



AWG-MN Newsletter

WINTER 2011

VOLUME 6

AWG at the Geological Society of America (GSA)

The AWG Board of Directors' meeting was held in Denver on Oct. 29th and 30th preceding GSA. The Board discussed ongoing Association business, announced the first AWG Student Chapter - the Cowgirl Chapter formed at Oklahoma State University (go cowgirls!) and had a teambuilding session where the Board learned the benefit of diverse personality characteristics of the AWG and AWGF boards.

AWG continues to have a large presence at the GSA annual meetings each year. This past fall, AWG held the fall Board of Directors meeting; helped sponsor the Women in Geology Mentor Program; sponsored a session on Issues Facing Women Chairs, Deans and Other Academic Leaders; exhibited the AWG booth; and held the annual AWG Breakfast and Awards Ceremony where over \$11,000 was raised!

The GSA annual meeting will be held in Minneapolis Oct. 9-12 of 2011. Mark your calendars now! Please contact me if you're interested in helping with an AWG activity such as staffing the AWG booth, organizing a session or helping with the Breakfast & Awards Ceremony. We need everyone's help to make GSA in Minneapolis a great success!

Sara Welna, sarawelna@gmail.com
President, Association for Women Geoscientists (National)



President's Corner:

by Jessica Hayson

AWG MN Fireside Chat

Please join us for our 1st Annual AWG MN Fireside Chat and Potluck Event on Saturday Jan 22nd! We will begin with a social hour and potluck at 5 pm. Please bring something to share with everyone. Our guest speaker for the evening will be Dr Harvey Thorleifson with the Minnesota Geological Survey. He will be sharing a presentation on "The Search for Diamonds in North America." This should be a fun social event with a little learning thrown in just for kicks! The event will be at Sara Welna's home. Please see attached flyer for additional information.

We are asking that you RSVP to awg_mn@yahoo.com if you plan to attend. RSVP is not required so please join us if you are free on the 22nd!



AWG-Minnesota Chapter is given Chapter Excellence Award

At the AWG Breakfast and Awards Ceremony held at GSA Nov. 1, 2010 in Denver, the AWG Minnesota Chapter was given the Chapter Excellence Award by the AWG Executive Committee. This award recognizes the accomplishments and activities that support AWG goals including science fair participation, co-hosting the Board of Directors' spring meeting in St. Paul, exhibition of the AWG booth and participation in other professional societies. Congratulations Minnesota Chapter on this great accomplishment!

Looking ahead to another exciting year...

2011 promises to be another exciting year for the Minnesota chapter of AWG. Please plan to join us for some or all of these upcoming events!

Winter: Fireside Chat & Potluck with special guest Dr. Harvey Thorliefson
Saturday, January 22nd, social and potluck (5:00 p.m.)
followed by a talk by Dr. Harvey Thorleifson on "The Search for Diamonds in North America." (7:00 p.m.)

Spring: Joint luncheon with the Minnesota Chapter of the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG)
Tuesday, April 5th, 11:45 a.m.
Kate Kleiter with AET will be speaking about her involvement with construction of the Twins' stadium.

Radisson Hotel Roseville, 2540 North Cleveland Avenue (I-35W and County Road C), Roseville, MN



Summer: Fossil hunt

The 2010 fossil hunting expedition proved to be such a success that we will be repeating this event in the summer of 2011! Stay tuned for details!

Fall: Book swap, with possible talk on sustainability in the geosciences field. Stay tuned for more information!

**Please tell us
what you think!
We are looking for
ideas for fun
AWG-MN events.
Please send us
your ideas!**



Student Corner

By Stephanie Day

Antoinette Abeyta is a PhD candidate at the University of Minnesota. She came to Minnesota from New Mexico Tech to work with Dr Chris Paola in 2009. Antoinette does her research at St. Anthony Falls Laboratory where her main focus is on debris flows. Antoinette has become an active participant in the graduate program as the student representative of the National Center for Earth Surface Dynamics, and the community through a local dance group.

Science Fair Judging

by Michelle Sutherland, suth0032@umn.edu

Come one! Come all! Your local Minnesota AWG Chapter needs volunteers like you to hand out the Association of Women Geoscientist Award to students from elementary, middle and high school! Judges are needed for regional fairs and the state competition. Check out the grid below and see what interests you.

For additional information and registration details consult the following web sites:

Regional Fair Website: <http://www.fair.mnmas.org/Regions/sfRegional.asp>

State Science Fair Website: <http://www.fair.mnmas.org/Volunteers/sfVolunteers.asp>

Science Fair	Date	Location	Contact
Northeast Regional	2/5	U of M-Duluth, Kirby Student	Cindy, cwelsh@cloquet.k12.mn.us
Rochester Regional - Projects	2/17-19	Rochester, Regional Sports Center	Roger, rolarsen@rochester.k12.mn.us
Northern Regional	2/19	Bemidji State, Memorial Hall	Patrick, pguilfoile@bemidjistate.edu
Southcentral/Southwest RS&EF	2/19	Centennial Student Union, Mankato	Bill, science.fair@mnsu.edu
Twin Cities Regional	2/25-26	U of M Field House	Penny, fairdirector@tcrsf.org
Southeast Regional	2/25	Winona Stat, Kryzko Commons	www.winona.edu/sciencefair
Central Region	2/26	SCSU, Atwood Memorial Union	Jack, jfmckenna@stcloudstate.edu
Western Regional	2/26	Moorhead, Comstock Memorial Union	Shawn, ellngboe@mnstate.edu
South Central/Southwest Reg. Science & Eng. Fair - ELEMENTARY Division	4/30	Mankato	www.mnsu.edu/sciencefair
Minnesota State Sci Fair	3/19-22	Sheraton, Bloomington	Lise, lise@mnmas.org

Come one come all to the AWG MN Chapter NETWORKING breakfast!



Every 2nd Friday @ 7 am @ the Minneapolis Egg and I Restaurant
Located @ 2828 Lyndale Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55408 (612) 872-7282