



Association for Women Geoscientists

Puget Sound Chapter

August/September 2002

Editor's Comments

Can you believe that Summer is almost over and Autumn is right around the corner? I have had a busy and good Summer. I hope everyone has, too.

What's in this month's newsletter?

There is a lot in this month's newsletter. So, please take a few minutes to read through and find out what is happening in your local chapter. Just to let you know, our PO Box has been changed to PO Box 4229, Kent, WA 98032. Please be certain to change your address books.

My comments are in this month's newsletter, along with various reports, announcements, and a ballot for the election of the 2003 AWG-PS Officers. Marcia Knadle, our President, wrote the report for the June AWG-PS chapter meeting. Lynn Hultgrien, the Scholarship Chair, wrote about awarding Emily Mullen our 2002 AWG-PS Scholarship. There is also a report from Shawn Blaesing-Thompson, our Vice President, on her experience judging the 2002 Washington State Science Fair. And, we have pictures from Lynn and Shawn of our scholarship and science fair winners.

We have reports on the August 17 Board Meeting and the first planning meeting for the national 2003 AWG Convention. There is an announcement for our Fall field trip over to the Spokane area in September. It is also that time of year to vote for next year's officers. If you are a member, you will find a ballot in here. Please fill it out and return it to me postmarked on or before September 5.

Take out your calendars!

Everyone, please take out your calendars and set these important dates in them.

September 14-15, 2002 AWG Puget Sound and Spokane Chapters field trip to Spokane

October 19 or 21, 2002 AWG-PS Chapter meeting
Thursday, October 30 – November 1, 2003 national AWG Convention in Seattle

Please see the announcement for the Spokane field trip later in the newsletter. At our October meeting, Shawn will be discussing wind erosion. More information and a firm date will be in next month's newsletter.

The very tentative plans for the national AWG Convention include a Welcoming Party on the evening of Thursday, October 30. Then, all day Friday, October 31 will be key note speakers and panels. On Saturday, November 1 will be a half day field trip looking at Seattle area geology. More information will follow.

Your Board needs you! We need volunteers to assist with planning and running the Convention. This would be a great opportunity to become involved in your chapter and nationally. Please contact any Board member to volunteer. You can find their names and contact information on the back of the newsletter. This Convention will be a great success with everybody's assistance.

Some interesting web sites!

Here are some interesting web sites. Please pardon the overwhelming GIS and remote sensing bias that I have. If you have a web site that you would like me to publish, please send it to me.

This DNR site shows the fire danger on a county by county basis and allows you to see if any restrictions are in place either by clicking on your county on a map of Washington or on its name below the map.
<http://www2.wadnr.gov/burn-risk/>

The National Geophysical Data Center manages environmental data in the fields of marine geology and geophysics, paleoclimatology, solar-terrestrial physics, solid earth geophysics, and glaciology.

<http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/>

USGS Earthshots: Satellite Images of Environmental Change Earthshots is a collection of Landsat images and text, designed to show environmental changes and to introduce remote sensing.

<http://edc.usgs.gov/earthshots/slow/tableofcontents>

EROS Data Center manages and archives a huge and growing base of earth science data and information. <http://edcwww.cr.usgs.gov/>

June Chapter Meeting Report

At the June 20 AWG-Puget Sound Chapter meeting, Ruth Ludwin gave a fascinating talk on "Cascadia Subduction Zone Earthquakes in Northwest Native Traditions." Ruth is a research scientist with the Pacific Northwest Seismograph Network (PNSN) at the University of Washington, Department of Earth and Space Sciences. For several years she's been researching native traditions in the Northwest for descriptions of earthquakes and tsunamis. They are typically surprisingly accurate physical descriptions of events with an overprint of mythological causative elements. Commonly Thunderbird and Whale do battle, with the violent battle causing the earthquakes and Whale causing the tsunamis. (Tsunamis are the big killers, so Whale is usually cast as the bad guy.) Because large earthquakes commonly sound like thunder, and whales are sometimes stranded on beaches by tsunamis, these associations make sense. Variations on this theme are common from British Columbia to Northern California.

We now know from several lines of evidence that the last large Cascadia subduction zone earthquake and tsunami occurred January 26, 1700, so clearly these stories have been repeated for several generations. As part of her research, Ruth has done outreach with native groups, many of whom didn't fully realize that the stories were more than just myths. Ruth has been using these stories to help coastal native communities realize that the events which inspired the stories are recurring, and that the stories often contain clues about which areas are most affected by tsunamis. We also presented Emily Mullen, a senior at University of Washington, with a check for \$1000 as the recipient of this year's AWG-Puget Sound Chapter Scholarship (see related story). Our thanks to Ruth for her entertaining and thought-provoking presentation and to Shannon & Wilson, Inc. for providing the meeting space.

Marcia Knadle
AWG-PS President

Emily Mullen Receives 2002 AWG Puget Sound Scholarship

Emily Mullen was named as the recipient of the 2002 AWG Puget Sound Chapter's Scholarship and received a one-year membership in AWG. This award, founded in 1989, was established to aid undergraduate women who intend to pursue a career in the earth sciences. Recipients are chosen on the basis of their commitment to a geosciences career, financial need, and academic achievement. We had nine well-qualified applicants this year and a few exceptional candidates that made the selection particularly challenging.

We chose Emily Mullen, our first winner from the University of Washington. She is a Washington Scholar with a 3.99 GPA and has supported her education independently through work and scholarships. Emily's interest in the earth was fostered while growing up in the North Cascades. This, combined with participation in science projects, both in elementary and high school, led her to start her college career as a biologist.

As her high school actually lacked any geology classes, it was the UW Biology Department that deserves credit for her introduction to geology. Emily was awarded an undergraduate research grant for an independent project in paleontology with Dr. Peter Ward on 200-million-year-old fossil bivalves. Since then, Emily has become very involved in the Geology Department. She is the Vice-President of the undergraduate Geology Club and will spend next year working on her senior thesis in igneous petrology. Her future plans are to work towards a Ph.D. in geology and become a university professor.

On June 20, 2002, at the AWG Puget Sound meeting, we presented Emily with her \$1000 scholarship, this was followed by an engaging and illustrative talk by UW research scientist Ruth Ludwin on Native American accounts of great earthquakes in the Northwest. In all, 12 people attended the event at Shannon & Wilson, Inc. and several of us joined Emily for dinner at Costas Opa Greek Restaurant in Fremont. We wish Emily the very best in her continuing studies and her eventual career in the earth sciences.

This award is made possible due to the generous members and friends of the Puget Sound AWG Chapter who contributed to this scholarship and to the AWG Foundation, which supplies matching funds. Thank you for continuing to help make this annual event a success.

Lynn Hultgrien
Chair, AWG-PS Chapter Scholarship Committee

Karolynn Tom Receives 2002 AWG-PS Science Fair Award

The Washington State Science Fair for 2002 was wonderful fun to judge for my second year. This year I decided that I would go on Friday and do the grade school kids, and it was truly amazing. Most of the students I judged were quite bright and had very interesting projects. Saturday was the high school level of the fair. There were not any strong geology based projects for which to give the AWG award, although last year there were half dozen hydrology

projects to pick from. I decided to look at the projects promoting sustainability of resources.

The young woman who received the AWG award this year is Karolynn Tom, a 9th grader from West Valley Jr. High in Yakima. Her project was called the "Runoff Comparison of Furrow Drip and Homemade Irrigation Systems." She developed three half PVC troughs to serve as the soil that runs between planting rows, and used two standard irrigation systems and one homemade irrigation system to study the amount of soil runoff and nutrient loss associated with each system. She had a strong understanding of scientific theory and gave an excellent presentation. She has already made contacts with farmers to do some insitu soil testing for next year's science fair. And, with the help of her USDA-NRCS contacts she should have an even more comprehensive study to share with us next year.

Shawn Blaesing-Thompson
AWG-PS Vice President



Lynn Hultgrien (L) presents scholarship award to Emily Mullen (R).
Photo by Shawn Blaesing-Thompson

Shawn Blaesing-Thompson (R) presents Karolynn Tom with 2002 AWG-PS Science Fair Award.
Photo taken with Shawn Blaesing-Thompson's camera.



AWG-PS August Board Meeting Minutes

On August 17, 2002, the AWG-PS Board of Officers met at the home of Amanda Taub in Leavenworth. Present at the meeting was Marcia Knadle (President), Carla Whittington (Treasurer), Jean Boucher (Secretary), and Amanda Taub (Editor). Alicia Musselman attended the afternoon meeting on the Oct.-Nov. 2003 AWG convention (please see separate report). Lynn Hultgrien (Scholarship Chair) and Shawn Blaasing-Thompson (Vice President) could not attend.

There is \$2169.18 in the Treasury. Service problems with Key Bank were discussed. The membership dues of our Scholarship winner, Emily Mullen, and our Russian member, Elizaveta Zaykova, will be paid. The post office box will be renewed another year.

There are important upcoming deadlines with AWG. These include:

Sept. 1: Request FY 2003 dues rebates. (Marcia)
Early Sept.: AWGF proposals due (2003 WA Science Fair - Shawn), 2003 AWG Convention (Marcia).
Scholarship report is due to AWGF.
Sept. 15: Chapter Annual Report due (Marcia),
Chapter Officer Reporting Form (Carla).

We still do not have a volunteer for Secretary. A note will be put on the ballot that says Carla will fill in until a volunteer is found. Marcia will make out the ballot and e-mail it to Amanda. The ballot should be on a colored piece of paper. It would need to be mailed back by mail or e-mail by September 5th to Amanda.

Amanda has nearly everything she needs to complete the newsletter. Amanda will check with the membership after the national AWG Board of Officers election on whether we should produce an electronic version of the newsletter; Marcia will check with the national delegates, other chapters, regarding what might be best format, etc.

Carla will take over the membership database that exists in STAR at Shannon & Wilson. She will be able to do the production at Highline CC as a part of her professional duties. After Jean makes the necessary changes, she will send an up-to-date copy to Carla.

The archives need a home. Jean has volunteered to store them. An updated directory was passed. The tentative agenda for the next meeting includes

discussion of the chapter's poster that Lynn has and the scholarship.

Shawn will give a talk on wind erosion for the Fall meeting sometime during mid to late October. Location to be determined, but it most likely will be at Highline CC. The date will also be determined.

Minutes written by Jean Boucher and summarized by Amanda Taub.

AWG 2003 Convention Planning Committee Minutes

The Convention Planning Committee met the afternoon of Saturday, August 17, 2002. Attendees included Marcia Knadle (chair), Jean Boucher, Carla Whittington, Alicia Musselman, Amanda Taub (host).

The Committee decided to commit to organizing a 2003 AWG Convention. Since time is short (a little over one year) and we have a small organizing committee, we will keep it to one day of meetings on Friday Oct. 31 (with few or no concurrent sessions) and a ½-day field trip the morning of Saturday Nov. 1.

Theme – After discussing various ideas discussed for the proposed 2002 Denver convention, we chose “Applying Our Experiences to the 21st Century” as our working theme. Marcia agreed to ask the AWG and AWGF Executive Committees (ExComs) and the other Pacific Region delegates and alternates for input.

Timing – Discussed the pros and cons of pre- or post-GSA, and decided on a pre-GSA convention, mainly to avoid “meeting fatigue” and to take advantage of the opportunity to hold a Halloween party. There is also a marginally better chance of decent weather for the field trip.

Program – Will have keynote speakers, panels, and posters/exhibits. Keynote speaker possibilities include Sarah Andrews, Tanya Atwater, someone from WA State DNR, Monica Gowan. Events may include an icebreaker party Thursday evening (a “rock” party at the Experience Music Project), a luncheon on Friday, and a Halloween party Friday evening. The field trip (hopefully in conjunction with GSA) will cover general Seattle geology and the Seattle Fault. One panel will be of women volcanologists. We are also considering panels on “Working with NSF,” “Geologic Hazard

Communication,” and a writer’s panel. We need to determine what we can offer speakers – free registration to conference portion and associated events, 1-2 nights in the hotel (assuming they’re coming to GSA), modest honoraria. What?

Next meeting – 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, September 17 at Jean Boucher’s house.

– Marcia Knadle,

Venue – We are looking first at the Seattle Center and the Mountaineers Club. If either of those venues work out, we would like to find a nearby hotel, where perhaps the AWG and AWGF boards can meet on Oct. 30. The Seattle Center area has easy connections to downtown (via the monorail) and to a food court.

Budgeting/fundraising – We discussed that significant cash will be difficult or impossible to raise in the current economic climate. We will likely focus on in-kind donations (postage, event sponsorships, etc.) and advertising income. Most income will have to be from registrations, which we would like to keep around \$200 (less for students – can we get an AWGF matching grant for this?). Carla has MS Project and has some experience using it to track projects.

Committees:

Convention Chair – Marcia Knadle

Program (Speakers/panels/events/field trip) – Marcia Knadle (chair, for now), Janet Tanaka, Kathy Goetz Troost, Jean Boucher.

Budget – Carla Whittington (chair)

Facility (Venue, hotel, food) – Jean Boucher (chair, for now), Carla Whittington, Alicia Musselman, Sarah Kemp, Marcia Knadle

Publicity (Marketing, advertising, fundraising, publications, registration) – Amanda Taub (chair), Alicia Musselman

Action items:

– Carla will make appointments with Seattle Center, & Mountaineers to tour venues.

– Marcia will ask Bea Mayes how many people we need to organize to manage the day of the meeting, speaker fees/reimbursement, field trip coordination with GSA and how that is handled within the budget.

– Marcia will arrange to get packet of Perspectives budgeting information to Carla.

– Marcia will ask Mary Gillam what the ExCom would like for time in the convention agenda. Introduction by AWG President? Speech and/or awards at lunch?

– Marcia will ask the other Pacific Region delegates for help with inviting speakers (Phyl Halvorson has expressed some interest in the past.)

– Jean will look into the possibility of holding an icebreaker party at the EMP – ask Shannon & Wilson how they did it.

AWG-PS 2002-2003 Officer Ballot

President _____ Marcia Knadle
_____ Write-in

Vice-President _____ Shawn Blaesing-Thompson
_____ Write-in

Secretary _____ Write-in

Officer Candidate Biographies

President: **Marcia Knadle** is a hydrogeologist for the U.S. EPA and has geology degrees from the University of Montana and the University of Puget Sound. She has been AWG-PS Chapter President for the past 2 years. She previously served many years as Chapter Delegate (mostly spent chairing the Field Trip Committee).

Vice-President: **Shawn Blaesing-Thompson** is a GIS mapmaker for the Washington State Department of Transportation. Previously she held a similar position for the Washington State Senate working on redistricting. She has an M.S. in soil science from Washington State University and a B.S. from Iowa State University. She serves on the AWG-PS Scholarship Committee, focusing on science fair judging.

Secretary: **(Your name here)** Jean Boucher has decided to retire from her long-held position as secretary. If no one volunteers on the ballot, Treasurer Carla Whittington (starting the second year of a two-year term) has agreed to take over the duties until we can appoint a replacement for the balance of the year. Editor is now an appointed position being filled by Amanda Taub.

Please return your completed ballot postmarked by Sept. 5, 2002 to:

Amanda Taub
203 W. Benton St.
Leavenworth, WA 98826

OR e-mail by Sept. 5, 2002 to: Amanda Taub at ahstaub@yahoo.com.

(fold, seal, and affix postage)

Amanda Taub, AWG-PS Editor
203 W. Benton St.
Leavenworth, WA 98826-1005

The Association for Women Geoscientists

Puget Sound Chapter and Spokane Chapter jointly present a field trip on the

Geology and Structure of the Spokane Area

September 14-15, 2002

with **Bob Derkey**, Washington State DNR Geologist

Join us for a 2-day field trip to explore the general geology of the Spokane area and the Latah Fault (suspected culprit in last summer's earthquakes). Local DNR geologist and popular field trip leader Bob Derkey will guide us through a tour of the following features:

Saturday (10:30 a.m. to dinner) –

The Spokane dome of the Priest River metamorphic core complex – metamorphic rocks, mylonite exposures.

Spokane Valley overlook by the Arbor Crest Winery (possible wine-tasting opportunities at the Riblett mansion for those who aren't driving).

Glacial flood deposits – Spokane Aquifer.

Latah Formation.

Sunday (8:00 a.m. to noonish) –

Columbia River Basalt, Latah Formation, and the Latah Fault.

Newly-discovered Cambrian sediments (time permitting).

For those heading back to Seattle Sunday afternoon, there will be a 1-2 hour stop to see the Moses Lake/Larson AFB Superfund site (led by Marcia Knadle as a follow-up to her talk last year for AWG/WHS).

Lodging: Choose between **motel** (about \$35/night, assuming double occupancy) or **camping** (\$10 tent, \$15 RV) at Liberty Lake Campground. We will be reserving a block of rooms at the Doubletree.

Transportation: **Carpooling** (both to and from Spokane, and during the trip). Please be prepared to contribute to your driver's gas expenses. Marcia Knadle (206/553-1641) will be organizing carpools from the Seattle area.

Food: **Everyone is responsible for their own.** We will stop for fast-food lunch on Saturday before heading to the Riblett Mansion. Dinner will be at the Longhorn BBQ Restaurant – contributions will be solicited for Bob's dinner. (Spokane Chapter members not attending the field trip are welcome to join us – please let Jennifer Leinart know.) On Sunday we'll stop somewhere for a quick lunch before heading to Moses Lake.

Please register by Tuesday, September 3. If you plan to stay in a motel or camp, please contact Marcia Knadle (206/553-1641 or knadle.marcia@epa.gov). Let us know if you can drive, whether you plan to camp or stay in a motel, and how many nights (Friday and Saturday, or Saturday only). Spokane-area people should contact Jennifer Leinart (509/328-8023 or jbleinart@earthlink.net).

*** Non-members are welcome on AWG Field Trips ***

AWG Puget Sound Officers and Chairs, 2001-2002

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A very special thank you to our Newsletter Corporate Sponsor: **Shannon & Wilson, Inc.**

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