

WASHINGTON AGATE & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume XVI ISSUE 3

MARCH 2013

OLYMPIA WA

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

REFRESHMENT LIST:

MARCH – CHARLEY PRICE

APRIL - LEANN CARANCI

MAY - M J HUETTER

JUNE - DAN DEBOER

JULY - THE HANSSONS

AUGUST 6 - CLUB PICNIC (Starts at 6. Potluck.)

SEPTEMBER - GREG TOLBERT

OCTOBER - MIKE TANAKA

NOVEMBER – THE HOLMQUISTS

DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS PARTY

TREASURY REPORT:

The checking stands at \$5480.92, plus we own 20 tables. We paid the Thurston County Property tax of \$13.99 on our 20 tables.

BUY...SELL...TRADE

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

BIGGS JASPER: Biggs jasper is one of the more recently discovered picture rock materials, discovered in 1960 in a creek bottom south of Biggs Junction, Oregon. It is one of the more distinctive jaspers even though it lacks brilliant colors, its design is unique among siliceous rocks, taking an excellent polish.

Biggs jasper seems to have developed from the muds of short-lived streams that evolved on the surface of a cooled basalt terrain. The raw materials (plastic colloids, silica, clay and iron) came from the weathering of recent igneous rocks and were deposited in the settling basins of stream channels. Heat and pressure from volcanic activity then served to form jasper, small creeping motions led to the marbled rosettes and picture designs.

Biggs jasper is sandwiched between two basalt lava flows that cover Oregon, Washington and parts of Idaho. That plants and animals inhabited the newly formed water courses is shown by the fossil fish found in the area. *The Rock Rattler 1/94*

Rhodochrosite - Lapidary Journal Feb 1999

Rhodochrosite, named after its prevailing red hue, has been the highlight of an almost unbelievable upward spurt of mineral prices in recent decades. Winner in any price contest, it brought the highest price that was ever been paid for a mineral specimen with no gem potential.

While impractically soft and for too cleavable for most jewelry uses, rhodochrosite has been cut into some beautiful stones.

Layered masses from Argentina are translucent at best, sometimes yielding nice cabochons, but the main use for this banded onyx-type material is in major carvings: bowls, birds, and beasts.

Paleobotanists at the Sul Ross State University in Alpine, Texas, recently restudied a collection of petrified wood found in the storage cabinets. They discovered a fossilized termite nest in a small limb section. The limb had been collected from Big Bend National Park during the 1960's. They dated the fossil wood at 70 million years. The find is the oldest evidence of termites actually chewing wood. A limb has been bored out and the bore was partially filled with fecal pellets. Since the pellets were mostly cellulose, they were preserved the same as the wood. When the termites were alive, the Big Bend area of Texas was a swampy delta with rivers and forests.

Southwest Gem 9/97

A shot of eyeglass cleaner & Camera lens cleaning tissue will keep your faceted stones and cabochons looking best for display. Pebble Trails 4/99

RUNNING OUT OF FIELD TRIP SITES?

We live at the surface of the Earth. Despite the intensity of raw material extraction and exploration, we have barely penetrated the Earth's exterior. The largest open-pit mines are scratches, the deepest underground mines and oil wells are no more than pinpricks.

Although no one has ever physically traveled to the center of the Earth outside of Hollywood B movies, much is known about the interior. Seismic waves have shown that the Earth is covered by a relatively thin crust, ranging from about 7 to 50 miles thick. Below the crust lies the mantle, a shell nearly 1,900 miles thick that surrounds the Earth's core. Within that protective layer, the outer core, believed to be liquid, revolves around a solid, inner core. It is generally thought that the core is an iron-nickel alloy, and that the flow of the liquid around the solid produces the Earth's magnetic field.

LAPIDARY JOURNAL DECEMBER 1996

LOCAL FIELD TRIPS (PUB. WSMC)

CMS, WMSC = Cascade Mineral Society. Brian Williams (206) 290-2312 email bwaters2011@gmail.com
 Ed L = Ed Lehman (425) 334-6282 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
 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 Mark Bauman 253-756-8636
 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
 Longview = Longview club Emmett Johnson 360-636-3491
 Ashwood Oregon Darrell Friend 541-489-3252, web page www.ashwoodrockstock.com
 Eking = East King Norma Kikkert, 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
 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: 2013

East Kingco Rock and Gem: 03/2-3. Pickering Barn, 1730 10th Ave NW, Issaquah, WA 98027 (across from Costco)

MT Hood Club: 03/22-03/24. Kliever National Guard, 10000 NE 33rd Drive Portland OR 97211

MT Baker Rock Club: 03/30-03/31. Bloedel Donovan Center 2214 Electric Ave Bellingham WA

West Seattle Rock Club 4/27-28. Alki Masonic Temple, 4736 40th Ave SW, Seattle WA

FIELD TRIPS: Mineral Council

03/20 Evt Miller River. 9 am Hwy 2 Skykomish. Picture Jasper

04/10 MtBk Racehorse Creek. 9 am Nugent's Corner IGA. Fossils and Morel mushrooms.
04/17-18 Powwow Saddle Mt & Diat Pits. 8 am Boat Launch S. Matawa. Petrified Wood, Opal

05/23 WAMS Mt Higgins. 9 am Oso gas store. Rhodonite. Requires hard rock tools and tough tires.

06/19-27 Msvl Prineville OR Field trips every day
06/30-7/4 Powwow Madras OR 8 am Jefferson Co Fairgrounds. Trips every day.

7/17 E King Lake Wenatchee 9 am Ranger Station. Garnet, actinolite and talc.

8/7 (Need sponsor club) South West Carnelian 9am at I-5 exit #63 park and ride. Agate and jasper.

08/21-22 Pvgm Greenwater 9 am Enumclaw Ranger Station. Agate and jasper.

09/11-12 Powwow 1ST Creek Red Top 8 am West Fork Tenaway River. Agate, jasper, geodes, Teggs, jade
09/18 Pvgm Little Naches 9 am Kaner Flats Camp. Thunder eggs.

10/2-3 W Seattle. Saddle Mt. 9 am Matawa Lepricon. Petrified wood and opal

11/3 MtBk Blanchard Hill 9am I-5 exit 240 gas mart. Stilpnomelane in quartz, chert

INTERNET ROCK SITES

1. www.orerockon.com - Pacific NW field trips, equip buy/sell, misc.
2. www.wrightsrockshop.com Has everything.
3. www.agateswithinclusions.com. The name sums it up.
4. 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 and 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.luckystrikemine.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 This is a great site! Every aspect of rockhounding is addressed or it gives you a link.
12. 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/ - Fees and required permits for access to Federal lands.
15. General interest sites: www.rockhounds.com, www.fireagate.com, 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.

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 Charlie 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

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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**

Boxscore: 17 adults, 5 juniors

Guest: Erin Johnson

Show and Tell:

Keith: Arrowheads and spearheads.

Charlie: Banded carnelian.

Leann: Jewelry and petrified wood and agates from Adna

Bob: Serpentine, Twisp River quartz and rocks.

Greg: Petrified wood from Vancouver Island Canada.

Evan: Neckless from shop outside of Yellowstone, petrified wood from Cascade Pass, malachite.

Jamie: Quilememe Wildlife area petrified wood.

Chuck: Pretty rocks from CA.

Jaeden: Sand rock from Oregon Beach

Zoe: Arrowhead, self knapped.

Erin: Unknown rock.

Kathleen: Albite outside of Leavenworth.

Mike: Article about large selenite crystal mine.

Brent: Rocks in glass.

Samantha: Adna carnelian.

Jim: California sulfur crystals, visited mines in Joshua National Park, Landers feldspars.

Adult winner: Keith

Junior winner: Samantha

Treasury report from newsletter. Correction to January newsletter: Leann was adult winner and Nora was Junion winner.

Mineral and Federation report: New list of field trips on Mineral Council website. Mineral Council monitoring new bill concerning rockhounding on state lands. Mineral Council looking for GPS coordinates for field trips.

New business: Nora made announcement about Girl Scout cookies.

Program: Intarsia.

Respectfully submitted by Acting Secretary

Charlie Price

MAIL TO: