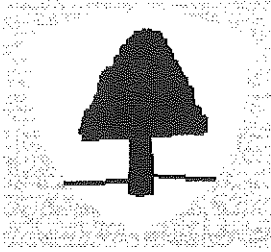


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**"E"-NOTES**  
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE  
**OHIO VALLEY**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL**  
**COALITION**  
PO BOX 970 PROCTORVILLE OH 45669  
OCT-NOV 1995

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**OVER 400 ATTEND PULPSTOCK!**

Despite the drizzling rain, over 400 people gathered at Huntington's Ritter Park on September 17th to attend an OVEC musical benefit to raise funds and public awareness regarding the proposed Mason County pulp and paper mill.

The seven hour concert featured 6 bands which donated their time and talents--

**JULIE AND THE RHINO BOYS, THE RON SOWELL BAND, KODAC HARRISON,  
PARAPHERNALIA, FUZZ BUCKET AND CRAZY JANE.**

(Turn to page 10 for more on PULPSTOCK)



**"DYING FROM DIOXIN" BOOK TOUR**

In the 1970's, housewife Lois Gibbs' kids were sick. Lois worked with her neighbors to document the alarming illness rates in Love Canal, NY. After repeated assurances from local and federal officials that everything was fine, citizens took a final desperate action. They kidnapped two EPA officials and then demanded that President Carter evacuate the hundreds of families in poisoned Love Canal. Lois won that battle.

Today, as the director of Citizens Clearinghouse for Hazardous Wastes, Lois is helping communities organize to reduce dioxin risks. Lois will be coming to Huntington to

work with OVEC on our pulp mill battle, and to promote her new book, "Dying From Dioxin". Here's the Nov. 18 schedule - All are welcome!  
- Lois Gibbs Book Signing: 1pm to 3pm at the Renaissance Book Co., 831 4th Ave.  
- Regional pulp mill organizing meeting: 4pm to 6pm, basement meeting room at the OVEC office, 1101 6th Ave.  
- OVEC benefit Spaghetti Dinner: 6pm to 7pm (\$5 for adults)  
- 7:15 Lois speech and discussion (free)  
Volunteers are needed to help with the dinner and to bring desserts. Call the OVEC office if you can help - (304)522-0246.

\*\*\*\*\*

WHEN FINISHED WITH THIS, DON'T THROW IT AWAY--PASS IT ON TO A FRIEND!

# EARTHKEEPING

WHAT INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS,  
COMMUNITIES, AND CORPORATIONS  
ARE DOING TO IMPROVE  
THE ENVIRONMENT.

Recommended by *Booklist* and *School  
Library Journal*.

★★★★ Highly recommended by  
*Video Rating Guide for Libraries*.

## A CALL TO ACTION

This program addresses the need for a fundamental shift in our relationship with our planet by showing examples of those who have gone beyond stating the problems to doing something to solve them: a multiracial group of teens in New York struggling against neighborhood polluters; a retired Cincinnati biology teacher who converted a chicken coop into a passive solar-heated house; and members of the Native American Lummi Nation fighting to preserve ancient forests in the state of Washington. (60 minutes, color) ☐  
#ADH-254 • Purchase: \$89.95

## TOXIC RACISM

Many experts believe that poor and minority neighborhoods have been subjected to high levels of toxic waste dumping and industrial pollution because residents were not expected to fight back. Angry and determined to effect change, these residents are waging a grass roots war against those responsible for the pollution. (60 minutes, color) ☐  
#ADH-255 • Purchase: \$89.95

## MASTERING THE MARKETPLACE

This program examines the real costs of pollution and conservation, separating fact from fiction about "green" marketing and introducing the concept of "life-cycle analysis" of consumer products, revealing potential hazards in processes from manufacture through disposal. The program invites viewers to take an honest look at whether their buying habits really reflect their good intentions. (60 minutes, color) ☐  
#ADH-256 • Purchase: \$89.95

## ROCKING THE BOAT: You Can Fight City Hall

This program features the stories of residents from small-town Kentucky to coastal Massachusetts who are taking on big business and government in an attempt to protect their communities from environmental disaster. The program shows that many seemingly disenfranchised communities are proving to be models of how effective environmental coalitions can fight back—through community organizing, political and legal action, and public education. (60 minutes, color) ☐  
#ADH-257 • Purchase: \$89.95

## SAVE

when you purchase the 4-part series  
**EARTHKEEPING \$349**

Corporate funding provided by Rubbermaid Incorporated and Tom's of Maine Inc. Additional funding is provided by the George Gund Foundation and Davis Conservation Foundation. Produced for PBS by WGBH Boston.

## YES, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

In 1988, a small group of people from three states banded together to stop the Tri State area from becoming a national center for the disposal of imported toxic wastes. BASF, one of the largest chemical corporations in the world, thought that Haverhill Ohio would be a fine place to burn and dump all the hazardous wastes generated at their many US chemical plants. The regional politicians and "powers that be" thought this was a great opportunity, since BASF was also talking about building a paint plant here.

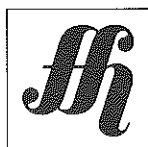
Concerned people organized an open public meeting for citizens to talk about the issues surrounding this plan. Economic development officials apparently organized (and paid) close to 200 union workers who came to the meeting, carried signs, and generally harassed those of us who didn't want these toxic wastes brought here. The crowd was openly hostile, and we were badly outnumbered. After the meeting, a police officer told me that he would escort me from the building and follow my car for a while so I wouldn't get hurt.

This looked like a hopeless cause. Yet, today when you drive in the Ironton Ohio area, please notice that there is no massive BASF toxic waste incinerator or dump there. Against all odds, a small group of people kept those BASF wastes out. That's how OVEC got started.

So don't believe that ordinary people can't possibly stop the Landegger family pulp mill in Mason County, WV. OVEC has grown immensely since our BASF victory in 1989. If the organized effort to stop the pulp mill continues to grow at the rate it has been, we CAN stop the madness and demand a clean, sustainable economic future.

Many Kenova WV people can tell you about the massive caustic fallouts from Ashland's Catlettsburg Kentucky refinery which regularly ate the paint off cars and homes, and even burned human flesh. In the mid and late 1980's, such fallouts were routine. Today, the Ashland refinery still has more than its share of pollution problems, but those immense fallouts are no longer occurring. Why? Because citizens demanded it. Hundreds of people banded together to sue the company, and/or to publicize the environmental carnage so that it could not be ignored. (OVEC continues to work on Ashland pollution issues.)

(continued on bottom of next page)



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PO Box 2053, Princeton, NJ 08543-2053

# DIOXIN: PREVENTION OR ACCOMMODATION?

The Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission (ORSANCO) is a multistate government agency which oversees the Ohio River. On Nov. 8 from 7PM to 9PM ORSANCO will hold a public workshop at the Cabell County library in Huntington, where they also will accept comments from citizens. (see below for info on written comments, accepted until Nov. 27)

ORSANCO is involved in the dioxin controversy surrounding the Landegger family pulp mill proposed for Mason County, because several recent fish tissue studies show that the Ohio River at the planned mill site already has dioxin levels far exceeding the legal standards. The federal Clean Water Act prohibits new discharges of a chemical that is already exceeded. However, the Landegger family's WV "public relations" people, that is, WV politicians and regulators, are grasping onto a loophole in the Clean Water Act which allows an already exceeded chemical to be discharged if there is a plan in place to reduce the existing levels of that chemical.

So ORSANCO is supposed to come up with a plan to reduce dioxin in the Ohio River so that the pulp mill can dump more dioxin into the river. Does this make sense? This scenario is even more absurd because the agency doesn't even have enough money to develop a plan, much less carry out such a plan.

