Greetings from the piedmont. This is my first spring at Rock Eagle, but my fourteenth year with Georgia 4-H. I moved up from the Jekyll 4-H Center last summer and I am enjoying my new environment. I hope you enjoy our premier newsletter. Please read through our updates and give me a call at (706) 484-2862 or e-mail at donnast@uga.edu if I can help you plan a trip to our center. We have a terrific staff that offers a program your students and teachers will find educational and fun.

- Rock Eagle 4-H will soon start a recycling program for cans and plastic bottles. We hope all of our groups will help us teach the importance of resource conservation.
- Now schools will have assigned tables in the dining hall. We hope it will make meals run smoother and be more relaxing.
- The Wildlife Building is now in use for programming. It is a wonderful setting for teaching herpetology. We plan to have displays created by next fall.
- Lake Ecology has a new building to use as a meeting spot. Our staff is painting a mural of the lake and a stream to add a colorful teaching aid. The classroom also has a stereoscope/TV monitor to help share the wonders of tiny lake organisms with the students.
- Cottages 31 - 34 have new sidewalks and drainage. A wonderful improvement.
- Next fall the new lake lab building will showcase Georgia's aquatic environments with large aquaria exhibiting ecosystems from stream to estuary to ocean.

Not all news is terrific. Diane Davies, the “Godmother of environmental education” and creator of the 4-H Environmental Education program retired in January. Luckily she plans to keep her creative toe in the door for several years on a part-time basis.

Please check out our program at georgia4h.org and contact us with any suggestions or questions you may have regarding the program.

Thank you!

The Rock Eagle EE program would be nowhere if it wasn’t for the hard work of the maintenance, housekeeping, dining hall, and administrative staffs. We appreciate everything they have done for us and we owe them a great big thank you for making our lives easier.
**MEET THE EE STAFF**

**Donna Stewart**  
Environmental Education Coordinator  
B.S. Biology, State of University New York

**Kelly Jo Scott**  
Environmental Education Assistant Coordinator  
B.S. Wildlife Resources, University of Idaho

**Grant Crumbaugh**  
Environmental Education Interim Director, Jekyll Island  
Associates Degree Outdoor Recreation and Leisure Studies, Vincennes University, Indiana

**Becky Goldberg**  
Discovery Program Coordinator  
B.S. Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, University of Florida

**Matt Hammons**  
Ropes Coordinator  
B.S. Outdoor Education, Georgia College and State University

**Todd Anglin, Instructor**  
B.S. Outdoor Education and Environmental Studies, Montreat College, North Carolina

**Tim Atkinson, Instructor**  
B.S. Biology, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada

**Erica Bates, Instructor**  
B.A. Environmental Science & Spanish, University of Virginia

**Angela Bliss, Instructor**  
M.S. Environmental Studies, University of Tennessee

**Erika Borek, Instructor**  
B.S. Environmental Resources Management, Penn. State

**Jessica Boudreaux, Instructor**  
B.S. Wildlife Science, Auburn University, Alabama

**Kara Capandonis, Instructor**  
B.S. Biology & B.A. Philosophy, West Virginia Wesleyan College

**Kristen Coker, Instructor**  
B.S. Outdoor Education, Georgia College and State University

**Shawneen Dallyn, Instructor**  
B.S. Renewable Resources, Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, Canada

**Andrea Davidson, Instructor**  
B.S. Natural & Cultural Resources in Recreation, Georgia Southern University

**Sara Deyrup, Instructor**  
MA Science Education, University of Central Florida

**Lindsey Etheridge, Instructor**  
B.S. Biology, Georgia Southern University

**Greg Fisher, Instructor**  
B.S. Recreation, York College, Pennsylvania

**Natalie Gray, Instructor**  
Currently at Aberystwyth University of Wales

**Jaclyn Holt, Instructor**  
B.S. Biology Georgia College and State University

**Nicole Hubbell, Instructor**  
B.S. Forest Resources and Conservation, University of Florida

**Heather Huskies, Instructor**  
B.S. Child and Family Development, University of Georgia

**Jennifer Lance, Instructor**  
B.S. Plant Biology and Horticulture, University of Georgia

**Andrew Lantz, Instructor**  
B.A. Environmental Studies, University of Massachusetts

**Jessica Lennon, Instructor**  
B.S. Animal Ecology, Iowa State University

**Jenn McAvoy, Instructor**  
B.A. Biology, George Mason University, Virginia

**Erin McLachlan, Instructor**  
B.S. Natural Resource Management, University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada

**Alison Petretti, Instructor**  
B.S. Biology, University of Richmond, New York

**Corie Stueber, Instructor**  
B.S. Biology, Georgia College and State University

**Daniel Sweeney, Instructor**  
B.S. Geology, West Virginia University

**Matt Weathers, Instructor**  
B.S. Ecology, University of Georgia
ROCK EAGLE WORD SEARCH

Adaptation
Artifact
Baring
Blacksmith
Carnivore
Cenomous
Consumer
Cortadge
Culture
Deciduous
Dendrology
Dugout Canoe
Ecology
Ecosystem
Ecotothermic
Endothermic
Erosion
Evergreen
Geology
Habitat
Herbivore
Hydroelectric
Matrilineal
Metamorphosis
Omnivore
Pace Compass
Pioneer

Under The Rock
Spring 2003

Staff starting in January 2003

Staff starting February 2003
You may think you know enough about Native Americans to satisfy your thirst for our nation’s history. As an exercise for the mind, think about traveling to a place you’ve never been, let’s say Europe, Africa, or Nebraska. You take in the sights, eat the food, but you may feel short changed. Perhaps you forgot an integral part of the traveling experience: meeting the people who live there.

Hundreds of years ago, the Creek (or Muskogee) people lived on the land that many North Georgians live on today. And like inquiring travelers, we want to know the quirks of the people who live or lived where we are now. What happened here hundreds of years ago? What was the culture like?

To start, let’s forget the idea that Native Americans are completely different from people today and instead discuss similarities of our cultures. Between late July and early September, Native Americans celebrated the ripening of corn, their most important crop, in the eight-day Green Corn or “busk” ceremony. Like New Year’s Day, the Creeks considered this a time to forgive old grudges and begin again. For example, unhappy couples that had married in the previous year could separate during this time with their union never being official.

Also during the Ceremony, it was tradition for mature men to imbibe the black drink, which Creeks believed purified the men and allowed for clearer thought, perhaps like a morning cup of coffee. Consisting primarily of holly and caffeine, the black drink would often cause the drinker to vomit. This may seem an unpleasant occurrence which we only associate with illness, but for the Creeks, it was considered a cleansing.

Rites of manhood were also important rituals to the Creeks. As an indication of their status as a warrior, Creek men were often tattooed or scratched. Likewise, when some 21st-century teenagers turn eighteen, he or she senses a new independence and speeds down to the local tattoo parlor for some permanent markings. Though it may not be as symbolic, feelings of liberation may be similar within both groups.

Women also played an integral role in society. For instance, families were organized matrilineally; the biological father would not raise his child, but would help raise his sister’s children. In addition to roles such as caretakers of children and gatherers of food, women possessed political influence. Like a housewife quietly persuading her family to clean the house, “beloved women” of the Creeks did not flex their power muscles to get what they wanted, but would remain discreet when swaying opinions within the group.

Once we remember what makes us human, it becomes easier to see the parallelism of many Native American ways to current customs. Celebrations, ritual drink, and techniques for coercion are just a few examples of the likenesses shared. If we dig a little deeper and realize the opportunities for travel in our own backyard, we can connect with the people of the past. Once that connection is made, a gateway of knowledge will be opened, allowing us to learn more about Native American culture, as well as our own.

Erika Borek

ROD ES ADVENTURE PROGRAM

The Adventure Program is a part of the Rock Eagle 4-H Environmental Education program. This program challenges groups to meet and surpass their team potential. We challenge the group by challenging the individual. Modeled on the experiential learning cycle, the program consists of an experience, a reflection, and a focus on the application of each.

Our staff has experience with groups of all ages, sizes, and types: corporate, school, spiritual, sport, community, civic, etc. If you have a group, we can meet your needs. Before each program we discuss with our clients their goals and expectations. With this information we tailor the program to your needs. We look forward to the opportunity of seeing you on our 35 ft climbing wall and zip line! If you have any questions please call Matt Hammons at 706/484-2830 or reventur@uga.edu.
To give younger students the Rock Eagle experience, bring them to the Rock Eagle Discovery Program! The Discovery Program is a day program geared for Pre-K to 2nd grade children. Programs include 2 one-hour classes and a tour through Rock Eagle’s Natural History Museum and Gift Shop. With 10 different classes to choose from, each trip to Rock Eagle can be a different adventure. Programs such as Scaly and Slimy and Amazing Mammals teach children about different animal groups in the animal kingdom. Give your students a hands-on history lesson with our Pioneer Life and Native American classes. Please call or email Becky Goldberg for more information, (706) 484-2836 or rediscov@uga.edu.

FROM A TEACHER’S POINT OF VIEW

Rock Eagle 4-H Center has been the field experience for my fourth grade classes for 15 years. For two years prior to that, my fifth grade students studied at Rock Eagle. Environmental education immersion experiences, such as the program at Rock Eagle, serve to correlate curricular objectives and transform knowledge from dry factoids into long-term personal memories applicable to new academic areas and life situations.

Classes in which students learn about and interact with wildlife have proven to influence students’ thinking and attitudes for many years. Some former Rock Eagle campers have chosen or switched to Earth-friendly college majors and careers in order to, in their words, “protect the environment rather than destroy it.”

East Fayette students have enjoyed and benefitted from the development of the pioneer and archaeology programs at the camp. Being able to place students on an actual working dig, letting them act as professionals, and showing them the results of past student archaeology work adds a tremendous amount of interest, excitement, and validity to classroom studies in anthropology and archaeology.

Using pioneer tools in the setting of the Old Scott farmstead and participating in the pioneer campfire brings fourth grade social studies to life. Students discuss history lessons from book and classroom with enthusiasm and insight - without teacher prompting or involvement. Comparisons of modern and pioneer lifestyles continue long after the class time is finished.

I am proud of the number of college students and professionals, especially women in the sciences, who point back to our elementary school field studies at the 4-H centers around Georgia as the starting point of their career choices. Geneticists, medical doctors, veterinarians, environmental engineers, architects, physicists, and ecologists who prepared for and attended Georgia’s environmental education programs through my classes, continue to use the materials, attitudes, and lessons gained therein.

The programs’ shared-adventure aspect has helped form lasting bonds between this teacher and her students. We learned, ate, stayed, played, and worked together. We share common experiences and stories that allow me to say, honestly, at the end of their time with me, “You may not be in my class any more, but I still belong to you.” And Rock Eagle’s good times and memories will always belong to us.

Sallye Martin
East Fayette Elementary
The lives of pioneer children were not easy ones at all. In fact their lives were nothing like what yours is. Today you might go out and play with your friends or watch TV., but back then you would not have had as much free time. During the 1800s, it was very common for families to have more than ten children. After all, the children at that time were the ones that did much of the work around the farm. In fact, only a few children actually attended school. Those that did not attend school learned what they needed from their parents.

Pioneer boys usually learned the trade of their fathers, such as carpenter skills, leather-making skills, and blacksmith skills. A typical day for the boys started before dawn and did not end until well after sunset. The first chore of the day, as well as at the end of the day, would be to feed and water all the animals. After caring for the animals that morning, they then ate a big breakfast and worked with their fathers in the fields. The boys' ages determined exactly what chores they did during the day. The boys learned how to use tools such as buck saws, felling and broad axes, two man cross cut saws, and the froe and maul. Most of these tools were used in building houses, wagons, and barns. Boys also learned how to treat sick animals, how to build fences, and how to make horse shoes.

Boys were not the only ones who were busy though, the girls were too. The girls started their day at dawn, a little later than the boys, by helping their mothers cook breakfast. Then for the rest of the day they did such things as cleaning the house, sewing clothes and quilts, milking the cows, making cheese and butter, and of course, helping with childcare. The girls even helped their mothers during childbirth! They ended their days by cooking dinner and cleaning up afterwards.

Many times, by their mid teens, both the boys and girls had already learned everything they needed in order to start their own families. Children of pioneers had fun and played, but also shared in the family's survival. Their lives were different than yours, but very rewarding.

Now try and solve this crossword puzzle about life as a pioneer child!

Down:
1. What girls helped their mothers with
2. You prepare food by ______ it.
3. Tools used to cut down trees
4. How clothes are made or fixed
5. Axes are used to help build this

Across:
2. This is made from milk
4. A trade boys learned from their fathers
6. What settlers were called in the 1800s
7. These were used for transportation
9. A type of saw used in making houses

Corie Stueber
MEET OUR NEW ROCK EAGLE CREW!

Rock Eagle is proud to announce the arrival of 3 raptors that will be a part of our new raptor program, “The Raptors, at Rock Eagle.” Over the past few months we have spent a lot of time preparing for the arrival of our new birds, from researching what care the raptors would need, to construction of the raptor cages. We have 2 Eastern Screech Owls and 1 American Kestrel. The Sanctuary on Sapelo, a bird rehabilitation center located in Pine Harbor, GA, gave all three of these birds to us. These birds are non-releasable and we hope to provide them with a good home and use them to teach students the importance of these predators of the sky. The staff at Rock Eagle is very excited about these additions and we are hoping to have the program up and running for the fall 2003 season.

Greg Fisher

TEST YOUR ROCK EAGLE I.Q.

The following list of questions is for you to answer and test your knowledge of the Rock Eagle 4-H Center. After answering the questions, keep reading to find out how well you did and then rate yourself with our Rock Eagle Growth Chart.

1. What does “4-H” stand for?
2. What is the “Rock Eagle”?
3. How deep is the Rock Eagle Lake?
4. How many poisonous snakes will I see at Rock Eagle 4-H Center?

Are you ready to check your answers?
Check below to see how well you scored.
Check your rating on our Rock Eagle Growth Chart.

1. The four H’s that comprise the basis for the state 4-H motto is: head, heart, hands, and health. In fact, the actual 4-H motto is “I pledge my head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service, and my health to better living for my club, my community, my country, and my world.”

2. The depth of Rock Eagle Lake is approximately 25 feet at the greatest point near the earthen dam (also known as Rock Eagle Road). Since the lake’s birth in 1936, sedimentation and accumulated biomass on the lake floor have altered the depth of the 110-acre lake at various rates. Being a man-made reservoir, Rock Eagle Lake is utilized by children and adult visitors for scientific exploration and recreational purposes.

2. cont. Obviously the mound is in the shape of a bird, although many argue that the bird resembles a vulture more so than an eagle. Irrelevant to bird species, the massive mound is over 120 feet from wing tip to wing tip and 102 feet from head to tail. At the chest, the highest point in the mound, rocks are piled over 8 feet high!

3. The following list of questions is for you to answer and test your knowledge of the Rock Eagle 4-H Center. After answering the questions, keep reading to find out how well you did and then rate yourself with our Rock Eagle Growth Chart.

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4. Zero. Snakes are considered venomous NOT poisonous. Venomous snakes inject their prey with a toxin that can affect the tissue or nervous system thus disenabling the prey from escaping. Out of the 41 snakes found in Georgia and South Carolina, six species are considered venomous (*copperhead, *pigmy rattlesnake, *canebrake or timber rattlesnake, *cottonmouth or water moccasin, eastern diamondback rattlesnake, and eastern coral snake, *found at Rock Eagle).

Angela Bliss
The happenings around 4-H EE centers

Tybee 4-H Center
Paul Coote joined the Tybee team as camp manager and Angela Bliss is the new EE program coordinator. Contact Paul or Angela at 912/786-5534 or paulc@uga.edu for any scheduling needs.

Jekyll 4-H Center
Look forward to an improved Jekyll 4-H center next fall! This spring, Jekyll is undergoing some needed building renovations. Joe Caudell, Jekyll’s new camp manager, is overseeing the renovations. The center will be open the fall of 2003. Contact Joe for any scheduling at 912/635-4117.

Wahsega 4-H Center
Amy Hester is currently acting as the interim program coordinator. Contact her with any questions at 706/864-2050 or wahsega@uga.edu. The online version of the trip planning guide for teachers is now easier to navigate. Visit us at www.wahsega4h.org and click on “Environmental Education” and then “Trip Planning Guide” to see the updated site. To increase the safety of overnight guests, Wahsega has installed new emergency exits and smoke detectors that are connected to emergency lighting in all cabins. A new class is also being offered, Ultimate Frisbee. This sport is a fast-paced combination of football, soccer, and basketball, but remains unique because it is played with a disc and is governed by “spirit of the game”. Two teams compete by running, throwing, and eventually scoring by catching the disc in the end zone.