

Prairie Smoke

On-Line

**Regional
 Science
 Center**

Fall 2008

www.mnstate.edu/regsci

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Director's Fire



George Davis

This fall the Regional Science Center is quite pleased to announce the re-opening of a remodeled MSUM Planetarium. During the 2006-2007 academic year we conducted a "New Seats for the Planetarium" campaign among the active and retired staff and faculty of MSUM to begin the first phase of long needed upgrade of the planetarium. The response was excellent! As a result of this response, President Roland Barden awarded us about \$100,000 to do the full remodeling of the Planetarium space. In addition, our Dean, Ron Jeppson provided some equipment money for additional equipment work and to buy some additional seats. The remodeling and seat replacement work was done during the summer of 2008. Thanks to Jeff Goebel and his excellent group of craftsmen, the remodeled planetarium opened in time for classes this fall. I have included a picture taken a few weeks ago of a MSUM elementary science methods class getting an orientation in the role of a planetarium for K-12 students from our planetarium coordinator Dave Weinrich to show what the remodeled planetarium looks like.

This remodeling project represents the completion of Phase I of the longer term upgrade of the Planetarium and we are now looking to fund the last phase of the upgrade, more on that in a later issue of Prairie Smoke On-Line.

The fall of 2008 represents the second year of Prairie Smoke On-line. Our on-line version of Prairie Smoke is part of our extensive web site that is designed to provide current information for all users of the MSUM Regional Science Center. Please visit us at www.mnstate.edu/regsci





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 We are very pleased with the ongoing response to our Friends of the MSUM Regional Science Center program. Please consider a contribution to the Science Center. The Regional Science Center relies on the support of our Friends to provide us with the resources to provide quality programming to over 23,000 persons each year. **Below is a list of Science Center Friends:**

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