

Headwaters Current

Volume 24, Number 3, September, 2016



Live Streaming

Summer Vacations; Looking Ahead

Current Happenings by Susan Joy

Greetings members, friends, and supporters of Headwaters Science Center! It's been a very busy spring and summer here at the science center. Many of our **summer visitors** noted that they make a stop at HSC every year and a trip to the cabin is not complete without time on the exhibit floor. Plus, kids who visited on a **field trip** during the spring enjoy bringing their parents and siblings to the science center to show them all the cool animals and interactive exhibits. It's fun to welcome new and returning faces to HSC!

In the past year I played tourist and **visited a handful of science centers** and museums around the country including Museum of the Rockies in Bozeman, MT, the Ecotarium in Worcester, MA and the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, IL. I enjoy visiting other science centers, not only because I like to use my HSC membership card for the reciprocal admission benefit, but because I'm curious to see how other museums create science experiences for their members and visitors. Sometimes I find myself more interested in the construction of exhibit signage than the actual exhibit; call that an occupational hazard!

Ultimately I was impressed by what I saw in other museums and I know that HSC is on par with these museums when evaluating opportunities to engage in hands-on experiences. We aren't the biggest museum, or the flashiest, or with the most luxurious carpeting. However, we have what matters the most—**authentic science that our members and visitors can explore**, from holding a snake to making a giant bubble to experimenting with sound.

HSC has a lot of exciting events happening this fall including our weekly **Science Club** at HSC and Science Club in Blackduck. It's not too late to register; see our website or call for more information. **Run with the Dinosaurs** on September 24th or join the block party. See information in the column to the right for all the details. **Volunteers are needed** to make the event a success; please call Angie at 444-4472 to sign up.

Kids aren't the only ones who can have fun at HSC; on November 18th we host **Science After Dark**, a program for adults that will challenge participants to get solve cryptic clues before time runs out while socializing with friends. Tickets are only \$10 per person and can be purchased at HSC.

In addition to these exciting programs, we ask for your support on November 17th for **Give to the Max Day**, a statewide day of giving in Minnesota. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 to support hands-on STEM experiences at HSC. You can be the spark! More information to come. I appreciate all the support HSC receives from our visitors, members, friends, board members, community partners and donors. Thank you.

Susan



Run with the Dinosaurs!

On September 24 HSC will host a dinosaur-themed kids run, 5K, and block party to raise funds for new carpet for the exhibit floor.

The kids' run starts at 9:30 am and is less than 1K around the science center neighborhood. At 10 am the 5K Run/Walk starts and follows the paved trail to the Sanford Center and back to finish in front of Paul and Babe.

Join runners and their cheering section for a outdoor block party featuring dinosaur themed activities from 9 am to 12 pm on Beltrami Avenue between 5th and 4th Streets, just outside Headwaters Science Center. Be the envy of your friends by signing-up for the DINOSAUR run and get the hottest shirt this year - the RUN WITH THE DINOSAURS T-shirt.

All proceeds will go toward purchasing new carpet for the Headwaters Science Center exhibit floor. Register in person at Headwaters Science Center during business hours, or online via the links below. (\$1 processing fee applies to kids' run online registration). Register by September 9th to guarantee a shirt. Race day registration starts at 8am.

Go to our website to register: www.hscbemidji.org

Or, go directly to www.eventbee.com/v/bemidjidorun.



Details

Kids run (9:30 am) - registration \$10
(Parents run free with kids' registration.)

5K (10 am) - registration \$20
(Strollers allowed. Kids in strollers are free.)

Block party (9 am - noon) - FREE!
(Normal rates will apply for admission to the HSC exhibit floor.)

Save the Date

“Noise MAKERS”

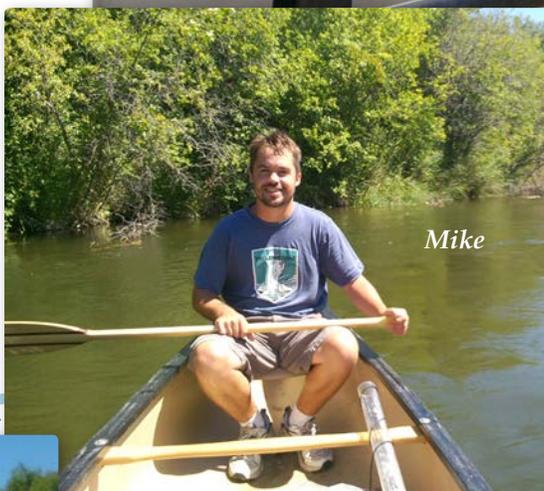
Saturday, December 31st from 11 am - 2 pm

Surface Water Assessment Grant

This summer has been a busy one for the Headwaters Science Center's SWAG (Surface Water Assessment Grant) crew; three times a month we visit our 12 sites in the Otter Tail Watershed to the west, while finishing up our 8 sites for intensive monitoring efforts upon the Mississippi River-Grand Rapids, east. This work has put us on the road just about every working day this summer taking us to the Tamarack National Wildlife Refuge where Minnesota's four major biomes, the Laurentian Mixed Forest meets the Eastern Broadleaf Forest, and snuggles up with the Prairie Parkland and Tallgrass Aspen Parklands, a unique protected habitat where forest meets prairie; and then to the east where it seems the rain has been steady to non-stop, the landscape has been flash-flooded, and trees have been brought to ground by powerful winds, which have moved northward more as the jet stream has towed with it rain storms with powerful straight line winds that are too severe for many of our pine and aspen trees to endure.

www.abcnews.go.com/Technology/story?id=4688199&page=1
www.earth.columbia.edu/articles/view/3122

This year we are pleased to have two interns from Minnesota State in Fergus Falls to help us with this monitoring effort, for which we supply data to the MPCA (Minnesota Pollution Control Agency) for their assessment of Minnesota lakes and streams.



