



Newsletter of the Willamette Agate & Mineral Society Salem, Oregon

April, 2003

Annual "River of Gems" Show Coming Soon

- submitted by Rob Leedy, 2003 Show Chairman

You all know what time it is – it's SHOWTIME! As your show chairman, I have some special requests from you, the members of WAMS:

Please sign up for the time, date, and job you want to volunteer for at the show. I'll have a sign up sheet at the April meeting, and will call the ones who haven't signed up. This doesn't mean that you have to help, but it sure would be appreciated.

We need donations of rock for the silent auction, and empty coffee cans, too. Also we need some rock for the kids' treasure hunt. Perhaps some cut thundereggs? They don't have to be polished. We need a few door prizes, such as necklaces, findings with a cab and chain or bola ties for men – anything that's nice.

We will have a final work party to make things for the Wheel of Fortune, wash and bucket rock for the silent auction, and repaint the road signs. This will be on April 6th at Don & Geri Esche's house with a potluck lunch at noon (work to follow).

I also need to know how many of you would like to go out to dinner after we break down at the show on Sunday evening.

We need someone to volunteer to be the 2004 show chairman. I would like to train you at this year's show.

Some final thoughts – The most important thing to do at show is to have "FUN". This is about the only time during the year where we can show the public what a rockhound is all about. So please share with everyone at the show your knowledge, and your love of the hobby.

Thank you all for your time and efforts. If you have any questions, please give me a call at 503.371.6421.

Spaghetti Dinner to Kick Off Show

- submitted by Susan Appleby

There will be a spaghetti dinner on Thursday, April 17, at 6:00 p.m. for the dealers, demonstrators, and club members. We hope everyone will attend. The club will supply spaghetti, garlic bread and beverages. Members are to bring the following. Names starting with:

- A - K please bring a salad
- L - Z please bring a dessert.

Also bring plates and silverware.

SHOW SCHEDULE

4/16 Wednesday	Noon Dealer Tables & Display Cases Set up
4/17 Thursday	Noon Setup Finished 6:00 pm Spaghetti Dinner
4/18 Friday	9:00-6:00 Show-Kids Tours
4/19 Saturday	10:00-6:00 Show
4/20 Sunday	10:00-4:30 Show 4:30-??? Tear Down ???-7:00 Dinner in Dallas

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The Willamette Agate and Mineral Society, Inc. (WAMS) is a nonprofit organization and an Oregon Corporation, founded November, 1947. WAMS is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS), the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (NFMS), the Oregon Council of Rock and Mineral Clubs, the American Lands Access Association (ALAA), and the Special Congress Representing Involved Bulletin Editors (S.C.R.I.B.E.).

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Salem Senior Center, 1055 Erixon Street NE, in Salem, Oregon. Executive Board meetings are held with upcoming

meetings announced at the general meeting, and all members are invited to attend.

WAMS was organized to stimulate interest in the study and collection of agates, minerals, gems, and fossils, and support lapidary work, education, scientific study of natural earth sciences, and charitable purposes within the meaning of Section #501(C)(3) IRS.

WAMS Membership

Membership fees are due by December 31st for the following year. Potential new members are encouraged to attend three meetings as a guest and complete an application form. Members will then vote to accept the new member. Members joining WAMS between the first of the year and October pay the full amount for that year. After October, full payment is due in December for the following year.

Membership Dues:

- Individual: \$12.00
- Couple: \$18.00
- Juniors: \$ 2.50

Guests are welcome and are encouraged to attend WAMS meetings!

