

T C Communiqué The Newsletter for AzGA TCs Number 118 August 20, 2009

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Coordinator's Corner

The Overall Status of AzGA

This *TC Communiqué* contains a lot of information about your activities, your accomplishments, and future opportunities. There is also information about how we are dealing with budget cutbacks based on declining revenue from National Geographic Society and the State of Arizona. However, in these difficult economic times, AzGA is one of the shining lights of the National Geographic alliance

network. We are constantly seeking for new sources of revenue. Mostly, this is writing grants. However, if any of you know someone who is looking for worthy causes for their charitable giving, we would be happy to talk to them. The bottom line is: we all aren't going anywhere, so keep GeoEvangelizing!!

Row Dorn

New Address

If you carefully read the information above, you will notice a new address. Not only did the PO Box change, but the name of the department is longer. The Geography Department is now the **School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning.** Our actual physical address is Lattie Coor Building, 5th Floor, Room 5677. We are located just behind the reception desk for the department. Our phone and Fax numbers are the same.

Work Schedule

Cathy works in the Alliance office on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Gale works basically those same days in the afternoons. The best way to communicate with us is email.



GeoDayTrip: Europe Beyond Borders: Understanding Physical & Cultural Landscapes

Where: Arizona State University, Tempe Memorial Union – 2nd Floor

When: Saturday, October 3, 2009

8:00 am - 3:30 pm

Cost: \$30.00 deposit *refundable* at close of workshop to attendees. Includes lesson plans, other free materials, and 6.5 recertification hours.

Deadline to Register: 5:00 pm on Friday, September 25, 2009.

Your check will be returned to you only if you cancel by September 25, 2009 or before.

Your check will be returned to you at the end of the workshop. If you do not attend, and do not cancel within the deadline specified, your check will be cashed.



Go to this website to download the registration form to share with your colleagues. http://alliance.la.asu.edu/geodaytrip/InviteToPresentGDTEurope.pdf

Partnering with Globe School District

Jennifer Kinnard, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning in the Globe school district, has contacted AzGA in regards to professional growth in-services for the teachers of Globe School District. AzGA will be conducting four in-service sessions during their early release time. The schedule is:

September 11, 2009 What is Geography and How Should I Teach It?

November 20, 2009 What is GeoLiteracy? February 26, 2009 What is GeoMath?

March 26, 2009 What is GeoLiteracy for ELLs?

Calendar of Events

2009 Globe workshop 1 Friday, September 11

GeoDayTrip - Europe Saturday, October 3 - ASU Tempe, MU

ACSS annual conference Friday, October 23

NCGE Puerto Rico September 22-27 (includes travel days)

NCSS Atlanta November 13-15 Globe workshop 2 Friday, November 20

2010 Washington Elem. SD Workshop Wednesday, January 27

GeoFest Saturday, January 30 (probably at MCC)

NGS coordinators winter meeting February 23 – 27 (includes travel days)

Globe workshop 3 Friday, February 26
TC Conference April 23, 24, 25 (probably at ASU)
Globe workshop 4 Friday, March 26

NGS Planning meeting June – date and location TBD

Advanced Summer Geography Institute –

no plans at this time, requires further discussion and a grant

NCGE Savannah dates blocked are September 25 - October 3 GeoDayTrip Saturday, October 23 - ASU Tempe, MU

NCSS Denver November 12-14

2011 GeoFest Saturday, January 29

T C Conference April 8, 9, 10 NCGE Portland August 1 - 7

GeoDayTrip Saturday, September 24

NCSS Washington December 2, 3, 4

Kudos

To Mike Ostapuk

Mike was asked to speak to a group of teachers last spring on Best Practices in Social Studies. He asked for Alliance materials to share with the teachers. As a result, he built good will with those teachers and was asked to speak at the Agua Fria District this fall. This is a great use of your TC talents, and we will provide materials for your outreach. I know that in the past other TCs have done this with their districts. All of this exposure is good for AzGA and geography education in general. All we ask is to please give us 10 days notice and please report back to us on how many attended. The T C reporting form is found on the AzGA website under TC Access and at the end of this publication.

