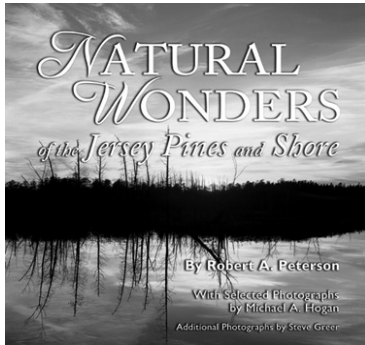


NEWS RELEASE

Plexus Publishing, Inc.



For Immediate Release

For more information or a review copy, contact:

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Natural Wonders of the Jersey Pines and Shore

New illustrated book celebrates southern New Jersey's diverse flora, fauna, and natural resources. Written by distinguished author and educator Robert A. Peterson, the book is being published posthumously by Plexus Publishing, Inc.

February 28, 2005, Medford, New Jersey—Plexus Publishing, Inc. has announced the publication of *Natural Wonders of the Jersey Pines and Shore*, written by the late Robert A. Peterson with selected photography by Michael A. Hogan and additional photography by Steve Greer. Fifty-seven short yet informative chapters showcase a range of “natural wonders” associated with southern New Jersey, with an emphasis on the region’s unique Pine Barrens and coastal ecosystems.

The diverse topics covered include flora, fauna, forces of nature, and geological formations—from birds, mammals, and mollusks, to bays, tides, trees, wildflowers, and much more. Peterson, who passed away in 2003 at the age of 47, researched and wrote much of the material for his regular column in *The Egg Harbor News*, significantly revising and expanding it for inclusion in the book. He joined forces with one of the region’s most celebrated nature photographers, Michael A. Hogan, in order to create a book that would be both educational and visually stunning. Nearly 200 of Hogan’s striking images bring Peterson’s vignettes to life, augmented by the sensitive work of Steve Greer—an award-winning South Jersey-based photographer who contributed more than two dozen nature photos to the project.

“Bob Peterson was a gifted writer with an insatiable curiosity about nature and history,” said John B. Bryans, Peterson’s editor at Plexus Publishing, Inc. “I’m not sure what impressed me most: the breadth and depth of his knowledge, his contagious enthusiasm, or his storytelling ability.” Bryans added, “It’s a shame Bob did not live to see *Natural Wonders* published, but I take some solace in a conversation we

– more –

had shortly before his death. He was totally fired up about the first complete draft of the book, and that reaction sustained and motivated us after his sudden passing. I think he would be pleased with the outcome.”

Carleton Montgomery, Executive Director of the Pinelands Preservation Alliance (PPA), said, “In capturing the beauty and uniqueness of southern New Jersey, *Natural Wonders* makes it clear why so many people have worked so hard to save its treasure of nature and human history. This extraordinary book will inspire readers to cherish the Pine Barrens and coastal estuaries anew.”

Author **Robert A. Peterson** (1956-2003) was an educator, journalist, historian, and avid sportsman. A father of seven, he was a beloved figure in his hometown of Egg Harbor City, New Jersey, where he served for over 22 years as headmaster of The Pilgrim Academy and was once named “Citizen of the Year.” The author of more than 2,000 newspaper articles, his other books include *Patriots, Pirates, and Pineys: Sixty Who Shaped New Jersey*.

Principal photographer **Michael A. Hogan** ranks among southern New Jersey’s premier outdoor photographers. Best known for his large-format photographs of the Pine Barrens, the Delaware Bay and River, wild orchids, and rare wildflowers, he has completed ten watershed photo-documentary projects with grants from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

Plexus Publishing, Inc., is a Medford, New Jersey based publisher of books and journals. Plexus books, including *Natural Wonders of the Jersey Pines and Shore* (2005/ 312 pp/hardcover with dustjacket/illustrated/ISBN: 0-937548-48-0/\$49.95) are available in better bookstores and by contacting the publisher directly at (609) 654-6500, ext.144; fax: (609) 654-4309; e-mail: info@plexuspublishing.com; Web site: www.plexuspublishing.com.

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