2003 Elected Officers

- President: Jim Bennett 503-363-4974
- Vice President: Kit Leshk 503-393-9102
- Secretary: Kathy Bennett 503-363-4974
- Treasurer: Janice VanCura 541-753-2401
- Federation Directors: Don Townsend 503-364-3790
Gerry Lundeen 503-364-6487
- Members at Large: Chuck Hunt 503-304-3886
Don Esch 503-371-1472
Jodee Leshk 503-393-9102
- Board Chair: Rob Leedy 503-371-6421

2003 Committee Chairs

- Show Chair: Rob Leedy 503-371-6421
- Field Trips: Rob Leedy 503-371-6421
Joe VanCura 541-753-2401
- Bulletin Editor: Janine Owens 503-315-5751
- Education: Volunteer needed
- Juniors: Volunteer needed
- Nameplates: Archie Janke 503-566-8300
- Oregon Council: Geri Esch 503-371-1472
- Rules and Awards: Gene Gangle 503-581-4440
- Programs: Aaron Currier 503-581-8920
- Property Control: Theresa Byrne 503-364-7190
- Public Relations: Jodee Leshk 503-393-9102
- Advertising: Susan Appleby 503-391-4221
- Publications: Volunteer Needed
- Scrapbook/Historian: Volunteer Needed
- Hostesses: Joyce Winters 503-364-5233
Gerry Silver 503-585-2559
- Refreshments: Volunteer needed
- Coffee: Volunteer needed
- Stamps: Peg Townsend 503-364-9829
- Sunshine: Jennifer Ferrell 503-581-6970

The Rockhound Rumbblings bulletin is published monthly for members of the Willamette Agate and Mineral Society (WAMS). The editor is not responsible for the authenticity of information in articles submitted for publication, nor are the opinions expressed therein necessarily those of the editor or officers of WAMS. Permission to reprint material in the bulletin is granted freely, provided proper credit is given. Exchange bulletins are welcome.

Advertising Rates

Member: Non-business - One (1) free ad per year or \$1.00/issue or \$8.00/year. (Business card size or 12 lines or 1/10 page).
Non-member and members with a business - \$4.00/issue, \$35.00/year (10 issues), or \$17.50 for 1/2 year (5 issues). Same size regulations as above.

Mailing Address

WAMS • P.O. Box 13041 • Salem OR • 97309-1041



Editor's Message

Hello!

Yes, it *is* SHOWTIME! For those new members who have not had an opportunity to attend or participate with our annual rock, gem and mineral show, I encourage you to mark April 18, 19, and 20 on your calendars. The 2003 "River of Gems" is the 48th Annual show brought to you by our WAMS club. Our show has a reputation for being one of the area's best; the feedback that we receive from those attending, and the vendors is wonderful. I have heard from several of the vendors that our show is run very well, and they look forward to participating each year.

In addition to the Friday, Saturday, and Sunday show dates, we need help with preparations for the show. Please help if you can at the work party on April 6, and with the setup on Wednesday and Thursday prior to the show, as well as the tear-down on Sunday. It is a fun time! Certainly, also, the show is not possible without volunteers during show hours; there are many areas to help! Contact the Show Chairman, Rob Leedy, for information on how you can assist make this show another success for WAMS.

See you there!

Janine Owens, WAMS Bulletin Editor
email: sunshynnn@attbi.com

Letter to the Editor:

This is a note of appreciation to Janine for taking over the responsibilities of the WAMS newsletter. Believe me - it's a big job. Being the editor is a learning experience which requires researching articles, gathering information, the time to set it up - very time consuming.

Rockhound Rumbblings is the major source of communications for the club members and something I believe all members look forward to receiving.

I encourage all members to submit articles to Janine - in order to make her job easier, as well as being able to include information submitted from the members (which is the purpose) - articles you read in magazines (include source), tips you learn in the shop, collecting sites, or other interests you would like to share.

Susan Appleby

Thank you!

This issue of Rockhound Rumbblings was made possible by submissions from WAMS Members:
Susan and Rudy Appleby
Jim and Kathy Bennett
Theresa Byrne
Joe VanCura
Rob Leedy
Ted Silver

Upcoming NW Shows

April 2003 4 -9am - 6pm 5 -9am - 6pm	Panorama Gem & Mineral Club Fort Colville Grange Hall Colville, Washington
April 2003 9am-3pm (kids day) 12 -10am - 6pm 13 -10am - 5pm	Yakima Rocks & Minerals Club Central WA State Fairgrounds Yakima, WA
April 2003 12 -10am - 5pm 13 -10am - 5pm	Mt Baker Rock And Gem Club Bloedel-Donovan Park Community Center Bellingham, WA
April 2003 18 -9am - 6pm 19 -10am - 6pm 20 - 10am - 4:30pm	Willamette Agate & Mineral Society Polk County Fairgrounds Rickreall, OR
April 2003 26-10am - 6pm 27 -10am - 5pm	Logan Rock Club Logan Rec. Center Logan, UT

New Tumblers Available

- submitted by Theresa Byrne

The club recently acquired two new tumblers. They are Thumber's Tumblers, and each holds about 15 pounds of rock. The club also has a 3# tumbler, and three 18# vibratory tumblers. The 3# and 15# tumblers can be used for all steps, from coarse grit to final polish. The vibratory tumbler should only be used for final polish. To use any of these, contact Theresa at 503-364-7190. Note: The vibratory tumblers probably won't be available until after the show.

Adjudication at April Meeting

Bring your finished cabochons for adjudication at the April show. Gene Gangle will organize the judging panel. This is a great way to get feedback on your lapidary skills! If you have any questions, please call Gene at 503-581-4440

President's Message

Greetings to all members,

I have to apologize for not getting this portion of my duties done last month, it seems that every year the first 2 months have holidays that mess up the Board of Directors meetings and reduce the amount of time respond for the news letter.. Going forward .. we now have the annual show to do and I am as excited as ever. So please remember to sign up and help make our club a success for another year. Here is the agenda for the April meeting:

AGENDA –APRIL 3, 2003
WILLAMETTE AGATE & MINERAL SOCIETY

WELCOME TO ALL INCLUDING GUESTS (STAND AND INTRODUCE SELF)
ADJUDICATION-Gene Gangle & volunteer
PROGRAM- Aaron-Agates
SHOW & TELL-Rocks beginning with the letter "D"; next month "E".

BREAK-

Reminders: Ticket sales for the trailer fund sold at the Hostess Desk during the break.
T-Shirts will be available during the break from Theresa Byrne.
Please check the roster at the hostess desk to see if your name, address, phone # & email correct.
Jennifer wants to do an updated list, but first wants to be sure all the information is correct.

BUSINESS MEETING

SECRETARY'S REPORT-in the newsletter.
TREASURERS REPORT-Janice
SHOW REPORT-Rob- Show this month. Several things to discuss.
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED, see Rob for sign up.
Spaghetti dinner (Thursday) How many will attend and what to bring in newsletter
Buying item for raffle case \$100 limit
How many will be able to help on Easter Sunday?
How many for dinner after breakdown Sunday (checking if restaurant open)
Plus a whole lot more I am sure.

FIELD TRIP REPORT –Joe- plus a bonus for the club.
FEDERATION REPORT-Don Townsend or Gerry Lundeen
OREGON COUNCIL REPORT-Gerry Esch
PUBLICITY REPORT-Jodee
(continued)
NEWSLETTER REPORT-Janine-everyone needs to submit articles.

OLD BUSINESS- Federation committee. So far we have Ted, Gene and Gerry Lundeen. This is a committee to look into a feasibility study and bring back their findings to the club.

Door on the trailer is a concern. Gerry is trying to get 3 bids for new door.

Not sure if we should fix or buy new. Any volunteers to help Gerry on this project?

Theresa-report on tumblers. How many are available. See her to check out equipment.

Be sure to bring your newspapers to the Senior Center.

Silver & Lapidary classes-

NEW BUSINESS

Suggestion for honorary member,

STAMPS-Peg Townsend

SUNSHINE REPORT-Jennifer

REFRESHMENTS-Thanks to Sonia & Archie- Volunteers next month?

PROGRAM REPORT-next month-Aaron?

