

We Bring the Amazon Home

PO Box 2549-WCU
West, Chester, PA 19383
610-738-0477

Bring the Amazon Home!

Environmental conservation starts here at home. As we begin to change our habits, the health of the planet will improve!

- Don't eat fast-food hamburgers or processed beef products, if the stock came from the rainforests of Central or South America.

- Avoid purchasing hardwoods that come from the rainforest such as mahogany or rosewood.

- Plant trees. Trees use what we need less of: Carbon Dioxide. The more trees in your yard, the more CO₂ is taken out of the atmosphere.

- Avoid buying bottled water. Fill a reusable container with tap water to prevent the accumulation of plastic water bottles in our landfills.

-Bring your own bag. Buy a reusable canvas or recycled tote and bring it to the store with you.

ACEER now has recycled, reusable totes bags available for purchase!!

Spring 2009 E-News

Welcome to ACEER's first E-newsletter! Sharing the ACEER message about the importance of rainforest conservation will help us achieve our mission to promote conservation of the Peruvian Amazon by fostering awareness, understanding, action, and transformation. Through our programs, ACEER strives to provide both environmental and economic benefit to the indigenous people living in the Amazon region of Peru, as well as bring the important concepts of conservation home!

Please help us spread word about environmental conservation, and the work of ACEER by forwarding our newsletter to a friend or colleague!

Thank you!

Marguerite Gould, Director of Operations

Amazon Herb Associates Peru Trip

October 8th - 17th, 2009



Join fellow Amazon Herb Associates and other travelers in the guided tour of Peru. Visit the rainforests of the Amazon, the majestic Andes, and ancient ruins of Machu Picchu - one of the wonders of the world.

Sponsored by ACEER and The Amazon Herb Company.

Registration Deadline: July 31st, 2009

STAFF in the U.S.

Marguerite Gould
Director of Operations

Mary Ann Robinson
Program Coordinator

J. Fred Gage
Amigos Coordinator

Ellen Spoehr
Development Coordinator

ACEER Partners with Amazon Herb Co. to Bring the AMIGOS Partnership for Education to a New Region of the Amazon



The goal of the AMIGOS Program is to promote awareness of the need for conservation and sustainable use of the rainforest to school children and teachers. Generous support from the Amazon Herb Company has allowed ACEER to expand this program into a new region near the city of Pucallpa, supporting two new indigenous groups - the Shipibo and the Pisqui. More than 20 primary and secondary village schools in this region will receive training and support to implement the AMIGOS curriculum.

Teachers and Community Members Take Part in "Leaf Pack" Workshop in the Amazon Rainforest of Peru



Licia Silva Ortiz, ACEER's Education Coordinator in Puerto Maldonado, Peru, organized a "Leaf Pack" workshop for local teachers and community members based on training she received at the Stroud Water Research Center in Chester County, Pennsylvania in the fall of 2008. A group of 21 participated in the one-day workshop that took place at ATI along the Madre de Dios River, a 45-minute boat ride from the port in Puerto Maldonado. The purpose of the workshop was two-fold: to expose the participants to the river and the rainforest (for many, their first trip on the river and in the forest) and to introduce them to different scientific processes related to stream ecology.

Once the group arrived at ATI they had some time to explore the main building and exhibits installed by the National Geographic Society, listen to an explanation of the "Leaf Pack" workshop by Licia presented in the classroom, hike to the stream where they collected samples of leaves and water from the stream, and finally took the samples back to the laboratory where they analyzed them.

Despite some rain the group enjoyed their day at ATI, experienced first-hand the diversity of the rainforest and finally learned about stream ecology and the importance of conservation of their natural resources. They will be able to take this information back to their classrooms in Puerto Maldonado and share their new-found knowledge with their students and community.

Moscow State University Students and Faculty Join West Chester University Group on Workshop to Peru



Six students and one professor from Moscow State University in Russia joined geology professor, Dr. Daria Nikitina, from West Chester University and twenty other students, ACEER staff and friends for a nine day workshop in Peru. The focus of this workshop was geology and environmental studies of the Amazon Rainforest and the Andes. The group spent three days at Los Amigos, hiking the many trails through the rainforest, learning not only about the geology of the area, but also gaining insight into the diverse plant, animal and insect life that is so abundant in the primary and secondary forests surrounding the research station. The group managed to survive the heaviest rainstorm ever recorded at Los Amigos -127 mm of rain over a two-hour period.

The journey through the Sacred Valley was breathtaking and we were able to view the glaciers in the mountaintops of the Andes. The train ride from Ollantaytambo to Aguas Calientes presented a perfect opportunity to discuss the geology of the Peruvian mountains as the peaks rose up along either side of the train. Despite the early morning fog and drizzle, Machu Picchu was awe-inspiring. Many of the group challenged themselves to hike to the

top of Huayna Picchu and they all succeeded! Their efforts were well worth it, as they were treated to unparalleled views in all directions.

After a long day hiking around Machu Picchu, the students enjoyed a relaxing dip in the hot springs in Aguas Calientes, scanning the markets for bargains and enjoying local cuisine such as cuy (guinea pig) and alpaca. On our return trip to Cusco, we stopped to see chicha (fermented beverage made from maize) being made, visited Chinchero to see a weaving demonstration by the locals and stopped in Maras to see salt being mined in hundreds of small pools. On our last day we toured the cliffs of Lima, stopped along the rocky beaches and had an opportunity to touch the Pacific Ocean.

Everyone was in agreement that this was a trip of a lifetime and some are already making plans to visit Peru again.

SAVE THE DATE!

We are excited to share with you the news that ACEER Board Members, Olivia Newton-John Easterling and John Easterling will be joining us on the campus of West Chester University on March 26th and 27th, 2010. Olivia and John will be speakers at West Chester University's *Integrative Health Conference*. On March 27th Olivia will perform in a second concert to raise money for our AMIGOS and University Outreach educational programs in the Peruvian Amazon. Details on the concert and an ACEER dinner event will be posted on our website shortly.