

# WASHINGTON AGATE & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume XVIII ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2015

OLYMPIA WA

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

## REFRESHMENT LIST:

**OCTOBER - MIKE TANAKA**  
**NOVEMBER – THE HOLMQUISTS**  
**DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**Dues haven't changed--\$10 per household if the newsletter is mailed or \$5 per household if sent by email. You'll have the October, November, and December meetings to pay. Those who do not will be taken off the mailing list December 15th. Besides the club newsletter, your dues entitled you to receive the monthly Northwest Federation Newsletter. *Such a bargain..***

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

Charley reports plenty of good material is left. Call him at 360-259-3063 and set up an appt. at \$1 a pound. (Email is [cprice@pacifier.com](mailto:cprice@pacifier.com).)

Tim Howard has FREE show cases for anyone who wants to cart them off. His phone number is 360-458-7841

*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 \$8829.26 We have 20 tables and lots of rock. M. J. took in \$137 at the rock sale at his home on 9/14/2015.

**CALLING ALL OPALHOLICS!** We'll be auctioning off some Spencer Opal at the October meeting.

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

Once again, we are looking for volunteers to fill the posts. Any warm body will do. It's highly recommended that you volunteer for a post before you are appointed to one. At the October meeting, we will ask for volunteers. At the November meeting, we will vote. At the December meeting, the new officers will take over. All offices are up for grabs.

### GARNETS by Ron Graichen

*Carny Hound Newsletter (Our Longview cousins)*

There are several different garnets that vary from one another in the elements they contain. They are all silicates which means they contain silica (quartz is pure silica). Garnets have somewhat different formulas of elements combined with silica.

The most common garnet contains ferrous iron and aluminum. Other garnets contain magnesium, calcium, manganese, ferric iron and chromium. Colors vary with composition, the most common being red or brown. They may be yellow or green. Red garnets occur in metamorphic rocks formed under heat and pressure. Other colored garnets are "hydrothermal", meaning they form in metal deposits and in some volcanic processes.

### ECOLOGY CORNER by Ron Graichen

*Carny Hound Newsletter (Our Longview cousins)*

Did you ever eat a mineral? Most of us do every day! Table salt is the mineral halite. Perhaps you've had digestive problems--then maybe you've taken kaopectate, which contains kaolin, a clay mineral. Baked a cake lately? The baking powder is bicarbonate of soda a product of salt mining. How about taking an aspirin tablet; one ingredient in the table is titanium dioxide from the mineral rutile.

## LOCAL FIELD TRIPS (PUB. WSMC)

CMS, WMSC = 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

Dar = Darrington Rock Club. Ed Lehman (see above)

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 Kickett, 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 = Larry Vess - [vessel3@comcast.net](mailto:vessel3@comcast.net) 253-473-3908, 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 Steve Townsend [srtrocks@aol.com](mailto:srtrocks@aol.com) 509-244-8542

NWOS - Northwest Opal Society. Tony Johnson - 253-863-9238

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.

The Washington State Mineral Council plans guided fieldtrips to collecting sites. Open to member clubs and the general public.

Most trips are free. (Our club is a member of the Mineral Council.) Included will be PowWow trips. (Must joint to go on trips.) Host clubs and contact persons will be set up as I gather info. For now, go to [mineralcouncil.org](http://mineralcouncil.org) for updates or contact Ed Lehman at [wsmced@hotmail.com](mailto:wsmced@hotmail.com), home (425-334-6282) or cell (425-760-2786). 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.

10/17: MSVL. Money Creek. 9 am @ Money Creek Camp. Ore, picture jasper. Lt hard rock, light.

11/14: MtBkr. Blanchard Mt. 9Am @ I-5 240 exit, gs station. Stilpnomelane & chert. Hard rock tool.

## UPCOMING SHOWS: 2015

EVERY YEAR, THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER OF THE FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY (SEE WEBSITE FOR FURTHER DETAILS) HOLDS ITS ANNUAL MINERAL SHOW AND SYMPOSIUM AT THE RED LION MOTEL IN KELSO WA. THIS YEAR OCTOBER 9-11. THEME: MINERALS OF THE NORTHEAST UNITED STATES AND FLUORESCENT MINERALS. SELECTED DEALERS WILL BE SELLING MINERAL SPECIMENS. ALTHOUGH THERE IS A FEE TO ATTEND THE SYMPOSIUM PRESENTATIONS AND MEAL FUNCTIONS, ALL OTHER EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. FRIDAY 5PM - 10 PM. SATURDAY 9AM - 10 PM. SUNDAY 9AM - 11:30 AM.

Oct 9-11: Portland Regional. Washington County Fair Complex. 873 NE 34<sup>th</sup> Ave Hillsboro OR 97124

Oct 10-11: Marysville Rock Club. Totem Middle School. 7<sup>th</sup> Street and State Ave, Marysville WA

Oct 17-18: Hatrockhounds. Hermiston Conference Center. Highway 395 South, Hermiston OR

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

Oct 24-25: Bellevue Rock Club. Vasa Park, 3560 West Lake Sammamish Blvd SE, Bellevue Wa

Nov 7-8: Maplewood Rock Club. Maplewood R&G Clubhouse, 8802 196<sup>th</sup> St SW, Edmonds WA

Dec 5-6: Maplewood Rock Club. Maplewood R&G Clubhouse, 8802 196<sup>th</sup> St SW, Edmonds WA

## 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.wyodinator.org](http://www.wyodinator.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.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](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	
<b>COMMITTEE CHAIRS:</b>		
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.

## Minutes for SEPTEMBER 1, 2015

Boxscore: Adults 24, Juniors 0

Guests: Jim Swenson who purchased Jytta's faceting machine at our show, Lorraine "Rainey" Wiggen and Richard & Teresa.

### Show and Tell

Jim: Book. Geology Underfoot in Western WA. At Costco.

Jackie: Is it a rock? MJ who voted no was out numbered by club members who said yes. Albeit, no one went on record of what type of rock it was.

Jim: Petrified wood from Texas.

Lorraine: Faceted stone.

Keith: Potpourri of rutile needles, coprolytes, sulfur, leaded glass, florite, and of course, petrified frog eggs.

Dana: Agate, not sure what kind though.

Bob: Rock from Hawks Prairie.

Richard: Rocks owned as a kid. Gizzard stones.

Teresa: Fossilized seashells from Southern CA.

Bob: Agates from his show.

Jim: Jade?

Drawing winner: Bob.

Treasury report in minutes. No Mineral Council report, other than restrictions on obsidian collecting in CA. Dan thanked everyone for help on the Tenino Show. He will send pictures to Charley to put on the Website.

Kinda new business: Amyethst trip maybe a Sunday in October. Jim will phone those on the list once a date is set.

New business: Charley and MJ will be selling rock at \$1 a pound on 9/12 between 9-4.

Program: Charley showed stunningly beautiful agate iris and discussed how to look for it.

Respectfully submitted by Acting Secretary M.J. Huetter.

## PAINTING THE RUBY RED Lapidary Journal March 1992

If rocks and minerals came in shades of black, white, and gray, there would be few minerals we would consider gems. Oh, we might value certain minerals such as quartz, tourmaline, or corundum for their industrial properties, but in a world where color is often a criterion for beauty--the leaves of fall, fashions of spring, or a friend's eyes--we would almost certainly not treasure rocks and minerals for their beauty. For without color, a gemstone, with the notable exception of diamond, is just another "rock".

For nature to paint the ruby red, an extraordinary set of coincidences must take place. Many gems and mineral fans can recite the fact that chromium is the coloring agent for ruby, or some other element accounts for the hue of another gem, but that is just scratching the surface. What do we mean by "agent" or "accounts for"--just how does chromium give ruby its prized red? And more puzzling still, how does chromium make a ruby look red but an emerald look green?

Those are big questions and we don't pretend to try to answer them fully here, but we will probe a little deeper and examine not merely the chemical element, such as chromium, but the particles that make up the atoms of those elements and how they interact. For us to see colored stones, the right atoms of the right elements must be in the right places in the right amounts. And on top of that, these minute bits of matter must all be coordinated with the mercurial nature of light. For without light, gemstones, no matter how perfect their atomic recipe, would have no color.