

WASHINGTON AGATE & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume XXV ISSUE 3
WA

JULY 2022

OLYMPIA

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

REFRESHMENT LIST:

JULY: Tenino Show- pot luck

AUGUST: Club Picnic, pot luck

SEPTEMBER:

OCTOBER:

TREASURY REPORT: The bank account stands at \$7113.84. In addition we have 20 tables and \$4000+ 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.

WASHINGTON AGATE & MINERAL SOCIETY (The Oldest Rock and Mineral Club in Washington State, founded February 3, 1937)

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) [MAP](#)

Officers:

PRESIDENT: Bryan Tallman 360-545-5537 email: bryantallman6@gmail.com
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Committee Chairs:

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The Washington Agate & Mineral Society (WAMS) Newsletter is printed and distributed monthly. Material may be reprinted if properly credited.

Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month

The BLM's 1968 visitor to the public lands pledge:

- I pledge to;
- Keep the land clean and free of litter,
- Respect and treat the land as my own,
- Leave gates and fences as I find them,
- Obey state game and fish laws,
- Be careful with fire.

Rockhound Code of Ethics

The Rockhound's 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 collecting 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 collecting areas.
- I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind, such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.
- I will leave all gates as found.
- I will build fires only in designated or safe places and will be certain 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 of how found.
- I will cooperate with Field Trip Leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- I will report to my Club or Federation Officers, Bureau of Land Management, or other proper authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other material on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations and for public educational and scientific purposes.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of Natural Resources.
- I will observe the “Golden Rule”, will use Good Outdoor Manners and will at all time conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public Image of Rockhounds.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Membership dues for next year, 2022-2023, will be collected in October and November, coinciding with the fiscal year ending on October 30th. Membership fees are \$5.00 for one person and \$10.00 for a family.

Washington State Mineral Council Fieldtrips:

07/23-24 – Sweetwater. Darrington show time 11am. Travertine

08/06-07 – Greenwater. Forest Service Station, Enumclaw, Little Naches Hwy 410 & FR 19 @ 10:00. Agate, Jasper, Petrified Wood & Opal, T-Eggs Fossils, Lilypad Jasper
Updated 05/30/22

COMING SHOWS:

[Rock & Gem Rendezvous - 7/22/2022](#)

Start Date: 7/22/2022

End Date: 7/24/2022

Hours: Fri/Sat 9:00 - 6:00 Sun 9:00 - 5:00

Address:

301 Central Avenue

Parkside Elementary School

Tenino, WA 98502

Website: <https://wamsolympia.wordpress.com/>

[Maplewood Rock & Gem Sale - 8/13/2022](#)

Start Date: 8/13/2022

End Date: 8/14/2022

Hours: Sat 9:00-5:00 Sun 10:00-5:00

Address:

8802 196th St SW

Maplewood Rock & Gem Clubhouse

Edmonds, WA

Website: <http://www.maplewoodrockclub.com/home>

[Gem Show in The Trees - 8/19/2022](#)

Start Date: 8/19/2022

End Date: 8/21/2022

Hours: 10:00 - 6:00

Address:

16049 Canyon Rd E

Tacoma Sportsmen's Club

Puyallup, WA

Website: <http://puyallupvalleygemandmineralclub.com/>

[Cascade Gem and Mineral Show - 8/20/2022](#)

Start Date: 8/20/2022

End Date: 8/21/2022

Hours: Sat 10:00 - 6:00 Sun 10:00 - 4:00

Address:

12401 SE 320th ST

Green River College - Phys. Ed Facility

Auburn, WA 98092

Website: <http://www.cascademineralogicalsociety.org/>

[Tailgate Rock Sale & Swap - 8/20/2022](#)

Start Date: 8/20/2022

End Date: 8/20/2022

Hours: 9:00 - 5:00

Address:

2100 E Johns Prairie Road

Mason County Recreation Area

Shelton, WA

Website: <http://sheltonrockclub.weebly.com/>

HOW DO MINERALS GET THEIR NAMES?

By Debra Wilson

The naming of minerals has changed over time from its alchemistic beginnings to the advanced science of today. During this span minerals have usually been named for their physical characteristics, the locality where they were discovered, or a person. I have often been asked, “why do most mineral names end in *ite*?” The suffix “ite” is derived from the Greek word *ites*, the adjectival form of *lithos*, which means rock or stone.

In antiquity, distinctive physical characteristics were often the source for the mineral name. One of these properties is color. For example, Malachite probably comes from the Greek word *malakee* or *malache*, used to describe the green leaves of the mallow bush. Azurite comes from *azure*, the Arabic word for blue, and Kyanite comes from *kyanos*, the Greek word for blue.



Malachite



Azurite



Kyanite

With the advancement of science, some minerals have been named for their chemistry or their structure. For example, Cavansite is named for its chemistry (calcium vanadium silicate), and Pentagonite is named for its five-fold symmetry (a pentagon is five-sided).



Pentagonite



Cavansite

Minerals named for the first locality where they were found are quite obvious for those with a knack for geography: Elbaite was found on the Isle of Elba, Italy; Goosecreekite was found in the New Goose Creek Quarry in Leesburg, Virginia, and Ilmenite was found in the Ilmen Mountains of Russia; to name a few.



Elbaite



Goosecreekite (white

crystals)



Ilmenite

Minerals have also been named for people. Prehnite was the first mineral named for a person, Colonel Hendrik Von Prehn (1733-1785), who is credited with discovering the mineral in 1774 at the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa. Cordierite, a mineral known for its iolite gem variety, was named in 1813 for French mineralogist Louis Cordier (1777-1861), a pioneer in the field of microscopic mineralogy, and in honor of her pioneering research on radioactivity, Marie Sklodowska Curie (1867-1934) had two uranium minerals named for her, Sklodowskite (discovered in 1924) and Cuprosklodowskite (discovered in 1933).



Prehnite



Cordierite variety Iolite



Sklodowskite



Cuprosklodowskite

Today new minerals, including the proposed species name, are approved by the Commission on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification (CNMNC), under the purview of International Mineralogical Association (IMA), which was formed in 1958. As of November 2021, the IMA recognizes 5,762 official mineral species. In October 2021, one of those species, Oldsite, was named in honor of one of our own museum scientists, Travis Olds, Assistant Curator of Minerals, for his contributions to uranium mineralogy.

Congratulations Travis!



Oldsite (yellow crystals). Photo by Dr. Anthony Kampf.