

2020 Annual Report



PEEC Board of Trustees

MISSION

The Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC) advances environmental education, sustainable living and appreciation for nature through hands on experience in a national park.

VISION

"An environmentally enlightened world"

PEEC Board of Trustees OFFICERS

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PEEC People

In the summer of 2022, Jeff Rosalsky caught me off guard with his announcement that after his many years serving as PEEC's Executive Director, he was ready for retirement. He has been the face of PEEC since my first experience at the Center. At his retirement celebration, Board member Henry Skier wrote "The PEEC family is influenced in many ways by Jeff's leadership... children, young, and mature adults admire him as an environmentalist and a leader of his community. I am fortunate to know and respect Jeff. Aren't we all?" I whole-heartedly agree. I think many people are affiliated with PEEC because of Jeff's enthusiasm for the Center. I think we all fed off his energy and thus wanted to be a part of his community.



K. Joy Karnas, Ph.D., Chair of the Board of Trustees

Change is never easy. Few people welcome change. And yet, change is natural and necessary.

The PEEC landscape has changed before. A visit to this campus in the 1950s would have required a recently obtained marriage license as Honeymoon Haven catered solely to newlyweds. You could nestle into one of the quaint cottages, swim in the resort pool, or engage in an activity like bowling, hiking, or horseback riding. By the late 1970s, few newlyweds were making the Poconos their honeymoon destination, and, thus, change was thrust upon this site as it transitioned to an environmental education center. The six-lane bowling alley became classroom-learning spaces and bunkbeds replaced the single beds and inset bathtubs in the cabins. The dining hall transitioned to a nature center and then was replaced by decking and yurts. The indoor swimming pool now houses a simulated bat cave and beaver dam, and new log cabin bunkhouses are popping up in the heart of the campus.

Change is hard, but it can also be a way forward.

In January 2023, Kelly Daly began her role as the Executive Director for PEEC, and we are already beginning to see her impact on the Center. Summer camps have been expanded, increasing availability, clearing the waitlists, and ensuring that all children can have the PEEC summer experience. To help with this expansion, there have been newly hired summer staff, including international counselors, providing entirely new perspectives (and accents) for the summer students to absorb. Students are participating in "NASA Goes to Camp" as they pilot some of the GLOBE Observer curriculum for citizen science and interact with experts through virtual sessions provided by NASA. As we look forward, there are plans for additional hiring and expanded experiences for students. Community connections are being established and strengthened as PEEC invites a more diverse community to experience what PEEC has to offer, adds more exciting public programs to the calendar, and the Center develops partnerships with other organizations such as the Academy of Natural Sciences and Penn State Extension.

PEEC has been a force for environmental education for over 50 years and has benefited from transition and change. I am proud to be a part of this still-thriving community and invite you to join me as we see where the next 50 years take us!

~ K. Joy Karnas, Ph.D., Chair of the Board of Trustees



Kelly Daly, Incoming Executive Director, and Jeff Rosalsky, Retiring Executive Director

PEEC Management Team

3		
Executive Director	Jeffrey Rosalsky	
Director of Business Management	Kirsten Larick	
Director of Development		
Facilities & Physical Plant Manager	Ted Wetzel	
Head of Maintenance	Marc Wetzel	
Director of Education	Stephanie Sherman	
Director of Operations		
Director of Group and Grant Coordination	George Johnson	
Public Program Manager / Volunteer Coordinator	Kate Hausman	
Asst. Summer Camp Director / Special Events Coordinator	Justin Murray	
Program Planner	Sara Neral	
Financial Director of Grants		
Dining Hall Manager	Alissa McDermott / Judith Lanza	
Public Relations / Marketing	Janine Morley	

Instructors & Interns

Cassandra Colefield, Anthony Derrenbacher, Nikayla Dejonzka, Andrea Drumbore, Kaitlyn Jones, Kayleigh Karpowicz, Lauren Knierim, Kaitlyn Korblick, Angela O'Brien, Claire Mcharg, Kimberly Price, Holli Saar, Christina Santo, Marissa Seip, Amanda Smith, Elayan Syfor, Henry Troijan, Michael Wall, Lawrence Zmuda

Education & Operations Updates

Education Updates

In 2022, PEEC welcomed 85 groups for overnight programming with a total of 5,925 visitors. The spring season began with visits from 30 schools and autumn saw the return of schools making up for lost pandemic-era trips. Shout-outs to the Girl Scout Survival crew, Stevens Cooperative, Tucakhoe, Greene Street Friends and new school Solomon Schecter for executing 2 or more trips to catch up students on programming!

PEEC continues to expand its partnership with the National Park Service and schools in our surrounding community through *PEEC into the Classroom* programming. In 2022, PEEC delivered 72 programs serving approximately 1,650 students across 17 schools.

Held during Indigenous People's weekend, PEEC welcomed over 600 visitors to celebrate our 50th Anniversary during Harvest Festival. Highlighting PEEC's role in educating visitors about the lands of the Lenape people, PEEC received generous support from the **Rotary Club of the Stroudsburgs** and **Greater Pike Community Foundation** to host the National Scenic Visitor Center's *Earthwalk Explorer Exhibit*; a large walk-on relief map of Pennsylvania and surrounding Appalachian Mountain states providing insights into the Lenape people and their stewardship of these lands.



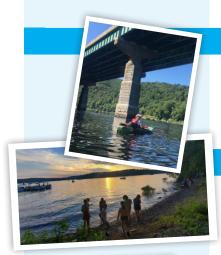


Operations Updates

- Judith Lanza joined PEEC in 2022 as the Director of Dining Services. In addition to adding a variety of new recipes for groups, Judith began offering cooking and baking classes in the Dining Hall. More classes are planned for 2023.
- The DEWA Trail Stewards continued volunteering at PEEC this past year. During the
 third weekend of each month (April November), these volunteers tackle everything
 from clearing brush to painting trail blazes and building bridges. Without their dedication,
 PEEC would not be able to keep the trails nearly as well maintained. This past year they
 expanded their work and improved our tent site by re-building raised platforms.
- Also in 2022, several of the older, un-renovated cabins on the hill were replaced by new log cabins. PEEC plans to acquire funding to install additional log cabins, which will provide new bunks for guests and take PEEC forward into the next 50 years of environmental education.



Take a PEEC!



Watchers on the Water

The Academy of Natural Sciences and Independence Seaport Museum participated in our multiday river camping trips. Each organization brought roughly 17 people and spent their time here learning about our local watershed. Funding for Watchers on the Water was provided by the **William Penn Foundation.**



The Sci Q Project

This year, 13 students took advantage of our week-long residential science camp. **ThorLabs** and **First Energy** Foundation graciously provided the funding for the students to visit our local universities, a tour of Sterling Hill Mine Museum, and more.





Bridge the Gap

In 2022, we hosted 24 free or low cost public programs through generous funding from the **William Penn Foundation**. We had approximately 230 participants for BTG programs, which included: snowshoeing, cross country skiing, orienteering, and pond and river paddles.





With funding from the **William Penn Foundation**, 5 different schools participated in our WATER! (Watershed Awareness – Teaching Everyone Responsibility) programming in 2022. In total, 241 students from the Philadelphia region experienced a 2-night/3-day stay at PEEC.



Summer Camp

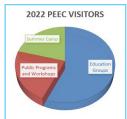
PEEC Summer Camps welcomed over 400 campers during our 7 week season! This makes Summer 2022 our largest summer camp season yet! We also increased our staffing capacity to include an entry level Camp Counselor position for high school graduates. Camp Director Steph was pleased to hire 3 former volunteer counselors for their first paid jobs at PEEC!

Fast Facts

Public Programs: In 2022, PEEC held 105 public programs. These programs included guided interpretive hikes, sightseeing trips, weekend workshops, and wacky science lessons for kids. Total public program visitor numbers for the year are approximately 19,500.

Additionally, The EcoZone was open for the public 18 days, with over 250 visitors enjoying the exhibits of the indoor discovery room.





Volunteers: We had 423 volunteers help out at PEEC in 2022. We appreciated help in the EcoZone, around campus, and on the trails!

Trail Use: In 2022, over 10,250 people used PEEC's twelve miles of publically accessible and FREE hiking trails!



Scout Programs: 39 Scouts (Girl Scouts and Scouts BSA) attended PEEC Badge Fests in 2022. Additionally, 26 troops, totaling 504 visitors, join us at PEEC for individualized field trips.

Fundraising & Financial Report

Through the success of our fundraising events, 100 for \$1,000, Tough as Trails, and NEPA Gives, and the generosity of our donors and our Board of Trustees, we surpassed our \$100,000 goal for the 50th Anniversary Endowment Fund. Over \$103,000 and counting will safeguard PEEC financially as we look toward the next 50 years of environmental education stewardship.









D	in and Other Comment	2021	2022
	ains, and Other Support	432,030	821,368
	rants	381.076	620,808
	rants - COVID	802,671	020,000
	ontributions	142,642	242,815
-	ndraising	32,068	15,128
	vestment Income	4.686	6,030
	et Unrealized (loss) Gain on Investments	1,836	-10,954
	ft Shop	8.974	25,404
	ther Income	_	_
Total Reve	nue, Gains, and Other Support	1,805,983	1,720,599
Expenses			
	tructional / Program Services	1,113,680	1,393,392
	anagement and General	110,626	141,036
De	evelopment and Fundraising	7,010	6,119
Total expenses		1,231,316	1,540,547
(Decrease) Inc	rease in Net Assets from Operations	574,667	180,052
Net Assets, Be	ginning of Year as Previously Reported	913,077	1,487,744
Net assets,	End of Year	1,487,744	1,667,796
De	epreciation	34,675	33,624
Of	ther Adjustments to Reconcile Changes in Net Assets	65,934	(59,602)
Net Cash P	rovided by (Used in) Operating Activities	675,276	1,641,818
Net Cash Flow	vs from Investing Activities / Payments for Property & Equipment	(18,173)	(401,631)
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents		(16,299) 640,804	(14,849) (262,406)
	h Equvalent: End of Year	1,405,993	1,143,587
	tal Disclosures: During Year for Interest	3,252	4,279



