

Shades of Green; Exploring Diversity in Our Environment

2009 MAEOE Conference

Presenter Bios

PATRICIA ALLEN

Patricia Allen works for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife and Heritage Service-Information and Education. Patricia received her Master's of Science degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology from Frostburg State University, Frostburg, MD, and her Bachelor's of Science degree in Biology from Le Moyne College, Syracuse, NY.

JOAN ALMON

Joan Almon co-founded and directs the Alliance for Childhood ,a partnership of educators, health professionals and others concerned with the decline in children's health and well-being and the growing stress in children's lives. At present they are focusing on the restoration of children's play, especially outdoors and in early childhood education. Prior to taking up this work, Joan was a Waldorf kindergarten teacher and educator of teachers in the US and abroad.

JEANNE ARMACOST

Since 1987, Jeanne has worked as a Natural Resource Specialist in environmental education for the Baltimore County Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management (DEPRM) in Towson, Maryland. She holds a Bachelor's degree in geography and secondary education and a Master's degree in geography and environmental planning. She lectured on topics in physical geography at Towson University from 1987-2003 and has additional classroom experience in both public and private schools K-12 in Pennsylvania and Baltimore County public and private schools. Serving a second term on the MAEOE Board of Directors, she chairs the statewide MD Green Schools Committee and serves on the conference committee. For Baltimore County DEPRM, she promotes the Green School Program in public and private schools, acts as environmental education consultant for Girl Scouts of Central MD, the Towson Gardens Day committee, the Herring Run Watershed Association, and is currently working with the Baltimore Jewish Environmental Network and Chesapeake Covenant Congregations, two faith coalitions working to enhance stewardship in the Bay watershed.

KACEY BARRETT

Kacey is the Program Assistant and Grants Administrator for the Chesapeake Bay Trust. A native of Baltimore, Maryland, Kacey's love of the Chesapeake began at an early age. However, it was a trip to Fox Island in middle school that solidified her interest in environmental science and ecological stewardship. Kacey attended Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida, where she received a BA in Environmental Studies; she has studied water and waste management in the Dominican Republic, and environmental sustainability in Costa Rica. She has previously worked as an environmental scientist with SAV Engineers, and was an assistant marine mammal trainer at the Miami Seaquarium. Kacey is currently attending Johns Hopkins University for her MS in Environmental Science and Policy.

REBECCA BELL

Rebecca Bell is the Environmental Education Specialist at the Maryland State Department of Education.

TRICIA BILES

Tricia Biles, a certified elementary school teacher, has been teaching in the field of outdoor education for over 12 years. At Echo Hill Outdoor School, Tricia's role as Education Coordinator provides her with a depth of experience in staff training, program design, teaching and methodology.

SHANNAN BISESE

Shannan Bisese grew up on a farm in Delaware, graduated from St. Mary's College of Maryland, bounced from Delaware, Connecticut and Tennessee until she landed in Maryland again with the Calvert County Natural Resources Division in 2000. She shares her love of the outdoors, especially dirt and wild edibles, with children of all ages. When she is not pulling weeds, she enjoys reading, cooking and sewing.

WES BRADSHAW

Wes was born and raised on Smith Island and contributes a unique perspective to field education programs. He shares firsthand experience as a waterman with the students and teachers who participate in our programs. He talks about the history of the island and the families who have lived there for many generations. He also shares important information about water quality and fisheries and how the waterman's way of life has changed so drastically because of the Bay's health. Wes is a boat captain, storyteller, and educator.

LARRY BROWN

Larry Brown joined EPA Region 3, (Mid-Atlantic Region) in 1993, after serving 12 years in the U.S. Army as a Human Resources Officer where he achieved the rank of Major, and served in assignments throughout the United States and Germany. Since his arrival at EPA, he has worked on the design and development of the Student Environmental Development Program (SEDP) and continued to coordinate the program as he worked in numerous positions including, Human Resources Specialist, Environmental Protection Specialist, Community Involvement Coordinator, Public Affairs Specialist and Environmental Education Coordinator. His current assignment is as Team Leader of the Environmental Information, Education and Outreach Team. Under his direction and vision, SEDP has become nationally known and continues to grow and expand throughout the Environmental Education Community. Larry lives in Willingboro, New Jersey, with his wife Irisbelia and his 2 Golden Retrievers Rusty and Rocco. He has a BA Degree in Anthropology from the University of Arizona, and a Master's of Science in Administration, from Central Michigan University. He collects pre-1970 pinball machines and is a 7 time participant in the "All Army Chess Championship" reserved for the top chess players in the Army.

BETH BUBACZ

Beth Bubacz Nichols began her career with the Maryland Cooperative Extension- Washington County in April 2006. She came to Maryland from North Carolina where she worked for two years with Head Start and three years with the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service in 4-H Youth Development. Her areas of concentration include: 4-H After-school, school enrichment, reaching under-served populations, community development, volunteer development, environmental sciences, and the Junior Master Gardener program. Beth also serves as the state level Junior Master Gardener Coordinator in Maryland. Beth earned her B.S. in Agricultural and Extension Education with a concentration in Animal Science and a Master's in Extension Education from North Carolina State University.

ANJA CALDWELL

Anja S. Caldwell is an architect born and trained in Germany. Since she relocated to the United States in 1997 sustainable design has been her professional focus of choice. She recently founded her own firm, ecoipso LLC, consulting on sustainable design, LEED and greening the operation and construction of schools (www.ecoipso.com). In 2007 the Governor of Maryland appointed her to the new Maryland Green Building Council and a LEED Silver mandate for schools in Maryland was passed in early 2008.

KATHLEEN CECIL

Kathleen Cecil has enjoyed teaching children environmental responsibility throughout her twenty five years in early childhood and gifted education. She is a Specialist for Primary Talent Development for the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) in the Division of Instruction, funded by a Jacob Javits Federal Grant. As a state curriculum writing committee supervisor, Kathleen was able to guide writers to update modules for students in grades Pre-K to 2. Modules "Tremendous Trees" and "Preservation Problem-Solvers" are being field tested as we speak. Mrs. Cecil is a member of the Gifted and Talented Programs State Advisory Council for the Superintendent. Kathleen provides professional development to educators on the Primary Talent Development Early Learning Program in eleven systems in Maryland's public schools. She also presents at the state and national level at conferences including the National Association of Gifted Children and National Curriculum Network Conference on gifted education. Mrs. Cecil has written and facilitated online graduate courses for Goucher College and MSDE, "Early Talent Development" and "Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities." Her experience as gifted and talented resource teacher in Title I schools, library media specialist, and classroom teacher have given Kathleen Cecil the opportunity to make a difference in children's lives.

KIM CHECK

Kim Check is currently the Education Director of the Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art in Salisbury, Maryland. Through this position she is dedicated to educating children and adults about the preservation of the unique natural and cultural heritage of the Eastern Shore. Originally from western Pennsylvania, Kim's professional experiences have taken her from south Florida to the Rocky Mountain West. Her diverse experience in conservation and environmental education includes work at the state and federal levels of government including the National Park Service. Most recently her work has been in the non-profit realm including working with the National Audubon Society. Kim's passion for the outdoors, birds, education, and inspiring others to experience and care for our natural world drives her personal mission to reconnect people and nature.

LYNNE CHERRY

Lynne Cherry is the author and/or illustrator of over thirty award-winning books for children that teach respect for the earth. Her recent book *How We Know What We Know About Our Changing Climate: Scientists and Kids Explore Global Warming*, coauthored with photojournalist Gary Braasch is a finalist and in contention to win the 2009 AAAS/Subaru award and the 2008 National Parenting Publications Association Gold Awards. It was also selected for NSTA Recommends and is inspiring kids to learn the science of climate change while saving energy, reducing their carbon footprint and helping combat global climate change.

DAVID CHRISTOPHER

David Christopher is the Manager of the National Aquarium in Baltimore's Outreach Program which provides programs to over 15,000 students in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, And Washington, DC as well as conducts a grant funded Chesapeake Bay focused program for 4th and 5th grade students at 11 Baltimore City Public Schools.

NICK CLEMONS

Nick Clemons is a graduate student at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. Nick was an intern with the Maryland Coastal Bays Program and is now employed by the National Park Service. He works with diverse groups of students exploring the barrier island ecology of Assateague and Maryland's coastal bays.

REBECCA DAVIS

Rebecca Davis is the Education Program Manager for Clean Air Partners. Clean Air Partners is a nonprofit partnership chartered by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and the Baltimore Council of Governments. Clean Air Partners strives to improve public health and the environment by working with businesses, organization and individuals throughout the region to raise awareness and reduce air pollution through voluntary actions. Ms Davis has a dual Masters in International Affairs and Natural Resources and Sustainable Development.

JULIE DIEGUEZ

A graduate of St. Mary's College of Maryland, Julie truly enjoys teaching kids the joys of dirt. After working on several field studies out west, Julie became a Maryland state park naturalist. She began working on schoolyard habitats at Arlington Echo Outdoor Education Center on the Chesapeake Connections program and continued her schoolyard habitat work with The Chesapeake Bay Foundation's education program. In 2006, Julie joined MAEOE as the Schoolyard Habitat Specialist for the Schoolyard Habitat Partnership, where she worked on redesigning the MAEOE web site including a comprehensive Schoolyard Habitat how-to section. Julie continues her work with MAEOE as a board member and chairperson of the Schoolyard Habitat Committee. She is also the Asst. Coordinator of the Maryland No Child Left Inside Coalition. Julie hopes to one day enjoy long walks on the beach and pina colodas... but since she can afford neither, she will more likely be spending her time attempting to convince her toddler not to feed earthworms to the dog.

