Geographic Educators Of Nebraska Steering Committee minutes, 04 February 2005

Unapproved minutes of SC meeting held at Chances R Restaurant, York NE

https://www.ngsednet.org/community/index.cfm?community_id=49

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Some of us looked at the textbook, *Geography Alive : Regions and People* , which is available from Teachers's Curriculum Institute RANCHO Cordoa CA www.teachertci.com We talked about tech stuff and made some jokes before our fearless leader called the meeting to order.

In attendance : Chuck Gildersleeve, Randy Bertolas, Larry Starr, Greg Nelson, Bruce Ramsour (Aurora), Mary Lou Alfieri, Bob Brousek, Brian Burback, Chuck Morgan, Cathy Larson, Eric Enholm, Mary Claire May (MCM), Maureen Nitz, Steve Callahan.

1. Approval of November 5, 2005 minutes - being duplicated as we speak, I think. Here they are ! Minutes moved by Randy & seconded by Steve to approve as printed. Passed.

2. Future SC Meeting Dates : May 13, August 4 & 5, and August 19 (if needed). Yes, we can do this.

3. Newsletter Announcements--have you received yours?? If not, you need to sign up again with {NGS] EdNet, as I do. There are 108 folks on our GEON mailing list with two or three out of state, in comparison to 736 the last time we sent out a paper newsletter. Twenty-seven names and addresses did not have a zip code, so I (Chuck) had to look them up myself. 728 copies were sent out; 109 [came back] with one duplicate. Chuck : I tried to re-register on the NGS website, couldn't do it; I wasn't on their list. Some folks signed on in KC (NCGE). MCM : I'll talk to Julie [edNet guru]. Their (NGS) goal is to have 200 registered folks by the end of the year. Be careful with data entry - 27 had incomplete [or incorrect] Zip codes. MCM and others discussed incomplete data. Maureen & Cathy - could we have edNet training?

MCM : good lessons could be published on the website. Greg : I remember when NGS said, "We'll never publish teachers lesson plans" anywhere. Chuck : We can change faces on the website - GEON shows lots of "minority" faces. What of the No Farting picture? [Editorial note : we really are a high class organization in spite of such references].

GEON will pay for an air flight & room (Wed. night) to DC for training : Brian will attend. Bruce : first name seen here. Julie Biscometti does the edNet website from her home in IL.

Geography lessons

http://news.bbc.co.uk/media/images/40560000/jpg/_40560871_geoclass_203ok.jpg

Chuck described how things used to be - before the web. Some us just nodded in agreement. MCM : it's easy to PDF - to upload a newsletter for all; it's really a matter of efficiency. Bruce R : could ACs flag good lessons, ask teacher if OK to publish on the website?

MCM : we got two this way due to TC (Teacher Consultant) training. This must be 100 % your own work or 100% permission to use other's work. "This is so-and-so's lesson, adapted by MCM" is important attribution. Be careful who owns what. All edNet members have checked a box indicating giving permission to have them (NGS) use one's image. Cathy & Maureen : we need photo release sheets if we use kids' images. Let's get some other members back on list. Don't forget "Collapse." Brian : use files from audible.com, join for a week & then quit. Randy : how difficult is it to do an online address change?

4. Geography Awareness /Outreach Reports--Alfieri & Frost

a. GAO November Workshops and Awareness Week-Alfieri

Mary Lou : no word from anyone yet. Regarding the grant weekend workshop, we are waiting for news from Shari. Chuck G, Mary Lou & Sheri have $10,000; will do some things out in western Nebraska. Chuck : you can't spend the money out of state. Tara wanted to meet at Nebraska City - three TCs met there in the past; next time they'll met in Columbus [due to cost ?]. Workshop also planned with Game and Park's "Wet & Wild" theme. Bruce : the NAML (Nebraska Association of Middle Level teachers) 21 April meeting is a go. Rowe meeting site, too. Two are certified to teach this.

b. GAO /Outreach weekend workshops' programs series for 2006 under new GEON Grant--Alfieri & Frost

GEON continues to re-invent ourselves. Crane cam will be up again.

5. TC Training Report of January 13 & 14--Larson, May, & Moore

Great things are happening (Randy observed). See the expense report for details. We trained Mike Stewart, Donna, Tom Allen, Janice - all trained. MCM : this activity has paid off. All will get the [Jim] BINKO sheet. Most have been to two workshops - all of this is accessible on Ednet. Eric made a funny comment regarding food expenses (it had to be the pizza). MCM : there were many hands-on activities. In reading comments from participants : ideas can be

Jim Binko

http://www.learner.org/channel/workshops/geography/images/binko.jpg

adapted... great interaction... I learned from doing, 'teachers teaching teachers' is great... small class size was good... give evals out at noon. Only Binko form wasn't available electronically. Folks are taught how to upload lessons to the web; we check lessons for clarity, etc. Other observers were impressed. Randy B : it was kind of long but wonderful to be around such fine folks. Cathy, you taught me the sky. MCM : there were excellent demos in science & geography. Mike & Donna have science training. GEON shows folks other presentation models. Chuck G : my UNO students get feedback, I mark in pencil but not red. We try to take what folks have done & make it better. Working with you GEON folks energizes me - the Binko method really works. Randy B : it was fun, most fun with my clothes on. <g> MCM : for Binko [to be effective] hands-on experience is crucial - involve me and I learn. ChuckM : I lost my Binko model, it's online [now]. NATS (Nebraska Association of Teachers of Science) has good info/curriculum for science; we're involved more with science [than in the past] because there's money there. ChuckG : you can all help out, be role models.

6. DTA (NCGE Distinguished Teacher Award) Nominees have been submitted--Gildersleeve--for teachers, Larson, Ramsour & Allen, plus Professor Award for Bertolas. Aren't we a swell bunch? ChuckG I've submitted four recommendations for NCGE. We'll get our docs [ducks] together, then regional selection committee looks at it. SteveC (with voice of experience) : make sure your FAX is received. Chuck : two of our four nominees received awards.

Chuck Morgan, Chuck Gildersleeve, Sheri Frost

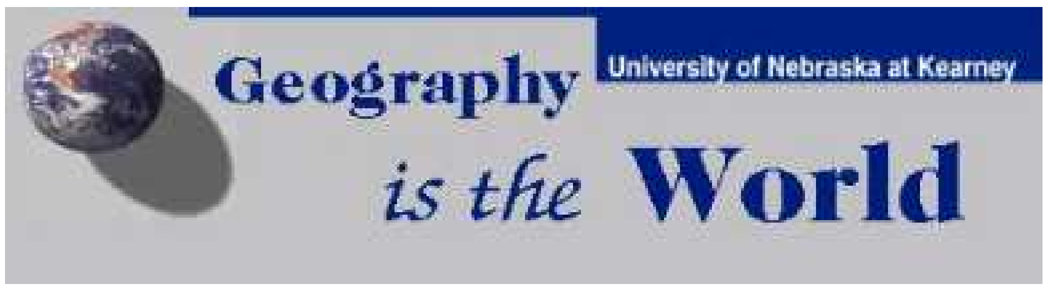
7. Summer Workshops updates;

a. Sandhills--Larson.

14 signed up so far, one mother is coming at her own expense. Add canoeing Niobrara... ChuckM no canoeing for our group?? Cathy : the *Geography of the Sandhills* atlas is needed, 11-15 JUNE, deadline is soon, mention it at NAML? It's on Larry's (Nebraska State Department of Education / Social Studies) website and in the NSEA (Nebraska State Education Association) *Voice*. Cathy: any Q regarding graduate credit? Randy : it's in the WSC (Wayne State College) summer catalog, help Eric get MEVI in the *Voice.*

7b. MEVI -- Enholm

MEVI lady at South High School saw reference to it. Shawn H is very helpful. It was in NSCSS (Nebraska State Council for Social Studies) newsletter, too. Larry S : there are about 200 on that mailing list. Brian B : there's some interest regarding MEVI at my school; we'll get some LPS (Lincoln Public School) teachers involved. Randy : I have strange dreams, dealing with performance anxiety. [Ed. - This prompted a lots of snickers and I don't mean chocolate candy bars.] 14 teachers have committed so far, including Tara Dunn. Can one be a TC and attend? Yes, of course. We have a budget for $20-22,000 Folks are coming from all quarters. What about ESU (Education Service Units) emails, access it from home... A person from AZ contacted me regarding participation. Out of state teachers can attend only there are unfilled slots. Barb Soto from AZ would attend. Cathy : can we present at national? I have the blurb on what we did last year... SteveC : you could do dual enrollment. Bruce will show up, expecting to learn... jokes about performance anxiety continued unabated.



http://www.unk.edu/departments/geography/faculty.html

7c. K-12 Mapping Technology--Bertolas

Greg : May I help? Randy : of course. Greg : I have time, the training, the software. Brian : Now I need time to put this together. It's adaptable. Randy : I hope it's not terrible... my photo will be on a milk carton soon. Randy & ChuckM discussed GIS Software. [We somehow lost control of the situation...] I'm going to AK; why go to Wayne? Maureen : we went camping at Ponca, we didn't know the climate then. ChuckG : someone from Ord was interested. SteveC : we try to get folks interested in northeast NE. Randy : I'd like to see a Cather based institute - writers workshop. We all thought that that was an interesting idea, too.

8. Coordinators' meeting at NGS in late February--Bertolas--; and EdNet training workshop in D.C. for Enholm in February.

AC (Alliance Coordinator) meeting NGS in late Feb RandyB will attend for GEON; will learn beltway politics. Randy : shall I respond by email or by letter? MCM : send email. Colin Powell learned about things from Google. The Geography bill is stalled somewhere in the Senate. [Editor : see recent email from NGS / Chuck Gildersleeve regarding a companion bill having been introduced in the House of Representatives]. Eric : my training is Thursday, during the AC meeting. Brian I've got iTunes... MCM can't retire; we've spent a lot of money on her.

9. Chadron Meeting Plans Firmed up in Detail. We utilized three budgets from which to take funds -- SC Administrative, GAO, & TC Training to the sum of $1k each for $3k total.

a. Dates--August 4 & 5 with two days travel for most - see below

b. Programs: SC Meeting, GAO training & TC renewal Activities - see below

c. Number of people we expect for which to plan for meals, rooms, etc - see below

d. Other costs like Bar-B-Q that we had though was very expensive at $18 per head?? & WETMAAP???? Plus Other Ideas--all of the SC MUST participate as this item will/must take time to resolve - see below

Chadron meeting : please refer to the lovely budget handout. Catherine Lockwood (CSC) & Randy discussed their grand plan. We balance reality vs dream plans. What's our upper spending cap? How many days? She still wants to do Wetmapp (WETMAAP (Wetland Education Through Maps And Aerial Photography) :

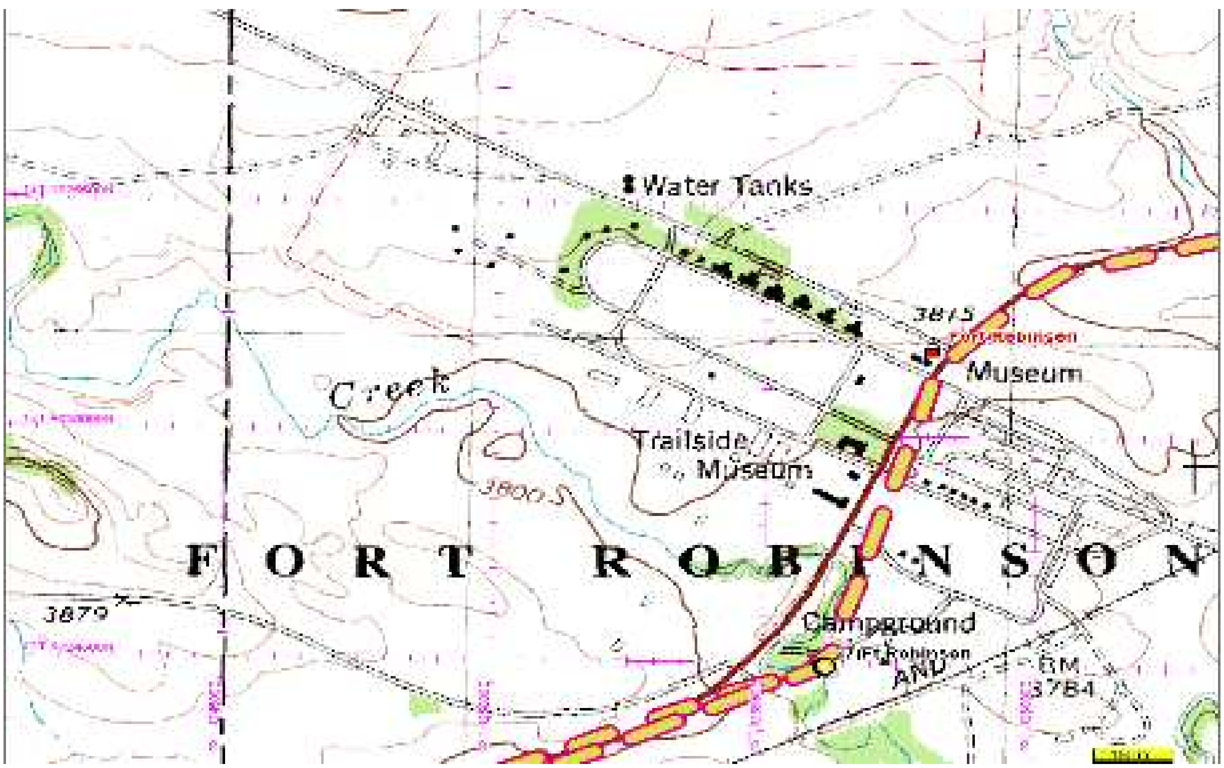
http://www.wetmaap.org

Perhaps we won't have to pay Larry from LA. $50-80 per set of materials, 17 sets available. Do we compensate folks for their cost to Chadron? When shall we arrive? Do we all want pizza? Breakfast at CSC; meeting room free if we stay there. Have TC field trips, $5.50 lunch, Chimney Rock bar-b-que costs $800-900. $5-6 for hot dog meal. Greg : to self - find out if Norwesca can cater meal. You can't do this in one day... drift shack SteveC : Mike will send me info regarding the meal price. How many nights? TC meeting, TC renewal, family activities? Cathy : are you revved up for teaching in August? ChuckM : we can't figure costs for spouses. Randy : it's Sturgis bike rally that week - we need a hard reservation soon. Cathy : it's on 4-5 August; we can't have competition. SteveC : everything will be booked. Greg : within 200 miles of Sturgis - all will be

Crescent Lake image

http://www.wetmaap.org/Crescent_Lake/Images/cl_aerial_82.jpg booked up.

There was a motion that spouses pay their own costs. After discussion, this passed without dissent. Let's go with 30 participants. SteveC : CSC (Chadron State College) charged us only for rooms we used. What about 20 rooms? MCM : what is the incitement? The landscape is interesting for those who don't live in the panhandle. Greg nodded. Chuck listed some reasons why we're going to Chadron : I get vibes from folks on what's interesting. Mary Lou : out west we did Wetmapp during the day and other activities at night. Randy : Tara is our contact person out there. Cathy : I'd love to do Wetmapp; who else is interested? Most of us say yes. Randy : Catherine will want to cram in Wetmapp & then afternoon field trips and activities. Show us pictures of where we might go. SteveC : if it's our money, we tell her what we want to do, perhaps only 1/2 day for Wetmapp; it dovetails with GAW (Geography Awareness Week). Bruce & Greg discussed sow belly canyon and the old scout camp near Glen. It's a long way from Omaha. SteveC : we divided up activities, find out some prices. We haven't decided when to have the SC meeting. Cathy : [shall we] have an expensive meal during SC meeting? Some of us won't do Wetmapp. What of Saturday?



Fort Robinson topographic map

http://www.uwsp.edu/geo/faculty/heywood/GEO393su/FortRobinson.gif

Fort Robinson history demo by Chuck ... utilize some kind of grant here. We want Lonny Moore and others to put together an itinerary. SteveC : we need a NE map re distance - driving time. Ft. Rob. - Hudson Meng - etc. Maureen : we did Ft Rob, uranium mine at Crow Butte.

Greg : don't forget the nearby fur trade museum. Folks don't know the territory; don't listen to those of us who do... Friday TC renewal. ChuckG : we're set on Mary Lou's GAW Migration theme. Fri PM Ft Rob & Toadstool + driftshack meal. Sat AM Fur trade, SteveC : Let's do a treasure hunt activity at the museum of fur trade. Outreach & Mary Lou in AM. MCM : we came to this group for camaraderie. We have day jobs, folks. We like the fellowship! Meet & greet, cookshack, treasure hunt - all good mixers. Mary Lou is giving up $1,000 [stipend] for her presentation. Sat AM breakfast, Mary Lou, then fur trade, lunch at Angela's (Mexican). ChuckM : I'll explore migration of tiquilla... Maureen (to MCM) : can you post this on edNet with Mary Lou's presentation? MCM : of course. edNet is still a work in progress. Cathy : let's learn about edNet then. SteveC : it takes time to get around... MCM : when do we end on Saturday?

Chimney Rock	Geographic Educators of Nebraska USGS - National Wetlands Research Center Chadron State College

ChuckM : I suggest folks depart on Sun AM. MCM : perhaps we could dine at the winery... ChuckG : I really like this discussion we're having. MCM : what of the Scottsbluff Indian dance team? SteveC : the museum cut us a deal... Driftshack for lunch on Fri. Ft Rob has a playhouse. There's a buffalo cookout. Greg begin to drool, recalling the Fort's buffalo stew cookout. Eric : I move we form a committee to explore options, to vote on at the next meeting. Mary Lou seconded motion which passed. MCM reviews committee membership. Eric moves that the committee come up with options. Mary Lou : I'll accept that as a friendly motion, which passed. Spouses will pay their own way. This will be for three nights, budget for 30 people, housing $1100 at CSC. We'll all check in Thursday night and then have a short SC meeting. On Friday we'll have TCs breakfast, then the Wetmapp presentation, lunch on campus, Fri PM Toadstool, driftshack for dinner. Sat. AM breakfast, then museum of the fur trade, lunch at Angelo's. Sat. PM we'll tour the winery, supper 7-10 each. Sunday AM breakfast - on our own? ChuckM : let's have lunch at the winery or cookout. Randy : can we stay an additional night? I'm sure this is possible. MCM : can we spend all PM at the winery? SteveC : offered another suggestion - to party at May's cabin ! Optional things discussed : Sandoz tour, Hudson Meng, Ted Turner's property, uranium mine, sow belly canyon, pine ridge, mammoth dig site.

10. EDNet report from MCM and Enholm - see elsewhere

11. Plans/Ideas for our GEON 2006/07 Endowment Grant Request to complete long before July 1, 2006, like workshops, new institutes, interesting programs, Fall Meeting for GEOFEST?? and the like.

Chuck : I need some guidance.. see handout. GEON Funds by grant account. UNO Dean has approved MEVI course. Good carryover of $9,800. NGS keeps asking us to spend money without being in budget. We can use $52,000 for this summer's activities. We'll have $14,000 to apply for next year. Soon we'll have only endowment money unless we get new revenue sources. We should have $30,000 from endowment interest, less slush funds. Chadron is taking half of our funds. $3,000 might be a bargain. Old institutes cost $25-30k each, very expensive.

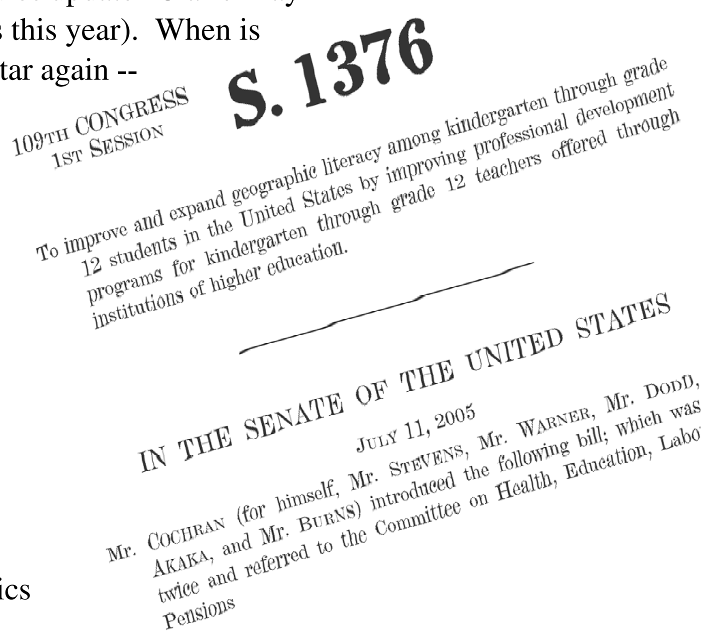
Lunch is served and the discussion continued.

