

NEWSLETTER



337-721-5712
dhayes@lacassane.com
www.cpc-la.org



W W Lewis Middle School Project

The wetlands area at WW Lewis has been mechanically cleared and chemically treated as part of the ground preparation for planting. The types of plants and spacing have been identified and a timeline has begun to emerge for planting, possibly October. The students will be adding potting soil, fertilizer and plants with the help of Cici Richmond and John Stacy. The CPC is looking forward to close interaction with and help from the Science Club.

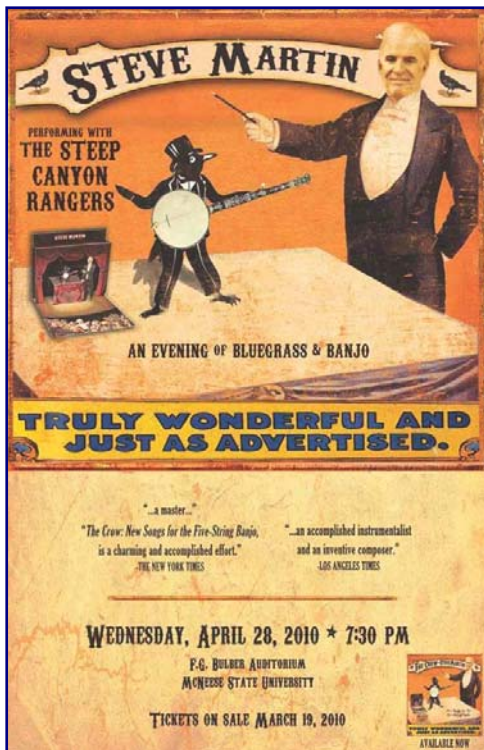


On March 24th the CPC was humbled and privileged to be awarded the 2010 Environmental Leadership Award for Community Environmental Outreach, Non-Governmental Category by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. This award recognized the CPC's efforts to educate and instill a love of nature and restoration in the youth of the community.

With hands-on activities, exciting & innovating teaching techniques, and energetic volunteers, the CPC hopes to continue the fostering and edification that captured the DEQ's attention.

DEQ Award

Fundraiser



The CPC was honored to have Steve Martin and The Steep Canyon Rangers perform their spectacular bluegrass and banjo music in March. This fundraiser was an enormous success and we would like to thank our many sponsors and supporters for coming out and showing such care for our program. We have noble visions for the future with the funds generated from this event.



2nd Saturdays in Sulphur

The CPC and the Brimstone Historical Society teamed up once again to bring restoration education to the children of SWLA. The program was held on August 14th on the grounds of the Henning Cultural Center. The children were full of anticipation as they were taught how to plant, tend, and love the natural coastal areas and wetlands of Louisiana. CiCi Richmond and Dondra Hayes demonstrated the damaging effects of natural and artificial erosion and damage as well as small but effective ways to restore wetlands to their natural habitat. The children were given small cups which contained seeds of native grass to help the children learn to give back to nature. This souvenir effectively teaches children the life cycle of plants and what it means to restore marshlands.



*Top Right: re-growing wetland plants demonstration
Above: discussing wetlands
Left: showing off the grass seed souvenir*

LSU Coastal Roots Program takes students from 3rd grade through high school in south Louisiana and establishes wetland plant nurseries at their school. Students grow native plants seedlings that they will plant in a coastal habitat restoration project in south Louisiana. There are 38 schools across 18 parishes currently participating in this program. The CPC has met with the Coastal Roots to connect together and integrate this into Calcasieu parish schools. Coastal Roots has all of the necessary lesson plans and paperwork to supply to the teachers for seamless incorporation.

At the end of the 2009-2010 planting season, students have planted 42,680 tree seedlings and grass plugs on 121 restoration trips! Over the years, 4,867 students have participated in these planting trips.

The CPC highly believes in opportunities such as the Coastal Roots. We are proud to join with them and start new beginnings in Calcasieu Parish! The CPC will be donating \$7,500 to the program to help with the expense of transportation of the students to the planting sites!

