



HGS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: December 10th, 2025, Meeting held via Zoom
Quorum confirmed, meeting called to order by Patricia Walker (HGS President)
Time: 6:19 pm

2025-2026 Board Members

Patty Walker (P)	Bryan Guzman (PE)	Caroline Wachtman (VP)	Catherine Strong (D2)
Bryan Bottoms (S)	Angela Hammond (T)	Andrea Reynolds (TE)	Lauren Robinson (D3)
Lucia Torrado (E)	Sharma Dronmaraju (EE)	Bill DeMIs (D1)	Amanda Johnston (D4)

Board Present – Red were absent Green Were Present

Patty Walker (P)	Bryan Guzman (PE)	Caroline Wachtman (VP)
Bryan Bottoms (S)	Angela Hammond (T)	Andrea Reynolds (TE)
Lucia Torrado (E)	Sharma Dronmaraju (EE)	Bill DeMIs (D1)
Catherine Strong (D2)	Lauren Robinson (D3)	Amanda Johnston (D4)

Patty Walker – Meeting started at 6:18 pm with Quorum of 11 Board Members present.

First Order of Business Discussion & Approval of the Minutes: Edits received and taken care. No other board members had any proposed changes.

Motion:

Motion to approve the November 2025 Minutes. Catherine so Moved and Bill seconded the Motion. There was no other discussion, Vote passed Unanimously.

The Final Minutes for November can be found in the HGS Dropbox under: [Dropbox\HGS Committee Report & Board Minutes\Monthly Meeting Minutes Reports\2025-2026 Board Minutes\2025-11\Final](#)

Motion:

Motion to Approve Agenda. Bill so moved and Angela seconded. The Vote passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Angela Hammond

HGS Treasurer's Report

November 2025

This report provides an overview of the financial status of the Houston Geological Society (HGS) as of the end of November 2025.

Executive Summary:

- HGS Total Equity decreased \$5,119 from October 2025 due to the revenue from General Administration, Clay Shoot and Neo Geos not offsetting their expenses and Africa Conference expenses coming in with no revenue yet to offset.
- Budget – We are at about 1.3 years of reserves, assuming \$40,000/month for expenses.
- November 2025 Summary: The Investment portfolio continued to steadily increase from October 2025 to November 2025 by ~\$6,454. Revenue decreased by \$11,573 from October 2025 to November 2025 due mainly to expenses coming in from the Africa Conference with no revenue to offset and Clay Shoot, General Administration and Neo Geo's expenses outweighing their revenue. Expenses from October 2025 to November 2025 decreased by ~\$5,380, due in large part to increase in registrations, especially for the Clay Shoot, General Dinner, and HGS-GSH Event along with Membership dues and Donation income, especially from the Clay Shoot and Golf Tournament. Overall, Net Revenue for November 2025 is in the red at **\$9,860**.
- This month Social Event Expenses, Meeting Expenses and Payroll are the largest hit to our net revenue, along with Registrations falling by more than double from October. On the positive, Sponsors' income increased 4X and Membership dues more than doubled from October and we saw some Website Advertising which helped to bolster revenue.

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***Budget item contains typo. Should read Budget – We are at about 1.3 years of reserves, assuming \$40,000/month for expenses**

Revenue and Expenses:

Operating revenues and expenses (see Figure 1) in November 2025 were as follows:

Majority Revenue - \$16,415 from Clay Shoot, \$6,900 from Student Expo and \$4,280 from Membership Dues. Including Investment revenue of \$2,360, **Total Revenue = \$44,195**.

Majority Expenses – Clay Shoot (\$24,861); Meeting Expenses (\$9,924); Payroll (\$6,341). **Total Expenses = (\$51,695)**.

Net Loss = \$9,860

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Figure 2 shows a break-down by Class of revenue vs. expenses to provide a more granular view as to what Events are exceeding expectations or underperforming with respect to revenue coming in and will help the HGS board make decisions on our funding strategy, e.g. what events to continue to fund, either in the short term or for next year, and what to focus on to boost registrations.

Figure 3 shows how each the key Classes are performing monthly and gives insight into how they are stacking up against each other and shows the impact of key events, such as Scholarship Night, on Sponsors Income and Registrations.

HGS is in the red for the month of November, our expenses outweighed our revenue by **\$9,860**. Our expenditure from September to October did decrease by \$5,380 but we still need to continue to look for ways to reduce costs and increase revenue coming in. Table 1 below gives an overview of where the revenue streams have been coming in over the past fiscal year, with Registrations and Sponsor Income leading the way, but revenue incoming from Membership Dues has been on the rise thanks to Bill's push to actively reach out to past members to encourage them to renew.

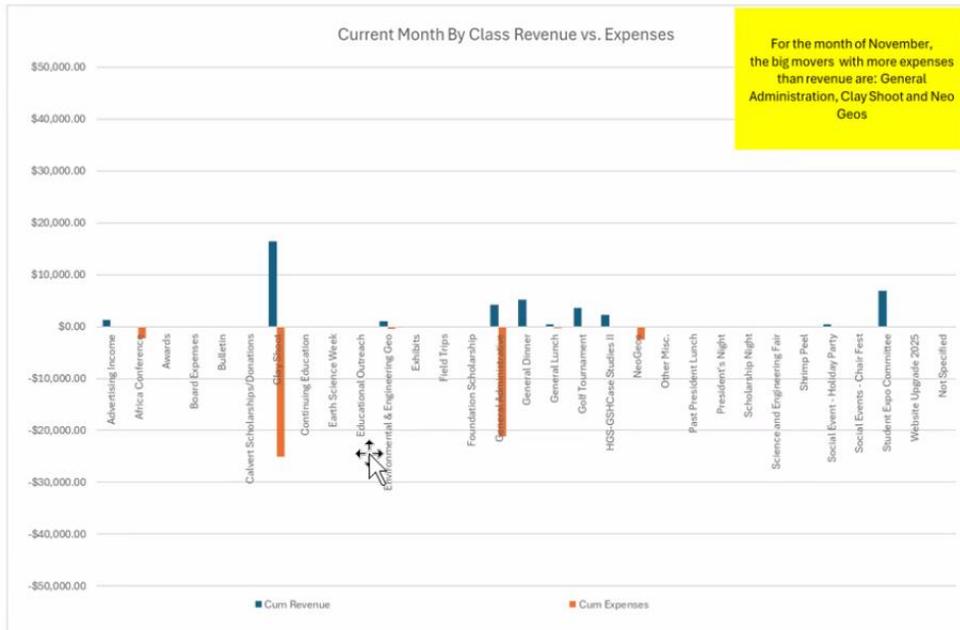


Figure 2: Current Month (October) by Class Revenue vs. Expenses

Membership Dues	\$70,097.00	9.7%
Registrations	\$261,218.37	36.3%
Donation Income	\$79,668.88	11.1%
Sponsors Income	\$245,935.00	34.2%
Short Course Income	\$24,478.75	3.4%
Website Advertising Income	\$3,000.00	0.4%
Advertising Income	\$7,125.00	1.0%
Publication Royalties	\$27,426.06	3.8%
Unapplied Cash Payment Revenue	\$1,000.00	0.1%
Conference Profits	-\$134.00	0.0%
CUM TOTAL	\$719,815.06	100.00%

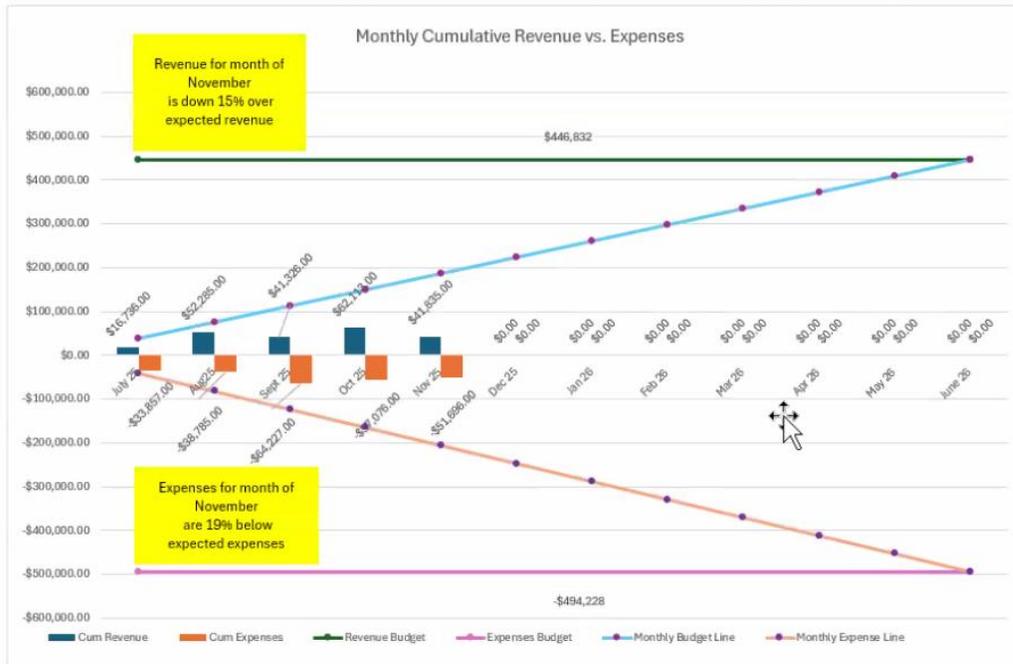


Figure 1: Budget vs. Actual by Month

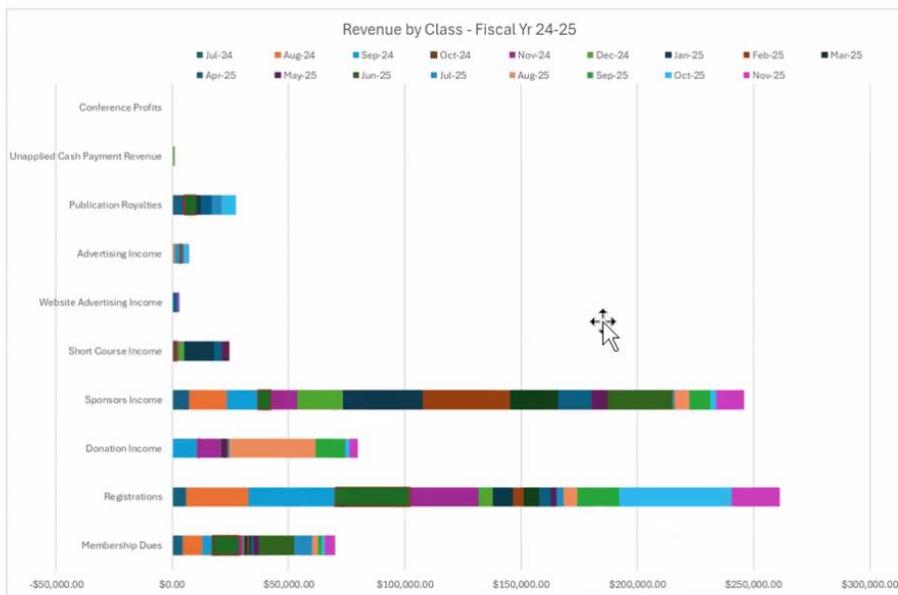


Figure 3: Revenue by Class - Fiscal Yr 24-25

Discussion around Clay shoot, looks to have made ~\$17k – Great job by that committee.

Motion: Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Catherine moved and Bill second the Motion. There was no discussion, Vote passed Unanimously.

Secretary Report – Presented by Bryan Bottoms

Still waiting on the report from Oyie. Will circulate internally once received and we can approve at next meeting or approve via email.

Motion: Motion to approve the one Emeritus Membership Status. Bill moved and all seconded the Motion. There was no discussion, Vote passed Unanimously.

President Agenda

Major items for Discussion

1) Status update of Website rebuild – Update meeting scheduled for Thursday December 11th

- i) Adding ability to send auto notification of dues renewal and registered events
- ii) In process on moving over member database. Decision made to only move over active, emeritus, honorary, student and memberships expired within last three years
- iii) Discussion on creating a board level position for sponsorship coordination
 - a) Revisited later on the meeting.
 - b) Because we often hit up sponsors multiple times, would it be more efficient to provide a list of all potential sponsorship opportunities for the year and prevent hitting up potential sponsors repeatedly throughout a year. Downside would be, is there a list of all events like this? That might be difficult to provide. In order to do so, sponsors might need to consider that G&A is going down and money won't be going to G&A for HGS. Need a good marketing person to take over this role if it is implemented. Perhaps this person would need to be a permanent board member.
- iv) Discussion on amending by laws to allow larger increases in membership dues – much of this can hinge on G&A and other costs being discussed.

Bryan Guzman – President Elect

Africa Conference

Meeting held this morning discussing timeline for events. Working on sponsorships & budget. 2 Sponsors already. 8 or 9 people in meeting today.

Bryan Visited Camp Cullen

- i) Continue working this relationship further. They have reached out about having a seat on HGS board/committee to further establish the connection. They have an outcrop on site. They are the YMCA camp for the HGS metro area. They have had a relationship with the HGS in the past.

Editor – Lucia Torrado

Bulletin

- i) December Bulletin is out. Designer who puts together Bulletin has been out a bit, so a little bit of struggle, but got it done
- ii) January Bulletin is in progress and going well. If anyone wants to submit any material, please let her know
- iii) Have done some testing on LinkedIn group vs. company. Working with Lauren on testing posting between different HGS sites.

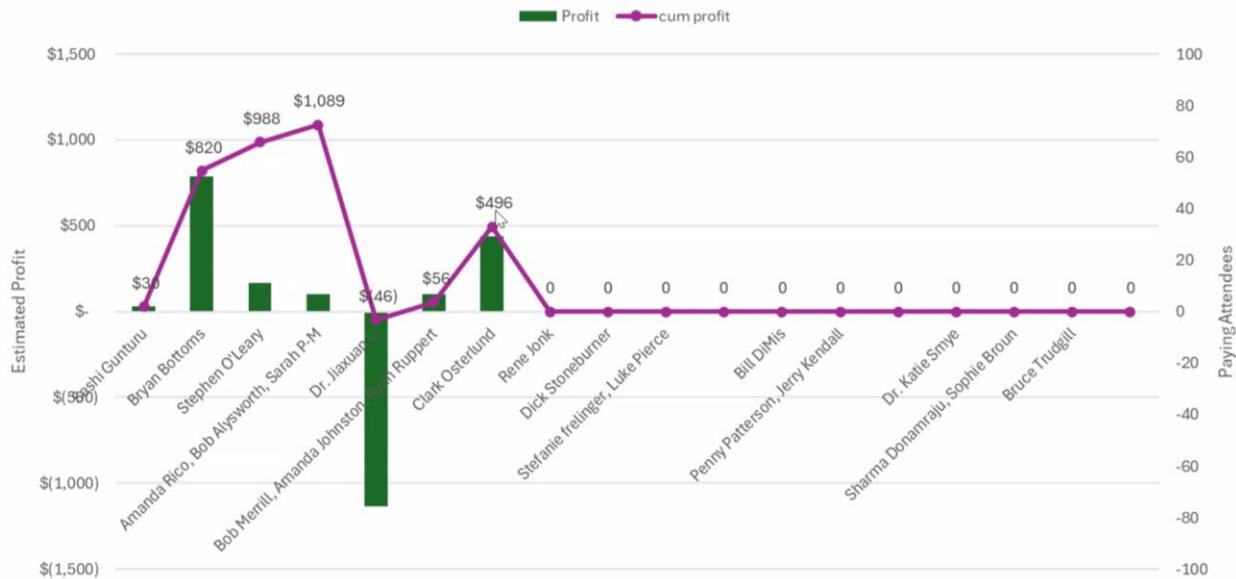
General Dinner / Lunch 2025-26, Dec update

- **Highlights / Challenges**
 - Achieved breakeven cost through Dec
 - Thanks to Jeanette and Lauren for more frequent posting/ emailing! Thanks to Magly for LI post-event advert.
 - Feedback received:
 - Events before holiday week (Nov luncheon) are poorly attended
 - Low interest in seismology, career development, or professional volunteering
 - Need suggestions for sponsorship
 - 15 companies contacted, 6 conversations started, 0 deals
- **General meeting look ahead:**
 - First virtual lunch in December
 - Need attendees and advertising for January Legends dinner
 - Bring a friend!
- **E&E:**
 - No meeting in November