We could have money for next year, continue to dream. We're not forced to do things, we have some flexibility here. TC renewal on the Platte River was fun. Camp Augustine (Grand Island) was fun, too. Some Alliances still have TC renewal. Kearney, Walnut MS, North High School (Omaha), Grand Island High School.   John LaFeber only attended one meeting - now we have to put up with Larry <g>.   We try to do a workshop or two every year; these get better and better. What year-round activities should we have? Larry : we shared books this year. MCM : we don't have techno weenie sessions anymore. Here's a handout from Susan Gay : National Center for Rural Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) outreach at James Madison University for rural middle school teachers. To be held on 17-28 July, Harrisonburg VA, focus on GIS & GPS in MS STEM classes. Participants receive travel support, room & board, stipend & 3 hrs grad credit. Email Bob Kolvoord kolvoora@jmu.edu   if interested. Dan Whipkey asked (but not here) about the Millard School grant - want to attend ?   Maureen moved & Cathy seconded to support Chuck Morgan's plan to develop historical geography course for LPS. Passed. Larry include nearby towns, too. Without objection, make it so. MCM : geography action aps (Africa) will be out soon. We're putting Chadron on the stop. Does Tara Dunn have a contact list? Contact panhandle ESU. "GEON Chadron Getaway" is our new working title. Chuck : I'll write copy for the *Voice*. Eric will write MEVI ad. Contact person : MCM. Larry : 8 April NSCSS two sessions : why teaching geography is important.

12. Neb. State Council for The Social Studies update--Claire May (I cannot make the Monday night meetings this year). When is the meeting -- it is to be at Lincoln North Star again -- date/?? See elsewhere for more on this.

13.   Old Business

Feb hearing re LB (Nebraska state Unicameral Legislative Bill) 1247 :   Handout : State of NE change in stature, see page 2 line 22 : where's geography? LB 1211 see pg 3; there's no reference to geography.   And why is this, we all want to know? LB1074 might be good for geography. Students must have academic plan. LB 1203 deals with civics & history. Economics and geography are left out. :(Diane Schmeick [is the legislative contact for



109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1376

To improve and expand geographic literacy among kindergarten through grade 12 students in the United States by improving professional development programs for kindergarten through grade 12 teachers offered through institutions of higher education.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 11, 2005

Mr. COCHRAN (for himself, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. DODD, AKAKA, and Mr. BURNS) introduced the following bill; which was twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labo Pensions

Senate bill A Teaching Geography is Fundamental

http://ncge.net/geography/2005bill/S_1376.pdf this legislation.] SteveC : curriculum is being driven by legislation such as this. Larry can't speak on this topic (because he's a state employee?]

14. New Business

GEON would partner with Dan's school, pay stipend money, etc. with TC responsibilities. Participation is open to TCs and interested teachers. Lonny wants to know if SC supports this relationship. No idea of costs, but it would be for meals & stipends for those outside grant. ChuckG : we'll find TCs. We [GEON types] agreed perhaps $3-4k & partners with those who might not otherwise be involved. ChuckG : Millard school district has grant opportunities. South Omaha Bob was speaking for Lonny & Dan W. All staff stipend would be paid by MIllard grant. 2007 summer institute in Millard & field trip : communications & transportation. SteveC : I move GEON offer support for this proposal. Cathy seconded the motion which was approved. This is Cathy's last year for sandhills workshop (2006)   Vote was in support of her work. Randy called for the question. Message will be communicated to those involved.

GAW song from Hawaii

http://www.hawaii.edu/hga/Img2/Music/SeeingAWorldOfDiference.gif

http://incolor.inetnebr.com/gnelson/graphics/GregReading.jpg

15. Business for the "Good of The Order" and Adjournment by 3:00 P.M. , if possible.   Adjourned at 2:08

Notes by Greg Nelson, TC.

(GEON060204.cwk)gen 12 Mar 2006