

ANSS

The American Nature Study Society Newsletter

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Mark Albee, Editor c/o Pocono Environmental Education Center;
RD 2, Box 1010; Dingmans Ferry, PA 18328 (717) 828-2319

Board Members Retreat

Several ANSS Board Members met in Philadelphia this past January to participate in a long-awaited and much needed planning retreat. The atmosphere at College Settlement House was comfortable, informal, and very conducive for a weekend of talking, discussing, planning, and storytelling.

The retreat began with John Gustafson telling those of us who are new to the Board the history of ANSS and its original members. The information shared in that session was educational, thought-provoking, inspirational, and very entertaining.

The Board members spent a great deal of time and effort that day planning for the future of ANSS. Paramount in their discussions was the goal of ensuring the Society's responsibilities and services to its members.

Our members and Board have put a high priority on our publications. Plans have been designed for the continuing success of our publications, both the Journal, *Nature Study*, and the quarterly newsletter. ANSS' written image must always be timely, appropriate, educational and professional in every way. The Board is beginning to research various ways and means of broadening the visibility and marketability of our publications.

Program offerings from ANSS are also in review and research stages right now. Members can expect to see an ANSS sponsored calendar of events in our next newsletter. Programs will vary in type, length, location, cost, and theme. We could be on trips, tours, and workshops anywhere from canoeing in Canada to birding in Belize. If any members have any ideas or contacts, please let us (ANSS Board) know about it.

The future of the Board itself brought on a lively discussion. Current Board Members are striving to insure a consistent succession among its ranks by developing a book of board policies; scheduling Board meetings well in advance; remaining timely and appropriate with its elections; and ensuring stability between and amongst our affiliations with similar professional organizations

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Award Winners Honored

The American Nature Study Society's 1992 and 1993 Eva L. Gordon Award winning authors were both honored at the National Science Teacher's Association Convention in Kansas City on Saturday, April 3, 1993. The ANSS and the NSTA combined their talents and resources to sponsor a reception and an awards presentation for the authors.

Paul Spector, immediate Past President of the ANSS presented the Eva L. Gordon Award for children's science literature to the 1992 recipient, Byrd Baylor and the 1993 recipient, Dr. Augusta Goldin. The award, established in 1962, is given to those authors who best personify the teachings and spirit of Eva Gordon.

Eva Gordon was a pioneer in writing children's science literature having co-authored two primary grade textbooks of nature stories long before science books for little children existed. These books were based on her firsthand knowledge of the outdoors and her experience in teaching first and second graders in the public schools of Milwaukee. These two modest books entitled Fall and Autumn beautifully demonstrated the twin requirements for good authorship: knowledge of the topic and of the reader.

Byrd Baylor and Augusta Goldin have been writing science books for children since the early 1960's. Byrd Baylor views her books Everybody Needs a Rock, The Other Way to Listen, When Clay Sings, and The Way to Start Your Day as ways and means of sharing her small part of the earth--her home in the desert--with all of us.

Dr. Augusta Goldin, from Staten Island, New York, has spent a lifetime in education with positions as classroom teacher, administrator and university professor working diligently for the advancement of science education in the elementary school and that it be taught on an interdisciplinary level. Her books epitomize her life's work: teaching science to children in a language they can easily understand. Her publications include Ducks Don't Get Wet, Geothermal Energy - A Hot Prospect, and Small Energy Sources - Chokes That Work.

The American Nature Study Society is proud to add Byrd Baylor and Augusta Goldin to the list of Eva L. Gordon Award winners.

National Trends in Environmental Education

Currently nine states have mandated environmental education programs: Wisconsin, North Carolina (solid waste issues only), Ohio, Pennsylvania, Washington, Arizona, Florida, Maryland, and Minnesota. There are six states that encourage incorporating environmental education into existing curricula. Six states require that teachers be certified in environmental education.

Forty-nine states have Environmental Education Offices. Sixteen of them are in Departments of Education, and 33 are shared between Departments of Education and Departments of Environmental Protection/Natural Resources. Pennsylvania is one of the few states that has an independent Office of Environmental Education.

Nine states have advisory boards, commissions or councils attached to state agencies: Florida, Arizona, Alabama, Hawaii, Kentucky, Minnesota, Texas, California, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

Ten States have special funding sources that are not part of the general state budget:

<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>States</u>
license tags	AZ, AL, CA, FL
private funds	AZ, WI, KS
pollution fines	OH
tax form check off	NC
trust fund	KY
solid waste fees	TX

Profiles of Ecologists

The Ecological Society of America (ESA) recently produced a report entitled Profiles of Ecologists: Results of a Survey of the Membership of the Ecological Society of America. The document contains the findings of a survey undertaken to better understand the current demographics of the Society's members.

Noteworthy in both the survey results and its ensuing conclusions is the emphasis placed on ecological education at pre-college levels. The ANSS has been a leader and advocate of such educational trends for over 85 years.

If you wish to receive a copy of the report, contact the ESA at: The Ecological Society of America
2010 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 833-8773

Y.E.S. Special Publication Series

The Young Entomologists' Society is pleased to offer several new titles from its Special Publication series. These handbooks are designed to provide you with innovative and useful information. If you teach about the amazing world of insects (or want to improve your own knowledge), then these publications will make your job easier!

To receive a complete listing of these titles, contact YES at: Young Entomologists' Society, Inc.

Education Department
1915 Peggy Place
Lansing, MI 48910-2553
(517) 887-0499

William Hillcourt

1900 - 1992

Well-known author and long-time member of ANSS, William Hillcourt, died November 9, 1992 at the age of 92. He was on the final leg of a round-the-world tour promoting his scouting handbooks when he was stricken in Stockholm.

Born in Denmark as Vilhelm Bjerregaard-Jensen, he emigrated to this country in 1926 and was naturalized in 1939. While studying pharmacy, he started writing boy's fiction and editing the official *Danish Scout* magazine. When he came to the United States he joined the national staff of the Boy Scouts of America, editing and writing several Scouting handbooks: Boy Scout Handbook, Handbook for Patrol Leaders, Handbook for Scoutmasters, and Scout Field Book. Along with Lady Baden-Powell, he wrote the biography of the founder of Scouting, Lord Baden-Powell. For many years he wrote stories for boys published in *Boys' Life* magazine.

Bill Hillcourt made a significant contribution to nature study when he published the Field Book of Nature Activities (Putnam) in 1950 [expanded in later years into the Field Book of Nature Activities and Conservation (1961)] and the Field Book of Nature Activities and Hobbies (1970). He was author of the Golden Book of Camping (1971), one of the Golden Guides series. These books are filled with practical ideas for hands-on activities, still relevant today as we help people interact in constructive ways with the natural world.

Mulaiks Move to Georgia

Stan and Dodie Mulaik have moved from Salt Lake City to Stone Mountain, Georgia after long and distinguished careers in their adopted state of Utah. Stan served ANSS well for 20 twenty years as editor of the *ANSS News*, later expanded into the journal *Nature Study*. He and Dodie did their "Nature Creeps" workshop at the National Wildlife Federation Conservation Summits all around the country after Stan retired from the zoology department at the University of Utah.

The Mulaiks were honored by the Utah Nature Study Society and the city of Murray, Utah with a beautiful bench where hikers along the Jordan River can stop to rest and contemplate nature. We wish them many more years of fruitful and rewarding nature activity in the milder climes of the South.

Build a Birdfeeder

Marla Cohen

Concepts:

Students will recycle throw-away objects into birdfeeders.

Objectives:

1. Design and build a birdfeeder out of throw-away items.
2. Students will learn one way to decrease trash build-up by reusing it.

Time Required:

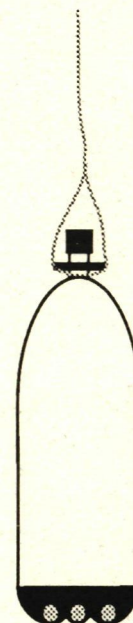
45 - 60 minutes

Level:

5th grade to adult

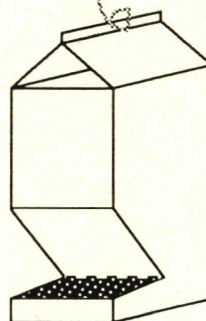
Materials:

Rinsed clean half gallon milk cartons
Plastic two liter soda bottles
Plastic gallon milk jugs
acrylic paint
Sharp cutting tools



Milk Carton Feeder

1. Mark a line .75" from the bottom on the front of the carton.
2. 2" in on the left side make a 1" mark. Draw a diagonal line from the corner of the .75" line to the 1" mark. Repeat on the right side.
3. On the left side draw a 4" line on a diagonal from the 1" mark up to to the corner of the on the front of the corner. Repeat on the right side.
4. Cut along these lines creating a flap. Fold the flap inward.
5. Punch a hole through the top for a hanging string.
6. Paint with non-toxic paint.

