



Association for Women Geoscientists

Puget Sound Chapter

August/September 05

www.awg-ps.org

Message from the Editor:

Well, it is time again to share information with our members, and as I look back through recent newsletters, I find that we don't always follow through with our promises, but I hope that what we do end up providing in resources, field trips and meetings meets your needs and ends up being better than what we promised. Our president, Lynn Moses, has a lot of information in the Annual Report, that is posted on the website at: www.awg-ps.org/Psannrpt05.pdf

Cool Links:

Here are some interesting links that I have come across. If you have any you would like to share drop me an email at: editor@awg-ps.org

Google Earth <http://earth.google.com/>

Google Moon <http://moon.google.com/>

Google Map Transparencies <http://www.kokogiak.com/gmaps-transparencies.html>

World Wind <http://worldwind.arc.nasa.gov/>

Washington History http://www.historylink.org/essays/output.cfm?file_id=7273

Election Results:

We had more than a dozen of you send in ballots this year and it is nearly unanimous (we had a vote for Wonder Woman, Bat Woman and Capable woman as well) that **Lynn Moses** will continue as our chapter *President*, and **Wendy Gerstel** will be our new *Treasurer*. Long-time board member **Carla Whittington** has decided not to continue with the board this year, but hopefully we can convince her to join us again in the future or keep her busy on other projects. We are also welcoming **Anne Udalay** as our new *Scholarship Chair*. Thank you to all the new, current and previous board members as your time and expertise is a valuable asset to our chapter. If you are interested in becoming more active with the Puget Sound Chapter please feel free to call or email any of the board members listed at the end of this newsletter to volunteer.

Scholarship:

We have moved our scholarship Due date to October 28th this year. Visit our website at: <http://www.awg-ps.org/schol05.doc> for more information on the scholarship requirements, or see the document enclosed below in this newsletter. If you or your employer would like to contribute 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!

Please contact Shawn Blaesing-Thompson or Ann Udalay if you have comments or questions at scholarship@awg-ps.org. Thank you.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oktoberfest:

October Fest is scheduled for October 22nd so mark your calendars. It will be held at our chapter president Lynn Moses' place in Littlerock to kick off the new fiscal year, and to introduce our new board members. For this purely social event AWG-PS Chapter will spring for the beer, wine, hot cider, bratwurst to grill and hot pretzels. Family and friends are gladly welcomed. Bring a food item for potluck and/or an AWGF donation. Look for more details on the website in early October at: <http://www.awg-ps.org/Calendar.html>. We'll send a reminder e-mail as we get closer to the date. **Hope to meet up with you there!**

GeoFilm Fest/Scholarship Announcement Meeting:

The December GeoFilm fest has been tabled for this year and replaced by a joint meeting with the Northwest Geological Society. Dr. Elizabeth Nesbit from the UW Burke Museum will be presenting. We will also award our scholarship at this meeting.

Crafty Geoscientist Day:

Our last Crafty Geoscientist day was a fun afternoon learning the makings of an excellent soup. We have two more topics lined up for future crafty days for jewelry making and knitting/crocheting. We are looking for anyone who might be willing to offer up a centralized venue (rather than Woodinville or Olympia) for two or three hours one weekend. Please contact Shawn Blaesing-Thompson at 360-867-9395 or sblaesing@gmail.com if you are interested.

TENTATIVE MEETINGS: Association for Women in Science

We are scheduling a joint meeting with the Seattle Chapter of the Association for Women in Science: <http://www.scn.org/tech/awis/>. We have asked a grant-writing specialist to give an evening presentation on grant writing with a focus on geo and bio sciences. Once the date is firm we will post it on the calendar. We are also planning on bringing in a speaker from the AWG speakers list in a possible joint meeting with AEG-Washington State. Check our calendar for updated information: <http://www.awg-ps.org/Calendar2.html>

VQOnline Goes Dormant:

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

I regret to announce that after 6 years of publishing a print edition of Volcano Quarterly and 4 years of VQOnline, we have to close up shop. This forced return to dormancy is the result of (bad) some health problems and (good!!) my commitment to write three books. In addition to "Vulcan's Daughters", I have been given the honor of writing the authorized biography of my mentor and hero--Dwight "Rocky" Crandell.

