



*Supporting Education
and*

Stewardship

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News wire is a monthly publication designed to provide news and information on issues important to the public lands community. Deadline for submissions is the third Thursday of each month. Items may be submitted for review and publication to appl@appl.org.

Thank you for subscribing to *News wire*. E-mail us at appl@appl.org with any comments or suggestions for updates or improvements to this publication.

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News wire

APPL NEWS

In cooperation with the National Park Service NE Region, APPL facilitated delivery of a two-day NE Region National Heritage Areas (NHA) Workshop May 19-20 in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. In attendance were more than 45 National Heritage Areas staff, board and commission members, and NPS staff. The workshop focused on achieving stronger partnerships between National Parks, Heritage Areas and the communities they serve; explored the topic of sustainability and options for employing viable and effective strategies; discussed studies to measure the impact of the investment in NHA's; and shared ways to engage youth in Heritage Areas. Gettysburg is within the Journey Through Hallowed Ground NHA, one of twenty-one NHA's in the NE Region. To learn more about National Heritage Areas visit www.nps.gov/history/heritageareas/.

APPL will hold its next board meeting in San Diego, site of the 2010 APPL convention. The meeting will focus on mid-year evaluation, strategic and financial planning; membership; education; engaging the next generation of association leadership; and government relations. The board meeting will be held on June 5-6.

The National Parks Second Century Commission will release its final report this fall. Representatives of the Commission and staff of the National Parks Conservation Association would like to discuss the Commission's recommendations and identify areas of interest to members of APPL.

Please plan to join a phone briefing (or come to the NPCA offices if you are visiting DC) on June 11th at 2:00 p.m. EDST. Contact us at appl@appl.org for more information.

Congratulations to the Grand Canyon Association and Globe Pequot Press who were honored as winners of the Arizona Book Publishing Association's Glyph Award. Grand Canyon Association took home the Glyph Awards in the categories of Embodying Arizona (*Grand Canyon: Views Beyond the Beauty*, Gary Ladd); Juvenile/Young Adult-Nonfiction (*Amazing Girls of Arizona: True Stories of Young Pioneer*, Jan Cleere) and Excellence in Publishing.

Globe Pequot Press won a Glyph Award in the Science/Environment category (*Ancient Landscapes of the Colorado Plateau*, Ron Blakey/Wayne Ranney)

Visit <http://azbookpub.com/onevs/2009-aba-winners/> for a complete list of the 2009 Glyph Award winners.

APPL members are reminded of the opportunity to participate in our online auction this fall. Help raise awareness of the magnificent places APPL member organizations support, and raise funds for APPL and your own organization. Packets explaining the online auction opportunity were mailed to all APPL member organizations on May 8, with a deadline of June 15 for submitting your application to participate. For additional information and access to applications and guidelines visit the member's section of APPL's Web site at www.appl.org.

NEWSBITS

The Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) invites APPL members to exhibit at their 94th annual meeting in Cincinnati, OH, September 30 to October 4. The mission of ASALH is to promote, research, preserve, interpret and disseminate information about Black life, history and culture to the global community. APPL members might consider how books and other interpretive items that share stories of African Americans whose history connects with national parks and our national history might be made available for sale at this annual conference. Exhibitor and advertiser information may be found at www.asalh.org/exhibitorsconventionpage.html.

National Park Trust (NPT) is pleased to announce that California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger will be the recipient of the 2009 Bruce F. Vento Award. NPT will recognize Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger on June 2 for his leadership and innovation in the protection of public lands in California and for his life-long commitment to children's health and to connecting them with the outdoors.

Each year NPT honors a public servant with the Vento Award for his or her commitment to the environment and service, skill, and innovation in support of our public lands. The Award was established in 2000 by NPT to honor the memory and legacy of Bruce F. Vento, a twelve-term Congressman from Minnesota who was a committed environmentalist and a champion of legislation for America's parks.

Recent recipients have included: Senator Harry Reid (NV), Congressman George Miller (CA) and Senator John McCain (AZ). The award is presented annually in the spring at a reception in Washington, DC.

Learn more about the Vento Award and NPT's other programs at www.parktrust.org.

Youth Service America invites organizations engaging youth in community service to serve as lead agencies for Global Youth Service Day, April 23-25, 2010. Lead agencies increase the scope, visibility, and sustainability of Global Youth Service Day (GYSD) by leading city, regional, or statewide service projects. In previous years, lead agencies have been successful in garnering national media attention, developing new partnerships, and engaging elected and public officials in their service and service-learning projects. Lead agencies will receive a \$2,000 planning grant sponsored by State Farm Companies Foundation, travel support to attend the Youth Service Institute in Washington, D.C., and direct

assistance from Youth Service America to ensure a successful Global Youth Service Day. Complete program information and application are available at the GYSD Web site at www.gysd.org/partners/leadagencies.

AGENCY NEWS

On May 7th Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar presented the Partners in Conservation Awards to 26 groups and individuals at a ceremony at Interior headquarters in Washington, D.C. The Secretary's Partners in Conservation Awards recognize conservation achievements resulting from the cooperation and participation of individual landowners; citizens' groups; private sector and nongovernmental organizations; and federal, state, local, and/or tribal governments.

The projects recognized ranged from a U.S. Geological Survey partnership with the Coast Salish Nation of the Pacific Northwest to study water quality as part of a traditional annual canoe journey to a cooperative effort protecting aquifer resources in Oklahoma involving the Bureau of Reclamation, Chickasaw Nation, Environmental Protection Agency, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and a number of Oklahoma state agencies.

A list of the 26 projects is available at: www.doi.gov/news.html#chnews.

President Obama has proposed a \$12 billion budget for the Department of the Interior in FY2010. Detailed information is available online at: www.doi.gov/budget/2010/10Hilites/toc.html.

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar has appointed former National Park Service Director Robert G. Stanton as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Policy, Management, and Budget. Stanton served as the director of the National Park Service from 1997 to 2001. As director, he oversaw major planning and resource preservation programs at the White House, Yellowstone, Yosemite, Gettysburg, and other national parks and inaugurated and oversaw the National Resource Challenge, a plan to revise and expand the agency's natural resource programs.

Since 2001, he has served as an executive professor at Texas A&M University and a visiting professor at both Howard University and Yale University. He also has provided consulting services to the National Resources Council of America on increasing cultural diversity in conservation organizations and programs.

Rhea S. Suh has been confirmed as Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, the top official overseeing financial, administrative and programmatic policy for the Department. Suh comes to Interior from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, where she was a top program officer managing a \$200 million, six-year initiative designed to build ecological integrity and resilience in key lands and watersheds in western North America.

As Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, Suh will also work closely with the Recovery Act Coordinator Chris Henderson to oversee contracting, monitoring, management and accountability for Interior's \$3 billion allocation under President Obama's stimulus plan.

Additional information on Suh is available at www.doi.gov/bio/suh_bio.html.

David J. Hayes was confirmed as Deputy Secretary of the Department of the Interior on May 20. He served as a leader in President Obama's Transition Team, heading the agency review process for the Department of Energy, Department of Agriculture, Department of the Interior and Environmental Protection Agency. Learn more about Hayes at www.doi.gov/bio/hayes_bio.html.

Twenty-two trails in 13 states were recently designated as newly recognized National Recreation Trails, adding more than 525 miles of trails to the National Trails System. The announcement coincides with the 17th annual celebration of National Trails Day on June 6. The theme for this year, *Take In the Outdoors*, encourages people of all ages to get outside and use trails for exercise and exploration. A complete schedule of activities is available at <http://americanhiking.org/NTD.aspx>.

National Recreation Trails (NRTs) link communities to recreational opportunities on public lands and in local parks across the Nation. These designations contribute to *A Decade for the National Trails, 2008-2018*, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the National Trails System in 2018.

The NRT program is jointly administered by the National Park Service and the USDA Forest Service in conjunction with a number of other Federal and nonprofit partners, notably American Trails, which hosts the National Recreation Trail Web site at www.americantrails.org/nationalrecreationtrails.

