



ANJEE

Alliance for New Jersey
Environmental Education

*ANNUAL
REPORT
2001*

ANJEE is...
an organization of individuals with experience
and/or interest in environmental education.

The purpose of environmental education is
to create awareness, understanding and concern
for the quality of the environment
and the conviction that human well-being
is dependent upon a healthy environment.

- ANJEE Statement of Purpose, 1984

ANJEE
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President's Message

The Alliance for New Jersey Environmental Education (ANJEE) is a nonprofit volunteer-led membership organization dedicated to meeting the emerging and evolving needs in environmental education of the state's students, educators, families and individuals. Though a daunting and challenging goal, the organization's members have achieved numerous milestones of success as well demonstrated ongoing leadership in the field, during ANJEE's past 16 years of history.

The new century continues to direct global attention to such complex topics as worldwide sustainability, human impacts on natural resources and natural systems, and the challenging maintenance of diverse animal and plant populations around the world. These issues, laced with concerns regarding human health and quality of life, blend with emerging uses of technology and innovations in the sciences and medicine to present people of all ages with debatable questions, ethical considerations and challenging decisions regarding the future.

The field of environmental education is the most comprehensive and effective response to the environmental and education-based needs of today's society, and ANJEE continues to be the most appropriate vehicle for raising environmental awareness and improving environmental literacy amongst the state's citizenry.

To this end, the year 2001 was a productive year for ANJEE, and work was accomplished in many areas, including the following:

- Reinvigorated the activities of the ANJEE Finance Committee; specifically, such that the group now focuses on investment, money management, fundraising and cost savings; the ANJEE endowment was reinvested, and the committee is developing a financial plan;
- Established **ANJEE ONLINE**, an electronic communications service for ANJEE members to become informed about timely announcements in environmental education;
- Received a \$25,000 grant from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection through ANJEE's affiliate organization, the Watershed Partnership of New Jersey; and
- Redesigned the ANJEE newsletter, *The Daily Planet*, to include more in-depth and relevant theme-based articles about the field of environmental education.

The continued success of ANJEE will depend upon the commitment of its members, as well as the public's need and support for its goals and activities. It has been an honor for me to serve this valuable organization as President.

Tanya M. Oznovich
President

ANJEE Executive Board 2001

President	Tanya Oznowich, NJDEP, Communications Office
President-Elect	Elizabeth Faircloth, NJDEP, Div. of Parks & Forestry
Past President	Karen Wintress, American Re-Insurance Co., Inc.
Vice President	Patricia Mazzone, North Bergen Public Schools
Treasurer	Tricia Hawley, Lenni Lenape Girl Scout Council
Membership Secretary	Lisa Leal, Newark Public Schools
Recording Secretary	Liz Johnson, American Museum of Natural History

ANJEE Advisory Council 2001

Sue Bartol – Hackensack Meadowlands Development Commission Environment Center
Bill Boesenberg - Snakes ‘n’ Scales and Turtle Tails
Hazel England – Somerset County Environmental Education Center
Bill Haines – Haines Environmental Education, North Arlington School District
Carl Henn - Concord Energy, Inc.
Patti Howley Pfeifer – Winfield School District
Lizzi Jackson – NJDEP, Division of Fish and Wildlife
Joe Mazzone – U.S. Postal Service
Pat Bell Murray – Public Relations Consultant
Cory Ogden – Hackensack Meadowlands Development Commission Environment Center
Dave Orleans – Camden County Parks Environmental Education Center
Paul Osmer – Vernon Township School District
Leslie Parness – Greater Newark Conservancy
Gina Provenzano – Liberty State Park Interpretive Center
Janice Reese-Berardo – Environmental Education Consultant
Ray Savoie – Jersey City Public Schools
Jerry Schierloh – Earth Circle of Learning – Place-based Educational Services
Pat Skelly – Eco Living Fellowship
Michelle Wiessner – Reeves Reed Arboretum

Special thanks to the individuals representing various organizations, schools, companies and agencies, who have donated time, in-kind services or finances to help further the work of the
Alliance for New Jersey Environmental Education.

ANJEE ANNUAL REPORT 2001

Introduction

The Alliance for New Jersey Environmental Education (ANJEE) is a privately supported, not-for-profit, statewide membership organization, and one of New Jersey's most active networking organization.

Founded in 1985, its purpose is to increase the quality and quantity of environmental education in New Jersey by establishing a network for classroom teachers and environmental educators (of other organizations and institutions) to share the experience and expertise of their field. Membership in ANJEE ranges between 400 – 500 professionals representing the formal education sector (school districts, private schools, colleges and universities), as well as non-formal education providers (parks, nature centers, museums, zoos, aquariums, consultants, businesses, and government facilities and programs).

Since its inception, ANJEE has provided leadership in helping to improve, coordinate and increase environmental education delivery in New Jersey for all ages. Activities coordinated by ANJEE members include the state's annual conference for environmental education, regional programs and events, an annual retreat, quarterly newsletters, enrichment and training programs, an annual awards program, bi-monthly electronic announcements, and the ANJEE Web site. Members of ANJEE were instrumental in helping to pass the state's Environmental Education Act of 1996. They also helped establish the New Jersey Commission on Environmental Education and continue to provide membership on, as well as work in close partnership with, this commission. Activities conducted by ANJEE members are directly supportive of emerging trends and needs in New Jersey's classrooms. Most programs offered by ANJEE members are aligned with the state's core curriculum content standards, and dozens of ANJEE members are recognized by the State Department of Education as professional development providers. Finally, ANJEE is an active affiliate organization of the New Jersey Science Teacher's Association and the North American Association for Environmental Education.

The Goals of ANJEE are to:

- A. Promote environmental education in all formal and non-formal educational endeavors in New Jersey;
- B. Encourage both pre-service and in-service training of teachers and educational administrators in environmental concepts, teaching methods and techniques;
- C. Provide a networking service for the sharing of environmental education resources, experiences and expertise; and,
- D. Provide leadership in the formation and implementation of environmental education efforts.

ANJEE Committees, Programs and Projects

ANJEE Statewide Environmental Education Conference

Chair: Janice Reese-Berardo

The 16th annual statewide environmental education conference sponsored by ANJEE, was held on Friday, January 5, through Saturday, January 6, 2001, at Rider University in Lawrenceville, New Jersey. The title and theme for the conference was “2001 - An Environmental Education Odyssey: Programs, Ideas, Skills and Resources for All Stages of Your Journey.” The two-day conference featured workshop sessions on various topics or themes, including natural history, environmental issues, inquiry-based learning, environmental technology, administration and management, and environmental music. It was preceded by two successful full-day pre-conference workshops, featuring curriculum supplements **New Jersey Waters** and **Project Learning Tree**. (These workshops were held on Thursday January 4, before the actual conference.) Thirty-five exhibits from a variety of nature centers and educational or environmental vendors provided an arena for networking and resource sharing, Conference activities also included an auction, regional membership meetings, and a raffle. Over 400 educators were in attendance.

Dr. Warren Leon provided the Friday keynote address, entitled “Your Most Important Environmental Choices.” His presentation was timely and interesting, and attendees were both informed and energized. A special Friday night theatrical presentation was also offered this year – “A Sense of Wonder,” presented by Ms. Kaiulani Lee. This one-woman, two-act play explored Rachel Carson’s love for the natural world and her fight to defend it. Saturday afternoon’s special presentation featured the Wildlife Conservation Society’s Wildlife Theater Players in a thought-provoking show entitled “Great Blue Heron Marsh.”

The annual New Jersey Environmental Music Conference expanded its scope to include music and environmental education workshops, during which performers from ANJEE's membership ‘and beyond’ were invited to share songs. The musical portion of the conference culminated on Friday evening with performances by Glen "Wreckin' Ball" Waldeck (“Musical Keynotes In The Key of EE”), “Environmental Troubadour” - Tom Callinan, and “The Earthsingers” - Wally Grummun, Dave Orleans and Kevin Kopp.

