

WASHINGTON AGATE & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume XVII ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2014

OLYMPIA WA

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

REFRESHMENT LIST:

DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS PARTY (BYOT) Bring your favorite holiday treat. We're talking finger food, deserts, cheese, crackers, shrimp, etc The club will supply drinks.

As is our custom, please bring one gift--doesn't have to be rock related--to our Christmas meeting. You can wrap it nicely or just put it in a sealed paper bag. If it's specifically for a man, a young girl, etc, please write that on the outside. Like our silent auction, each person will write their name under one present. When the bell goes off, you get the present that has your name under it.

Of course, the most fun of the evening is not having any business to discuss.

BUY...SELL...TRADE

Charley reports plenty of good material is left. Call him at 360-259-3063 and set up an appt. at \$1a pound. (Email is 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.

LOOKING FOR: We sold out all of our copolytes. Anyone have any? Willing to trade for some big rock.

TREASURY REPORT: The bank account stands at \$7739.37 In addition we have 20 tables and a lot of rock. *Bills coming up: Insurance \$375, 2015 rent \$350, Federation and Mineral Council dues for 2015.*

LAST CALL FOR DUES...IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID:

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

IF YOUR NAME IS NOT LISTED, THEN YOU OWE!!

JIM LAYTON
RON & DEB KNACKSTEDT
JAN TEAGUE
MJ HUETTER
JIM THOMAS
LISA VON WENDEL
TERI LUND
ALBERT BACHMAN
TRACEE THORNBURG
KAREN & TOM KELLER
KARA & GREG TOLBERT
CHUCK & BECKY HOLMQUIST
MIKE TANAKA
CHARLIE PRICE
BEN SPENGLER
BOB & KATHLEEN HANSSON
LEANN, SAMANTHA CARANCI
NELDA CISELL
CLARENCE KATWIJK

TAKE CARE OF THE MOTOR in your slab saw. If you have a slab saw that really works and has a separate feed motor other than your main motor and its mounted on the front of your saw, try this tip. Try raising the front of the saw by putting a piece of 2 0/00 x 4 0/00 under the front legs. This reduces the side pull pressure on your feed motor. For example, my slab saw has a front feed motor and over time I have had to replace my feed motor about six times. What happens is the gears in the motor will not hold up to the side pull pressure of your saw raising the front of your saw, but this will allow your rock saw vise to move towards your blade much easier. This also works on table saw mounts. If you try this, you will discover that your saw requires less cutting fluid. The Rockcollector 5/07

LOCAL FIELD TRIPS (PUB. WSMC)

CMS, WSMC = 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 Kikkert, 206-612-3113
N.W.R. = NW Rockies & MT Baker clubs: Kathy Earnst 360-856-0588 or Ed Lehman 425-334-6282
Pvgn = Puyallup Rock Club.
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.
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.

FIELD TRIPS: Mineral Council.

None..stay home and drink hot cocoa.

UPCOMING SHOWS: 2015

Feb 7-8: Whidbey Island Gem Club. Oak Harbor Senior Center 51 SE Jerome Street, Oak Harbor WA

Feb 28-1: East KingCo Rock Club. Pickering Barn. 1730 10 Ave NW Issaquah WA

May 2-3: Everett Rock and Gem Club Everett Community College, Student Fitness Center, 2206 Tower Street, Everett WA

June 5-7: Puyallup Valley Gem and Mineral Club Swiss Park, 9205 198th Ave East Bonney Lake WA 98390

Okenite - The attractive white puffed ball is a naturally occurring mineral (hydrated calcium silicate.) Each "hair" is an individual crystal that is somewhat flexible. Unlike almost all other similar looking minerals, it may be petted gently with little damage. (It is very soft.) If you pet it a great deal however, the specimen will become dirty and it will lose much of its "hair." There is no way to clean it. Okenite is not technically a zeolite, however it is often listed with them, and is often found in close association with true zeolites. Such is the case with these puffed balls that are found in the gas pockets of the pillow basalts in a rock quarry near Bombay, India. It is found with Laumontite, Gyrolite, Quartz and other Minerals.

Pebble Trails, 4/99

CONSIDER THIS NEXT TIME...

If the first cut from an agate nodule reveals a high-quality colorless or white chalcedony with a fine turtleback pattern, the agate may be iris. Make the next cut thin, and look through the oiled slab toward a strong single light source some distance away to check if it is indeed iris agate. If confirmed, the best slabs will be thin slices from the center of the nodule. Be sure to cut perpendicular to the banding. To polish a thin slab of iris, cement it to a piece of plywood trimmed to the same size. You can also use wax to attach the rock to the wood. Lapping can be done on a flat lap using silicon carbide grits. Don't let the slurry get too dry. Sand the specimen on the lap through 1,200 grit. Cerium oxide on a leather buff attached to the lap plate will give a bright polish. LAPIDARY JOURNAL OCTOBER 1998

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.

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
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TREASURER: M. J. Huetter 352-9702
NW FED REP: Jim Thomas
MINRL CNCL : Jim Thomas

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RETURN ADDRESS:

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

Minutes for November 4, 2014

Box score: Adults 23, Juniors 1.

We had a whole bunch of guests: Joyce Evans (from the Shelton Club), Jone Rys, Sean and Rachel

Show and Tell:

Charley – Polished agatized coral.

Keith – Indian artifacts, necklace, scrapers, drills, antlers

Jim & Cherry – Fossilized snail, celebrating 10,000,000 birthday.

Jim – Amethyst from second trip, use acid to take off calcite deposit.

Greg – Lake Wenatchee schist.

Zoe – Limb cast from Blue Forest Wyoming.

Ron – Carnelian from Studebaker Creek.

Rachel – Carnelian from New Zealand.

Albert – What to do with rocks: put in a slice and make a card holder.

Kathleen – Prineville Or jasper and thunderegg, before and after.

Bob – Limb casts, with polished ends.

Ralph – Ellensburg Blue.

Chuck – Sispus River, big rock with hole in it, great receptacle for little polished rocks.

Tracee – Westport pastel colored rocks, polished rocks and mahogany obsidian.

Terri – Slab of plume agate displayed against a backdrop of wood.

Winners: Ralph and Zoe.

Treasury report in newsletter. Federation report: Selling a \$41.50 DVD guide to rock locations. New magazine: American Rockhound Magazine. Old business: New (same) officers were elected without pomp or circumstance. No media saw fit to cover exit polls. New business: There is an 18” saw for sale. Albert Backman donated material which will be auctioned off at future meetings. One is a cabachon with gold flecks, along with some jelly opal. Charley announced the ground rules for the upcoming Christmas party. Jim Pruske and Joyce Evans gave a presentation on amethyst, passing around a sign up a sign up sheet for those interested.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary – M.J. Huetter

MAIL TO: