

# Minutes of WAMS Show Meeting

Mar 9, 2009 at 6:30 PM at Salem 50+ Center, Salem OR

Prepared by Linda Groah

Committee members are asked to give/send copies of their reports to Linda for the Show Chair book. Thank you!

Present were 11 people: Linda and Dan Groah, Emily Start, Geri Esch, Eric Becklund, Phil & Reyne Knutson, Kathy Bennett, Tom Robertson, Daniel Bontempo, Marvin Bartel.

**Advertising:** Daniel B said Aaron Currier is going to put ads in newspapers, for about \$650. Rock & Gem sent Linda a confirmation for our information in their on-line and print calendar. Daniel had Susan Appleby put ads in the NW Fed. newspaper for Mar. and Apr. Linda dropped off flyers at the Senior Center.

Rob had told Linda by phone that the Polk County Fairgrounds wants flyers, which they pass out during other events. Emily said some flyers appeared on the check-in table at the last regular meeting, but no one knew where they came from. Emily will get some to Tom R for the Tualatin show, and for the Rice Museum. Linda will contact Janice to see if she is providing more flyers, and if not, Linda will get some printed for the next regular meeting, and get some to the Polk Co. Fairgrounds.

Kathy Bennett suggested getting on the TV stations event calendars. Daniel may put some business card size ads in other club newspapers. Aaron had an old postcard list, and Daniel and Aaron will use it to send out postcards, with bulk rate mailing cost at 13 cents each, with labels Daniel will print.

Daniel and Susan A are creating a flyer coupon to go in the Friday kids' baskets, for they to get an egg, or other prize, if they come back on Saturday. This may look like monopoly money. Daniel is also trying to put a coupon on some of the ads, so people can get something when they bring the ad in to the show.

**Brochures:** Dan G sent information to Aaron C, Rudy A supplied some pictures, and Aaron is creating the brochure on Jasper. Tom R requested copies of the older brochures (which Phil has in storage) to give to the Rice Museum and Judy Elkins. Dan G requested some of the Thunderegg ones. It was suggested that Dan B (membership chair) put one of each of the previous brochures in the new member packets.

We need to know the cost of the printing the new brochures. We think it is about 10 cents each. Dan G will ask Aaron. We can sell older and new brochures at the magazine sales area.

**Dealers:** We are full, with 17, plus the coffee guy. Linda and Mary have received calls from as far away as Los Angeles and Edmonds, WA from dealers who want in the show. They will be sent applications and put on the waiting list. Linda created a dealer map, and gave it to Tom R who will confirm how we use our space.

The Thursday eve dinner of spaghetti and bread will be provided by Annette's in West Salem. We need attendees to bring desserts and salads.

**Demonstrators:** Linda and Emily had further discussions about the rock saw guy. After Linda and Dan G went to the fairgrounds and talked to personnel there, it became clear that there is not enough room for noisy rock saws in the demo area. We thought it might work to have them outside, but we need to keep the back door of the cafeteria locked, and there is no electricity or enough covered area. Dan and Linda G went to the Klamath Falls show, where he does have an area inside, but it's around a corner, in a lot bigger space. So Emily called and told him not to come. Since we do have a dealer (Third Rock) who has a geode cutter, that should enable people to have geodes cut at the show.

Phil told Emily that she or someone will need to provide extension cords and power strips for those using electricity. The coffee guy takes some of the outlets, but cords can be run down the side for others to use.

There are 6 demonstrators on each side, plus 1 in the back alcove. Plus the primitive arts people are in the Kids Area room. The bead maker wants 2 tables, Jerry Hughes from the coast is a faceter, and brings his own 4 foot tables, and sets up so kids can try faceting. Other demonstrators include the gold miners,

Ed S with opal, Emily with wirewrap, Herb with bone carving, Aaron with fossils, Terry K with flint, African John with hand made beads, and Applebys do cabbings.

