



# Solar Washington

Newsletter 2/29/04

Volume 1, Issue 9

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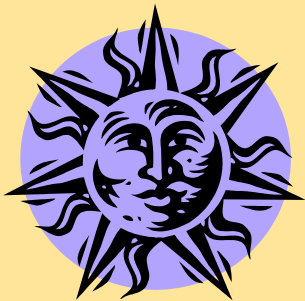
## Time to get involved with SOLAR

It is now your time to get involved with Solar. Solar Washington is having an important meeting Thursday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. During that meeting we will be obtaining Board Members that will provide direction for this organization for the next 2 years. If you ever wanted to help organize, make

environmental decisions, enjoy and learn, now is your time. The meeting will be held at the Happy Days Diner in Lakewood WA. at 6:30 pm.

After the meeting we will be touring a nearby solar installation. Hope you can make it!!

[www.solarwashington.org](http://www.solarwashington.org)



## Solar Washington's Solar Home Results by Pam Burton



Tour attendance varied tremendously for different areas of the state, ranging from 100+ visitors at some sites to only 1 reported person in Chelan County. We received very good press in some areas, and almost none in others. Good press did not mean good attendance. We are guessing that there were some 1000 visits made statewide.

Total revenue \$12,340.24 including \$1,290.24 for the sale of guidebooks with about 400 copies left. Most books were distributed gratis. The total cost of producing guidebook was \$6,573.38 so we should be able to bank \$5,766.86. We sent 400 free guidebooks to environmental nonprofits, state legislators and press, helping to fulfill Solar Washington's educational mission.

Selling guidebooks turned out to be the most difficult part of the project. Despite some great help from coordinators who recruited bookstores and grocery coops to sell books and George Meyer's help in producing display signs, sales were low in number. It also did not turn out to be practical for Solar Washington members or homeowners to sell guidebooks. Mail order was also not very successful. Many people wanted to go to a website and get tour information.

### Highlights

- Increase in number of tour sites, geographical coverage and variety of solar projects including commercial and municipal sites and homes.
- The Post Intelligence article written by Gordy Holt with a great picture of Al Patterson probably explains how 100 folks found their way to Patterson's Bellevue home.
- Fred Herzberg and Janet Large had 57 visitors at their King County home thanks to an environmental class of students shepherded by one of Jeremy's new enthusiastic clients.
- The Environmental Home Center served as the kick off site in Seattle on the morning of the tour and welcomed folks with coffee and danishes. The staff reported a good turnout and wants to participate again next year.

- Cindy Bluemel, our Clark County Coordinator, organized informational forum for the morning of the tour. This was a great way to begin the day with folks gathering at one site and receiving the basics before they began the tour. Information covered Solar Hot Water, Passive Solar Heating and Cooling Ideas, and Net Metering. She was the only one to ask for financial support to rent a room at the Water Resources Education Center Community Room.
- The Columbian newspaper, covering Clark County, published two or three articles about the tour including one that featured the official opening (coincidentally) of the new wing on the Washington State School for the Blind in Vancouver. September 23, 2003.
- Bruce Carter, an employee at Clark County PUD and solar enthusiast, writes a regular column for The Columbian so he featured tour information in Sunday, September 28 edition. Bruce also made arrangements with Western Sun to have the Zero Energy Home Display in the parking lot of the school.
- Olympian homeowner Dick Hinkle raved saying "the Solar Tour here was great! They kept coming, all day long. I got a lot out of it, too. I met two families who are totally off the grid, and I met the folks who are manufacturing biodiesel out of restaurant grease." Included amongst his visitors was State Senator Karen Fraser, from the 22nd Legislative District. He took the opportunity to point out to her that with the growing use of solar panels, high rise buildings, with their inevitable shadows, will need stricter zoning - and possibly legislative - restrictions.
- Members from the Mountaineers and Sierra Club attended the tour and have asked for tours in January and March. The Mountaineers have invited us to be at their Northwest Environmental Issues Course on Feb 23.

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*"Simple homeowner steps for solar: 1. Conservation. 2. Passive Design. 3. Solar Hot Water. 4. Solar Electric."*



## Solar Time is Now!!

Here is a photo of our booth from the remodel expo at the Convention Center early in January.

"There was a constant crowd of people interested in gathering solar information at our booth".

Furnished by *George Meyer*



## President's Letter

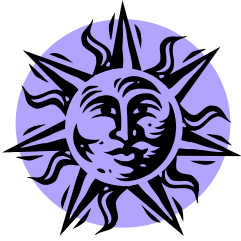
With nominations for the Solar Washington board just around the bend, at our March 18 meeting, this will be my last column as President. From the 13 board members (6 to be replaced, and 7 continuing) 4 new officers will be chosen.

Serving as President has been an incredible learning experience. Leadership has given me opportunities to grow in many ways. Some I have risen to admirably, and some have been more of a challenge than I appreciated. I have had lots of amazing people helping me grow this organization, and I would like to thank every one of them. However, if I do that here it will test everyone's stamina for acknowledgement. I think, and hope, that I have expressed my gratitude to you personally along the way.

