



# THE RESTORATION REPORT

January 2017

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## NEW YEAR, NEW BOARD CHANGES

### TWO ADDITIONS MADE TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS; BOOK STUDY BEGINS

The C.H.E.R. board has grown to nine members, as the group formally welcomed Dr. Mary Watzin and Mr. Cameron Clark. Both newcomers offer wide ranges of expertise and are expected to contribute fresh and innovative ideas to the organization. Dr. Watzin has been a liaison between the Neighborhood Ecology Corps and NC State College of Natural Resources, while Mr. Clark interned with C.H.E.R. in the summer of 2014 and has offered continual assistance. Their full bios are attached at the end of this month's report. Please take a look!

Additionally, the board has begun a book study of Thomas Berry's *The Great Work* in order to further understand the importance of a restorative human-earth relationship. Thomas Berry is one of our organization's pillars.

## BETTERING OUR COMMUNI-TREE

### PLANTING TREES FOR THE CITY



Year 3 Neighborhood Ecology Corps students have taken on a role of service this year. Among other community projects, they were recently involved with Raleigh Parks' volunteer program. Five students and their instructors planted 20 trees and 50 small plants and shrubs at Fallon Park. The finished product was a sight to see! After enjoying lunch together, the group headed to Walnut Creek for some trash clean-up. CHER staff was very proud of the work the kids did on Saturday!

# OUTDOOR HOMESCHOOL

## STUDENTS FIND THEIR DIRECTION

The new year brought an exciting opportunity for the homeschool program to participate in an amazing race! CHER staff took students to Horton Grove Nature Preserve and taught them the basics of orienteering and compasses. Once they got a handle on the lesson, the kids competed against one another in a directional race, using compasses and specific directions to get from one clue to another.

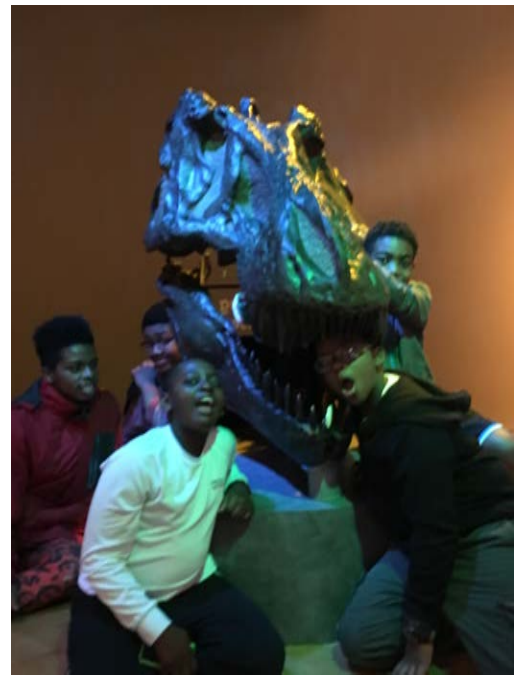


# NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

## NEC VISITS MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCES



Early release days and teacher workdays offer opportunities for the Neighborhood Ecology Corps program to venture to surrounding attractions. The January 20 ER day led students to the Museum of Natural Sciences downtown. Students spent time exploring the Naturalist Center and had to look for clues around the museum to complete a scavenger hunt. They even made some friends with dinosaurs! The next NEC expedition will take place on February 20.





Dr. Mary C. Watzin is Dean of the College of Natural Resources. She came to North Carolina State University after spending 22 years in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources at the University of Vermont, as Professor, and from 2009-2012, as Dean. She holds a Ph.D. in Marine Sciences from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a B.S. in Marine Science from the University of South Carolina. She has received numerous awards and other recognitions for her teaching, research, and service, including the Kroepsch-Maurice award for teaching excellence at the University of Vermont, the Teddy

Roosevelt Conservation award, and the Ibakari- Kasumigaura Prize recognizing her work with colleagues in Macedonia and Albania on transboundary water management. Watzin specializes in aquatic ecology and watershed management, with a wide-ranging program of research focused on understanding how human activities influence ecosystem health and how adaptive management can be used to improve environmental outcomes.



Mr. Cameron Clark grew up and went to college in Davidson, North Carolina. While attending Davidson College he majored in Environmental Studies and minored in Anthropology. He also worked as a Sustainability Intern with the City of Charlotte, a Communications (and later Composting) Coordinator with the Davidson College Office of Sustainability, and a Summer Educator/Communications Intern with CHER. He now lives in Carrboro, where he works with the EPA's National Center for Computational Toxicology as a Communications Specialist. Most importantly, Mr. Clark enjoys sharing his passion for sustainability and the environment with others, and believes the work CHER does is both essential and deeply

meaningful. His aim is to contribute to CHER's mission by helping with branding efforts, social media engagement, and general communications improvements. He looks forward to any opportunities to get out in the field and work directly with the kids.

## Nature Knows

### Surfacing Salamanders

Warm rain this time of year signals to salamanders that it is time to leave their underground homes and lay eggs in vernal, or temporary, ponds. Laying eggs in a pond that could dry up may seem risky, but there is a big benefit: there is no egg predation by fish.



# Upcoming Events

## WOMEN IN NATURE WORKSHOP

Interested in identifying your roots with Mother Earth? Visit our website to learn more about Women in Nature, and join us on **March 5** at Triangle Land Conservancy's Walnut Hill Farms for the first session.

[www.centerforhuman-earthrestoration.com/women-in-nature](http://www.centerforhuman-earthrestoration.com/women-in-nature)

## ALDO LEOPOLD CELEBRATION

This annual event will be hosted by Yates Mill County Park on Saturday, **March 3**. You can expect films, readings, nature walks, and short lessons, led by our president Randy Senzig and other C.H.E.R. staff.

## BIG SWEEP

The next clean-up at Carroll Howard Johnson Environmental Park will take place on **March 18**. Look for details in next month's Restoration Report.

## C.O.R.E.S.

Our in-school program will resume in March with Fuquay Middle School and continue through the end of the school year with several other Wake County schools.