

WASHINGTON AGATE & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume XVI ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER

2013

OLYMPIA WA

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

REFRESHMENT LIST: NOVEMBER – THE HOLMQUISTS 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.

TREASURY REPORT:

The checking stands at \$4039.92. We own 20 tables and literally 1-2 tons of rock. Running tally of rock sold vs \$3000 investment. Sold to date: \$687.

Bills coming up: Insurance \$350, 2014 rent \$300.

"TWO THINGS YOU CAN'T AVOID...ELECTIONS AND DUES!"

At the November meeting, we will rubber stamp in last year's officers once again. One change in the batting lineup. Keith Greetham retired from Vice President. About time. Bob Hansson was "volunteered" as replacement. Change travels at a glacial pace.

Dues haven't changed--\$10 per household if the newsletter is mailed or \$5 per household if sent by email. You'll have the November, and December meetings to pay. Those who don't will be taken off the mailing list December 15th. Your dues also entitled you to receive the Northwest Federation Newsletter.

Thurston County Garage sale – 10/05/13.

Kind of a bust. Sold \$126 worth of rock. Cost \$35 for booth. Approximately \$35 was from the club's recent rock purchase. One rock for \$20, one for \$10 and one for \$5. The rest of the sales came from previous inventory. We sold slabs at \$2 each. Sold 16 with the goop on them and 13 plain janes for \$58.

ANCIENT GOLD PLACER DEPOSITS

Mountain ranges come and go. Mountains are inexorably destroyed by erosion and by chemical reaction when exposed to atmospheric effects. Evidence of ancient ranges is out there to find. Some ranges have left features in place, to be seen by the careful eye. Others have been reduced to rubble and scattered by our planet's hostile surface environment. In southwest Washington, features of an epoch of volcano-building about 50 million years ago can be seen by careful observation. (Our modern peaks, including MT St. Helens, were uplifted or otherwise produced in the most recent several million years.)

Of particular interest here are the mountains existing in early Tertiary times (or early cenozoic, to 60 million years ago). On North America's west coast (for example), rock of these mountains was decomposed, swept away, and re-deposited to the extent that little was left in the mountains' place. Only the most chemically resistant and physically durable minerals survived the trip. Gold has both characteristics. In California and Chile, gold was carried from the mountains by run-off, to be dropped at river bars. Later, other geological activities would bury the bars, thereby preserving them and their new mountain-building activities. This opened some of the ancient deposits, exposing them again to the atmosphere. Gold was washed from these placers to become mixed with newer gold being eroded from lodes in more modern mountains. Gold at Sutter's Mill had such origins.

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.

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 Kicket, 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

OCT 11-13: FRIENDS OF MINEROLOGY.

The Pacific Northwest chapter is holding its annual symposium at the Red Lion in Kelsey, WA. Theme: "Minerals Galore! Alkaline Intrusive Complexes of the World". Guest speakers. World class mineral specimens on display. Dealers will be selling fine minerals in a room adjacent to the Symposium and banquet room. In addition to main floor dealers, 10-15 members of the local chapter will be selling mineral specimens from their hotel rooms in

a nearby hallway. While there is a fee to attend presentations and meal functions, there is no fee to enter the main floor showroom or visit dealers in the adjacent hallway. Parking is free. Friday 5-10, Saturday 9-10, Sunday only 9-11:30 am. Visit their website for list of presenters.

FIELD TRIPS: Mineral Council.

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

Tips from Ed Reiber (He won the San Diego Mineral & Gem Society's Jaguar Trophy at the Gem Diego show in 1998 for his case of polished Mexican agates.)

Deer Park fire agate - I used an old sewing machine motor with a chuck attached to it to hold the tool. That way, I could hold the piece to be worked on with both hands and have better control over it. I used silicon carbide grit on wooden dowels and Cratex wheels to shape the piece and follow the surface of the fire layer. The sewing machine motor didn't go too fast, so I didn't burn through the fire layer. I finished up with cerium oxide on a wooden dowel, which put a nice polish on the fire agate.

Displaying translucent cabs and polished slabs with dendrites or sagenite--The idea is to bounce as much light as possible through the translucent stones. First, use white liners and risers. I use about a 5-6 inches tall and 3 inches wide riser along the sides and back of the case. I can then put two rows of cabs and specimens around the edges of the case, one on top of the risers along the sides and back of the case. I can then put two rows of cabs and specimens around the edges of the case, one on top of the risers and one just in front of the risers. In the center is a slightly tilted stand of clear Plexiglas, about 2-3 inches tall in the front and 3-4 inches tall in the back, with rows of cabs laid on it. This really lets the light shine through.

TEST FOR TOPAZ

Quartz and topaz are not easy to separate by eye, sometimes impossible when the quartz is a true topaz color. Obviously, there is a big price difference, so you don't want to be fooled, unless you're one of the rare rock hounds that has money to burn.

Topaz is harder than quartz. A drop of water will not spread on topaz, but will on quartz. Clean the stone with a cloth to remove all trace of grease. It must be dry before the test; then place a small drop of water on it.

On stones with a hardness of 7 or less on the Moh's scale, the water will disperse. On harder stones, it will remain as a globule. The harder the stone, the more rounded will be the globule.

Ore-Bits

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.

MINUTES OCTOBER 1, 2013

Box score: Adults 22; Juniors 7

Guests: Krista and Ryan

Show and Tell:

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

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

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SILENT AUC: Mike Tanaka 455-4607
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RETURN ADDRESS:

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

Charley – Central Oregon, Limb cast, gold plum.

Brent – Lava Ball??

Erin – Box of rocks.

Lisa – vintage rocks from childhood, amethyst necklace

Nora – Coal

Johnny – Johnson Creek thunder egg

Jeremy – Port Townsend, Agate Beach, zeolites with copper. Kennedy Creek orbicular jasper, arrowheads, carnelian, blood stone

Kirby – Adna carnelian

Keith – Geodes

Lisa – Tubular quartz

Jessica – Corral

Leann – New Mexico rocks, thunder eggs cut in half

Jim – Banded iron material

Cherry – Traded sand dollars for rose quartz

Kathleen – Garnets from India, polished abalone shell

Bob – Small limb casts, with polished the ends.

Jamie – Agates, jasper, Bluett Pass

Evan – Garnets from Idaho, fossil

Jaeden – Septarian nodule, fluorite crystal, moss agate

George – Very beautiful slabs

Zoe – Nebraska, White River fossils.

Shirley – Sodalite? Blue lace crystal

Jerry – Very beautiful dino bone.

Krista – Jasper, agate beach Lopez Island

Winners: Junior Evan, Adult Cherry.

Old Business: MJ reported that the Club sale of rock brought in \$640. Bob was nominated for Vice President after Keith retired into the WAMS Hall of Fame.

Zoe presented a slide show of her trip to Nebraska.

Submitted by Secretary M J Huetter.

MAIL TO: