



Minutes/Notes of 22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the **EARTH** Group at ASC  
Tuesday, May 5, 2009  
Noon, Student Life Center, SUB  
<http://www.adams.edu/sustainability> (our website)  
<http://ascearth.wordpress.com/> (blog – add a comment!)


**Present:** Christy Miller, Cameron Miller, Aaron Miltenberger, Kailee Potter, Dan Carver, Don Thompson, Rob Benson, Chuck Reel, Renee Beeton, Jared Beeton, Christine Preiss, Kelsea MacIlroy, Anna Miani, Edgar Thomas, Mick Daniel, Marty Jones.

**Next regular meeting: Tuesday, June 2, 2009 at noon in the Student Life Center of the SUB.**


### **Announcements and Action Items:**


#### Internship, etc. opportunities:


1. Marianna King is working on a proposal to fund a green community center in Monte Vista (near the Monte Vista Co-op) that would center on alternative energy public education and development and economic development. The facility would include a state of the art greenhouse with vortexed water system and hydroponic gardening, as well as a children's botanical garden. The facility would be a showcase of applied alternative energy. The budget now reflects three interns per semester plus summer school at 8 hours a week and \$10 an hour. We'll be looking for computer sciences, art/graphic design, business, ag business, and science majors to work for the center. I am working on job description to help with web design, brochures and other educational material, a project from each student that would be supportive of the center, such as a research project about the willingness of local farmers to utilize green methods and/or become involved in green projects, such as algae farming. EARTH students can help the project by volunteering for a gala grand opening of the center. I am hoping to solicit volunteer students to help with publicity, decorating the Center facility, and hosting/hostessing visiting dignitaries and other community people. This may seem premature, however it is a good idea at this point to get a letter of support from EARTH. **Is it possible for you to write a letter, promising 40 hours of student help at that time?** The group suggested that this should be no problem, so Marty will draft a letter to send to Marianna for her inclusion in the grant application.
2. Mary Hoffman from Community Partnerships has alerted us to this opportunity: The USDA Resource Conservation & Development has an opening for an unpaid internship involving project planning & organizing around renewable energy and recycling feasibility studies. Work closely with USDA RC&D Coordinator to monitor and track progress of feasibility studies with contractors. Student will obtain experience in project management (unpaid). Send resume to ASC Community Partnerships; contact 587-8227 for more information.


 **EARTH Week:** Monday night's variety/talent show was a well-attended event. First place went to Zach Burrell for his video about Super Ordinary Man (\$75); second place went to Dan Carver and Ian Hellman for juggling (\$50 gift certificate to May Wa), third place went to Margery Herrington for singing/guitar playing (\$25 gift certificate to Jazzman's); and a special judges' award went to Paul Kobe for playing his "junk" set (ASC sweatshirt). Tuesday's bike ride on the Alamosa Ranch had only a few riders. Wednesday's film about local foods (Heart and Soil) was attended by 20 or so. The excellent concert on Thursday night with Rescue Party had about 50 folks in attendance. The river cleanup scheduled for Friday was postponed due to snow. It was held on Friday, May 1 from 2-4 pm and about 10 folks picked up 15 or so bags of trash along both sides of the river from La Veta Ave almost to Cole Park. The Mountain Film Festival had . The fun run/walk scheduled for Saturday morning was also postponed (rescheduled for May 2, only to be postponed again due to a conflict with another 5K – see announcement below). The Reduce, Reuse, Recycle garage sale was moved indoors and was a great success - \$270 was raised. The cloudy weather forestalled solar cooking, but Audrey Liu brought a solar cooker for folks to look at, and Jan Oen from the Community Gardens brought some plants from the greenhouse. The solar water heater demo finally got off the ground at 11 am, when the sun finally arrived. The talks from SunEdison and Costilla Biodiesel were sparsely but enthusiastically attended. Finally, about 3-4 pallets worth of

electronics (monitors, CPUs, cell phones, TVs, etc.) were collected by Mike Wyatt of Buffalo Peaks Recycling. He was disappointed at the turnout, but would be willing to come once more. See below for more information. Thanks to all the committee members (James and Angela Bedard, Linda Relyea, Marty Jones, Tracy Doyle, Jared Beeton, Rachel Raguindin, David Helmuth), additional volunteers (Karen Lemke, Kelsea MacIlroy, David Montgomery, Mick Daniel, Audrey Liu, Jan Oen, Diana Jones, Christy and Cameron Miller, Frank Novotny, Suzanne Shriber, Eric Schwiesow), and our partners (ASC Adventure Program, ASC Community Partnerships, Habitat for Humanity, Alamosa Community Greenhouse, the Alamosa Live Music Association, SLV Local Foods Coalition) who helped make this a successful week. Thanks especially to Provost Mumper, who provided the bulk of the funding for this week!

 Fun Run/Walk: Saturday, August 29. Registration at 9 am, run/walk begins at 9:30 am. \$5 gets you a custom t-shirt, drinks/snacks, and a chance at one of 4 fabulous prizes! We'll also have the solar water heater set up for demonstration.

 Electronics Recycling: We hope to have another round of electronics recycling on October 10. Stay tuned for details as the summer progresses

 Trayless Tuesdays and Thursdays have been in effect in the cafeteria since the middle of February. Next year, the cafeteria will be completely trayless. Thanks to Kristen Zagranski and the Sodexo Staff!


 Composting Grant – We found out late last week that the proposal submitted to the Recycling Resources Economic Opportunity (RREO) program at the Colorado Department of Health was not selected for funding. Here are the comments about the grant application:


- Sounds like a good project, providing composting in an area of the state that has limited composting capacity. Cost is relatively low for the benefit derived.
- Excellent community partnerships, not a lot of in-kind \$. Support of rural southern Colorado efforts important.
- Good community partnerships.
- Unfortunately we had limited funds this year to give out due to the CO legislature taking funding from us to cover the state's budget issues, otherwise more projects could have been funded.

These comments don't help us too much, but they do give us hope that if the program exists next year, we'll be able to apply again and try to increase our direct and/or in-kind financial support


 Alamosa Community Gardens:

1. The Gardens are sponsoring a hoop-house greenhouse construction workshop on May 10-12, 2009 (a seminar on the evening of May 10, with the hands-on workshop May 11, and wrap-up on May 12). Contact Eleanor West at the CSU Extension Service in Monte Vista (852-7381) for more information. There is a \$10 fee for the workshop.
2. Polston Garden Nights will be held every Tuesday from 5-7 at the Polston garden. Work a bit, harvest some produce.
3. The Gardens are also sponsoring a Garden Camp starting the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June on Thursday mornings from 9-noon at the Polston garden. The camp is open to children from 5-10 years of age.


 The SLV Local Foods Coalition and EARTH are hosting a Local Foods Symposium on May 15 from 11-4:30 at the ASC Student Union Building, Room 309. A local foods lunch will be provided. Guest speakers Mark Winne, Pam Roy, and Clark de Schweinitz will share their expertise and work with participants. Winne, author of "Closing the Food Gap: Resetting the Table in the Land of Plenty," has thirty years' experience working on community food-system issues, including hunger and food insecurity, local and regional agriculture, community assessment, and food policy. Roy is the co-director of Farm to Table, Inc., a non-profit organization whose mission is to enhance the livelihoods of farmers and ranchers in New Mexico while encouraging communities to participate in "buying local" at their farmers' markets and stores. Among her other roles, Roy is a co-founder and steering committee member of the Southwest Marketing Network and works on many of the Network's projects including farmers' market development, Farm to School initiatives, and policy work. De Schweinitz is an attorney who co-developed and chairs the New Mexico Food and Agriculture Policy Council and who provides organizational development assistance through Farm to Table.

 Reminder: There will be two 1 credit hour Habitat for Humanity service learning courses offered in May. One course will be from May 14-16 and the other will be from May 21-23. You'll get hands-on experience


with house construction at a house on Pikes Peak and 7<sup>th</sup> Street. The courses are listed on the summer schedule as ID 179 - Habitat4Humanity Green Home and the CRNs are 10206 and 10208.


 One last note – This will finish my second year as the *de facto* “leader” of the EARTH group, and I would be happy to have someone else assume that role. Please contact me if you are interested.

### **Task Force Reports:**

 Recycling – Dan reported that three decorated 55 gal drums are now in place outdoors for recyclable bottles and cans. Thanks to Dan, Christine, Georgia, Josh, and Amy for bringing this project to fruition!

Remember – ASC Community Partnerships has arranged to recycle plastic lids/caps! Please take your lids/caps to the Community Partnerships building at the corner of HWY 160 and Edgemont for recycling.

 Transportation – The Green Bike Program (with cool yellow cruisers) is still going great. AS&F is amenable to providing funding for more green bikes if a storage area can be found. We’re working on that. Thanks to Mick and the Adventure Program for providing the checkout and maintenance!

 Communications/Education/Publicity – Please send sustainability tips to Katie Silva ([kgsilva@adams.edu](mailto:kgsilva@adams.edu)).

Thanks for all of your work for EARTH.

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Submitted by Marty Jones, 5/8/09