Rivers That Run Through

By Erica Kelly

What first appealed to me about this internship was the research element of it. In a very practical way, I'm able to provide data to the State of Minnesota to help maintain its rivers, one of which runs right by my house. I am thrilled to be part of a system interested in knowing what problems there are and what to do about them. By gaining a better understanding of how basic research works with the nitty-gritty of data collection, this experience has motivated me to continue my involvement in research while I attend NDSU this fall to study biochemistry.

As for my partner, Mike Tuel, this internship with HSC has been a break away from the field for which he originally attended college—psychology. His initial studies were in neuroscience, but he ultimately felt that was not for him. He appreciates the outdoor experience this job allows him and looks forward to continuing his education in environmental science this fall.



SWAG is made possible by funding through the Clean Water Legacy Act

Science After Dark



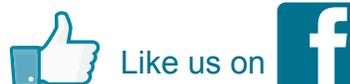
Don't miss our most challenging adult activity yet! Join us on November 18 for Solution Science - a path of Pythagorean puzzles, to ponder and piece together, to prevail in a paradoxical party, to win the prize.

A bit of Euclid, a bit of Sherlock Holmes - add up the clues and don't be the odd one out! Think outside the quadrilateral parallelogram. (Your brain has never had this much fun working so hard.)

Come and experience this creative and confounding evening. Snacks and adult beverages will be provided. Bring a friend.

Science After Dark will be from 7 to 9 pm on November 18. There will be a short social time at 7, with Solution Science beginning at 7:30. The puzzle will be a one-hour timed race between two teams.

Attendees must be 21 or better. Designate a driver. Don't drink and derive!



TOTS -N- SCIENCE is on hiatus for the year.

Check back in the Fall of 2017 for a fresh program!

The Summer in Photos



Lots of rainy days kept HSC's exhibit floor full of people holding tarantulas (! - and bunnies), playing with bubbles, doing puzzles, and experiencing hands-on science with family and friends.

HSC staff brought bubbles to Library Park for some added fun at the Dragonboat Festival in August.



Thank you Wild and Free and Garrison Animal Hospital for taking excellent care of "O'Reilly" in late July. "O'Reilly" is currently recovering from surgery to remove a blood feather and will re-join the Raptors Rule program when he is fully healed.

Science Club

After-school Science

Science Club meets weekly except when the public schools are not in session. It provided hands-on afterschool science activities for students in 3rd through 5th grades. A snack is provided.

Pre-registration is required. First come, first served. Sorry, we cannot offer refunds. Drop-in sessions and pricing may be available based on available space in the session. Please call for more information and availability.

IN BEMIDJI

(meets at HSC)

Limited to 15 participants.

WHO: Students in grades 3-5

WHEN: Mondays, 3:30-5:00 pm, Sept. 19 - Dec. 19
(13 classes)

IN BLACKDUCK

(meets at Blackduck Elementary)

Limited to 10 participants.

WHO: Students in grades 3-5

WHEN: Tuesdays, 4:30-6:00 pm, Sept. 20 - Dec. 20
(13 classes) Students must be picked up no later than 6 pm.

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 at 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:

September 17th at 2 pm - Synthetic Biology with James Owens

October 15st at 2 pm - Celebrate National Earth Science Week

November 19th 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

If you were to travel the distance from the Earth to the Sun at 55 miles per hour, the trip would take about 193 years.





BooFest Monday, October 31



October will soon be upon us, and as usual HSC will host BooFest on Halloween day. On Monday, October 31, our spook-tacular Halloween event will run from 3-6 pm. It is FREE to the public and includes games, treats, and entertainment, as well as free entrance to the exhibit floor for all. It's a family-friendly atmosphere, so come - young and old - and don't forget your costume!

If you're interested in being a volunteer for BooFest, give us a call at 218-444-4472. *Note: HSC will close from noon until 3:00 on the 31st to make preparations.*

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

Mindy Clark

Kellie Dixon

Shane Fjerstad

Jim Gries

Kurt Long Voelkner

Steven Scherling

Store Manager: Peggy Nygaard

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

Volunteer Coordinator: Angela Morales

Visitor Services: Melissa McNeill, Justin Henry,
Endones Brown

Collections: Anita Merritt

Newsletter: Julie Bengtson

Website: Julie Bengtson

Volunteers: Amy Granlund, Richard Johnson, John Mathisen
Kelly Reid, Susie Takle

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.