

# WASHINGTON AGATE & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume XV ISSUE 8

AUGUST 2012

OLYMPIA WA

WEBSITE: [HTTP://WWW.WAMSOLYMPIA.WORDPRESS.COM](http://www.wamsolympia.wordpress.com)

## REFRESHMENT LIST:

**AUGUST - CLUB PICNIC (NEW DATE 8/14 - COULDN'T GET 1ST TUESDAY.)**

**SEPTEMBER - GREG TOLBERT**

**OCTOBER - MIKE TANAKA**

**NOVEMBER - JERRY SPRENGEL**

**DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**BUY...SELL...TRADE**

*This column is offered free to WAMS members to buy, sell or trade equipment or material related to rocks or minerals.*

## TENINO SHOW :

No. 18 is now in the books. A tip of the hat and a special thanks to Dan DeBoer for his time and effort. Without his leadership, it simply would not happen. This year our club members came through in spades. There were plenty of folks helping from loading up on Thursday until unloading on Monday.

*Thanks again to Dan and Vicki DeBoer and his supporting cast: Charley Price, Bob & Kathleen Hansson, Chuck and Becky Holmquist, Leann Caranci, Mike Tanaka, Keith Greetham, Jim Thomas, M J Huetter, Jerry Sprengel, Greg, Kara, and Zoe. (guest appearances by Albert Bachman and Eleanor Miller).*

## REMEMBER: AUGUST IS OUR POTLUCK! BE THERE OR BE SQUARE!

Be sure you go to the Rose Garden kitchen at Priest Point Park for our August meeting. (Off to the right as you enter the Park.) We are meeting on 8/14 not 8/7. (Maybe this year's different date will fool the bees. ) Dinner starts at 6 p.m. Bring a dish (salad, main course, or desert). The club will supply plates, utensils and drinks. After we eat, there will be a "tail gate" rock swap. The better material you bring to trade means better material you'll receive in return. Be ready to trade and have fun. No business will be conducted. *Also on*

*sale will be slabs purchased by the club at the show. Our cost is 25 cents. So bring change if interested in nice slabs.*

**ALL POINTS BULLETIN:** The good news is that over the last 5 or more years, M.J. Huetter has sold off most of the 50 buckets of rock that used to fill his back yard. He's looking to replenish. Any rock or buckets of rock you want to get rid of bring to the potluck. He'll sort it out into sellable inventory and dump the rest. Or call him at 459-8121 for pick up. A couple of years ago Jerry donated 10 buckets of rock that were sold for a tidy profit. Last year, the club acquired 20 buckets from Eleanor Miller. At the this year's show, Keith Greetham donated two boxes of slabs, approx 160 pieces. For most we'll get 50 cents, some \$1. Recall the old rockhound adage: Don't stick you family with tons of rock when the music stops. Donate before it's too late.

## GEOLOGY CORNER

**BY RON GRAICHEN**

**PUBLISHED BY CARNY HOUND**

**Obsidian is volcanic glass similar to ordinary window glass. It is generally black, but some is "mahogany" in color. The black color is caused by tiny specks of iron, (probably magnetite) while the red is created when the iron rusts. Obsidian (glass) is really non-crystalline silica and is a "hard liquid". As such it is chemically unstable, meaning silica wants to align into crystal form. Because of this property, the glass does "rot" very slowly. Have you noticed that very old window glass is more brittle than new glass? Obsidian is a very young volcanic product in geologic time. There is no obsidian in "old" rocks.**

## TREASURY REPORT:

*The checking stands at \$5788.05, plus we own 20 tables and about \$200 in slabs. The latter will get turned into cash at the Castle Rock show in September and the Lacey Fun Fair in May 2013.*

