

NORTHWEST GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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



March, 2016 Newsletter

Volume 30, Number 3



March 8 Program Speaker

Speaker: Lydia Staisch, USGS

Title: Recent Advancements in Methods and Applications of Absolute Age Control on Geologic Materials

Abstract: The study of Earth's history is heavily reliant on accurate dating of geologic materials, and over the past several decades the scientific community has experienced significant progress in geochronologic dating techniques. This has led towards an expansion in both the age range and materials available for geologic dating. Combined with other geologic information, such as geochemistry, geophysics, and paleontology, these new and improved dating techniques have revolutionized our ability to peer into Earth's past. This aim of this talk is to provide a review of recent advancements of geochronology given in the context of geologic studies conducted both near and far: from our backyards in eastern Washington to the top of the Tibetan Plateau.

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.

► [Reservations here](#) 

PROGRAM DINNER RESERVATIONS: NWGS members: **\$40**; Non-members: **\$45**; Full-time students : **\$20**. Add \$5 for LATE REGISTRATION. Make your reservation and payment on-line at www.nwgs.org (or mail your payment to *Northwest Geological Society, 4616 25th Ave NE #397, Seattle, WA. 98105* (must be received by Thursday prior to meeting)). Contact Secretary [Beth Tanner](#) with questions about dinner reservations.

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

Location: Pacific Dining Hall at the [Talaris Conference Center](#), 4000 NE 41st St., Seattle, WA., 98105. **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](#) entrance on the north (left) side. We meet in the Pacific Dining room on the left (**SEE MAP ON P. 3**).

Upcoming Speakers and Field Trips

April 12: Dottie Metcalf Lindenburger, UW, Geology from 200 miles above and 65 feet below: an astronaut's and aquanaut's perspective, and Mellissa Rice, WWU, NASA's exploration of Mars.

May 10: Matt Taylor, UW, Stone tool evolution through pre-history.

Spring, 2016: There may be a field trip to a local quarry. Details TBA.

Fall, 2016 Field Trip: Eric Cheney, Geology of the Republic area and the Okanogan Metamorphic Core Complex, September or October. Details TBA.

If you would like to volunteer to give a talk or lead a field trip for NWGS, please contact President [Jim Miller](#).

Please see the [NWGS website](#) for detailed announcements.

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

Announcements

- The **Geology of Scotland** field trip (June 21–July 1, 2016) is FULL, but we are able to take a couple double occupancy overloads (\$2900 plus airfare). Contact [Kathleen Goodman](#) immediately if interested.
- The 2018 NWGS Symposium is just a couple short years away. Please consider being part of the all-important planning team, including Chair of the committee. Please contact [Eric Cheney](#) to volunteer.
- If you have an unusual rock, please bring it to show!
- Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, March 10, 4:30pm, Talaris Conference Center.
YOU would like to be involved!

Photo Spotlight



An example of the excruciatingly one-sided relationship developed between geologists and their subjects. ([Cartoon credit.](#))

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 of fundamental scientific interest.

YOU would like to be involved!

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 Secretary [Beth Tanner](#), 4616 25th Ave NE #397, Seattle, WA. 98105. Please include your name, address, home phone, email, and employer/affiliation (if any). Professional dues may now also be paid at www.nwgs.org.

YOU would like to be involved!

Recommended Readings

Staisch, L.M., Niemi, N.A., Chang, H., Clark, M.K., 2016, Eocene - late Oligocene history of crustal shortening within the Hoh Xil Basin, north central Tibetan Plateau, Tectonics, in press.

Bender, A. M., Amos, C. B., Bierman, P., Rood, D. H., Staisch, L.M., Kelsey, H., Sherrod, B., 2016, Differential uplift and incision of the Yakima River terraces, central Washington State, Journal of Geophysical Research: Solid Earth, in press.

Staisch, L.M., Bennett, S.E.K., Sherrod, B.L., Kelsey, H.M., 2015, Holocene to Neogene tectonics in central Washington: assessing seismic hazards from the geomorphic, geologic, and paleoseismic record of the Yakima Folds, American Geophysical Union, Fall Meeting 2015, abstract T31B-2892.

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 Membership Chair [George Bennett](#). Questions or comments? Contact President [Jim Miller](#).

NWGS Board

President [Jim Miller](#)
GeoEngineers

President Elect [Scott Calhoun](#)
Independent

Past President [Grace Winer](#)
Lindblad/Nat. Geog.