This however, does not decrease "our" regulators' willingness to allow more dioxin in

our water and air. According to Vicky Binetti, an official with US EPA Region 3, "There is no plan at this point. There is a plan to plan. It makes sense to conclude that there can be an accommodation of the need for economic development."

This "plan to plan" has no logic. It does however have the strong backing of politicians who have received huge campaign contributions from the Landegggers. Over 60 pulp mills now use chlorine free bleaching which produces no dioxin. Some countries have already outlawed chlorine based bleaching. But Parsons and Whittemore, the Landegger family company, says their Asian customers want chlorine bleached paper. (This explanation didn't come directly to the public from the company, it came from their puppets in state government.)

Attorneys Perry McDaniel and Jim Kringlen are suing US EPA on OVEC's behalf, to try to force EPA to enforce the Clean Water Act here. OVEC, the Affiliated Construction Trades Union and several citizens are also legally appealing WV's water permit for the mill.

There are two major types of political power - the power of big money and the power of organized citizens. Let ORSANCO know that you want dioxin PREVENTION. Come to the ORSANCO meeting on November 8, or submit written comments by Nov. 27 to ORSANCO, 5735 Kellogg Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45228, Att'n: Watershed program.

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(YES, WE CAN--continued)

Many of you will remember the 1993 PBS program which focused on the citizen fight against Ashland Oil's pollution. A number of OVEC folks were interviewed at length on this show, which aired nationwide on PBS (except, of course, for much of Kentucky). Now this 1993 video has received rave reviews from library journals and it's being actively promoted to libraries and academic institutions. (See the ad on page 2. If you'd like to see this video but don't want to spend the \$89.95, just call the OVEC office.)

This excellent program, "Earthkeeping - Rocking the Boat", also featured Lois Gibbs' work as the leading Love Canal activist.

Come hear Lois Gibbs in Huntington on November 18. Come to the pulp mill organizing meeting that she'll be helping with. And if you find yourself thinking that the environmental threats are growing and there's nothing that can be done about it, THINK AGAIN! --Dianne Bady

# MEMBERS ATTEND NATIONAL FOREST FEST

Recently, Kim Baker, Bill Ragette, and Janet Fout attended the 9th annual national gathering of forest activists, held in the beautiful Arkansas Ozarks, sponsored by Heartwood and other groups. The event focused on the abuse of our National Forests under the "management" of the US Forest Service and the multinational corporations who derive great profit from the increasing rate of cutting on public lands.

The overwhelming theme was--when it comes to clearcutting our public lands to benefit multinational predators, "Enough is enough!" Also emphasized was the pressing need to examine how corporations are wielding increasing power but assume no responsibility for their damage to forests and human lives. Campaign finance reform and grassroots campaigns to register voters surfaced as other topics of concern.

Another pervasive theme was the literal invasion of Appalachia and the South by giant multinational logging corporations. For example, Alabama's National Forests are being clear-cut and turned into pine plantations for the use of Parsons and Whittemore and other corporate loggers. The state of Alabama is subsidizing private landowners who agree to the stripping of their forests. The beauty and balance of the native forests is being replaced by farmed pines and heavy applications of herbicides to keep out the "weed" growth (in other words, anything that naturally grows.)

As corporate loggers and citizens in the Pacific Northwest continue to battle over the "right" of corporations to cut the last old growth

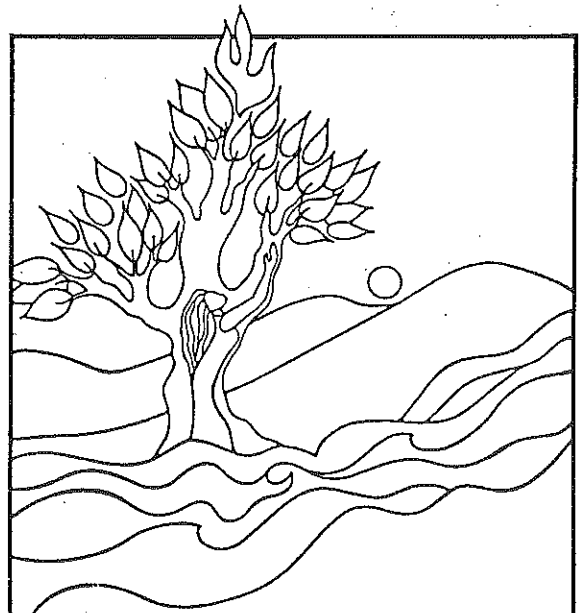
trees, multinational logging companies are salivating over Central Appalachia's lush forests. As wood products corporations also cut back on their Northeast operations, corporate executives cut backroom deals with "our" politicians.

