



NORTHWEST GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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

May, 2023 Newsletter

Volume 37, Number 5

May 9 Program Speaker

5:30pm: No-host social hour; 6:30pm: Dinner
7:30pm: Speaker program ([reservations here](#), see below for details)

Speaker: Greg Wessel and Theodore Smith, Geology in the Public Interest

Title: Politics and Geology: Examples from California

Abstract:

Why was the first California Geological Survey created in 1860, and why was it abolished in 1874? Why did it take until 1937 for the State to hire another person as a “geologist?” What events led to the creation of the first grading code? Why did California’s earthquake-related programs succeed yet the landslide hazard mapping program get repealed?

The answers to these and other geology-related questions all involve the political climate of the day. Join us to learn about these and other related events.

IN-PERSON PROGRAM DINNER RESERVATIONS!

Cost: NWGS member dinner: \$40; Non-member dinner: \$50; Student dinner: \$10; Talk-only: \$10; Student talk-only: free

To register for attending in-person: please [make your reservation here](#) (nwgs.org/meeting-registration/) by the Thursday prior to the meeting.

Catered menu: Nacho/taco bar, seasoned chicken, carnitas (pork), fajita veggies, seasoned tofu, esquites, rice, refried beans, queso, olives, jalapenos, pico de Gallo, sour cream, onions, cilantro. Limes, salsa roja, aalsa verde, tatatio, corn tortillas

Location: Fautleroy YMCA next to the Fautleroy UCC Church, West Seattle, **9140 California Ave SW**, Seattle, WA. 98136. Use the parking lot on the [north side of the building](#). Get [Google Maps driving directions here](#).

Upcoming Speakers and Field Trips

Spring Field Trip: there are some great options in the works but nothing is finalized yet.

Fall Field Trip: TBA

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

Please see the [NWGS website](#) for detailed announcements.
Contact webmaster [Matthew Porter](#) if you have any announcements to post on the website.

Announcements

- NWGS is still seeking a talented volunteer to fill the **President Elect** position. The success and future of this fine organization depends on shared governance by its members. The time commitment is not enormous, and this is a rewarding opportunity to contribute to the direction of our fine organization. Please contact President [Francois Lalague](#) for more information.
- We are currently working on filling in the talk and field trip schedules for 2023. Please let [Francois Lalague](#) know if you would like to volunteer or have any suggestions.
- NWGS is taking applications for scholarships for undergraduate and graduate majors in geology or related fields. Please see nwgs.org for the application.
- **Next Board of Directors meeting:** May 9, 5:30 pm. Members are welcome to attend. Please email nwgs.secretary.com for the Zoom link.

YOU would like to be involved!

Photo Spotlight



A single family residence damaged by fault rupture. The location of the fault is evident in the sloping sidewalk and crumpled lawn. Photo credit: Earl Hart, CGS.

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. We are trying a new in-person venue this month at the Fautleroy YMCA in West Seattle, 9140 California Ave SW, WA, 98136. Reservations are required to attend in-person (Member dinner: \$40; Non-member dinner: \$50; Student dinner: \$10; Talk-only: \$10; Student talk-only: free).

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

Membership is open to anybody with an interest in geology. **Annual dues:** Professional: \$55; Student: \$10. **To join or pay annual dues:** go to the [NWGS website](#), or visit our website for more details. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Recommended Readings

California Department of Conservation. (2023). *DOC maps: Geologic hazards. Interactive web maps.* <https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/geologic Hazards/>

California Geological Survey. (2021). Fact sheet: 50th anniversary of the San Fernando (Sylmar) earthquake. California Department of Conservation. <https://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/Documents/Earthquakes/San-Fernando-Earthquake-50th-Anniversary-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

Smith, T.C., & McKamey, Bea. (2000). Summary of outreach activities for California's Seismic Hazards Mapping Program, 1996-1999. California Division of Mines and Geology, *Special Publication 121*.

Wessel, G. R., and Greenberg, J. K., 2016, Geoscience for the Public Good and Global Development: Toward a Sustainable Future, GeoScienceWorld, 478 p. (ISBN: 978-0-8137-2520-8).

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

To update your account information,, go to NWGS.org/membership.
Questions or comments? Contact President [Francois Lalague](#).

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