

2003 Annual Report



MEEA Vision:

To develop an environmentally responsible citizenry in Missouri.

MEEA Mission:

To advance environmental education in Missouri by providing innovative professional development and networking opportunities.

Summary of MEEA Activities in 2003

I) Continued Development of New Programs: See specifics below. In 2001, MEEA received a grant from Environmental Education and Training Partnership (EETAP) to implement the following:

- EE Certification Program
- Leadership Clinic
- On-line Database
- Regional Forums

II) Restructured Organization with New Committees, Evaluated Mission & Goals, Prioritized member services, and developed ideas for fundraising, marketing and communications action plan.

III) In addition to producing 4 Newsletters, Created New MEEA Communication Service

- Members-Only E-mail List Serve Started in September of 2003

IV) Hosted Celebration of Success Event – November 22 in Rocheport, MO

Focus: Reviewed and celebrated accumulative achievements and gave recognition.

Awards went to the following:

Outstanding Service for Individual – Jean Ponzi

Certificate of Environmental Education Service – Missouri Department of Conservation

I. MEEA Programs

MEEA EE Certification Program

- Missouri was the second state in the country with an EE certification program.
- There are currently over 90 individuals enrolled in the program.
- In 2003, Two MEEA Members Earned EE Certification.
- MEEA Program Committee becomes New Certification Program Committee.
- MEEA hired: New Part-Time Administrator to manage program.

Missouri Community Leadership Clinic

From Awareness to Action – Renewing Community Through Environmental Education

Gave teams training sessions on marketing, volunteer mobilization, and fund development designed to give them the tools to implement EE projects they will plan and carry out locally.

Sponsors:

Environmental Education Training and Partnership (EETAP)
Missouri Environmental Education Association
University Outreach and Extension

Missouri Department of Conservation
Bridging The Gap

Leadership Clinic Participants

- City of Branson
- City of Lee Summit
- City of Rock Hill
- Kirksville High School
- Kirkwood High School
- The Green Center
- Herculaneum Community Advisory Group
- Manheim Park Neighborhood Association
- MEEA Board
- Monroe County FSA
- Region Wise
- Watershed Committee of the Ozarks

Results from Leadership Clinic

- Formation of A non-for-profit organization
- Hosted A Summer Youth Event
- Developing Outdoor Classrooms
- Creating Grow Native Demonstration Sites
- Increased Memberships in Watershed Coalition
- Applied to be Keep America Beautiful Status
- Conducted River Clean-Ups
- Developed Education Materials
- Awareness Building at Town Festival

Everyone in our group that attended the Leadership Clinic felt that it was one of the most valuable experiences of its kind. - Rock Hill Team Representative
Margaret Lilly

On-line DATABASE Development

- One-stop shopping website for environmental education and conservation in the state of Missouri
- Great marketing tool for organizations with programs to publicize and an easy way for people to find the great programs available to them.
- Decided to hire part-time communications coordinator to assist in populating and managing site.

Regional Forums

Offered to All Regions of Missouri to host one-day event and receive \$750 from MEEA to defray the costs of facility rental, guest speakers, refreshments, meeting supplies, and postage. In exchange, MEEA would present an interactive presentation on the Certification Program, on-line Networking & Resource System, along with other information on MEEA initiatives.

Two Regions Hosted Events

Kansas City – June 3 – Missouri Department of Conservation, Discovery Center – 100 attendees (teachers, non-formal educators, government agency and non-profit representatives)

Highlights include:

- Reception with Exhibits of local EE Organizations and Resources
- Presentations by MEEA, Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), the Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education (KACEE), who all co-planned the event.
- Breakout Sessions – Focus on Needs, Barriers and Solutions for EE locally
- An advisory committee emerged from this event to continue to generate awareness about local resources and provide further networking opportunities

St. Louis – August 2 – Missouri Botanical Garden Shaw Nature Reserve, Dana Brown Overnight Education Center - 33 attendees. 15 organizations co-sponsored the following:

Forum Sessions

- Fundraising
- Classroom Management for Non-Formal Educators
- EE with Inner City Youth
- Mapping the Environment
- Partnerships Between Formal and Non-Formal Educators
- Community EE Resources
- Real World EE Problem Solving

Tours

- Submerged-Flow Septic System
- Wildflower Hike

Interact Session to share information about programs and resources in region.

Outcomes: Strong Interest in creating a list of EE resources, and hosting regional forms every other year to reach local audience. Half of the forum participants had not attended any previous state EE conference.

MEEA Board 2003

Executive Committee

President	Susanne Reed	St. Louis, MO	susanne@principia.edu
President-Elect	Irene Unger	West Plains, MO	IreneUnger@wp.smsu.edu
Past-President	Sam Berendzen	St. Peters, MO	sberendzen@chaminade-stl.com
Secretary	Jennifer Hope	St. Louis, MO	Jennifer.hope@mobot.org
Treasurer	Patricia Koenigsfeld	Linn, MO	koenigsfeld@missouri.edu

Board-At-Large

Nadine Ball	St. Louis, MO	ball@maryville.edu
Kim Wade	Columbia, MO	kimswade@mchsi.com
Jennifer Gilbert	Kansas City, MO	Jennifer@bridgingthegap.org
Jim Lubbers	Jefferson City, MO	nrlubbj@dnr.state.mo.us
Nancy McClintock	Ballwin, MO	cct23@rockwood.k12.mo.us
Carol Stephenson	St. Louis, MO	caroljstephenson@sbcglobal.net

Committee Chairs

Certification Program	Karen Armstrong	Kirkville, MO	armstk@mdc.state.mo.us
Marketing	Janet Crews	St. Charles, MO	ecojan@prodigy.net
Membership/ Administrative Coordinator	Carol Harris	Jefferson City, MO	harric3@mdc.state.mo.us
MDC-OEE Liaison	Syd Hime	Jefferson City, MO	himes@mdc.state.mo.us

MEEA Board Meeting Dates and Locations

February 15, 2003	St. Louis, MO
April 30-May 2, 2003	Windermere Conference Center, Lake of the Ozarks
June 11, 2003	Kansas City, MO
August 16, 2003	Jefferson City, MO
October 18, 2003	Rolla, MO

Membership Distribution in 2003

MEEA has members in 49 counties - by regions in the Missouri State Employees Charitable Campaign		
3 in the northwest (region I)	11 in the northeast (region II)	25 in the KC area (region III)
27 in the central area (region IV)	70 in the St.Louis area (region V)	26 in the southwest (region VI)
15 in the southeast (region VII)		

177 individuals in state

The remaining membership is out of state or organizations (12)