Both are in the interview stage. The third is for a publisher for my religious faith (Baha'i) on teaching children about how science and religion fit together...a basic Baha'i tenet. And then there are two trashy volcano novels that are ready for final draft.

So VQ must wait. If you have any articles, book reviews, or fiction you are preparing for us, send them anyway and I promise to get them published in other appropriate venues. Also--if you'd like to contribute some stories or remembrances of your work with Rocky, do send them. Lastly, if anyone would like to take over publishing VQ, either an occasional issue or as a regular thing--I will be overjoyed!

Thanks.

Address: Janet Tanaka
8009 18th Lane SE
Lacey, WA 98503 USA
(360) 455-4607
jmtanaka@webtv.net

Original AWG Puget Sound Members:

Over the next several newsletter we plan to highlight the original members of the Puget Sound Chapter. This month we will start with Linda Noson with future information on Jody Bourgeois, and Janet Tanaka, as well as the first chapter president Chris Jonientz-Trisler

Thoughts by Linda Noson: "More than 25 years of applying geology, seismology and emergency management to the preparation of disaster risk management solutions. Projects have included integrating natural hazards into land use planning, development of curricula on urban hazard mitigation for Southeast Asian counties and numerous presentations and workshops on earthquake specific topics."

"I believe that my own career has been governed more by personal circumstances than design. The requirements for a B.S. in Geology from the University of California, Riverside focused strongly on field geology and conceptual analysis. Moving to Western Washington State College in Bellingham shifted my surroundings from harsh, expansive deserts where the intricacies and beauty of geology are laid bare, to the solace and peace of rain soaked trees and shrubs where it seemed to me that the geology was hiding. Since understanding regional tectonics was my particular interest, I decided to explore my study region in the North Cascades using paleomagnetic data as a means to "see" through the trees. Since then, it seems I have drifted from studies close to my heart to more of a focus on identifying interesting opportunities to apply my background as much as possible for a variety of practical reasons. While I have derived great pleasure from work I have done, and definitely have enjoyed the people with whom I've worked, I do miss studying the basic science of geology. "

" So, what's the advice? While it may not always be possible to secure careers in areas of greatest interest, find ways to stay connected to the activities, people and surroundings that you find most nurturing. While I feel I have been somewhat gloomy above, I do want to stress that I believe all paths can bring wonder and pleasure. The work I have done has brought satisfaction and my daughters - Anna and Kate - have made my life unbelievably rich. As the saying goes, the map is not the territory. There may be a map that shows the best route to professional success, but the territory is full of people and places that make the trip worthwhile. My challenge now is to find a way to pick up some of the threads that I dropped out of necessity and see how they can be re-integrated into the pattern of my life today."

PAST EVENTS

AWG/AEG Joint Meeting

AWG-AEG jointly sponsored dinner meeting May 19, 2005. This was a well-attended lively meeting with an excellent presentation by Lynn, and thought provoking questions about the WSDOT USMS system.

Meeting Abstract: In 1993, the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) developed the Unstable Slope Management System (USMS) to address known slope hazards adjacent to WSDOT's 7,000 miles of highway system. The objectives are to rationally evaluate unstable slopes, perform early scoping conceptual design for mitigation and project cost estimation, conduct cost-benefit analysis, and prioritize the mitigation of known unstable slopes according to the expected benefits. The USMS database tracks over 2,700 unstable slopes. This interactive system is used statewide to support priority programming for unstable slopes. The preservation program has a \$300 million budget over a 20-year program life as identified in the State Transportation Plan.

The USMS database was one of WSDOT's first interactive systems using Internet technology. The application and database is designed for all participants in the unstable slope management process to view and enter data for unstable slopes. The USMS includes a rational numerical rating matrix that addresses instability by type and severity for both rock and soil slopes, with consistent numerical ratings for both hazard types. The remaining categories in the rating matrix are dedicated to establishing risk factors to the highway facility. The history of each unstable slope is managed by means of site photos, archived numerical ratings, conceptual designs, adding appropriate notes about the site, etc.

Frenchman Coulee Field Trip

On May 7, nine AWG members (including spouses and friends) converged on Frenchman Coulee to join the Tri-Cities Chapter of the Ice Age Floods Institute field trip to look at Ice Age flood features and wildflowers. The trip was lead by Bruce Bjornstad, who graciously agreed to let AWG tag along. Altogether, there were about 30 of us.