Congratulations to the First Class of the Geography Education Masters Program (MASGE):

The origin of the Master of Advanced Study in Geographic Education (MASGE) program at ASU (http://geoplan.asu.edu/masge/) rests with the brainstorming that occurred at earlier TC conferences, GeoFests and ASGIs. We took your suggestions, ideas, and what not to do. Thus, the entire organization should feel just like a parent does at graduation. CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2009:

Jason Donoghue, Capstone Project: *Environmental Injustice: Are There Patterns to Pollution?* AZ **Brien Durham**, Capstone Project: *Bridging the gap between the Geographies* AZ

Elizabeth Duros, Capstone Project: Federalism and "Domestic Violence" Article IV, Section IV of the U.S. Constitution AZ

Diane Godfrey, Capstone Project: *The Geography and History Connection in the Middle School Social Studies Classroom* AZ

John Halverson, Capstone Project: Yellow Fever: A Geographic and Historic Perspective AZ **Heather Herzberger-Moll**, Capstone Project: Cartography: The Science of Mapmakingand the Manipulation? AZ

Danna Lagerquist, Capstone Project: The Geography of Breast Cancer AZ

Jody Leeds, Capstone Project: Geography, Genocide, and Human Atrocities AZ

Brian McCabe, Capstone Project: *Slum-dwellers in South Asia & sub-Saharan Africa: A study of Human Vulnerability* CA

Corey Merrell, Capstone Project: Arctic Alaska as a Thematic Unit UT

Valerie Morgan Mervine, Capstone Project: The Field Experience through Virtual Pedagogy VA

Jared Sanders, Capstone Project: HIV/AIDS in South Africa UT

Shari Solberg-Ayers, Capstone Project: *Teachers and Travel: Making Geographic Connections*

Heather Wagner, Capstone Project: The Unwanted Traveler AZ

Keith L. White, Capstone Project: Using a Regional High Speed Rail Transportation Model in Social Studies Classroom Applications AZ

Diane Woodman, Capstone Project: Battlefield Preservation AZ



Summer Alliance Geography Institute (June 24-July 3 and July 10)

Once again, our Summer Alliance Geography Institute (ASGI) was a true geography boot camp with lots of excellent sessions. Geography professors that volunteered their time to give a session were

Dr. Randy Cerveny (Weather's Greatest Mysteries Solved -- his new book)

Dr. Ronald Dorn (What is Geography? and How does Physical Geography Relate to My Classroom?)

Phil Larson (Mysteries at the Grand Canyon)

Dr. Elizabeth Larson-Keagy (Human Rights: Solutions that Can Make a Difference)

Dr. Robert Mings (Traveling to Learn)

Dr. Malcolm Comeaux (What is Historical Geography?)

Dr. Mike Kuby (Ten Things to Know about the Geography of China)

Dr. Bob Balling (A Climate of Doubt abut Global Warming).

A few TCs came just for the sessions. We love to have you.

Then after the classroom experience, the ASGI group was on the way to Southeastern Arizona. **Malcolm Comeaux** and **Lynn Galvin** organized a wonderful field experience to the Singing Wind Ranch, Amerind Foundation, an active cattle ranch (Fourr Ranch), graves of Confederate soldiers, site of a Butterfield Stage stop, and the Rex Allen Museum. And that was only Day ONE. Then the ASGI group visited a variety of cemeteries; trekked at Fort Bowie with fort expert, **Bill Hoy**; toured the Faraway Ranch

in the Chiricahua National Monument, and saw the grave of Johnny Ringo attended by nearly a dozen peacocks. The final day was spent touring the Bisbee Mine and Fort Huachuca Museum.

On July 10th, the ASGI participants gave their lesson presentations. Serving as facilitators/evaluators were **Dennis Rees, Diane Godfrey, Lynn Galvin**, and **Cheri Stegall**.

