

THE ACTIVIST NETWORK *RAINBOW WARRIOR* DECEMBER, 2009

Our *NEW* newsletter!!

LEAD ACTIVIST OF THE YEAR:

Bobette Wolesensky



Where? Boca Raton, Florida

Why is she so amazing? Bobette and her team of unbelievable activists organized not one, not two, but THREE events for the International Day of Climate Action on October 24th! At the Climate Change Wall of Hope and Shame Flash Mob in Delray Beach, over 300 people gathered to reveal pictures of the impacts of climate change. The event garnered five press hits as well!

As a 'Time to Sign' petition gatherer, Bobette collected over 500 signatures – by far the most in the network!

What inspires her? "I believe we are all here to be stewards of this planet – and fortunately, I have the time, energy and ability to help others learn about stewardship. Greenpeace has given me the opportunity to share this important message in many ways – and when someone says, "I changed how I live because of the message," that's all the inspiration I need."

What was her highlight of 2009?

"A 5th grade student at one of our rallies said to me, 'You mean I can really call our President's office and tell him climate change scares me?' and I told him he certainly could. Then he asked me if we could call right then and there, so we did. The operator took his message and ...he was thrilled and amazed that he could have a voice in shaping policy... I believe that if we help young people find their voices, they will use them in a meaningful and just way!"

OCT. 24 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF CLIMATE ACTION: SUCCESS!

On the October 24th International Day of Climate Action, the Activist Network took part in hundreds of inspiring events all over the country. Here is a **small** sample...



In Boynton Beach, Florida, **Bobette Wolesensky** (see box to the left) held an inspiring 10/24 rally in 95 degree heat!



Fun for the whole family! At an event organized by superstar activist **D'arcy Batson** in Lexington, Kentucky, attendees held up signs, banners, and got to know one another in Triangle Park.



Salt Lake City Lead Activists, **Trevor Anderson, Sara Murray, and Kyle Stanford** blew us all away: they pulled off a fantastic 10/24 event with at least 200 people in attendance!

POWER FACT:

Established in January 2009 with an original goal of 100 activists, the Greenpeace Activist Network now boasts over 520 members in all 50 states and Puerto Rico!

OBAMA HEARS FROM THE GREENPEACE ACTIVIST NETWORK!

On December 7, Greenpeace displayed an 80 x 40-foot banner on the National Mall, across the street from the White House. The banner image consisted of more than 60,000 activists' and supporters' names. All of them calling on President Obama to **LEAD** and save the climate as the U.N. Copenhagen Climate Talks begin.

While Greenpeace's initial goal was to collect 30,000 names for this banner, we ended up doubling that. The Activist Network blew us away: we set a goal of 900 signatures, but you guys brought in over 2600 signatures!



Thank you so much to everyone who collected and sent in their signatures! Particular recognition must go to our top signature collectors:

Alicia Bower (NE), Andrew Dumont (CA), Ashley Lukashevsky (HI), Bobette Wolesensky (FL), Diane Helt (OK), Gina Soldano (OH), Hector Lopez (CT), Kate Melges (FL), Kathleen Flanders (CA), Margo Fendrich (FL), Mike Morton (NJ), Moira O'Hanlon (NM), Nicole Gambino (NY), Sara Murray (UT) & Will Smith (CO).

IDEAS? SUGGESTIONS? KNOW ANYONE WHO WANTS TO BE A LEAD ACTIVIST? E-MAIL!

anna.wagner@greenpeace.org OR
ben.smith@greenpeace.org

BY THE NUMBERS...

What YOU have achieved this year!!!

- 20** letters to the editor published by our Lead Activists **just** in May
- 129** events on October 24th that were organized & attended by Lead Activists
- 190** photo-petitions telling Trader Joe's to sell sustainable seafood in July
- 139** Lead Activists got a copy of the 'Age of Stupid' movie and **569** people attended
- 434** comments submitted to the EPA to regulate global warming pollution in June
- 438** 'Obama, get the picture!' photographs faxed to the White House in August
- 1161** Earth Day petitions were returned to us by Lead Activists in April
- 1515** attendees at October 24th events that Lead Activists organized & attended
- 2596** 'Time to Sign' petition signatures collected so far...

'AGE OF STUPID' HIGHLIGHTS

Ever since September, you guys have been screening the new global warming film, 'the Age of Stupid' all over the country. This powerful documentary has woken up over 1 million Americans to the reality of climate change and the need to do something NOW!

Here are a handful of *your* highlights:

Dix Henneke, a fiery Lead Activist in Orange County, California, hosted at least FIVE movie screenings in community centers, church screening rooms, and on college campuses.

Heather-Leigh Logan of Sarasota, Florida hosted a movie party with 60 attendees!

Will Smith of Colorado Springs, Colorado showed the film at Colorado College, where 100 people saw it AND nearly all signed the 'Time to Sign' petition!

Tatiana Cichanowicz of Pittsford, New York hosted a screening with 100 people on the SUNY Geneseo campus. Way to go!



Happy holidays from the Activist Network Team!

From left to right: Ben Smith, Ben Kroetz, Lilah Glicksohn, Diana Silbergeld, and Anna Wagner (not shown: Alexis Boxer and Jessica Prince, the Network interns).

GREENPEACE ACTIVIST BLOG

The Activist Blog is up and running and it's a great place for Lead Activists to help engage each other and the public with the environmental movement.



Go to: <http://members.greenpeace.org/blog/community/>, click "Create new account," follows the instructions, and blog away!

LEAD ACTIVIST ALL-STARS

Kate Melges, Tampa-based Lead Activist, attended the Energy Action Coalition meeting at the White House on December 2nd. Cabinet secretaries and White House officials spoke to 160 youth leaders. Kate planned on asking why the president isn't committing to doing what the science says is necessary. Way to go, Kate!!

One of our newest Lead Activists, **Kinsey Duvall** of East Greenville, Pennsylvania, is already flexing his activist muscles. This

Your message is getting across!!

On December 7th, the Environmental Protection Agency made a so-called 'endangerment finding', when they announced that greenhouse gases threaten public health and the environment. Moreover, they stated that "science overwhelmingly shows greenhouse gas concentrations at unprecedented levels due to human activity."

It's about time!

stellar eighth-grader has collected over 200 'Time to Sign' petition signatures and is planning an 'Age of Stupid' movie party.

Our Charlotte, North Carolina Lead Activists – **Annie Vereen, Roxana Bendezu, Michael Burns, Brian Staton, and Alan Burns** - worked together to organize TWO amazing rallies on November 16th. One rally took place in front of the Cliffside coal plant activist trial, and the other was at a banquet where Jim Rodgers, Duke CEO received an award. Not only did these fantastic rabble rousers garner four press hits, but the charges against the Cliffside activist were also dropped! Amazing work.

Jodi Jaklyovich co-sponsored a rally in Lawrence, Kansas on December 9th on the Copenhagen climate talks. Despite the chilly weather, the attendees chanted "What does democracy look like? This is what democracy looks like! 350 ppm" and "What do we want? A Climate Treaty!" Check her out below with her equally active parents.



MORE WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED...

Join the 'Greenpeace Activist Network' **Facebook** group, and become facebook buddies with our National Organizers, Anna Wagner (annalourawagner@gmail.com) & Benjamin Smith (benjaminmsmith@alumni.tufts.edu)

Follow us on **Twitter**: @GP_Anna