National Park Service

Golden Gate National Park Superintendent Brian O'Neill passed away on May 13th. Brian's family friends and colleagues celebrated his life and work at a

memorial held on May 29 at the restored airfield west of the marsh on Crissy Field in the Presidio of San Francisco.

A special blog to post remembrances of Brian has been set up at www.incelebrationofbrianoneill.blogspot.com and includes information on how you can honor his memory by supporting partnerships at Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Three historic federal buildings come alive in a new interactive lesson plan. *Federal Courthouses and Post Offices: Symbols of Pride and Permanence in American Communities*, found at www.nps.gov/history/nr/twhp or www.gsa.gov/historicpreservation, was created cooperatively by the National Park Service (NPS) Teaching with Historic Places program and the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), Public Buildings Service, in partnership with the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers.

Federal Courthouses is the 136th Teaching with Historic Places online lesson plan. This National Park Service series uses the National Register of Historic Places to enrich traditional classroom instruction of history, social studies, civics, and other subjects. The lessons are indexed by states, historic themes, time periods, learning skills, and history and social studies standards to help teachers use them effectively.

Fred Boyles has been appointed superintendent of Cumberland Island National Seashore, effective June 7th. Boyles has been an NPS superintendent for 23 years, most recently serving at Andersonville National Historic Site and Andersonville National Cemetery.

The National Park Service has developed and made available a Web site to help inform visitors about what's new in national parks this year and the many ranger led programs, activities and commercial services available. Find out what a great summer is waiting for you this year in your National Parks by visiting the *National Parks: The Place to be for Family Fun* Web site at: www.nps.gov/pub_aff/parks2009/index.htm.

The National Park Service (NPS) will waive entrance fees June 20-21, July 18-19, and August 15-16 as a way to reinforce that national parks are places for everyone to have fun, reconnect with nature and history, and build a sense of ownership and stewardship toward parks and the environment. These fee-free weekends will be in addition to fee-free days on National Public Lands Day, September 26, and Veterans Day, November 11.

This fee waiver will cover entrance, commercial tour fees, and transportation entrance fees. Concessioners, cooperating associations, and park partners will be encouraged to offer discounts and special programs as appropriate.

The Secretary of Interior is planning to announce the event on June 1 and there will be an official press release issued from NPS and DOI. So as not to pre-empt the announcement, please do not issue your own special press release until that time.

Contact Jane Moore, Washington Office Fee Program Manager, at Jane.Moore@nps.gov or 202-513-7132 for more information.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

On April 28 a formal MOU was signed between Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works and the Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC). This agreement creates opportunities for the Corps, and other government entities to enhance and restore native plant habitat, advance awareness and appreciation of wildlife habitat issues, promote efforts to connect people with nature, and establish effective working relationships among agencies and non-governmental organizations to protect and restore wildlife.

The USACE has signed a MOU with Tread Lightly! Inc. which formalizes a national partnership with the USDA Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service. This MOU will help develop and expand a framework of cooperation at the national, regional, and local levels for planning and implementing mutually beneficial programs, projects, education, training and other activities regarding responsible recreational use of federal lands and waters.

USDA Forest Service

The U.S. Forest Service has awarded \$50 million in grants to permanently protect twenty-four working forests across twenty-one states, through the Forest Legacy Program. This program permanently protects important private forestland threatened by conversion.

The Forest Legacy Program promotes voluntary land conservation by operating on the principle of "willing buyer, willing seller." It focuses on conserving working forests - those that provide clean water, forest products, fish and wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities.

Most Forest Legacy Program projects are conserved through conservation easements, allowing landowners to keep their forestlands while protecting them from future development.