Many wood products companies in the Northeast are shutting down their facilities and heading South, some citing stringent regulations in the Northeast states. (WV, KY and OH have weak logging regulations.)

While West Virginia's state forestry officials act as cheerleaders for the Mason County pulp mill, and for increased logging in general, some Kentucky officials actually seem to feel that they work for the benefit of the people and the state. The video "Green Rolling Hills", which highlights the forestry controversies surrounding the proposed pulp mill, quoted Bill Martin, a commissioner of Kentucky's Department of Natural Resources. When asked about the benefits of low-grade timber industries, such as this pulp mill which would use Kentucky trees, Martin said "We need to consider whether or not this is something that can be sustained... There is a tremendous amount of concern, and, quite frankly, I share that concern. We are talking about an almost insatiable demand for wood. Those hardwoods have far greater amplitude in terms of their contribution to society." (Call the OVEC office if you want to see this excellent video.)

## WHAT IS THE VALUE OF A TREE?

According to a Michigan State University publication, over a 50-year lifetime a tree will produce \$31,250 worth of oxygen, provide \$62,000 worth of pollution control, recycle \$37,500 worth of water, and control \$31,250 worth of soil erosion.



# FOREST ACTIVISTS TO OHIO BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT: "DON'T SPOIL THE WAYNE!!"

Is continued forest fragmentation, water and soil pollution, and loss of wildlife habitat to be the future for Ohio's Wayne National Forest? It is if the land is controlled by greedy corporations who can't see the forest for the "bucks".

On September 27, the Bureau of Land Management in Ohio, authorized by the U.S. Forest Service, held an auction to lease portions of the Wayne National Forest to oil and gas developers. The land to be auctioned amounted to more than 15,000 acres, including areas designated as "natural forest". According to Jason Tockman, Coordinator of the Buckeye Forest Council, "The Wayne already contains over 1,100 oil and gas wells, which cumulatively have an immeasurable impact on the National Forest. The decision by the Forest Service was appealed by the Buckeye Forest Council and other organizations, and (the Forest Service) now faces a lawsuit for failing to protect several endangered plants and insects."

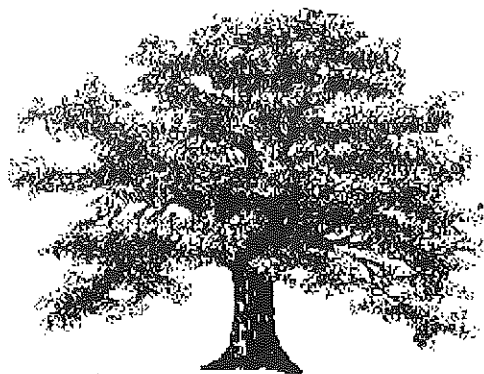
When the auction ( held in Marietta, Ohio) began, over thirty concerned citizens, including OVEC representation, raised their banners and voices in a united protest, and effectively halted the sale for over an hour. The local and

regional press were in attendance to cover the event.

When the auction resumed, the Buckeye Forest Council purchased 6.53 acres of the Wayne National Forest. They have the land on a ten year lease, during which time the forest will be left in its natural state; DEVELOPERS NOT WELCOME!!

Thanks to the Buckeye Forest Council for organizing this protest, protecting a portion of the Wayne, and increasing public awareness of this bureaucratic atrocity.

