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# South Carolina Earth Science Teachers Association Newsletter

## Help With the Earth Science Teacher's Share-a-thon!

Let's do it again! Folks just loved our share-a-thon last year – contact Tom Littlejohn to let him know if you can help this year. ([teligrafix@aol.com](mailto:teligrafix@aol.com)) You'll need to bring about 100 copies of your activity and any visual or demonstrations of it for the share-a-thon.

### 'Need to Contact an Officer?'

**President: Carla Keasler**  
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**Nominations for the Outstanding Earth Science Teacher for 2004 are now being accepted.**

The nomination form will soon be posted on the SCESTA website. In the meantime, you can get a nomination form from Dr. John Wagner at Clemson University [jrwgnr@clemson.edu](mailto:jrwgnr@clemson.edu).

## Earth Science Week 2003

October 12 - 18, 2003

National Earth Science Week is Oct. 12-18 this year. Wonderful ideas and resources are available on their web site at: <http://www.earthsciweek.org/>

This year's theme is "Eyes on Planet Earth: Monitoring our Changing World". It seems this can easily be tied into the curriculum of any grade and still be addressing the standards. Host an exploration table for Parent's Open House!

## Fieldtrip Idea

**Grade Level:** K–College  
**Address:** P.O. Box 550  
Carolina Beach,  
NC 28428

**Contact:** Richard Cecelski

**Phone:** 910-458-7302  
**Fax:** 910-458-9333  
**Email:** [caro1ocean@aol.com](mailto:caro1ocean@aol.com)

Marine education boating cruises to Shackleford Banks, Cape Lookout, Masonboro Island, Frying Pan Shoals Light Tower, and ocean reefs. Activities include marsh exploration, beach studies, clamming, crabbing, fishing, sorting catch of trawls. For groups of 20–140, program cost range from 16–46 dollars per student.

## New Ideas for Your Classroom

**Resources from the Inclusive Science and Special Educational Needs Website** - In the UK, the Association for Science Education has been working with the National Association for Special Educational Needs to develop resources and interactive materials that are accessible and useful in science. These can be accessed from [www.issen.org.uk](http://www.issen.org.uk), or a CD-ROM of materials can be accessed directly at [www.ase.org.uk/sen](http://www.ase.org.uk/sen).

**All Posters.com** has awesome, low priced [Earth science](#), [Astronomy](#), [Oceanography](#), [Paleontology](#) and [Science & Inventions](#).

**Ideas to Celebrate the Visit of Mars** - The Planetary Society and the LEGO Company announce a new Mars exploration adventure: the [Astrobot Diaries](#) <<http://redovergoestomars.org/astrobots/>> and the [Mars Stations](#) <<http://redovergoestomars.org/drive.html>>. The programs enable young people and adults to journey vicariously to the Red Planet with NASA's Mars Exploration Rover mission.

**Earth's Clock of Life** - This graphic from the University of Washington, appropriate for middle level students and older, depicts Earth's history in terms of a 12-hour clock. See [www.washington.edu/newsroom/news/2003archive/01-03archive/k011303a.html](http://www.washington.edu/newsroom/news/2003archive/01-03archive/k011303a.html).

**A New Universe To Explore—Careers in Astronomy** - This booklet offers career guidance

information for high school, college, and graduate school students and teachers. It includes a special section entitled "Where Astronomers Work." Consult [www.aas.org/education/career.html#work](http://www.aas.org/education/career.html#work) to view and download the booklet.

**The Geo Zone** - Explore science and geography, and take a look at life at the bottom of the sea with this video from WCET-TV in Cincinnati, Ohio, an educational technology project for middle level and high school teachers and students. See [www.edtech.wcet.org/geozone](http://www.edtech.wcet.org/geozone).

**Your Sky** - With this online interactive planetarium appropriate for elementary and middle level classes, users can produce sky maps for any time, date, and viewing location and check out a virtual telescope. See [www.fourmilab.ch/yoursky](http://www.fourmilab.ch/yoursky).

The **USGS Website** for teachers now has PDF versions of the many neat paper models it offers. Take a second look at [http://interactive2.usgs.gov/learning/web/teachers/paper\\_models.htm](http://interactive2.usgs.gov/learning/web/teachers/paper_models.htm).

**Your Life, Your World, Your Choices Kit** - In September 2003, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will launch its "Make a Difference" campaign, which encourages teens in grades 7-12 to make informed decisions in their day-to-day lives to help protect the environment. As part of the campaign, EPA is offering free copies of a resource kit that can inspire teens to reduce, reuse, and recycle to "make a difference" at home, at school, and in their communities. To request a Your Life, Your World, Your Choices kit, call 1-800-424-9346, or visit [www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/students.htm#mad](http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/students.htm#mad)

## Upcoming Teacher Awards & Grants

Don't forget the **Mining Association of S.C.'s Award for Innovative**

**Teaching.** Get details at: <http://www.scmines.com/>

**From the NSTA Web Site:**

[Ciba Exemplary Middle Level and High School Principal Awards](#)

[Ciba Exemplary Middle Level and High School Science Teaching Award](#)

[DCAT Making a Difference Award](#)

[Delta Education Awards for Excellence in Inquiry-based Science Teaching](#)

[Distinguished Informal Science Education Award](#)

[Distinguished Service to Science Education Award](#)

[Distinguished Teaching Award](#)

[Estes Rocketry / Space Foundation Space Educator Award](#)

[Gustav Ohaus Awards for Innovations in Science Teaching](#)

[Robert H. Carleton Award](#)

[Science Screen Report Award](#)

[Shell Science Teaching Award](#)

[Vernier Technology Awards](#)

## **Toyota TAPESTRY Grant Program (Deadline Jan. 16, 2004)**

The 2004 Toyota TAPESTRY program will award 50 grants of up to \$10,000 each and a minimum of 20 "mini-grants" of \$2,500 each to K-12 science teachers. Interested teachers should propose innovative science projects that can be implemented in their school or school district over a one-year period. Toyota TAPESTRY projects demonstrate creativity, involve risk-taking, possess a visionary quality, and model a novel way of presenting science. If you have a great way to make science come alive, apply for a Toyota TAPESTRY grant.

## Student Opportunities

### [Send Your Name to a Comet](#) -

People worldwide may celebrate July 4, 2005, as the day their names reach a comet. NASA is launching a campaign to send hundreds of thousands of names to comet Tempel 1. Deadline is **January 2004**.

### **South Carolina Wildlife magazine's Young Outdoors Writers Competition**

offers students a chance to win up to a \$500 savings bond from using their language arts skills to write a story of their journey as water from the top of Sassafras Mountain to the sea. Deadline for entries is Nov. 21, 2003. Get the brochure at <http://www.dnr.state.sc.us/cec/education/img/yowc.pdf>

### **Craftsman/NSTA Young Inventors Awards**

<http://www.nsta.org/programs/craftsman/>

**(Deadline March 16, 2004)** The Craftsman/NSTA Young Inventors Awards Program challenges students to use creativity and imagination along with science, technology, and mechanical ability to invent or modify a tool.

### **ExploraVision Awards**

<http://www.toshiba.com/tai/exploration/>

**(Deadline Feb., 2004)**

ExploraVision is a competition for students of all interest, skill, and ability levels in grades K-12. Entrants must be United States or Canadian citizens or legal residents, living within the United States, U.S. Territories, or Canada. The purpose of the competition is to encourage students to combine their imaginations with the tools of science to create and explore a vision of a future technology.

## **Share Your Best Practices!**

Don't ya just despise seeing lessons or activities that sound like they would never work with your students? You have the voice of experience and we need your expertise. We'd like every member

of SCESTA to share one of their favorite lessons, activities, or other tips through the newsletter. Please send anything – demos, tips, or full lessons to [dpetty@usit.net](mailto:dpetty@usit.net).

*Thanks !*

## **Upcoming Courses and Workshops of Interest to Earth Science Teachers**

If you know of any courses or workshops we can post here, please send the info to [dpetty@usit.net](mailto:dpetty@usit.net) and/or [amie@clemson.edu](mailto:amie@clemson.edu). We'd love to pass it on to teachers, etc. **'Hope to see you all at SC<sup>2</sup>!**

## **Volunteer Newsletter Editor and Webmaster Needs Your Help**

Any news? Do you have your own class website? Do you know of good links or other resources we can pass on? Please drop us a line! Both the website and the newsletter are only as good as you make them by letting us know what is important to you. Together we can be a strong force for Earth Science education in South Carolina! Please send your news, as it happens, to: [dpetty@usit.net](mailto:dpetty@usit.net) and/or [amie@clemson.edu](mailto:amie@clemson.edu) Thanks!  
*Donna & Amie*

## **New Freebies (or almost free stuff)!**

- **Solar Posters** – Three great posters and one reprint from Stanford University – for free – just pay \$5 for shipping. < <http://solar-center.stanford.edu/posters.html> >
- **Mars Activity Booklet** – NASA has a great downloadable booklet of activities for the class about Mars, our visiting neighbor. See: this < <http://mars.jpl.nasa.gov/classroom/pdfs/MSIP-MarsActivities.pdf> > along with

other resources at: < <http://mars.jpl.nasa.gov/classroom/> >

- **Computer Animation and Paper Model of Earthquake Effects** from US Dept. of Interior US Geological Survey, is available at: < <http://giseis.alaska.edu/Input/affiliated/lahr/taurho/eqeffects/introduction.html> >
- Budget Crunch Helpers from **NSTA Suppliers Guide** – get coupons and deals from several suppliers at < <http://suppliers.nsta.org/coupon.asp?listingid=424> >
- **Free Trial – 3 Educational DVD's with Resource Guides**, even plans for a “free” DVD player. Check out the science videos available: < <http://mentura.com/DVDRentals/Teachervision.html?tid=TVhome> >
- **TOPO Bingo** – a fun way for students to learn the terminology and symbols is available for downloading at: < <http://interactive2.usgs.gov/learningweb/fun/bingo.htm> >
- **In the Mood?** Students are always in the mood for some music. Check out these two sites for neat songs to learn science by. Although most are about space, the second has a few geology songs too. See: < <http://www.astrocappella.com/songs.shtml> > AND < <http://www.ircc.cc.fl.us/atircc/commout/planetarium/astsongbook.pdf> >

**Hey! Let us know if you've heard of any great freebies we don't have here or on the web site!**

## **SCESTA BUSINESS MTG**

Friday, November 14, 2003 -at (SC)<sup>2</sup>  
12:00 – 12:50 PM - Ballroom C2

## **Dues Are Due**

SCESTA dues are \$5 per year. Please bring cash or check with you to the (SC)<sup>2</sup> meeting or mail to Treasurer Leslie Sanford – contact information on pg 1

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