

January 15, 1999

**Best Wishes for a
positive new year!**

TO: GENI Membership
FROM: GENI Home Office

ITEMS TO NOTE:

- * **THANK YOU** to all who made the 1998 Indianapolis NCGE Conference a great success!! Attendees, planners, presenters, coordinators/facilitators, all made the conference a positive experience; visitors were impressed with the city itself but were most impressed by the "Hoosier hospitality" demonstrated. Again, THANK YOU!!
- * Also, we want to **THANK** the **National Geographic Society** for sending a free, updated, laminated world map to every school in the United States to start the 1998/1999 school year!!! The maps are provided to ensure a positive start to the upcoming millennium transition ensuring that all 52 million U.S. students will start the next century with access to a first-class resource for instruction. As an initial step in map use, a series of lesson plans was posted on the NGS web site to supplement map skills development: <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/education/mapskills>.
- * The **Eiteljorg Museum** opens ***Cowboys, Settlers & Soldiers: African Americans in the West*** in February. In order to better highlight the exhibit for educators, a workshop will be held January 23 from 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Contact Cathy Burton at (317)636-9378 or cburton@eiteljorg.com for registration information. Registration to museum members is free or \$8.00 for non-members, which includes admission to the museum. See the enclosed announcement for more details.
- * The National Geographic Society has responded to hundreds of requests for a high school version of the "Geography Bee Competition"; **GEOCHALLENGE** encourages teams of high school students to address an issue utilizing geographical applications. See the enclosed flier regarding the first annual event.
- * The **Hoosier Association of Science Teachers, Inc.** will hold its annual conference February 16-20 at the Indianapolis Convention Center. For registration information, contact HASTI at 5007 West 14th Street, Indianapolis IN 46224.
- * The **Indiana Earth Science Teachers Association** will host a "**Share-a-Thon**" in Room 106 of the Indianapolis Convention Center on Thursday, February 18, from 2:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. as a session during the HASTI Conference. The IESTA breakfast is scheduled for Friday, February 19, from 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 in the Mount Rushmore Room of the Hyatt Regency downtown Indianapolis. For more information about IESTA, contact Ken Coles at (765)494-0668.
- * **GENI** will host its **Annual Board Meeting** February 27 at IUPUI's Cavanaugh Hall room #438 from 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. All are "welcome"! For directions, contact the GENI office at the telephone number above.
- * The **Ninth Biennial Conference on Appalachian Geography** will be held March 12-13, 1999, at Pipestem State Park in southern West Virginia; it is a beautiful facility in a beautiful location! For those interested, registration is \$20; room rates are approximately \$55 per person per night. Contact Dr. Joe Manzo, Chairman, Geography Department, Concord College, (304)384-5208, manzoj@math.concord.wvnet.edu.
- * Friday, April 9 is the date for the **Indiana Geography Bee** to be held at IUPUI's Lecture Hall from 12:00 p.m. until about 5:00 p.m. Contact Kathy Kozenski at (317)274-8879 for more information.

- * The **Indiana Council for the Social Studies** Annual Conference is scheduled for March 11-12; the pre-Conference activities on the 11th will be held at the Indiana Government Center, and the day will focus on teaching about the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Presenters will include John Patrick and Tom Vontz; pre-Conference registration via the I.U. Social Studies Development Center is available by calling 1-800-266-3815. Conference registration for Friday's activities is available by calling Kathy Reppert at the ICSS office, (765)494-9638.
- * St. Mary-of-the-Woods College will host a **Weekend Geography Workshop** for educators from throughout the state. See the enclosed flier for information.
- * Purdue University's Ackerman Center will host a one-day program on Friday, April 16, focusing on "**Conflicts and Responsibilities: Current Lessons from the Holocaust**" from 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The program is open to educators and students. Contact Kathy Reppert at (765)494-9638 for more details.
- * The International Geographical Union, Commission on Geographical Education, and the Gilbert M. Grosvenor Center for Geographic Education will sponsor an **International Conference on Research in Geographic Education** to be held in San Marcos, TX, May 20-23, 1999. Topics include spatial cognition, map learning, curriculum, textbooks, learning materials, learning theory, assessment/evaluation, gender issues, distance and non-traditional learning, environmental psychology and education. A pre-conference field excursion to Big Bend National Park will take place also. For more information, contact the Grosvenor Center at (512)245-1823 or JB42@swt.edu; or visit the web site at <http://www.geo.swt.edu/grosvenor>.
- * **GENI** will host its **Long Range Planning Meeting** to be held at Taylor University in Upland, IN, June 4-5; contact Roger Jenkinson at (765)998-5323 if you are interested in attending.
- * In June of 1999, Toyota International Teacher Education Program will sponsor a **trip to Japan** for full-time, secondary educators from California, Indiana, Kentucky and West Virginia. **ALL EXPENSES PAID!!!** Contact the Toyota International Teacher Program, Institute of International Education, 1400 K Street NW, Washington DC 20005-2403; (877)TEACHJP.
- * Once again, GENI will sponsor a "teacher travel exchange" experience to Australia, June 20-July 20; Dorothy Drummond will lead the trip which highlights Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Alice Springs, Brisbane, Cairns, Canberra and many natural and cultural experiences in between. Graduate credit is available. See the enclosed announcement for more information.
- * During the summer of 1999, GENI will sponsor a three-week field experience to Mexico's **Yucatan Peninsula**, June 30-July 21; educators from throughout the state are "welcome". Graduate credit is available; see the enclosed itinerary, application, cost and credit registration details. Contact Denis Mudderman, Director for the Institute, at (812)8237-2255 or send him an e-mail at gedenis@scifac.indstate.edu. Visit the colorful institute web site at <http://www.indstate.edu/gedenis/maya>.
- * Purdue University's Ackerman Center will host a two-week summer institute from July 11-24 on the Purdue campus; the theme for the institute is "**civic education**". Contact Kathy Reppert at (765)494-9638 or check out the web site at <http://www.soe.purdue.edu/ackerman/>
- * **GENI** will host its **Advance Board Meeting** August 28 at IUPUI's Cavanaugh Hall room #438 from 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. All are "welcome"! For directions, contact the GENI office at the telephone number above.
- * The **1999 National Council for Geographic Education** Annual Conference will be held in Boston, November 3-6; contact the NCGE for registration information at (724)357-6290.
- * **GENI** will host its **Strategic Planning Board Meeting** December 3-4, at the Indianapolis Holiday Inn Express Northeast; contact Jill Bowman for attendance information at (317)842-8039.