The US Forest Service is blatantly promoting the destruction of the Wayne. Only six people and/or companies bid on 28 of the 91 parcels which our government was trying to sell to the highest bidder. At a time when opinion polls show that the American public strongly favors the preservation of their public lands, why is "our" government encouraging private interests to profit from the destruction of these publicly owned forests? The true value of these forests cannot be measured by the highest bidder.

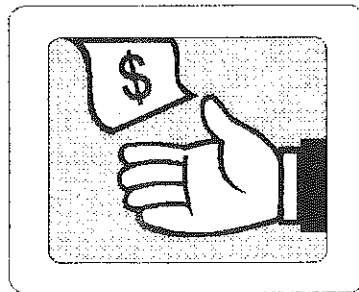


## WHO ARE THE LANDEGGERS ANYWAY? AND HOW BIG WOULD THEIR MILL BE?

Carl and George Landegger are from one of the wealthiest families in North America. Their family's pulp mill company, Parsons and Whittemore, has no stockholders and is based in New York. The Landegggers apparently don't think they're rich enough yet. They have asked West Virginia, one of the poorest states in the US, to grant them almost a billion dollars in various forms of corporate welfare to allow them to get even richer by stripping our trees and poisoning our air and water. (Governor Caperton won't let citizens or the media know how much he has promised to give them.) The

Landegger's company has even asked "our" politicians to pay third party companies for the train cars and river barges which would take our forests away.

The largest pulp mills in the world currently produce from 1,500 to 2,500 tons of product per day, according to the Rainforest Action Network, which is based in San Francisco. The Landegggers plan to produce over 4000 tons per day at their proposed WV mill. We need to stop the Landegger brothers' destructive plan!



### **JOBS vs. JOBS**

An October West Virginia Division of Tourism study revealed that the Southwest portion of the state generated the most tourism dollars last year. \$1.19 billion was brought in from tourism in these counties: Mason, Putnam, Boone, Cabell, Kanawha, Lincoln, Logan, Mingo, and Wayne.

These heavily forested counties would be the most impacted by deforestation if the Landegger family's Mason County pulp mill is built as currently planned. How much tourism would be generated by these counties if the forests are stripped and a pervasive toxic stench surrounds the mill area? Will local loggers who now cut

selectively lose their access to trees if 10,000 trees a day are clear-cut for this mill?

The pulp mill controversy is not a jobs vs. environment issue. It is a jobs vs. jobs issue! Do we want jobs that will benefit those of us who live here, or jobs that will destroy the resources that our current economy depends on? Neither Governor Caperton nor the company is willing to guarantee that pulp mill jobs would go to local people. But the Governor is apparently ready and willing to entice the mill here with millions of dollars in taxpayer-financed incentives.

## WRITE TO V.P. AL GORE TODAY!

On November 11, 1995, Vice President Gore will be in Charleston, West Virginia, attending the Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner (a fund raising event sponsored by the West Virginia Democratic Committee). OVEC would like representatives to meet with the Vice President to discuss numerous serious concerns about the proposed Apple Grove Pulp and Paper mill. We are asking people to contact Vice President Gore as soon as possible!!

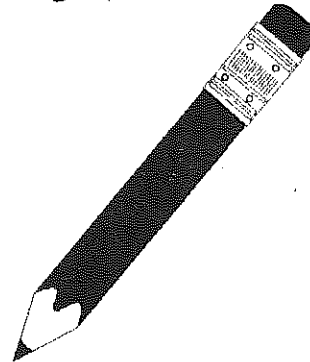
You may want to include some of the following points in your letter:

- Request that VP Gore meet at least 30 minutes with OVEC representatives
- Tell him that citizens are aware that Parsons & Whittemore, the parent company of the proposed mill, contributed \$150,000 to the Democratic Party during the Clinton/Gore race for the highest office in the land.
- Remind Gore that many people in West Virginia (one of the last strongholds for the Democratic Party) have lost all faith in the Clinton Administration's "commitment" to the environment because of broken promises including the ones made to folks fighting the WTI hazardous waste incinerator .

