

WASHINGTON AGATE & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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JANUARY 2016

OLYMPIA WA

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

REFRESHMENT LIST:

JANUARY – CHARLEY PRICE

FEBRUARY – BOB & KATHLEEN HANSSON

MARCH – JIM THOMAS

APRIL - RALPH NOLLNER

MAY - M J HUETTER

JUNE - DAN DEBOER

JULY – TOLBERTS

AUGUST - CLUB PICNIC

SEPTEMBER – ROBERT & BONNIE LAMBERT

OCTOBER - MIKE TANAKA

NOVEMBER – THE HOLMQUISTS

DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS PARTY

BUY...SELL...TRADE

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

Lapidary Estates & Downsizing Sale: 2/6/2016.
Everett United Church of Christ 2624 Rockefeller Ave
Everett Five Rockhound Collections. Hours 9 – 4.

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 \$8490.76 We have 20 tables and lots of rock. Paid for 2016: Insurance \$440, Church space \$400, Federation dues \$145 and Mineral Council dues \$40.*

Keith Greetham update: He's in fine fettle, working on walking. While the initial prognosis was for 2 months in sick bay, he's hoping to be home by New Years. Your prayers do work.

ENHANCED, TREATED, HEATED, DYED, STABILIZED, CREATED, IRRADIATED, FAKE? by Deborah Phianz

Gemstones and semiprecious stones have been fiddled with for centuries to make them "more" colorful, more eye-catching, and easier to work. This does not make them "fake". Know what these terms and treatments mean.

Heat Treated: This is the most common treatment and is as old as fire. Humans heated agate and jasper so as to be able

to knap the stones for tools. Humans also heat gem material to enhance, clarify or create color in a stone. Amethyst is heated for citrine and ametrine. Zircon is heated to clarify the stone to clear white. Sapphires are heated to get the most amazing pinks and blues. Tigereye turns blue or red: carnelian agate turns orange-red. Aquamarine may go from green-blue to blue. Rubies may lose a purplish tint. Iolite may be turned to a deep blue.

DYED: This is also a common practice. Agate is dyed to fancy pinks, purples, oranges and blues--eye catching and very saleable. Chalcedony is often dyed; black is old as onyx and green is sold as chrysoprase. Howlite is often dyed to look like turquoise, lapis, sodalite and charite. Turquoise and Jadeite are often dyed to enhance the natural color. Alabaster, coral banded calcite, and marble are dyed to enhance their color or to imitate other semiprecious stones.

IRRADIATION: While topaz is currently the most commonly irradiated gemstone (to get various shades and tones of blue) this is also how one gets those fabulously colored diamonds. In fact, diamond was the first gemstone color treated with radiation.

STABILIZED: Opals are often stabilized--either by filling such as with Opticon resin (similar agent) or by capping with as a doublet or triplet. Emerald has a long history of fracture filling due to its popularity and its tendency to be highly included and fractured. While natural oils have traditionally been used for filling and stabilization, modern synthetic resins are now being used, such as Opticon, which are more permanent than the natural oils. Turquoise and coral are also stabilized in such a manner so as to make them a bit more durable.

CREATED: This is a touchy subject for some folks. Much like farmed pearls are real with a center of plastic or mother of pearl rather than sand. Still real, still a pearl, just helped to grow by human hand. Laboratory grown crystals of ruby, sapphire, diamond, emerald and star sapphire are real semiprecious stones...just not grown by Mother Nature.

SO..REAL or FAKE??: This "real vs fake" can be argued with all sides being technically correct. That is not the most important information one can have. The really important bit about this from a lapidary or jeweler's point of view is disclosure. Does one know up front that the stone you are getting has been "helped along" by human touch? Do you as a lapidary artist, gemsmith, jeweler, or craftsman know what you are using? *Rock Chipp 6/01*

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

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

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

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 = Larry Vess - vessel3@comcast.net 253-473-3908, 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 Kickett, 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 Steve Townsend 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 for updates or contact Ed Lehman at 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.

Next year, once the weather improves.

UPCOMING SHOWS: 2016

Feb 13-14: Whidbey Island Gem Club. Oak Harbor Senior Center 51 SE Jerome Street Oak Harbor WA
Feb 12-14: Oregon Agate and Mineral Society. OMSI 1945 SE Water Ave Portland OR 97214

March 5-6: East King Co. Pickering Barn 1730 10th Ave NW Issaquah WA

March 26-27: Mt Baker Rock and Gem Club. Bloedel-Donavan Park 2214 Electric Ave Bellingham WA

April 16-17: Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club. Benton Franklin County Fairgrounds 1500 S. Oak Kennewick WA

April 22-24: Mt Hood Rock Club W.P. Jackson Armory 6255 NE Cornfoot Road Portland OR 97218.

April 23-24: West Seattle Rock Club. Alki Masonic Temple 4736 40th Ave SW Seattle WA

April 30-May 1: Everett Rock and Gem Club. Everett Comm. College-Walt Price Student Fitness Center 2206 Tower Street Everett WA

May 7-8: Umpqua Gem and Mineral Club Douglas County Fairgrounds I-5 Exit 123 Roseburg Or

June 3-5: Puyallup Valley Gem and Mineral Club Swiss Park 9205 198th Avenue East Bonney Lake WA 98390.

July 24-26: WAMS. One again into the fray...

July 29-31: Willamette Agate and Mineral Society (AFMS and NFMS Meetings) Linn County Expo Center Albany Oregon

October 22-23: 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

Mailing address:

P O Box 2553

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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:

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Minutes for December 1, 2015

Boxscore: Who knows?

Christmas Party! 'nuff said.

Respectfully submitted by Acting Secretary M.J. Huetter.

LEADING QUARTZ LOCALITIES IN KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Washington does not lack occurrences of interesting quartz crystal specimens. The opening of the North Cascades Highway revealed smoking quartz crystals in association with rare minerals at Washington Pass. State Geologist Ray Lasmanis discovered highly complex crystals lying loose in seams in basalt near the summit of Timberwolf Peak, in Yakima County. Unnamed prospectors late in the 19th century in the search for gold along the three forks of Snoqualmie River in King County frequently encountered quartz crystals. The crystals failed to indicate the presence of gold, however. They were ignored until collectors became aware of their attractions. The occurrences here and the interesting features are not duplicated in number and variety anywhere else in Washington.

Features seen in the area include doubly-terminated crystals, gem-quality, healed crystals (including patterns of re-growth), inclusions (gas, fluids, other minerals), milky quartz crystals, needles, phantoms, pseudomorphous crystals, raspberry-colored crystals, scepters (normal and reverse), skeletal crystals, smoky crystals, druses with a suture texture, and twin crystals (Japan law, Reichenstein-Grieserental, others). In tabulations that follow, Reichenstein-Grieserental is abbreviated as R-G. World-wide, WAMS NEWSLETTER Page 4

both Japan law and R-G twins are considered rare. The relative plethora of such crystals on the Snoqualmie River makes the area notable.

SNOQUALMIE RIVER, NORTH FORK

Devils Canyon (SE.25 27, 25-10E): Japan-law twins, R-G twins, scarce scepters; accompanied by schorl suns, molybdenum and tungsten minerals; probably still under claim.

Green Mountain (SW 33.25, 24-9E): inclusions of actinolite, tiny but classical scepters; at and near minor but interesting deposits of magnetite, under claim in the 1890's.

Lake Hancock (N.5 SW.25 32, 24-9E): smoky

Mt Teneriffe (S.5 SE.25 32, 24-9E): Japan-law twins, R-G twins (sometimes sceptered!), inclusions of dravite, hematite, rutile, and other minerals; spelling given here is correct, although in variance with its reference.

1 SNOQUALMIE RIVER, MIDDLE FORK

Bear Lake, Deer Lake, Snoqualmie Potholes (SW.25 10, 24-11E, Sections 15 and 16, 24-11E): scepters, amethyst

Clipper (NW.25 1 and NE.25 2, 23-11E): scarce gem quality, scarce Japan-law twins and scepters, odd pseudomorphous crystals after unknown mineral; crystals arrayed in parallel ranks (suture texture); inclusions of actinolite, chalcopyrite, chlorite, pyrite, and siderite; on a patent claim.

Condor (NW.25 11, 23-11E): scarce gem quality, actinolite and rutile inclusions, monazite inclusions reported (based on finding of radiation haloes within individual crystals); on a patent claim.

Dutch Miller (early copper-gold claims at Chain Lakes; SW.25 20, 24-13E): odd growth patterns; claimed

Granite Lakes area (east end of Granite Lake-Gifford Lake divide; near center of 24, 23-9E): inclusions, phantoms.

Green Ridge (SE.25 30, 24-11E): scepters (many of amethyst), scarce or rare Japan-law or R-G twins (some with inclusions), doubly-terminated crystals, phantoms, inclusions (pyrite, other minerals), individual crystals to 6 inches long; in vugs to 40 feet long (some big enough to stand up in); scattered over 240 acres; claimed

Horseshoe Mines (SW.25 23, 23-9E): tiny doubly-terminated crystals that cascade out of newly-opened pockets; old claims

Katie Bell Ridge (SE.25 36, 24-11E): scepters (some of amethyst), inclusions (pyrite, chlorite), phantoms; quartz here is associated with needles of malachite; claimed.

Pedro Pipe (NE.25 1, 23-11E): inclusions of pyrite, scheelite; odd growths; site is better known for its other minerals; patent claim

Porter (SW.25, 23-11E): inclusions (pyrite, probably other minerals), scepters (normal and reverse); patent claim

Spruce Claim (SE.25 2, 23-11E): inclusions (actinolite, fluid, gold, pyrite), scepters, doubly terminated crystals (as healed crystals), needles, Japan-law twins; this site is better known for its superb pyrite; patent claim

Copper Chief area (near Condor): an unnamed site above the Copper Chief produces reverse scepters.

SHOP TIPS: A way to clean quartz and amethyst crystal carbonates such as calcite, barite and lime that does not involve dangerous acids is to cover them with fresh vinegar. Stand the crystals overnight in the vinegar; repeat if necessary. Wash well and then place the crystal in washing ammonia for 8 to 12 hours, remove, rinse and wipe. When a stone is properly polished, you can read the reflection from the bottom of an overhead light bulb in the high polish of the stone.