

WASHINGTON AGATE & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume XVIII ISSUE 3
WA

MARCH 2015

OLYMPIA

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

REFRESHMENT LIST:

MARCH – JIM THOMAS

APRIL - LEANN CARANCI

MAY - TOLBERTS

JUNE - DAN DEBOER

JULY – MJ HUETTER

AUGUST - CLUB PICNIC

SEPTEMBER – KEITH

GREETHAM

OCTOBER - MIKE TANAKA

NOVEMBER – THE HOLMQUISTS

DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS PARTY

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 coprolytes. Anyone have any? Willing to trade for some big rock.

TREASURY REPORT: The bank account stands at \$7854.73. In addition we have 20 tables and a lot of rock.

AMETHYST TRIP: If all the stars align, Jim Pruske will lead this long awaited trip. Date 3/8, time 1 pm, rendezvous Martin Way park and ride. More details at March meeting. Any questions call Jim at 360-459-3655. Be prepared for an adventure...bring money.

FISHING FOR DINOSAURS

As Paul Sereno puts it, he went "fishing for dinosaurs" in Africa, and what he wound up with were two

prize catches indeed. Sereno, a professor of paleontology at the University of Chicago, and his colleagues unearthed the remains of two new dinosaur species--a fierce, fleet-footed hunter named *Afrovenator abakensis*, and as-yet unnamed sauropod akin to the *Brontosaurus*.

Sereno said these finds, excavated in the Sahara Desert in Niger, represent the first Cretaceous-era 145 million to 65 million years ago) dinosaur fossils from Africa, a continent that's thus far been sorely underrepresented in the fossil record. "As a result of this find, we see Africa evolving in isolation, and we're getting (examples of) the first animals that survived there that were different from animals evolving elsewhere," says Sereno of the expedition, conducted in 1993. "We opened up a new chapter there. We went fishing for dinosaurs, and we found two of the larger ones." Also found were fossils of various fish, turtles, and crocodiles--bones that offer proof positive of the prehistoric Eden the Sahara once was.

The carnivorous dinosaur stood about six feet high and was about 27 feet long--smaller than a *T. Rex* but larger than the *Velociraptor* featured in the movie *Jurassic Park*. The sauropod was a 60-foot-long giant upon whom *Afroventor* apparently fed, judging from teeth and other telltale evidence from the hunter found with the bones of the lumbering herbivore. As Sereno tells it, the size disparity between the two is akin to a dog attacking an elephant, but *Afroventator's* ferocity enabled it to subdue the larger animal.

Amazingly, it took them just one day of digging to record the find. The beds where the fossils were taken have been known for decades, but the remoteness of the area and the logistical nightmare of mounting an expedition across the world's largest desert has always made getting to the site a difficult task.

Caves: Caves are natural cavities large enough for a person to enter. Most caves are found in carbonate rocks like limestone and were formed by water dissolving the calcium carbonate. Caves pose special dangers to visitors due to hazards that may require special skills and equipment. (Unless outfitted like a Navy SEAL, the caves have you at a disadvantage.) In addition to falling rocks, bottomless pits, tight passages, bats, snakes, and foul water (to just scrape the surface), some caves may contain naturally occurring uranium deposits and high levels of radon gas. The entrance sign "Enter at your own risk" was put there for a purpose.

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

Pvgm = 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.

Mar 7: MSVL. Cherry Creek. 9Am Duvall Safeway. Jasper. Dig, Lt hard rock, wading.

April 18-19: POW. Saddle Mt. 8 am Mattawa WA boat launch. Petrified wood. Dues required \$7.50 each/\$15 family.

April 25: MSVL. Racehorse Creek. 9 am IGA at Nugents Corner. Fossils. Dig & Lt hard rock tools.

May 23: ELB. Saddle MT. 9 am Mattawa Leprechaun Market. Petrified Wood. Dig, Lt hard rock.

UPCOMING SHOWS: 2015

Mar 13-15: Tualatin Valley Rock and Gem Club. Hillsboro Fair Plex, 873 NE 34th Ave, Hillsboro, OR
Mar 28-29: Mt Baker Rock and Gem Club. Bloedel Donovan Com Center, 2214 Electric Ave, Bellingham WA

April 11-12: Yakima Rock and Mineral Club. New location Central Washington State Fair Grounds, Modern Living Building, 1301 S Fair Ave, Yakima WA 98901

April 17-19: Willamette Agate and Mineral Society. Polk County Fairgrounds, 520 S Pacific Hwy W, Rickreall OR 97371

April 24-26: Mt Hood Rock Club. Kliever Memorial NG Armory, 10000 NE 33RD Drive, Portland OR 97221

April 25-26: Grays Harbor Gem and Geology Society. Grays Harbor County Fairgrounds, 43 Elma-McCleary Road, Elma WA

April 25-26: West Seattle Rock Club. Alki Masonic Temple, 4736 40th Ave SW, Seattle WA

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

May 2-3: Umpqua Gem & Mineral Club. Douglas County Fairgrounds, I-5 Exit 123, Roseburg OR

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

July 24-26: OUR SHOW IN TENINO.

Aug 15: Shelton Rock and Mineral Society. Tailgate Rock Sale and Swap. 9 – 5. Shelton Soccer Park Parking Lot, 2102 John's Prairie Road.

Oct 24-25: Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club. Clackamas County Fairgrounds, 694 NE 4th Ave, Canby OR 97013

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

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SILENT AUC: Mike Tanaka 455-4607
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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 February 3, 2015

Box score: Attendance 32 adults 3 juniors. Wow!

Guests: Madeline Harris, Jim and Kathy Kissinger, Casey Shelly and Kerry Serl.

Show and Tell: FOSSILS! Members showcasing best/favorite specimens. Cherry, Jim, Rianna, Eric, Jim T., Kathleen, Bob, Evan, Keith, Tracy, Terry, Chuck, Greg, Jim, Mike, Zoe. In addition...

Ron exhibited cabachons he made.

Jeremy presented Turquoise and Chrysocola.

Albert showed Dino bone.

Ralph had wonderful Opal.

Kara offered Pyrite Ammonite.

Treasury report per newsletter.

Mineral Council and Federation Report. Jim said that House Bill 1271 is currently in committee with a meeting scheduled for 2/4/15. The bill concerns rockhounding on state lands. Jim noted a website called "THE VUG", listing of rock shows in the USA.

Show Report: Dan reported our Tenino show will be held 7/24-7/26, again a 3 day show.

Old Business: Leann reported on possible field trips. Bob and Leann will check out the Shelton Quarry and report back next meeting. Discussion centered on the lack of field trip areas since Weyerhaeuser closed their lands.

New Business: Jim reported that he is now set up for taking people to the Amethyst shop. He has 3 days which he can go: 2/22, 3/1 and 3/8. Contact Jim if you are interested in going.

Jim and Kathy Kissinger gave a presentation on the Shelton Club and their desire to work together with other clubs in the area. Jim is the current President and Kathy is the Treasurer of the Shelton Club.

Ralph mentioned that the latest edition of "Gem Trails of Washington" is now available for pre-order.

Program: Fossils.

Respectfully submitted by Acting Secretary – Charley Price.

MAIL TO: