

## **EDUCATION OUTREACH EVENT REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Attendee's Name: Joseph Kerski, Geographer, USGS  
Location: Lakewood and Littleton, Colorado  
Meeting Date(s): 5 - 16 October 2000  
Purpose of Event: **Operate USGS Exhibit at 2 Jefferson County, Colorado, Libraries for Earth Science Week**

### **Summary:**

The USGS Central Region Outreach Team planned and set up 2 USGS exhibits at 2 Jefferson County Public Libraries: Belmar, in Lakewood, and Columbine, in Littleton. Both exhibits consisted of a curved 10-foot display panel featuring a custom-made poster listing USGS events for Earth Science Week open to the general public, signs about the mission of the USGS, as well as maps and satellite images. The second part of the exhibit was a display rack featuring Earth Science Week posters, information sheets about how to contact the USGS and about resources at our agency, teachers packets and educational resource lists, and booklets on the geology of Denver, rocks, minerals, natural hazards, ground water, and mapping. The dual emphasis of these exhibits was to:

- 1) Demonstrate how science is relevant to each person, not just during earth science week, but each day.
- 2) Emphasize that the USGS has a large local presence in the community that the public should use.

During Earth Science Week 1999, we operated 2 exhibits in the Lakewood City Hall, and the Jefferson County Administration Center. This year, we wanted to try a different venue with different patrons. The libraries proved an excellent venue; USGS staff was there every other day during the 11 days, re-stocking and straightening up the exhibit. Particularly in the Belmar Library, where the exhibit was located in the entrance, items were taken and frequently visited during all observed times.

### **What's Next?**

I would like to exhibit in the large central hall at the Denver Public Library. I also have reserved the exhibit display case at the Arvada Public Library for Earth Day and other events for all of April 2001. This case is at the entrance to the library and provides us with excellent visibility. I would also like to exhibit again at DIA as we did for 11 months ending September 2000. Finally, I have been pursuing options at the Colorado Convention Center, which sees over 1 million visitors each year.



**Belmar Library (newly opened in August 2000), Lakewood.**



**Columbine Library, Littleton.**



USGS exhibit inside front lobby of Belmar Library.



USGS exhibit inside atrium, main study area, Columbine Library.

**Acknowledgements:**

I thank the Jefferson County library managers Libby Bergstrom and Carroll Davey for their support of our exhibit at their libraries.

The USGS staff involved with planning, setting up, maintaining, and tearing down these exhibits included Dave Ozman, Pat Schassburger, Pete Modreski, Steve Vandas, Gene Jackson, Diane Stephens, and Joseph Kerski. Thanks to all!

**Recommendations:**

The USGS should continue to pursue outside exhibit spaces such as these. Other offices could exhibit at the Library of Congress, and local libraries in Sioux Falls, Rolla, San Jose, and elsewhere. In addition, we should pursue opportunities in other libraries and venues, even if they are not located in USGS cities, such as the New York Public Library, Dulles International Airport, Washington Convention Center, and so on.

\*\*\*end of report\*\*\*