



NORTHWEST GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

A regional association of professionals, students & others interested in geology
Please browse www.nwgs.org for more about us

January, 2010 Newsletter

Volume 24, Number 1

January 12 Program Speaker

Speaker: Richard S. Fiske, Smithsonian Institution

Title: Submarine Convergent-Margin Pyroclastic Volcanism

Speaker Abstract: One of Earth's most important present-day pyroclastic environments is both out of sight and almost totally out of mind. Tonight we inspect the submarine volcanic pile lying along the Izu-Bonin arc south of Japan, where thick pyroclastic aprons and Crater-Lake size rhyolitic calderas are found 100s of meters below sea level. Unlike products of mid-ocean-ridge volcanism, most of which are eventually subducted away, submarine convergent margin volcanic terrains tend to be accreted onto continents and preserved in thick, often mineralized (e.g. economically valuable!) greentuff and greenstone successions. In a nostalgic conclusion, we revisit the Ohanapecosh Formation in and near Mount Rainier National Park, where the concept of angle-of-repose transport of pyroclastic debris along subaqueous slopes was first proposed.

5:30pm: No-host social hour
6:30pm: Buffet dinner
7:30pm: Speaker program
All are welcome to attend –
reservations are required
if coming for dinner.

PROGRAM DINNER RESERVATIONS: NWGS members: \$30; Non-members: \$35; Full-time students : \$10. Add \$5 for LATE REGISTRATION. Mail check to Ginny Agnew, 935 Pine St., Edmonds, WA. 98020 (must be received by Thursday prior to meeting). Contact her at 425-776-6151 or agnwv@msn.com.

If attending the speaker program only, a \$5 voluntary donation to help defray the meeting room cost is greatly appreciated.

Location: Pacific Dining Hall at the [Talaris Conference Center](http://www.talaris.com), 4000 NE 41st St., Seattle, WA. Ph 206-268-7000. **Directions:** See [on-line directions with map](#), or: from I-5 northbound or southbound in Seattle, take Exit 168B (NE 45th St.). Drive east on NE 45th St. past UW down the hill and past University Village. Turn south (right) onto Mary Gates Memorial Drive at the 5-way intersection. MGM Drive will curve east (left) and become NE 41st St. Continue several blocks to the [Talaris Conference Center](http://www.talaris.com) entrance on the north (left) side.

Upcoming Speakers and Field Trips

February Speaker: TBA.

March Speaker: Dave Morgan, Sumas, WA., Fossils of Washington State.

April Speaker: Paul Hammond, Portland St. U., Structures in the CRBG south of Snoqualmie Pass.

May 18th Speaker (note date change to 3rd Tuesday of May for student poster contest): TBA.

Spring, 2010 Field Trip: Southern Cascades, Paul Hammond, 1st or 2nd weekend in June.

Fall, 2010 Field Trip: Holocene deposits of Mt. Baker, Dave Tucker, dates TBA.

Other Announcements

Dues are due! Please maintain your membership currency by squaring up with [Dan Smith](#) (see p. 2)! Your research posters are requested! POSTERS ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED AT ALL MONTHLY GATHERINGS, whether at the undergraduate, graduate, or professional level! May is student poster night. Win big prizes!

Nominations are needed for NWGS President Elect for 2010. Please contact [John Figge](#) to nominate yourself or someone else!

Next Board Meeting: January 12, 4:30pm, [Talaris Conference Center](http://www.talaris.com).

Please see the [NWGS website](http://www.nwgs.org) for detailed announcements.

Contact webmaster [Julie Masura](#) if you have any announcements to post on the website.

Photo Spotlight



Aerial view of the Naches landslide looking northwest along SR 410 ~10 miles west of Naches, Wash. The landslide occurred at ~6 a.m. on Sunday, October 11 (central part of photo, cutting across highway), which moved southwestward from the northeastern valley wall of the Naches River, and was estimated to be ~1/4 mile wide and 40 feet deep. The landslide pushed up a 1/4 mile section of SR 410 and moved it into the Naches River and completely crossed the river, causing flooding in the vicinity. Photo submitted by Robin Smith, US Army Corp of Engineers (photographer unknown).



Your geology photo submissions (~1MB) with captions are appreciated. Please email to Newsletter Editor [Tom Bush](#).

About NWGS

NWGS, a regional association of professionals, students & other persons interested in **geology**, provides a forum for the presentation and discussion of a wide range of geologic topics, emphasizing those of the Pacific Northwest or of fundamental scientific interest. **Program meetings:** 2nd Tuesdays, October through May in the Pacific Dining Hall at the [Talaris Conference Center](#) in Seattle (see 1st page). Anyone may attend the speaker program, but a reservation is necessary for those wanting dinner (see 1st page). **Field trips (members only):** one in late spring/early summer and one in late summer/early fall, usually of 1-3 days in length. **Membership** is open to anybody with a professional or amateur interest in geology. **Annual dues:** Professional: \$30; Student: \$5. **To join or pay annual dues:** send a check payable to NWGS to Treasurer [Dan Smith](#), 10203 40th Ave SW, Seattle, WA. 98146. Please include your name, address, home phone, email, and employer/affiliation (if any).

Recommended Readings (kindly submitted by John Whitmer)

Cheney, E.S., and Hayman, N.W., 2009, *The Chiwaukum structural low, eastern Cascade Range, Washington*, GSA Field Guide 15, 19-52.

Pringle, P.T., 2008, *Roadside Geology of Mount Rainier National Park and Vicinity*, Washington Dept. Natural Resources, Div. Geology & Earth Resources Information Circular 107, Olympia, 200 p (see [on-line ordering information](#) at http://www.dnr.wa.gov/ResearchScience/Topics/GeologyPublicationsLibrary/Pages/pub_ic107.aspx).

Please send your reading recommendations to Newsletter Editor [Tom Bush](#).

To report a change of email or postal address or request to be removed from mailings, notify Secretary [Dan Smith](#) at 206.937.5313.
Questions or comments? Contact President [John Figge](#).

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