Our newest TCs are:

Christopher Bergum: Jordan, UT **Karin Cummings**: Scottsdale USD

Deborah Girard: Naco SD **Camille Guice**: Tucson USD

Kelli Jones: Humbolt USD (MASGE) **Karin Jozefowski**: Mesa USD

Nicole Kiley: Sierra Vista

Jill Kratzke: Cave Creek USD (MASGE)

Jessica Medlin: Thatcher USD Jason Neenos: Holbrook (MASGE)

Rhea Steyer: Chandler

Lauren Tennyson: Dysart USD

Suzanne Vogt: Phoenix Union HSD (MASGE) Nicole Von Prisk: Glendale Elem (MASGE)

Ivan Yocum: Tucson USD



Special thanks go to all of the presenters, the van drivers (including **Mike Glenn** and **Phil Larson**), and resident TCs (**Lynn Galvin** and **Cheri Stegall**). Of course **Bob Mings, Malcolm Comeaux, Ron Dorn, Cathy Davis**, and **Gale Ekiss** were all involved.

TCs (not mentioned above) who helped out by presenting were: Germaine Barnes, Carol Warren, John Halverson, Jason Donoghue, Ken deMasi, Conny Egter, Ann Baker Kobritz, Noél McClure, Jane Chambers, Dianne Benoit-McKee, Rhonda Gonzalez, Sheila Nice, Liz Hinde, and Mike Fogel.

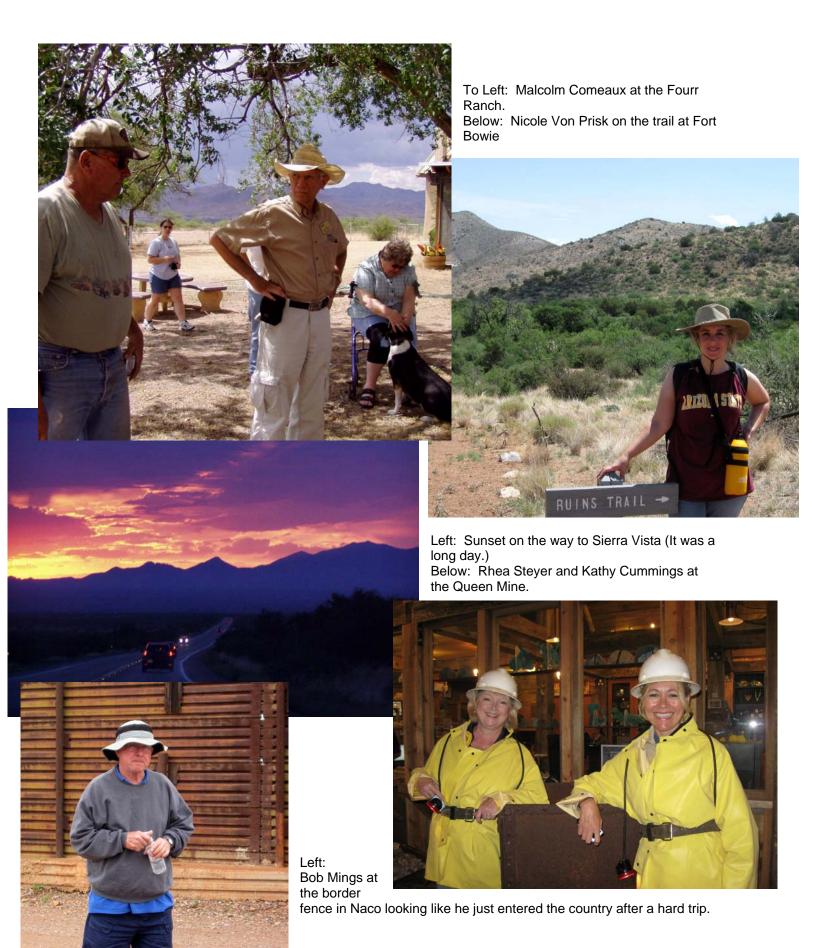
It takes a Village to Run an Institute.

Thanks to everyone who helped out.

Above: Ready to Roll Jason Neenos and Phillip Larson

At Right: Camille Guice at Singing

Winds Bookshop -



Teaching with Primary Sources Workshop

With a \$5000 grant from the Library of Congress (LOC), AzGA held a workshop within ASGI. On June 26th, sixty teachers from thirty different school districts attended the *Teaching with Primary Sources Workshop* at ASU campus. TCs **Ken deMasi** and **Diane Godfrey** attended training back in January 2009 which prepared them to teach about using primary sources in the classroom and how to document primary sources when they are found, so that retrieval of the information is easy for preparing lessons.

Some of the participant's comments about what was memorable about this workshop were:

- Easy way to organize lesson resources
- Primary docs can highlight geography as well as the characters
- Use primary sources with literature
- Way to bring history closer to students' lives
- Extensive nature of the LOC database collections

Teaching with Primary Sources Workshop enhances our current efforts on GeoHistory: the integration of meaningful geography with history. Some of the lessons created by the newest TCs will use the primary sources found during this workshop.

Workshop for Phoenix Elementary School District

On June 11, AzGA conducted a daylong workshop with 18 teachers from Phoenix Elementary School District on how to use GeoLiteracy adaptations for English Language Learners (ELLs). Serving as AzGA presenters were Jeannine Kuropatkin, Patty Sepp, Jane Chambers, and Gale Ekiss. Making a guest appearance was Dr. Liz Hinde and her son (and friend of son) who took some video footage and photographs to be used in online presentations about teaching geography to ELLs.

AzGA charges \$2000 for such a workshop in the metro Phoenix area. After paying for materials and an honorarium to the presenters, we still make some money. This profit can be used for more broad based events — perhaps even ones that you or your colleagues will attend. If your district would like a workshop, we will be happy to discuss details with them. Once you have made an initial contact with the person in charge of in-services at your district, email Gale Ekiss with the information. She will be happy to contact your district.

Report on the Annual Business Meeting in Casa Grande

T C Conference Holiday Inn, Casa Grande Saturday, April 18, 2009

Approximately 50 TCs assembled in April 2009 to discuss the future plans of AzGA. While many positive things about AzGA will continue unchanged (professional networking, continued emphasis on learning geography content and how to teach it, building personal relationships, providing opportunities outside of our own organization, reaching out to the public, providing workshops to teachers, etc.); it was time to deal with some of the issues that have resulted from decreased funding from the state of Arizona and National Geographic Society.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am and **Karen Gibbs**, NGEF Liaison, was introduced and spoke to the assembly.

A special membership offer from National Council for Geographic Education (NCGE) was introduced (to qualify a TC must have never been an NCGE member and must be at the meeting).

Advocating for Geography by supporting the Teaching is Fundamental Act was explained (again). We strongly urge you to contact your national congressional representatives and urge them to support the bill (HR1240 or S749) or to thank them for supporting the bill by signing on as a co sponsor if you have **Grijalva, Pastor** or **Mitchell** as your representative. NGEF is strongly encouraging us to influence our representatives to co-sponsor these bills.

Friends of AzGA Award

The Friends of AzGA Award was conceived to honor those individuals who have persistently and consistently supported the entire Alliance organization in special ways over a period of time.

Receiving the first Friends of AzGA awards were **Ken Barr** (Rand McNally), **Barbara Trapido-Lurie** (Cartographer), **Joy Fogarty** (Kyrene Social Studies Specialist), **Shea Lemar** (Geography Technology), **Margarita Jimenez-Silva** (ELL Specialist), and **Sharon Osborn Popp** (Research Analyst). All of the awardees except one received their certificates and small gift during the Annual Business

ARIZON ASTATE CESTUAL

Meeting in Casa Grande. **Barbara Trapido-Lurie** chose to receive her award during GeoDayTrip on October 3, 2009.

If you wish to nominate someone, the guidelines and the nomination form are at the end of this newsletter.

