

WASHINGTON AGATE & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume XXII ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2019

OLYMPIA WA

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

REFRESHMENT LIST: DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS PARTY

TREASURY REPORT: The bank account stands at \$8884.97. In addition we have 20 tables and \$6000+ of rock.

BUY...SELL...TRADE:

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

DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS PARTY

STARTING TIME 6 PM !!!!!

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

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 at a time. 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.

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 meeting to pay. Those who don't will be taken off the mailing list December 15th. Your dues entitle you to receive the Northwest Federation Newsletter.

IF YOUR NAME IS LISTED BELOW, YOU OWE!!

Michael Mirrella, Lisa Ellis, Joan Hitchens, Hal Roberson, Jim Morelli, Bob and Bonnie Lambert, Bob & Ruth & Jon Foster, Ethan & Bobbi Nusser, Karen & Tom Keller, Jonathan Lindemann, Ed Kinkopf, Steve & Michelle Conjulusa, Hayley Gamble, Christa Wilkinson, Billy Ray,

Mike Tanaka, Jack Ragusa, Richard Haldy, David Hoel, Chuck & Becky Holmquist, Kris Hemion, Tom Johnson.

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

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 Kicket, 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 = 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 Steve Townsend srtrocks@aol.com
 509-244-8542
 NWOS – Northwest Opal Society. Tony Johnson - 253-863-9238
 WAMS = Wa Agate & Mineral 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. None.

COMING SHOWS: 2019

December 7-8: Maplewood Rock and Gem Club. Club clubhouse 8802 196th St SW Edmonds WA

COMING SHOWS: 2020

February 8-9: Whidbey Island Gem Club. Oak Harbor Senior Center 51 SE Jerome St Oak Harbor WA

February 29-1: North Seattle Lapidary & Mineral Club Crown Hill Center 9250 14th Ave NW Seattle WA 98117

March 28-29: Mt Baker Rock & Gem Club. Bloedel-Donovan Park 2214 Electric Ave Bellingham WA

April 4-5: Maplewood Rock and Gem Club Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse 8802 196th St SW Edmonds WA

FOR OPALHOLICS:

Goeff Huaghton has published basic instructions for successful opal doublets and triplets in THE OPAL EXPRESS of the American Opal Society. He uses quartz caps and a background material such as obsidian.

1. The surfaces to be joined should be absolutely flat, but not polished. After using a 260 grit diamond disc, a surface should be sufficiently rough for glue to hold.

2. Surfaces must be clean and absolutely free of oil. Wash them with hot water and dish washing detergent followed by alcohol and acetone.

3. Avoid bubbles in the glue. Take care when mixing the epoxy. If bubbles are left in the joint, they will show. Mix the epoxy more thoroughly.

4. Don't do any more work with the doublet until the glue has completely hardened. Give it at least two days in a warm place.

For those who do not use diamond discs, the parts are usually ready to assemble after using 220 grit carbide. Alternatives to obsidian for a backing include black jade, black jasper, black agate, dark glass, and besantite. Some cutters of outstanding doublets or triplets use a suggestion from Paul Downing--spray the back of a thin piece of precious opal with flat black (epoxy compatible) paint. *Lapidary Jrnal August 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.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 Olympia WA 98507-2553
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	Jim Thomas	360-786-8192
VICE-PRES.	Brian Tallman	360-545-5537
ACT SEC:	M. J. Huetter	360-352-9702
TREASURER:	M. J. Huetter	360-352-9702
NW FED REP:	Jim Thomas	
MINRL CNCL :	Jim Thomas	

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

PROGRAMS:	Charley Price	
SILENT AUC:	Kathleen Hansson	
ROCK SHOW	Dan DeBoer	360-866-3940
NEWSLETTER:	M. J. Huetter	360-352-9702
WEB SITE:	Charley Price	

NEWSLETTER STAFF:

Printing & Mailing M. J. Huetter 360-352-9702
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 November 5, 2019

Boxscore: Adults 21, Juniors 1

Vice President Brian Tallman called the meeting to order. He announced that the Kitsap club was having its show on Nov 23-24.

Show and Tell:

Brian – Jade and marble.
Jim – Petrified wood from Morrison formation Utah.
Sandra and Arini – Tribolite.
Keith – Lucas Creek agate, sulfur from Mt Adams.
Jerry – Showed jewelry made from small pink limb casts
Kevin – Petrified wood, agates, jasper.
Patrick – Little Natchee thundereggs (also little).
Wendi – Mystery rock from Toledo area, hardness 3-5.5
Cherry – Passed around sign up sheets for future programs.
Gretchen – Silversmith and lapidary jewelry. Obsidian from Easter Island.
Kathleen – Local material from rock shop in Montana.

**JIM THOMAS VOLUNTEERED TO BE PRESIDENT!
(CUE THE FIREWORKS AND MARCHING BANDS)**

MJ announced details for the December Christmas potluck meeting. Bring a gift and finger foods.

Meeting starts at 6 pm.

Charley Price presented a program on meteorites.

Minutes respectively reported
by Acting Secretary M.J. Huetter.

We tied up all our buckets when we picked up the recent rock purchase. If anyone has extra buckets, we'd happily accept them. Thanks.

Undercutting

Are you having trouble with undercutting while working with plume Agate? If so, the problem can often be remedied by reducing the speed of your sanding and polishing operation. The plumes are composed of a softer material than the host agate and sand more quickly, thereby causing the undercutting. If you can reduce the speed to about one-half the normal, this problem should be eliminated. In addition, use cerium oxide on a leather wheel for the final polish attempting to avoid excess heat. *via Rock-hound Rambling, April, 1984*

Cutting Jade

When cutting jade, its good to remember that the more milky the coolant water becomes, the better the grade of jade you have. If the water does not become milky, then you do not have jade, but something else instead. *by Mary Holcomb*

Glossy Tiger Eye: To

get a gloss finish on Tiger's Eye, polish once, then dry, and then put a drop of vinegar on it. Leave a couple minutes and give it a second polish. Results should be the deep finish you want. *from Rock Rollers 1/11*

Splitting Rocks?:

Drive your chisel through a rag when splitting a rock. It will keep those chips from flying and may save an eye. *from Rock Rollers, Jan. 2011*