



NORTHWEST GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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

December, 2021 Newsletter

Volume 35, Number 8

December 7 Program Speaker

Zoom meeting link will be in the meeting reminder email to registered members prior to the meeting. If you are not a member, please email nwgs.secretary@gmail.com for the link.

Reservations are not needed (we may now host up to 500 participants!)

6:30pm: social hour small group break-out sessions; **7:30pm:** announcements and speaker program

Speakers: Keith Ronnholm, UW Joint Institute for Study of the Atmosphere and Ocean (JISAO) (retired), *Eye Witness to An Exploding Volcano - Mt. St. Helens*

Abstract:

In 1980 Keith Ronnholm was a graduate student in the geophysics program at the University of Washington. On May 18th, he was camped 10 miles from Mt St Helens and captured photographs of the explosive eruption on May 18th, before racing away from the onrushing blast cloud and dodging falling rocks. He has an extensive collection of eyewitness photos from numerous vantage points, and he will narrate the events of that morning and discuss how the mountain has evolved since that time. The talk will be a visual treat as Keith will draw from an extensive collection of images, both his and those from other eyewitnesses, to document the dramatic events that occurred in 1980.

Now retired, Keith was formerly a research scientist with the University of Washington Joint Institute for the Study of the Atmosphere and Ocean (JISAO), deploying and maintaining climate monitoring buoys for NOAA.

JOIN THE PROGRAM VIA ZOOM! Join the program by clicking the link above. There is no cost, and a reservation is not needed. You may join for both the social hour and the speaker program, or just the speaker program. During the speaker presentation, your microphone will be muted by the program host, but it is your option as to whether or not to mute your camera. A Q&A session will follow the presentation. During the presentation, click the **Chat** link at the bottom of the screen to type a comment or question to the general audience, or the **Raise my hand** link to directly ask the speaker a question or make a comment and the host will call on you.

Click on the Zoom link above to join the meeting

See www.nwgs.org for the full Zoom information.

Upcoming Speakers and Field Trips

January 11: TBA

February 8: TBA

March 8: Kelsey Stanton, Topic TBA.

April 12: TBA

May 10: TBA

If you would like to volunteer to give a talk or lead a field trip for NWGS, please contact President [Chris Kimmel](mailto:Chris.Kimmel@nwgs.org).

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

Contact webmaster [Julie Masura](mailto:Julie.Masura@nwgs.org) if you have any announcements to post on the website.

Announcements

- Tom Williams, Williams GeoAdventures (<https://www.geology-adventures.com/>), is leading his Scotland and Italy Dolomites trips again in 2022 (independent of NWGS).
- Tom Williams also has a second Grand Canyon raft trip available Aug 11-18, 2022. Contact him at the GeoAdventures website above if interested.
- **Next Board Meeting: Tues., Dec. 7, 5:30pm via Zoom.**

NWGS needs great people like YOU!

Photo Spotlight



View of Mount Saint Helens looking south from near Johnston Ridge Observatory. Note the erosion-dissected Pumice Plain in the middle distance beneath the crater produced by the 5/18/80 Plinian eruption. Photo from unknown source.

About NWGS

The [Northwest Geological Society](#) is a non-profit educational organization which provides a forum for information and discussion on Northwest geology and related topics. The Society sponsors talks by leading academic and professional geologists at its monthly meetings, conducts field trips to locales of regional geologic interest, and publishes meeting summaries and field guides based on those activities. Membership is open to anyone interested in regional geoscience issues.

Program meetings are the 2nd Tuesdays, October through May. **Until we are able to meet in person again, meetings will be held via Zoom (link sent via email to members; nonmembers contact the NWGS Secretary). Anyone may attend the speaker the speaker program at no cost, and a reservation is not necessary.**

Field trips (members only): The Society sponsors two overnight field trips each year, in the fall and the spring, to locales of regional geologic interest. **(Suspended pending pandemic recovery.)**

Membership is open to anybody with an interest in geology. **Annual dues:** Professional: \$55; Student: \$10. **To join or pay annual dues:** go to www.nwgs.org, or mail a check or money order to [Northwest Geological Society](#), 4616 25th Ave NE #397, Seattle, WA. 98105. Please include your name, address, home phone, email, and employer/affiliation (if any).

Recommended Readings

Olson, Steve, 2016, Eruption - The Untold Story of Mount St. Helens, W. W. Norton & Co., New York, 336 p.

Waitt, Richard B., Major, Jon J., Hoblitt, Richard P., Van Eaton, Alexa R., and Clynne, Michael A., 2017, Field Trip Guide to Mount St. Helens, Washington—Recent and Ancient Volcaniclastic Processes and Deposits, USGS Scientific Investigations Report 2017-5022-E.

Waitt, Richard B., 2014, In the path of Destruction - Eyewitness Chronicles of Mount St. Helens, Washington State University Press, Pullman, 413 p.

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 [Chris Kimmel](#).

NWGS Board

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