Left: Michael Ostapuk and John Halverson presenting Sharon Osborn-Popp her certificate

Below: Joy Fogarty, Margarita Jimenez-Silva and Shea Lemar

Web related

The AzGA website continues to be worked on my Ron's minion. If you do not remember your sign on or password for the TC Only area, please contact Cathy and she try to help you.

The latest T C Directory can be found both under the T C Access and directly at http://alliance.la.asu.edu/tcdirectory/. The ASU reimbursement forms have been removed from the site due to changes in procedures in ASU

accounting. If you are being reimbursed, send an email to Cathy and she will send you the form you need to complete directly via email. If you need other forms (small grants) they are still on the site.

The full GeoLiteracy ELL and GeoMath sets of lessons are accessible from the alliance website. Just click on the green bar on the side. New map pages have been added on a regular basis and some of the lessons that support the books for the Napolitano book give away are on line. We will add the rest as soon as the website is re-built. In the meantime, if you need a copy of a lesson, email Cathy.

AzGA has partnered this year with One Book Arizona in the same manner as the Napolitano project by writing grade level 1 and 4 lessons to support the selected titles. Thanks go to **Gale Ekiss** and **Karen Guerrero** for writing lessons for *Hip, Hip, Hooray, It's a Monsoon Day!* You can find the lessons at http://www.onebookaz.org/kids/curriculum.cfm.

Masters in Geography Education

Gale Ekiss, Ron Dorn, Diane Godfrey and others are now teaching the second cohort. Several members of the group will be attending Summer Institute. Participants in this program are from all over the U.S. as well as from overseas. A third cohort is planned. The program has been reviewed favorably by the participants. For further information contact Ron Dorn or Gale Ekiss.

Geography Action

Geography Action: Mapping the Americas had **Ann Baker-Kobritz** as the Coordinator. Several hundred GA packets were distributed at events like GeoFest, the Arizona Science Center and Pima County Educator fairs and workshops. GeoDayTrip 2008 was themed to match GA Americas and included bringing the NGS Giant Traveling Map of North America to Mesa Community College for a demonstration of how to use this tool.



A possibility was advanced, depending on funding, is to bring various NGS Giant Traveling maps to Arizona for specific periods of time during the school year. Possibly a retired TC, or group of TCs, could take the map from location to location and help run the program for an entire school to use the map at no charge. The TC in the school or district that requested the map would be responsible for arranging for an appropriate venue and for signing up classes to experience the map. If you are interested in working on this project, contact Catny.

Germaine Barnes is the coordinator for *Geography Action: Europe Beyond Borders* which is the theme for 2009-2010. She has attended training and will be presenting at GeoDayTrip Europe on Saturday, October 3, 2009. This event will be held in the ASU Memorial Union, Second Floor.

NOTE: At this publishing, we are still looking for elementary lessons about Europe for the event. If you have such a lesson please email GBEkiss@aol.com

Travel Grants and Conference Presentations

At NCGE Puerto Rico Sept 24-26, AzGA will support Arizona based TCs who are accepted to present geography based lessons at NCGE 09 by reimbursing for registration and/or travel for a total of amount per TC of up to \$350.

ACSS October Oct 23 \$60 registration for up to 10 people who present a geography lesson NCSS Atlanta Nov 13-15 \$100 travel for up to 4 people who are accepted to present a geography lesson

Committee Assignments

From the list of volunteers gathered at the Annual Business Meeting in Casa Grande, the following TCs were selected to serve from July 2009 to June 2010 on the following committees.

