

WASHINGTON AGATE & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume XVI ISSUE 6

JUNE 2013

OLYMPIA WA

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

REFRESHMENT LIST:

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.

BUY...SELL...TRADE

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

GIANT CLAMS OF THE TRIASSIC

The discovery of a new family and species of giant clams revealed information about Triassic clams and the Triassic Pacific. George Stanley, a University of Montana (UM) geology professor, and Thomas Yancey, a researcher from Texas A&M University, described the giant clams, which range up to 3 feet in diameter.

In the mid 1980's, Stanley and a student discovered the saucer shaped fossils, silhouetted in white in a wall of black limestone, in a quarry of the Willowa Mountains in Oregon. Unable at the time to separate the fossils from the limestone, they transported the limestone, more than 400 pounds of rock to UM. The similar densities of the fossils and their matrix rendered X-rays ineffective. The fossils' identities remained a mystery until recently, when Yancey, having the tools and the time, began removing the surrounding rock, and could see the internal morphologies of the giant clams. The researchers assigned the fossils the family name *Wallowacochidae* after the surrounding mountains.

The fossils had unusual wing-like extensions surrounding their central body cavities. According to the scientists, the clams used chambers inside their shell extensions to nurture and house algae. Partially translucent shells or natural fiber optics allowed light to pass through the clams' shells to the symbiotic algae.

The extinct clams lived in the Triassic period about 200 million years ago. The researchers believe that the clams' habitat was a shallow lagoon, behind coral reefs, that surrounded isolated volcanic islands like Tahiti or Fiji located in the eastern Pacific. Identical fossils were found in the Yukon and in Sonora, Mexico.

The different locations of the fossils may help geologists reconstruct the paleogeography of the Pacific during the Triassic. "I believe the clams were living in isolation around an island like the Galapagos and eventually plate tectonics brought them crashing into North America. Later fault systems moved them north and south," Stanley says.

Geotimes 8/99

Old silicon grinding wheels may be cut into slices and used for carving tools. Small discs or other shapes can be ground and epoxied onto steel nails for shanks. Files can be shaped from old carborundum wheels; they are also useful for carving. Many small metal tools are used with silicon carbide grits for carving. loose abrasives can be used for grinding and sanding. Core sections of old grinding wheels can be rounded and smoothed for use in grinding the insides of a bowl.

LAPIDARY JOURNAL OCTOBER 1998 (*I'd like to try this if someone is throwing away any old carbide wheels - Ed.*)

WHY DO ROCKS FLUORESCENCE?

The word takes its name from fluorite and was first discovered by Vincenzo Cascariolo, cobbler and part-time alchemist. In 1602, he tried to smelt a heavy white metal he thought was gold. He was very disappointed, and at one point he put it into bright sunlight. It seemed to drink in the warm light and afterwards it would glow in the dark (it was calcined barite.)

It was two centuries before the significance was noted by Sir George Stokes. With the mineral fluorite, he recognized the principle of fluorescence. He set it apart from other known forms of fluorescence, such as "thermoluminescence," the beautiful flow radiated by many minerals when heated gently, from "chemiluminescence," the cold light produced by some chemical reactions, from "bioluminescence," as seen in decaying wood, and from "triboluminescence," the sparks of light seen in the dark when struck or scratched with a sharp object.

At that time the only known source of ultraviolet light was sunlight. Then in 1867, a Frenchman by the name of Becquerel, using a new "phosphorescope" detected a delicate red fluorescence in calcite and timed its phosphorescence at one-half second. *Rockhound Special June 2002*

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
LkSd = Lakeside Gem & Mineral club. Andy Johnson 509-546-1950
Maple = Maplewood club: Don Furey 425-348-4827
Msvl = Marysville club: Ed Lehman 425-334-6282
Mt. Baker club: Kris Menger 360-927-0994 kmenter@comcast.net
East King = East King Co, Norma Kikket, 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 Jerry Wichstrom 509-653-2787
jewtmew@aol.com
Whidb = Whidbey Rock Clubs Dick Edwards 360-579-2807
BELL = Bellingham Rock Club Brian Hughes 360-671-7330
EVR = Everett Rock Club Brad Johnson 206-403-3073
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

**Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral 5/31-6/02. Swiss Park
9205 198th Ave East Bonney Lake WA**

**Everett Rock & Gem 06/01/-06/02. Everett Community
College 2206 Tower Street Everett WA**

FIELD TRIPS: Mineral Council.

Powwow 6/26-30. Madras OR 8am Jefferson Fair Grounds. Agate, jasper, wood, T-eggs (\$). Dig and light tools.

Msvl 7/20 Darrington 10 am Rock Show behind IGA store. Travertine & Spelunking. Hard rock dig, dress for water.

Msvl 7/27 Lake Wenatchee 9 am Coles Corner Gas station. Garnets, actinolite, talc. Screen, wood saw, dig tools.

Msvl 8/17 Greenwater 9 am Enumclaw Ranger station. Agate, jasper. Dig & light hard rock.

Powwow 9/7-8 Red Top 8 am W Fork Teanaway Camp . Geodes, agate, jade. Dig & light hard rock.

Msvl 9/14 Little Naches 9 am 410& FR 19. Thunder eggs, rhyolite. Dig & light hard rock.

Msvl 10/19 Money Creek 9 am Hwy 2, Money Creek campground. Picture jasper. Rock hammer and container.

Msvl 11/16 Blanchard Hill 9 am I-5 exit 240, gas mart. Stilpnomelane in quartz. Hard rock tools.

Field Trips We Wish We Had Taken Dept.

The September headlines in *The Wenatchee World* read "Chelan Man Finds 450 LB Geode on Red Top Mt." Dave Fasche said when his pick kept hitting something, he realized it was "BIG". The oblong geode is a 30" wide by 36" long and 18" tall. Even in the photograph, the interior agate looked blue.

Fred Fowler of Chelan found a geode weighing about 185 lbs in 1954. So, much for that record.

Mr. Fache has submitted photos of the geode to the Guinness Book of Records and has contacted several museums. He isn't sure what he'll do with it, (no doubt his wife wants it out of the kitchen), but like Indiana Jones, he believes "this should be in a museum."

The Petrified Digest 10/03

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.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 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.

MINUTES MAY 7, 2013

Box score: 16 adults, 5 junior

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
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RETURN ADDRESS:

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

Jim's rocks were tucked away in the cabinet by mistake.

Nora: Turquoise.

Lisa: Assorted jasper, agate, and petrified wood.

Charley: Central Oregon, tons of agate, black petrified wood.

MJ: Polished rocks.

Ellie: Olympic coast, orbicular jasper, carnelian agate from Capital Forrest and zeolites from rock quarry Lincoln Creek.

Keith: Dinosaur theme..fossilized gizzard stone, egg shell, coprolite and dinosaur bone.

Jaeden: Opal from Prineville.

Evan: Quartz crystal, trip to Crater of Diamonds, Arkansas.

Jamie: Drusy quartz from Missouri.

Jim Thomas: New Mexico rock shop, selinite crystal with 8 sides, gypsum.

Zoe: Agates, bubbles in basalt, Silver Lake.

Adult winner: Jamie

Junior winner: Jaeden

Treasury report from newsletter. Same.

Mineral Council: Talking to DNR about collecting on state lands.

Lucas Creek closed. Salmon Creek open. Trips to Kalama up in the air.

Federation report: None.

Show report: None. Dan DeBoer not present.

Old Business: Jim Thomas updating membership list.

New business: Club field trip to Tumwater at \$5 a bucket (Approx 7 members showed up and took out close to 30 buckets. Zoe reported she will be at the 5/26 Seattle Mineral show.

Program: Under the powers of presidency, Charley bestowed the Doctor of Rockology on our distinguished Juniors: Reid, Jaeden, Nora, Evan, and Zoe.

Submitted by Secretary M J Huetter.

MAIL TO: