



Association for Women Geoscientists

Puget Sound Chapter

June/July 2002

From the Editor:

Greetings! Can you believe that it is already the end of May and June is so close? Where has the first half of 2002 gone?

This month your newsletter is packed with many announcements and reports. There are my comments, and reports from your President, from the April AWG-PS Poster Session and meeting, and from the May AWG-PS Board meeting. Also, in this newsletter is the June meeting announcement and the latest directory for our chapter. Stay tuned for next month's newsletter for more exciting upcoming events and announcements.

I would like to extend my congratulations to Shawn, our VP, on her new job! She is now working for WADOT. Speaking of job opportunities, I occasionally receive and send job announcements by e-mail. Would anyone be interested in receiving copies of these announcements? Or, would they like to send me announcements? Please let me know by e-mailing me at ataub@co.douglas.wa.us or calling me at (509) 884-7173.

Is anyone interested, besides Sarah Kemp, in receiving the newsletter by e-mail? Come on let's save a few trees and start sending the newsletter out by e-mail.

Interesting web sites:

This first web site came from Janet Tanaka. It is <http://community.webtv.net/JMTanaka/VQ>. This is for

amateur and professional volcanologists. Its name is "VQOline".

This next site is an article about the release of high-resolution topographic data of the continental US that was gathered during the February 2000 Shuttle Radar Topography Mission. The URL is

<http://www.spaceflightnow.com/news/n0201/23srtm/>.

The third and final site for this newsletter is a free web magazine. This is mostly for those of us that work with GIS, however I also think that it could be relevant to the other geosciences. Its URL is

<http://www.gisvisionmap.com/>.

If you have a web site that you would like to share, please send it to me along with a brief description. I will include it in the newsletter.

Amanda Taub
AWG-PS Editor

President's Message

Upcoming Chapter Events

Please see the enclosed meeting announcement for the June meeting. We will be presenting the AWG-PS Scholarship. We're also working on planning a field trip for the fall, so stay tuned for an announcement in the summer newsletter. We have the 2003 field trip tentatively planned, so mark your calendars. Jill Whitman (PLU) has offered to lead a trip to Holden, an abandoned mining area above Lake Chelan, the first weekend of June 2003. The trip will include a trip on the

Lady of the Lake ferry to Lucerne (most of the way up the lake), accommodations, and transportation to our accommodations (lodging and food) at Holden Village. Geological attractions will include getting up close and personal with the Chelan Mountains terrain (metamorphosed deep ocean sediments and basalts, according to Tabor and Haugerud's *Geology of the North Cascades*, 1999), copper/zinc/gold mineralization (metamorphosed oceanic ridge vents?), and environmental remediation of tailings piles.

AWG Pacific Region Breakfast at GSA Cordilleran Section Meeting

At least 30 women attended the AWG Breakfast held May 14 in Corvallis, OR at the Geological Society of America Cordilleran Section Meeting. States up and down the coast from California to Alaska were represented, but most were naturally from Oregon. There was quite a bit of talk about organizing an Oregon Chapter, so if you're one of our Oregon members, stay tuned... We also had a well-placed AWG Booth in the exhibits, which attracted a steady stream of people, and our chapter gained at least a few new members.

Next year, the GSA Cordilleran Section Meeting will be held in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. As tempting as that sounds, we probably won't have a Puget Sound Chapter presence at that meeting. Our Regional Delegates in California are giving it serious thought, however.

Wanna Help Host a Convention?

In the fall of next year, the Annual GSA Meeting will be held in Seattle. Our chapter has been asked if we're willing to host (read: organize) a 1 or 2-day 25th Anniversary AWG Convention to be held in conjunction with it, probably at the end of October. Your chapter Board is leery of taking on such a large

endeavor without significant help from other chapter members. Serious planning would need to start within the next month, so if you (yes, YOU!) are interested in working on organizing a convention, please let me know **soon**. I've been to all three AWG conventions and they were all fun and interesting. They were also all different in how they were organized, so we'd have a lot of free rein in deciding how to set it up. It would be nice to have a convention locally – it's a good way to meet prominent women geoscientists from all over the country, and organizing it would be a good opportunity to network nationally. If nothing else, there will be an AWG Breakfast in conjunction with the GSA meeting, probably on Tuesday Nov. 4, 2003.