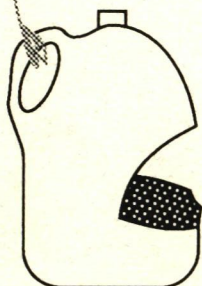


2-Liter Bottle Feeder

1. If the bottle has a dark plastic bottom cap (like a Pepsi bottle), wash under hot water and pull the cap off.
2. In each node of the bottom make a .75" cut across. Then cut upward on a diagonal .75" of an inch so the top of the flap is 1" wide.
3. Punch a hole through the bottle cap for a hanging string.

Gallon Milk Jug Feeder

1. Mark a 1" line half way around the milk jug.
2. Cut along this line and then cut a half circle out. Cover edge with masking tape.
3. Punch a few drainage holes in the bottom.
4. Paint
5. Use the handle to tie to a tree.



Calendar of Events

May, June, July, August 1993 - Smoky Mountain Field School. Courses are offered throughout the year, but the majority are in May, June, and July. Course offerings include: geologic evolution, wilderness navigation, fly fishing, wildflowers, etc. For a complete catalogue write: Smoky Mountain Field School; 600 Henley St., Suite 105; Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville; Knoxville, TN 37902.

May, June, July, August 1993 - Canadian Nature Tours encompass and extend Canadian borders. Their tours include visits to Costa Rica, The Shenandoah Valley, the Arizona desert, Alaska, and more. For a '93 catalogue contact: Federation of Ontario Naturalists; 355 Lesmill Road; Don Mills, Ontario M3B2W8.

June 21-26, 1993 - Sharing the Joy of Nature with Joseph Cornell in the Sierra Nevada Foothills. Gain skills for sharing nature more effectively. For more information contact Margie Cornell; 14618 Tyler Foote Road; Nevada City, CA 95959; (916) 292-3024.

June 23-26, 1993 - 'Environmental Education 2000' Conference. The Alliance for Environmental Education announced its 1993 conference and its theme: "Building a Solid Foundation for the Future." The conference will be held at the Xerox International Training Center in Leesburg, Virginia. For more information contact: AEE; P.O. Box 368; The Plains, VA 22171; (800) 638-1313.

July 16-18, 1993 - National Youth Environmental Summit will be a gathering place for youths, corporations, non-profits, and various State and Federal Government agencies to network, enjoy educational workshops, and gain awareness of new products and services. For more information call (800) 473-0263.

July 25-30, 1993 - Week-long Field Ornithology Workshop with Dr. Gene Wilhelm at the Pocono Environmental Education Center. Learn about migration mysteries, field

Calendar of Events (continued)

identification, and preserving avian biodiversity. For more information contact: PEEC, RD 2, Box 1010; Dingmans Ferry, PA 18328; (717) 828-2319.

August 12-14, 1993 - American Horticultural Society presents "Children, Plants, and Gardens: Educational Opportunities." The National Symposium will be at the National 4-H Conference Center in Chevy Chase, MD. For more information call (800) 777-7931.

September 29 - October 3, 1993 - Eighth International Earth Education Conference in Haliburton Highlands of central Ontario is sponsored by the Institute for Earth Education. This conference will provide an opportunity to experience first-hand internationally acclaimed earth education programs. For more information contact: International Earth Education Conference; c/o Hamilton YMCA; 79 James St. South; Hamilton Ont. L8P 2Z1; Canada; (705) 457-2132.

If you or your group is sponsoring an event, workshop, or conference, and would like to have us network with you, please send the information to: ANSS Newsletter; c/o PEEC; RD 2, Box 1010; Dingmans Ferry, PA 18328.

Board Member Retreat (continued)

such as the National Science Teachers Association, the National Association for Environmental Education, American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Natural Science Foundation.

The Members attending the retreat all found the weekend positive, productive and successful. We are looking forward to the work ahead of us, and as always, we encourage your participation on any level. The Board would like to thank Nancy Darmstadter and the staff at College Settlement House for hosting our meeting.

The next ANSS Board meeting will be held on Saturday, November 13, 1993 at Shawnee-on-the-Delaware in conjunction with Pennsylvania Alliance for Environmental Education's annual conference.

American Nature Study Society

c/o PEEC

RD 2, Box 1010

Dingmans Ferry, Pennsylvania 18328

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