

# Association for Women Geoscientists - Puget Sound Chapter

## January 2004 Newsletter

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### Editor's Comments

Wow! Has it really been so long since a newsletter went out to the chapter? I guess it has. We have all been really busy with so many professional and personal items to do. The convention committee is just beginning to recover from AWG's 2003 Convention. I really enjoyed meeting so many of you at the convention. It was an absolutely wonderful opportunity to put faces to names. If for some reason you missed the convention or you just would like a remembrance of the convention, copies of the presentations from the convention are available from me ([ataub@co.douglas.wa.us](mailto:ataub@co.douglas.wa.us)) or Shawn Blaesing-Thompson ([mudnmaps@comcast.net](mailto:mudnmaps@comcast.net)). I will also be e-mailing you a picture of the Geology of the Seattle Area field trip. So look for it!

This issue is jam-packed with so many goodies of interest! We have remarks from our chapter president, Marcia Knadle; a plea for money for funding the chapter's scholarship; a reminder for renewing AWG membership; a request for judges for this year's Science Fair; a job announcement; and a long detailed report on the convention.

Watch out for an announcement of the next chapter meeting coming soon!

Recently, I was sent a really cool web site: [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). This is a federal web site created for searching about federal grants. It is really cool. Check it out!

### President's Remarks

Well, we did it! The 2003 AWG Convention is history. It was a lot of fun, but also a great deal of work to organize, so your chapter officers and the rest of the convention committee are understandably tired. We hope that many of you had an opportunity to attend some portion of the convention, or at least drop by the AWG booth during GSA. It was wonderful to get to meet so many new people and to touch base with old friends and acquaintances. We have several leftover convention t-shirts. Mostly medium and large sizes are available.

I would like to thank the entire convention committee, in particular the core members – Carla Whittington, Shawn Blaesing-Thompson, Jean Boucher, Amanda Taub, Alicia Musselman, and Paula York – for their tenacity and fine work. Everyone stuck it out for the entire planning process, and I believe the convention would have been much less successful otherwise. I'd also like to thank all the chapter members who agreed to lead field trips or speak on panels: Kathy Goetz-Troost, Janet Tanaka, Lynn Moses, Chris Jonientz-Trisler, Kathy Vanderwal Dubé, and Lynn Hultgrien.

The AWG Board of Directors especially appreciated our work in organizing the convention. They awarded us the "President's Award," which is given each year to a chapter that has best exemplified the 3 goals of AWG – Encourage, Exchange, and Enhance. I recently received the engraved plaque and will try to remember to bring it to our next meeting. In

addition, the convention committee members received special "Excellence" awards from the AWG Board.

We'll be spending the winter trying to get back into the swing of more "normal" chapter activities. We're hoping to have at least 2 meetings this winter and spring, as well as a field trip sometime in the fall. In addition, the Sierra Chapter is tentatively planning to host an AWG Field Trip along the east front of the Sierra Nevada sometime in August. I'm hoping that enough Puget Sound Chapter members will want to go that we'll be able to organize a carpool down.

And finally, I'd like to congratulate Shawn Blaesing-Thompson, who's outdone everyone productivity-wise this past year. Besides serving as chapter Vice President and on the convention committee, Shawn gave birth to a little girl, Abigail, on December 20. Both mother and baby are doing well.

### **Puget Sound Chapter Scholarship 2004 Contributions Needed**

The Puget Sound Chapter Scholarship award was founded in 1989 and was established to aid undergraduate women intent on pursuing a career in the earth sciences. Recipients are chosen on the basis of their commitment to a geosciences career, financial need, and academic achievement. Help us make the award of a \$1000 scholarship to a deserving student in 2004 possible.

