

Welcome to BioInspire, a monthly publication addressing the interface of human design, nature and technology.

BioInspire.15 Earth Day.04

In commemoration of Earth Day 2004, I felt it was important to recognize how we can all get more involved in restoring Earth. One of the simplest things any one of us can do is support events and organizations that promote the conservation and restoration of our resources. I have been fortunate enough to have had the opportunity to work with a number of great people on the front range of Colorado to organize the Rocky Mountain Sustainable Living Fair. The fair, and others like it, plays an important role in the environmental and social justice movement. Outside of the obvious educational benefits, renewable energy and sustainable living fairs bring communities together and build positive forces for change from the grassroots level. As summed up by RMSLF founder, John Long, “the RMSLF is gaining in popularity because it provides hope to citizens throughout the region. The Fair provides effective ways to create the change they want to see in the world. It also provides the vendors with great networking opportunities with other like-minded groups, so we can start working together cooperatively and build synergy for the latest in sustainable technologies and products. These types of events are essential for the continued growth of this emerging movement around the world.”

Look over the list of events below and be sure to mark your calendar...there is a fair coming to a location near you.

Much peace and love, John

Renewable Energy and Sustainable Living Fair Calendar

Southern California Renewable Energy Expo

Date: August 14, 2004

Area served: Southern California

Attendance Costs: \$6 (free for children under 14)

Fair location: Los Angeles County Fairgrounds Fairplex, Pomona CA

Fair features: Seminars, exhibits

Fair organizing entity: Solatron Technologies. Phone: 888-647-6527 www.socalenergyexpo.com

SolFest Southwest

Dates: April 17–18, 2004

Area served: Phoenix metropolitan area

Attendance Costs: \$10 per day

Fair location: WestWorld of Scottsdale, off Highway 101

Fair features: 60+ workshops, music, keynotes, dance, art, Kidszone, 150 exhibitors

Fair organizing entity: SolFest Southwest, PO Box 393 , Cornville , AZ 86325 • 480-488-8792 •

Fax: 480-575-6652 • info@solfestsouthwest.org www.solfestsouthwest.org

Rhode Island Sustainable Living Fest & Renewable Energy Expo

Dates: June 5, 2004

Area served: New England

Attendance Costs: Individual: \$20 advance, \$25 day of show; Family: \$45 advance, \$55 day of show

Fair location: Apeiron Institute for Environmental Living, 451 Hammet Rd., Coventry, Rhode Island

Fair features: Music featuring Ellis Paul & Jess Kline, 40+ workshops on everything from bio-diesel to bicycle maintenance to greening your home, qi gong & more, 50+ exhibitors, vendors and artists, children's activities, food, giant puppets, storytellers and other surprises

Fair organizing entity: Apeiron Institute for Environmental Living, 451 Hammet Road, Coventry, RI 02816 • 401-397-3430 • Fax: 401-397-4756 • info@apeiron.org www.apeiron.org

Midwest Renewable Energy and Sustainable Living Fair

Dates: June 18–20, 2004

Area served: International

Attendance Costs: \$25/weekend, \$10/day, with student discounts

Fair location: 7558 Deer Road , Custer , Wisconsin (7 miles E of Stevens Point)

Fair features: Exhibitors, workshops, entertainment, and fun for the whole family

Fair organizing entity: Midwest Renewable Energy Association, 7558 Deer Road , Custer , WI 54423 • 715-592-6595 • Fax: 715-592-6596 • info@the-mrea.org www.the-mrea.org

Sustainability Fair

Dates: July 10, 2004

Area served: Northern Rockies

Attendance Costs: None

Fair location: 200 West Park St. , Rotary Depot Park , Livingston , Montana

Fair features: 70+ exhibitors of sustainable goods & services and community nonprofits, sustainably-grown food, workshops on sustainability, renewable energy displays, strawbale construction workshop and demonstration, music, children's programs

Fair organizing entity: Corporation for the Northern Rockies , PO Box 1448 , 215 South Third, Livingston , MT 59047 • 406-222-0730 • Fax: 406-222-6933 • info@northrock.org
www.northrock.org

SolarFest

Dates: July 10–11, 2004

Area served: Northeastern U.S.

