

# WASHINGTON AGATE & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume XVII ISSUE 07

JULY 2014

OLYMPIA WA

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

## REFRESHMENT LIST:

**JULY – RALPH NOLLNER**

**AUGUST - CLUB PICNIC**

**SEPTEMBER – JIM & CHERRY**

**OCTOBER - MIKE TANAKA**

**NOVEMBER – THE HOLMQUISTS**

**DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS PARTY**

### BUY...SELL...TRADE

Even after selling \$1000 of rock, Charley reports plenty of good material is left. Call him at 360-259-3063 and set up an appt at \$1 a pound....before MJ starts moving it down to Tenino. (Email is [cprice@pacifier.com](mailto:cprice@pacifier.com).)

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

**TREASURY REPORT:** The bank account stands at \$4433.27 plus the \$1021 Charley sold to the Shelton and Kitsap clubs. This will be added after the July 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

## MALACHITE CRYSTAL

Anyone who has seen large single crystals of malachite, which are rare, will remember that they are very dark green in color. Malachite powder (its streak), on the other hand, is very light in color. The dark bands of malachite, therefore, are composed of *relatively* large crystals grains, the medium intensity green bands are intermediate in size, and the light green areas are composed of crystal grains of the approximate size of malachite powder, which is very similar in color.

While crystal grain size is also a factor in the color banding observed in rhodochrosite, it is not the only one. The substitution of other metals, especially calcium, for manganese plays a role as well.

It is the opinion of this author that crystal size is probably what directly determines the color of the bands, just as crystal grain size appears to be the cause of color differences in banded malachite. Calcium and magnesium substitutions are still important, however, because the presence of excessive amounts of these metals in rhodochrosite appears to alter the nature of crystal growth, probably increasing the number of crystal grains, which then are of smaller size, and so indirectly contributes to their light pink color.

John Sampson White Lapidary Journal October 1991

## HABEAS CORPUS

The prevailing theory that an asteroid impact caused mass extinction has the beauty of elegant simplicity and the support of various scientific experts, but skeptics still hold out. The defendant

(in this case, the asteroid ) would be acquitted on a basic legal system premise--the failure to produce a body. If 70 percent of all species on Earth died off over a short period of time, then there should be fossils piled up in sediment from that time. However, bodies have now been produced---ironically, by the equivalent of one of the defendant's own lawyers. Geologist William Zinsmeister of Purdue University, long a skeptic of the asteroid theory, has precisely charted the locations of various fossils relative to the 65 million year old layer of sediment that marks the "K-T" boundary between the Cretaceous and the Tertiary periods. All across Seymour Island, near the tip of the Antarctic Peninsula, Zinsmeister discovered fish fossils just above the iridium-rich K-T layer, indicating sudden death. "It's not a coincidence," he concedes. "These would be the first documented victims of the impact."

LAPIDARY JOURNAL SEPTEMBER 1996

## WALKER VALLEY HISTORY

BY ED LEHMAN

Walker Valley quartz crystals were first discovered in 1972 by a local farmer chasing cattle. The rock formation was created 300 million years ago by volcanic action. The gas bubbles have filled , or partially filled with clear quartz, amethyst, calcite, siderite, goethite, hisigerite, and agate.

Local clubs and the Washington State Mineral council have had agreements with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources for many years. The WSMC has held a 10 year lease that began in 1994 for educational, scientific and recreational rock collecting. The area has seen much activity by many groups such as rock clubs, Boy Scouts from the neighboring camp, 4-H clubs, schools, geology classes, and just plain family recreationalists. Over the years many people have enjoyed the area.

There is material from Walker Valley at the Burke Museum at the University of Washington and soon at the Rice Museum in Oregon, plus many other public displays. Anyone who has been to a Northwest Rock and Gem show has seen Walker Valley crystals displayed.

Walker Valley has been featured in two national magazines and I have personally helped with 5 large newspaper spreads on Walker Valley as a recreational family activity.

Over the last year, logging activity has removed hundreds of yards of geode bearing material, which they have a legal right to do, but recent logging has removed the tree upon which our sign with collecting regulations and contact information. Additionally, our recent excavations have been filled and logging slash has been piled on top of the main deposit. It will take several hundred man-hours to remove the overburden to create a good collecting area once again.