- Remind Gore that citizens are still outraged that the former US EPA Administrator, Peter Kostmayer, was fired by the Clinton Administration at the urging of Governor Caperton and Senators Rockefeller and Byrd when Kostmayer insisted that his agency conduct additional dioxin testing in the Ohio River.
- It is far better for politicians running for re-election to consent to a small meeting with citizens rather than have large numbers of activists preempt a scheduled event to get Gore's attention!

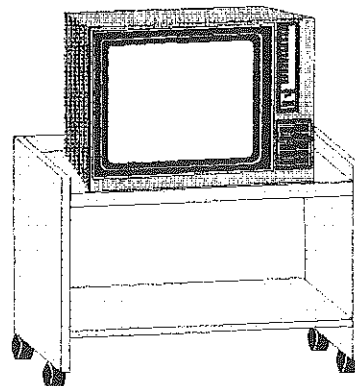
Write to:

Al Gore  
Office of the Vice President  
Old Executive Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20501



## JULIE ON NICK NEWS!

Thirteen year old OVEC member Julie Fletcher has been filmed for national Cable TV's Nickelodeon News. Nick News sent a film crew here to cover the involvement of kids in our pulp mill controversy. Amazingly, Ken Goddard of Parsons and Whittemore also agreed to be interviewed! (Company executives are famous amongst the media here for refusing to speak to reporters.) The program is scheduled to air on Nov. 12 at 8 PM, but Nickelodeon folks advised us to check our local listings.



# THANKS TO DAN KASH!

Four OVEC representatives recently sat across a long table from four executives of Ashland Petroleum. We were there to discuss our concerns about the violation-plagued Catlettsburg Kentucky refinery, and to explore the possibility of regular meetings between Ashland executives and concerned citizens. John Hornback, director of Kentucky's Division for Air Quality, arranged this meeting. While OVEC and Ashland folks talked across from each other at the long table, Kentucky regulators sat at the ends of the table.

When the meeting began, Kentucky air supervisor Dan Kash sat in the middle at one end of the table. For over 20 years, Dan had been the Regional Supervisor of the Ashland Field Office of Kentucky's Division for Air Quality. As the discussions progressed, Dan moved his chair closer to the OVEC side of the table, announcing that since he only had a week left at this job, he wanted to be nearer the OVEC side! Dan retired on October 1.

In earlier years, when caustic refinery fallouts routinely burned human flesh and ate the paint off of cars and houses, Dan was a consistent voice calling for the protection of human health. In spite of the "gag rule" his earlier (pre-Hornback) bosses imposed upon him, Dan regularly risked his job by speaking on behalf of affected citizens. Dan Kash was a class act in a difficult job. Citizens will sorely miss his presence at the Division for Air Quality. A new Regional Supervisor has not yet been

hired. At the next meeting between OVEC, regulators, and Ashland executives, Dan will be sitting fully on the OVEC side of the table.

The next OVEC newsletter will include an interview with Dan.



Dan in a former life





## WAYNE COUNTY EARLY WARNING SIREN UPDATE

Kenova OVEC members have long contended that local industries, and the hazardous chemicals which they use and store, pose a great threat to the surrounding communities; particularly those with no real emergency evacuation plan or early warning system.

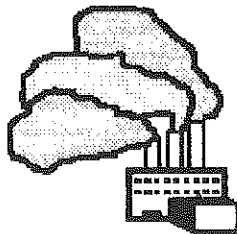
The Cabell/Wayne Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) has established an Early Warning Signal Sub-Committee. Until recently, the sub-committee consisted of local industry representatives and the secretary of the C/W LEPC, with no real representation from the communities at risk. OVEC's Laura Forman is now a member of the sub-committee, and concerned citizens are encouraged to participate.