Attendance Costs: Weekend Pass \$40; Saturday Only \$30; Sunday Only \$20

Fair location: Green Mountain College , Poultney Vermont

Fair features: Two days of sustainable energy workshops, exhibits, and music on a solar powered stage.

Fair organizer: SolarFest, PO Box 183 , Poultney , VT 05764 • 802-287-9135 • Fax: 802-765-9938 • info@solarfest.org www.solarfest.org

SolWest Renewable Energy Fair

Dates: July 23–25, 2004

Area served: Northwest and Inland West

Attendance Costs: \$5 per day; weekend, family & student discounts

Fair location: Grant County Fairgrounds, John Day , Oregon

Fair features: More than 50 exhibitors, 50 workshops (including pre-fair installation), wood-fired co-gen tour, demonstrations, keynote speaker, Electrathon rally, music, and children's workshops.

Fair organizing entity: Eastern Oregon Renewable Energies Non-profit (EORenew), PO Box 485 , Canyon City , OR 97820 • Phone/Fax: 541-575-3633 • info@solwest.org www.solwest.org

Southwest Sustainability Expo

Dates: August 5-7, 2004

Area served: Northern Arizona

Attendance costs: n/a

Fair location: Northern Arizona University Campus

Fair features: product and technology expo, vendors

Fair organizing entity: Greater Flagstaff Economic Council, 928.600.1665 www.GFEC.org

Illinois Renewable Energy Fair

Dates: August 7–8, 2004

Area served: Illinois and surrounding areas

Attendance Costs: \$5 adults; \$3 12–16; children free with adult; no parking fee

Fair location: Ogle County Fairgrounds, 1440 Limekiln Rd. (n. of Hwy 64; 2 hours west of Chicago Loop)

Fair features: 60 workshops; 100 exhibits; music each afternoon

Fair organizing entity: Illinois Renewable Energy Association, 1230 E. Honey Creek Rd., Oregon , IL 61061 • 815-732-7332 • Fax: 815-732-3347 • sonia@essex1.com www.illinoisrenew.org

SolFest

Dates: August 21-22, 2004

Area served: Northern California and beyond

Attendance Costs: \$20 one-day pass; \$30 weekend pass.

Fair location: Solar Living Center, 13771 Hwy. 101 S., Hopland, CA

Fair features: More than 50 workshops, keynote speakers, great music, children's area, exhibits, vendors, book signings, and more.

Fair organizing entity: Solar Living Institute, 13771 Hwy. 101 S., Hopland, CA 95449 • 707-744-2017 • Fax: 707-744-1682 • doron.amiran@solarliving.org www.solarliving.org

Southern Energy & Environment Expo

Dates: August 27–29, 2004

Area served: Southeastern U.S.

Attendance Costs: \$6 Adults, \$3 13-21, Children free

Fair location: WNC Agricultural Center , Fletcher/Asheville, North Carolina

Fair features: Dozens of daily one-hour workshops covering energy and environmental topics, over 100 exhibits and displays of sustainable energy products and environmental/conservation organizations, alternative fuel vehicles, on-site weekend camping, free children's activities, and more.

Fair organizing entity: Southern Energy & Environment Expo, PO Box 1562 , Etowah , NC 28729 • 828-696-3877 • Fax: 828-696-0700 • info@seeexpo.com www.seeexpo.com

Energy Expo 2004

Dates: September 11–12, 2004

Area served: Midwest U.S.

Attendance Costs: Free

Fair location: Prairiwoods, 120 E. Boyson Rd. , Hiawatha , Iowa (just north of Cedar Rapids)

Fair features: Presentations and workshops covering renewable energy; tours of strawbale insulated buildings, wind, and domestic hot water facilities; electric car displays and demos; food, entertainment, silent auction, exhibitors, vendors, music, and children's activities.

Fair organizing entity: Iowa Renewable Energy Association, PO Box 3405 , Iowa City , IA 52244 • 563-432-6551 • irenew@irenew.org www.irenew.org

Rocky Mountain Sustainable Living Fair

Dates: September 18–19, 2004

Area served: Rocky Mountain region

Attendance Costs: One day; \$5 adult, \$3 students & seniors. Weekend pass; \$8 adult, \$5 students & seniors.

Fair location: Fort Collins Lincoln Center

Fair features: Workshops on sustainable living practices, solar and wind energy, natural building techniques, biodiesel fuel, hydrogen fuel cells, organic agriculture, socially responsible investing, natural health, water conservation, fair trade, sustainable agriculture & forestry, environmental responsibility and alternative vehicles. Keynote speakers, national exhibitors, hands-on demonstrations, vendors, local music, Kidz Zone, and a beer garden.

Fair organizing entity: Rocky Mountain Sustainable Living Association, 9860 Poudre Canyon Road, Bellvue, CO 80512 • 970-224-FAIR • Fax: 970-419-1056 • kellie@poudre.com www.SustianbaleLivingFair.org

Green Festival - Washington, D.C.

Dates: September 18-19, 2004

Area served: Mid-Atlantic coast

Attendance Costs: To be determined

Fair location: Washington Convention Center, Washington DC

Fair features: Exhibits, speakers, seminars, food

Fair organizing entity: Global Exchange and Co-op America. Phone: 877-727-2179

<http://www.greenfestivals.com>

The Renewable Energy Roundup & Green Living Fair

Dates: September 24–26, 2004

Area served: Southwest U.S. & Mexico

Attendance Costs: \$8/day or \$16 for a 3-day pass

Fair location: Market Square , downtown Fredericksburg , Texas

Fair features: Hands-on demos, exhibits, workshops, kids' activities; goods for sale: organics, green building, renewable energy; Texas music; organic food vendors; organic wine and beer; alternative transportation

Fair organizing entity: Texas Solar Energy Society and Texas Renewable Energy Industries Association, PO Box 1447 , Austin , TX 78767 • 877-3Roundup or 512-326-3391 •

roundup@txses.org www.theroundup.org

Northwest Renewable Energy Festival

Dates: September 24–25, 2004

Area served: Pacific NW

Attendance Costs: \$2 admission

Fair location: Walla Walla County Fairgrounds, 9th and Orchard Sts., Walla Walla , Washington **Fair features:** Keynote speakers, workshops (solar, wind, hydro, biomass, geothermal, fuel cell , energy conservation, alternative home construction, etc.), tours of wind farm and off-grid/energy efficient homes, children's activities, exhibitors, and solar-powered musical performances.

Fair organizing entity: NW Renewable Energy Festival Corporation, Karen Yager, PO Box 1501 , Walla Walla , WA 99362 • 509-525-8479 • Fax: 509-525-4163 • info@nwrefest.org

www.nwrefest.org

Solar Fiesta 2004

Dates: September 25-26, 2004

Area Served: New Mexico

Attendance Costs: \$3 general admission, Kids, teachers free

Fair location: Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, 12th & Menaul, Albuquerque New Mexico **Fair features:** 30 adult RE workshops, 10 children's workshops, 50 exhibitors, entertainment

Fair organizing entity: New Mexico Solar Energy Association, 1009

Bradbury SE, #35, Albuquerque, NM 87106 • 505-246-0400 • info@nmsea.org www.nmsea.org

Olympic Energy Expo

Dates: October 16–17, 2004

Area served: Olympic Peninsula, Washington state

Attendance Costs: Free

Fair location: Clallam County Fair Grounds, 1608 W. 16th St. , Port Angeles , Washington

Fair features: Exhibitors, workshops, & seminars

Fair organizing entity: Alternative Technologies Seminars, Tammie Dahinden, 1329 Caroline St. , Port Angeles , WA 98362 • 360-460-2903 • alttech3@olyopen.com www.olympicenergyexpo.org

Green Festival - San Francisco

Dates: November 6-7, 2004

Area served: Mid-Pacific coast

Attendance Costs: To be determined

Fair location: Concourse Exhibition Center, San Francisco CA

Fair features: Exhibits, speakers, seminars, food

Fair organizing entity: Global Exchange and Co-op America. Phone: 877-727-2179

<http://www.greenfestivals.com>

ABOUT THE PUBLISHER:

John Mlade is a green building and biomimicry professional at Colorado State University. He is a research assistant at the Institute for the Built Environment (www.ibe.colostate.edu) and a member of the Biomimicry Community (www.biomimicry.net). He can be reached at Bioinspire@yahoo.com.

Norbert Hoeller serves as the archivist for BioInspire. Past issues of BioInspire can be found in Thinkspace: BioInspire Monthly Publication at www.thinkcycle.org/tc-space/tSPACE?tSPACE_id=41303.

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