

4-1939

## A Resume Of The Activities Of The Minnesota Junior Academy Of Science

L. L. Barrett

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/jmas>



Part of the [Science and Mathematics Education Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Barrett, L. L. (1939). A Resume Of The Activities Of The Minnesota Junior Academy Of Science. *Journal of the Minnesota Academy of Science*, Vol. 7 No.1, 98-102.

Retrieved from <https://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/jmas/vol7/iss1/23>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well. It has been accepted for inclusion in Journal of the Minnesota Academy of Science by an authorized editor of University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well. For more information, please contact [skulann@morris.umn.edu](mailto:skulann@morris.umn.edu).

development as there are specific needs in other areas. In order to plan purposeful school programs, it is necessary to discover, in each of these areas, as many as possible of the specific needs at all levels, and to collect and make available to all participants some of the best procedures that have been developed to meet these needs. It is likely that you have identified some of these needs in your children and community, and that some hopeful units and procedures have been developed in your school to meet certain of them.

This undertaking is open to all schools that wish to participate. It is a cooperative enterprise in which each teacher, school, curriculum committee, or science teachers organization can contribute and, likewise, can profit. It is concerned with the contribution which science can make toward general education at all levels from pre-school through the college.

Many public school systems and teacher-training institutions have arranged to participate. All others interested in the undertaking are asked to notify the subcommittee member from Minnesota, S. A. Peterson, University High School, University of Minnesota, or W. C. Croxton, Chairman, Subcommittee of Personal and Social Needs, State Teachers College, St. Cloud, Minnesota. Directions and forms have been prepared and will be sent to those interested in participation.



## A RESUME OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE MINNESOTA JUNIOR ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

L. L. BARRETT

*Edison High School, Minneapolis*

The Junior Academy movement in Minnesota began in March, 1936, when the president of the Minnesota Academy of Science, Dean E. M. Freeman, University of Minnesota, appointed a committee to study the Junior Academy movement and to present a definite plan for consideration of the Minnesota Academy of Science at their fourth annual meeting held in April at Carleton and St. Olaf Colleges, Northfield, Minnesota.

The committee appointed was as follows: Dr. S. E. Torsten Lund, University High School—Chairman; Dr. J. G. Leach, University of Minnesota; Dr. A. M. Field, University of Minnesota; Dr. W. C. Croxton, St. Cloud State Teachers College; Miss Jenny Hall, Minneapolis Public Schools; Dr. H. K. Wilson, University of Minnesota; Milton H. Kuhlman, Stillwater High School; Lewis L. Barrett, Waseca High School; Dean E. M. Freeman, University of Minnesota.

The committee appointed by Dean E. M. Freeman meeting April 8, 1936 unanimously approved the following proposal to the Minne-

sota Academy of Science: "Moved that the Minnesota Academy of Science organize a Junior Academy of Science."

This report of the committee on organization of a Junior Academy of Science was accepted. The Minnesota Academy of Science voted to sponsor a Junior Academy of Science.

The committee on organization of a Junior Academy held a meeting at Macalester College, St. Paul on October 22, 1936. At that meeting the ways and means for promoting the organization were considered. Officers for the temporary organization were elected as follows:

Dr. O. T. Walter, Macalester College, Senior Academy Counselor to the Junior Academy; Mr. Milton H. Kuhlman, Stillwater High School, Chairman; Mr. L. L. Barrett, Edison High School, Secretary-Treasurer.

These individuals were appointed as a committee to draw up a Constitution and By-laws for the Junior Academy.

This committee early in December, 1936 presented a Constitution and By-laws which were adopted by the organization committee. At the fifth annual meeting of the Minnesota Academy of Science at the University Farm, St. Paul in April 1937, the Senior Academy approved the Constitution and By-laws.

Plans for a charter were drawn up and approved by the Senior Academy Council.

During the late spring of 1937, Stillwater, Edison and Faribault high schools applied for charters in the Minnesota Junior Academy of Science. The following fall of 1937, Washburn high school of Minneapolis, Rochester and Waseca high schools in the respective order, made application for charters and membership. During the year the publication "Science Club Service" was sent out to the schools that were members of the Junior Academy.

In the spring of 1938, plans were made for the first annual meeting to be held at St. John's University. The membership of the Junior Academy at the time of the annual meeting totalled 116 members. At this annual meeting, a charter was presented to Albert Lea high school. The following schools reported at the annual meeting: Albert Lea, Edison, Rochester, Stillwater, Washburn.

The total attendance was about 100 with 50 student members being present.

The exhibits were an important part of that meeting, and photographs of these exhibits are a part of the record of that first annual meeting. A talk by Dr. O. T. Walter, Macalester College on "The High School Pupil and Science" was an important part of the meeting. Dr. Walter, incidentally, was one of the original founders of the Junior Academy movement, and his contribution has been great.

Mr. Milton H. Kuhlman gave a paper entitled, "The Value of a Junior Academy of Science in the Teaching of High School Science", at the general meeting of the Academy membership.

A slate of officers elected for the year 1938-39 follows:

President — Mr. Milton H. Kuhlman, Stillwater High School.

Vice-President — Alice Burns, Albert Lea High School.

Secretary-Treasurer — Mr. Lewis L. Barrett, Edison High School.

Adult Counselors — Miss Estelle Briese, Rochester High School;  
Miss Zelma Goldsworthy, Washburn High School.

Student Counselors — Lorraine Pruitt, Rochester High School;  
Milton Nelson, Edison High School.

During the years 1937 and 1938 considerable publicity was given the Junior Academy with articles appearing in the following publications: Two issues of the *M. E. A. Journal* of April 1937 and April 1938; *Nature Notes*, published by Minneapolis Public Library Museum; *Science Club Service*, published by Illinois Junior Academy, and articles in daily papers and school newspapers.

In September 1938, the summer field trip meeting of the Minnesota Academy of Science was attended by Junior Academy members, this meeting being held at Zumbrota, Minnesota, and the Nerstrand Woods on Saturday, September 17.

In October at the annual meeting of the Minnesota Educational Association, Milton H. Kuhlman reported on the progress of the Minnesota Junior Academy of Science. This meeting of the science teachers was held at Marshall high school, Minneapolis.

The first meeting of the Junior Academy Council was held November 25, 1938 at the University Farm, St. Paul. At this meeting, the selection of Junior Academy members for honorary membership in the American Association for the Advancement of Science for the year 1938 was made. Robert Higgins of Rochester high school and Althea Ryden of Stillwater high school were chosen. The honor not only included membership in the A. A. A. S., but also a subscription to "Science Magazine" and "Science News Letter" for one year.

The Council set up the following plan for the selection of the boy and girl representatives for the A. A. A. S. honorary membership.

The school advisor must list the student's name and his qualifications including leadership, service, projects or collections completed, exhibits shown, or reports given at the annual Junior Academy meetings. The student's high school standing in science must be at least a grade of "B" and the general scholastic standing must be at least average work.

Tentative plans were made for the second annual meeting. These plans were completed during the early spring of 1939.

The publication "Science Club Service" was forwarded to Junior Academy members during the year.

Articles on the Junior Academy have appeared in the following publications: *M. E. A. Journal*; *Nature Notes* of the Minneapolis Public Library Museum; *School Bulletin* of the Minneapolis Public Schools — three issues; *Science Club Service* — four issues. Material was also furnished for publicity in many newspapers of the state. Articles also appeared in school newspapers.

At the April meeting of the Minneapolis biology-botany teachers, Miss Zelma Goldsworthy, Washburn high school, spoke on the Junior Academy movement.

Much credit for the development of the Junior Academy movement has been due to the continued support that has been given by the Council and members of the Minnesota Academy of Science. The advisors from the Senior Academy have been very generous with their time and help. The advisors have been as follows:

1936-37 — Dr. O. T. Walter, Macalester College; 1937-38 — Dr. E. T. Tuftte, St. Olaf College; 1938-39 — Dr. R. B. Harvey, University of Minnesota.

As to the future of the Junior Academy movement, there has been a general national growth. About eighteen states are at present sponsoring Junior Academies.

During the past three years, the Minnesota Junior Academy of Science has passed through an embryonic stage of development. Frequently, experiments must be conducted to obtain results. Experiments have been tried in charting the course of the Junior Academy. Time and thought have been devoted to trial of various methods and devising ways and means of arousing interest of high school teachers and students in the Junior Academy, to the point where they will join and take an active part in the program. Some experiences have yielded certain principles that may be of value in planning the future of the organization.

In any organization, it is necessary to work out a sound financial basis. The sources of income up to the present, have been charter fees, annual dues, and a grant by the Senior Academy. Additional sources of income must be found. Such sources might be: commission on emblems or pins, and fees for entrance in annual contests. The Junior Academy must plan to be financially independent.

In the development of the organization it seems desirable to provide a plan whereby a large proportion of the members have an opportunity to participate in the annual meeting. This has and can be done through exhibits, the program, and other activities. The possibility of an annual state-wide competition may result in greater participation. Contests might be promoted with a certificate of award or prizes offered at the annual meeting. Contests might be conducted along various lines, including the construction of pieces of equipment for chemistry, physics, or biology collections, experiments, laboratory exhibits, posters, etc.

Some of the possibilities of the Junior Academy movement and its benefits to the science students and teachers of Minnesota, probably could be found through a survey of what is being done in other states. It seems to the speaker that such a survey would be highly desirable, and that such a study should be sponsored by the Minnesota Junior Academy of Science.