

Boat Trip for 2010

Sponsored by The D J Angus-Sciencetech Educational Foundation Participants were winners from the 2010 Central Indiana Regional Science and Engineering Fair

The D J Angus-Sciencetech Educational Foundation took 20 students to Grand Valley State U (Allendale MI) and the Annis Water Resources Institute (Muskegon MI) on 18 thru 20 June 2010. These students were those that accepted from an invited group of about 40 winners at the Central Indiana Regional Science and Engineering Fair (16 and 28 March 2010). Ten chaperones, including two mothers, accompanied the group. We traveled on a Miller Coach.

The group gathered at the Indianapolis Water Company facility at 900 W 16th St on Friday 18 June 2010. We had a short tour of the facility and left to go to Grand Valley State U (GVSU) about 9:45 AM. The following schedule was the plan for the week end and we followed it as planned.

Friday, June 18

8:15 a.m. Optional tour of White River Water Treatment Plant

9:15 a.m. Leave Indianapolis, depart from White River Water Treatment Plant 900 W 16th

3:15 p.m. Arrive on GVSU campus. Check-in is at Robert C. Pew Living Center, where you will be housed.

4:00 p.m. Tour of campus with Sciencetech Interns

5:30 p.m. Dinner at the Fresh Food Company in the GVSU Commons building.

6:15 p.m. AWRI Presentation with Kurt Thompson from AWRI at MAK – A - 1111.

7:30 p.m. Return to Robert C. Pew Living Center.

Saturday, June 19

Breakfast at Robert C. Pew Living Center

9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. demonstration cruise on board the *W. G. Jackson* research vessel docked in Muskegon.

11:30 a.m. Lunch at the Lake Michigan Center, Muskegon.

12:00 p.m. Tour of the Lake Michigan Center and Muskegon Field Station.

1:00 p.m. Trip to Hoffmaster State Park with Instructor from AWRI.

4:30 p.m. Picnic dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Angus, Spring Lake, MI.

9:00 p.m. Grand Haven Boardwalk and Musical Fountain.

11:00 p.m. Return to Robert C. Pew Living Center.

Sunday, June 20

Breakfast at Robert C. Pew Living Center

9:00 a.m. Depart for home.

2:00 p.m. Stop at Grissom AF Base Museum

5:00 p.m. Arrive Indianapolis, 900 W 16th St, (off Aqueduct)

The coach ride to GVSU was smooth and uneventful. The weather was great. A stop at Wendy's in South Bend provided fuel for the belly. We checked in at the GVSU Pew Dorm when we arrived. Following that we had a

short tour of the campus conducted by Interns for the Annis Water Resources Institute (AWRI). These interns are sponsored by the D J Angus –Sciencetech Educational Foundation.

Following the tour, we had a buffet dinner on campus and then a lecture that covered some of the AWRI activities and facilities. We walked back to our dorm just as it was starting to rain. The gang of students and chaperones gave up easily and we had a quiet night. The rain cooled the dorm down some, so the lack of AC was tolerable.

Our Saturday wake-up call was at 7:00 AM. Following a light breakfast in the dorm, we departed to go to AWRI in Muskegon and we boarded the Jackson (the AWRI research vessel) and had a smooth cruise in Lake Muskegon. Quite a bit of data was taken by the students under the direction of AWRI instructors on-board the Jackson. We attempted to go out into Lake Michigan, but found the water to be too rough. Our second data taking session was in Lake Muskegon. Our instructors did a fine job of involving the students. All students and some chaperones had an opportunity to see how lake water research and data taking is initiated. One of the activities was to sample the bottom sediment; it was interesting to watch young and old digging in the mud and stuff scooped off the bottom. The mussels were not edible.

Following the cruise, we had a fine buffet luncheon at AWRI. During lunch, each student had an opportunity to describe their winning Science Fair project. A most interesting tour of the AWRI laboratories followed lunch. The tour was concluded with a preview of the next stop at Hoffmaster State Park.

A museum at Hoffmaster provided the initial introduction to the dunes and then most adults and all the students hiked up and over the dunes to Lake Michigan. The water condition was the best ever found on this trip and many had a chance to swim.

We then traveled to Chuck and Laurel Angus's home in Spring Lake Michigan. Activities before a picnic dinner included swimming, boating, Frisbee, general horse play, and dog petting. The dinner was great and we wrapped up the time with a picture session. As in years before, Chuck and Laurel were really fine hosts.

Next stop was the harbor at Grand Haven where we hiked out to the light house on the pier, had ice cream and watched the lighted fountain. We left Grand Haven well after dark and returned to the GVSU dorm where one of us got lost walking from the coach to the dorm. Ah, the price of leadership.

The weather on Saturday was absolutely terrific and all went to sleep Saturday evening with minimal encouragement.

Wake up call on Sunday was at 7:30 AM. All cleaned up their rooms and checked out after a light breakfast. We left GVSU at 9:00 AM and headed home. Lunch was again at Wendy's in South Bend. We were lucky that Wendy's had electric power. There had been a big storm go through on Friday night and power was lost in many businesses. While driving through South Bend we could see some damage from the storm, trees down etc. For some reason, the students were quieter on the bus on Sunday than was the case on Saturday. Is it possible a busy and long day on Saturday tired them out?

We stopped at the Grissom AFB Museum near Peru after leaving South Bend. We looked at the aircraft on display and talked about their function and changing level of technology and years went by. Some exercised by climbing the observation tower. Some just watched.

Grissom to Indianapolis was just a short trip and we arrived in Indy on time. One measure of success of the trip was that 15 minutes after the coach arrived at the Water Company (our starting point as well as terminus), there were no students looking for parents to pick them up and no parents looking for their student.