CHRISTINE DUNHAM

Christine has managed a number of CBT grant programs and outreach efforts over the last 5 years, including of particular interest to educators, the Mini grant and Environmental Education grant programs. Prior to coming to the Trust, she worked for the Land Use Subcommittee of the EPA's Chesapeake Bay Program and for a political organization in Washington DC. Christine has degrees from Penn State University.

PHILLIP DAVIS

Phillip W. Davis is an Alumna of Coppin State University class of 2006. He received his Bachelors of Science degree in African History and is native to the state of Maryland. Prior to attending Coppin State University Phillip served our country honorably as Sailor in of the U.S. Navy and was selected as Sailor of quarter in 2001. After graduation Phillip decided to pursue a career working with disadvantaged communities in the state of Maryland. Currently, Phil is an Educational Manager with the NorthBay program located in Cecil County designed to teach underserved sixth grade students the value of environmental awareness and character development in a complete outdoor experience.

BONNIE DUNN

Bonnie Dunn is the Manager for the Patuxent River 4H Center (an Environmental Education and Youth Camp Facility) She works for Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Commission.

SUE ERHARDT

Sue Erhardt became Education Director of Casey Trees in September, 2007. Previously, she served as Education Director and Governmental Liaison for The Greening of Detroit for nine years. In Detroit, she created an environmental education program that was instituted throughout the Detroit Public Schools. The goal of the program is to increase environmental science skills among children through outdoor exploration, creating the next generation of environmental stewards. Sue has a Master's degree in Environmental Studies from The University of Michigan-Dearborn and a Bachelors of Science in Resource Development from Michigan State University.

CHRISTINA ESCOBAR

Christina Escobar joined Casey Trees in May of 2008 as Education Coordinator. She graduated with an MSW from the University of Maryland at Baltimore, School of Social Work in 2007. During her studies, she was an intern and her work was focused on community organization. Currently, she is working with schools in Washington DC to organize tree plantings and to integrate urban forestry in their curriculum.

CINDY ETGEN

Cindy Etgen has worked as an educator for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources for the last 21 years. She has served on the MAEOE Board of Directors since 1994 and was elected to Emeritus status in 2006. She has also served on several regional and national boards during her career.

JANET FELSTEN

Janet Felsten is a designer, urban planner, educator and community activist. She is the Founding Director of Baltimore Green Map, a project under fiscal sponsorship of Fusion Partnerships, Inc. Formally trained as an architect and planner, Ms. Felsten has over three decades of experience working on public and private sector design and education projects on the East Coast and in Texas. Her exploration of effective asset mapping strategies as an OSI Community Fellow led to the Baltimore Green Map project. 2008 saw the launching of the interactive website www.baltogreenmap.org and the publication of the Jones Falls Trail Green Map. Buoyed by the overwhelmingly enthusiastic response, she plans to expand website content and to develop more community and school-based collaborative Green Mapmaking projects.

GINA FELTER

Gina Felter has been teaching in Carroll County, MD for the past 10 years. She was instrumental in designing and creating a Living Laboratory for Sykesville Middle School, taught the process of environmental issue investigation to sixth-grade students in a residential, week-long environmental immersion program at Harford Glen, and is currently teaching ecology, biology and science research at Francis Scott Key High School where she is working with the entire staff toward the attainment of Maryland Green School status. Throughout my 10 years of teaching, I have focused on teaching environmental science to all students using a variety of fun, interactive activities and by setting high expectations for environmental stewardship throughout the communities of the county

GLENN FERENSCHAK

Glenn is a retired Baltimore County Middle School Science teacher with 37 years of experience. He is the current president of the Baltimore County Forestry Board and greatly involved in the BCPS High School Buffer Restoration project. Glenn is also an active volunteer and substitute for the BCPS Outdoor Science programs and a presenter/trainer at the Baltimore County Envirothon training.

DENISE FREBERTSHAUSER

Denise Frebertshauser is a 4H Youth Development Specialist with Maryland Cooperative Extension in Environmental Sciences at the University of MD.

ELAINE FRIEBELE

Elaine Friebele is the Education Coordinator at Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary in Lothian, Maryland. She has taught environmental education for ten years and has also worked as a freelance environmental writer.

TANIA GALE

Tania Gale has been working as naturalist with the Calvert County Natural Resource Division since 2000. She spends most of her work time (and much of her free time) at Flag Ponds Park and Battle Creek Nature Center teaching school children about the Chesapeake Bay and the critters that live there. In her spare time, Tania enjoys playing in her creative journal, gardening, and traveling.

PAT GHINGHER

Pat Ghingher is the Team Leader and Senior Teacher Naturalist for the Baltimore County Public Schools Outdoor Science Department. Previous to this position she was a classroom science teacher for Baltimore County in both middle and high schools. She has also worked for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and the Duval County Public School System in Jacksonville, Florida. Pat received her BS in Biology with a minor in Chemistry and Education from Hood College and her MS in Environmental Science and Policy from Johns Hopkins University.

ALLYSON GIBSON

Allyson started as an intern on the CBF island programs and became manager of the Smith Island Center. She enjoyed 3 1/2 years in the community of Tylerton on Smith Island before moving from Smith to Annapolis. The next step was in the direction that she wanted to go - helping students take action after they return home from a field experience. She now works on the team in charge of Chesapeake Classrooms, CBF's teacher professional development program, and with CBF's growing student leadership program.

JULIE GURNEE

Julie Gurnee is the Education Coordinator at the Audubon Naturalist Society's Rust Nature Sanctuary. She has been with ANS for 3 years and has been working in the field of environmental education for 6 years. She has a BA in Biology and a minor in Ecology from the University of Montana.

MARY HARDCASTLE

Mary Hardcastle is the manager of Environmental Education & Community Outreach for the Parks and People Foundation. Mary also volunteers for the national educational non-profit Hooked on Nature, serving as the Maryland Coordinator for workshops and Nature Circles. She is a guiding member of the Greater Baltimore Children & Nature Collaborative, a network of individuals and organizations dedicated to connecting children with nature. In addition, Mary serves on the board of Earthome, an educational nonprofit that supports efforts to create a sustainable Chesapeake Bay region.

DR. SARAH HAINES:

B.A. Biology, Bucknell University
M.S. Zoology, Univ. of Georgia
Ph.D. Zoology, Univ. of Georgia
M.A. Education, Salisbury State University

Sarah taught seventh grade science in Worcester County for 3 years; has served as adjunct faculty at several colleges: Univ. of Georgia, Delaware State University, Essex Community College, Eastern Shore Community College, Wesley College, & Salisbury State University. In addition, Sarah has three years experience as a veterinary assistant. Currently, Dr. Haines is an assistant professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, Towson University. There she teaches science education courses for elementary education and secondary education majors, and an environmental education course for biology majors. Research interests focus on using the environment as an integrating context for learning in K-12 education. Certified facilitator for Project Wet, Project Wild, and Project Learning Tree Volunteer for the DNR program TEAM (Teaching Environmental Awareness in Maryland)

ROBERT HEDDEN

Bob is a licensed professional engineer and has a M.S.E. from the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, West Virginia University and a B.S. from the University of Maryland. As a Principal and Project Manager for Synthesis, Bob has been involved in many interesting projects, primarily developing buildings for non-profit organizations. Projects have included the Headquarters for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation--the first certified LEED Platinum project in the US, the expansion and renovation of the Maryland Science Center, the largest straw bale school building on the east coast, and the 116 acre Irvine Nature Center which is the subject of his talk at the MAEOE conference. As Owner Representatives and Project Managers, Bob and his firm are responsible for everything from project feasibility studies, architect and contractor selection, construction monitoring, LEED Certification and move-in. Bob has in-depth experience in energy and environmental projects and has completed many projects in Mexico, Venezuela, Brazil and Egypt. He has also designed many alternative energy projects--including a solar domestic water heating system for the White House--and he has extensive experience with "green" and sustainable building design and construction practices.

ELISSA HOZORE

Elissa Hozore is a science content specialist in the education department at Maryland Public Television. She was project manager for the EnviroHealth Connections project, which was a partnership with the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and was funded by NIEHS. She is currently the state administrator for MPT's partnership with Thinkfinity in Maryland.

LEEANN HUTCHISON

LeeAnn Hutchison is MSDE's Maryland Eastern Shore Initiative Coordinator. She is "on loan" from Talbot County Public Schools to work with science coordinators and teachers in environmental education.

PHYLLIS JOHNSTON

Phyllis Johnston, M. Ed., is a registered yoga teacher and owner of the Every Body Yoga Studio in Centreville, MD. She has studied and practiced yoga for more than 20 years. Her expertise in devising simple and practical applications of yogic principles makes wellness and stress reduction readily accessible and successful in educational and other diverse settings.

SARAH KRIZEK

Sarah Krizek is the Children and Family Coordinator and Assistant Summer Camp Director at the Audubon Naturalist Society's Woodend Sanctuary and has been working at ANS for four years. Sarah completed her Bachelors of Science degree from the University of Maryland in Natural Resource Management, Environmental Education and Park Management.

MIKE LEHMAN

Mike Lehman is the Director of CITYgreen software. He has worked for American Forests since 2001. Mike manages the IT department; database administration; web site; in-house software development, sales and marketing; and the GIS/CITYgreen environmental education program at American Forests. Prior to joining American Forests, Mike worked for several .com companies that developed and sold software for a variety of markets. His background includes systems integration sales at GE IT Solutions and ran his own government contracting business for 11 years. Mike Lehman has a BA from University of Maryland.