2022 PEEC SUPPORTERS



Jim Amigh Dean Baratta Paul Biedlingmaier Peter and Sally Bohlin

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RED SHOULDERED HAWK

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TREE SWALLOW



Daniel Amenda and Anna Panettiere Karen Armstrong
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Barbara Frazier Christyan Gilbert Gussie Graffeo Lorraine Gregory Linda Hahn Joseph Paul Horning George and Ashley Johnson Robert Joyce George and Helen Lauscher Mary-Ann and David Lewis Chris and Marcy Martin Paul and Marguerite Menditto

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EASTERN PHOEBE



Karen Aho Anna Alimossy Lindsay Augustine Michael and Kimberly Bassett Mickey and Barbara Black Sheri Bone Adele Breitkreitz Aaron Brown Victoria Callaghan Ann Capozzolo Bonnie Congiu Angelo Correa Margaret and Winston Crawley Jennifer and Brian Drake Ed Eberhardt Jane and Wayne Evans

James Frye David and Kathleen Gardocki Bill and Rosemarie Hammond III Hardina Eva lakubowski Tamre and Robert Joyce Ron Kanarr Mary Beth Kashuba Obi Kaye Isabel Keppel Brad Koller Rachael Lane Ben and Kirsten Larick Charles Lewitz Jacqueline Liotto Robert Luebkemann

Charles and Barbara McCarthy Brianna Mcleod Miranda Mead Patricia Michelin Milford Garden Club Lisa Miller Ioseph Moricone Kevin and Janine Morley Mary Murray Darlene Norris Peters Valley School of Craft Jeffrey Phillips Sarah Raley Debbie Risko Amber Rohner

Melissa Romero Derek and Alyssa Scott Carole and Fred Serino Stephanie Sherman-Barr Bob and Dori Stewart Martha and Walt Szychulski Kay Tosi Helene Trimarchi Yekaterina Trofmova and Misha Bereslavski Mary Ann Uppstrom Marianne and Rick Walsh Lois Weingarten Daniea White-Gouldthorpe and Samuel Gouldthorne

IN MEMORY & IN HONOR DONATIONS

Jim Amigh

In Memory of Lee Todd Amigh and Dr. Marie Kuhnen

John and Sherry Cohn

Scott Elder and Barbette Weimer-Elder In Memory of Ryan McLaughlin

Niki Fluck

In the Name of Betty White In Honor of Jeff Rosalsky's Retirement

Pam Gregory and David Palladino George Hill

Carol A. Hill

Marcia Kaplan-Mann

In Memory of Michael Mann and In Honor of Jack Padalino

Jack and Carol Padalino

In Memory of Marie Kuhnen In Memory of Sondra Rosalsky

Jeff Rosalsky and Gail Shuttleworth

Judie Rosborough

In Memory of Heather Rosborough

Weiss Humanick Support Services LLC In Memory of Connie

In Honor of Marc Gold

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Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau **PPL Electric Utilities** Rotary of the Strousburgs TC Energy Foundation The Dime Bank The Richardson Foundation ThorLabs Walmart Wayne Memorial Community Health Centers Weis Markets, Inc Weiss Humanick Support Services LLC

Pike County COVID 19 Relief Fund

Pine Forest Camp

Thank You for Your Continued Support

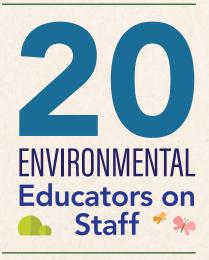


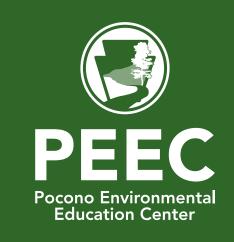
3 TYPES OF PROGRAMS

- On-Site Trips
- Virtual Outreach
- In-Person Outreach



50 YEARS ENVIRONMENTAL & SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION







- Water Quality
- Wildlife Ecology
- Geology





310 BEDS: Overnight Trips



PEEC is close to home, where learning comes naturally!

PEEC is located off of Route 209 inside the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area in Dingmans Ferry, PA.

538 Emery Road • Dingmans Ferry, Pennsylvania 18328

570-828-2319 | peec@peec.org | www.peec.org