The Forest Legacy Program uses a national competitive process to select the most ecologically and socially

important, threatened and strategic projects. The program consistently leverages more than a 50-percent non-federal match, well above the 25-percent requirement. In addition, each project needs to be at least 75% forested, comply with Federal appraisal standards and complete a multi-resource forest management plan

For more information on the Forest Legacy Program go to: www.fs.fed.us/cooperativeforestry/programs/loa/flp.shtml.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Upcoming education outreach courses at the National Conservation Training Center:

- OUT8163: *Connecting People with Nature through Birds*
 - OUT8121: *Interest-Based Negotiation*
 - OUT8113: *Developing and Working with Friends Organizations*
 - OUT8106: *Powerful Presentation Tools and Techniques*
 - OUT8181: *Working with the News Media*
 - OUT8194: *Trail Management: Plans, Projects and People*
 - OUT8114: *Volunteer Recruitment and Management*
 - OUT8120: *Advanced Volunteer Management*
 - OUT8116: *Grant Writing for Conservation*
 - OUT8122: *Applying Collaboration for Environmental Issues*
 - OUT8160: *Environmental Education Methods*
- Complete descriptions and registration information are available online at <https://doilearn.doi.gov/>.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has launched a *Let's Go Outside* initiative to create a massive compilation of nearly 10,000 publicly provided photographs capturing families creating memories in nature this summer. The assembled photographs will create a Photomosaic of an outdoor image to be revealed at the conclusion of the summer, and then made into a commemorative poster.

All digital photos submitted will be included in the Photomosaic. When viewed at a distance, the Photomosaic seems to be one complete image, while close examination reveals it as a composition of thousands of smaller images. Visitors to the *Let's Go Outside* Web site will be able to watch the Photomosaic being built and locate their own images by using a unique code number.

Let's Go Outside, supported by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, encourages children, educators and parents to get outside and enjoy nature and wildlife. Submissions for the Photomosaic will be accepted from Memorial Day through Labor Day. To submit digital

photos and learn about other activities in nature, including the basics of digital nature photography, visit www.fws.gov/letsgooutside.

You can also visit the *Let's Go Outside* Web site to locate one of America's 550 remarkable national wildlife refuges and discover what nature has to offer.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is offering a new DVD that showcases some of the best and the wildest places the Refuge System has to offer. *America's Wildest Places – Volume 4* is a new DVD tour of seven locales in the refuge system. Volume 4 takes you from coast-to-coast, from the Appalachian highlands of West Virginia to the teeming shores of San Francisco Bay to the wild backcountry of Alaska and includes a special appearance by President Theodore Roosevelt as a bonus feature.

This latest edition includes a 3-minute overview of the work of the men and women of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, *Conserving the Nature of America*, and – just in time for this year's Theodore Roosevelt Sesquicentennial, celebrating the 150th anniversary of the birth of the esteemed conservation President – a series of conservation cartoons featuring TR himself, produced by some of America's most talented young video animators drawn from 16 Art Institute schools throughout the Nation.

America's Wildest Places – Volume 4 (packaged in an environmentally friendly "Eco Wallet" made of 10 percent recycled materials and printed in vegetable-based inks) is available for sale at \$6.00 (plus \$2.50 shipping and handling, regardless of the quantity ordered) from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service online ordering store at <https://vcart.velocitypayment.com/fws/> or by calling 304/876-7692. Copies of other DVDs in the *America's Wildest Places* series also are available for sale, at identical prices.

CONVENTION NEWS

Engagement - A Call To Action, 2010 APPL Convention & Trade Show, February 7-10, 2010. Details will be available soon at www.appl.org.

During the first week in June, APPL's staff will be in San Diego to begin planning for what promises to be an outstanding 2010 convention. Meetings are scheduled with representatives from our host, the Town and Country Resort (www.towncountry.com), as well as Cabrillo National Monument Foundation (www.cnmf.org), the California League of Park Associations (www.calparksleague.org) and representatives from California State Parks.

We'll also be checking out area public lands sites as potential pre and post convention venues for educational field trip opportunities.

FEDERAL UPDATES

Penalties have been increased for avoiding Federal jury service. As a result of the change in the law, individuals who do not respond to such a jury summons may now be fined as much as \$1,000 (up from \$100) and face a sentence of community service as well. Employers who retaliate against individuals who miss work because of jury service may now be penalized with a fine of up to \$5,000 (formerly \$1,000).

MEMBER NEWS

The eighteen-month rebuild of the Island in the Sky Visitor Center at Canyonlands National Park has been completed. The Park Service added 2000 square feet to the south of the existing visitor center, then demolished the old building and built a new one in its place. Once that structure was complete, they joined the two buildings and knocked down a temporary wall, which created a beautiful, open space for visitors to get the information and permits they need and to shop!

