Mark Spencer returns after two years to be Solar Demonstration House coordinator. He is busy converting the grounds to a model "wildscape."

NOTES FROM THE WOODS

In January Gail Marshall delivered petitions on the off-road vehicles, signed by over 900 citizens, to the Kentucky Congressional delegation. Since then, with the help of many people, the number of petitioners has doubled. We are happy to share this newsletter and insert with these, along with our 3,500 regular ALTERNATIVES readers. We are deeply indebted to Trina and Mark Schimmoeller of the Kentucky Heartwood, who voluntarily inserted the names and addresses on computer disks.

Kentucky Heartwood held a workshop in February on options for forest action led by Peter Ayers. Others may be scheduled upon request.

The Bicentennial Forest Display, assembled under the direction of Mark Spencer, was shown at Western Kentucky University in February, as part of a United Student Activists weekend, and at the University of Kentucky and local meetings in March. There is still time left for other showings.

Sr. Mary Carol Hengler & Sr Bénédicte Ferbach of St. Camillus Academy, with the ASPI Forest Display

Repeatedly people have sought advice on off-road vehicle research and networking. Steve Fleming is helping us assemble a colored slide show of the "Off-Road Menace." Any further documentation of ecological disaster zones would be appreciated, when you document ORV impacts. We also suggest sending additional information to Rod Mondt, Director of National Off-Road Vehicle Task Force, POB 5784 Tucson, AZ 85703.

Funded from various sources, the research component of the ASPI Forest Project will be launched with long-time associate Timothy Collins, who is completing his doctorate in sociology at the University of Kentucky. In this project we analyze current policies of the U.S. Forest Service and other agencies and their impact on our national forests. The region needs a comprehensive study before major policy changes can occur.

RESOURCE AUDITING SERVICE

For the past six years the focus of the RAS has been auditing larger physical plants and landholdings, with the possibility of converting the places to model environmental sites. Conducting this program we have found that, while some non-profits could benefit more fully from conducting their own audits, others are too small for a thorough audit, and some only want to know more about the process before commitment. To meet these needs, the program has been expanded to the following:

* *Earth Healing* The program with about fifty audits performed is currently completing two audits of the physical facilities and grounds of the Sisters of St. Joseph at Kalamazoo, MI and the Adorers of the Blood of Columbia, PA. In order to compare notes among audited and aspiring non-profit groups, the RAS is sponsoring a very practical conference at St. Louis in mid-August. Some space is still available.

* *College Environmental Resource Audits (CERA).* Our new Program mentioned in previous newsletters is devoted to inspiring colleges and universities with sufficient resources to conduct their own audits. The outlines were laid out at the RAS conference at the University of New Hampshire last November, with participants from six New England schools. The results were edited into a film that is shown at CERA Workshops. Paula Gonzalez of our RAS team conducted the first at Pacific Lutheran at Tacoma in February and another will be led by Al Fritsch at Carthage College at Kenosha, WI in early April. Workshops are being planned at a number of other schools including the University of Kentucky.

* *Eco-Church* workshops are geared for parishes and congregations both within and outside of Appalachia. These are essentially mini workshop/audits for a specific local plant or to a collection of church leaders and decision makers. A beginning workshop was held by Al Fritsch and Paul Gallimore at a UCC church and retirement center at Pleasant Hill, Tennessee in late March.

* *Clean & Safe Indoor Space* workshops are conducted by Phil Stern for larger institutions with potential indoor pollution problems resulting from the use of high volume chemicals.

Flyers and supporting materials are available for interested individuals or groups in the four areas. Additional workshops in specialty subjects are being planned, plus audits for agricultural centers as well as counties and local governments with solid waste problems. Please write to RAS, P.O. Box 298, Livingston, KY 40445.

PLANNING FOR FOOD NEEDS

Most Appalachian gardening is done on small patches of land where the gardener attempts to grow: staples to supplement or furnish basic food needs (potatoes, corn or beans); seasonals that give substantial produce for one part of the year (peas, lettuce or radishes); and more exotic plants and herbs when seasoning or only occasional dishes are desired (basil or parsley). Granted you may adjust categories according to individual tastes and needs. A garden space plan permits one to gauge when the spring crop is ending and what to plant where. For instance, interplant spring vegetables such as onions and radishes with summer crops of tomatoes or slow growing celery.

With a little care and use of seasonal extenders on both ends of the growing season, the average Appalachian gardener may realize two or more crops per section and have a satisfactory amount for all on one-twentieth of an acre per person.

SUMMER INTERNS IN 1992

We have already filled our summer positions for several interns to help in our various writing projects and conference programs. For the past few years we have limited ourselves to mostly Kentucky persons. However, our Board likes the mix of local and distant interns. We are cooperating with innovative groups such as the Princeton-55 Program and a number of colleges.

WISH LIST

Most of past wish lists have been filled by donors. As always ASPI is happy to help you recycle stored and underused materials. We are especially looking for --

* Library books and journals
* Wood working equipment
* Furnishings for solar demonstration house
* Wild flower seeds
* A refrigerator
* Two wood stoves for 1992-93 winter
* A wood chipper.

ECO-TOUR

Red River Gorge area, Saturday April 25, 1992. Tour begins at 10:00 a.m. in front of the Stanton District Forest Service office (west end of Stanton on Route 15). **Public and Media Most Welcome**. Sponsored by **Kentucky Heartwood**.

Congratulations to Renee and Peter Ayers on the birth of their daughter Rebecca. Both have assisted ASPI over the past decade and Renee is presently our part time librarian.

Recent visitor Sasha of St. Petersburg, Russia

THANK YOU

...for grants of $1,000 from the Sierra Club to be applied to the ASPI Forest Project, $4,200 from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America for Resource Audit workshops at three of their colleges, $40,000 from a private donor for the ASPI Internship Program, Safe Indoor Space and AT advocacy work, and to the following private donors of $25 to $100:...Sidney & Ronald Baker, John Ball, Betsey Bennett, Darryl Birkenfeld, Susan Bobka, Ken Bossong, Marie & Kent Boudreau, Grace Bronderm, Theresa & Everett Brooks, Warren Brunner, Tom Bruns, Claire Carpenter, Sara & Charles Carr, John Carroll, Jean & Albert Cevasco, Laura Childress, Barbara & Bill Clark, Thomas Conry, Chuck Crimmons, Sheril Cummings, Pat & Larry Darcey, Maureen & Dennis Darcey, Theresa DeConinck, Irene & Leon Dickenson, Ralph Dowdy, Elizabeth & Russell Ebalhar, Minnie & Ernest Egerer, Elizabeth & Robert Ellis, Dick Fatrell, James Fitz, Jane & Richard Frank, Jane Frantz, Sandra & John Freda, Christina & Edward Fritsch, David Fry, Dick Futrell, Mary Cameron Goodwyn, Holly Grant, David Groff, Beth Gunn, Leo Haigerty, James Hall, Kathleen Hall, Anna & Robert Harris, Mike Hazard, Kristin Higgs, Joe Holland, Rochelle Hollander, Roger Hommes, Barry Horowitz, John Horstman, Bethany House, Curt Hules, Wes Jackson, Jesuit Fathers of St. Joseph, Susan Johnson, Margaret Kane, Derry Koob, Marjorie Lager, Edward Lammert, Noel LeClaire, Wilbert Lepkowski, Marian Lowry, Margaret & Sam Lynd, Ruth & Gregory Maletta, Edith & Bernard Maurer, Rita & Tom Maurer, Lindsay McFarlane, Gerard McMahon, Martha Moore, Mary Morgan, Kasey Moulton, Elizabeth & Robert Muller, R.G. Murphy, Don Newton, Paul O'Brien, Archie O'Daniel, Ron Okagaki, Max Oliva, Nancy Osborne, Herbert Packard, B. Paulson, Muriel Pelligrino, Edward Perraut, Charles Perry, David Petering, John Polanski, Wendy & Emil Posava, Debbie Purcell, Andrea Rabinowitz, Ann & Paul Rapien, Lee Burton & R. Reeves, John Rogers, Sylvie Romanowski, Andy Rudin, Dava Saxton, Mary Ann & Charles Schuble, Svato Schutner, Peter Slonek, Sharon & Joe Spaeder, Ernest Spittler, Jane & John Spurlock, Patti Staton, Elaine & Richard Stoltzen, Anthony Vital, Hildegarde Wachob, Rita & George Watkins, Judith West, Winnefred & Norman Williams, James Wilson, Monique & Paul Winther, Nancy Wittruer, Pat & Jerry Wolf, John Yago. *(continued)*