Over 50 teachers received professional development credit hours from ANJEE, to be put toward their professional development certification needs.

ANJEE Annual Retreat

Chair: Patricia Mazzone

The ANJEE Annual Retreat is designed to provide a forum for leaders of the organization to participate in a professional development experience in environmental education, while also providing opportunities for discussing and planning ANJEE goals and related activities. The theme for the 2001 retreat was titled “ANJEE, Technology and the 21st Century.” The retreat was co-hosted by ANJEE’s Program Committee for the Northern Region, which was chaired by Gina Provenzano. It was held at the Liberty State Park Interpretive Center in Jersey City on Saturday, March 3, and was attended by 30 ANJEE members.

ANJEE Committees, Programs and Projects

ANJEE Annual Retreat (Con't)

The first guest speaker was John Moore, an environmental studies teacher at the Burlington County Institute of Technology. He conducted a workshop titled "Technology Brings A Window to the World." Mr. Moore incorporated applications of satellite imagery, remote sensing and global learning goals into his presentation and related this theme to both formal and non-formal education activities. Michael Skelly, Sr., and Michael Skelly, Jr., co-presented the second workshop titled "Web Development and Internet Communication." Mr. Skelly, Sr., is a consultant for the Center for Community Projects while Mr. Skelly, Jr., is head of internet projects for Starfyre Network Services. Participants learned a step-by-step approach for Web site development, which included the identification of an audience and the expansion of a Web site. Professional development certificates were provided to teachers who attended these presentations. These enrichment opportunities provided a foundation for ANJEE's 2001 Web site development and implementation plans.

Awards Committee

Chair: Anne Galli

Awards for excellence in environmental education are presented annually by ANJEE at its annual statewide conference banquet. The selection of winners in the various categories is based upon a variety of criteria, including commitment and service related to the field; the demonstration of high-quality environmental education efforts; and, the demonstration of leadership. A new facet of the awards program in 2001 was the inclusion of ANJEE 2000 award winners at the autumn awards banquet sponsored by the New Jersey Science Teachers Association at their annual convention. The following awards were given in 2001:

The Patricia Kane Lifetime Achievement Award: This award was presented to Dr. Marie S. Kuhnen, for her 41 years as a professor and first chairman of the Biology Department at Montclair State University. She co-founded the Pocono Environmental Education Center almost 30 years ago and continues to teach programs and workshops for adults throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania. She travels widely and shares her love and enthusiasm for the natural world with all that are fortunate to meet and spend time with her.

The Environmental Educator of the Year/Formal Education: This award was presented to Mr. Leon Enriquez, a high school chemistry and biology teacher at Hudson County Schools for Technology, High Tech High School. Mr. Enriquez facilitates a student-driven club named the "Preservation of Habitats, Animals and Trees" (PHAT) and is also co-founder of the Association of Filipino Teachers of America. He is recognized throughout the county for his enthusiasm for teaching.

The Environmental Educator of the Year/Non-formal Education: This award was presented to Ms. Monica Juhasz, a naturalist-teacher at the Somerset County Environmental Education Center in Basking Ridge. In addition to coordinating and conducting field trips for students, Ms. Juhasz coordinates a variety of events for the public and leads canoe and kayak trips statewide. She is recognized for her gentle yet enthusiastic style of instruction.

ANJEE Committees, Programs and Projects

Finance Committee

Chair: Tanya Oznowich

The Finance Committee is charged with overseeing ANJEE finances, which includes organizational expenditures, investment of the ANJEE endowment, and fundraising. In 2001 committee membership increased, and volunteer advisors came forward to offer expertise in investing and fundraising. Joel Faircloth and Leslie Parness, both ANJEE members, worked with the committee to develop strategies for 2002 implementation. The strategies focus on money and resource management; re-investment and management of the endowment; cost savings; fundraising; and, long-term financial planning. Leadership within ANJEE agreed that it was time for the organization to develop a long-term financial plan, with the goal of increasing the endowment principal and using the interest to pay an ANJEE staff person. It was agreed that the meshing of financial strategies with revisions to the ANJEE strategic plan would be a beneficial process. Finance Committee members Leslie Parness and Joel Faircloth then agreed to be speakers at the March 2002 Annual Retreat, thereby making finances, fundraising and planning the retreat theme. Planning Committee Co-Chair Diane Hewlett-Lowrie joined them to introduce the strategic plan revision process.

Funds raised through the ANJEE Annual Conference 2001 auction and raffle activities totaled over \$1,400.00. The ANJEE Executive Board agreed that such funds would be added annually to the ANJEE endowment.

Finally, the committee approved a spending plan for the \$5,000 grant that ANJEE received from the Environmental Protection Agency, Region II Environmental Education grants program in late 1999. The purpose of the grant was to assist with the development and design of an ANJEE organizational Web site, as well as a statewide environmental education directory, Web site and platform for professional networking and data sharing. Working in partnership with the New Jersey Commission on Environmental Education, Michael Skelly, Sr., and Michael Skelly, Jr., of Starfyre Network Services, were hired for these tasks.

Public Relations Committee

Co-Chairs: Anne Galli and Lizzie Jackson

The Public Relations Committee is responsible for promoting ANJEE through the use of various public relations methods and in close cooperation with other ANJEE committees. In 2001 an ANJEE tabletop display was purchased, designed and used to promote ANJEE at the New Jersey Science Convention and at smaller education conferences. The ANJEE membership brochure was revised and printed, and a variety of ANJEE materials, including newsletters, awards information, and program flyers were made available for exhibit use.

Members of the committee also wrote and distributed press releases and photographs to the local daily and weekly newspapers that cover the hometowns of each of the ANJEE award winners. Finally, the committee worked closely with members of the New Jersey Science Teachers Association (NJSTA) to assure that these same award winners were honored at the 2001 Science Convention banquet, which is common practice for NJSTA and its affiliates.

ANJEE Committees, Programs and Projects

Planning Committee

Chairs: Diane Hewlett-Lowrie and Tanya Oznowich

The ANJEE Planning Committee is responsible for the development and implementation of the ANJEE strategic plan (1998), along with monitoring statewide implementation of the state's master plan for environmental education. Titled **Environmental Education in New Jersey: A Plan of Action**, the master plan was written by the New Jersey Commission on Environmental Education in cooperation with ANJEE leadership in the early 1990's. Regarding ANJEE's strategic plan, initial discussions to begin a membership-driven revision process, to be presented to the full membership in 2003, began in 2001. A set of guidelines regarding the use of ANJEE's new bi-monthly electronic e-mail service to members, ANJEE ONLINE, were also added to the ANJEE handbook. Regarding the state's master plan for environmental education, a core group of ANJEE members was instrumental in moving the state's second environmental education bill forward to a full vote in the House and Senate in the autumn. Led by ANJEE member Frank Gallagher, chair of the New Jersey Commission on Environmental Education, the proposed legislation called for \$200,000 to support professional development needs in environmental education, as well as to provide funds for exemplary projects. Though the bill was not introduced for a final vote, its near passage demonstrated the close working partnership between ANJEE and the commission.

Nominating Committee

Chair: Patricia Mazzone

The Nominating Committee is responsible for identifying and responding to the vacant positions on the Executive Board and Advisory Council for each ANJEE calendar year. In compliance with the organization's strategic plan, the committee pursues a diversification of membership and is sensitive to the environmental and educational needs of all New Jersey residents, including those under-represented in ANJEE's membership. The goal of the committee is to have an Executive Board and Advisory Council makeup that represents a broad spectrum of the state's population.

A nomination ballot was developed by the committee and included in the fall edition of **The Daily Planet**. Results were tallied, congratulatory letters were sent, and newly elected officers and advisors commenced with their terms at the 2002 ANJEE conference that was held in January.