COURTNEY LEIGH

Courtney Leigh is the Conservation Manager at the Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center in Grasonville Maryland. She develops and runs environmental education programs for students of all ages focusing on watershed issues. She also manages the husbandry duties of nine captive raptors at the center and uses the birds for conservation education programs. Recently she is working on education initiatives in sustainability and low-impact building construction and renovation using the center's new LEED certified Education and Fine Arts center as a case study.

DANA LIMPert

Dana Limpert has worked as an ecologist for 20 years. She has practiced Ashtanga yoga for 11 years and studied with YogaKids International. Dana has combined her two loves into classes that help children and those with special needs connect to the Earth in a fun and informative way.

CORINNE LITZENBERG

Corinne Litzenberg has taught second and third grade in the Cecil County School District for twenty three years. At Elk Neck Elementary School, she led her school in becoming the first elementary Maryland Green School in Cecil County. Her doctoral dissertation at Wilmington University focused on teachers' perceptions of environmental education and its impact in their curricula and teaching methodology in a Maryland school. Corinne is the author of seven books about the Chesapeake Bay and beach history. Her most recent book, "The Sand Lady" is about the beach history and culture of Ocean City, Maryland. Her environmental books and curriculum guides are aligned to the State Standards, and are available for purchase in the exhibit area during the conference.

DR. JOSEPH W. LOVE

Joseph W. Love is a fish ecologist at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. He currently studies the community ecology and population biology of fishes in the coastal lagoons of Maryland. He is working with his graduate student, Joshua J. Newhard, to document the life history of juvenile white perch, *Morone americana*, in the Blackwater River (Chesapeake Bay watershed). Joshua Newhard is a second year graduate student who will be completing his Master's thesis in May (2009). Both Dr. Love and Mr. Newhard will be hosting the workshop of fish identification.

ROSE MACGREGOR

Rose has been with the Ward Museum since September 2006 and has been teaching EE for the past seven years. With the Ward Museum, Rose has outreached to over 10,000 students. She created an online forum for the Ward Museum and the Delmarva Environmental Educators Network as a means for teachers, business owners, and environmental educators to communicate.

ANDREW MCCOWN

Andrew R. McCown, associate director of Echo Hill Outdoor School, has been teaching Chesapeake Bay ecology since 1978. A USCG licensed captain and former commercial oysterman, Andrew is active in numerous community and civic organizations. He is a current board member and past president of the Chester River Association and served on the board of the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy for 12 years, the last two as president of the board.

Andrew is also a member of "Chesapeake Scenes", a critically acclaimed, award winning performance group that presents the folklore of the Chesapeake Bay in words and music. In 2008 Andrew received MAEOE's "Robert Finton Outdoor Educator of the Year Award".

BART MERRICK

Bart Merrick, a long time environmental educator, is currently the Education Coordinator for the Maryland Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (CBNERR-MD). As the Education Coordinator Bart is responsible for developing and delivering estuary focused educational programming to students, teachers, as well as other interested audiences. Bart was an integral part of the team that developed the Estuaries 101 curriculum and he has recently begun to introduce educators and students to this exciting new curriculum.

EROL MILLER

Erol Miller has been an Earth Space Systems and Environmental Science teacher in Montgomery County for the past 11 years. He is currently the head of the Technology Environmental Systems Science Academy at Northwood High School, Silver Spring, Maryland.

MARIANNE MROZOWSKI-STARR

Marianne Mrozowski-Starr has worked as a speech-language pathologist at Rock Terrace, a Montgomery County Public School, for 29 years. Her passion, however, has been the outdoors. As the school's coordinator for outdoor education she has helped to establish a schoolyard wildlife habitat and organic gardens. Currently Marianne is working on becoming a certified naturalist through the USDA and Audubon.

KAREN KELLY MULLIN

Karen Kelly Mullin has been the Schoolyard Habitat Coordinator for the MAEOE, USFWS and NOAA Schoolyard Habitat Partnership for 6 Years. Previous to that she worked as an educator and teacher trainer for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

DEBRA MYERS

Debra Taylor Myers is currently a Primary Talent Development Resource Teacher in the Office of Gifted and Talented Education and Magnet Programs for Baltimore County Public Schools. She has served as a primary education consultant for Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), traveling to several counties and Baltimore City to assist teachers through professional development. Debra continues to be involved with curriculum development for the gifted learner and works collaboratively with the Office of Reading and Language Arts K-12 for Baltimore County to present strategies for *taking the core curriculum higher* to meet the needs of our young gifted learners. She is also involved in the staff development piece for the county's *Gifted and Talented CATALYST Resource Teacher Program* in the Title 1 schools. Debra has served as mentor, gifted and talented resource teacher, classroom teacher and gifted and talented facilitator in the schoolhouse. In addition, she has taught classes at Towson University most notably, *Principles and Practices of Reading and Language Arts in the Elementary School* and *Children's Literature*. Debra is an active member of the National Association for the Gifted Children (NAGC), Maryland Educators of Gifted Students (MEGS), Kappa Delta Gamma, a professional women's educator organization, and Kappa Delta Pi, an honor society for educators. She was recognized by MSDE as a leader in gifted education in 2007 and has been the Northwest Area Teacher of the Year for Baltimore County in 1999 for her work with differentiation and enrichment in the classroom. She continues to learn and grow professionally through course work, attending presentations and conferences, and her writing for children and teachers.

