

Geological Society of Minnesota
Board Meeting Minutes for November 9, 2017

- I. Notes and opening comments.
 - A. Board members present: Ruth Jensen, Theresa Tweet, John Jensen, Dan Japuntich, Kate Clover, Dick Bottenberg, Dave Wilhelm, Deborah Naffziger (via phone), Mary Helen Inskeep (via phone), and Dave Kelso.
 - B. President Dick Bottenberg called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and indicated that a quorum was present. Dick pointed out that he will not be at the December and January lectures due to family obligations.
 - C. Dick acknowledged Cathy Wait and Dave Kelso for volunteering to join the Board and thanked outgoing Board members Ruth Jensen and Mary Helen Inskeep for their four years of service to the GSM. They will be missed!

- II. Agenda items for consideration by the Board:
 - A. Review and agree on the agenda for November 9.
 1. Board members agreed on the agenda.
 - B. Future Board meeting dates.
 1. Feb 8, 2018
 2. May 10, 2018
 3. Aug 9, 2018
 - C. Board status.
 1. Current Board membership

a) Cathy Wait	2018 to 2021
b) Dave Kelso	2018 to 2021
c) Deborah Naffziger	2017 to 2020
d) Dave Wilhelm	2017 to 2020
e) Dick Bottenberg	2016 to 2019
f) Kate Clover	2016 to 2019
g) Dan Japuntich	2015 to 2018
h) John Jensen	2015 to 2018
i) Theresa Tweet	2015 to 2018
j) Mary Helen Inskeep	2014 to 2017
k) Ruth Jensen	2014 to 2017
 2. Four candidates have been nominated for Board Officer positions. They include Cathy Wait for Treasurer, Dave Kelso for Secretary, Deborah Naffziger for Vice President and Dave Wilhelm for President. M/S/P by Dick/John to accept these candidates. The vote was unanimous.
 3. Name tag status - Dave W. gave an update on the status of purchasing name tags for the Board. The badge styles as shown in an earlier e-mail are recommended by Dave W. to be purchased with the "pin backing". M/S/P by Dick/Dan to authorize Dave W. to purchase the badges with expenditure not to exceed \$150. Dave W. will distribute the badges at the Nov. 27th lecture.

- D. Treasurer's report - Mary Helen via phone.
 - 1. The Treasurer's report will be e-mailed to Dick who in turn will forward to all Board members for comment.
 - 2. At the last Board meeting it was agreed to have Mary Helen and Deborah review and consider a different CD and savings management approach. This is ongoing and will involve Cathy Wait, incoming treasurer.
 - 3. The GSM continues to be financially sound. The GSM's various projects and programs were successfully executed with an overall slight increase in Net Assets as compared to the 2015-2016 fiscal year.
 - 4. Mary Helen will be working with Cathy on transitioning job responsibilities.
- E. PO Box location status - Mary Helen.
 - 1. The old mail box has been closed and a new one opened in Minneapolis.
 - 2. Dave W. has picked up some mail from the post office indicating that the old PO box is closed and mail is being forwarded to the new one.
- F. GSM Operating Manual update - Deborah.
 - 1. Need to get people together and go over the document. There will be changes and the team would like to finish this for the next Board meeting. Team members include Deb, Dan, Theresa and Dave W.
 - 2. Dan has offered his place for the team meeting.
- G. Membership report.
 - 1. Joanie reports that 135 members have renewed and there are 32 new members from Nov. 2016 through Oct., 2017. Mailing list is currently at approximately 203.
- H. Lectures and labs - Steve.
 - 1. 2017-2018: 4 lectures to date, 361 total attendance, 90 average attendance. Please see "GSM Lecture Attendance" attached to these minutes.
 - 2. 2016-2017: 15 lectures, 1400 total attendance, 93.3 average attendance.
 - 3. Steve's report can be found attached to these minutes.
- I. Lecture videotaping - Joe.
 - 1. Discussed the value of establishing a video team to work with Joe in recording lectures and editing. All felt this was a good idea and that we should do some recruiting at the next lecture for team members. Joe subsequently requested that we wait until December to recruit team members. Deb said she would be able to help with the taping. Dave K also volunteered to be on the team.
 - 2. The media recommended for storage, in the media library will probably be flash drives. Some concerns were expressed regarding flash drives and the possibility of viruses etc.
 - 3. It was recommended that the video team be charged with exploring video equipment, storage media, backups and volunteers to help with the recording. The team should recommend what needs to be purchased no later than the next Board meeting however, this should move forward as quickly as possible.

- J. Status of new GSM web site.
 - 1. Alan has no input for the Board however, the website is being worked on and there appears to be no urgency to move to the new one. The Board may want to consider establishing some type of publicity or outreach group.
- K. Field Trip plans and feedback – Dave W.
 - 1. See reports “GSM Tours and Field Trips in 2017” and “GSM Tours and Field Trips in 2018” attached to these minutes.
- L. Video Library - Dave W.
 - 1. See “Video Library Activity for 09-AUG-2017 through 06-NOV-2017” attached to these minutes.
- M. GSM scholarships - Dave W.
 - 1. ILSG to be considered for 2018 at the Feb. Board meeting.
- N. State Fair - Dan.
 - 1. It was another successful year at the State Fair and Dan deserves our thanks for his dedication and hard work.
 - 2. The State Fair license has been submitted for next year.
 - 3. Some “suggestions” were received at the State Fair booth.
- O. Update on GSM Marker Survey project.
 - 1. Becky has no input for this Board meeting however, she would like to come and see us in February.
- P. Minnehaha marker replacement status - Kate.
 - 1. The project is coming along however, the graphics person is currently dealing with some other issues which is slowing things down a little.
 - 2. Keep in mind that the Minneapolis Park Board has some new members as a result of the election this year. Kate does not anticipate any problems with this.
- Q. Mineral Club Rock Show debrief - Kate.
 - 1. The show was a huge success with approximately 2400 attendees on Saturday and 1400 on Sunday.
 - 2. GSM table went well. Many visitors were not aware of the GSM so this was a good opportunity for some advertising even though our table was not very prominent.
 - 3. In the future we may want to change up the shift times of our members to better manage the table.
- R. GSM Student Outreach - Theresa
 - 1. There is a request for a GSM table at Family Exploration Night from Willow Lane Elementary School in White Bear Lake on April 20, 2018 from 6 to 8 pm. The school has 438 students through 5th grade and the event will be open for these students and their families.
- S. Newsletter status - Theresa.
 - 1. Newsletter is under control.
 - 2. Theresa is doing a short piece on the rock show.

3. Some discussion around the newsletter publication date; it shouldn't be a problem as the actual date varies by a week or so.
- T. GSM rock box supplies/rocks - Dick.
1. Dick indicated that the rocks and supplies were temporarily stored in his garage and now need a permanent home.
 2. Dave W. has "agreed" to take the rocks and supplies but would like to hold off until this spring.
- U. December Christmas party.
1. The Christmas party will be at Sandy and Ed's on December 9, 2017.
 2. Recommended that Howard Hobbs be invited to the party. Need to check with the Steffners.
- V. New topics.
1. No new topics were discussed.
- W. Goals status - Dick.
1. Goal: Install new big-picture marker at Minnehaha Falls by the Sea Salt Restaurant this year.
 - a) Making progress and it should be completed by next spring. Our illustrator is working with the Minneapolis Park Board to finalize the design.
 2. Goal: Continue developing a GSM marker database and survey the markers in 2017.
 - a) Ongoing. Only a few markers are left to be surveyed. Expect to complete next Spring.
 3. Goal: Have the first videotape of a lecture in the video library during 2017.
 - a) We are making significant progress. Expect the first video to be available in December. The next step is to form a videotaping crew to video lectures and do the post-processing required to make them available in the video library. Additionally, the crew will purchase equipment and software and determine the appropriate storage media for the library.
 4. Goal: GSM mailbox issues.
 - a) The old mailbox has been closed and the new one in Minneapolis is now in use.
- X. 2018 draft goals to be updated and finalized at the February Board Meeting - Dick.
1. Goal: Update the Operations Manual.
 2. Goal: Complete the Minnehaha Falls big-picture marker.
 3. Goal: Develop a videotaping crew and optimize the equipment and process.
 4. Goal: Develop a plan and prioritize marker installation/repair for Minnesota's geological markers based on the recent marker survey.
- Y. Adjournment.
1. M/S/P by Ruth and Mary Helen to adjourn.

III. Attachments.

A. Attachments include:

1. GSM Lecture Attendance
2. GSM Tours and Fields Trips in 2017
3. GSM Tours and Fields Trips in 2018
4. Video Library Activity

GSM Lecture Attendance

GSM Lecture Attendance

2017-2018

2017-11-13 82 One Century and Counting: The Use of Geophysical Methods to Explore the Unseen Geology of Minnesota (*no new persons*)

2017-10-30 88 The Pros and Cons of Mining (*7 new persons – 4: friend/neighbor, 2: state fair, 1: MN Mineral Club Rock Show*)

2017-10-16 126 Agate Hunting Made Easy (*3rd highest attendance in a least 6 years; ~28 new persons (probably a record) – mainly from state fair*)

2017-10-02 73 Questions About Dinosaurs (*~6 new persons – state fair, friend, Mineral Club*)

2017-09-18 74 Historical Perspective on the Evolution of Antarctic Fish Fauna (*fall banquet & annual meeting; ~8 new persons – state fair, other reasons not recorded*)

GSM Tours and Fields Trips in 2017

GSM Tours and Fields Trips in 2017

November 2017 Report by Dave Wilhelm, GSM Field Trip Coordinator

The following field trips and tours are planned by GSM in 2017:

On Wednesday, November 15, 14 GSM members are scheduled to participate in a one-hour tour of the **St. Anthony Falls Laboratory**, organized by Dave Wilhelm and conducted by Lab personnel. Dave will organize future tours of this unique lab each semester as member interest dictates.

The following field trips and tours were conducted by GSM since May, 2017:

The University of Illinois Twin Cities Alumni Association arranged a visit to **Eagle Lake Observatory** on Friday, May 5, hosted by the Minnesota Astronomical Society. As there was room for additional participants, they generously invited GSM members and friends to join them, which about 10 did, including one three-generation family. We listened to a great talk on deep-sky objects (star clusters, nebulae, galaxies, etc.) by amateur astronomer Suresh Sreenivasan, followed by a wonderful evening of viewing through a clear, cool sky.

There was a **total solar eclipse** across the United States on Monday, August 21, 2017. **Dave Wilhelm** organized a field trip whose primary purpose was to view this eclipse near **Kearney, Nebraska**. This was within easy car driving distance from Minnesota, with a Saturday, August 19 departure. Since we headed hundreds of miles southwest, we included some geology and made a week of it. Over 50 persons viewed the eclipse from a cow pasture 13 miles north of Kearney, and around 30 remained for some or all of the geology portion starting Tuesday, August 22. There is an article by Deborah Naffziger in the November, 2017 Newsletter. See the GSM web site for the full trip itinerary and photos. For this trip, as detailed below, participant fees of \$1087 were collected, expenses of \$950 were paid by GSM, for a **net income to GSM of \$137**.

Outgo:

- \$50 honorarium to Jake Bruhler, check written by Mary Helen
- \$125 honorarium to Jeremy Dillon, check written by Mary Helen
- \$200 honorarium to Doug Hallum, check 1893 written by Dave
- \$250 honorarium to Paul Hanson, check 1895 written by Dave
- \$325 dorm rental fees to University of Nebraska, check 1894 written by Dave

Total: **\$950**

Income:

- \$583 participant fees deposited on 01-SEP-2017.
- \$442 participant fees deposited on 07-SEP-2017.
- \$62 participant fees deposited after 07-SEP-2017 (Mary Helen \$27; marnlar family \$35)

Total: **\$1087**

Net income: **\$137**

Notes:

1. I paid \$33 for meals for two of our leaders, plus \$1 for repro expenses. I deducted those from the participant fee I paid, so they don't appear as separate items.
2. Participant fees were set to try to break even, but given the last-minute uncertainty about who would participate for how long, netting a few dollars for GSM is not a bad thing.
3. The spreadsheet for the trip shows that a few persons did not pay the \$5 for the eclipse day. Since GSM is already in the black on this field trip, I did pursue them for such small amounts.

On Sunday, September 17, **Randy Strobel** led 18 persons on two walking trips of Minnehaha Falls and the nearby Mississippi River gorge, including a look at the location of the new GSM marker soon to be erected in the park. The first walking trip was offered from 10 AM to 12 noon, followed by lunch at Sea Salt Eatery. The second was offered from 3 to 5 PM, followed by dinner at Sea Salt Eatery. These walking trips covered areas that Randy described in his February 6, 2017 lecture. Participants enjoyed perfect weather during the walks.