We met partway down Frenchman Coulee near the "feathers," the deeply weathered Roza flow colonnade so favored by rock climbers. We climbed out of the coulee onto the bench between Frenchman Coulee and Echo Basin (a shorter coulee to the south). We hiked about 3 miles altogether, first down to the end of the bench to a great vista over the Columbia River, then back to the head of Echo Basin, and back out to Frenchman Coulee. We saw lots of Roza Basalt scabland and different wildflowers. Our guidebook was an excerpt of "On the Trail of the Ice Age Floods," Bruce's new book (in press). I plan to buy a copy pronto when it comes out, if only of the fantastic illustrations. (If you'd like a pdf copy of the guidebook, please let me know at marciaAWG@aol.com).

It was a lovely day and a good chance to get together with our Tri-Cities member, Elaine Brouillard. After the hike, those of us from Seattle stopped at Ginkgo State Park and the Ginkgo Rock Shop on the way back. Unfortunately, this was the last chapter field trip of the year. I had planned to organize a 4-day Oregon Coast trip this for this month, but somehow it didn't happen. I hope to do it next year.

BLATANT ADVERTISEMENT WARNING! The Ice Age Floods Institute is a great organization, and is not very expensive to join (\$30). They have several chapters (none in Seattle – yet), send out quarterly newsletters, and sponsor several events between the various chapter field trips and meetings, and the annual IAFI field trip and meeting. However, their main reason for being is to promote and lobby for legislation to create an Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail with several National Park Service interpretive displays along the way. There are several sponsors in Congress – please write to support this effort. Their web site is www.iceagefloodsinstitute.org.

Marcia Knadle



L-R: Elaine Brouillard, Randy Riggs, Rosalind Liston-Riggs, Michael Carlson, Marcia Knadle, Carol Nelson, Bill Bruner, Sarah Wilkinson-Kemp. (Elaine's friend took the picture.)

Last Minute Thoughts from the Editor

Remember to send us your publications lists. We will post these on our website so others can see what our members are up to. Email me at blaesis@wsdot.wa.gov if you have anything to submit. I know some of you are doing really interesting work... even if it is not specifically geoscience related we want to help you spread the word. Thanks, Shawn
<http://www.awg-ps.org/publications.html>



Geologist Katie Lewis, clam fossils in the Blakely Formation, Seattle Mapping Project, photo by K. Troost

Association for Women Geoscientists

The Puget Sound Chapter of Association for Women Geoscientists

To **Encourage** the Participation of Women in the Geosciences

To **Exchange** Education, Technical, and Professional Information, and

To **Enhance** the Professional Growth and Advancement of Women in the Geosciences

Applicants will be judged on their potential for professional success, academic achievements, and financial need.

Recipient will be notified by November 15, 2005.

For more information on AWG, contact:
Marcia Knadle 206-553-1641
Knadle.Marcia@epa.gov or
www.awg-ps.org

\$1000 Geosciences Undergraduate Scholarship

For the year 2005
Eligibility

- Undergraduate women committed to completing a Bachelor's Degree and pursuing a career or graduate work in the geosciences, including:
- Geology, environmental/engineering geology, geochemistry, geophysics, hydrogeology or hydrology.
- Sophomore, junior, or senior women enrolled in a university or 2-year college in Washington State west of the Columbia and Okanogan Rivers.
- Minimum of 3.2 GPA (or equivalent academic achievement).

Submittal Requirements

- Name, address, phone number and email (if available).
- One paragraph each describing your (1) financial needs, (2) current resources, and (3) academic achievements.
- One-page essay summarizing your commitment to a career in the geosciences.
- Copies of all college transcripts (photocopies accepted).
- 3 letters of reference; provide names, affiliations, phone numbers:
 - 2 people familiar with academic achievement and personal commitment (at least one geoscience faculty member).
 - 1 person familiar with your financial needs (may be a relative).

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Completed materials must be postmarked by October 29, 2005 to:

**AWG Scholarship Committee
Attn: Anne Udaloy
AWG, P.O. Box 4229
Kent, WA 98089
Questions email scholarship@awg-ps.org**

AWG Puget Sound Officers and Chairs, 2004-2005

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