## LOCAL FIELD TRIPS (PUB. WSMC)

CMS, WSMC = 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  
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](mailto: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  
Pvym = 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](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 Jerry Wichstrom 509-653-2787  
[jewtmew@aol.com](mailto: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: 2014

**July 25-27: TENINO SHOW – BE THERE OR BE SQUARE!!!!!! WE HAVE EXTENDED THE SHOW, STARTING ON FRIDAY. THURSDAY NIGHT WILL BE THE POTLUCK, SO WE NEED FOOD THAT NIGHT. 'COURSE NEED VOLUNTEER LABOR THURS – SUNDAY.**

**August 8-10: Far West Lapidary & Gem. North Bend Community Center. 2222 North Broadway, North Bend, OR**

**August 8-10: Port Townsend. Jefferson County Fairgrounds 4907 Landers Street Port Townsend**

**August 15-17: NFMS Annual Meeting Hermiston Conference Center 415 South Highway 395 Hermiston OR**

**Sept 13-14: Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society. Walla Walla County Fairgrounds Community Center Building 3636 Orchard Street Walla Walla WA**

**Sept 13-14: Clallam County Gem. Vern Burton Community Ctr 308 East 8<sup>th</sup> St. Port Angeles WA 98362**

**Sept 20-21: Southern Wa Mineralogical Society. Castle Rock Fairgrounds A Street & Cowlitz River Castle Rock WA 98611**

**Oct 25-26: Clackamette Mineral Club. Clackamas County Fairgrounds 694 NE 4<sup>th</sup> Ave Canby OR**

## FIELD TRIPS: Mineral Council.

**07/13/14 Spk: Lolo Pass @ To be determined. Smokey quartz. Dig tools, hard rock.**

**08/02/14 Shltn: Salmon Creek. I-5 park and ride Toledo. Agate, petrified wood, pseudo coprolites. Be prepared for wading. Shovel.**

**08/16/14 NWOS: Greenwater. 9:00 Enumclaw Ranger Station. Agate, jasper. Dig, hard rock.**

**09/06-7/14 POW: Red Top 8:00 Camp (W fork M fork jct) Dues, see above. Agate, geodes, jade, jasper**

**9/13/14 NWOS: Little Naches. 9:00 Enumclaw Ranger Station. Thunder eggs. Dig, hard rock.**

**10/04/14 MSVL: D.P. Mine & H.T. Creek. 9:00 Money Creek Camp. Ore picture jasper. Lt hard rock, light dig**

**11/08/14 MtBaker: Blanchard Mt. 9:00 I-5 240 exit gas station. Stilpnomelane & chert. Hard rock.**

## 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.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](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.

## 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 259-3063  
VICE-PRES. Bob Hansson  
ACT SEC: M. J. Huetter 352-9702  
TREASURER: M. J. Huetter 352-9702  
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 352-9702

WEB SITE: Charley Price  
JR PROGRAM: Greg Tolbert

### NEWSLETTER STAFF:

Printing & Mailing  
M. J. Huetter 352-9702

The Washington Agate & Mineral Society Newsletter is printed and distributed monthly. Material may be reprinted if properly credited. Deadline is the 20th of each month.

### RETURN ADDRESS:

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

## Minutes for June 3, 2014

Box Score: Adults 16, Juniors 1

Guests: Karen and Tom Keller (kinda), previous members in another life. Brought back by popular demand. Even joined again!

Acting like the president, Bob called the meeting to order.

Show and Tell:

Keith: Thunder eggs and geodes.

Cherry: Petrified palm.

Jim: Childhood collection of fossils, minerals, palm wood, fossilized urchins.

Evan: just back from Pompeii Italy, he had a rock box full of sodolite, calcite, obsidian, sulfur, and pumice.

Jamie: Quartz crystals from Liberty.

Karen: Opal necklace.

Tom: CA tourmaline, and Oregon sunstone.

Becky: Opal? From Oregon.

Chuck: Pretty rocks from Lopez Island. Petrified wood, concretions, and green rock from the Chehalis River.

Mike: Mystery markings on obsidian.

Kathleen: Tumbled amethyst from garage sale.

Bob: Petrified wood...tumbled in one month.

Evan won the junior prize. Tom took the adult prize.

Kathy Farr stopped by momentarily to donate some spectacular slabs to the club for the work of buying and moving her collection in March.

Old business: Treasurer report per newsletter. Federation and Mineral Council—list of upcoming shows and field trips. Dan reported that he has signed up a food seller which should be an added plus. There was quite a bit of discussion about the new 3 day schedule and what to do with vendors who show up on Friday instead of Thursday. Dan reported that 8 vendors had signed up. The potluck will be on Thursday. Dan is still looking for demonstrators for the show. They get a free table in the gym.

No program but there was very lively and informative discussion on opal.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary – M.J. Huetter

MAIL TO: