

Headwaters Current

Volume 25, Number 1, February, 2017



Live Streaming

STEM, Staff, Scholarships, and Support

Current Happenings by Susan Joy

Happy New Year to all our members, supporters, and friends! What an amazing year we had at HSC. If you made a gift to HSC last year, renewed your membership, or visited with your friends and family—thank you. People like you believe in the long term benefit of hands-on engagement in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). People like you believe that our community benefits from a science center offering accessible programs such as Science Club, Tots ‘n’ Science, and Saturday Science. People like you are the reason that Headwaters Science Center is still part of the community and region more than 20 years after we opened our doors.

In this issue of the *Headwaters Current* are two graphs that show our revenue and expenses for 2016. You’ll notice that we finished the year in the black, meaning we earned more income than we had expenses. This is a result of a grant from the Minnesota Department of Education to support our Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) programs, and strong earned revenue—including membership sales, group visits, outreach programs, and lots and lots of visitors! Additionally, generous end-of-year giving bolstered our financial health and made it possible to add to our scholarship fund to support children and youth in our Science Club and summer camp.

The revenue and expense graphs also show where we spend and earn our money, with earned revenue making up 52% of our annual income, grants 26% and fundraising 19% of the total. It is no surprise that we invest the majority of our income in our educational programs, including field trips, programs, exhibit floor staffing, outreach programs, Science Club, and other weekly and monthly activities. Our most important asset are the staff who provide an engaging visitor experience to our members and guests. Without the talented HSC staff, the science center would be a collection of exhibits, in a building, with a few bored visitors. The remainder of our expenses are the costs associated with running a science center or any small business: insurance, telephone and internet, heating and cooling, advertising, administration, and maintenance. The HSC board worked hard in 2016 on many of the efforts that resulted in a healthy fiscal picture and they have even bigger plans for 2017, such as new carpet on the exhibit floor and an energy-efficient heating and cooling system for the comfort of our guests, animals, and employees.

Read on in this issue of the *Headwaters Current* for more information on upcoming programs and activities, including our annual **elevated, epicurean, experience (e³)** on February 25th. Don’t forget about our 23rd Birthday Party on March 4th featuring refreshments, demonstrations, and free admission for everyone!

Thank you to those of you who invested in Headwaters Science Center through a donation, sponsorship, membership, or visit!

Happy New Year -
Susan



Bemidji’s most unique fundraising event is coming up on Saturday, February 25. The 8th annual “e-cubed” dinner experience is set to entertain and excite the most discerning gourmet.

The art and science of food is the main focus of this gala event, enhanced by live music and an upscale silent auction. The following will contribute to this year’s fine dining experience:

The Cabin Coffee House & Cafe	InHarvest
CK Dudley’s	TNT Tastery
Concordia Language Villages	Tutto Bene
	Wild Hare

Tickets are limited and sell out quickly. Stop in and get yours now—\$50 and only available at HSC. Tickets can be purchased by phone with a credit card, or can be reserved and held for 24 hours. Call HSC at (218) 444-4472. Don’t miss this year’s event. See page 4 of this newsletter for the evening’s schedule.



