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organizational support

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geo news magazine

Sarah Straley, Editor

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President's Message

A Message from the Board President

In this edition of *GEO News*, we are profiling green workforce training at Ohio's community colleges. I think most people will be surprised to learn that we have 23 community colleges across the state. Yet, it is no surprise for Green Energy Ohio, which has an excellent association with many of these colleges.



GEO partners with community colleges to train people for "green jobs" in Ohio's challenging economy. This effort dovetails nicely with our overall goal to develop green jobs through workshops, conferences, the solar tour and workforce training programs. Working with 10 community colleges since 2003, we are using clean energy networking meetings, lectures and exhibits for our solar installer trainings and public education events.

This year, GEO's education and outreach programs showcased community colleges in all five of GEO's regions. The community colleges hosted the trainings and participated with exhibits at the workshops/trade shows. The solar thermal trainings and installations were attended by 86 trainee-trainers in Cincinnati, Toledo, Cleveland and Logan. Our thanks go to the Ohio Department of Development's Ohio Energy Office, which provides program funding for these activities.

Ohio trails surrounding states in solar thermal installations and trained installers, but our training efforts with the community colleges have helped to jump start the solar thermal industry across the state. This edition of *GEO News* will help you appreciate the work we are doing with our community colleges to promote "green job" education opportunities and perhaps assist you in finding your way to your own green collar job..

'tis the season

As you ponder the perfect gift for your holiday shopping, please give some thought to friends and relatives who share your concern for the environment and look to green energy solutions. Perhaps they want to make a contribution, but simply cannot afford housetop solar or backyard wind. You can help them support a cleaner environment by supporting Green Energy Ohio, a non-profit organization dedicated to environmentally and economically sustainable energy policies in Ohio.

This year, why not give GEO memberships to people who care and promote that sustainable energy future? As a member of GEO, your friends and family members will receive this quarterly *GEO News* magazine, plus 20 percent off our GEO workshops, plus discounted advertising to business members and much more. Just go to www.greenenergyohio.org and click on Give GEO Gift Membership.

You might also consider a contribution to GEO. Click on Give To GEO and see how easy we make it for you to give GEO your tax-deductible contribution.

Thank you for your support and have a happy holiday!