Imagine this:

You and your family are traveling to Kansas, a place that offers free land and a chance to control your own destiny for the first time in your lives. You bump along in a cold, hard wagon for weeks when, suddenly, someone shouts, "There's Nicodemus!"

You strain your eyes to see the city of your dreams, but all you see is dry, dusty prairie. Your husband points to columns of smoke coming out of the ground. Your new house, once you dig it, will be a hole in the ground. What would you do? In 1878, Willianna Hickman settled in, and, then, she wrote, "I began to cry." But she did not leave!

You'll hear stories like Willianna's in *Cowboys, Settlers & Soldiers: African Americans in the West*, a workshop designed to highlight the lives of African Americans from 1866-1910.

As a result of this workshop, participants will receive suggestions on use of the Indiana Social Studies Proficiency Guidelines, explore the myths and realities of American Western history, understand this chapter of history as recorded and taught, traditionally, is from an Euro-American perspective, be aware of current research about African Americans in the West, apply workshop information to enhance student critical thinking, cultural awareness and sensitivity skills, and link the workshop information with a multi-disciplinary visit to the museum exhibit.

Educators participating in this workshop will have the first opportunity to bring their students for a school visit to the exhibit, which opens February 6. Re-enactors and interpreters will be available at limited times

Contact Cathy Burton, (317)636-9378 to register for the workshop; registration fee is free to museum members and \$8.00 to non-members. The afternoon will be spent exploring the museum and the new exhibit.

The exhibit itself will incorporate maps, photos and text and will be an excellent destination for educators seeking an interdisciplinary and multicultural topic. Guided or self-guided experiences can be arranged by contacting (317)636-9378 to schedule a school visit.

The Reality and Romance of the African American West

Symposium co-sponsored by IUPUI and the Eiteljorj Museum
Saturday, March 6, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Panelists: Bill Gwaltney, Phyllis Klotman, and William Wiggins

Cost includes a boxed lunch and beverage; \$14 for museum members, IUPUI students and faculty;
\$16 for all others

Tour the exhibit with the panelists after the symposium.

Two IUPUI

Summer in the City Classes

will be held at the Eiteljorg Museum, each class requiring three days/fifteen hours:

Masks, Totem Poles and Potlatch Ceremonies: Northwest Coast Art and Cultures
and

In Their Footsteps: Exploring the Woodland Peoples in Exhibitions

For information on taking either class for 1 graduate credit, contact the School of Education at (317)274-0645.
For non-credit registration and more information, call the museum's education division at (317)636-9378.

RESOURCES in GEOGRAPHY

- ⇒ The National Geographic Society, in conjunction with several sponsors, has published four new lessons: *Return of the Gray Wolf*, grades 5-9 but adaptable for lower and higher grades; *Population: Millennium in Maps*, grades 5-9 but adaptable; *Return to Mars*, grades 5-9 but adaptable; and *South China Sea*, grades 7-12 with some adaptability. For a copy of the lesson plans, send in a written request to the GENI address on the back cover of this newsletter.
- ⇒ The **Utah Geographic Alliance** has produced a CD-ROM entitled *Exploring Mexico*. The two-disc set has been designed to be utilized by educators in the classroom; disc I contains a multicultural interactive program intended to introduce users to Mexico. Disc II is an impressive presentation of varied student projects. Some items on the discs are 12 theme-based maps with 15 icon-based layers (over 180 different map combinations), 42 interactive activities, 750 photographs, 500 language files. Price for a single CD is \$39.95 plus shipping; price for 10 lab pack is \$29.95 each plus shipping. Contact the Utah Geographic Alliance, Utah State University, Department of Geography, 5240 Old Main Hill, Logan UT 84322-5240 or send an e-mail message to UGA@cc.usu.edu.
- ⇒ www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions is the new NGS web site offers interactive adventures that illustrates the recommended national geography skills. An atlas, lesson plans and educator forums, student forums, and family activities are all featured in this very realistic site.
- ⇒ The **Indiana Geological Survey** has available a large number of maps and other resources for the K+ classroom; also available is a new 1999 topo calendar. Call Todd Thompson at (812)855-4400 for additional educational information.
- ⇒ **The Columbia Gazetteer of the World**, available from Columbia University Press, 562 West 113 Street, New York NY 10025 or www.columbia.edu/cu/cup or 1-800-944-8648.
- ⇒ The *Indiana Department of Natural Resources* publishes a wonderful bi-monthly magazine, **Outdoor Indiana**, which is available by writing to 402 West Washington Street, Room W-255B, Indianapolis IN 46204-2748.
- ⇒ The **U.S. Geological Survey** has many educational materials available by writing to Earth Science Information, 507 National Center, Reston VA 22092 or phone 1-703-860-6045.
- ⇒ **Clearvue** Social Studies educational materials are available by writing them at 6465 North Avondale Avenue, Chicago IL 60631-1996 or calling 1-800-clearvu.
- ⇒ **Cobblestone Publishing Company** produces several magazines for students in grades K-12: **FACES** is one such magazine dedicated to introducing middle school students to various cultures around the world. Call (603)924-7209 or write to them at 30 Grove Street, Peterborough NH 03458.
- ⇒ The University of Southern Illinois announces the **Rivers Project**, which designs and implements educational programs that focus on preserving and restoring water-based ecosystems, for students of all ages. For additional information, write to Robert Williams, SIUE Box 2222, Edwardsville IL 62026-2222 or call him at (618)692-3788.
- ⇒ **ESRI** has produced a book enabling you to better approach validating “why” GIS is needed in your classroom. **Zeroing In: Geographic Information Systems in the Community** is available through their web-site at www.esri.com/base/store/esripress/zero_in.html.
- ⇒ ESRI also has available a guide **Serving Maps on the Internet: Geographic Information on the World Wide Web** for those interested. The book is available by contacting ESRI at 380 New York Street, Redlands CA 92373-8100 or by e-mail at info@esri.com or visiting the web-site at www.esri.com.
- ⇒ **Russia and the Other Former Soviet Republics in Transition** a six lesson guide published by the Southern Center for International Studies as part of their world in transition series. Other publications focus on Europe after the Cold War, the Middle East, Latin America, East Asia, and the end of the Soviet Union. For information, e-mail scis1@bellsouth.net or write to them at 320 West Paces Ferry Road NW, Atlanta GA 30305.
- ⇒ **WorldSat** has available a variety of satellite images in form of posters, CD-ROMs and atlases. For more information, send an e-mail message to tdevarco@worldsat.ca.
- ⇒ **Rand McNally** publishes a web site for educators with access to products and lesson plans. Check out the site at www.k12online.com.

YUCATAN ADVENTURE

It all began with the question, "Will you go?"
Of course, the answer was not, "No."
The three week adventure to the YOU CA TAAN took us to and fro...

Overall 2000 plus miles or so.
My colleagues, Mary, Juan and Denis were so professional...
However, my Mom told me there would be days like that.
We acquired the maps and hit the road.
The scenery was beyond beautiful --- we strolled through the rainforest ... ascended to the top of many ruins,
to be above the canopy.
This put one in the right mode.

Fourteen military checkpoints along the way, inquiring about dead animals in the heat of the day.
Soldiers running to stop Denis from entering the military zone.
He acted so innocent while making a U-TURN!

We encountered slash/burn techniques.
Green grasslands, rolling countryside and rocky mountains with an altitude to make one faint.
Breathtaking waterfalls dropping crystal paint.
In ornate churches, we saw indigenous people showing adoration to Saints.
It all seemed like a picture to be forever etched in one's mind.

Memories of education to last a lifetime.
The people were proud, friendly, and hard working.
They possessed priorities of faith, family, and tradition.

Let me also share the moments of delight, while interacting with people, and students alike.
Mary shared a song and story with the children.
My mis-pronunciation of students to share drawing supplies or games.
Watching them soak up the knowledge portrayed on maps.

All the hundreds of "topes" we scraped across while witnessing the smiles with the miles.

Participating in learning the techniques of making tortillas.
Observing the students learn about the technology while using methodology.
Experiencing the pain of departure.
Remembering all the unusual banos.
Not knowing how to face the toilet seat.
The feeling of upheaval or Montezuma's Revenge.

All in all my eyes were opened to a world and culture so diverse in its own.
Eating meals with the chickens and turkeys in the kitchen.
Waking at 3:00 a.m. to the chorus of dogs and roosters.
Getting out of the hammock, feeling shaky from swinging back and forth.

Turning in the rental car to find out the attendant kept the tax money.
Finding out that emotions, knowledge, and strength were taken to the max, with the idea of seeing a world
through experience.

by: Theresa Gottbrath
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topes = speed bumps
banos = bathroom

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