A silhouette of a mountain range against a sunset sky, with the sun low on the horizon, creating a warm orange glow.

Geologists of Jackson Hole

2023 Annual Report

Photo © John Hebberger Jr.

**Geologists of Jackson Hole, Inc.,
a Wyoming Nonprofit Corporation**

www.geologistsofjacksonhole.org

U.S. Taxpayer Identification Number: 46-1378985
Wyoming Corporate Identification Number: 2012-00632758

Our Mission: To inform and educate our members and community about earth science related matters – their broad scope and importance to all of us.

2023 Board of Directors

Officers:

Cynthia Blankenship, President
John Willott, Vice-President
Dan Creighton, Treasurer
John Guslander, Secretary

Directors:

Mike Adler
Bill Newcomb
Mike Scher
Robert I. Tilling

2023 Committees

Barbeque
Scholarship
Speakers
Website
Newsletter
Education
Field Trips

Letter from the President

Dear Members and Friends of GJH,

Welcome to our first Annual Report! We hope this adds transparency to our organization, and please, if you have any questions or comments feel free to reach out to me.

The Covid-19 pandemic brought several changes to our organization. We learned to use Zoom, and now simulcast our lectures from the Teton County Library. We also use Zoom to record our lectures, which is a major simplification from the days of Elizabeth Kingwill using a tripod mounted video camera! In 2022 the Library created a formal application process to reserve the auditorium monthly for a year. They also restricted all organizations to one reservation per month. Our application was successful, and we secured the first Tuesday of the month (with an occasional exception).

If you have been to one of our lectures recently you will know that we have started serving appetizers and soft drinks from 5:30-6:00. The intent is to create a social time for mingling and to draw more people to our talks in person. So far it seems to be very popular!

Finally, many thanks to our Board of Directors and Friends who volunteer their time to make our programs happen! And thanks to you for your financial support, which enables our programs.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Blankenship, President

GJHPresident@Gmail.com

Corporate News

- In 2023 we added a new Board Director, **Bill Newcomb**. Welcome Bill!
- **Annual Meeting** was held on December 5th, 2023 at the Teton County Library.
- **First Amendment to Bylaws** was unanimously approved by the Board, and subsequently approved by 2/3 of the Members in December of 2023. This amendment changes GJH from a Member voting organization to a Board voting organization.
 - **Why change our bylaws?**
 1. Simplification. Every year our Bylaws require our Members to vote on Board Directors, among other things. This is very time consuming for us to administer. We now have ~160 Members who each need to be emailed a ballot, sent a reminder or two to vote until we get a majority, and then every vote tracked and recorded. That is hundreds of emails to keep track of!
 2. Customary structure. Member voting is not a common structure for nonprofit organizations such as ours. More common is that only the Board of Directors vote (called a “self-perpetuating” board governance structure). <https://charitylawyerblog.com/2011/04/26/nonprofit-law-jargon-buster-voting-members-vs-self-perpetuating-boards/> . We are analogous to a museum in this case. Furthermore, we have never had more than one person run for each Board seat. And every year since 2012 our Members have voted according to the recommendations of the Board.
 3. This change means fewer emails sent to you from GJH!
- **Director Elections:** the Members also approved the following appointments to the Board; **Robert I. Tilling, Mike Scher** and **Cynthia Blankenship**.
- **Elizabeth Kingwill**, a Board Director since 2014, has declined to run again for her board seat. Elizabeth has a long history living in Jackson Hole, and an intellectual curiosity that led her to participating in GJH programming in the late 2000s. She began attending our then thrice monthly lecture series and offered to contribute to our efforts to bring science to our community. As GJH recognized this she was invited to join the GJH board and was a dedicated member of the board for more than a decade.

While the entire board saw the value of videotaping our lectures and making them available for people who could not attend in person, Elizabeth was the only one with the determination, interest and drive to make it happen. It was not easy, but she persevered and extended our science outreach by probably two orders of magnitude. Also, despite her misgivings, she taught Yellowstone Geology classes in the Jackson Hole Middle School, where she did an excellent job, of course. Elizabeth was always there, always engaged, and always positive about what she offered. Her contributions have been an important part of what GJH brings to our community, and her contributions at board meetings were always insightful and helpful.

Accomplishments: 2023 program calendar

DATE	PROGRAM TYPE	PLACE	TIME	SUBJECT	SPEAKER - LEADER	AFFILIATION
1/5	Public	via Zoom & @ TCL	6-7:30 PM	The Webb Telescope and Beyond	Dr.Mike Adler	GOJH
2/7	Public	Live, @ TCL (no Zoom)	6-7:30 PM	Jackson Hole weather through time	Jim Woodmencey	Mountain Weather
3/7	Public	via Zoom & @ TCL	6-7:30 PM	The Flathead sandstone its bizarre secrets and why they matter for geothermal everywhere	Dr.Steve Laubach	U of TX
4/4	Public	via Zoom & @ TCL	6-7:30 PM	A River Out of Time, The Colorado River 150 years after John Wesley Powell	Dr. Thomas Minckley	U of WY
5/3	Members	Field Trip	8:30-5:30	ID Natural History Museum, A behind the scenes look	Dr. Leif Tapanila	ISU
5/2	Public	via Zoom & @ TCL	6-7:30 PM	Adventures at a high altitude lead-zinc mine, Ganesh Himal - Nepal	Dr.Liz King	Westhills CC
6/6	Public	via Zoom & @ TCL	6-7:30 PM	The Spectacular, Yet Somewhat Forgotten, Bonneville Flood	Shawn Willsey	College S. ID
7/6	Public	via Zoom & @ TCL	6-7:30 PM	Colorado River: Science & Management in an Epic Drought	Dr. Thomas Minckley	U of WY
July 14-15	Members	Field Trip	2 day	Thermopolis Dinosaur Museum & Petroglyphs		
8/1	Public	via Zoom & @ TCL	6-7:30 PM	The Age of Dinosaurs in Idaho: Inland Seas and Upland Dinosaurs	Dr. L.J. Krumenacker	ISU
8/10	Members	Field Trip	1 day	GJH + Teton Plants joint field trip to top of JHMR Tram	F. Clark, S. Marsh, M. Scher, C. Blankenship	GJH, Teton Plants
8/12	Members	Field Trip	1 day	Geology of Jackson Hole and Hoback Canyon	John Hebberger	GJH
8/18	Members	Field Trip	1 day	GJH + Teton Plants joint field trip to top of JHMR Tram	F. Clark, S. Marsh, M. Scher, C. Blankenship	GJH, Teton Plants
9/5	Public	via Zoom & @ TCL	6-7:30 PM	Hawaiian Eruptions Since 2018: Kilauea and Mauna Loa Volcanoes	Dr.Robert Tilling	USGS
Sept 6-8	Members	Field Trip	3 day	Yellowstone Geology Field Trip - POSTPONED UNTIL SUMMER OF 2024	Dr.Lisa Morgan, Dr.Mike Poland	USGS
10/3	Public	via Zoom & @ TCL	6-7:30 PM	Thoughts on the Displacement and Inception of the Teton Fault, Wyoming	John Byrd	ByrdGEO
10/24-26	Members	Field Trip	3 day	Idaho Paleofloods, Volcanics, Fossils and more! POSTPONED due to lack of enrollment	Shawn Willsey	College S. ID
11/7	Public	via Zoom & @ TCL	6-7:30 PM	Tales from the Soup Bowl (i.e. Snake River Aquifer)	Dr. Dave Adams	
12/5	Public	via Zoom & @ TCL	6-7:30 PM	Returning to the Moon: The Adventure Begins (Again) on Earth	Dr.Shannon Kobs Nawotniak	ISU

Accomplishments: Field Trips & Education

Idaho Natural History Museum

led by Dr. Leif Tapanila



Thermopolis Dinosaur Museum & Petroglyphs



GJH + Teton Plants field trip to top of JHMR Tram (twice)

Led by F. Clark, S. Marsh, M. Scher, C. Blankenship



Geology of Jackson Hole and Hoback Canyon

led by John Heberger Jr.