2002 AWG-PS Directory

This newsletter includes the latest chapter directory, which should reflect AWG-PS members as of April 2002. If you're pretty sure you have joined and are not on this list, please let me know so we can contact the AWG office. Also, let me know if you haven't been receiving *Gaea*, which comes out every 2-3 months. We've had some changes in AWG management, and there may be some glitches in the database.

Call for Nominations

In our traditional rite of spring, we're soliciting nominations (especially self-nominations) for chapter officers for 2002/2003. We're completely spoiled, having had a full slate of officers for the current year, and most of us are willing to serve again next year. However, Jean Boucher will retire after so ably serving as chapter Secretary for the past several years. Per our new chapter bylaws, Treasurer and Secretary are staggered 2-year terms, so ideally nominees should be willing to serve 2 years. (Carla Whittington will continue her term as Treasurer and is not up for re-election.) The duties of the Secretary include

taking and distributing minutes of chapter board and general business meetings, maintaining the chapter mailing list, and acting as liaison to the AWG Secretary. Jean has been incredibly organized, so the transition shouldn't be difficult. Please feel free to call Jean if you have questions.

While we're mainly looking for a new Secretary, nominations will be ecstatically accepted for the other 2 offices that will appear on the ballot, President and Vice-President. Editor is now an appointed position, along with Scholarship Committee Chair. Please let me know if you're interested serving on (or potentially chairing) those committees – Amanda and Lynn will be glad for any help they can get. My phone number is 206/553-1641 or send me e-mail at knadle.marcia@epa.gov.

- Marcia Knadle

Report of April AWG Meeting

The April AWG-PS meeting was held in conjunction with Northwest Geological Society and the Association of Engineering Geologists, and consisted of a student poster/presentation night. By sheer luck, all of the posters and presentations were by women! It was an embarrassment of riches for us, and raised the question of whether we've been successful beyond our wildest dreams in encouraging young women to enter the geosciences, or whether it's time for an Association for Men Geoscientists. Edeen Parrish and Marcia Knadle had great difficulty as the AWG-PS judges.

The students submitted such good work that the NWGS and AEG judges were unable to single out "the best" presentation. Each student received awards from the sponsoring organizations: from NWGS, the traditional

silver dollar; from AEG, an AEG briefcase; and from AWG, a one-year membership in AWG. In addition, AWG awarded an AWG coffee mug to Sarah Albano for the clarity of her poster and an AWG hat to Paula York for originality and effectiveness of her hands-on poster design. It is noteworthy that University of Puget Sound was, as usual, well represented on the program, with two fine posters presented by undergraduates.

The participants were:

Sarah Albano, MS student at UW: Groundwater at Mayon Volcano.

Linda Hall, Ph.D. Candidate at U. of Hawaii: Off-Axis melting and mantle heterogeneity at the Rano Rahi seamount field.

Elizabeth Beaulieu, a senior at UPS: A turbidite sequence in the Crescent Formation.

Emily Duncan, a senior at UPS: Sedimentological study of the Bet Netofa valley floor, Israel.

Paula York, Pierce College: Subduction of the East Pacific Rise.

All are to be commended for the quality of their work, for the clarity and enthusiasm with which they responded to our questions and interest, and for their willingness to participate.

The program culminated with a talk by Kathy Goetz Troost, a research scientist and Ph.D. Student at the UW on the subject of Geologic controls on ground failure during the Nisqually Earthquake. She observed that the region most heavily impacted by that earthquake has been glaciated six times in the past million years. It is characterized by bedrock basins as much as 8 km. deep, thick sediments, a shallow water table, abundant sand and steep slopes, with a predilection for ground failure. Being a deep event, the Nisqually Earthquake affected a huge area, even northeast Portland, where Kevin Scott's front yard failed. Soil liquefaction, sand volcanoes [some of which penetrated pavement] utility line breaks and landslides were numerous. City, county &

state agencies, with help from the USGS and the Federal Emergency Management Agency put more than 20 teams of two to four people in the field to compile a database of ground failure related to the earthquake. She estimates that they covered more than 50% of ground failures in Seattle. Their work shows a clear relationship of ground failure to the nature of the substrate. Abandoned and often covered stream channels, alluvial fans, artificial fill and Quaternary alluvium are likely sites for liquefaction. Paradoxically, the Tacoma area had "relative immunity" to the 2001 seismic event, although it was heavily affected by the 1949 and 1965 earthquakes.

(Adapted from the NWGS Newsletter by Marcia Knadle)

Report from May 7 AWG-PS Board Meeting

The Board meeting was held at the University Plaza Hotel in Seattle on May 7, 2002 from 4:30 to 6:30 PM. Marcia Knadle (President), Shawn Blaesing-Thompson (Vice President), Lynn Hultgrien (Scholarship Committee Chair), and Jean Boucher (Secretary) were present. Amanda Taub (Editor) and Carla Whittington (Treasurer) were absent.

The June meeting was discussed. Topics included speakers, location, date, and time. (Please refer to the announcement in this newsletter.)

Plans for September's field trip were also discussed. Dates, sites, and possible leaders were all discussed. Please be sure to see the August/September newsletter for the announcement.

Officer nominations were also discussed. Please refer to Marcia's comments earlier in this newsletter.

In other business, Shawn is working on getting a grant for science teachers. Marcia will send her information from the AWG Foundation. We might try to get some these teachers on our field trips. The San Francisco chapter may be interested in sponsoring the national AWG meeting next fall. There have been some address changes. Shawn, as of May, can be reached at home at 6751 Silver Ridge DR SE, Tumwater, WA 98501. Or, she can be reached at work at Cartography/GIS Section, Washington State Department of Transportation, 1655 2ND AVE SW, Tumwater, WA 98504-7384. Her phone number is (360) 709-5524; fax number is (360) 709-5599; and e-mail is blaesis@wsdot.wa.gov.

(Summarized by Amanda Taub from minutes written by Jean Boucher)

Association for Women Geoscientists Puget Sound Chapter
June Meeting Announcement

*“Cascadia Subduction Zone Earthquakes in Northwest Native
Traditions”*

Ruth Ludwin, UW Department of Earth and Space Sciences

Date: **Thursday June 20, 2002**

Place: Shannon & Wilson's offices (see directions below)

Time: 5:45 – Pre-meeting dinner at Costa's

7:00 – Meet at Shannon & Wilson – award AWG Puget Sound Chapter
Scholarship

7:30 – Speaker Ruth Ludwin, Research Scientist, Pacific Northwest
Seismograph Network (PNSN), University of Washington, Dept. of
Earth and Space Sciences

Great earthquakes along our Cascadia Subduction Zone have been taking place for thousands of years. The most recent one estimated as magnitude 9 occurred on January 26, 1700. How do we know? Historic records of a tsunami that struck Japan were confirmed by tree-ring studies of Northwest coastal trees killed by the event. A number of Native American accounts may refer to these major quakes. One Quileute story describes an epic battle between Thunderbird and Whale with shaking, jumping up, and trembling of the earth beneath, and a rolling up of the great waters. Tales with similar themes are found up and down the coast from British Columbia to northern California.

Come get acquainted with our scholarship recipient and our speaker by first joining us for **dinner at Costas Opa Greek Restaurant** in Fremont (at N. 34th St. and Fremont Ave., within walking distance of Shannon & Wilson) at 5:45. Call Marcia Knadle at (206) 553-1641 by 10:00 a.m. on 6/20 so we'll know how large a table to reserve.

Shannon & Wilson's offices are in the Burke Building (newish, about 4 stories, with greenish windows) on the north side of N. 34th St. in Fremont (in Seattle just north of the Ship Canal), about 2 ½ blocks west of the intersection of Fremont Avenue and N. 34th Street (home of the “Waiting for the Interurban” statue). By 7:00 plenty of off-street parking should be available in the lot in front of the building, but if you come for dinner you may need to find parking along the street. Enter the building through the central entrance; Shannon & Wilson is immediately to your left on the main floor.

All AWG meetings are open to the general public.

AWG Puget Sound Officers and Chairs, 2001-2002

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