The committee just held their second meeting, where LEPC consultant Peter Lydens of Lydens Associates in Charleston, presented his Early Warning Siren Study. The study, paid for by a state grant, included identifying major

areas impacted by "hazardous material incidents" (transportation and fixed-site) in Cabell and Wayne Counties, prioritizing location of sirens, types of siren systems, existing sirens, cost of sirens, etc.

Although the study clearly showed the necessity for sirens in the Kenova WV area, the actual implementation of the signals may be a long time in coming. Cost of the sirens being a significant factor, the assistance and financial aid of local industries could be crucial to the effort. Members of the sub-committee will be enlisting the cooperation of local fire departments for the possible use of pre-existing sirens. If the early warning sirens are to become a reality and part of a comprehensive emergency plan for the Kenova area, concerned citizens **MUST** become involved in the process. Do not let politicians or industry make the decisions without your input! We **ARE** making progress, but we **ALL** need to voice our concerns and act upon them for the safety of our communities.

Call Laura @ 304-522-0246 for more information, or to get involved.



# PULPSTOCK

(Continued from page 1)

The featured speaker at Pulpstock '95 was Peter Kostmayer, the former Region 3 US EPA Administrator who was fired by the Clinton Administration, after Kostmayer publicly expressed grave concerns about this planned mill. Kostmayer delivered a rousing speech, emphasizing how important it is for citizens to continue to work together to stop the current pulp mill plans from poisoning our environment and devastating one of the most heavily forested regions left in the US.

Kostmayer said "It's really extraordinary. I was a member of the Congress of the United States for fourteen years. I believe in the political system. But I've never seen anything like I've seen in West Virginia when it comes to the government working hand in glove with special interests. Unfortunately, the EPA is also a part of it, and I think is still a part of it."

Kostmayer asked the crowd not to give up. "You have raised the temperature. You have made this a national issue... You are making the proponents of the pulp mill in West Virginia and Washington very uncomfortable... The temperature is getting too hot for them... This is not only about this pulp mill. It is about the determination of people to protect the place where they live from exploitation of outside commercial and economic interest," Kostmayer said.

Andy Mahler of Heartwood, argued that calling ourselves "environmentalists" defines us too narrowly, as we are essentially protecting our homes. Brock Evans with the National Audubon Society emphasized the need to save West Virginia's beautiful hardwood forests.

## THANKS!!! TO THE OVER 50 VOLUNTEERS:

Greg Caroll (master of ceremonies)

Ammed Solomon (stage manager & musician)

Steve Eschelman (publicity, radio commercial voice, & musician)

John Price, Matt McLoughlin, Joyce McCracken (and her husband), Norm Googel, Chelena McCoy-Googel, Lewis Baker, Kim Baker, Danny Baker, Heath Baker, Aaron Bady and other young people, Carol Wolff, Jack Waldeck, Ken Hansen, Cynthia Goodale-Hansen, Sherry Patick, Linda Lewandowski, Mike Forman (Peter Kostmayer's "official" chauffeur), Eric Fout, Julie Fletcher (banner maker, radio commercial voice and raffle ticket seller), Ray Woodruff, Winnie Fox, Mike Ellis, Jason Hale, Spencer Wright (providing the artwork for the Pulpstock '95 t-shirt), and Rick Bady (videographer).

## Co-sponsors of Pulpstock '95 included:

Huntington Tri-State

Audubon

Environlink

Daniello's restaurant

Calamity Cafe.



## Donors for the raffle included:

New River Scenic Whitewater Tours Inc.

Southwest Designs

Old Village Roasters

Davidson's Records

Kramer's Photo Supply

Renaissance Book Company and Coffee House

Huntington Tri-State Audubon Society

Mountain State Outfitters

River Cities Natural Health Center

Kay Basham.

