

LA Wetland Education Coalition

Wetland News for October 11, 2004



1. Participate in National Geographic Magazine's online poll: Should the federal government help fund coastal restoration efforts in Louisiana.
2. Shell Oil Company funds the Jason Project for LA's 7th and 8th grade teachers and students.
3. NASA's International Space Station (*ISS*) *EarthKAM*
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1. Participate in National Geographic Magazine's online poll: Should the federal government help fund coastal restoration efforts in Louisiana.

National Geographic Magazine, which has a monthly circulation of over 5.4 million readers, published an in-depth, 18-page feature story detailing the diverse causes for and consequences of losing America's WETLAND. The piece, which hit newsstands Friday, strongly suggests that science has the capability to begin fixing the problem, while also warning the nation that it can either pay now, or REALLY pay later. National Geographic Magazine added itself to the diverse and ever-growing list of major national publications that have helped to educate their readers about the impact of Louisiana's coastal land loss on the state, nation and world.

The dramatic images that accompany the story are also worthy of note, as is a real-time poll on the magazine's website, <http://magma.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/0410/index.html>, that asks readers to weigh in on whether or not the federal government should help fund coastal restoration efforts in Louisiana. Log on and make your voice heard.

2. Shell Oil Company funds the Jason Project for LA's 7th and 8th grade teachers and students.

In a very generous gesture, a grant from Shell Oil Company is allowing every seventh- and eighth-grade public school classroom in the state the chance to join the Jason Expedition's exploration of Louisiana's wetland loss. In addition to funding the project materials for each teacher, the company is also funding professional development for teachers to incorporate the materials into their life and earth science classes. Read more about the grant in Baton Rouge The Advocate newspaper article (10/4/04) at <http://2theadvocate.com>

3. NASA's International Space Station (*ISS*) *EarthKAM*

>>> Perhaps teachers interested in Louisiana wetlands could focus the *EarthKAM* on south Louisiana! <<<

The *ISS EarthKAM* (Earth Knowledge Acquired by Middle school students) program is designed to inspire student interest in science, math, technology, and geography. Students have direct access to, and control of, a digital camera mounted on the Space Station. They identify places on Earth to photograph from space, and then use the *ISS EarthKAM* Web-based interface to calculate exactly when the digital camera should take pictures. Students use their digital images of Earth to study a wide variety of science topics.

The first *ISS EarthKAM* investigation period for the 2004-5 school year is October 26-29. Additional image acquisition and investigation missions are scheduled in February and April 2005. **Participation is free.** According to Dr. Karen Flammer, EarthKAM's Project Director, "As a result of this hands-on, real world experience, students assume an unparalleled personal ownership in the study and analysis of their Earth photographs."

To participate in *ISS EarthKAM* during the 2004-05 school year, visit:

<http://datasystem.earthkam.ucsd.edu/ekReg/ekRegistration.shtm>

Student Earth images are available via the Internet at: <http://datasystem.earthkam.ucsd.edu>

For educator guides, activities, and other educational resource materials visit:

<http://www.earthkam.ucsd.edu>

4. Fall's *Journey South*: Migrations and More

Teachers and students in K-12 classrooms are invited to participate this Fall's *Journey South* project's free online global studies of wildlife migration and seasonal change. One of the nation's premier Internet-based "citizen science" projects, *Journey South (North)* enables students in 11,000 schools to watch fall and spring sweep across the northern hemisphere by following the migration patterns of monarch butterflies, bald eagles, whooping cranes, and other animals; the budding of plants, changing sunlight, and other natural events. Students share their own field observations with classmates across North America and analyze data from other classroom and professional scientists.

Each *Journey South (North)* study features standards-based lessons and challenges, stunning photos, and video clips, weekly migration updates, interactive maps, connections with field scientists, and compelling migration "stories." They also provide guidance for helping students conduct local observations and inquiries and fit them into a global context. "This is the best program I have seen in 26 years of teaching for integrating math, science, reading, and even social studies," writes a Journey North classroom teacher. "It motivates students and gives them a chance to develop and use skills in a real-world situation." Journey North also offers professional development workshops to schools across the U.S.

Participation is **free**. For more information and inspiration, visit the Journey North Web site:

<http://www.learner.org/jnorth>.

You'll find an overview of all spring Journey North projects here:

<http://www.learner.org/jnorth/orientation/Overview.html>.

Plan now; spring investigations begin February 1st!

5. LUMCON's WeatherCam captures high water from TS Matthew

The LUMCON weather cams showed some pretty good flooding in the LUMCON front parking lot as well as the view out the back as Tropical Storm Matthew came ashore in south Louisiana this past weekend. Perhaps you can catch it on Monday, as well. LUMCON (Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium) is located in Cocodrie, Louisiana. You can access the LUMCON weather cam at <http://weather.lumcon.edu/weathercams/>.

From: Deborah Schultz, Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program

6. Hurst MS to be guests on the George Lucas Education Foundation's Edutopia radio show on October 14

Louisiana teacher Barry Guillot and two of his students from Hurst Middle School have been invited to be guests on the George Lucas Education Foundation's Edutopia radio show. The Edutopia radio show is a weekly talk program from The George Lucas Educational Foundation hosted by GLEF Executive Director

Milton Chen. The one-hour program features key educators and students, as well as business, government, and community leaders, discussing educational innovation. The show airs Thursday, October 14, noon PT (2 pm CST) on VoiceAmerica.com with a repeat broadcast at midnight PT (2 am CST).

Barry Guillot is invited to discuss the success that he has had involving the resources and expertise of local, state, and federal agencies, universities, nonprofit institutions, local businesses, and international corporations with the education of his seventh grade students. Guillot created the LaBranche Wetland Watchers service-learning project with his students six years ago with funding through a Louisiana Learn and Serve America Grant. Since then, the pairing of the enthusiasm and hard work of the students with the dedication and expertise of the partners has been recognized by many state and national organizations as a model educational project. Joining Guillot on the radio show will be two eighth grade students, Lacyce Mizell and Kurt Hebert, that have spent three years involved with the Wetland Watchers service-learning project.

If you would like to send a question for Barry Guillot, please e-mail it in advance to <radio@glef.org>.

Visit the GLEF Internet Radio Show page for guest information and archive.
<http://www.glef.org/products/voiceamer.php>.

7. LAWEC-L LISTSERVE INFORMATION

- **Description of this listserve:** A listserve serving educators interested in LA wetlands.
- **To send a message of your own to the listserv:** email LAWEC-L@LISTSERV.LSU.EDU and type your message into the body of the email. The message will be distributed to ALL PARTICIPANTS subscribing to the listserve.
- **To UNSUBSCRIBE from this listserve:** email LAWEC-L@LISTSERV.LSU.EDU and enclose the following single line in the body of the email
unsubscribe LAWEC-L

Please do not reply to the entire list unless you want everyone to read your message!
