Bee Winner a Repeat Winner

Eighth grader Sean Ives representing Trinity Lutheran School in Crown Point took top honors for the second year at the Indiana Geographic Bee. Seventh grader, Thomas Gatewood of Kokomo was runner up and seventh grader Ben Foley of Bloomington placed third. Ives will represent Indiana at the National Geographic Bee in Washington D.C. on May 19-21.

Final 10 Participants

1. Sean Ives, Trinity Lutheran School, Crown Point
2. Thomas Gatewood, Western Middle School, Russiaville
3. Ben Foley, Tri-North Middle School, Bloomington
4. Noah Winegardner, Riverside School, Fishers
5. Jeremy Rusk, Honey Creek Middle School, Terre Haute
6. Matthew Rollo, Mt. Vernon Middle School, Fortville*
7. Pratim Moulik, Carmel Middle School, Carmel
8. Mackenzie Burton, Northside Middle School, Columbus
9. Eleanor Boyle, St. Patrick School, Chesterton
10. Nikhil Palde, Creekside Middle School, Carmel

From left: Ben Foley, 3rd place; Sean Ives, Bee Winner, and 2nd place Thomas Gatewood
Educators from around the state gathered October 18-19 at Spring Mill State Park for GeoFest 2013. This year’s GeoFest featured author Kelsey Timmerman whose books, *Where am I Wearing* and *Where am I Eating*, are being read in classrooms around the country. Timmerman related his experiences tracing the origins of his clothing and the food he eats including picking coffee beans in Brazil and meeting factory workers in China.

Those attending learned about insects around the world from Dr. Rick Bein, Geography professor at IUPUI. Dr. Andy Baker, also from IUPUI’s Geography Department, shared the geography of auto racing, while Nancy Wolfe spoke on the geography of horse racing. Curriculum specialists Larry Laswell and Alan Backler presented the video *Mary Bateman Clark* and shared methodologies to teach Indiana’s ELA and Social Studies standards using the video. GENI member Janis Coffman shared with teachers her experiences visiting China and how she incorporates teaching and learning about China into the classroom. Those attending on Friday evening were also treated to a night hike learning to use their senses as various animals would.

GeoFest 2014 will be held at Pokagon State Park October 10-11. Mark your calendar now and plan to join us for a fun and educational weekend!
Friends of Geography Recognized at ICSS

GENI Executive Director, Kathy Kozenski honored three individuals as *Friends of Geography* at the Indiana Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference in November.

Dr. Robert Brady was honored for his support of geography in producing materials to enrich the geographic lives of students and educators. Dr. Brady is the former Director of Social Studies and World Languages for Indianapolis Public Schools.

IUPUI GIS Graduate Student **Brian Hanson** was recognized for his work with GENI and IndianaView in developing geospatial curricular materials. His assistance included development of visual and written materials, including satellite imagery and aerial photography.

IUPUI senior **Jessica Mickey** is an honors student majoring in education. Jessica was honored for her work with GENI over the past four years. Her work in keeping financial records, editing, and creation of lesson plans has improved GENI outreach capacity.
On November 21-24 the Geography Educators’ Network of Indiana participated in the Indianapolis International Festival held at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. Staff and volunteers guided visitors and students in exploring the Giant Traveling Map of Indiana and the National Geographic Giant Traveling Map of Asia. Students received passports, visited booths and then visited the GENI display to have their passports validated. While at the display visitors got to view student backpacks from around the world, identify their family origins on a map and take maps and other materials related to geography education.
APHG and GHW Inter-Active & Tutorials Available

GENI has partnered with the IndianaView Consortium and AmericaView to offer two on-line inter-actives for Indiana students taking AP Human Geography or Geography and History of the World. The inter-actives focus on geospatial technologies beginning with the basics of GPS and latitude and longitude and advancing into remote sensing, aerial photography and satellite imagery. The inter-actives are accompanied by detailed lesson plans for educators and by PDF’s as a guided tutorial if needed.

Land Use Change is a tutorial that will allow students to find, manipulate and create maps through a variety of geospatial technologies. The second tutorial, Water and Drought: Two Sides of the Same Coin will allow students to locate, manipulate and create maps in order to study water related issues in Indiana. Teachers wishing to use the tutorials in their classrooms can find them on the GENI website.

Giant Traveling Map

It’s not too late to book the Giant Traveling Map of Indiana for your school and it’s not too early to book it for the 2014-2015 school year. Contact the GENI office if you would like to do so.

Giant Map IN Travels This Year include:

Indianapolis Public Schools
Hamilton Southeastern School Corporation
Valparaiso University
Indianapolis International Festival
Indiana State Library
East Chicago Central High School
International Festival

2013 GAW Bookmark Contest:
Winner Ashley Pabey of East Chicago Central High School
Let us know if you would like some of the bookmarks to share with students, colleagues, business leaders, and local elected officials.
GENI collaborates with the Indiana Geographic Information Council on many tasks throughout the year working toward creating a geographically literate citizenry through various geospatial technology outreach opportunities. This coming year, GENI and IGIC will be creating an

**IN GeoSpatial Technologies Policy Timeline**

that will depict how far we have come in regards to geography and geospatial technologies. The Timeline will provide a foundation upon which shared goals can be better accomplished.

Also this year, GENI, IGIC, INView, and the State Library (among others) will be working to create a series of

**webinars**

for educators to enrich classroom use of geospatial technologies and comprehension of geography.

Another project that IGIC and GENI are working toward is the creation of a

**lesson plan about geographic naming,**

which will be “approved” by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names. Indiana has hundreds of miles of waterways that need “official” names — soon. The lesson plan, along with the Policy Timeline, will aid students and educators in researching and proposing a geographic name for a local waterway.

GENI and IGIC are working with Dewayne Branch, GIS Literacy Specialist at Purdue University, to create a

**framework for geospatial technologies education**

for lifelong learning. Specifically, Dewayne wants to connect post-secondary GIS researchers, providers, and users to the K-12 classroom. If you want to become more involved with this framework development, contact Dewayne at bbranch@purdue.edu.

GENI, IGIC, INView Consortium and many others have secured an opportunity to enrich classrooms and educator professional development through an agreement with ESRI, the world’s largest GIS resources. The

**IN/ESRI Statewide Site License for K-12 Purposes**

will open the geospatial door for your students in a variety of ways. Contact GENI for additional details.
Good Reads

Isaac’s Storm by Erik Larson
Pioneer Women: Voices from the Kansas Frontier by Joanna Stratton

The Corn Grows Ripe by Dorothy Roads
The Long Road to Gettysburg by Jim Murphy

Pyramid by David McCauley
Minn of the Mississippi by Holling Clancy Holling
Sign Talker: The Adventures of George Drouillard on the Lewis and Clark Expedition by James Alexander Thom
Title: Sign-Talker: The Adventure of George Drouillard on the Lewis and Clark Expedition

Author: James Alexander Thom

Author Information: James Alexander Thom is a local author who lives in Southern Indiana. He has written many historical novels about Native Americans. Some other titles include, The Red Heart, which is a story about Francis Slocum and Panther in the Sky which is about Tecumseh. His books are all entertaining, well researched and easy to read.


Theme: Movement of American settlement from the perspective of Native Americans

Number of Pages: 459

Target Audience: People who enjoy history and good stories/9th grade and above

Brief Description: Sign Talker is about the Lewis and Clark expedition seen from the perspective of Drouillard, who was half French and half Shawnee. His expertise in both hunting and Native American sign language was the reason he was brought on to the Corp of Discovery. Drouillard and Sacagawea were the two unsung heroes of the voyage. Between her ability to communicate and find edible roots and plants and Drouillard’s hunting and communication, the members of the Corp of Discovery would most likely have starved or been annihilated by Native groups.

Major Points, My Opinion and Use in the Classroom: I would not have the students read the entire book due to time constraints. I would select a chapter or two for them to read and discuss concepts brought out in this book. It could be used along with Stephen Ambrose’s Undaunted Courage to analyze perspectives. Ambrose’s book, while well-written and enjoyable, it does not have the life that Sign Talker has. Thom’s ability to give the characters life and personality enriches the already exciting tale of the voyage. In addition to the characters, Thom has thoroughly researched the topic and leaves no stone unturned as he goes into painstaking detail of life on a waterway. I would recommend this book as a supplement to a U.S. History class, although it could be used in the Geography and History of the World Class.

Culture is at the heart of the book. Since most social studies classes deal with culture in some form, the book would be adaptable. Perspective views of custom, interaction, religion, wild life and life in general are all brought out in this book. For example, Drouillard constantly jumps into the water, not matter of the season or water temperature. While the white members of the Corp think his is nuts, he does this to purify himself spiritually and practically as his human smell is washed away so he could more effectively hunt. He also believes bears are not inherently bad to humans, but once a vengeance kill is made by members of the Corp, he believes the bears warn each other and begin hunting the humans for revenge.

Thom erases our stereotypes of the cleanliness of Americans versus Native Americans when he highlights Drouillard’s bathing and his precaution when having intercourse with Native women, thus avoiding venereal disease, which many members of the Corp did get and are plagued by throughout the trip. He also contrasts spirituality when Drouillard prays and thanks the Great Spirit before killing. White Americans kill bears for no reason other than to procure specimens for Jefferson. Whites do this without a spiritual connection to nature.

By the end of the book, you feel that Drouillard is more civilized, spiritually in tune with the earth and generally better than the White members of the Corp of Discovery. I found myself getting uneasy each time Drouillard enters the White world in St. Louis and found myself wanting him to return West, where there was no urban corruption and congestion. While showing the value of the Native American way of life, Thom does not take away from the merits and accomplishments of Lewis and Clark.

Finally, the book would be a good companion to the National Geographic movie about the Lewis and Clark voyage. The visual displays of the physical geography in the movie would be a perfect compliment to the descriptions Thom gives of the unfolding natural beauty the Corp experiences. Like culture, geography is at the Corp of the book. It was a traveling tale that a group of people were moving through territory that had not been experienced by white Americans.