# CALENDAR

**November 8:** Public meeting on Ohio River pollution issues  
See inside for details

**November 18:** Visit by Lois Gibbs:

- "Dying From Dioxin" book signing: 1:00-3:00 p.m. Renaissance Book Store & Coffee Shop, 831 4th Ave. Huntington
- Regional Organizing meeting on the pulp mill: 4:00-6:00 p.m. Basement meeting room at the OVEC office, 1101 6th Ave.
- Spaghetti dinner: 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. \$5.00 donation (Adults), \$2.50 (under 12)
- Talk by Lois Gibbs: 7:15 p.m. (Free and open to the public!)

**December 12th:** Annual OVEC membership meeting, begins at 6:30 with a pot luck dinner, basement meeting room at the OVEC office.

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Cut and mail to: OVEC, PO Box 970 Proctorville OH 45669

New member or renewal (Dues: \$5 - \$25, pay what you can)

Donation enclosed

DONATIONS ARE  
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Keep me especially informed on this issue: \_\_\_\_\_

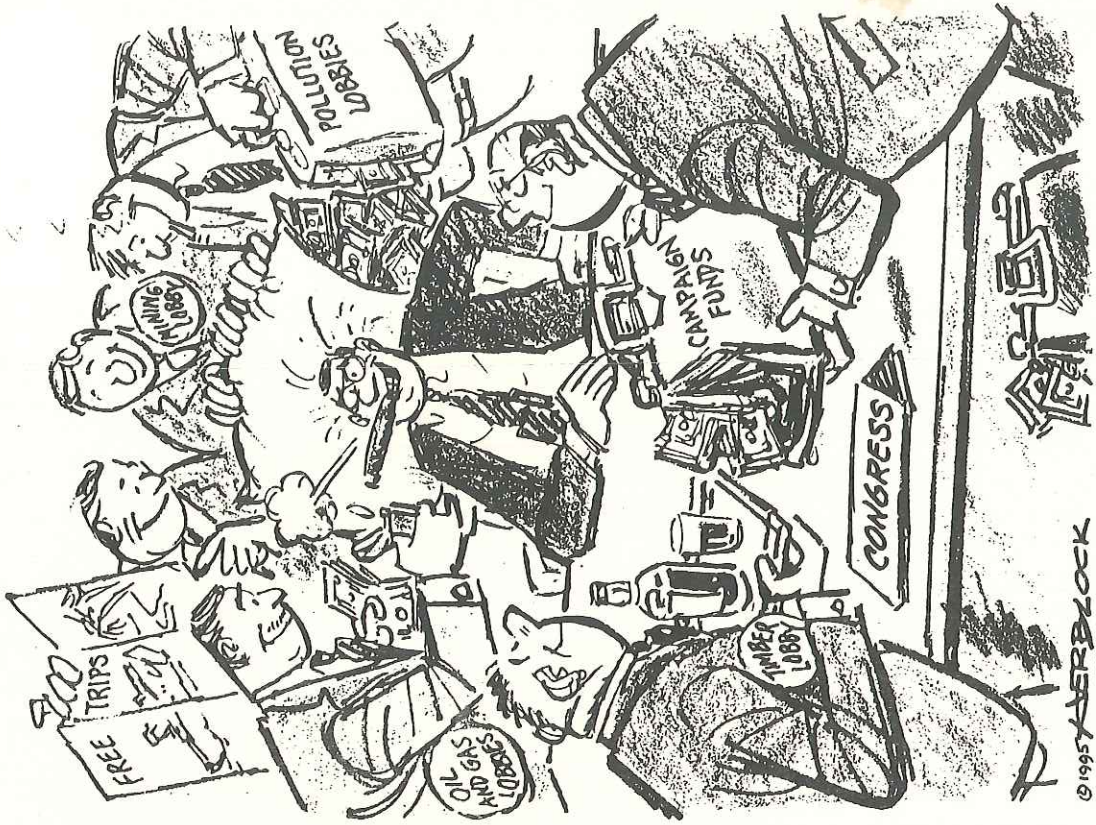
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Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

For more info call the OVEC office at 304-522-0246  
PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE IF WE'RE NOT IN  
or, write to us: 1101 6TH AVE. RM 225, HUNTINGTON WV 25701

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