Membership Committee

Chair: Lisa Leal

Committee members updated and re-printed the ANJEE membership brochure for use in 2001. In addition, a new service for ANJEE members was put into place. Referred to as **ANJEE ONLINE**, these bi-weekly electronic bulletins are used to convey dated environmental education information such as announcements, events, grant opportunities or position openings, to ANJEE members. The ANJEE e-mail list was compiled and is maintained by ANJEE member Bill Haines. **ANJEE ONLINE** is coordinated by ANJEE member Joe Mazzone. Membership for 2001 ranged between 300 - 350 individuals.

ANJEE Committees, Programs and Projects

Publications Committee

Chair: Dale Rosselet

Production of ANJEE's newsletter, **The Daily Planet**, was increased from three to four seasonal issues per year. This was done so that the newsletter could offer more timely information to ANJEE members. In addition, the format was enhanced to include feature articles that address specific environmental education themes, such as environmental education strategies and professional development; environmental education connections; environmental education scope and mission; and, environmental education accomplishments in New Jersey.

The Publications Committee worked with the Membership Committee to explore other ways to increase membership by including ANJEE information in other environmental education publications. For example, ANJEE information was included in issues of **Branching Out**, a newsletter distributed to educators throughout the state who have taken at least one type of environmental education professional development workshop.

Finally, a proposal was submitted to the New Jersey Commission on Environmental Education requesting annual financial support to be put towards the printing and distribution of the **Daily Planet**. The commission agreed to reward ANJEE with an annual amount of \$1,000. In exchange, ANJEE agreed to include commission information in the publication and to print extra copies of one issue per year for commission distribution, if requested in advance by the commission.

Program Committee – Northern Region

Chairs: Gina Provenzano and Rebecca Lesko

Members of the northern ANJEE region met at the 2001 ANJEE Conference, and a survey was taken regarding their regional program interests. The strongest interests that were expressed included the desire to have an active northern region network with regular gatherings, as well as the need for networking and professional development opportunities. A database was compiled from the survey.

The ANJEE Program Committee for the Northern Region co-sponsored, hosted and helped coordinate the ANJEE Annual Retreat in March, which was held at the Liberty State Park Interpretive Center in Jersey City. Staff at the center also co-sponsored numerous professional development workshops with ANJEE throughout the year, including **Project WET**, **Project Learning Tree** and **Project WILD**.

During the autumn a group of members met to plan a monthly schedule of events for 2002, which will include tours, hikes and potlucks. Members also expressed interest in offering environmental education pre-service professional development opportunities in the region, which will take place later in 2002.

ANJEE Committees, Programs and Projects

Program Committee – Central Region

Chair: Elizabeth Faircloth

Members of the central ANJEE region met at the 2001 ANJEE Conference to brainstorm ideas for meetings, locations and activities for the upcoming year. Several members expressed interest in potluck dinner meetings at various sites in the region. The first was held at Cheesquake State Park on May 24. Ten members participated in a nature hike near the interpretive center, followed by a potluck supper. Attendees enjoyed sharing ideas and opportunities for environmental education in the region and statewide.

The second meeting of the central region was held at the Ocean Institute on Sandy Hook. This daylong meeting was a professional development opportunity for educators and was spent exploring wetlands. Twelve ANJEE members participated and car-pooled to the sites to be explored that day, which included a holly forest and a fresh water seep.

The third meeting in the region was held at Poricy Park in Middletown. The group met at Poricy Park Nature Center and learned about the natural history of the region. Members then traveled by car to visit fossil beds and returned to the center for a potluck dinner.

Program Committee – Southern Region

Chairs: Dave Orleans and Pat Skelly

Attendance at each of the meetings of the ANJEE Program Committee for the Southern Region in 2001 ranged between a consistent 15 – 20 participants.

In April the meeting was held at Parvin State Park. Participants learned about and explored the components of a curriculum package entitled “Down Jersey,” by presenter Jane Galetto.

The August meeting was hosted by the Forest Resource Center in Jackson, New Jersey. Ms. Susan MacDougall presented a program on grant writing at the meeting.