Major Sponsors



Table Sponsors



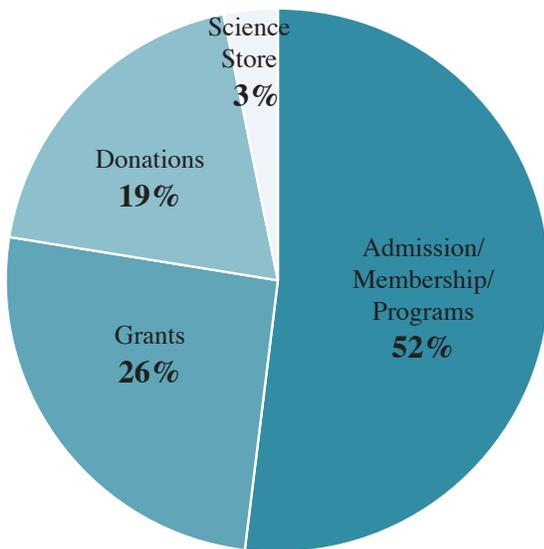
Entertainment Sponsors



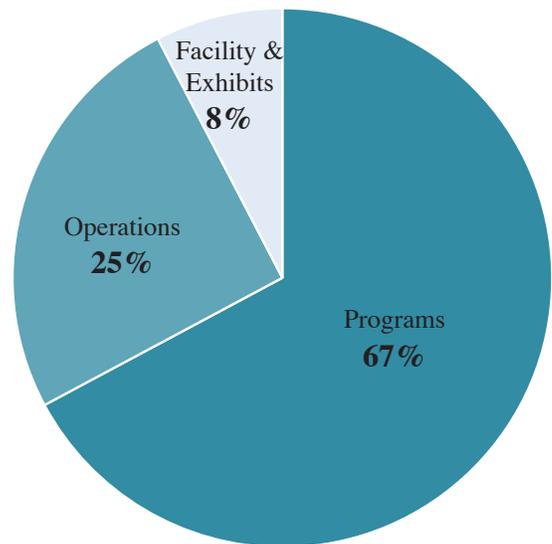
NOTICE: HSC will be closed on Saturday, February 25, to allow staff and volunteers to prepare for e³.

2016 Annual Report

Revenue - \$307,880



Expenses - \$302,146



By the Numbers

Total on-site attendance:

2016 = 22,874
2015 = 22,665

Total off-site attendance:

2016 = 4,867
2015 = 3,061

Number of students served
(included in counts at left)

On-site
2016 = 3,330
2015 = 3,344

Off-site
2016 = 1,992
2015 = 1,733

32% of attendance for 2016 was from members

617 memberships purchased (up from 602 in 2015)

59% membership renewal rate in 2016

50 Birthday parties hosted

2016 Donor Clubs

We are grateful to all of our loyal supporters and apologize if names have been excluded in error. Please contact us if your name has been omitted here or on our donor wall.

Stargazers (\$5000 +)

Paul Bunyan Communications
Kelly Reid

Scientists Circle (\$1000-\$4999)

Rick & Patti Berndt
First National Bank Bemidji
Golden Eagle Transportation
Steve & Jill Hill
Janet Keithly
John Mathisen
Janet Nelson
North Country Snowmobile Club
Mark & Julianne Parrott
Paul Bunyan Communications
Patrick Riley & Natalie Roholt
Sanford Health

Inventors Circle (\$500-\$999)

Bemidji Elks Lodge
Bemidji Paul Bunyan Eagles Club #351
Jim & Laddie Elwell
Karvako Engineering
LaValley Industries
Norbord Minnesota
Peterson Sheet Metal

Ecology Club (\$250-\$499)

Bemidji Young Professionals Network
Craig & Barbara Benson
Alan Brew
Mark Colliton
Chris & Cari Eggert
Knife River Materials
Miller McDonald, Inc.
Robert Morgan
Naylor Heating & Refrigeration
RiverWood Bank
Patricia Rosenbrock
TruStar Federal Credit Union

Technology Club (\$100-\$249)

Ace Hardware
Affinity Plus Federal Credit Union
Alaska Township
Donna Andersen
Beltrami Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Mary Berger
Leah Bratlien
Eva Cahill
Choice Therapy, PA
Citizens State Bank Midwest
Stan & Ann Daley

Susan Dearholt
Division Dental Studio
Mike & Brenda Finkenbinder
James & Brecken Gries
James & Kelsey Harden
Jim & Cathie Hatch
Hazelton Family Dentistry
Darryl & Peggy Jarombek
Jay Mellema Construction, LLC
Morell's Chippewa Trading Post
Steve & Barb Mortensen
Bill & Jenny PirkI
Lawrence Krantz & Diane Pittman
Arthur W. & Judith A. Reese
Annie Butler Ricks & Travis Ricks
Security Insurance
Jack & Cynthia Shelton
Ten Lakes Township
Turtle River Township
Waskish Township
Ryan & Bryn Welle
Tom & Paulette Welle
Jay & Geri Wilimek
Theodore & Mary Margaret Will
Cindy Buttleman & Bill Yourd

Put Your Name Under Our Feet

Thanks for wearing out our carpet . . . Really!

Since opening 23 years ago, visitorship at Headwaters Science Center has increased 300%. If you've walked on our carpet lately you can see that it shows! If you haven't seen it, the photo below will really help you understand the need. (Yes - this photo is really from our floor!)

Thanks to two generous donations, we are two-thirds of the way to raising the money for new carpet.

You can contribute by buying a square of carpet for \$10, adding your name to the array of donors, and watching us cover the "floor" in our window display. All you need to do is stop in and bring \$10 for each square you want to buy. (You can buy more than one!) Or you can mail a check to HSC at 413 Beltrami Avenue, Bemidji, MN 56601. Just write "Carpet Squares" in the memo.

Help bring us from this . . .