ADJUDICATION REPORT-Gene & volunteer (whenever finished)

ADJOURN

DRAWINGS- Door prizes & Trailer Fund (we gladly accept donations)

Jim Bennett, WAMS President

email: bennettj@OregonVOS.net

Cancelled Stamps Needed

- submitted by Susan Appleby

For several years, NFMS has been collecting cancelled stamps from its members. The stamps are sold to a private party, and all proceeds are donated to cancer research. Since 1994, Ben and Hermina Kolski of Big Sky Facetors Guild in Great Falls, Montana have coordinated this project. During that time, over \$2000 has been donated to cancer research. That's quite a return considering the stamps don't cost us anything! So, please take the time to cut out cancelled stamps, and turn them in to Peggy Townsend at the meetings. The entire stamp must be saved, or its not usable. Also, please leave a half inch border all around the stamp, if possible.

Silversmith Classes Available

For more information about the current silversmithing class schedule and possible open shop times, contact Charmaine Mortimore at 503-304-0746

Minutes from March Meeting

- submitted by Kathy Bennett, Secretary

Welcome to all members and guests. Each guest stood and introduced themselves.

Program for this month is a talk by Dr Ellen J Moore on being a Paleontologist. After her talk she let everyone bring up their fossils so she could try to categorize.

Show and tell for the "C" rock. Next month "D". Ted really outdid himself this time.

Break was held while everyone looked at rocks, etc.

Trying to start the Juniors program so Rob & Jennifer will take all interested into the hall.

This will be done during the Business Meeting.

Rob gave a report on the show as he would miss the business meeting. We need everyone to bring coffee cans to put rock in. These cans of rock will be sold at the April show. Rob would like all to sign up now for the volunteer work for the show.

BUSINESS MEETING

Secretary's Report was in the March newsletter. It was accepted without any changes.

Treasurer's Report was given by Janice.

Field trip report was given by Joe. March will be the trip to Bend.

Federation report -Gerry Lundeen. Nothing new to report.

Oregon Council Report-none

Publicity report-Jodee

Newsletter report-none

Adjudication report-Gene-it will be next month.

Bring your pieces for Gene to critique.

OLD BUSINESS

Silver classes had about 10 people last Monday.

Still openings for lapidary classes. See Ted Silver or Gene Gangle.

This is the last time to get your order for T-shirts to Theresa Byrne.

Holiday Social will be December 13 this year. Be sure to mark your calendars.

It was decided we would not have time to get a Federation show together by next year. There is a discussion going on to see if the club is interested in having one in 3 years. Ted made a motion that the board appoint a committee to look into this.

NEW BUSINESS

We have bills to pay. It was voted to pay the bills Janice listed.

Mary wanted to know if we want to have the spaghetti feed again. All said yes.

Ted asked that everyone bring their newspapers to the senior center instead of recycle.

Sunshine report- Chuck Hunt's father passed. Our thoughts are with you, Chuck.

Refreshments-Thanks to Archie, Chuck & Jim & Kathy Bennett. Next month volunteers are Archie & Sonya

Program for next month will be agates.

Adjourn and drawings for door prizes (thanks to Jack Cole for saving the day)

Trailer fund drawing.

Minutes from March Board Meeting

- submitted by Kathy Bennett

WAMS Board Meeting, Monday March 17, 2003

Attending: Rob, Chuck, Gerry, Kit, Jodee, Jim & Kathy.

Rob suggested buying some necklaces for the Wheel of Fortune at Fire Mountain Gem. Motion was made to buy some agate drop necklaces & amethyst assortment. Passed. They will buy 10 packages of each (at a VERY reasonable price)

The "club" purchased over 5000 pounds of rock so 500 pounds free to the club. Suggested not all go to the sale as they are Mill Creek Wilderness area and cannot get any more. Kit suggested a minimum bid on those thundereggs at the sale. Motion was made to make honorary member of Judy who owns a rock shop in Prineville.

Jim brought to the board the recommendation to form a committee to look into a Federation Show. They are to look into the logistics and see if it is feasible to have a show for our club. Some names were suggested and Rob will contact them to see if they are willing to be on it. Ted Silver and Gerry Lundeen said they would be on the committee; they will have three months and then will be asked to report their findings to the club.