SEAN O'CONNOR

Sean has worked with National Geographic Maps and Education Programs for the past 2 years. Prior to this, Sean has a long history working with geo-spatial technologies, and has worked at the cusp of the transition of these technologies from the desktop to the web. A lifelong fan of environmental science and coastal environment, Sean has worked as part of the National Geographic team to develop the Chesapeake Bay FieldScope project, including the tool and learning activities designed around it.

MARTIN OGLE

Martin Ogle has been Chief Naturalist for the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority since 1985. He holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in Wildlife Biology from Colorado State University and Virginia Tech, respectively. Mr. Ogle has presented lectures and courses on the Gaia Theory for universities, public groups, and other audiences since 1990.

ANGELA PEREZ

Angela Perez is the REI Northeast district Outreach and Events Administrator and I support the outreach programs of 13 stores and the distribution center in seven states. I work to promote outdoor conservation, outdoor recreation, and getting youth into the outdoors in our Northeast store communities. I am on the board of Washington Women Outdoors and on the Go Girl grant review committee of the Women's Sports Foundation.

JIM PRITCHARD

Jim Pritchard has been teaching in Baltimore and Harford Counties for 19 years. In those years, he has taught 5th through 8th graders. For a while, he helped coordinate the environmental magnet program at Loch Raven Academy. Presently, he teaches 8th grade science at Southampton Middle School. Throughout the last 14 summers, he has run environmentally themed summer camps, and last year, he had the privilege to work on the staff of the Maryland Summer Center for Conservation Research; which he will be sharing with all of you today.

MARY QUATTLEBAUM

Mary Quattlebaum is the author of fifteen award-winning children's books, including *Jackson Jones and the Puddle of Thorns* and *Family Reunion*. She frequently visits schools and does "green" activities related to her books to encourage kids' connection with the natural world. Mary also blogs on nature-themed children's books for the National Wildlife Federation. Her website www.maryquattlebaum.com includes numerous activities for kids.

JIM RAPP

Jim Rapp has been Executive Director of Delmarva Low-Impact Tourism Experiences (DLITE) since July 2007. Prior to joining DLITE, Jim was Director of the Salisbury Zoo from 1994 through 2007. He served as the zoo's education curator in 1993. Among his many volunteer activities, Jim serves as President of the Assateague Coastal Trust, Co-Chair of the Maryland/D.C. Teaming With Wildlife Coalition, and as a Commissioner with the (Maryland) Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism. Jim is a Board Member of the Lower Eastern Shore Heritage Council (LESHC) and the Furnace Town Living Heritage Museum. Jim is a former President of LESHC, the Nanticoke Watershed Alliance, and the Zoo Conservation Outreach Group. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in biology from Salisbury University in 1991.

MELANIE REICHLEY

Melanie worked for the Department of Natural Resources in the Scales & Tales Program, and as a naturalist in Gunpowder Falls State Park. She taught environmental science at Aberdeen High School. She interned and worked part-time at Harford Glen Environmental Education Center. Most recently, Melanie contributed to the development of the NorthBay Program for Maryland sixth grade students. She currently manages educators and captive wildlife at NorthBay and operates a songbird banding station for NorthBay in Elk Neck State Park.

DAVID ROY RITTER

Attended Berkshire School. Founding member of Mt Rescue team. 89-93 Hartwick College Degree in Outdoor Education. 93-97. Owned and operated OuterQuest schools and Camp 98-04. Director at Calleva Outdoors from merger in 04 –present. NOLS graduate. Expedition member Mt McKinley. Reached the summit of 15 fourteeners in CO, Mexico highest three volcanoes, Equators two highest peaks and Expedition leader on Aconcaqua. Ropes course builder and director AMGA TRSM LNT Master trainer. Bio Diesel producer. Happy Husband

MARY RIVKIN

Mary Rivkin is an associate professor of early childhood education at UMBC. She is particularly interested in children's access to the outdoors and to their creative play and learning there. Formerly a P-12 teacher, and at UMBC since 1987, she has recently has been a co-PI on a multimillion dollar STEM project partnering with the Baltimore County Public Schools. Environmental education has been a passion throughout her education career.