I am going to give an overview of the activities that our all-volunteer group has been involved with, in no particular order. Please pardon the incomplete sentences, Mom. Website development and maintenance on a weekly (sometimes daily) basis. Mailing notices and writing up meeting minutes. Maintaining the database and producing the newsletter. Orchestrating, producing and pushing viable solar legislation through city and state governments' processes. Keeping our money records straight. Setting up, working and breaking down booths at numerous shows. Presenting talks and workshops at a wide range of venues. Producing proposals and literature to further our mission of education. Organizing meetings and hosting meetings. Working with the mass media. Organizing our chapter's part of the National Solar Tour, at the state and local levels. Publicizing the tour and producing the Guidebook. Acquiring funding from federal, state and local sources to make the tour a huge success, with over 1,000 attendees at 55 sites in 13 communities. Opening up their homes, businesses, institutions and public buildings for interested people to visit during the tour. Reviewing our by-laws to insure our compliance with state law, and our chapter agreement.

All these things have reminded me how lucky I am to be closely involved with such a capable, committed bunch of people. This is perhaps the biggest reward for serving as a board member or officer. It is a wonderful thing to be around such positive energy, when so much of the world seems so bleak. Focusing on the positive isn't so hard when you're in the right place, at the right time, with the right people. Solar Washington is it.

I'll be around. Best energy, Chris



*“Wind is the fastest growing renewable energy resource in the world.”*



## ASES NEWS & Calendar of Events

The American Solar Energy Society has recently added another award that was not in the previous email.

Nominations are due by March 15, 2004. The nomination form can be found on the ASES web site under Awards.

We are seeking nominations for the: Women in Solar Energy Award

An award for women in solar:

- o To become more technically involved
- o Not limited to a specific solar technology
- o The nominee should show technical level of competence, technical accomplishment and/or outstanding educator, advocate, promoter, change agent, developer, facilitator related to solar
- o Women who inspire young women to enter the sciences through educational activities or mentoring
- o Must have made a significant contribution to the field
- o Must have some working knowledge in a solar field

**NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS:**  
The recipient of this award does not have to be a member of ASES, but a woman who has contributed significantly to the acceptance and advancement of women in solar by meeting one or more of the following criteria:

- o Advocacy/ political
- o Educational
- o Technical
- o Contractor
- o Social change/developing nations

Example of types of recipients:  
This award could go to someone like a science teacher. Someone who has taught classes, made strides and continue to do so, provided opportunities for girl or women students to work in the field. Another recipient could be someone

that has an engineering degree that decided to teach. Someone that started and organization or foundation or has gotten a significant funding source.  
Contact: Dona McClain  
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FAX: 303-443-3212  
E-mail: [dmcclain@ases.org](mailto:dmcclain@ases.org)  
web site: [www.ases.org](http://www.ases.org)

**Have anything for the calendar? Call 360-834-0674**  
[zagunis@pacifier.com](mailto:zagunis@pacifier.com) or  
<http://www.solarwa.org/>

**MARCH**  
MAR 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> St Philips College has a Fuel Cell Conference & Expo in San Antonio TX. 1-800-447-3372

**MAR 18<sup>th</sup> Important Solar Washington membership meeting. Get involved by attending. Happy Days Diner in Lakewood (South of Tacoma). 6:30pm** Directions at [solarwashington.org](http://solarwashington.org) or call 253-582-1531. Accepting Nominations for 6 Board of Directors Positions  
[www.solarwashington.org](http://www.solarwashington.org)

MAR 28-31<sup>st</sup> Global WINDPOWER 2004 Conference & Expo. The Future of Wind Energy: achieving the vision. McCormick Place Convention Ctr. Chicago IL  
[www.awea.org](http://www.awea.org)

**APRIL**  
APR 8-10<sup>th</sup> SEI Workshop Utility Interactive PV. Guemes Isl. \$350. [www.solarenergy.org](http://www.solarenergy.org)  
APR 12-17<sup>th</sup> SEI Workshop-Homebuilt Wind Generators Guemes Isl. WA. \$600.00.

APR 18<sup>th</sup> SEI Workshop- Intro to Renewable Energy. Guemes Isl. WA. \$75.00  
[www.solarenergy.org](http://www.solarenergy.org)

APR 21-23 EnvironDesign8 “Sustainability at Work” Conference. Minneapolis Convention Ctr Minneapolis, MN  
[www.environdesign.com](http://www.environdesign.com)

**MAY 15-16<sup>th</sup> SEI Workshop-Successful Solar Businesses.** Carbondale, CO \$200.00  
[www.solarenergy.org](http://www.solarenergy.org)

**JUNE 1-4<sup>th</sup> SEI Workshop-Solar Hot Water.** Carbondale CO \$450 [www.solarenergy.org](http://www.solarenergy.org)

**JULY 11-14<sup>th</sup> ASES Conference A Solar Harvest Growing Opportunities.** Portland, OR  
DoubleTree Lloyd Center Hotel Check out the Program. We need Volunteers to help!  
[www.ases.org](http://www.ases.org) or  
[www.solarwa.org](http://www.solarwa.org)

**AUG 5-7<sup>th</sup> The SouthWest Sustainability Expo.** Flagstaff, AZ . One of the nation’s best  
[www.sustainabilityexpo.com](http://www.sustainabilityexpo.com)

**AUG 22-27 2004 ACEEE Summer Study on Energy Efficiency in Buildings.** “Breaking Out of the Box” Asilomar Conference Ctr, Pacific Grove, CA [www.aceee.org](http://www.aceee.org)

**August 8-12 2005 ISES/ASES “Bringing Water to the Water”** Orlando, FL. [www.ises.org](http://www.ises.org)



## Solar Washington's December Meeting Minutes by SW Member

General Meeting Minutes for Solar Washington at Roundtable Pizza, 730 NW Gilman Blvd, Issaquah, WA, November 20, 2003.

### Welcome and Introductions-

Attendees introduced themselves, and presented activities that they are involved in.

### Solar Washington Brochure-

Solar Washington is calling for membership help. A committee is being formed for the purpose of developing a Solar Washington Brochure. Ms. Celt Schira and Ms. Dulce Setterfield are coordinating the brochure effort and are requesting help from the membership. Contact Chris Herman to volunteer your services.

### Legislative Update-

Mike Nelson discussed current legislation in Olympia. Senator Erick Poulsen is working, with Senator Bob Morton, on an energy bill promoting our states investment into solar energy.

Our website master, George Meyer, is asking for help from our membership. If you know of pending or proposed legislation related to solar or alternative energy use, local or national, please relay this information to George Meyer, so he can put links to this information on our website.

### Chapter Member email addresses to ASES-

ASES has requested the e-mail addresses of our membership. A vote was held to approve of ASES's request. The attendees voted in favor of providing our e-mails to ASES. These e-mail addresses will be kept confidential to ASES. ASES's intent is to contact the membership and ask them to join ASES. If and when you are contacted by ASES, you have the option to have them drop your e-mail from their records.

### SEI / Home Power Magazine partnership for Folklife-

Northwest Folklife, founded in 1972, is an independent, nonprofit organization that promotes the cultural heritage of Pacific Northwest communities. Supported through individual donations, grants and sponsorships, Northwest Folklife is the most visible advocate of the traditional arts in the Northwest region. It presents the annual Memorial Day weekend Northwest Folklife Festival, education programs and other public programs. It produces recordings, publications and exhibits and provides research and consulting services.

SEI (Solar Energy International) and Senior Editor for Home Power, Ian Woofenden are looking for help in finding a sponsor who will support a renewable energy table at the Northwest Folklife Festival in 2004.

### 2004 ASES Conference Organizing Committee Meeting Report-

Solar Washington is a co-sponsor for the 2004 ASES Conference in Portland, Oregon on July 11-14, 2004. Please submit suggestions for workshops, tours, or information sessions ASAP. Many Deadlines have already have past.

### Solar Tour Summary-

The Solar Tour took place October 4, 2003. Tour books were sent to all the state legislators to promote the cause of solar energy. For next year's tour, our membership needs to identify and locate additional projects. Also, additional tour coordinators covering the whole state of Washington are needed. This job is for one day from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Please forward any information you have to the board of Solar Washington.

### Tour of JX Crystals-

Lew & Jany Fraas, owners of JX Crystals, showed the thirty-six members present their two production facilities. The group broke up into two smaller groups to visit the GaSb crystal manufacturing and wafer cutting facility. JX Crystals grows high quality Gallium Antimonide (GaSb) single crystal ingots using encapsulated Czochralski crystal pullers. They also round, saw cut, lap and polish GaSb wafers and can supply an epi-ready surface quality. Products they're working on include; Thermovoltaic cells, 40% efficient PV concentrators, 2.5X mirrored modules with 20% efficient sunpower cells, and hybrid lighting. Fascinating cutting edge work to inspire us all.

Solar Washington's mission is to further the development for renewable energy and related arts, sciences, and technologies with concern for the economic, environmental, and social fabric of the State. We welcome any persons or organizations that raise the level of public awareness for this purpose.

## YES! SIGN ME UP

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email address \_\_\_\_\_

- Enclosed is my **Corporate** Membership in Solar Washington. Membership includes email update on solar activities. This membership provides discounts on Workshop and newsletter mention. **Remit \$150.00**
- Enclosed is my **Professional** Membership in Solar Washington. Membership includes email update on solar activities. This membership also updates my **ASES** membership. **Remit \$100.00**
- Enclosed is my **Regular** Yearly Membership in Solar Washington. Membership includes email update on solar activities (Post High School Students Remit \$15.00 Plus ID, Youth (K-12) Remit \$5 Plus ID) **Remit \$40.00**

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