C Bar V Educational Outreach by Geologist and former Board Member Liz King

Accomplishments: Annual BBQ

Thanks to: Brent & Marilyn for organizing the event, Mike Adler for donating an astro image, everyone who brought an appetizer/desert and a rock!

Wonderful food and company, a good time was had by all!



2023 Fun Facts

Number of dues paying Members: **151**

GJH Awarded **5 Scholarships** this year:

Leo Harland (3rd time recipient) – Junior and Geology major at Colorado State University's Warner College of Natural Resources

Arath Munoz – graduating H.S. Senior

Max Sumicad – graduating H.S. Senior

Acacia LaPrade – graduating H.S. Senior

Jessica Johnson – graduating H.S. Senior

GJH has 200 recorded lectures on our YouTube Channel!

www.youtube.com/@geologistsofjacksonhole1148

3.69K subscribers

200 videos

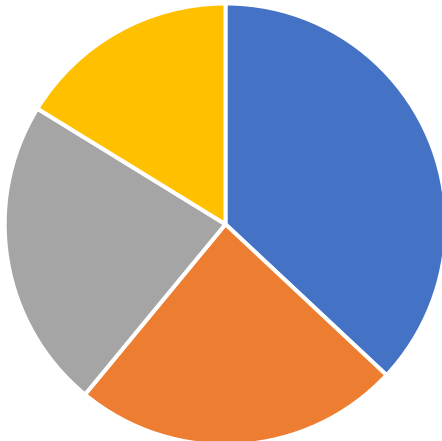
508,835 views since August 22, 2014

2023 number of people reached by GJH

					TOTALS	Notes
Lectures (monthly, usually at the Teton County Library, Jackson Branch)						
		In person at TCL	Remote via Zoom simulcast	Estimate of additional remote viewers (assuming 10% of logins have 2 viewers)		
		438	438	44	920	Number coincidence was double checked!
Field Trips			Trip	# of attendees		
		ID Natural History Museum	11			
		Thermopolis Dinosaurs Museum & Petroglyphs	15			
		GJH + Teton Plants joint field trip to top of JHMR	24			
		Geology of Jackson Hole and Hoback Canyon	22			
		GJH + Teton Plants joint field trip to top of JHMR	24		96	
Educational Outreach		School	# of students			
		C-V (BOCES 5)	20		20	
Barbeque			# of attendees			
			58		58	
Scholarship Recipients			# of students			
			5		5	This does not count the 100's of people in the audience on Scholarship Night when we talk about our organization.
Newsletter		# of recipients	open rate (%)	total views		
		857	64%	548	548	
Website Views		# of views				
		350			350	
Total number of people reached by GJH Programs in 2023					1,997	

Financial Report: Sources & Uses of Funds 2023

Sources of Funds: \$27,485



- Old Bill's Donations
- Old Bill's Match
- Membership Payments
- Investment Income

Sources

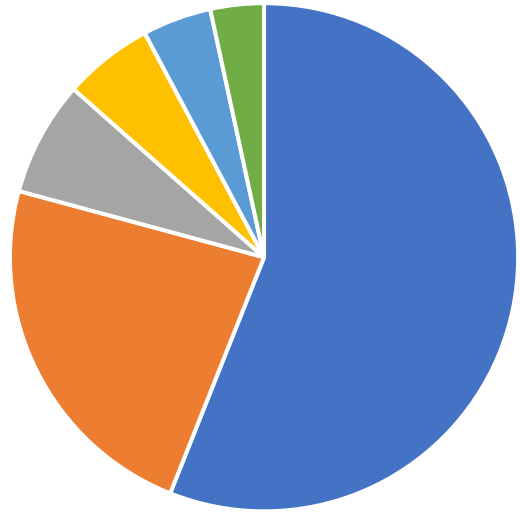
Old Bill's Donations

Old Bill's Match

Membership Payments

Investment Income

Uses of Funds: \$30,334



- Scholarships
- Speaker Program
- BBQ
- Insurance
- General Expenses
- Website Maintenance

Uses

Scholarships – 5 awarded in 2023

Speaker Program (Library appetizers, travel reimbursement, meals, speaker gifts, lodging if necessary)

BBQ Annual event, free for GJH Members

Insurance

General Expenses (Zoom, P.O. Box, office supplies, etc.)

Website Maintenance

Forward Plans: **2024** Program Calendar (v.16)

DATE	PROGRAM TYPE	PLACE	TIME	SUBJECT	SPEAKER - LEADER	AFFILIATION
1/4	Public	Teton Co. Library & Zoom	6-7:30 PM	Journey to the Sun	Dr. Mike Adler	GJH
2/6	Public	Teton Co. Library & Zoom	6-7:30 PM	What is happening with our Teton Glaciers? 150 years of change	Simeon Caskey	GTNP
3/5	Public	Teton Co. Library & Zoom	6-7:30 PM	Cancelled due to Winter Storm The Greatest Show in the World (for fossils, minerals and gems)	Mike Scher	GJH
4/2	Public	Teton Co. Library & Zoom	6-7:30 PM	Eight weeks on foot through the Grand Canyon: a geologic perspective	James Mauch	WY Geol Survey
5/7	Public	Teton Co. Library & Zoom	6-7:30 PM	Secrets of the Jurassic in the Bighorn Basin, Wyoming	Dr. Erik Kvale	Big Horn Basin Dino & Geo Museum
5/14	Public	Teton Co. Library & Zoom	6-7:30 PM	Special Joint program with Bird/Nature: "Large North American carnivores of the past, present, and future"	Dr. Sarah Sells	Montana Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit
5/23-25	Members Only	Field Trip	3 days	Yellowstone National Park	Dr. Lisa Morgan, Dr. Mike Poland	USGS
6/4	Public	Teton Co. Library & Zoom	6-7:30 PM	ID dinosaurs or Triassic research	Dr Brandon Peacock	ISU
7/2	Public	Teton Co. Library & Zoom	6-7:30 PM	Understanding Yellowstone	Dr. Bob Smith	Univ of Utah
8/6	Public	Teton Co. Library & Zoom	6-7:30 PM	Sand Dunes and Aeolean Sandstones, title TBD	Dr. Gerry Bryant	Utah Tech Univ.
8/7	Members Only	Field Trip	1 day	Geology of Jackson Hole	John Hebberger Jr.?	GJH
August	Public	Field Trip	1 day	GJH + Teton Plants joint field trip to top of JHMR Tram	Frances Clark, Susan Marsh, Mike Scher, Cynthia Blankenship	GJH, Teton Plants
9/3	Public	Teton Co. Library & Zoom	6-7:30 PM	Subject TBD (<i>note: Sept 2 is Labor Day</i>)	Dr Jamie McFarlin	U of WY
Sept?	Members Only	Field Trip		Idaho Paleofloods, Volcanics, Fossils and more!	Sean Willsey	College of S. ID
10/1	Public	Teton Co. Library & Zoom	6-7:30 PM	Subject TBD	Maddie or Joe	U of WY
11/7	Public	Teton Co. Library & Zoom	6-7:30 PM	(<i>voting on the 1st Tuesday, requested Thursday Nov 7th</i>)		
12/3	Public	Teton Co. Library & Zoom	6-7:30 PM	(<i>Note: this is the Tuesday after Thanksgiving</i>)		

If you have ideas for topics/speakers, please contact us! <https://geologistsofjacksonhole.org/contact-us/>