DEB ROSSI and KIM BRADSHAW

For over ten years both Deb Rossi and Kim Bradshaw have been incorporating Lexmark's sustainability focus in customer engagements. Industry Consultant, Kim Bradshaw, has extensive expertise working with school districts and is able to help them understand the impact of printing on the environment and focus on reducing their carbon footprint. Deb Rossi, Senior Account Manager, helps customers implement print architectures which integrate environmental processes and recycling services. Making a difference in the environment is something that Lexmark is uniquely positioned to accomplish. Both Maryland residents, Ms. Bradshaw and Ms. Rossi seek to build partnerships within the local community to enhance environmental learning and to design and implement projects and programs that result in a healthier environment. This led to the development of The Paper Trail.

CARRIE SAMIS

Carrie Samis is the Education Coordinator for the Maryland Coastal Bays Program, one of 28 National Estuary Programs funded by the Clean Water Act and the Environmental Protection Agency. Carrie has been a professional environmental and conservation educator for over 15 years. Currently, she is helping with several regional efforts including the Delmarva Environmental Educators Network, Children & Nature, and diversity initiatives.

KEVIN SCHABOW

Kevin Schabow is an education specialist for the NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office (NCBO) in Annapolis. He manages Bay Watershed Education & Training grants and coordinates NCBO's Emerging Scientist Project; an experiential program for high schools that uses the Chesapeake Bay watershed as a context for teaching environmental and marine science. He has also served as the fellow for the Chesapeake Bay Program's Communications & Education Subcommittee. Prior to his NCBO and Bay Program positions, Kevin was the director of Pathfinder Ranch Outdoor Education School in Mountain Center, California. He has also worked as an interpretive guide for the U.S. Forest Service in Michigan and National Park Service in Minnesota.

MARTIN SCHMIDT

Martin Schmidt has been teaching science at McDonogh School since 1978, including various years of physics, chemistry, and geosciences. He is the author of Maryland's Geology, which is a book that contains a summary of basic geology, with more specific information about Maryland, designed for the teacher or layman without a geology background. He has been using geographic information systems for about 10 years and does training in geospatial technologies for schools and school systems.

KAREN SEIBERT

Attended Ohio Wesleyan University, degrees in Zoology and Environmental Science. Environmental Scientist for the Chesapeake Bay w/ EPA and MD Dept. of the Environment- 12yrs. Environmental Impact studies & Environmental consultant for Dames & Moore- 5 yrs Camp, Scouting & School Program Development- designed nature, ecology, orienteering, backpacking, bike trekking, scuba, LNT & leadership programs for both day and residential camps- 12 yrs (last 5 years with Calleva as a Director). Scout leader for 14 years. Other interests: being w/ my family, Scuba, Skiing-just GETTING OUTDOORS!

BRIAN SHILLING

Brian has been an educator for Montgomery County Public Schools for 15 years. For the past 5 years, Brian has taught outdoor and environmental education at the L. E. Smith Environmental Education Center.

EMILY STANLEY

Emily Stanley is head of the Science department at the Jemicy School campus in Owings Mills, MD. She is also a graduate student in Environmental Studies at Antioch University New England, completing her doctoral work on children's outdoor play in school.

SHANNON STEELE

Before earning her B.S. in biology at Clarion University of Pennsylvania, Shannon spent much of her youth exploring the Allegheny National Forest near her hometown of Tionesta, PA. Since moving to Maryland twelve years ago, she has taught high school science in both public and private schools and has worked for the last two years as a naturalist for Calvert County Natural Resources Division doing what she truly loves, teaching outdoors. Shannon lives in Port Republic, MD, with her husband and two daughters.

DAN STOVER

Dr. Dan Stover is the Field Director at the North America Regional Climate Center at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) in Edgewater, Maryland. Dan is a plant ecologist and received his Doctorate in ecological sciences from Old Dominion University in 2007 and holds a Master's degree in plant biology from West Virginia University. His previous research interests focused on belowground ecosystem (roots and soil) response to elevated carbon dioxide at Kennedy Space Center, FL. Dan is originally from Cool Ridge, West Virginia.

KAREN STUPSKI

Karen Stupski has fifteen years of experience with sustainable community living as a member of Heathcote Community, an intentional community located in Maryland. She has been an environmental educator for eight years, including facilitating permaculture design workshops, teaching college courses in environmental studies, and coordinating an environmental job training program for unemployed adults in Baltimore. Karen currently works as an Advisor and Regional Organizer for Gaia University and as Development Director for the Gunpowder Valley Conservancy.

ELENA TAKAKI

Elena S. Takaki has been the Program Manager for Education at Maryland DNR for seven years. With degrees in Natural Resource Management, Science Education, and Environmental Science, she has merged her love for teaching and her passion for the environment through incorporating best teaching practices in her curriculum design and environmental education programs. Most recently, she has been working on the Maryland Partnership for Children in Nature, which aims to get youth more connected with nature. Elena looks forward to her upcoming role as MAEOE President and encourages everyone to become more involved in the organization.

CAROL THOMPSON

Carol received a BS in biology from Tulane University and a Master's of Arts in Teaching (Biology) from Tulane. She taught biology and general science in the New Orleans city schools. Later, Carol volunteered for the Marine Docent program at the University of New Hampshire where she fell in love with marshes, bays and anything estuarine. While developing the Java History Trail at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, she learned about the impacts of land use on water quality. Carol worked at the MD Department of Natural Resources where she served as the Director of Conservation Education and was then the manager of the Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in Maryland. Recently, she served as MAEOE's Executive Director, and is currently the Maryland Green Schools Coordinator.

ELISE VAN METTER

Elise Van Metter graduated Magna cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa from Wilson College in 2003 with a B.S. in Biology and is currently finishing an M.S. in Sustainable Development & Conservation Biology at University of Maryland, College Park. She completed thesis work for Fish & Wildlife Service on the potential impacts of climate change for endangered species protected by the National Wildlife Refuge System. Elise also has experience with local conservation and education initiatives with both the Strawberry Hill Nature Center in PA and Parks & People Foundation (PPF) in Baltimore, MD. Recently, she ran the summer enrichment program Project BLUE (Baltimore Lessons in Urban Ecosystems) at PPF.

REBECCA WADLER LASE

Rebecca Wadler Lase is the Learning and Communications Manager at the North America Regional Climate Center. Rebecca comes to Earthwatch with deep international experience in both conservation biology and environmental education. She was the Project Manager for two orangutan conservation and research projects in Indonesia and educated both local and foreign visitors about orangutans and conservation issues. As Program Coordinator for Eco-Trainers, an environmental education and community gardening program based in Bali, Indonesia she worked with local communities, hotels, businesses and schools to develop environmentally sound solutions for waste management, organic gardening, pest management and composting. Recently, she assisted the Center for Environmental Research and Conservation (CERC) with the development and implementation of an ecology-based integrated curriculum at Middle School 88 in Brooklyn, New York. Rebecca has a B.A. in Primate Ethology from Hamilton College and a M.A. in Conservation Biology from Columbia University.

MARY WASHINGTON

Mary L. Washington is Assistant Director of the Urban Resources Initiative (URI) at the Parks & People Foundation. In that capacity she conducts research, program evaluation in association with Baltimore Ecosystem Study (BES) and coordinates placement and projects for the URI Internship program. She also manages and develops Parks & People Foundation's Green Career Ladder that provides employment and outdoor educational and recreational opportunities for middle and high schools as a way to introduce them to careers in the environment and green economy. Growing up in Philadelphia, a city with great parks and tree-lined neighborhoods, she and her 5 brothers and sisters spent many afternoons exploring the banks of the Schuylkill River. Mary earned her Ph.D. from the Johns Hopkins University in 1997 and taught sociology at Lehigh University. In Baltimore she has held positions as the Director of HousingStat and the Interim Director of the Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance. Mary is the past president of the Abell Community Association and was a Construction Captain for "Our Playground at Stadium Place," a playground and green space project on the old Memorial Stadium site that created a safe and welcoming play park for the Stadium area children, families and seniors. Mary is excited to be a member of MAEOE and looks forward to an exciting and productive 2009 conference.

KEITH WILLIAMS

Prior to entering the environmental education field, Keith worked as an environmental scientist with the US Army for 10 years. In that time he has investigated many complex issues including the ecological effects of artillery firing, and the potential ecological effects of underwater munitions. Keith is an experienced formal and non-formal educator. As the Director of Education at NorthBay, he was the first to modify the Investigating and Evaluating Environmental Issues and Actions curricula for use in a non-formal setting. He created a program in environmental and science education for 10,000 students annually. He develops research and inquiry based student directed authentic science curricula conceptual design and specific lessons where students generate usable data to answer actual environmental issue research questions that lead to environmental actions. Finally, he is experienced in program evaluation having been intimately involved in the development, piloting, refinement, and current execution of the NorthBay program evaluation system.

DAN WEEDEN

Dan Weeden is the President and founding partner of ENERActive Solutions LLC, a comprehensive energy consulting and project firm specializing in system optimization and energy efficiency of new and existing facilities. A graduate of Villanova University, Dan has served as President of the New Jersey Association of Energy Engineers. His background in the assessment, development, and implementation of energy efficiency and facility improvement projects is evident in such projects as:

- Ethicon, Inc.: Energy and Water Conservation Project Assessment and Implementation, Somerville, NJ
- Rider University: Energy and Sustainability Master Plan, Comprehensive Campus Assessment for Energy Conservation and Optimization, Lawrence, NJ
- Princeton University: Lighting Program Development and Implementation, Princeton, NJ

APRIL WELLS

April Wells is a teacher at Frederick County Catoclin High School and is the Frederick County Schoolyard Habitat Coordinator. In 2008 April Wells was named the Chesapeake Bay Trust Teacher of the Year.