Please consider sending a tax-deductible contribution made payable to "AWG Foundation" (be sure to write "Puget Sound Scholarship" on the memo line) to:

Ann Guhman, AWGF Treasurer  
Attn: AWG-PS Scholarship  
P.O. Box 620158  
Middleton, WI 53562-0108

Even small contributions add up and make a big difference to a struggling student. They also help AWGF retain its 501(C)3 status by helping meet the requirement that the Foundation receive at least 33% of its income from individual contributors. Thank you for your generosity and support in the past years!

Lynn Hultgrien  
Chair, AWG Puget Sound Chapter Scholarship Committee

### **Membership Renewal Reminder**

Don't forget to renew your membership by the end of January to avoid late fees! If you didn't receive a renewal form from AWG, you could either download a membership form from the website (write "RENEWAL" on it) or contact the AWG office at [office@awg.org](mailto:office@awg.org).

Contributed by: Marcia Knadle

### **Call for Volunteers – Need Judges for Science Fairs**

AWG-PS has sent judges to the Washington State Science and Engineering Fair for the past 3 or 4 years. New judges are always welcome and needed. The fair will be held on Friday April 2 (Junior Division) and Saturday April 3 (Senior Division) in Bremerton, WA. We'll award the AWG Special Award for Geoscience Excellence (SAGE) to a Senior Division Earth and Space Sciences presenter, along with a prize from the chapter (usually a US Savings Bond and a book). If you're interested in judging at this event, please contact Shawn Blaesing-Thompson at [mudnmaps@comcast.net](mailto:mudnmaps@comcast.net).

In addition, this year the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (to which each state's Science and Engineering Fair will send its best presenters) will be held in Portland, OR on May 9-15. AWG is recruiting judges for that event, so if you're interested in judging at the premier science fair in the country, please let me know ([knadle.marcia@epa.gov](mailto:knadle.marcia@epa.gov)). I will pass your name along to Valerie Honeycutt (AWG SAGE Coordinator). She will be contacting people in March. Also, if you live in the Portland area and would be willing to host a judge to stay at your home, please let me know.

Contributed by: Marcia Knadle

### **Job Opportunity**

Refer to: [www.geomatrix.com](http://www.geomatrix.com)

STAFF GEOLOGIST/ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST-Oakland, California, Geotechnical Engineering and Earth Sciences Group  
Please refer to job number 03-GEES02 on cover letter

Requirements include:

- \*A MS/PhD in geology is required.
- \*Strong skills in field investigations, such as geologic mapping, geomorphic analysis, surveying, landslide/hillslope stability investigations, and paleoseismic investigations.
- \*GIS experience including spatial analysis, data visualization, database management and some programming/scripting.
- \*Self-motivated candidates who are able to work as part of a team, can be flexible when handling multiple assignments, and have strong technical writing and communication skills.
- \*Experience with structural geology, rock mechanics, photogeologic interpretation, remote sensing, seismic interpretation and offshore investigations are a plus.

Job duties include:

- \*Field work, including field mapping and subsurface exploration (logging trenches, test pits, and borings).
- \*Office work, including GIS applications (data visualization, analysis and map production), photogeologic interpretations, compiling geologic data, report writing for geologic hazards investigations, such as landslide and fault rupture hazard assessments.

GEOMATRIX IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. MINORITIES, FEMALES, VETERANS, AND DISABLED PERSONS ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.

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Please reference the posting number on all correspondence.  
Save electronic versions of resume using Last Name.  
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## 2003 AWG Convention Report from Seattle

The Seattle area had it all: active faults and earthquakes, a dormant volcano, landslides – and this year's AWG Convention. We met at the Mountaineers Building just prior to the 2003 GSA Annual Meeting. We explored ways for women geoscientists to climb higher in the new century.

### **PLENARY SESSION SPEAKERS**

#### **Sarah Andrews on the Special Talents of Women in the Geosciences**

I had the pleasure of spending several minutes speaking with Sarah and her cousin Susan before her talk. It was really quite fun after reading all of her books to just stand and chat with her. Sarah began her talk by giving us a history of the strong female education and leadership with five generations of women with degrees in her family. She spoke of the importance of strong women in a young woman's path to learning. She started to write so women's experiences would be represented in literature.

One of the most common obstacles along a woman's path to learning is working with people who are linear thinkers. She outlined the following list as characteristics of the spatial thinker: "thinking in four dimensions (space + deep time); working with discontinuous and ambiguous data; assimilating data in random sequence; arriving at multiple answers intuitively; questioning all authority; analyzing systems and looking at the big picture; and the ability to integrate with other sciences."

She thinks that one of the obstacles faced by women in geoscience is that our perspectives are distorted because we have been living in a man's world for so long. She thinks that we need to see a path forged by women. She stated that women have a heightened level of

intuition, and a diffuse awareness that allows us to be aware of our surroundings on several levels and not to be limited to a “one track” path of thinking.

Contributed by: Shawn Blaesing-Thompson

### **Gail Ashley discussed Work/Life Issues: Tough Choices**

Gail spoke of the decisions women take through life that lead to a geoscience career, where women are lost along the way, and how men and women have different perspectives on life. Most women take one of four paths: Caregivers-the stay at home domestic, Nurturers-who defer achievement to have a family first, Achievers-who defer nurturing and family for career, Integrators-(superwomen) women who do everything, and those who Never married.

Where do the women go in the geoscience field? There is a Career Pipeline that loses women from high school along the way to full professorship. She shared where and why we lose women to holes in the pipeline. When in high school, young women may not have the encouragement or mentorship they need to take a career path in science or math. They may even be discouraged or have a low self-esteem.

Once these young women get to college, they may not have had a strong enough science background, because of lack of mentorship and support, and lack the confidence they need to succeed. She also discussed that more women are lost after the bachelor's, or master's degrees. Possible reasons for the holes in the pipeline could be due to discrimination; personal choice that the path they were heading down ended up not being what they had hoped for; they hear their biological clock ticking; or a conflict in careers with a spouse. There are the men versus woman prioritization in life. Academia is a male created society where it is difficult for a woman to succeed without giving up family for their careers.

Gail reminds us that for more women to succeed after college in the geoscience field things need to change. The field needs to become more family friendly, more flexible. There needs to be a change in policy and it needs to come high up in the organization or institution for these changes to become reality. In the end she reminds us that we all need to choose the path that works best for us as there is no “right path” to go down.

Contributed by: Shawn Blaesing-Thompson

### **Women Geoscientists and Public Policy by Nadine Romero**

Nadine spoke about the need for science to overlap with public policy. As people with science backgrounds, we are passionate about clean water, pristine habitat, and an overall balance of natural systems. The problem with our passion is our ability to communicate with policy makers at their level. When we talk about our passion for geoscience, environment contamination, loss of species, and potential for catastrophe all they hear is a lot of scientific mumbo jumbo. We need to step up as women in the scientific profession and learn about public policy and economics. In this way, we can understand where policy makers are coming. We need to bridge the gap, break science down into layman terms, and add the economic twist that they can understand.

She also talked about geo-globalization. We need to be innovators, and find new technology that can work with the economic limitations while improving scientific capabilities. We need to “think outside the box” and become the nation’s leaders. We need to wear many hats, take the “arrogance out of science,” and re-imagine ourselves as social beings on a larger stage” (Greider, 1998 “One World Ready or Not.”) She tells us we have the “capability of ‘deep change’ for humanity driven by our capacity as alert women scientists.” Let us go change the world!

Contributed by: Shawn Blaesing-Thompson

### **CREATIVITY AT THE CONVENTION**

Creativity was one theme of the convention. We tried to answer the question: can exercising your artistic side make you a better geoscientist? As every geoscientist knows, ours is a creative business. We create plausible scenarios (make up stories usually based on sketchy evidence); then attempt to prove them; and convince others of their validity. Some of us pursue other creative vocations and avocations. These include writing fiction, performing arts, and creating visual arts.

We pursued this creativity theme in two ways: holding a panel called *Tapping Your Creative Well* and a GeoHaiku Poetry Contest. In the morning just before lunch, we held a panel called Tapping Your Creative Well moderated by Allison Kozak. Voting for the GeoHaiku Contest was conducted throughout the morning and lunch.

Contributed by: Amanda Taub

### **Tapping Your Creative Well**

The Creative Well panelists included Linda Khandro, a musician, Bill Laprade, a sculptor and stone worker, Janet Tanaka, a writer and musician, and Sarah Andrews, a writer. The panelists discussed their work, artistic pursuits and the interconnection of the two.

Linda M. Khandro ([www.oceanavox.org](http://www.oceanavox.org)) is a professor of earth and space sciences at the University of Washington in addition to being a musician. She plays mostly but not only, harp and percussion. She plays her harp music primarily for hospital and hospice patients, funerals, weddings, private parties, church services, and celebrations. She was a founding member and continues to play harp, percussion, tamboura, and douzongoni with the World Meditation Ensemble, an eclectic group of 4 to 9 performers that produce meditative ambient music in a variety of Seattle-area performance settings. Linda's first mostly solo harp CD (*Transition*) was released in December 2001, and her second (*Full Hearts, Empty Mind*) was released December 2003. WME's first CD was released in November 2003. Linda's other passionate activities include poetry, drawing and painting, dance, and organic gardening. Linda treated us to a performance of some of her beautiful and awe-inspiring harp music and poetry.

Bill Laprade is a Vice President and engineering geologist with Shannon & Wilson, Inc., a geotechnical and environmental consulting firm in Seattle, and an accomplished, self-educated sculptor. He is also President of the Northwest Geological Society (NWGS). He started carving stone in 1989 after attending a museum show of renowned Northwest sculptor James Washington, Jr. Since then, Bill has created 44 pieces in stone, growing

more sophisticated in design and subject over the years. Bill works primarily in the soft to medium hardness stones, such as alabaster, limestone, sandstone, and chlorite. He wrote "The Stone Column" for the bimonthly Sculpture Northwest for two years, and the series has been republished twice. In 1998, he wrote an article for Geotimes entitled "The Sculptor and The Geologist", which discussed the intercalated geologic and artistic aspects of stone carving. Bill's work commonly has a thread of a geologic theme. He has created some abstract sculptures that are obvious geology topics, such as subduction, landslides, rock slides and water drops. He exhibits regularly in group shows in the Pacific Northwest and sells his work through commissions for private individuals and firms. Bill brought one of his sculptures, *Landslide*, in alabaster for our enjoyment. He talked about his learning and traveling experiences chasing stone for his work. In addition, he showed us slides of his superb and masterfully done sculptures.

Janet Tanaka is a retired volcanologist in addition to being a writer of fiction and non-fiction. Her novel, *Fire Mountain*, was published in 1980 by Zebra Books. She is currently working on a non-fiction book on women in volcanology with the working title *Vulcan's Daughters*. She spent much of the 1960's and 70's as a folk gospel singer and composed "Creation Alleluia," a 'folk' mass based on geological themes. Janet was kind enough to regale us in acappella with some the music she wrote.

Sarah Andrews was our keynote speaker and is currently under contract for a ninth novel on mineral pigments. Her published novels cover such applications of geology as oil and gas, environmental services, paleontology, mining, seismicity, and the impact of African dust on human health. They are: *Tensleep* (1994), *A Fall in Denver* (1995), *Mother Nature* (1997), *Only Flesh and Bones* (1998), *Bone Hunter* (1999), *An Eye for Gold* (2000), *Fault Line* (2002), and *Killer Dust* (2003). In addition, she is the author of numerous papers and articles that connect seemingly divergent territories. These range from her novels (several of which have been translated into foreign languages) through short stories, journalism, technical journalism, to numerous technical papers and reports. She further integrates the arts and the sciences through the spoken word by being interviewed on radio and in print media. She frequently lectures on science and/or writing to her scientific colleagues and to school, college, museum, and community groups. She constantly emphasizes the importance of the role of the geologist and geoscience in modern life. Sarah was kind enough to read to us from the forward of her latest book, *Killer Dust*.

Contributed by: Amanda Taub

### **The Geo-Haiku Contest**

The convention committee decided to give everyone an opportunity to exercise their creativity. We decided to hold a GeoHaiku Poetry Contest. I was given the opportunity to organize this very fun event. A haiku has three lines with 5 syllables on the first line, 7 syllables on the second and another 5 syllables on the last line. I had received about 20 entries before and at the start of the convention. These entries were whittled down to 9 semi-finalist entries by two judges, Helen Delano & Kata McCarville. Convention attendees then picked their 3 favorites. The final winners were Sarah Andrews in first place, our own Marcia Knadle in second place, and in third place was Elizabeth Pottorff.

Here are their entries:

Sarah Andrews:

Round rocks roll farther:  
elementary, and so  
sedimentary.

Marcia Knadle:

Not on any map,  
hidden faults slice up our world  
waiting to emerge.

Elizabeth Pottorff:

Environmental  
regulation documents  
stratified on desks

Contributed by: Amanda Taub

## **AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

### **Mapping Your Way to the Future**

Moderator: Shawn Blaesing-Thompson (WSDOT)

Panelists: Lynn Moses (WSDOT), Derek Booth (UW), Rebecca Niggeman (DNR), and Ann Taylor (Wishkah Public Schools)

This group of speakers took a look at how technology is becoming an essential resource in the geosciences. This panel highlighted the Seattle-Area Mapping Project, Washington State Department of Transportation's Unstable Slope Management System, Washington State Department of Natural Resources' seismic mapping, and how Geographic Information Systems (GIS) & Global Positioning Systems (GPS) technology is integrated into local education systems.

Lynn Moses spoke about the WSDOT Unstable Slope Management System (USMS), which is used to manage known unstable slopes statewide for WSDOT. The USMS database was one of WSDOT's first truly interactive systems using internet technology. The internal web application is designed for participants in the USMS process to view and enter data from initial identification of the unstable slope, through numerical rating, to geotechnical conceptual design with mitigation costs, to project costs, and cost-benefit analyses. The ArcIMS mapping application that accesses the USMS web application dramatically



demonstrates the status of slopes and allows for information to be quickly accessed and clearly presented.

Derek Booth described the Seattle-Area Geologic Mapping Project as a collaborative project for developing new data and greater understanding of the geology of the Central Puget Lowland. The Project was initiated in 1998 through collaboration with the U.S. Geological Survey and the City of Seattle to provide a set of state-of-the-art geologic maps and data to support geologic hazard mitigation in the City. Since that beginning, it has grown to include other geographic areas and a broadened range of research topics. The project goals are to acquire existing geologic data and create new geologic information; to conduct geologic research and produce new geologic maps; and to support the wide variety of additional research, hazard assessments, and land-use applications of others throughout the region.

Rebecca Niggeman presented the methods to apply GIS for data management and mapping earthquake hazards. GIS is used to assist geologists in the creation of earthquake-hazard maps for Washington State. Beginning with 1:100,000-scale statewide geologic mapping, our group has created preliminary liquefaction-susceptibility and NEHRP (National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program) soil-type maps. The final maps for this project will incorporate 1:24,000-scale geologic mapping and geotechnical boring logs for sub-surface analysis in more densely populated areas. In situ seismic velocity measurements for major geologic units are being collected this summer and next, and will be used to more accurately determine liquefaction hazards. GIS can integrate these different types of data into useful information.

Ann Taylor teaches GPS/GIS to 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders in a community that is based around a dying logging industry. She spoke animatedly about the challenges of bringing new technology into the classroom to give these students something more for their futures. The ArcView 3.2 & ArcGIS GIS software provides excellent educational tools, by bringing history, cultural differences and scientific data alive for students. Ann found that GIS & GPS equipment is an excellent way to bring real-life situations into the classroom. Her class's use of GIS has naturally brought an environmental unit into the classroom. The GPS equipment and GIS software give students a visual demonstration of past events such as the Lewis and Clark Expedition; scientific data such as the relationships between volcanoes, earthquakes and fault lines; as well as a better understanding of cultural differences with visual mapping of cultural attributes.

Contributed by: Shawn Blaesing-Thompson

### **Vulcan's Daughters**

The Vulcan's Daughters panel brought together professional volcano scientists, grad students, and other interested geo-women. Moderator Janet Tanaka and the panel attempted to answer the question: "What's a nice girl like you doing in a job like this?" Panelists included Chris Jonientz-Trisler, manager for Volcano, Earthquake, and Tsunami programs for FEMA, Region X, and Lynn Hultgrien of the University of Washington Seismology Lab. The panel discussed career tracks, presence or absence of gender bias, reasons to become and be happy as a volcano scientist, and job experiences on and off

volcanoes. In addition, there was a fun discussion of most embarrassing moments. After the panel, one of the professionals agreed to mentor a younger woman that had decided volcanology was for her.

Contributed by: Janet Tanaka and Amanda Taub

### **Women Mentoring Women**

This workshop was organized by Elizabeth Pottorff and Barbra Maher. Elizabeth Pottorff and Carol Muller gave presentations and led discussion groups. Eloise Kendy led an interest discussion group on peer mentoring for AWG members. The speakers and discussion groups explored the need for mentoring, the dynamics of women mentoring women, and effective mentoring models and opportunities.

Elizabeth Pottorff began the session talking about *A Need for Mentoring Women in the Geosciences – a Look at the Statistics*. She discussed the statistics of not mentoring women and encouraging them to go into the geosciences. Then, Carol Muller took up the topic in her discussion of *Mentoring for Women in Geoscience: The Good, the Bad, and the Useful*. She discussed her efforts with setting up a mentoring program at colleges and universities called MentorNet ([www.MentorNet.net](http://www.MentorNet.net)) between professionals and students. Her presentation raised many questions in the audience.

After the presentations, we broke into small discussion groups led by Elizabeth Pottorff, Carol Muller, and Eloise Kendy. Elizabeth's group discussed the WIG model and other academic mentoring programs. Carol's group continued with the discussion of MentorNet. Eloise's group considered different methods for increasing peer mentoring within AWG.

Contributed by: Amanda Taub

### **Dueling Careers**

Helen Delano moderated this large panel discussing a variety of issues facing couples where both are geoscientists. The panel included a broad range of geoscience disciplines. AWG President Helen Delano is an engineering geologist with state government while her husband is a geology professor. Of the panelists, Kata McCarville is an associate director of a research institute and her husband is the geology museum director at the same state college. Laurie Scheuing and her husband are both environmental consultants. Beth Norman is a community college professor while her husband works for state government. Kate and Bruce Johnson both work for the US Geological Survey, but Kate works more as a manager nowadays while Bruce is a project chief. Kathy Vanderwal Dubé worked for an engineering consulting firm and her husband works for an environmental consulting firm. However, Kathy recently formed her own geomorphology consulting firm. Her son Christopher (12) also joined the panel to contribute his views as the child of 2 geoscientists.

Some of the issues are common to any couple where both have careers – who follows whom when someone gets a good job offer, timing children vs. careers, dealing with periods where one spouse has a job and the other does not. Some of these issues are more pronounced for geoscientists, a profession that seems to require more mobility than most. Professional competition can also be a problem, which may explain why most of our couples worked either in different job sectors (e.g., government vs. consulting) or in different

specialties. It was also helpful for financial stability if at least one spouse had a relatively stable or “safe” job. All agreed that it was important for couples to communicate, and to be willing to negotiate and compromise in the spirit of what’s best for the couple. Kata pointed out that even within a single career, willingness to compromise is essential. She looks at career choices as a ternary diagram, with salary, location and job description at the corners. In other words if you want or need a high salary, or to live in a certain location, or a specific type of job, you have to be willing to compromise the other 2 aspects. What happens when you need to navigate these decisions within the context of a couple is that you usually have to hold location steady, or you may even have to be willing to compromise all three. One audience member suggested that happiness should be added as an additional end member on the diagram to adapt it for use by couples.

It was noted that there were some significant advantages to both spouses being geoscientists. For one thing, you speak a common language and can bounce ideas off each other. Moreover, both spouses understand that field work, travel, and possibly long absences go with the profession.

Contributed by: Marcia Knadle

## **SOCIAL EVENTS**

### **Welcoming Party on October 30**

We gathered at the Homewood Suites to snack on good food and refreshments. We had a chance to register and have wonderful chats with new and old friends. It was a spectacular opportunity to meet fellow AWG members and network.

### **Halloween “Rock” Party**

A rockin' good time was had by all in attendance at the Halloween "Rock" Party at the Experience Music Project rock 'n roll museum in the Seattle Center! Many attendees arrived in their favorite geology-inspired costume for the costume contest. Winners were enthusiastically chosen by those present. Everyone enjoyed the hors d'oeuvres buffet and no host bar. A great hit of the night was the drawings for many different fabulous prizes. Big kudos and thanks go to Paula York for her hard work and creativity in organizing the party! Great fun was had by all!

Contributed by: Amanda Taub

## **FIELD TRIPS ON NOVEMBER 1, 2003**

### **Geology of the Seattle Area**

Locals were brought up to date and the out-of-towners from all over the world-geology professors, students, geo-text authors, and various practicing geologists-were introduced to the complex geologic history of Seattle. We met at 7:15 am at the Homewood Suites, our AWG conference hotel. About twenty of us followed Kathy Goetz Troost, our extremely competent and articulate guide, on a tour from South Beach, Discovery Park, on the north, to the Jose Rizal Overlook high above downtown Seattle. It was a blustery November day

(but it did not rain!). Kathy, a long-time AWG Puget Sound member, co-directs the Seattle-Area Geologic Mapping Project at the University of Washington. The field trip guidebook, provided a most welcome summary of Seattle's geologic past with Derek Booth's and Bill Laprade's contributions, as well as, much detailed information just coming to light from extensive current local and regional studies using new techniques. The outstanding list of references includes some of the 2004 Seattle maps now in the review stages.

We saw many landslide and glacial features; including a Vashon till outcrop, a till/outwash contact, and a slide at a till/lacustrine clay contact. We also saw dipping Tertiary beds, and discussed the Seattle fault zone. On our final stop at the Jose Rizal Overlook, we viewed the Duwamish fill, Vashon advance outwash plain and the Seattle fault zone. Our treat was a close-up look in Seward Park of a site where "bedrock of the 'Blakeley Formation' is exposed because it is on the upthrown side of the Seattle fault...The bedrock surface drops steeply to the north and is buried by more than 1000 m of Quaternary sediments...."

Contributed by Jean Boucher

### **Burke Natural History Museum Tour**

This semi-guided morning tour showcased the Burke Museum's collections of Pacific Northwest and Washington State rocks and fossils. It was led by Liz Nesbitt. She is curator of Invertebrate Paleontology at the Burke Museum and UW Adjunct Faculty. She specializes in Eocene sedimentary rocks. The Burke also features local historical and cultural exhibits. We had a wonderful opportunity of seeing the back working areas of the museum. We saw many different vertebrate and invertebrate fossils in various of stages of cleaning and storage. Liz was very kind with her time. We also had the opportunity to see all of the exhibits with Liz explaining how they came to be. It was very fun and educational on how museums put together their exhibits.

Contributed by: Amanda Taub

### **AWG Puget Sound Officers and Chairs, 2002-2003**

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