Type	Date	Location	Speaker	Price (M/NM/S)
Dinner	9/29/2025	Spaghetti Western	Sashi Gunturu; AI for Geos	\$45/50/\$45
Lunch	9/24/2025	Oxy, C106	Bryan Bottoms; Lower 48	\$30/\$35/\$25
Happy Hour	10/13/2025	Federal Grill, Shepherd	Equinor, Smackover Lithium	\$45/50/\$45
Lunch	10/22/2025	Murphy	Panel: Pivoting your career	\$30/\$35/\$25
Dinner	11/10/2025	Norris, Magnolia	UH, Dr. Jiaxuan Li, seismology	\$65/\$75/\$40
Lunch	11/19/2025	Oxy, P118	Panel: IBA, EVOLVE, GWOB	\$30/\$35/\$25
Happy Hour	12/8/2025	Federal Grill, Shepherd	ExxonMobil, Energy Outlook	\$45/50/\$45
Lunch	12/17/2025	Virtual	Rene Jonk	\$20/\$25/\$20
Dinner	1/12/2026	Perry's at Memorial	Dick Stoneburner	\$65/\$75/\$40
Lunch	1/21/2026	Murphy	Cantium, Main Pass 313	\$30/\$35/\$25
Dinner	2/9/2026	Norris, Magnolia	Scholarship Night	\$65/\$75/\$40
Lunch	2/18/2026	Total	Bill DeMis—Monetary policy	
Dinner	3/2/2026	Spaghetti Western	Penny and Jerry, Buffalo Bayou	
Lunch	3/18/2026	Apache	Mark Hamzat or Jon Rotzien	
Dinner	4/13/2026	Perrys at Memorial	UT, Katie Smye	\$65/\$75/\$40
Lunch	4/22/2026	Woodside	Sharma, Sophie, Natural H2	
Dinner	5/4/2026	Spaghetti Western	Oxy, Bruce Trudgill	
Lunch	5/20/2026	Woodside	Jon Rotzien	

- i) Lauren has been posting and doing well.
- ii) Magli posted a “post-event post” and that did really well
- iii) November events were not well attended. Tough to get sponsorships, especially when they have contributed to other events. Having a coherent strategy around it would be great so not having multiple people approaching the same companies asking for sponsorships.
- iv) December event well attended.
- v) Next event is at Perry's Steakhouse and we need some support from the board. Has a room minimum. Dick Stoneburner is the speaker. Need some sponsorship income to make this event work out. Let her know if anyone is interested. Topic will mostly be about his career and lessons from his career.
- vi) Cantium will come and present later in month – already presented at GeoGulf but should be a good talk again.
- vii) Need to underscore importance of attending Dick Stoneburner's event. We will be in the hole again if we don't get a good attendance.

Lunch and Dinner Stewardship



Directors Reports:

Bill Demis

Clay Shoot Results: (~15k net profit raised; awaiting final numbers from team) great result

Membership – 163 new or renewed members bringing in ~\$5815, membership totals include new applicants who sign up during any year

Catherine Strong

Case Studies – January 15th. Staying busy, finalizing everything for this as it approaches next month. Practicing with speakers. There will be a pre-recorded podcast that Rene is putting out so that people who may have to leave early, can still get value from final talks as that was a concern from some people last year.

SEF – Dorene sending out notes and asking for Judges soon

Houston Musuem of Natural Science - Janet continues to be busy with ongoings here. Rumor of HMNS getting big money donation for significant expansion, fueling additional need for volunteers in future

Lauren Robinson

Out this month

Amanda Johnston

Field Trip Committee- Met to brainstorm. First thought was Wilcox event in the Spring, but moving things to the Fall in 2026. Also putting together a trip for the Swiss Alps in 2027- start in Nice, France and make way to Italy over 7 days.

Pasadena Public Library looking for speaker on storm surge, coastal processes, etc.

Steven Johannsen and Ken Thies had presentations on Nov. 9th.

Presidents Report:

Office Report – nothing new

Old Business – nothing new

New Business – RMAG Float trip just came out. We will advertise it in our bulletin and we will do a reciprocal advertisement in our bulletin.

Next Meeting Date – To be scheduled by the new incoming President Patty Walker. Tentatively Tuesday January 13th 2026 @ 6:15pm.

Placeholder will be sent from Andi to all board members for meetings on second Tuesday of the month.

Motion:

Motion to adjourn the meeting Andrea and seconded by Amanda.

All in favor, meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.