Canyonlands Natural History Association has moved their bookstore from the temporary space into the 500 square foot store allotted to them by the Park Service.

Their new space is three times bigger than the store in the old visitor center. They were able to add over forty new items which will help to expand the visitor's experience.

Cuyahoga Valley National Park Association has launched ParkShares a program that lets individuals sponsor an acre of Cuyahoga Valley National Park for a year as a way to support programs and projects in the park. For a donation of \$75, you can choose an acre for yourself or give it to someone special.

ParkShares is a green, Web based program that allows you to log on, sponsor an acre of the park (federally owned acres only) and learn about the natural and cultural resources of the park. ParkShares will allow you to:

- virtually visit the park
- sponsor an acre of your choice
- create a personal web page featuring photos and a personal blog about your acre
- gain knowledge about the park and its resources
- support important activities within the park

Each acre can only be adopted by one person, so they encourage you to visit the Web site prior to June 1st for the best selection.

Log on to www.parkshares.org to sponsor your acre today!

The new *Grand Canyon Celebration of Art*, which will launch in September of 2009 at the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park, will provide an opportunity for visitors to see the works of some of the best artists in the nation as they seek to capture the beauty of this timeless landscape on canvas. All proceeds from this event will be dedicated to the creation of a permanent art venue and will help to ensure that future generations of park visitors will be able to experience Grand Canyon art at its best. September 19 – November 1, 2009. Visit www.grandcanyon.org/celebration.asp to learn more.

Manzanar History Association (MHA) recently launched its online store at www.manzanarstore.com.

With the exceptional talents and expertise of Van Der Steur Design (Los Angeles), the site combines retro design features and archival photographs to evoke the World War II era - all with lightning-fast navigation.

MHA has added an Educators Resources box of materials created by the National Park Service to provide teachers, parents and homeschoolers with an array of materials designed to challenge students to explore civil liberties and civil rights as they learn about the internment of Japanese Americans and other facets of Manzanar's history. For more about this product, see the Special Resources section of our web site.

Two books published by the Mount Rushmore History Association won top awards at the Black Hills Advertising Awards banquet held May 7. *Gutzon Borglum: His Life & Works* and *Mount Rushmore's Hall of Records* both won a Gold Award for Publication Design, Cover in the Collateral Material category. A Gold Award recognizes the highest level of creative excellence and is judged to be superior to all other entries in the competition.

The *Gutzon Borglum* book was written by Robin Borglum Carter with cover design by Amanda Summers Design. The *Hall of Records* book was written by Paul Higbee with cover design by Jamison Spittler Design. Go to www.mtrushmorebookstore.com or call 800-699-3142 to order these award-winning books

The Mount Rushmore National Memorial Society (Society) has hired Finance Director Lynn Bauter and Administrative Assistant Jana Young in its Mount Rushmore History Association division. Bauter replaces

Brenda Hill and has a business background which includes extensive experience in managerial accounting and finance, having held CFO and controllership positions throughout her entire career. Young has 17 years experience in banking and five years of retail and customer service experience.

Refurbished by a partnership of National Park Service and the Yosemite Fund and the Yosemite Association Thomas Hill's art studio has opened as a new visitor's center. The facility has a bookstore, information on Wawona and the Mariposa Grove, and will feature the exhibits on the importance of artists in Yosemite and their important role in preservation.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Native Plant Conservation Initiative, a program of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, supports projects that focus on the conservation of native plants and pollinators throughout the United States. In 2009, priority will be given to projects that focus on the effects of climate change as it pertains to the conservation, restoration, and sustainability of North American native plant conservation in the 21st century. Funded projects should benefit multiple species, achieve a variety of resource management objectives, and/or lead to revised management practices that reduce the causes of habitat degradation. A special emphasis is placed on larger projects that demonstrate a landscape-level approach and produce lasting, broad-based results on the ground. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations and local, state, and federal government agencies. The application deadline is July 1, 2009. Online application guidelines are available at www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Charter_Programs_List&CONTENTID=12598&TEMPLATE=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm.