Thom does a good job of providing images of the landscapes as they change on the voyage out, as well as the seasonal changes they experience. Like the landscape, the people change both in customs and friendliness. He describes the Chinook people in the west who are very heavy set and attributes this to the abundance of Salmon that provide fatty protein and allow the people to stay sedentary without having to be migrant hunters like many of the plains tribes. He also shows how tribes that are in contact with White people, like the Clatsop tribe on the coast, have been nearly decimated due to disease, such as smallpox and venereal diseases, because of their proximity to trade routes.

The book provides many avenues of use in any Social Studies classroom. It is an enjoyable read and I would highly recommend it. If one does not use it in class, it would come in handy to get a humanistic background story to the Lewis and Clark expedition that could be discussed in class when this unit is covered. Linking the book to an ELA classroom would be ideal. Maps, landscape, language, culture, human spirit can all be covered in this story.
Upcoming Opportunities for Educators...

The Children’s Museum of Indianapolis offers teachers of grades 3-8 an opportunity to explore China of the past and present. Participants in this four day institute will experience the museum’s two new exhibits, *Take Me There: China* and *Terra Cotta Warriors: The Emperors Painted Army*, directly from China’s Shaanxi Province. The Institute will be held June 23-27, Registration Deadline is June 16 and will cost participants $125.

The Museum also offers educators an opportunity to join in a dinosaur dig in South Dakota. Teachers will join CMI staff at the Ruth Mason Quarry July 2-11. Registration deadline is May 16th. For more information contact Valerie Wells at 317-334-3317.

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management offers teachers and other interested persons Hoosier Riverwatch Training. The training introduces participants to water quality monitoring utilizing hands-on habitat, chemical, and biological assessment methods. Workshops are free. For more information contact Lisa Ritter-McMahan at 317-308-3392 or www.riverwatch@idem.in.gov.

The Indiana Division of Forestry will hold an Indiana Natural Resources Teacher Institute that will bring 20 teachers from across the state to Morgan-Monroe State Forest to see firsthand how forestry works. Participants will be provided skills and tools to teach students about forest ecology and management. Deadline for applying is April 4th. For registration or information contact Donna Rogler at 317-234-5134 or ptl@dnr.in.gov

A Conservation Educator Academy for K-12 teachers will be held at the Indianapolis Zoo, June 24-26. This institute will assist teachers in developing and implementing inquiry-based lesson plans that employ resources and ideas associated with Call State University, the International Orangutan Center and the zoo. To register call 317-630-2000.

Calendar

- National Geographic Bee—May 19-21, Washington, D.C
- National Council for Geographic Education Annual Conference—July 31– August 3, Memphis, TN
- GENI Board of Directors Meeting—IUPUI
- GeoFest—October 17-18, Pokagon State Park
- Indiana Non-Public Education Conference—October 23-24
- National Geography Awareness Week—November 16– 22
- International GIS Day—November 19
- Indiana Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference—November 7, Indianapolis
- Indianapolis International Festival—November 20– 23, Indiana State Fair Grounds, Indianapolis
IN/ESRI Statewide Site License for K-12 Purposes

If you are interested in incorporating GIS into your classroom, contact the GENI office (geni@iupui.edu) for additional details about accessing ESRI’s ArcGIS and other products either onto desktops or into a secure cloud space.

1. Send GENI a request for access
2. Complete the Memorandum of Understanding
3. Receive a subscription access code and instructions for use
4. Utilize the IN/ESRI K-12 License PPT to help begin the process (there is more to ESRI than GIS software)
5. Delve as deep into GIS as you are comfortable (rely on your technically-savvy students)
6. Maintain notes on #’s and use of the license materials (for record-keeping by GENI and ESRI to encourage further resource production)

About the Geography Educators Network of Indiana

GENI is a not-for-profit organization, established in 1983 by K-20 educators throughout the state concerned about the lack of geographic literacy among Indiana students. GENI relies upon paid memberships, grants, endowment funds, and registration fees to secure Geography education in Indiana. Without GENI, geography—most likely—would not be taught in Indiana’s K-12 schools with specific academic standards!!! Please, consider supporting GENI with your time, expertise, and funds.

The Geography Educators’ Network of Indiana, Inc. envisions an Indiana citizenry that is geographically literate – capable of solving problems and planning for the future from a spatial perspective. GENI envisions every student mastering new geographic skills every year at school from a geographically literate educator who is capable of incorporating diverse geographically appropriate curriculum across disciplines. GENI envisions business leaders and elected officials capable of making geographically informed decisions that take – patterns, relationships, distribution, human-environment interaction, geospatial technologies into account. GENI envisions a citizenry that values geography and geographic literacy as an integral part of everyday thinking.

Geography Educators’ Network of Indiana, Inc.
IUPUI - CA 213 Geography
425 University Blvd., Indianapolis IN 46202-5140
Phone: (317)274-8879 Fax: (317) 278-5220
geni@iupui.edu

2013 GAW Bookmark Contest:
Runner-Up Priya Dave from Center Grove High School
Let us know if you would like some of the bookmarks to share with students, colleagues, business leaders, and local elected officials.