Small Grants Committee: **Noel McClure** and **John Halverson**Product Evaluation Committee: **Carole Ambroziak** and **Heather Robinson**Friends for AzGA Committee: **Tricia Hutchinson**, **Mike Ostapuk** and **Judy Phillips**

Table Talks

This year the format for discussion was very interactive. The TCs were split into groups and circulated to each table for discussion on multiple topics. The following are the thoughts that were recorded on chart paper for each topic. At this time, with the exception of Facebook, no decisions have been made on these ideas. If you have more ideas to contribute, please email your thoughts to Gale at GBEkiss@aol.com

Table Talks

How to Improve Attendance at GeoDay/GeoFest

- Consider changing start/stop times
- Connect with COE to get more beginning teachers
- Target districts that give credit
- Pass on information at district level
- AzGA Facebook page (up and running)
- Outdoor billboards with our logo
- Bring back old TC participation
- Revisit inactive members
- Connect with museum education coordinators
- Earned media events
- Tables at other conferences
- Encourage teams monetarily

- Advertise connection to NGS, use NGS logo
- Stress free cost and hours of credit
- Stress the product, why is it worth your time
- Testimonials
- Reinvigorating reunions
- School homepages to AzGA
- New teacher/mentor programs
- ADE link to AzGA website
- UofPhx, Grand Canyon, and Ottawa U
- Methods teachers of SS and Science
- Podcasts and itunes
- Applications give preference to teams

AzGA Cost Cutting

- Limit Advanced institutes (modify)
- Reduce honorariums
- TCs pick up some costs associated with annual business meeting and limit family participation
- Eliminate mailings
- Link GeoFest with another conference (AZ Assoc. for Environmental Ed)
- BYOL
- Low price for GeoDayTrips (\$10)
- Charge regular price for GeoDayTrips
- Use personal vehicles on AzGA institutes
- Cut out goodies at TC conferences
- Cut down on mailings
- Use Facebook
- Combine ASGI and AASGIs and use mentee/mentor format
- Camp out on ASGI and AASGIs to save money

- Partner with sister alliances on advertising and cost sharing on institutes
- Suspend ASGI and put energy into smaller events
- Get TCs involved rather than training new TCs
- Cut institutes to 1 every 3 years
- Replace AASGIs with refreshers
- Emphasize new blood
- Put advanced institutes on hold
- Pay for 1 night's accommodations at TC conferences unless traveling a long distance
- Camp out
- 1 day institute with bag lunch
- Keep TC conference central
- Get money from PTOs

Ideas For New Alliance Revenues

- Partnerships with related community organizations (i.e., Community
- Foundation, various chambers of commerce, AZ Humanities Council, AZ Mining Assn., etc., etc.).
- Annual Mega Fundraiser (i.e. banquet with high profile speaker).
- Geocacheing Extravaganza (i.e. treasure hunt using GPS on ASU Campus).
- Corporate Sponsorships/Support (i.e., AZ Gaming Commission/casinos [Marge Wieweck will explore], Wells Fargo, Toyota, Basha, SRP, Dial Corp, Diamondbacks, Suns, etc.).
- Tap retirees (Friendship Villages?) and wealthy eccentrics, those searching for "meaning" or a personal legacy, to include AZGA in their will and/or merely make tax-deductible gifts to AZGA (as a 501 C3 organization?).

- Alliance-Sponsored "high high dollar" Summer Educational Travel Programs for high school students (i.e. Borderlands, Native American Peoples, AZ
- Agriculture, AZ Energy, AZ Environmental challenges, etc.).
- Explore getting "Fund Raising Cards" via Retailers (i.e., Bashas, Frys).
- Tap AZ Chapters of Alumni Associations from major national universities?
- Publish AZ educational materials for profit (books, games, photos, maps, travel guides, hiking guides, favorite recipes cookbook, etc., etc.).

National Geographic Society Education Foundation (NGSEF)

During the winter meetings of the Alliance coordinators, a new target was shared. Calling it GeoLiteracy, the NGSEF stated that the target is:

- 80% of 18 year olds will be geographically literate by 2025
- 50% of high school graduates will be geographically fluent (competent to succeed in college level geography dependent courses) by 2025
- No group will be lower than 5% from the target level

So with this in mind, one table during the Annual Business Meeting in Casa Grande worked on creating a definition of GeoLiteracy and then what would be the benchmarks to determine if GeoLiteracy has been reached. Here is what was recorded. Again, no decisions were made. These were just the ideas brainstormed. And as you can see, time ran out on ideas for benchmarks.