## LOCAL FIELD TRIPS (PUB. WSMC)

CMS, WMSC = Cascade Mineral Society. Brian Williams (206) 290-2312 email [bwaters2011@gmail.com](mailto:bwaters2011@gmail.com)  
 Ed L = Ed Lehman (425) 334-6282 [wsmced@hotmail.com](mailto:wsmced@hotmail.com)  
 WSMC = Washington State Mineral Council, use Ed above.  
 BC Wagon masters: Clair Belzer 604-946-8656  
 Kit = Kitsap Rock club: Tony Schackmann 360-372-2777  
 Maple = Maplewood club: Don Furey 425-348-4827  
 Msvl = Marysville club: Christina Morrissey 425-398-1300  
 Mt. Baker club: Kris Menger 360-366-0576 [kmenter@comcast.net](mailto:kmenter@comcast.net)  
 East King = East King Co, Norma Kikkert, 206-612-3113  
 N.W.R. = NW Rockies & MT Baker clubs: Kathy Earnst 360-856-0588 or Ed Lehman 425-334-6282  
 Pvgm = Puyallup Rock Club Tony Johnson 253-863-9238  
 Bellv = Bellevue, Bruce Himko, 425-957-1284  
 Skagit = Skagit Rock Club: Vi Jones 360-424-8340  
 Pebb = Whidbey Pebble Pushers: Dick Edwards 360-579-2807  
 Pow Wow club = Cliff Matteson (253) 475-8433  
[cliff.conniematteson@gmail.com](mailto:cliff.conniematteson@gmail.com)  
 Longview = Longview club Emmett Johnson 360-636-3491  
 Ashwood Oregon Darrell Friend 541-489-3252, web page [www.ashwoodrockstock.com](http://www.ashwoodrockstock.com)  
 Eking = East King Norma Kikkert, [kev1123@hotmail.com](mailto:kev1123@hotmail.com)  
 WAC - Washington Agate Club  
 Yak = Yakima Rock Club Bill Snell 509-933-2093  
 Whidb = Whidbey Rock Clubs Dick Edwards 360-579-2807  
 BELL = Bellingham Rock Club Brian Hughes 360-671-7330  
 EVR = Everett Rock Club Bob Johnson 425-408-0849  
 NID = North Idaho Diane Rose 208-667-8591  
 PVGM = Puyallup Valley Tony Johnson 253-863-9238  
 Elb = Ellensburg Rock Dave Master (509) 925-3827  
 WAMS = Wa Agate & Mineral Club.  
 Boe = Boeing Rock club Erik Chilson 360-825-3138  
 Swms = SWest WA Mineral Society Dave Roth 360-295-3567  
 W Sea = West Seattle Rock Club Brian Waters 206-290-2312  
 Always call the club rep to confirm all trip data. Some trips have fees to non club members, so they can be a day member and be covered under club insurance. The usual fee is \$.50 a day. Pow Wow requires membership \$3 each a year. WSMC 6100 Road trip rider fee is \$8 to help offset the \$65 vehicle access permit we must purchase. Some trips have no charge.

## UPCOMING SHOWS: 2012

**MAPLEWOOD ROCK AND GEM CLUB: AUG 11-12.**  
**MAPLEWOOD CLUBHOUSE. 8802 196TH STREET SW**  
**EDMONDS WA**

**CLALLAM COUNTY GEM SHOW: SEPT 8-9. VERN BURTON**  
**COMMUNITY CENTER, 308 E 8TH STREET PORT ANGELES**  
**WA**

**SWMS SHOW 09/15-16. CASTLE ROCK FAIRGROUNDS.**

## FIELD TRIPS: 2012

**NW OP: GREENWATER 8/18-19. ENUMCLAW RANGER STATION. AGATE, JASPER. DIG & LIGHT HARD ROCK.**

**NORTHWEST FEDERATION RETREAT LABOR DAY WEEKEND AT THE HANCOCK FIELD STATION, ANTELOPE OREGON. COST IS \$270 PER PERSON FOR ROOM AND BOARD PLUS AN ADDITIONAL \$45 FOR CLASSES. CLASSES MAY INCLUDE CASTING, CABLING, FACETING, SILVERSMITHING AND BEADING. ALSO ON TAB ARE FIELD TRIPS, SPEAKER PRESENTATIONS, AN AUCTION AND "SHOW AND TELL." INFORMATION AT WEB SITE [WWW.AMFED.ORG/NFMS](http://WWW.AMFED.ORG/NFMS)**  
**POWWOW: RED TOP 9/8-9. W FORK TEANAWAY CAMP. GEODES, AGATE, JADE. DIG & LIGHT HARD ROCK.**  
**NW-OP: LITTLE NACHESE 9/15. TO BE DETERMINED. THUNDER EGGS, RHYOLITE. DIG & LIGHT HARD ROCK.**

**MSVL: MILLER RIVER 10/27. HWY 2 MONEY CREEK CAMPGROUND. PICURE JASPER. ROCK HAMMER AND CONTAINER.**

**PAINTING THE RUBY RED** Lapidary Journal  
 March 1992

If rocks and minerals came in shades of black, white, and gray, there would be few minerals we would consider gems. Oh, we might value certain minerals such as quartz, tourmaline, or corundum for their industrial properties, but in a world where color is often a criterion for beauty--the leaves of fall, fashions of spring, or a friend's eyes--we would almost certainly not treasure rocks and minerals for their beauty. For without color, a gemstone, with the notable exception of diamond, is just another "rock".

For nature to paint the ruby red, an extraordinary set of coincidences must take place. Many gems and mineral fans can recite the fact that chromium is the coloring agent for ruby, or some other element accounts for the hue of another gem, but that is just scratching the surface. What do we mean by "agent" or "accounts for"--just how does chromium give ruby its prized red? And more puzzling still, how does chromium make a ruby look red but an emerald look green?

Those are big questions and we don't pretend to try to answer them fully here, but we will probe a little deeper and examine not merely the chemical element, such as chromium, but the particles that make up the atoms of those elements and how they interact. For us to see colored stones, the right atoms of the right elements must be in the right places in the right amounts. And on top of that, these minute bits of matter must all be coordinated with the mercurial nature of light. For without light, gemstones, no matter how perfect their atomic recipe, would have no color.

## INTERNET ROCK SITES

1. [www.orerockon.com](http://www.orerockon.com) - Pacific NW field trips, equip buy/sell, misc.
2. [www.wrightsrockshop.com](http://www.wrightsrockshop.com) Has everything.
3. [www.agateswithinclusions.com](http://www.agateswithinclusions.com). The name sums it up.
4. [www.geocities.com/Yosemite/Forest/2031/](http://www.geocities.com/Yosemite/Forest/2031/) . Terry's Oregon Rock Page has info on Oregon collecting.
5. Information on collecting in Eastern Oregon during the Madras Pow Wow: Write Eula Dillard, 145 E. 179th, Spanaway WA 98387 or call 253-847-2755.
6. [www.wyodonor.org](http://www.wyodonor.org) and [www.thermopywy.net/bhbf](http://www.thermopywy.net/bhbf) for dinosaur excavation trips.
7. <http://mineral.galleries.com/minerals/byname.htm>  
Part of Amethyst Galleries, Inc.'s web site, this is a listing of all the minerals in that company's (extremely extensive) database. More than a mere list, however, each entry is linked to its own page, giving info. such as the mineral's chemical composition, history, physical characteristics, and so on.
8. <http://www.goodearth.com/virtcave.html> The virtual cave site offers a directory of all caves in the US that are open to the public.
9. <http://www.luckystrickemine.com> Info from Prineville, OR rock dig site.
10. <http://www.the.gemshop.com>. The Gem Shop in Cedarburg, Wisconsin hold claims to central Oregon rock sites.
11. [www.rockhounds.com](http://www.rockhounds.com) This is a great site! Every aspect of rockhounding is addressed or it gives you a link.
12. [www.stonetrails.com/ORlocs/ORlocs.htm](http://www.stonetrails.com/ORlocs/ORlocs.htm) Oregon rock sites Replace OR with WA...you'll get Washington sites.
13. <http://www.kinglseynorth.com>. **Buy grit in bulk.**
14. [www.fs.fed.us/](http://www.fs.fed.us/) - Fees and required permits for access to Federal lands.
15. General interest sites: [www.rockhounds.com](http://www.rockhounds.com), [www.fireagate.com](http://www.fireagate.com), [www.awesomegems.com](http://www.awesomegems.com)
16. Be sure to go to our website (See top of Page 1). There are numerous links to other sites.
17. WEBSITES FOR DINO LOVERS  
<http://dsc.discovery.com> Look for games and videos  
<http://www.paleoportal.org>  
<http://www.msnbc.msn.com> Look for technology and science.  
<http://www.geo.ucalgary.ca>  
<http://www.scienceschoolhouse.com>
18. <http://www.jescoproducts.com> **Buy grit in bulk**

### OFFICIAL BLM REGULATIONS REGARDING COLLECTING:

You can collect a reasonable amount of rocks and minerals from BLM lands, but a permit or fee may be needed if you exceed certain amounts as described below. Note that the collecting limits for petrified wood are slightly different.

#### A REASONABLE DAILY COLLECTING AMOUNT

*No BLM permit or fee required.*

- fits in a car trunk or is a partial pickup truck load and,
- weighs less than 250 pounds

- and the material is not for commercial use.

(For petrified wood see below)

#### MORE THAN A REASONABLE DAILY AMOUNT

*Requires a permit and fee from BLM.*

- is a full pickup truck load or,
- involves more than one trip (or partial load) and,
- weighs more than 250 pounds
- or the material is for commercial use,
- or explosives or power equipment is used.

#### PETRIFIED WOOD:

Collecting petrified wood is free up to 25 pounds per day, plus one piece, but no more than 250 pounds per year. Pooling of quotas among two or more people to obtain pieces over 250 pounds is prohibited. A permit is needed for amounts over these limits.

### AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

#### CODE OF ETHICS

I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.

I will keep informed on all laws, regulations and rules governing collection on private lands and will observe them.

I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.

I will use no firearms or blasting materials in collection areas.

I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind, such as fences, signs, building, etc.

I will leave all gates as found.

I will build fires only in designated or safe places. I make sure they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.

I will discard no burning materials--matches, cigarettes, etc.

I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.

I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.

I will cause no damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.

I will support the Rockhound Project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless or how found.

I will cooperate with Field Trip Leaders and those in designated authority in all collection areas.

# MINUTES JULY 3, 2012

Meeting called to order at 7:03 by Charley Price

Box score: Adults 16, Juniors 4

Guests : Phyliss, David, Angelina

## WASHINGTON AGATE & MINERAL SOCIETY

**WAMS meets the first Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m., at the First Baptist Church of Lacey, 4702 22nd (corner of College St. and 22nd)**

### Officers:

PRES	Charley Price	
VICE-PRES.	Keith Greetham	
ACT SEC:	M. J. Huetter	459-8121
TREASURER:	M. J. Huetter	459-8121
NW FED REP:	Jim Thomas	
MINRL CNCL :	Jim Thomas	

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

PROGRAMS:	Charley Price	
SILENT AUC:	Mike Tanaka	455-4607
ROCK SHOW	Dan DeBoer	866-3940
NEWSLETTER:	M. J. Huetter	459-8121

WEB SITE:	Charley Price
JR PROGRAM:	Greg Tolbert

### NEWSLETTER STAFF:

Printing & Mailing	
	M. J. Huetter 459-8121

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### RETURN ADDRESS:

**WASHINGTON AGATE & MINERAL SOCIETY  
P O BOX 2553  
OLYMPIA WA 98507**

### SHOW AND TELL:

Keith: Theme "Red, White and Blue." Covered all the colors with plenty to spare. Blue sodalite.

Angelina: Material from garage (don't we all) that need classifying.

Charley: Skokomish river orbicular jasper, dendrite filled jasper.

Chuck: Jasper that Charley missed.

Becky: Central Oregon Maury Mt material and quartz.

Jadean: Material from Richardson Ranch, thunder eggs, agatized wood, angel wing.

Celeste: Beach agate and jasper.

Albert Bachman: gold in quartz.

Bob: Bend Oregon and Glass Butte, gold sheen obsidian.

Kathleen: ditto, silver sheen obsidian.

Jim: Quartz scepter (caught and released). Kept schist with mica and black tourmaline.

Zoe: Pyrite cubes.

Jerry: Stories of Nome Alaska gold dredging, to rival Jack London's.

Greg: Grand Coulee Dam granite.

Jim Thomas, reporting for the Mineral Council, said the State of Washington is examining whether or not State lands are being ripped off.

Dan Deboer reported on our show, July 28-29. So far only 5 have signed up for outside and 1 inside. Expect a last minute rush. Dan once again put out the call for help on Friday through Monday. Good news: This year the city of Tenino only wants \$50 from us and has waived the \$500 deposit.

Treasurer's report and minutes approved.

Jerry painted a further picture of gold mining in Alaska, the last frontier of the wild west where one can battle more than enough "challenges" hoping to strike it rich, but more likely to leave utterly broke.

### MAIL TO: