

*Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists*

# PUGET SOUND CHAPTER

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(Online)

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**February 4- time TBD**  
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Quaternary Geologic History of South Puget Sound and Nisqually Reach



## **A Fresh New Year!**

Best wishes for a Happier New 2021 to all our chapter members! After a brief COVID hiatus in our meetings we are re-starting the monthly speaker program, albeit virtually, and upping our communications game with a re-formatted newsletter. Our chapter goal is to continue to provide support for our community through:

- Stimulating and informing monthly programs (mark your calendar for first Thursdays)
- Providing opportunities for professional networking
- Keeping informed on what's happening in our profession including licensing and registration
- Last but not least: encouraging the applied geologists of the future.

## **New Officers for 2021 and Opportunities to Get Involved**

With the November election, Conner Toth will be serving as chapter chair for this year, stepping up from the treasurer position. New officers include Brad Thurber (treasurer) and Tom Doe (secretary). Bios inside. Special thanks to our outgoing officers Amelia Oates (secretary), Clay Johnson (vice-chair), and Tait Russel. Thanks for your service!

There is still a chapter officer opening for vice-chair—please give it your consideration. Other rewarding opportunities for service include:

- Field trip planning (let's hope by the fall)
- Website support and facilitating online meetings
- Speaker and event development
- Being an AEG liaison for your company or student chapter providing news of projects, people, and job openings

Please email any of the officers listed at the end of this newsletter if you would like to get involved.

## Upcoming Meetings

### **January 7, Geohazard Hiking on Cougar Mountain - Keeping Sane in COVID Times**

*Tom Doe (Golder Associates, Redmond), 12:00 and 7:30*

As a COVID project, Tom Doe took on hiking all the trails of Cougar Mountain and the Coal Creek Natural Area with an eye to the fascinating engineering geology. This is less a professional talk than an amateur talk, in the literal meaning of “amateur”—something one does for love, not money. Tom will focus on the trails and sights, including coal mine subsidence, shallow slope failures, and rock falls, with particular emphasis on possible seismic causes.

Tom is current Chapter Secretary. Please see his bio below. We are deciding on whether future meetings will be at noon or in the evening. For January we will try both, though the evening meeting will have a social time prior to the presentation.

#### ***Noon Meeting Zoom Info:***

**12:00-1:00 (open for login 11:45)**

[https://npuc.zoom.us/j/91458574907?  
pwd=Q2lwdVludUpwVUVLUUJnQnYvOTBkUT09](https://npuc.zoom.us/j/91458574907?pwd=Q2lwdVludUpwVUVLUUJnQnYvOTBkUT09)

Meeting ID: 914 5857 4907

Passcode: 964146

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,91458574907# US (Tacoma)

#### ***Evening Meeting Zoom Info:***

**Social Time (BYOB) 7:00 , Talk 7:30-8:30 (open for login 6:45)**

[https://npuc.zoom.us/j/98928918133?  
pwd=R2cwanVPUIRvOHJEbXhEcVV6MHhaZz09](https://npuc.zoom.us/j/98928918133?pwd=R2cwanVPUIRvOHJEbXhEcVV6MHhaZz09)

Meeting ID: 989 2891 8133

Passcode: 308156

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,98928918133# US (Tacoma)

For more details see the meeting announcement from January 1st in your email.

### **February 4, Quaternary Geologic History of South Puget Sound and Nisqually Reach Area**

*Tim Walsh (Washington State Geological Survey, ret.), Time TBD*

It's hard to think of anyone who has contributed more to Washington geology and geohazard studies than Tim Walsh. He retired in 2018 after a brilliant career with the state survey but continues to be professionally active. We're excited to have Tim join us as a speaker! Details in the February newsletter.

## Newsletter and Meeting Plans

This is the first in a planned series of monthly newsletters (inspired by our sibling Nisqually Chapter). The newsletter will serve several purposes:

- Announce meetings
- List job postings (both seeking and offering)
- Coordinate field trips
- News of people, projects, and activities in academic programs
- Announce open meetings of other chapters/organizations that any member is free to attend.

Members are encouraged to send news, job postings, or other announcements to be included in the newsletter! Newsletters will be distributed one week before each meeting, so be sure send your submissions *10 days prior to the date of the meeting (see below)*.

### ***Changes to Meeting Schedule***

We are coordinating our meeting schedule with ASCE's local geotechnical and Geolnstitute divisions to avoid conflicts as these topics interest members of both groups.

ASCE is having their meetings on the 3rd Thursday of the month, and we are looking to having **our meetings on the 1st Thursday**, at least as long as they are online through May 2021. Comments? Please email Tom Doe.

<b>AEG Puget Sound Meeting Date</b>	<b>Deadline for Newsletter Submissions</b>
February 4	January 25
March 4	February 22
April 1	March 25
May 6	April 28

You may send submissions (and feedback) to Chapter secretary Tom Doe (see email below). These dates, along with meeting dates for other organizations (ASCE, AEG Nisqually, etc.) will also be posted on our website, and we will send out reminders via email.

## **Gentle Reminder– AEG Dues**

Your 2021 AEG membership renewal is due. If you haven't done so already, please remember to support your association. A portion of your dues paid to the national organization comes directly your local chapter. This is the main source of income for our programs, so be sure to include the Puget Sound Chapter as your affiliation when you renew. Visit [aegweb.org](http://aegweb.org) to renew!

## 2021 Chapter Officers

**Conner Toth**  
Chapter Chair



Conner is a Staff Geologist on the Geohazards Team at Golder Associates working on landslide geohazard mapping, slope monitoring, and geotechnical explorations in Appalachia and the Puget Sound region. Prior to Golder Conner did geologic mapping for the Washington State Survey, co-authoring the geologic map of the Rochester (WA) Quadrangle. Conner has an MS in Geology from Central Washington University (CWU) studying the geochemistry of the Steens Basalt and a BA from Denison University in Ohio. Conner served as the AEG Puget Sound Treasurer last year and previously served as the President the CWU AEG Student Chapter.

**Brad Thurber**  
Chapter Treasurer



Brad is a Senior Engineering Geologist with HWA GeoSciences in Bothell, with 25 years of mostly public works consulting in Washington.

He focused on Quaternary geology at Whitman College, and Quaternary geology and seismic hazards at Oregon State University. Recent projects include bridge replacements with landslide mitigations, regional trails, and an embassy in Montenegro. He enjoyed teaching an Introduction to Geology class at Northwest University in Kirkland last year.

**Tom Doe**  
Chapter Secretary



Tom Doe is a semi-retired Principal at Golder Associates. He holds a BA in geology from Pomona College and a PhD in geology and mineral engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He has served as President of the American Rock Mechanics Association. For our chapter he coordinated field trips for the 2018 Geohazards symposium. He has taught engineering geology and hydrogeology at the University of Washington. His main areas of technical work are fluid flow in rock fractures and hydraulic fracturing for projects in geothermal energy, hydropower development, radioactive waste, upstream oil and gas, and contaminant hydrology. He does local geology for fun!

## AEG Puget Sound Chapter

Chair—Conner Toth (conner\_toth@golder.com)

Treasurer—Brad Thurber (bthurber@hwageo.com)

Secretary—Tom Doe (thomas\_doe@golder.com)

**Chapter Website:** <http://www.aegpugetsound.org>

**AEG National Website:** <http://www.aegweb.org>