What is GeoLiteracy?

No definition was reached but components included:

- Ability to perform tasks that are developmentally appropriate relating to and connecting geography (map reading, directions and orientation, landforms and water bodies, people and culture, human environment interaction—5 Themes)
- Understand where to go to obtain information
- Use spatial thinking
- Have cultural sensitivity
- Demonstrate and visualize interdependence
- Use new media technology
- Understand earth's processes
- See the connection of geography to other disciplines
- Building expectations based on your mental map
- Awareness of global issues and current events
- Any definition needs to be fluid and measurable
- Boils down to Where is it? Why is it there? What difference does this make?

Tasks to Measure GeoLiteracy

- Orient a map correctly
- Describe connections (weather to location, movement of people to future planning)
- Appropriately use tools of geography (population data, contour maps)
- Describe earth's processes and man's actions

(Obviously we ran out of time).

The meeting was adjourned to the Casa Grande Ruins National Monument for a tour of the Great House ruins, dinner and demonstration dancing by Basket Dancers.







Above: Our Ranger told us about the history of the ruins and the surrounding area and performed a flute solo.

Left: Gale Ekiss greets our guests and explains what the rest of the evening plans are.

Below: John Halverson presenting and Margarita Jimenez-Silva receiving the Friend of AzGA Award.



Left:: Lining up for homemade tortillas, red chili, salad, beans and fry bread.

Below: The Basket Dancers in action (kind of looks like a Ted DeGrazia doesn't it?)

Facebook for AzGA http://www.facebook.com/

One of the suggestions at the Annual Business Meeting was to create an AzGA Facebook. TC **Tricia Hutchinson** set up our site called Arizona Geographic Alliance. You must have your own Facebook account in order to access the Alliance's Facebook page. It takes only a few minutes to create your Facebook. Then in the upper right corner comes a search box. Type in **Arizona Geographic Alliance** and the AzGA site will appear. Add yourself as a FAN so that you get the notifications for AzGA events and other opportunities that affiliated organizations may give us to distribute. So far we have lots of chatting going on and several photo collections. We can post information about events. It's hip, it's free, it's open to all TCs.



Friends of AzGA Award

Award Guidelines

- 1. Eligibility anyone who is outside the normal AzGA family may be nominated. The "normal" AzGA family is defined as K-12 classroom teachers, librarians, AzGA staff, and instructional aides. Thus, nominees may be part of non-teaching district levels (administration, support personnel, governing board), professors, vendors, parent volunteers, or members of the community at large.
- 2. Number given annually no limit
- 3. Nomination qualification Someone who has shown a consistent pattern of active, willing, and gracious support for AzGA goals and activities over several years, or a burst of extraordinary support within one year.
- 4. Timelines
 - a. Nominations can be made at any time during the calendar year.
 - b. Awards are presented at GeoFest or TC Annual Business Meeting.
 - c. Selection committee makes determination of awardees within 6 weeks before the event.
 - d. Awardees are notified prior to the event and offered the chance to receive the award in person.

Nomination Form

I nominate		
Position		
•	ination (The more specific your reasons, the more approve your nomination):	information
1.		
2.		
3.		
Signed	email	
Date		
Submit to AzGA, Arizo School of Geographic AZ 85287-5302 Fax 48	Sciences and Urban Planning, P O Box 875302,	Tempe,



Teacher Consultant Activity Reporting Form

The information provided here is for use by the Arizona Geographic Alliance Co-Coordinators in their Annual Reports to the National Geographic Society. We must be able to document and quantify our work. Thanks for your help with this important matter! Please complete all blanks that apply.

Name(s) of Presenter
Date of Activity
Event
Length (# hrs or days) of Activity
Location of Activity
Grade level
Topic and Purpose of Presentation
Type of Audience
Approximate Number in Attendance
Your overall evaluation of the effectiveness of this Presentation

Other comments