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July 2011 Progress Report

Highlights

- Primed second canvas for AMD Avengers backdrops.
- Continued monitoring of Lackawanna boreholes.
- Began working on Quarterly Report for ACCT.
- Created multiple pieces of literature for the 15th Anniversary Dinner and AMR Conference, and Anthrascapes Art Silent Auction.
- Attended Chesapeake Bay Foundation Tour of the lower Susquehanna, taking pictures to document the tour led by EPCAMR.
- Had “exit interview” with ACCT VistaLeader Shannon Philbin, and filled out online paperwork for AmeriCorps website in order to get registered for the move home.
- Contacted numerous local artists to participate in the Anthrascapes Art Silent Auction. Distributed iron oxide and loaned mining memorabilia to be painted as a still life.
- Participated in and compiled minutes from personal notes and those of Program Manager for AMR Conference calls.
- Stuffed and mailed over 200 invitations for the EPCAMR 15th Anniversary Dinner to solicit sponsors to donate and individuals to attend.
- Updated Insightly when invitations came back “unable to forward.”
- Corresponded with GHACP, D&LNHC, and Eckley Miner’s Village about having display tables at the AMR Conference.

Education and Outreach

- WCDC stuffed and mailed a total of 235 invitations packages to sponsors and individuals for the 15th Anniversary Dinner. Invitations were printed, cut and folded in house, while brochures and return cards were printed through a partial donation from our sponsor Corcoran Printing. Return

cards and invitations had to be trimmed to fit into standard letter size envelopes to be mailed with the brochures, and each set quadruple stickered with return address sticker on RSVP card and outer envelope, stamped and then outgoing address label.

- EPCAMR gave tour of the lower Susquehanna confluence in Northumberland County on July 14th for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, hosting 16 teachers for a week long training for act 48 credits on the Susquehanna watershed. The Shamokin Creek Restoration Alliance also attended two sites and gave presentations on AMD treatment systems within the Shamokin Creek watershed, and origins of AMD. Most of the teachers present were from outside of AMD impacted areas, and had never before encountered orange water or had any previous knowledge of the enormity of the problem so close to them. WCDC took many pictures of the tour and posted them to the EPCAMR facebook site along with pictures taken by the Executive Director.

Technical Assistance

- Provided information and consultation to Jessica Wolff, who recently completed her Master's degree in Landscape Architecture at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. Jessica worked with EPCAMR to develop her thesis project on creating renewable energy landscapes from and on reclaimed mine sites. Jessica was asked to present her thesis project at the 13th Annual AMR Conference, and she had many questions regarding travel, accommodations, and requirements of the presentation. WCDC will meet with Miss Wolff to review in August before the Conference in order to discuss further details about the presentation.
- Updated Wordpress several times and added events to the Huber Breaker website. Began making arrangements to train someone from the HBPS to take over updating the site once WCDC leaves VISTA position. Contacted Secretary Linda Nowak about learning to update the site, and talked with her about the specifics of wordpress, where to find resources and instructions, and the general layout of the pages. It is yet to be finalized that Mrs. Nowak will be the one to take over the site updating.
- WCDC created a number of documents for the 15th Anniversary Dinner and Anthrascapes Art Auction including an instructional sheet detailing the handling of the work and timing of the event to be given to artists. An Artist's Contract to be signed by each donating artist waiving liability for damages from EPCAMR's responsibility, and also providing a place to list the title, medium, and price for each piece donated. Also created bidding sheets for the auction that featured the Artist's name, title, minimum bid price, medium and other info, and provided lines for silent bidders to write their name and bidding amount. Also created decorative table cards for each dinner attendee. Each card featured a different quote of praise for EPCAMR and its projects spanning back at least 10 years. The quotes were taken directly from correspondence files from EPCAMR dating back to 1996-97. Over 100 cards with different quotes were created for the tables, and each featured a gold foil seal pressed with one of the 14 stamp seals from the coal companies acquired by Glen Alden and kept in the archives of Earth Conservancy. The cards will be available to take home as keepsakes by dinner attendees. EPCAMR did not want people walking off with the historical mining artifacts used as centerpieces and borrowed from the collection of Dale Freudenberger, and wanted to offer something unique with a bit of mining memorabilia of the stamps.

- As invitations were returned with the status “unable to forward,” WCDC researched current address or whether or not an individual still worked for a particular organization and updated the Insightly files accordingly. The current listings in Insightly should be as up-to-date as possible and will make future mailings much easier for EPCAMR, expediting the process.
- Provided information to several non-profits including Eckley Miner’s Village, Greater Hazleton Area Civic Partnership (Rails to Trails), and the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor about obtaining free space to display information at the AMR Conference. Provided several other people with information on applying for scholarships from the Conference Committee to cover hotel room for those who had to travel some distance to the conference. Arranged with Megan Blackmon of Schuylkill Conservation District to share a room and then make a bed available with the Schuylkill Headwaters Association OSM/VISTA Adele Holzman in order to accommodate a person who may apply for a scholarship but would not have anyone with whom to share a room.
- Revised an existing Conference Survey to be current for the 13th Annual AMR Conference and include each of its presentations sessions and workshops. Removed questions about “it would be worth it to pay \$10 for the tour if it included a boxed lunch” and other things that have been updated from previously successful surveys.