Rob asked the board if we should again purchase a prize for the raffle case. It was approved so he will see Tom Robertson about a purchase with a \$100 limit.

It was suggested we have some more club brochures printed for the show. We decided whatever we made up last year to make about 50% more (probably 750). The date of the rock show fliers was incorrect, plus no tours on Friday and a word spelled wrong. They will make up a bunch of new fliers in the 1/2 sheet format with these changes.

Bert & Sonia donated plastic eggs for the Rock Easter Egg Hunt. It was discussed what prizes to add to the eggs. We will insert 5 spins on the wheel, 5 popcorn and 1 Wheel spin in each age bracket as special prizes put in with a rock.

There will probably be a work party the Saturday after the next meeting to wash rocks etc. More information on this will be available at our Thursday meeting.

(continued on page 6)

Minutes from March Board Meeting

(continued from page 5)

Gerry Lundeen is looking into the price of a new door for the trailer. Fix the old or buy new? Need to address the trailer door as soon as possible.

Because of the show we will skip the April board meeting. It would be the day after the show.

Field Trip Report

- submitted by Joe VanCura

Wow, what a lot of thundereggs! We had a great field trip to Bend on Saturday, March 15th. We had over fifteen members who participated in this "field trip". I want to thank all the members who showed up and also Judy Elkins. Some of you may not know that the people selling the rock offered the clubs 500 lbs of free rock if their club members and guests bought over 5,000 lbs. With the addition of Judy's 1800 lbs as our guest, we totaled 5,300 lbs, and so we now have 500 lbs of club rock at my house. I suggest that Judy be given an honorary membership in recognition of her support for the Club. The quality of the eggs appeared to be very good. In addition to the nine known Desolation Canyon claims of Tabor Hall, I also found eggs from Warm Springs, Stringer, Donnybrook, and Richardson's ranch to name a few. Since April's show and tell rocks are letter "D" I hope people will bring in some of their new Desolation Canyon thundereggs. I will bring a couple of the club's eggs in for door prizes and/or the raffle.

Lapidary Room Update

- submitted by Ted Silver

Good news! Archie Jahnke has volunteered to take some of the pressure off Jennifer Ferrell by sharing supervisory duties with her on Monday nights and Jack Cole has volunteered to supervise Thursday nights. Jennifer will still be the primary contact person for Monday, myself for Tuesday, Gene Gangle for Wednesday, and Jack for Thursday (and always me if you're unable to contact the respective supervisor). Please do call ahead to insure yourself access to the shop.

Great Quote

- from the *Hatrockhound Gazette*, March 2003

"Nobody makes a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could only do a little."

- by Edmund Burke



Cool Websites

- submitted by Susan & Rudy Appleby

check the site index for events, links, archives, articles at www.coloredstones.com

need some light reading on recent news on Archaeology & Paleontology?? check out <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/archaeology.html>

a great link site: includes a lot of my favorites - <http://esmeralda.topcities.com/uw/rockhounding.html>

and from there - one pick . . . the minerals collectors page to give you much info @ <http://www.minerant.org>

and after our presentation from Ellen Moore - more info on collecting at the coast . . . http://www.oregonfossilguy.com/fossil_news.php

Rudy's suggestions for synthetic emeralds and sapphires - Google "Emerald Boules" (or "Sapphire Boules")

<http://www.geolite.com/emerald.htm>

Just a good look at the hydrothermal emerald, prices are for cut stones.

<http://www.penoir.com/stones/EmerSyn.html>

describes the processes for Emerald (google "Hydrothermal emerald")

<http://www.crystalsystems.com/saphgrades.html>

the sapphire list is endless, we have been growing sapphire since 1902....

now that spring is here - time to get out in Oregon and enjoy all it has to offer.

Newspaper Recycling

The Senior Center can raise funds through recycling your newspapers. Money received from recycling newspapers is applied directly to operating expenses and helps keep user fees more user friendly. Help support our beneficial association with the Senior Center!