We do not charge demonstrators, unless they sell. Then we charge the table cost, \$4, plus \$24 (for an estimated 2 linear feet). We may need to revisit the whole idea of demonstrators that sell for a future show. Some shows do not allow any selling, others have no restric-

tions. We are trying for the middle ground, but it is a hassle for the demo chair to “police” how much is put out for sale, and since the dealers are paying \$12 a foot for their space to sell, demonstrators are getting a “deal.” Emily’s letter to demonstrators clearly states that their main purpose is to DEMONSTRATE!

**Display cases.** Reyne told us there are 54 spaces (plus the oral auction/raffle cases). 36 have been spoken for, and she is confident the rest will be filled soon. She will give ribbons for the People’s Choice winners. The voters can deposit their choice in the can set up on the “Touching” table. The awards will be made on Sunday at noon.

**Friday Field Trip Day:** Joe VC told Linda last week there are about 400 signed up so far. He needs more jasper for the teachers’ buckets. Ted J had passed on to Linda information about Holy Family Academy, and Linda referred Joe VC back to Ted last week to get details, to make sure they are invited.

**Fluorescent Show:** Tom R. and Dan G are working on this. Tom’s tent will be used, but since he will not be there to pick it up, we need to make sure the tent, lights and rocks get picked up at the end of the show, and returned to him later. Tom got a better price on the light, originally was told it would be \$1275, but the new price is \$1072, plus the 2 extra bulbs (\$160 shortwave and \$100 longwave). Tom will get the borrowed light from Al & Susie L, and if a bulb is needed, we will replace it.

Tom and Dan will get the 4 cases ready soon, painting the insides black, and making the shelves. Aaron C will do the narration, on tape. Aaron and Joe VC will figure out the sequence for the lights.

Phil will schedule 2 volunteers for that area for Friday, one inside and one at the exit. We need at least one volunteer for that area on Sat and Sun.

The **fluorescent show** will be set up near the popcorn area.

**Kids’ area:** Eric B reported that we filled all the bags at the work party. After further discussion, it was agreed that we sell the bags for \$1 each (put out only the smaller ones on Friday). The people who sew the bags felt that the cost they pay for the materials to make the bags plus their time should be considered. Since we put about 3 1/2 ounces of rock per bag, the \$1 would cover the cost of rock polishing and the bags. Eric thanked everyone who polishes rocks, as well as the bag makers.

There are about 3 buckets leftover from last year of the bigger bags of rocks, as well as the 800 we filled of the smaller size. For next year, Eric is designing a new game - a Rube Goldberg kind of random drop machine, that kids could try. We are all looking forward to playing the game!

Phil and Reyne will bring the critters that are in storage or being created, on Thur during set up time.

At the end of the show, Eric will count what’s left in wheel of fortune prizes, grab bags, critters, etc to plan for next year.

**Layout/Trailers:** Tom R and Joe VC will get the final map ready. Phil sent a copy of the old map to Joe VC. Linda gave Tom the dealer information. Since Don will not be there Wed for electrical set-up, we will have to figure it out without him.

After discussion, it was decided to move the raffle to the middle sales area, next to the silent auction. It will be combined with the magazine/brochure sales area. The extra 8 feet at the front door will be used by the check-in people, so that we can get people in quicker, and not have them stand in the rain.

In the **raffle area**, we need 1000 flyers about the club to hand out, along with a clipboard to create a new mailing list. Linda will work with Susan A to create this flyer. Linda will talk to Janice about printing.

There will be a small sign at the check-in area, directing people to the raffle area for club information.

Ted Johnson will bring over the new trailer and supervise the unloading (and hopefully reloading at the end of the show). Ivan will move the old trailer from fairgrounds storage to the back door.

We still need someone to help Tom R supervise the unloading and handle the reloading after the show.

Set up people need to be sure the best tables are set up in the front selling areas for dealers and demonstrators, with the less sturdy ones for the back areas. Make sure the legs are “locked.” When setting up cases, put the skirting on the bases before setting the cases on top. Be sure to use duct tape to cover the screws so they don’t tear the skirting. During take down time, let the dealers take down their wares before volunteers take the skirting off the dealer tables. Last year there was a problem with some wares being damaged by overzealous workers.

