



NORTHWEST GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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

January, 2024 Newsletter

Volume 38, Number 1

January 9 Program Speaker

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

Speaker: Jim Miller, GeoEngineers (retired)

Title: Gold Adventures in Alaska

Abstract: Jim Miller will guide you through his numerous recreational visits to the amazing state of Alaska in search of gold. His presentation will include introductory remarks about gold's unique properties and the types of geologic deposits that produce nugget gold. Then he will describe his prospecting adventures at three different gold production locations in Alaska, each of which is quite remote. The sources of placer gold remain a mystery at two of the sites he will discuss, along with his theories of origin.

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: beef chili, chicken chili, vegan chili, baked potatoes, broccoli, cheese sauce, green onions, diced onions, bacon bits, shredded cheddar, corn bread, cinnamon rolls, garden salad with choice of dressing

Location: Fauntleroy YMCA next to the Fauntleroy 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](#).

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

Upcoming Speakers and Field Trips

February 13: Stacia Gordon, UN Reno, Tracking the Rheology History of an Arc System: Magmatism, Metamorphism, and Deformation in the Deep Crust.

March 12: TBD.

April 9: Darrel Cowan, UW Emeritus, A new paradigm for the mid-Cretaceous to Eocene North America Cordillera: An obliquely convergent plate margin

May 14: TBD.

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

- Please notice below that there are three open Board of Directors positions: President, President Elect, and an NWGS Board 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 NWGS. Please contact President Elect [Francois Lalague](#) or any Board member for more information.
- There are some exciting **field trip** options on the horizon! These include possible trips to the the **Issaquah Highlands**, the **Jurassic coast of England** (Fall, 2024), and **southern Utah** (date TBD).
- We are currently working on filling in the talk and field trip schedules for 2024. Please let [Francois Lalague](#) know if you would like to volunteer or have any suggestions.
- **Next Board of Directors meeting:** , 5:30 January 16, 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



Gold nuggets found north of the Arctic Circle in Alaska (\$10 gold piece for scale).

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

U.S. Geol. Survey, 1998, Rivers of Gold—Placer Mining in Alaska, USGS Fact Sheet-058-98.

Hutchinson, J., Kao, H., Riedel, M. *et al.*, 2023, Tectonic evolution of the Nootka fault zone and deformation of the shallow subducted Explorer plate in northern Cascadia as revealed by earthquake distributions and seismic tomography. *Sci Rep* 13, 7873. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-023-33310-z>

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

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

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