Secretary [Beth Tanner](#)
Windermere Real Estate

Treasurer [George Bennett](#)
Bennett Consulting

At-Large Board Members [Katie Brower](#)
Student, Everett C.C.
2nd Position Open

Other Personnel

Membership Chair [George Bennett](#)
Bennett Consulting

Field Trip Coordinator [Kathleen Goodman](#), AMEC

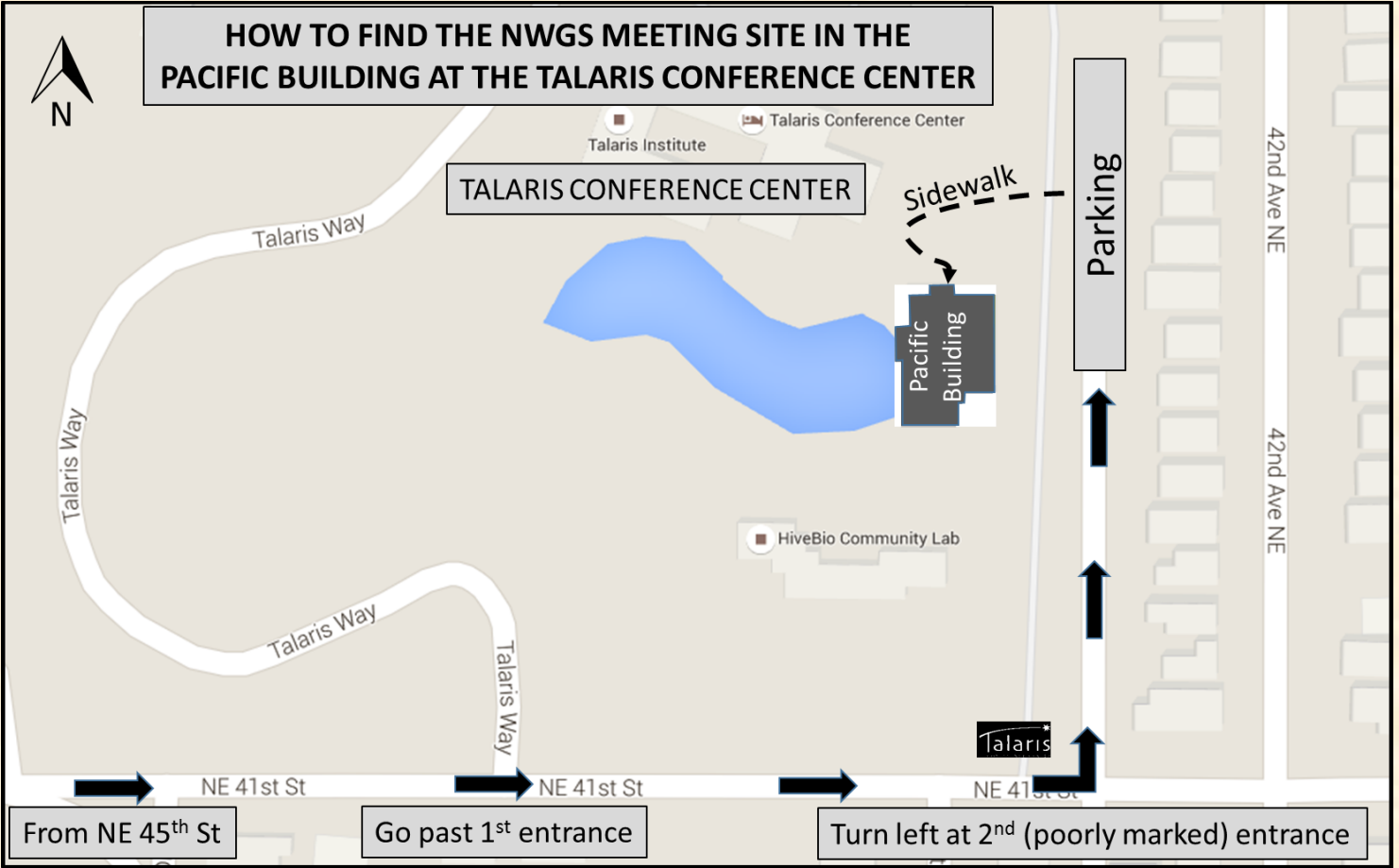
Newsletter Editor & Publications [Tom Bush](#)
Pierce College
Puyallup

Poster Chair [Maura O'Brien](#)
Wa. Dept. of Ecology

Webmaster [Julie Masura](#)
Univ. of Washington

Facebook PageMASTER [Eric Baer](#)
Highline CC

HOW TO FIND THE NWGS MEETING SITE IN THE PACIFIC BUILDING AT THE TALARIS CONFERENCE CENTER



From NE 45th St

Go past 1st entrance

Turn left at 2nd (poorly marked) entrance