The Kodak American Greenways Program is administered by The Conservation Fund. This program recognizes both individuals and organizations for their leadership in preserving and enhancing national outdoor heritage in the United States. Nominations of individuals, organizations, corporations, and public agencies that have made outstanding achievements related to greenways, blueways, trails, and open space systems throughout America will be considered for the 2009 National Kodak Awards. Up to four winners will be selected. In addition, 2009 Kodak American Greenways Program Grants will be awarded to eligible land trusts, local governments, and other organizations for small greenway projects that

advance the program's goals: catalyzing new greenway projects, assisting grassroots greenway organizations, leveraging additional monies for conservation and greenway development, and promoting the use and enjoyment of greenways. All materials are due June 30, 2009. Visit www.conservationfund.org/kodak_awards for additional information.

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

July 2009

National Park and Recreation Month – Visit www.nrpa.org/content/default.aspx?documentId=2145 for complete details.

August 2009

National Scenic Byways Conference, August 23-26, Denver, CO. Visit www.bywaysresourcecenter.org for more information.

National Park Service Founders Day, August 25.

September 2009

National Public Lands Day, September 26. Visit www.publiclandsday.org to register your event, volunteer or to learn more about this annual day of service to America's public lands.

5th Annual National Conference of the Alliance of Natural Resource Outreach & Service Programs: Master Naturalist Programs and More, September 28th - October 2nd, US Fish and Wildlife Service National Conservation Training Center, Shepherdstown, WV. Visit www.anrosp.org for details.

October 2009

North American Association for Environmental Education Conference, Creative Leadership in Environmental Education, October 7-10, Portland, OR. More information may be found at www.naaee.org.

National Trust for Historic Preservation Conference, October 13-17, Nashville, TN. Log onto www.preservationnation.org for details.

November 2009

World Ranger Congress, November 1-7, Santa Cruz, Bolivia. The International Ranger Federation hosts this Congress every three years. Registration and more information at: www.worldrangercongress.org.

2009 National Publishing Conference and Book Industry Trade Show, November 11-14, Doubletree Hotel - Reid Park, Tucson, Arizona. Visit www.pubwest.org/index.php?page_id=222 for additional information.

NAI National Workshop, November 17-21, Hartford, CT. Learn more at www.interpnet.com/workshop.

February 2010

Engagement - A Call To Action, 2010 APPL Convention & Trade Show, February 7-10, 2010.

MARKETPLACE

Featuring contributors to APPL's Vendor Support Program (VSP). View a directory of all our VSP contributors at www.appl.org/Vendors/vsp_directory.htm.

Arcadia Publishing is the leading publisher of local and regional history in the United States. The successful *Images of America* series features instantly recognizable sepia toned covers and the books celebrate the places and faces that give America its spirit and life. Local authors and vintage images present a curbside look and street level understanding of an area's bygone times.

Arcadia Publishing released their 2010 Calendar Series this May. Each 12" x 12", 16-month wall calendar is location specific, features stunning historical images, and is compiled by the local history expert who authored the companion book. The calendars are designed in the very successful and instantly recognizable sepia images format. For more information about this gift item that brings memories back month after month, visit www.arcadiapublishing.com, e-mail sales@arcadiapublishing.com or call 888-313-2665.

Charlesbridge Publishing has two new books for young readers of interest to the public lands community:

- *Into the Deep: The Life of Naturalist Explorer William Beebe* - William Beebe was a pioneer in the field of ecology, the father of deep-sea exploration, and an avid conservationist. This picture-book biography charts the life of this famous naturalist from his childhood studying animals in New Jersey through his later years studying birds at the research station he started in Trinidad. Back matter includes quotes from Beebe, a glossary of terms, and an illustrated cross section of the Bathysphere, which Beebe helped design.
- *Up, Up, and Away* - Ginger Wadsworth and Patricia J. Wynne chronicle the real-life drama of one spider as she eats, grows, spins a dragline of silk, and soars up, up, and away to find a home of her own.