On Sunday, October 8, **Randy Strobel** led 17 GSM members and guests on a bike tour of the **Mississippi River Gorge**, also covering areas described in the February lecture. We met at the GSM markers overlooking Minnehaha Falls at 11 AM. This biking trip ran on both sides of the Mississippi River Gorge, starting at Minnehaha Park, proceeded to overlooks of Lock & Dam # 1, went up the St. Paul side of the River to the Stone Arch Bridge and back on the Minneapolis side to Minnehaha Park (about 15 miles with a few hills). Along the way, we saw three small waterfalls on tributary streams of the Mississippi (Hidden Falls, Shadow Falls, Bridal Veil Falls – all unfortunately much altered by human development), sculptures that are part of the 2006 “Minnesota Rocks!” project, large polished banded-iron formation specimens on the University of Minnesota campus, an overlook of St. Anthony Falls at Water Power Park, the now-repaired site of the June, 2014 landslide along West River Parkway, and a large sinkhole in south Minneapolis. Temperatures were in the 60s, and fall colors along the River were brilliant – it was

an ideal day for biking. We finished around 3:30 PM, after which a few of us enjoyed late lunches at Sea Salt Eatery. Photos from the bike tour are on the GSM web site.

GSM Tours and Fields Trips in 2018

GSM Tours and Fields Trips in 2018

November 2017 Report by Dave Wilhelm, GSM Field Trip Coordinator

The following field trips and tours are tentatively planned by the Geological Society of Minnesota for 2018.

GSM is tentatively planning a field trip in the **Thunder Bay, Ontario** area during **Summer, 2018**, led by members of the Ontario Geological Survey. OGS personnel are very eager to show us the highlights of geology in that area, and there is quite a bit to see. We will start actively planning this in January; members will be notified by e-mail. Most likely duration is 2.5 to 3.5 days.

GSM is tentatively planning a field trip to **Isle Royale National Park** during **June or July, 2018**. This trip would leave on the Ranger III from Houghton, MI, spend 3 full days on Isle Royale, returning on the Ranger III on the fifth day. While on Isle Royale, the Michigan Tech research vessel Agassiz would take us to many scenic and geologically interesting sites, allowing us to see the beauty of Isle Royale from both land and water. We will start actively planning this in January, 2018; members will be notified by e-mail. Persons who are members prior to January 1, 2018 will have priority, as the trip will be limited to 17 persons. Eight GSM members participated in a similar trip during June, 2017, and had an excellent time. Look for Dave Wilhelm's report of the 2017 trip in the August, 2017 Newsletter. Specific information on the 2017 trip is here: <https://tinyurl.com/IRtrip2017>. More photos of the 2017 trip taken by Dave and other participants are here: <https://tinyurl.com/IRphotos2017>.

A half-week trip to museums in Chicago, including the [Field Museum](#) and the [Museum of Science and Industry](#). We might also include a stop at [Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore](#). I plan to continue arranging one or more weekday tours to [St. Anthony Falls Laboratory](#) each semester as member interest dictates.

Other ideas:

I re-connected with Tom Hickson of St. Thomas University concerning a possible March 2018 trip to southern Nevada. He said he very much would like to lead GSM on a trip to that area, but he is presently too busy for 2018. At Tom's suggestion, I will contact him again in Fall, 2018 about possibly leading us on such a trip in 2019.

Dave McGill verbally suggested a possible destination, which I don't recall. I am awaiting an e-mail reply.

I hope to arrange some single-day local trips for those who do not travel. I am considering either the St. Paul or Minneapolis water works, since we have not had a water works tour (St. Paul) for over 5 years. Also perhaps Xcel Energy's [Allen S. King Power Plant](#) in Oak Park Heights, since we last did that in 2012.

I would appreciate e-mail suggestions for other field trips and tours from GSM Board and regular members.

Video Library Activity

Video Library Activity
09-AUG-2017 through 06-NOV-2017

New VL members: 4

- Shelly Arens
- Ann & Brian Shields
- Nancy and Doug Watkins
- Mary Johnston

Rentals: 6

Purchases: 6 PBS DVDs by Dave Wilhelm for \$122.10, reimbursed 30-OCT-2017.

Donations: none

Total Titles: 293

New reviews: 4 (3 Deborah Naffziger, 1 Dave Wilhelm)

Finances:

\$26 cash

No deposits since 08-AUG-2017