

# **NORTHWEST GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

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

January, 2019 Newsletter Volume 33, Number 1



January 8 Program Speaker

<u>Speaker</u>: Dr. Kevin Pogue, Whitman College, Dept. of Geology <u>Title</u>: Tasting Geology in Wine: Terroir and American Viticulture Areas

<u>Abstract</u>: The US Code of Federal Regulations defines an American Viticultural Area (AVA) as a grape-growing region with defined boundaries that has distinctive viticultural attributes that arise from distinguishing characteristics of the area within its boundaries. Peti5:30pm: 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 ship

tions to establish new AVAs must include a description of the physical features of the proposed AVA affecting viticulture that make it distinctive. The code lists geology as a specific class of information relating to distinguishing features and cites "underlying formations, landforms and such geophysical events as earthquakes, eruptions, and major floods" as examples of geology-related distinctive features.

There are currently 14 approved AVAs in the Columbia Basin of eastern Washington and Oregon, one of the fastest growing viticultural areas in the US. The creation of new AVAs is inevitable as viticulture expands, and new areas with distinctive terroirs are discovered. With its dramatic landscape shaped by geologically recent volcanism, tectonics, and glacial outburst floods, geologic criteria have played, and will continue to play, a major role in defining the distinctive features of Columbia Basin AVAs.

**PROGRAM DINNER RESERVATIONS:** NWGS members: <u>\$40</u>; Non-members: <u>\$45</u>; Full-time students : <u>\$20</u>. Add \$5 for LATE REGISTRATION. Make your reservation and payment on-line at <u>www.nwgs.org</u> (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 <u>Beth Tanner</u> 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 (see map p. 3): Pacific Dining Hall at the <u>Talaris Conference Center</u>, 4000 NE 41st St., Seattle, WA., 98105. Directions: See <u>on-line directions with map</u>, 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 <u>Talaris Conference Center</u> entrance on the north (left) side. We meet in the Pacific Dining room on the left).

## **Upcoming Speakers and Field Trips**

February 12: Michael Holland, Reconstruction of Dinosaur Fossils
March 12: Liz Schermer, WWU, Paleoseismic Trenching/Active Tectonics Near Port Angeles
April 9: Wayne Ranney, Carving of the Grand Canyon
May 7: Student poster competition with awards in lieu of a speaker (please note this is the 1st Tuesday of May)
Fall Field Trip: Jim O'Connor (April, 2017 speaker), USGS, will lead a Channeled Scablands trip, Oct. 4-6, 2019.
If you would like to volunteer to give a talk or lead a field trip for NWGS, please contact President <u>Tom Colligan</u>.

Please see the <u>NWGS website</u> for detailed announcements. Contact webmaster <u>Julie Masura</u> if you have any announcements to post on the website.

#### Announcements

- Students wishing to enter the Student Poster Competition at the May 7 meeting must submit an application and abstract to Poster Chair Maura O'Brien via email by Feb. 12, 2019 (no fee to apply). Entries will be confirmed in March. The competition will include \$500 1st & \$200 2nd prizes in both Community College and University categories! All accepted abstracts will be published in the fall, a good resume builder. Please contact Maura for details. (Note that this meeting is rescheduled for the 1st Tuesday, May 7.)
- <u>Tom Bush</u> is leading a geology Field Excursion through Pierce College to the Canyon Country of SE Utah (Arches/Canyonlands NPs) that is open to the public. <u>Dates</u>: Mar. 28-Apr. 6, 2019. <u>Cost</u>: \$839. Registration opens mid-January. Contact <u>Tom</u> for details.
- The June 27-July 7, 2019 Italy/Slovenia trip is full but if you are interested, contact <u>Kathleen Goodman</u> to start a waitlist.
- Next Board of Directors meeting: January 8 4:30PM, Talaris Conference Center.

YOU would like to be involved!

## Photo Spotlight



Vineyard rooted in Missoula flood sands and gravels, Red Mountain AVA. Photo provided by K. Pogue.

### 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 geologemphasizing those Pacific Northwest ic topics, of the of fundamental scientific interest. YOU would like to be involved! Program meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays, October through May in the Pacific Dining Hall at the Talaris Conference Center in Seattle (see 1<sup>st</sup> page). Anyone may attend the speaker program, but a reservation is necessary for those wanting dinner (see 1<sup>st</sup> 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: \$42; 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**

- Pogue, K.R., 2010, Influence of basalt on the terroir of the Columbia Valley American Viticultural Area: Proceedings of the 8th International Terroir Congress, Centro di Ricerca per la Viticultura, Soave, Italy, v. 1, p. 4-50 - 4-55.
- Pogue, K.R., 2009, Folds, floods, and fine wine: geologic influences on the terroir of the Columbia basin, in O'Connor, J.E., Dorsey, R.J., and Madin, I.P., eds., Volcanoes to Vineyards: Geologic field trips through the dynamic landscape of the Pacific Northwest: Geological Society of America Field Guide 15, p. 1-17, doi: 10.130/2009.fld015(01).
- **Pogue, K.R.** and Dering G.M., 2008, Temperature Variations in the Walla Walla Valley American Viticultural Area: Proceedings of the 7th International Terroir Congress, Agroscope Changins-Wädenswil, Nyon, Switzerland, v. 2, p. 648-653.
- **Pogue, K.R.** and Oze, C., 2008, Geological Controls on Viticulture in the Walla Walla Valley American Viticultural Area: Proceedings, Twenty-first Keck Geology Consortium Undergraduate Research Symposium, p. 55-60.

#### 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 <u>George Bennett</u>. Questions or comments? Contact President <u>Tom Colligan.</u>

#### **NWGS Board**

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