Someone had asked if all the glass fronts for the cases are in one trailer, and we were told yes. Rob had reminded us that someone needs to sweep out the trailer while they are empty and check to see if there are leaks, etc that need to be addressed. It was asked if Ted Johnson might be willing to do this.

There has been discussion of putting the new trailer at the fairgrounds (in covered storage). Dan G will check with the fairgrounds person to see if this is possible.

**Oral auction, treasure hunt, & road signs:** Rob Leedy was unable to attend, because of his back problem. He may need surgery. If he is unable to attend the show, we will need more helpers to set up the treasure hunt (we need at least 6). Also, Rob was going to buy the candy, so we may need someone to go to Winco and get the bulk wrapped candy (about \$20 worth) to throw out for the treasure hunt. Rob also request some LARGER pieces of Jasper or other rock to throw on the treasure hunt ground. There was some concern that these might not all get picked up and would cause a problem for the fairgrounds mower later. The loaded eggs are currently at Kathy Bennett's and she will bring them on Saturday. She will also bring about 20 eggs that will be loaded at the last minute, with dealer cards or coupons for free popcorn, etc.

Rob has collected about 9 items of the 20 needed for the oral auction. Linda got a phone call from Mary Haslebacher offering one or more nice gem trees and/or a good piece of jewelry from her mom's collection.

If Rob is not there, we will need someone else to be the auctioneer. Emily has offered a nice piece of jewelry for the auction, and so has Linda G.

For next year, Reyne has offered to clean the leftover eggs after this year's show, so they will be ready to refill more easily. There were eggs in both trailers, but we suggest Reyne take them all home and then put them in ONE trailer for next year's work party.

For **road signs**, Dan G will work with Rob to get these put out the week before the show. Rob has the signs right now, and will get the dates changed (with electrical tape). We need fence posts for these. Emily and Joe Start have a pounding driver, and Joe will help Dan G with the signs.

**Raffle/Magazines/Door Prizes:** Phil will sign up volunteers to take care of this. Since we moved it to the magazine area, the volunteers will have more to do this year. This is also where we will have club information. We designated Janice VC (who will be chair DURING the show) to collect items for the raffle case, and purchase one larger item from one of the dealers (about \$100) for the raffle. Janice will also be in charge of door prizes. We will not do any door prizes on Friday until after the kids have left. Door prizes for kids will include gift certificates for popcorn, wheel of fortune, bean bag toss. Prizes for adults will include \$5 gift certificate (business card from dealers, for which they can be reimbursed), or donations from club members. Club members need to bring their donations for this project.

**Silent Auction:** Bill Fricke was not at this meeting, and has a work schedule that includes evenings. Phil will make sure that Bill has instructions out for volunteers that state they cannot bid while they are working at the silent auction. This has caused some problems in the past, with "good" material not even getting put out for the auction. Since we are trying to have attendees enjoy the auction and get some material they want, we need the good stuff to be put out for bid. Rob had suggested we have shorter times for auctions when we are busy, for better turnover. We have about 50 buckets that were loaded during the work party for the silent auction. Additional items can be brought on Thursday during set up by members wishing to donate for the silent auction. George Goetzelman has slabs to donate, but we need someone to pick them up from him.

It was suggested we have the cans of rocks (not bids, just one price) out on Friday, as some students like to buy them. We will not have silent auction going until after students leave.

**Security:** Joe S still needs one more person to help.

**Touching Table:** Dan B would like about 10 large rocks for the "touching table." These should be about 30 lbs, so they won't "disappear" during the show. Any WAMS member can contribute these, and bring them on Thursday afternoon, and take them home again on Sunday eve.

**Volunteers:** Phil has been signing up people. Lots volunteer for the silent auction, but Phil will move some to the areas they are needed more. WAMS members are encouraged to sign up soon.

**Work Party:** Dan G, Don E and perhaps Bill Fricke will soon fill cans for the silent auction.