



Orange County CREEC


<http://www.creec.org/region9b/>

Volume 3, Issue 10

May 2006

Hidden Question

Congratulations to Alicia Deaso, a K-5 Intervention Teacher (for students approaching or below grade level in reading) at Patton School who was the April "Hidden Question" winner. Thanks as well to Megan Donnelly, a Biology and "Living Seas" teacher at Tesoro High School, and Winter Bonnin, an Interpretive Ranger at Crystal Cove State Park, who participated in the game. Megan wrote: "In an ideal world environmental education would have endless funds to take my students out into wetlands, wildlife, shorelines, and more- exploring all issues: political, pollution, development, etc. Inside the classroom- I'd have lots of tools to use to demonstrate techniques and solutions to some of our environmental problems. Ideally- my hope is that students leave with a respect for nature, and make good environmental decisions later in life..." Winter Bonnin wrote: "I would want them (my children) to experience a weekly nature walk with their teachers while learning about, touching, smelling, seeing, and tasting the local natural resources. What better way for children to appreciate their environment than for them to be "knee-deep" in it."

The prize this month is the book Discovering Marine Mammals by Nancy Field and Sally Machlis. This nature activity book introduces older elementary children to marine mammals. Embedded within the text of this newsletter, there is a hidden question. To win, be the first to contact Helen at 714-708-3889 or HdelaMaza@ocde.us. Good Luck! ☺ 

Coordinator Communications: May is Water Awareness Month

The theme this year is: "Use Water Wisely and Keep it Clean, It's a Way of Life." Educational materials are available at <http://www.wateraware.org/kits.html>.

In Orange County, several environmental and science education Providers offer water-related programs. Go to the Resource Directory on the Region 9b website (<http://www.creec.org/region9b/>) and click on "Advanced Search." This will allow you to narrow your search to Orange County and "water." You can also visit the Project Pollution Prevention, a partnership of organizations offering water-related schools programs, at [http://www.creec.org/region9b/stories/storyReader\\$189](http://www.creec.org/region9b/stories/storyReader$189)

Water education activity guides include:
Project WET (Water Education for Teachers)

(<http://www.projectwet.org/>)

Discover a Watershed


(<http://www.discoverawatershed.org>)

Project WILD Aquatic

(<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/coned/projectwild/>)

Healthy Water, Healthy People

(<http://www.healthywater.org>)

Water Conservation: Teacher Resource Guide
(Dale Seymour Publications, 1998). 

Inside This Issue

- 1 Hidden Question
- 1 Coordinator Communications: May is Water Awareness Month
- 2, 4 Training Time!
- 2, 4 Great Grants / Cool Contests
- 3 Rad Resources
- 5 Provider Highlight: Pacific Marine Mammal Center
- 5 Congratulations to Award Winners
- 6 Provider Perspectives
- 7 Exciting Environmental / Science Education Events: Highlights

For local events, go to "Calendar" at:
<http://www.creec.org/region9b/>

This newsletter is a monthly publication of the California Regional Environmental Education Community (CREEC) Network in Orange County. The CREEC Network is administered by the California Department of Education, Environmental Education Program, in partnership with numerous agencies.

In Orange County, CREEC is housed by the Orange County Department of Education's *Inside the Outdoors*® (<http://www.insidetheoutdoors.org>).

Information is compiled from a variety of sources, including NSTA Express, EE-NEWS@NAAEE, CREEC, Information Exchange for Marine Educators, Energenius, Project Learning Tree, GLEF Edutopia News, CABAP, CFAITC, and others.

Training Time!

(Opportunities listed here may be appropriate for Teachers, EE Providers, or other Educators.)

Ocean Observatories: Science Without Ships at The Ocean Institute on May 13, 2006

FREE for teachers and their families!

If you want a glimpse into the future of oceanography, join us for the opening of our new interactive exhibition *Ocean Observatories: Science Without Ships*. The program will be here until June 25 and will allow visitors to build robots that 'wake up' to study passing whales, assemble earthquake sensors that might someday put oceanography vessels out of business, and play with household sensors in the new Toy Lab.

Ocean Observatories Cruise on the R/V Sea Explorer at The Ocean Institute

We are offering a 1.5 hour cruise for teachers (and immediate family members too!) which will showcase our new state-of-the-art Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV), our new drifter buoy, and our acoustic array (designed for studying whales and dolphins).

To register for either or both activities, click:

<http://shop.trustcommerce.com/oi/cart.php>

For additional information call: 949-496-2274.

UCI Professional Development for Teachers

The workshops generally have a "lecture" presentation in the morning followed by a lab activity. Lunch and parking are provided. If you are part of the FOCUS partnership, you will also receive a \$100 stipend upon completion of the workshop. Workshops are Saturdays from 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM. Contact Dr. Debra Mauzy-Melitz at 949-824-6499 for an application.

May 13, 2006: Physiology- skeletal system

June 17, 2006: Evolution of Viruses

Connecting Science, Technology & The Local Environment: A Project Learning Tree (with a fire education focus) Workshop

May 20, 2006, 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM

Location: San Gabriel Christian School
117 North Pine St.; San Gabriel, CA 91775

Information/Registration: Clarence Atwater or Kay Antunez, CA Department of Forestry and Fire Protection; Phone: 916-653-7958

The workshop will include a field trip, presentations by local resource managers, hands-on exploration of the Burning Issues CD/DVD, and lessons. Seven hours of professional development credit are available.

continued on p. 4

Great Grants & Cool Contests

Garden Crusader Award Program Nomination Deadline: June 1, 2006

http://www.gardeners.com/gardening/content.asp?copy_id=5549

Gardener's Supply is offering cash and products to gardeners across the country who are making a difference. Categories include Education, Feeding the Hungry, Beautification, Urban Renewal and Restoration. To nominate or for information go to the website, e-mail crusader@gardeners.com or call 888-239-1553.

Olympus and Tool Factory Grants

http://www.toolfactory.com/olympus_contest/
Deadline: June 2, 2006

Grants sponsored by Olympus America Inc. and Tool Factory Inc. are available for K-12 educators who demonstrate creative use of digital cameras and software. Each grant recipient will win \$3,500 in prizes, which include digital cameras, software, and a \$500 cash award.

2005 Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards

Deadline: June 8, 2006

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Awards/GEELA>

The award program recognizes individuals, organizations and businesses that have demonstrated exceptional leadership and made notable, voluntary contributions in conserving California's precious resources, protecting and enhancing California's environment and building public-private partnerships.

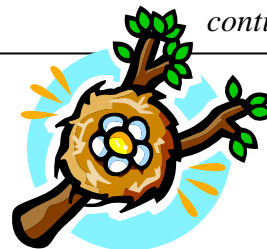
Charles A. and Anne Morrow Lindbergh Foundation

Deadline: June 8, 2006

<http://www.lindberghfoundation.org>

Grants of up to \$10,580 are available in the following categories: agriculture; aviation/aerospace; conservation of natural resource; education; exploration; health; and waste minimization and management. The proposed project should create a balance between the advance of technology and preservation of the natural/human environment.

continued on p. 4



Rad Resources

Google Earth

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/lessonplans/exploreyourearth/>

Welcome to **Explore Your Earth**, a new cross-curricular **language arts, geography, and science** program and contest, designed to help students in grades 6 through 8 learn about local and worldwide environmental issues. Developed by Google and Scholastic Inc., these fun, easy-to-use, standards-based lessons will enable your students to take a virtual tour around the world!

Google Earth will guide you as you explore the globe and see new places, communicate with other students and teachers around the country, and learn how your everyday decisions affect the environment.

California School Garden Network

<http://www.csgn.org>

The new California School Garden Network Web site is a resource for educators who have or want to start a garden on their school campus. The Web site features an in-depth list of lesson ideas, research to support garden-based learning, contact information for regional organizations, and more.

Earth: A Graphic Look at the State of the World

<http://www.theglobaleducationproject.org/index.shtml>

Published by the Global Education Project, this comprehensive resource summarizes the conditions of the world's ecology and humanity and how they affect each other. A valuable tool for anyone teaching about or striving to understand the world's complex environmental and humanitarian challenges. This site provides a wealth of data, graphs, and charts that can be used as a launching pad for in depth discussions.

Women's Adventures in Science

<http://iwaswondering.org>

The Web site iWASwondering.org is a project of the National Academy of Sciences intended to showcase the accomplishments of contemporary women in science and to highlight for young people the varied and intriguing careers of some of today's most prominent scientists. The site draws from and accompanies the publication of a series of books on women scientists.

2005 Base Academic Performance Index (API) Results Available on Ed-Data

<http://www.ed-data.k12.ca.us/API>

Use the pull-down menu to find reports on the school(s) or district(s) you want to see. The school reports include growth target and similar school rankings data as well.

For a **refresher on the API**, go to

http://www.ed-data.k12.ca.us/ed_issues and select the "Understanding the Academic Performance Index" article.

State Reports are available at

<http://www.ed-data.k12.ca.us/state>

Jean-Michel Cousteau: Ocean Adventures

<http://www.pbs.org/kqed/oceanadventures/>

For those of you who attended his Keynote Address at NSTA, this will sound familiar!

The six-part TV series premiering on PBS stations this April and running through the fall is produced by KQED Public Broadcasting and the Ocean Futures Society. The series illuminates the need for better understanding and sustainable management of the oceans' natural treasures. Educators are encouraged to tape the programs; taping rights allow use for a full year after broadcast.

The website includes lesson plans, additional information and links for each show, online games, and more. The curriculum is designed for middle school but can be adapted to other grades.

For the Hidden Question go to the websites at

<http://www.creec.org/region9b/>

and locate at least one workshop, class, conference, training opportunity, or Calendar event that would benefit you professionally. E-mail or call Helen at HdelaMaza@ocde.us or 714-708-3889 with your answer. The first educator to do this will receive the book *Discovering Marine Mammals*. Other participants will receive an appreciation prize.

Urban Forest Ecosystems Institute

<http://www.ufe.calpoly.edu>

This website has "SelecTree," a database of trees, photographs, and information that can serve as valuable reference and research material.



Training Time!

continued from page 2

Summer Seminars on Science

June 12 – July 23 and July 3 – Aug. 13, 2006

<http://learn.amnh.org> ; ph: 800-649-6715

The American Museum of Natural History's *Seminars on Science* professional development courses designed for K-12 educators include Earth: Inside and Out; The Ocean System; The Link Between Dinosaurs and Birds; Space, Time, and Motion; and several others.

2nd Annual Reaching "At-Promise" Students. San Diego Marriott Hotel & Marina. July 10 – 12, 2006.

<http://www.siatech.org/summit/overview.shtml>

This professional development conference incorporates leading experts in all core subjects for secondary school educators. Attend breakout sessions that relate to your classroom, your students, and your school.

Fundamentals of Environmental Education Online Course; U. of Wisconsin Stevens Pt. September 11 - November 17, 2006

http://www.eetap.org/html/online_ee_courses.php

This 10-week EETAP online course about the fundamentals of environmental education is appropriate for both classroom teachers and non-formal educators who work with students and/or teachers. All students are eligible for the in-state tuition rate. The course can be taken for credits or as a non-credit workshop.

Water Quality Service-Learning Program

<http://www.waterlessons.org>

View an archived webcast on this new curricula developed by the State Water Resources Control Board. The website includes additional information about Service-Learning, downloadable lesson plans, teacher support, and more!

National Teachers Enhancement Network: Online Courses

<http://www.scienceteacher.org/courses.htm>

Various courses with various start dates are offered, including these for middle and high school teachers:

"Biology of Riparian Zones and Wetlands"

"Teaching Inquiry in the Science Classroom"

"Streamside Science: Hands-on Approaches to Water Quality Education"



Great Grants & Cool Contests

continued from page 2



Angel Soft Angels in Action Award Program

<http://www.angelsoft.com/angelsinaction/>

Deadline: October 1, 2006

The makers of Angel Soft® toilet paper believe that kids who have dedicated themselves to acts of kindness should be rewarded for their efforts. That's why they created the *Angel Soft® Angels in Action®* Program. Children and teens, ages 8-18, will be recognized and rewarded for executing exemplary acts of service to benefit their community, a charity or cause. Nominations are now being accepted for the 2006 program. The "Program of the Year" title will be awarded to the most outstanding service project, regardless of the nominee's age, and the winner will receive \$15,000. Two Grand Prize winners, one in each age category, will receive \$10,000 and five First Prize winners will receive \$1,000.

Healthy Sprouts Awards

<http://www.kidsgardening.com/healthysprouts1.asp>

Deadline: October 15, 2006

Designed for schools or organizations that plan to garden in 2007 with at least 15 children between the ages of 3 and 18. These awards support school garden programs that use the garden to teach about nutrition and the issue of hunger in the United States. In this grant cycle, awards will be presented to 25 schools or organizations. Each will receive a \$200 gift certificate to Gardener's Supply Company and a curriculum package from the National Gardening Association.

President's Environmental Youth Awards

Deadline: October 31, 2006

Applicants: K-12 students

<http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/awards.html>

The President's Environmental Youth Awards (PEYA) promote awareness of our nation's natural resources and encourage positive community involvement. Since 1971, the President of the United States has joined with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to recognize young Americans for protecting our nation's air, water, land and ecology. Each year the PEYA program honors a wide variety of environmental projects developed by young individuals, school classes, summer camps, public interest groups and youth organizations to promote environmental awareness.



**Provider Highlight:
Pacific Marine Mammal Center**
(<http://www.pacificmmc.org>)

The **Pacific Marine Mammal Center** is a proud member of the Orange County CREEC Provider Network. Meg Jones is the Education Director of PMMC and is a member of the OC-CREEC Advisory Committee.

Pacific Marine Mammal Center is a non-profit organization staffed by dedicated volunteers and funded by donations. The organization rescues, rehabilitates, and releases animals back to their natural habitat. It also increases public awareness of the marine environment through education and research.

Fieldtrips: Groups of all types, including school groups, are welcome to experience the marine mammal rehabilitation facility first-hand. Fieldtrips include a guided tour of the animal care facility, a slide show presentation of the typical animals and medical conditions we treat, and an opportunity to visit the current patients being rehabilitated in our outdoor pools. School programs are science-standards aligned.

Camp Pinniped: During the summer, children ages 8 to 12 spend the week at the center, learning about the animals in PMMC's care.

Pacific Marine Mammal Center
20612 Laguna Canyon Road
Laguna Beach, Ca 92651
Phone: 949-494-3050
education@pacificmmc.org



**Congratulations to the winners of the
Orange County League of
Conservation Voters Annual Awards**

Environmental Education Program:
Inside the Outdoors

Environmental Activist: Evan Henry

Environmental Non-Profit:
Friends of Shipley Nature Center

Local Elected Official:
Councilmembers Karl Warkomski



Congratulations to Award Winners

**Disney's Jiminy Cricket Environmental
Challenge**

Congratulations to Karen Mattson and her 5th grade students at McPherson Magnet in Orange, and their principle Tara Saraye. The students were semi-finalists for Disney's JCEC program! Check out all the winners:

<http://disney.go.com/environmentality/jcec/california.html>

**California Coastal Commission's 2006 Coastal
Art & Poetry Contest for K - 12 students**

This annual contest drew nearly 1,500 incredible entries from throughout California. The winning students from Orange County are:

- Judy Kim (K-2 category): "Jelly! Jellyfish"

Honorable mentions in art:

- Alison Oh
- Isabel Xilonen Ortiz
- Lily Rogers
- Grace Yoo

Go to the website to see the art and poetry:

<http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/poster/mm6/gallery-2006.html>

"Art in Agriculture" Best of Show

Cassidy Foelsch, a fourth grader at Canyon Rim Elementary School in Anaheim Hills, won Best of Show for her artwork entitled "A Healthier Choice." The award was announced at California Ag Day at the state capitol on March 29, 2006. Cassidy received recognition from Secretary of Agriculture A. G. Kawamura the next day during AGDAY LA at Los Cerritos Elementary School. Congratulations Cassidy!

<http://www.cfaitc.org/NewsScoop/images/ArtInAgriculture06.jpg>

**OC Wild's 2006 Environmental
Educators and Land Stewards**

Staff Environmental Educator: Sue Stoffel
(Ranger with O.C. Harbors, Beaches, and Parks)

Volunteer Environmental Educator: Dick Newell
(Docent for Newport Bay Naturalists and Friends)

Environmental Education Group:
Santa Ana Mountains Natural History Association

Land Stewards: Robert and Nanci Lawson

*Lifetime Achievement in Environmental
Education:* Don Thomas



Provider Perspectives

This section of the newsletter is specifically for naturalists, docents, interpreters, and any other staff of Environmental Education and Science Education Providers.

California ReLeaf Grant; Deadline: May 12, 2006

Incorporated nonprofit organizations and unincorporated community based groups in California are invited to apply for this grant of \$1,000 to \$7,500 to purchase, plant and then maintain trees on public land. For information, visit <http://www.californiareleaf.org> or contact info@californiareleaf.org, 530-757-7332.

Orange County Community Foundation: Frank and Judy Colver Fund Grants Available for Organizations. Deadline: May 15, 2006

The Orange County Community Foundation and the Frank and Judy Colver Fund have joined to provide funding for projects and programs that enhance environmental literacy and public understanding of Orange County's environmental issues in a way that leads to greater involvement in the resolution of current problems and the development of responsible stewardship practices. Go to [http://www.creec.org/region9b/stories/storyReader\\$412](http://www.creec.org/region9b/stories/storyReader$412) for details.

May 19, 2006: River of Life Conference

This day-long event will address ways to reduce water imports while enhancing the River's potential as a community asset. The Conference is designed to bring stakeholders from San Bernardino, Riverside, and Orange Counties together to focus on system wide water resource issues. It will showcase new projects, highlight technological innovations, and present examples of river plans elsewhere. Two dynamic keynote presenters will be featured: Former Assemblyman Fred Keeley (current Santa Cruz County Treasurer) and Gary Patton, Executive Director of the Planning and Conservation League.

Go to [http://www.creec.org/region9b/stories/storyReader\\$140](http://www.creec.org/region9b/stories/storyReader$140) to download a flyer and information. For more information contact Melanie Schlotterbeck at 714-996-9007; melanie@schlotterbeck.net

Input on NCATE EE Standards Needed by May 22

For additional information about the project, please contact Bora Simmons (boras@niu.edu). NAAEE is an organizational member of NCATE (National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education; <http://www.ncate.org>) and is writing Program Standards for the Initial Preparation of Environmental Educators for NCATE. The writing team has developed draft standards and rubrics and needs to hear from you! This draft is posted at http://naaee.org/pages/projects/inv_to_participate.html

Embrace Excellence: A Two-Part Workshop in NAAEE Resource Reviews in Washington, DC Workshop Date: June 6, 2006; Registration Deadline: May 30, 2006

Workshop Registration form: http://naaee.org/resources/NAAEE_RR_Workshop_Registration.doc
Improve your programs and be a Certified NAAEE Reviewer. Bring one of your resources to this workshop where you will be given time to evaluate it using the "EE Materials: Guidelines for Excellence," with helpful assistance from trained facilitators in a collaborative setting. The second part of the workshop will prepare you to evaluate other resources and become a recognized NAAEE reviewer.

Applied Environmental Education Program Evaluation Online Course June 12 - August 25, 2006 or September 18 - December 1, 2006

This 10-week online EETAP course is designed to assist environmental educators and natural resource professionals in evaluating their education programs. All participants are eligible for the in-state tuition rate and may obtain three undergraduate or graduate credits from the Univ. of Wisconsin-Stevens Point or take the course as a non-credit workshop. http://eetap.org/html/online_ee_courses.php
For more information contact Angela Arkin (Angela.Arkin@uwsp.edu).

Value of Volunteer Time: The estimated dollar value of volunteer time is \$18.04 per hour for 2005.

http://www.independentsector.org/programs/research/volunteer_time.html



Exciting Environmental & Science Education Events!

For Ongoing School Programs, visit the Resource Directory at <http://www.creec.org/region9b/>

Visit the "Calendar" section of the website for other Public Program Opportunities. Summer Camp Opportunities will be added to the website soon!

"Island Life: Getting there is Only Half the Problem": Natural History Lecture by Dr. Allan Schoenherr at the Santa Ana Zoo May 10, 2006; 7 PM – 9 PM
A recognized authority on California, Dr. Schoenherr is the author of two major books on the state: A Natural History of California (1992) and Natural History of the Islands of California (1999). For information, call 714-647-6575.

May 11 is Endangered Species Day
http://www.stopextinction.org/site/c.epI0KXOBJSg/b.1539473/k.4A37/Endangered_Species_Day.htm?aid=1585270

The goal of Endangered Species Day is "to educate people about the importance of protecting our rare, threatened, and endangered animal and plant species." For California events, contact: Mark Rockwell, Endangered Species Coalition, 530-432-9198, summerhillfarmvp@aol.com

Take Your Mother for a Hike at Crystal Cove State Park; May 14, 2006; 9:00 AM
Meet at El Moro Visitor Center (from PCH turn inland at the stoplight "School – State Park"). For information, call 949-497-7647.

Future Scientists and Engineers of America (FSEA): Annual Rocket Competition
http://www.fsea.org/Rocket%20Launch03/Rocket05_files/rocket06.pdf

May 20, 2006 at the Tustin High School field.
8:30 a.m.: Registration
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.: Rocket launching
RSVP to rockets@fsea.org

Wilderness Restoration at Willow Canyon in Laguna Coast Wilderness Park
May 20, 2006; 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Call for information: 949-923-2235

Ocean Day; May 22, 2006; 8 AM – 1 PM
Huntington State Beach, Magnolia entrance
Information: youth@earthresource.org
Join Earth Resource Foundation in celebration. Students will be involved in a beach clean-up and an aerial art piece. Earth Resource Foundation has been organizing the program for five years with help from a grant from the California Coastal Commission.

Telescope Night at the Environmental Nature Center; May 26, 2006; 8:30 PM
Astronomer Andres Dandler will take us on a magical tour of the night sky through the lens of his telescope! This program is appropriate for the whole family. Cost is \$3/guest. Call 949-645-8489 for reservations. The ENC is located at 1601 16th Street in Newport Beach.

Wildflower and Butterfly Search at the Donna O'Neill Land Conservancy
May 27, 2006; 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Donation: \$8.00 adult/ \$3:00 child
Come explore the Conservancy and learn to identify our wildflowers and butterflies. This is a relaxing and fun morning. Bring water, hats, sunscreen, and binoculars (if you have them). Call 949-489-9778 for reservations and directions.

Birding Hike in Baker Canyon with The Nature Conservancy; May 25, 2006; 7:30 AM
Ph: 714-832-7478, e-mail IrvineRanch@tnc.org,
<http://www.irvineranchlandreserve.org/activities>

Family Access Day at Bommer Canyon
May 27, 2006; 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
You and your family are invited to experience Bommer Canyon and its many treasures. Enjoy self-guided hiking, a variety of exhibits for kids, food and fun. Hike distance 2 miles, self-guided, all ages, easy.
FREE but requires pre-registration: 949-724-6738 or visit: <http://www.irvineopenspace.org>

25th Annual Heritage Day at Oak Canyon Nature Center; June 4, 2006; 11 AM – 4 PM
Exhibitors provide demonstrations from the life of early California settlers and regional Native Americans; there are many free activities, ongoing live entertainment, and refreshments for sale. Free Admission. Information: 714-998-8380
<http://www.anaheim.net/ocnc/special.html> 