

ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN GEOSCIENTISTS



Salt Lake Chapter

General Membership Meeting

February 3, 2010

7PM at Sugarhouse Coffee

1045 East 2100 South

Salt Lake City

(801) 486-3311

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We would like to invite all of our members to attend our next meeting. The spring fundraiser is upon us and we could really use some extra volunteers to lend a hand. For those of you who have not heard, our event will take place at a new location this year, the Founders Room located on the top floor of the Zions Bank building in downtown Salt Lake. The facility boasts some amazing panoramic views of several downtown historic landmarks. In addition to the fundraiser planning, we have had numerous requests for our chapter to get involved in a variety of outreach programs - these include science fairs, local schools, various universities, and girl scout activities. We will need to decide which ones to participate in. We hope to see you there and welcome your input and participation. Students are especially welcome!

2009 Fall Social

By Katie KellerLynn

Salt Lake Chapter, past-president

On November 12, 2009, the Salt Lake Chapter hosted its annual fall social. We must have a “thing” for geologic art because last year, Genevieve Atwood’s stained-glass window of the Utah geologic map was the evening’s highlight. This year, we toured floor after floor, wall after wall, and display case after display case of geologic art at the Frederick Albert Sutton Building. Dedicated on April 17, 2009, the “Sutton Building” is the new home of the Department of Geology and Geophysics at the University of Utah. In addition to its art, the building is



Our group poses in the main lobby of the Sutton Building in front of the Eocene-aged fish fossil wall.



Slabs of Pre-Cambrian-aged conglomerate adorn the first floor of the building.

distinctive because of its state-of-the-art classrooms, laboratories, and LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification. Margie Chan, long-time AWG member and professor of geology at the university, led us (i.e., 22 members and friends of the chapter) on a tour. Before and during the time of construction, Margie worked steadfastly to ensure that the building’s design and displays were educational—allowing students to learn about earth resources, in particular water and energy. We were wowed by the fish wall, plant wall, and confluence (Take a self-guided tour, and you’ll see why).

In addition to art, we also must have a “thing” for food (and wine, although not at this particular on-campus event). The potluck supper and local cider satisfied us and even sustained some students who “stopped by.” Some believe that “luck” comes by sharing a “pot” at a potluck. Others propose that “potluck” comes from “potlarch”—a festival ceremony practiced by indigenous people of the Pacific Northwest coast. The word is Chinook jargon for “a gift.” And why not? Indeed, a lucky gift is the sharing of food, the support of friends and colleagues, and the celebration of beautiful, sustainable architecture.

“In the school I went to, they asked a kid to prove the law of gravity so he threw the teacher out of the window.” – Rodney Dangerfield

AWG – Salt Lake Chapter Wins the Chapter Excellence Award

Our chapter Past-President, Katie Keller-Lynn received the following letter that accompanied an award from the national AWG organization recognizing the activities of the Salt Lake Chapter. It is truly an honor to receive this award and it is a testament to the dedication of our members. Kudos to all of you and keep up the great work!

November 13, 2009

Dear Salt Lake Chapter,

Thank you for your continued support of the Association for Women Geoscientists. Enclosed is the 2009 Chapter Excellence Award for your activities that support AWG goals, including science fair participation, Outstanding Student Awards, Scholarships and participating in other professional societies. Also, by taking the lead with the issue of registering with the Utah Division of Consumer Protection demonstrated the Chapter's true leadership when faced with a new difficult and confusing task.

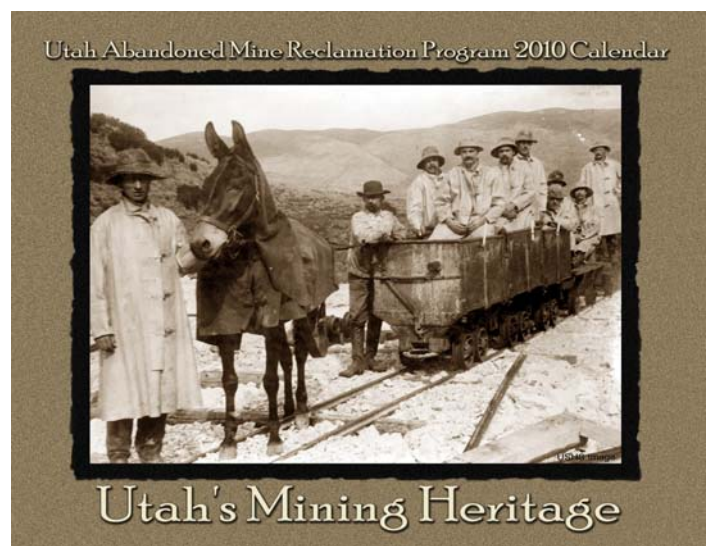
Thank you for volunteering your time making the Salt Lake Chapter a tremendous success. This time enhances your chapter as well as the national organization, and I hope provides you with a great sense of pride. This chapter represents AWG in a very professional manner, and its energy, creativity and integrity is crucial to the success of our organization and AWG is grateful for this.

Sincerely,

Charlene R. Sundermann
President – Association for Women Geoscientists

The Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining – Abandon Mine Lands Program (AML) distributes a terrific calendar each year. The 2010 calendar focuses on the rich history of Utah's mining communities and is filled with historical photographs from this bygone era. The AML program is pleased to announce that a limited quantity of these calendars are still available **free of charge!**

Did you know that there are over 17,000 abandoned mines in Utah alone? The AML program works to educate the public on the dangers of abandoned mines and safeguard the old workings such that they no longer pose a public safety hazard. Please contact Stacy Shifflett at stacyshifflett@utah.gov to request your calendar today.



Member News

We would like to congratulate Margie Chan, Professor of Geology at the University of Utah for winning the YWCA Outstanding Achievement Award for 2009. Dr. Chan was recognized for her leadership role for women in science and her contributions to the community including her overseeing of the construction of the new F.A. Sutton Building for Geology and Geophysics at the University. Congratulations Margie!



SCIENCE FAIR JUDGES NEEDED

The Chapter is seeking volunteers to judge and award prizes to the **top geoscience projects** presented by girls at the **Salt Lake Valley Science & Engineering Fair on Friday, March 27**. Judges last year said that this was a hugely rewarding and fun experience. Won't you consider volunteering your morning to encourage young women in the geosciences?

Six judges will review projects presented by girls that have a strong geoscience component. Last year projects we considered dealt with topics such as proving that stride length could be used to predict dinosaur leg length, testing stream water quality to determine the contamination source, structural stability of earth materials, and how sediment-based pigments compared to synthetics in paint. Judging involves reviewing the presentations without the 5th to 12th grade students present, then interviewing those students whose projects show the best use of scientific method and originality. Using a matching grant from AWGF we award over \$700 in cash and prizes to the top three projects in each of three age divisions. Awards will acknowledge good science and encourage young women to pursue the earth sciences. To be a judge, you only need a working knowledge of geosciences and the ability to interact with the student to determine why her project is the best. The science fair provides all the judging materials and the Chapter will reimburse you for travel expenses. University students and teachers, practicing and non-practicing geoscientists, **YOU** are qualified and needed!

Judges must be present at the University of Utah Rice Eccles Stadium Tower from 7:00 AM to 12:30 PM on Friday, March 26.

More details on the Salt Lake Valley Science & Engineering Fair can be found at <http://slvsef.org/> For more information or to volunteer as a judge contact Lucy Jordan by **February 26** at (801) 537-3347 or lucyjordan@utah.gov.



The Association for Women Geoscientists, Salt Lake Chapter
is pleased to accept applications* for the
2010 Susan Ekdale Memorial Scholarship

A single \$2000** scholarship will be awarded to a female student in the geosciences to help defray field camp expenses.

TO APPLY: e-mail (preferred to janaewallace@utah.gov as a pdf or word file) or send the following to Janae Wallace, Box 146100, Salt Lake City, UT 84114:

- 1) A one- to two-page (MAXIMUM) typed essay, double-spaced, that includes:
 - A description of personal and academic highlights. A description of how you plan to apply your geoscience education to your future work or education.
 - A brief explanation of why you are applying for the scholarship.
 - A brief statement of what you as a woman can contribute to the geosciences.
- 2) A letter of recommendation from a professor or instructor in any field or discipline.
- 3) A letter of eligibility from your department verifying your field of study.
- 4) Address(es), phone number(s), **and e-mail** where we can reach you.

ELIGIBILITY:

- 1) Open to women attending mandatory geoscience field camp in summer 2010.
- 2) Applicant must be attending a Utah institution of higher learning, or be a Utah resident attending college elsewhere.
- 3) Scholarships must be applied to the cost of attending field camp, and may include equipment, tuition, books, or childcare.
- 4) Applications must be received by April 14, 2010; applicants are strongly encouraged to join AWG members and guests at the annual silent auction benefit to be held on April 24, 2010, from 7 to 10 P.M. in downtown Salt Lake City. The 2010 Ekdale Scholar will be announced and honored at this function. Attendance is not required for eligibility. In addition to the scholarship award, the selected candidate will also receive a one-year AWG student membership (\$15) as part of the award.

*Applications will be judged by the Ekdale Scholarship Committee based upon merit and need. Academic performance will be considered to a lesser degree.

**The scholarship committee reserves the right to split the award between two recipients.



Are you planning a career in mine land reclamation?

\$1500 SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

May 30, 2010 Application Deadline

NAAML P is a non-profit, professional organization that promotes the reclamation and restoration of lands affected by abandoned mining throughout the nation. Title IV of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA) established the national Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Reclamation Program under the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), U.S. Department of the Interior. SMCRA's purpose is to reclaim land and water resources adversely affected by past coal mining and left abandoned or inadequately restored. SMCRA levies fees on active coal mining to pay the reclamation costs. Collected fees are deposited in the AML Fund and redistributed to authorized states and tribes to implement their own programs. NAAML P is the professional association of States and Tribes who work under the auspices of Title IV of SMCRA, as amended.

The \$1,500 NAAML P Scholarship is intended to assist in the education of students who intend to work as scientists or technicians in the field of mine land reclamation.

Letters of application for this scholarship must be received by May 30, 2010.

Scholarship monies will be awarded in the form of a tuition check made out to the accredited educational institution of your choice to be received at the annual NAAML P conference. Two scholarships will be given: 1) to a student enrolled in a school in the Midwest or Eastern United States (generally east of the Mississippi River); and 2) to a student enrolled in a school in the Western United States. The scholarship holders are expected to attend the 2010 NAAML P Annual Conference in **Scranton, Pennsylvania from September 19-22, 2010**. Costs (travel, lodging, per diem up to a total of \$1000) and Conference registration fees will be covered in addition to the scholarship. Scholarship recipients are expected to participate in all Conference activities. Tuition may be used at any accredited institution of higher education. The NAAML P Scholarship must be utilized during the 2010-2011 school year.

Application form can be found at:

<http://www.onenet.net/~naamlp/index.html>

Mark Your Calendars

February 3, 2010

Membership Meeting

Sugarhouse Coffee
1045 East 2100 South
Salt Lake City
(801) 486-3311

7:00 PM — Once again, we are fortunate to have an enthusiastic board of officers and other wonderful volunteers who are eagerly planning a variety of outdoor activities, outreach opportunities, and the details of our fundraising auction for the upcoming year. We invite you to come to our general membership meeting to learn about and share your ideas about upcoming activities you'd like AWG to participate in.

April 24, 2010

AWG Annual Fundraiser Auction

New Venue: Zions Bank Founders Room, Downtown Salt Lake City

A little known fact about our planet:

Earth Days are Getting Longer – today an earth day is 24 hours long; however, the length of a day is increasing by 1.7 milliseconds every century. Approximately 60 million years ago an earth day was only 21.6 hours in length. This ever-increasing length in an earth day is due to the gravitational pull of the moon, which is causing earth's rotation to slow down.



ASSOCIATION FOR ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION TO HOST 2012 MEETING IN SALT LAKE CITY

The Intermountain Section will be hosting AEG's 2012 annual meeting, which will be held at the Hilton Hotel in Salt Lake City (Co-chairpersons are Danny Horns and David Simon). The Section needs to form a committee to start preliminary planning, the initial tasks being to decide on the theme of the meeting and a logo. Based on the 1999 annual meeting held in Salt Lake City, we anticipate needing about 10 to 15 members to be involved with hosting the event. Being involved with hosting a meeting truly is fun and exciting. We are looking for members to either chair or serve and to help organize the following sub-committees and/or events:

- Technical sessions
- Symposia
- Finances/Treasurer
- Short Courses
- Field Trips
- Spousal Events
- Special Events
- Banquet
- Short courses
- Publicity
- Sponsorship
- Student coordination
- Teacher's workshop

Please let us know if you are interested in being involved.

Thank you,

Danny Horns
hornsda@uvu.edu

David Simon
david@sbigeo.com

**National Association for Women
Geoscientists**

www.awg.org

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