In November, the group convened at Camden City Environmental Center in Winslow Township. Participants discussed and swapped favorite Internet sites that pertain to environmental education.

Affiliate: The Coalition for Schoolyard Habitat

Liaisons: Mimi Dunne and Elizabeth Faircloth

The Coalition for Schoolyard Habitat is devoted to the support, networking, resources, expertise and recognition needed by a school to develop habitats for learning on or near school property. The coalition offers workshops that provide technical expertise pertaining to schoolyard habitats, as well as student activities directed toward such settings.

In 2001, coalition members presented a technical and sharing workshop session at the 2001 ANJEE Conference. The group also received two applications for school site certification, bringing the total number of certified schoolyard habitat sites in New Jersey to 18.

ANJEE Committees, Programs and Projects

Affiliate: The Watershed Partnership of New Jersey

Liaisons: Dale Rosselet and Sue Bartol

The Watershed Partnership of New Jersey is a coalition of water-oriented organizations, agencies and groups that maintain some type of commitment to public and school-based education about water issues. Representatives of the membership groups meet throughout the year to discuss various program needs, projects, grant opportunities, emerging resources, and partnership opportunities.

In 2001, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Watershed Management provided the partnership with a \$25,000 grant to launch a statewide watershed awareness campaign. Partners that will work together to carry out this initiative in 2002 – 2003 include members of the partnership, department staff, and members of ANJEE. Activities to be included in this initiative are the continued posting of watershed awareness road signs along New Jersey state highways, and the development of a public awareness campaign and Web site that will be designed to further public understanding of, and involvement with, watersheds. The 2002 ANJEE treasurer and President Elect Elizabeth Faircloth will work together to administer these funds and coordinate the initiative.

Members of the partnership also promoted its activities at various conferences in 2001, including the ANJEE conference and the conference of the New Jersey Water Environment Association.

Affiliate: New Jersey Natural Resource Education Cooperative

Liaisons: Elizabeth Faircloth and Karen Lund

The New Jersey Natural Resource Education Cooperative, an informal gathering of the state's natural resource-based curriculum supplements, met twice in 2001.

The spring meeting was held at the Forest Resource Education Center in Jackson. Karen Lund, a teacher and ANJEE member, was named as chair and will serve in this capacity through March 2003. Curriculum coordinators for the Projects (**Project WET**, **Project WILD** and **Project Learning Tree**) and New Jersey Audubon Society's **Bridges to the Natural World** are the primary members of the cooperative, and each traditionally provides an overview of these programs and their related activities for the preceding six months. Additional group discussion focused on the potential of holding professional development workshops for environmental education professionals and formal educators in order to increase state capacity for environmental education.

The second meeting was held at the Natural Resources building on the Cook College Campus, Rutgers University, in the autumn. Similar updates and reports on ongoing and new initiatives were shared. Overviews were also provided regarding new environmental education models in the state and grants that should be pursued by the cooperative or its individual members.

ANJEE Committees, Programs and Projects

Financial Statement

Treasurer: Tricia Hawley

Expenditures

July 1, 2000 – June 30, 2001

Affiliate: CSH	20.00
Affiliate: NJNREC	91.83
Affiliate: WPNJ	259.04
Awards	142.57
Central Office	935.35
Conference	13,144.50
Finance	119.00
Grants/Endowment	569.81
Leadership Retreat	250.00
Membership	216.50
Planning	350.00
Program - Central	245.53
Program - North	329.71
Publications	1,660.95
Public Relations	892.13

Total
Expenditures
\$19,226.92

Income

July 1, 2000 – June 30, 2001

Affiliate: CSH	160.00
Conference	17,147.00
Grants/Endowment	8,084.12*
Leadership Retreat	270.00
Membership	1,046.00
Program – Central	50.00
Program – North	419.00

Total
Income
\$27,176.12

* \$7,514.31 placed into the endowment

Environmental education is the process of fostering applied behaviors based upon the knowledge of the interdependence of all living and non-living things.

- ANJEE Definition of Environmental Education, 1986