Learn more about these and other titles from Charlesbridge at www.charlesbridge.com or contact Donna Spurlock at 617-926-0329, extension 122 or dspurlock@charlesbridge.com.

Gallopade International has the perfect books to help children (and adults!) celebrate America's Great Outdoors Month in June. Before you go exploring the fun and magnificent outdoors, learn about what you will discover while walking through national parks and forests with these five Science Alliance earth science books: *Ecosystems and the Food Chain*, *Habitats*, *Rocks and Minerals*, *Landforms*, and *Natural Resources and Conservation*. Each book focuses on a specific topic that is content rich and activity strong, making learning fun while at home, in the car, or camping. Each book includes hands-on experiments, tools and equipment, careers, technology, innovators, and a science fair project. For more information, please contact Gallopade International at 800-536-2438 or visit www.gallopade.com.

NatureSong, has been recording the sounds of nature in North America for over 24 years and they sparked a lot of interest at APPL's Baltimore Show in March. They feature the most extensive library of natural sounds without music or talking found anywhere. High quality, digitally recorded Bird Song CD's have now become the best selling natural sounds anywhere, and NatureSong has them all.

Now available for the first time, are high quality "Specific Nature Sounds and Bird Song CD's" from every National Park and every region of the U.S. and Canada. A great line of Songbird Serenade CD's has also been introduced featuring over 60 minutes of pure ambient bird songs without music from almost all National Parks. For a free sample call Bill Leverick at 239-498-5300 or go to: www.naturesong.net for more information.

Questar is releasing two new programs in its bestselling *Scenic National Parks* series on Blu-ray. Zion & Bryce and Glacier, Banff & Jasper will be released on July 21. Each retails for \$27.99.

The *Scenic National Parks* was the first National Parks series on Blu-ray. Each program features stunning high-definition cinematography that will leave outdoor and wildlife enthusiasts breathless.

Also available in the *Scenic National Parks* series are Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, Yosemite, Alaska & Hawaii, Great Train Rides, The Best of the National Parks, and a three-disc boxed set containing Grand Canyon, Yellowstone & Yosemite.

Details about these new discs and the entire series may be found at www.questarhomevideo.com

Rosen Publishing has released *Creatures of the Night*, a new 6-book series. This series introduces readers to some of North America's most common nocturnal and crepuscular creatures. Full-color photographs help readers get up close and personal with these incredible animals. Titles in this series include: *Bats in the Dark*; *Crickets in the Dark*; *Owls in the Dark*; *Raccoons in the Dark*; *Scorpions in the Dark*; and *Skunks in the Dark*.

This series will be available in both paperback and library-bound editions. If you would like to receive complimentary review copies, please contact Tricia Bauer (646-205-7477, triciab@rosenpub.com) or Dan Faust (646-205-7490, danf@rosenpub.com).

RESOURCES

Additional resources are available at www.appl.org/Links/links.html. Suggest a resource by e-mailing appl@appl.org.

Want to learn more about how to utilize tools like Facebook and social networking applications to help your organization build community? Tech Soup offers lots of helpful resources at <http://blog.techsoup.org/node/27>.

While you are setting up your Facebook page don't forget to choose APPL's as one of your favorites! Visit APPL's page at www.facebook.com/pages/Association-of-Partners-for-Public-Lands/53909471506.

According to a new survey by the Nonprofit Finance Fund, the recession is undermining the financial health of nonprofit groups, nearly a third of which ended last year with a deficit. The Fund surveyed nearly 1,000 nonprofit leaders in February and March. Sixty-five percent of survey respondents said they had developed a "worst-case scenario contingency budget" or were considering doing so; 41% were considering cutting jobs or salaries or had already done so; and 39% had cut or reduced programs or were considering that step. The report is available online at www.nonprofitfinancefund.org/content.php?autoID=166.

Project Streamline, a collaborative initiative of eight organizations, including the National Council of Nonprofits, is working to improve grant application and reporting in ways that reduce costs for both grantmakers and grantseekers. It has released its Spring 2009 online newsletter, which provides information on how grantmakers are right-sizing application and reporting requirements. Learn more about Project Streamline at: www.projectstreamline.org.