernard Sweeney, the Director of the center. Topics covered during the day included the studies and experiments currently being conducted at Stroud, a tour of the facility, and an in-depth discussion of forested stream buffers.

Dr. Sweeney discussed the important functions of riparian buffers relative to stream ecosystems, which include absorbing storm runoff, controlling bank erosion, trapping sediments and nutrients, and improving the instream conditions. The presentation also illustrated the different materials and methods used to construct buffers. One major hindrance of riparian buffer construction is the predation of seedlings by deer, rabbits, and other wildlife. Therefore, maintenance of tree seedling growth into mature trees is vital to produce an effective stream buffer. Stroud was commissioned to conduct research on various types of tree tubes and shelters that protect seedlings to determine

the variety that offers the most benefit to growth rate and survivability. The tour of the facility gave the attendees the opportunity to see the stream buffer that SWRC established on White Clay Creek, the stream located on property. Stroud has been monitoring the buffer since the 1980's and has been able to track the progression of the forest growth and the benefits to the instream community.

**Dr. Sweeney will be speaking on the water quality benefits of riparian buffers at the SWEP "Making Environmental Connections" conference on March 4, 2010.**



P.O. Box 11666  
Harrisburg, PA 17108-1666

## Births

## SWEP Member News

Proud parents Dennis and Denise Brinley announce the birth of their son, Evan Michael, on Tuesday October

27, 2009. Evan weighed 8 lbs and was 20.5 inches long.

## Urinetown—The Musical

If you are interested in exhibiting at the Environmental Fair, please contact Maureen Egner!

Central Dauphin East High School presents Urinetown The Musical on March 5, 6, and 7. Order tickets now by calling 717-541-1662 ext 493 or online at [www.showtix4u.com](http://www.showtix4u.com). What is Urinetown?

One of the most uproariously funny musicals in recent years, URINETOWN is a hilarious tale of greed, corruption, love, and revolution in a time when water is worth its weight in gold. In a Gotham-like city, a terrible water shortage, caused by a 20-year drought, has led to a government-enforced ban on private toilets. The citizens must use public amenities, regulated by a single malevolent company that profits by charging admission for one of humanity's most basic needs. Amid the people, a hero decides he's

had enough, and plans a revolution to lead them all to freedom! Inspired by the works of Bertolt Brecht and Kurt Weill, URINETOWN is an irreverently humorous satire in which no one is safe from scrutiny. Praised for reinvigorating the very notion of what a musical could be, URINETOWN catapults the "comedic romp" into the new millennium with its outrageous perspective, wickedly modern wit, and sustained ability to produce gales of unbridled laughter.

There will also be an Environmental Fair with displays before each show. If you are interested in exhibiting,

please contact Maureen Egner by calling 717-232-0593 or email at [megner@skellyloy.com](mailto:megner@skellyloy.com). We hope to see you at the show!!



SWEP Society of Women Environmental Professionals

### Website/Newsletter Committee Members

- Rhonda Manning-Chair  
[rmanning@state.pa.us](mailto:rmanning@state.pa.us)
- Lyn O'Hare  
[lyn.ohare@ssmgroup.com](mailto:lyn.ohare@ssmgroup.com)

CENTRAL DAUPHIN EAST HIGH SCHOOL presents

Can we change this?

# URINETOWN

THE MUSICAL

Is this really the Title???

AN EARNEST FABLE of love, greed and revolution set in a town plagued by drought. A simple enough plot, complete with villain, hero and romance: a malevolent corporation controls the town's public amenities; the president's daughter falls in love with the leader of a pee-for-free rebellion. All of this, according to Little Sally, the show's ragamuffin philosopher, is a bad subject for a musical (and so is its title), but it's outrageous fun. The show spoofs the great American musical.

Winner of three Tony Awards.

Music & Lyrics by Mark Hollmann  
Book & Lyrics by Greta Kotis

Friday, March 5 @ 7:30 PM  
Saturday, March 6 @ 7:30 PM  
Sunday, March 7 @ 2:00 PM

For Tickets  
Call: 717-541-1662 ext. 493  
Email: [EHSTix@verizon.net](mailto:EHSTix@verizon.net)  
Order online: [www.showtix4u.com](http://www.showtix4u.com)

Wow, that's convenient!

Adult Tickets \$11.00  
Student Tickets \$5.00

URINETOWN THE MUSICAL © PRESERVED THROUGH SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL INT'L. ALL AUTHORIZED PERFORMANCE MATERIALS ARE ALSO SUPPLIED BY MTL 421 WEST 57TH ST. NEW YORK, NY 10019. TEL: 212-541-4884. FAX: 212-497-4684. WWW.MTLPERFORMS.COM

## NEWSLETTER ARTICLES AND MEMBER NEWS SOUGHT

**Your input is extremely crucial to a successful and interesting newsletter!**

Newsletters will be published each quarter.

- April 2010
- July 2010
- October 2010
- January 2011

Please have articles to committee 2 weeks prior to the beginning of the quarter.

If you are interested in submitting an article about a project you are working on or



about a topic you are interested in, don't be shy, we would love to hear from you!

Also, please send us your news, photographs and announcements to include in upcoming newsletters. Please forward all information to SWEP Newsletter/Website Chair Rhonda Manning at [rmanning@state.pa.us](mailto:rmanning@state.pa.us).