

Annual Report 2018



PUNXSUTAWNEY

201 N. Findley Street
Punxsutawney, PA 15767
814-938-1000
Weatherdiscovery.org

Message from the Chairman

Each year at the Punxsutawney Weather Discovery Center, our goal is to do better—to improve on our door swings from the previous years, to improve our finances, and to improve our product.



The home page of the new WeatherDiscovery.org web site.

Increase in admissions of close to 25 percent. Boy and Girl Scout program admissions showed a similar increase. Staff was also responsible for developing a new, more interactive web site, which will help our overall door swings even more.

The most obvious improvement of 2018 was to our facility. Two display cases in our lobby were taken out to make way for two new exhibits developed for us by Carnegie Science Center. Less noticeable, but very critical, was the replacement of the roof on our 105-year-old facility. While it was a major undertaking, it will ensure the integrity of this historic facility for years to come.

During the second half of last year we welcomed three new members to our Board of Directors: Bev Divilbiss, Roz Pete and Doug Chambers came on board and each became active contributors immediately.

As Chairman of the Board, I always want to call attention to the support we receive from our community leaders and from business and individual supporters. Our accomplishments are due in large part to you. I thank you all and ask for your continued help in keeping the Punxsutawney Weather Discovery Center a special place!

Jim Cassidy
Board Chairman

In 2018, as a result of the efforts of our dedicated staff, volunteers and board of directors, I'm happy to report that we achieved our goal.

Our staff should be commended for their work in attaining an overall

Programming & Events

In 2018, our programming highlighted topics that have proven to be popular in previous years, but we also added new programs, including *Colors in the Sky*, *Do Animals Wear Winter Coats?*, and *Make A Mess Day* (which was the best attended of the three.)

Responding to requests from parents, we continue to add additional programming for Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. New for Girl Scouts was the *Get Outdoors Winter Challenge* and the *Get Outdoors Summer Challenge*. Both involved outdoor activities, mixed with indoor crafts and programs, and fun with the exhibits.

New Merit Badge offerings for Boy Scouts were Environmental Science and Electricity. Both sessions were well attended and will be on the schedule for 2019.

We hosted our first visit by an American Heritage Girls troop from the Marion Center area in June. American Heritage Girls is a leadership development program that promotes faith, service and fun. We look forward to more visits from these troops.

Our Young Meteorologist Club for eighth and ninth graders finished their sessions in April with a field trip to the Johnstown Flood Museum and the Flood National Memorial. It was a great trip that coincided with the topic of the final session—Floods, Landslides and Dam Breaches. The kids had a great time and learned a lot about the horrific flood.



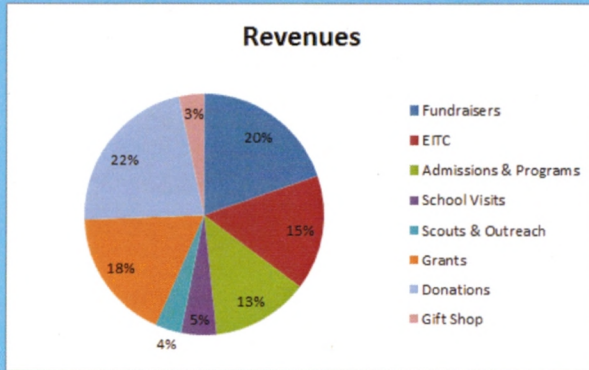
Members of the Young Meteorologist Club at the Flood National Memorial.

Also in April, we hosted a meteorologist from the National

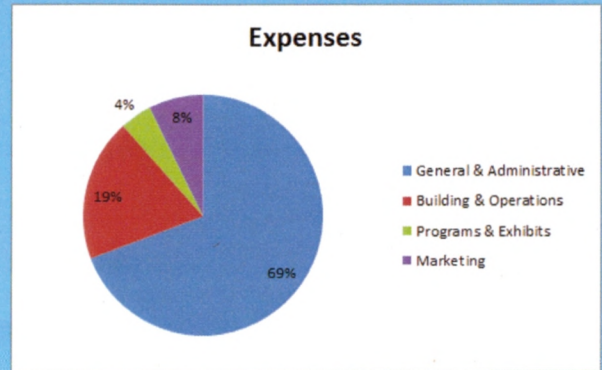
Weather Service office in Pittsburgh to present the Skywarn Advanced Weather Spotter program. This was the follow up to the basic program held in 2017. The free program was well attended by adults both young and old who want to be weather spotters or just want to know more about weather.

The Weather Discovery Center's on-the-road show continued to travel about the region presenting our *Weather on the Way* program to classrooms—such as the fourth grade at South Butler Elementary—and to attend events, including the Indiana County Air Show.

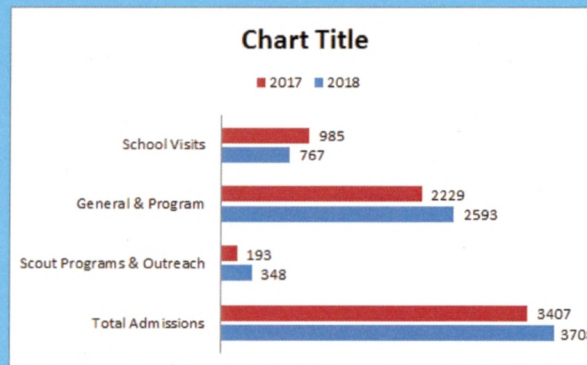
Punxsutawney Weather Discovery Center 2018 Finances & Admission Data



Total - \$124,446.00



Total - \$91,750.00



Punxsutawney Weather Center, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) public non-profit charitable organization. Our tax ID number is 25-1888172.

Plans for 2019

Just after the start of 2019, work began in our lobby area to remove two existing display cases to make space for two new interactive exhibits about precipitation. One of those exhibits, called the *Precipitation Puzzler*, made its debut for Groundhog Day to the delight of our many visitors. The second exhibit is expected in early April.



Brownies try out the *Precipitation Puzzler* during the *Wonders of Water Journey Day*.

Discussions about our exhibit content are ongoing as we continue to make plans to improve and add to our exhibit gallery.

With the recent consolidation of the elementary schools, the district no longer had need for its planetarium equipment, so it was offered to the Weather Discovery Center. The

board accepted it with gratitude and excitement and has formed a committee to investigate how to incorporate its use with our facility and programming.

A new fundraising event called "BLINGO" was introduced to the community this year to great success and lots of fun! Imagine playing bingo for designer purses and jewelry! BLINGO is on the schedule again for September 21 of 2019.



Our Weather on the Way Outreach Program is popular with elementary students, like these fourth graders from South Butler Elementary.

2018 Contributors & Grants - Thank You!

Friends

Dr. Bill & Cindy Depp-Hutchinson
Ed & Marilyn McGinnis
Ed & Mary Ann Smith
Erin Cameron
Ernest Huey
InFirst Bank
Jack Freed
Jacque Perry Insurance
Dr. Jay & Debbie Elder
Jean Roberts
John & Pat Prushnok
John Dougherty
Josh Farcus
Kathy Uzzo
Krista and Shawn Compton
Marilyn Mumau
Mary Mack
Miss Angela M. Gigliotti
Mrs. Barbara Beatty
Nick & Marcy Gianvito
Norma & Dave Beveridge
Paul & Caryn Stoll
Robert Barone
Roz & Mark Pete
Sam & Terri Puleio
Sandra Walko
Steven & Jessica Church
Susan Laine
Terry & Charlotte Fye
Tom & Nancy Chelgren

Supporters

Bill & Joyce Cooper
Mrs. Cheryl Ploucha
Chris Smith
Dave & Debbie Osikowicz
Dr. Richard S. & Rose Graffius II
Elizabeth Robleto
George R. Momyer
Jeff & Ruth Grube
Jeril & John Goss
Jerry Neal
Ken & Rhonda Parsons
Kendall's Kreations
Ms. LuAnn Rotolo
Max Neal
Michael A. Mumau
Bill & Anne Higie
Sam & MaryAnn Baker
Tina Lewis

Wick & Beverly Divelbiss
Wilbur & Laurie Carney

Partners

CNB Bank
Jeff & Kim Curtis
Patricia Neal
William Roberts

Advocates

I.S.D.A. Club
Jerry & Karen Duffell

Hallman Circle

Punxsutawney Rotary Club
Thomas L. Barletta Charitable
Foundation
F.O. Eagles #1231

Aristotle Fund

Standard Pennant Company, Inc.
Donna & Sam Smith
Rick & Kay Nesbitt
Susan Rose Lamey

Educational Improvement Tax Credit Contributors

Dunkel Roofing
First Commonwealth
Ragley's True Value Hardware
S & T Bank
Snyder Brothers, Inc.

General Donations

Symmco Foundation
Dunkel Roofing

Memorials

In Memory of Araxi Dutton Palmer
By Mary Jean & Mike Johnston

In Memory of Jack Sheofsky by:
Mary Jean & Mike Johnston
Kelly & Josh Grant, Jake & Ben
Jessica & Christopher Johnston,
Rosemary, Evelyn & Julia
Dr. & Mrs. John (Rebecca) Walsh
Mary Claire & Leo Johnston
Chip Johnston
Ms. Joie Johnston
Breakfast Pals

Grant Funding

Jefferson County Hotel Tax
Committee
Glenn and Ruth Mengle Foundation
Pennsylvania Historic & Museum
Commission's Cultural & Historic
Resource Grant

Thank you to our Volunteers!

The success of the Weather
Discovery Center is linked to our
volunteers. There are a
large number of people who
give of their time to help each
Groundhog Day and for school
field trips, and we're very
grateful to them.
We'd like to recognize six
volunteers who help on a
regular basis:

Regina Bowers
Anne Higie
Beverly Divelbiss
Mary Mack
Rhonda Parsons
Amy Taladay

2017-18

Board of Directors & Staff

Jim Cassidy, *Chairman*
Katie Laska, *Vice Chairman*
Howard Beezer, *Treasurer*
Mike Hudock, *Secretary*
Joe Kernich, M.D., *Past Chairman*
Tom Chelgren Doug Chambers
Bev Divelbiss Tom Dunkel
Shannon Kaza Jack Lingenfelter
Dawn Martin Roz Pete
Dan Pisarchick

Marlene Lellock, Director
Amanda Hornack, Director of
Education & Programming
Barb Hanley, Docent
Cynthia Rudolph, Docent