



Association for Women Geoscientists

Puget Sound Chapter

Winter 2005

Message from the Editor by Shawn

Hi All, we have a lot of new things happening with the chapter this year. This newsletter has many details, so keep a close eye out for happenings in March so you do not miss any exciting adventures.

Message from the President

Greetings from the AWG-PS chapter
President – Lynn Moses

We held our second Board Meeting of the fiscal year in Littlerock on March 12th. Central to the meeting was discussion about the new AWG-PS website. The plans include the creation of a number of web pages that will be a resource for chapter members to use. See the section on *Web Page Construction* that follows for more details.

<http://www.awg-ps.org/>

We welcome input and comments as this website is developed. Bookmark our website and check the chapter calendar and other pages periodically, as they will evolve over time. Please let us know what you think. We can be a more effective organization when we learn what the members need from our chapter. The website should be a principle key for our communication and networking with chapter members.

We also are looking at options for developing several programs with research opportunities geared for the high school, college level students or teachers to use. Carla Whittington and Paula York are doing the groundwork on how we can develop and present these programs.

During our professional careers we all do some mentoring and are mentored, and we know the value and importance of this process. The board has discussed looking at the possibilities of an AWG presence in student science clubs at the middle school, high school and college level. My questions to you: Have you any ideas about this, and are there ways we can strengthen and develop this process?

Web Page Construction by Shawn

New things are happening on our website. We plan to have several new pages coming on-line over the next month or so. *The first new page is our calendar page.*

<http://www.awg-ps.org/Calendar2.html>

We plan to rough out a schedule for the year that includes conferences, meetings, field trips, scholarship due dates among other things that will help you get AWG events on your calendar with plenty of notice.

The second new page is the highlighted member page.

<http://www.awg-ps.org/Member.html>

The first month will be the several of our founding members. After that we would like to highlight you.... If you have a paper published, or are speaking at a conference, leading a cool field trip, or doing interesting research we want to hear from you and will profile you on this page.

The last new page is the publication page.

<http://www.awg-ps.org/publications.html>

We would like to show how productive you all are by posting recently published articles, conference presentations, and webpages of our members. We are busy geoscientists who

do interesting work, and we would like to do a better job highlighting these activities.

I am also reformatting the officer pages with duties of each board member and a bio for current board members, and if you have ideas or would like to submit abstracts for articles, conferences, research or anything else interesting please let us know. We have a large web server now so we have lots of room to share. webmistress@awg-ps.org

EVENTS FOR MARCH

Crafty Geoscientist Day by Shawn

We are all great at our jobs, but I am sure most of us have activities not work related that we enjoy. We would like to have a crafty day every other month on a weekend day. Bring your favorite craft (scrap booking, card making, quilting and knitting are a few I dabble in) and kids (and dogs at my house) are welcome too. We will have a craft theme of the day, and whomever hosts can have a fun project prepared to share with the group.

The first AWG Puget Sound crafty group meeting will be March 12th from 11-3 pm. The theme is card making and scrap booking. For those of you who are interested but don't have any supplies I am happy to share what I have. I will have some snacks available for lunch. Directions can be found at:

Kathy Troost has volunteered to host the next one with the theme beads and jewelry making. Stay tuned for more details.

Mark Your Calendars! Newcastle - Cougar Mt. Area Field Trip on March 26

Betty Lyons (Bellevue Community College) will be leading a field trip to look at Puget Group and possibly Blakely Fm. rocks in the Newcastle and Cougar Mt. coal mining area south of Bellevue. We'll meet at the McDonalds restaurant at Newcastle at 11 a.m. and go until about 4 p.m. Watch for more detailed information in a week or so. If you have questions, please contact Marcia Knadle.

Science Fair by Shawn

We are gearing up for three science fairs this year. The past four years we have sent one or two representatives to the State Science Fair held in Bremerton, or in the case of last year to the International Science Fair held in Portland. This year we are sending judges to the two regionally affiliated Science Fairs. Kennewick March 10th-12th, 2005 with judging on March 10th

<http://www.mcsf.net/index2.html>

And in Tacoma, Saturday March 19th, 2005 <http://www.plu.edu/~scifair/> as well. For these we will be giving out a certificate and a geoscience book.

We also need a judge or two for the State Science Fair in Bremerton on Friday and Saturday April 1st-2nd. <http://www.wssef.org> For this we are giving out two savings bonds, certificates and geoscience books.

If you are interested in participating as a judge for any of these events please contact Shawn Blaesing-Thompson at scholarship@awg-ps.org

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Scholarship Changes by Shawn

The board has decided to move our scholarship from summer to fall starting in fall of 2005. We felt this would better meet the needs of the recipient who will now receive her award during the school year rather than the summer. Scholarship applications will now be due around October 31st, so if you still want to donate for 2005, but have not yet sent in your check there is still time.

Also, Amanda has decided to step down from her position as Scholarship Chair and focus on growing a new baby addition. We look forward to welcoming Amanda's new junior geoscientist-in-training in August. Shawn has agreed to stand in as Scholarship Chair until a replacement can be found. **If you are interested in becoming the new scholarship chair please contact Shawn at scholarship@awg-ps.org**

The *Puget Sound Chapter Scholarship Award* was founded in 1989. It was established to

aid undergraduate women intent on pursuing a career in the earth sciences. Recipients are chosen on three bases: financial need, commitment to a geosciences career, and academic achievement. Help us make possible the award of a \$1000 scholarship to a deserving student in 2005.

Please consider sending a tax-deductible contribution made payable to the "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. Individual contributions assist AWGF maintain its 501(c)3 status by helping meet the requirement that the Foundation receive at least 33% of its income from individual contributors. Also, if your employer is interested in providing or matching a donation that would be great as well. Thank you for your generosity and support in the past years!

AWG Brings New Offerings to Help Teachers, Students by Paula

AWG is always looking for new ways to contribute to the community, encourage young women to pursue educational opportunities in Geology, and increase visibility, thus membership.

Currently, AWG offers scholarships at the college level, participates in regional and state Science Fairs, and offers mentorship's for those students doing research in areas in which our membership has expertise and experience.

Our current chapter president, Lynn Moses, brought this topic before the board at our recent meeting. Many ideas surfaced as the brainstorming began. Some of the ideas being researched for viability at this time

include; scholarships to be awarded to outstanding high school students with intent of pursuing geologic careers, broadening our science fair awards to include those at the elementary school level, offering small research grants for seniors both in high school and college with geologic projects, and having the winner present their findings at a future member meeting, and preparing a questionnaire to be sent to local science teachers asking how we may be of further assistance to them.

The board was very enthusiastic about the many ideas, as increasing visibility for both AWG and geologic career opportunities available to our young women, will ensure that our legacy not only as a society, but out in our actual fields, will continue to thrive throughout the generations.

PAST AND FUTURE EVENTS

December Meeting Report by Shawn and Lynn

Thank you for all who attended the December 20th Anniversary of our chapter meeting.

The December 4th 2005 event was to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the AWG-PS chapter, and we invited the founder's of the AWG-PS chapter to participate in the event. Marcia Knadle, secretary of the AWG-PS chapter, successfully contacted the founders: Jody Bourgeois, Linda Noson and Janet Tanaka, as well as the first chapter president Chris Jonientz-Trisler.

The event was started with a field trip to the Mima Mounds near Littlerock, WA. Although the day was filled with on and off showers, the attendees for the most part stayed dry with rain gear and umbrellas. The first stop on the field trip was the Washington State Department of Natural Resources pit-site. This pit-site is an excellent cross-section of the Mima mounds and underlying glacial outwash gravels can be viewed. The second stop was at the Mima Mounds Natural Area, where the group reviewed the current prevailing theories about the development of the mounds at the mound-shaped kiosk. The acres of mounds were observed by the

participants from the vantage place at the top of the kiosk, and along a path that meanders through the mounds at the site. Plenty of theories abound about how the Mima mounds formed, but no theory has been proven conclusive.

The afternoon events included a potluck buffet of food and deserts. The buffet was followed by short and long introductions by everyone to the group. Janet Tanaka, Jody Bourgeois and Chris Jonientz-Trisler presented more formal presentations on their careers. The day ended with great stories being told, lots of laughter and the sharing of good food. It was a great celebration!

May Meeting by Lynn

Lynn Moses will be presenting at a joint AWG/AEG meeting on Thursday, May 19th. The talk will be on the WSDOT Unstable Slope Management System. Location is TBD.

Summer Geo Film Fest

We are still planning on having our annual geo-film fest in June or July. If you have any films long or short or a venue that you would like to offer up for an afternoon of fun please let Marcia know at secretary@awg-ps.org

Upcoming AWG-PS Field Trip – Oregon Coast

Scoping is underway for this year's AWG-PS field trip. We're tentatively planning a 4-day trip to the central Oregon Coast sometime in September or October. If you have comments or suggestions, please contact Marcia Knadle.

Also, don't forget to sign up for the AWG Grand Canyon Field Trip in late June – early July! I e-mailed registration information on Jan. 25, and could send it again if you've lost it; information is also on the AWG website <http://www.awg.org/trips/grandcanyon05/index.html>.

I will leave you with some images from the December 20th Anniversary gathering.



Sarah Wilkinson Kemp



Jody Bourgeois and Janet Tanaka



Nancy Sturhan, Nancy Bowers, and Wendy Gerstel



Chris Jonientz-Tristler



Marcia Knadle

AWG Puget Sound Officers and Chairs, 2004-2005

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