To this . . .



On March 4th Headwaters Science Center celebrates 23 years of "science you can touch" with FREE admission for everyone from 9:30 am to 5 pm. Enjoy refreshments and hands-on activities throughout the day. Purchase or renew your HSC membership and support more years of hands-on and fun science experiences and education.

Science Club

After-school Science

Science Club meets weekly except when the public schools are not in session. Topics are wide ranging and emphasize hands-on activities. 2016 spring sessions in Bemidji and Blackduck are as follows:

IN BEMIDJI

(meets at HSC)

WHO: 7 - 13 year olds

WHEN: Mondays, 3:30-5:00 pm, Jan. 9 - May 22
(19 classes - This session is full.)

IN BLACKDUCK

(meets at Blackduck Elementary)

WHO: 8 - 13 year olds

WHEN: Tuesdays, 4:30-6:00 pm, Jan. 10 - April 25
(13 classes)

Please call the Science Center at (218) 444-4472 for more information and for pricing. Scholarships up to 50% are available if expense is a hardship. Ask about scholarships when you call, or pick up an application from the front desk .



Saturday Science

For Kids AND Adults

Join us on the third Saturday of every month from 2 - 3 pm for interesting speakers, topics, and activities, all with a hands-on twist. Upcoming Saturday Science events will feature the following:

February 18th at 2 pm - Oral Health Month Celebration
Division Dental Studio

March 18th at 2 pm - Pi Day Event
Karvako Engineering

April 15th at 2 pm - Explore Science: Earth and Space
with James Owens

May 20th at 2 pm - TBD

A nominal fee may apply based on the cost of materials. Visit hscbemidji.org or our Facebook page for all the information.

SCIENCE BITES

It costs about \$1 per watt for the electricity to run an electrical device for a year. Thus a \$60-watt bulb would cost about \$60 per year if left on all the time.





e³ - February 25, beginning at 5 pm. Here's the schedule for the evening. Come at 5 so you don't miss the jazz and a chance to shop the silent auction for something **e**nticing!

5:00 **e**arly **e**vening **e**ntertainment
Live jazz in the downstairs "Pub"
Silent Auction opens
Social hour with cash bar provided by Keg n' Cork

6:15 **e**thnic **e**picurean **e**xploration
Chef Showcases on the main floor
Live chamber music

7:30 **e**xceptional **e**nding **e**xperience
The dessert show
Silent Auction closes at 8 pm!

Annual Memberships:

Individual - \$40 Family - \$65

Entry Fees for Non-Members:

Children ages 2-11 - \$5.00

Adults and youth 12 and over - \$7.00

Seniors and military - \$6.00

Children under 10 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian

Please inquire about fees for groups, birthday parties, or other special events that you might require!

Annual Membership benefits include:

*Free unlimited entry to the exhibit floor

*10% discount in the Science Store

*Reduction in many program fees

*Reciprocal admission to 360 other science centers or museums throughout the United States.

To become a member, stop in to sign up at HSC or find our membership form under "About HSC" on our website at

www.hscbemidji.org



Headwaters Science Center Personnel

Executive Director: Susan Joy

Financial Officer: Julie Bengtson

Board of Directors:

Nate Dorr, Chair

Richard Roth, Vice Chair

Michele Walker, Secretary

Melinda Neville, Treasurer

Kellie Dixon

Shane Fjerstad

Jim Gries

Nicholas Rowland

Steven Scherling

Cam Williams

Store Manager: Peggy Nygaard

Education and Programs: Kitura Main, James Owens,
Chuck Deeter

Volunteer Coordinator: Angela Morales

Visitor Services: Melissa McNeill, Justin Henry

Collections: Anita Merritt

Newsletter: Julie Bengtson

Website: Julie Bengtson

Volunteers: Amy Granlund, Richard Johnson, John Mathisen

Susie Takle, Joe Maruska, Shawn Fury

Dennis Montgomery

If you are receiving *The Current* for the first time or are a new member of Headwaters Science Center and you would like more information about the Center, please call us at (218) 444-4472 or stop in at 413 Beltrami Avenue NW, Bemidji, Minnesota.

HOURS

Monday - Saturday • 9:30 - 5 Sunday • 1 - 5

Closed Tuesdays September through March

(Closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years Day, & Easter)

Our Mission . . .

The Headwaters Science Center's mission is to provide intellectual stimulation and enjoyment for children, adults, and educational organizations in Northern Minnesota using hands-on science and technology exhibits and programs.