AFMS News

www.amfed.org

Missing Funds - An Update

- from Jon Spunaugle, President

As reported in the AFMS Newsletter last year, the Foundation Officers discovered a significant amount of funds missing from the Foundations' accounts. Further investigation brought us to the conclusion that the funds had been removed from the accounts by the former Treasurer. This information was brought to the attention of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Based on their findings and investigations, the former Treasurer was indicted in Federal Court in December and a trial has been scheduled for early May, 2003. We remain hopeful that some of the misappropriated funds may be returned to the Foundation.

By Law Changes As a result of the discovery of missing funds, several parts of the AFMS Scholarship Foundation By Laws were revised at the last annual meeting. Revisions included requiring annual audits of the Foundations books and records by a CPA and Bonding of the Officers that handle the funds of the Foundation. Other changes required better reporting of the financial information and better directions for the Officers of the Foundation. A complete copy of the Revised By-laws can be obtained by written request to the Foundation.

We look forward to a successful conclusion to this trying period in the history of the Foundation, but can assure you that despite our setback, the Foundation is alive and well and continues to award scholarships to deserving students each year thanks to the generous donations of clubs and individuals like you.

NFMS News

www.amfed.org/nfms

NFMS Scholarship Awards

- from Jon Spunaugle, President AFMS Scholarship Foundation

NFMS – 1st Year Students

Elizabeth Snearly Berger, Montana Tech
Damon Pellicori, Montana Tech

NFMS – 2nd Year Students

Kathryn Clapp, Montana Tech
Kathy Miller, Montana Tech
Janna Juday, Western Washington University
(delayed year 2000 grant)

FELDSPAR

An Excerpt from U.S. Geology website
- submitted by Susan Appleby

Of all of the minerals in the Earth's crust, the aluminosilicate, feldspar, is the most common. It is a very useful industrial mineral that finds applications in making glass, plumbing fixtures, tile and pottery. These uses in the United States accounted for about 630,000 ton of U.S. produced feldspar valued at about \$27.4 million. It is also a gemstone.

Oregon.-- The premier U.S. gem-quality feldspar is the red labradorite, known as sunstone, mined in Oregon. Large quantities of gem-quality labradorite, most of it water-clear, straw yellow, or yellow sunstone, has been produced from deposits in southeastern Oregon for many years. In sunstone, the labradorite contains millions of copper platelets that reflect the light with varying intensities resulting in a golden-red play of color known as schiller. Although the common color of Oregon sunstone is straw-yellow, it also can be pink, peach, red, salmon red-orange, red-green, and blue-green. It also can be bicolored and tricolored in combinations of yellow, red, and green, and a small percentage is di- and tri-chroic.

In 1988, the availability and quality of sunstone, other than the standard yellow Oregon variety, drastically increased with the discovery of the deposit that was to become the Ponderosa Mine. The vivid-red faceted stones and velvety-red cabochons from this mine set a new world standard for beauty, not just for red sunstone, but for any sun-stone. The opening of the mine also increased the supply of peach, salmon red-orange, red-green, green, blue-green, and bicolored and tricolored in combinations of yellow, red, and green. For the first time ever, there was a continuous U.S. supply of the more desirable colors in most of the calibrated sizes up to several carats needed by the jewelry industry. The largest faceted high-quality red sunstone is over 10 carats. The supply from this and other developed deposits will continue to be adequate for many years into the future.

The production of gem-quality feldspar in the United States is increasing, as is the use of U.S. gem feldspar. This increased demand will improve prices for rough and thus provide the incentive for people to spend the time and money to mine the high-quality deposits in the United States. It is only a matter of time until additional deposits are mined on a commercial basis.



What's Rocking?

WAMS General Meeting

Thursday
April 3 – 7:00 p.m.
Salem Senior Center
1055 Erixon St. N.E., Salem
Guests Welcome!

April Program

Agates – by Aaron Currier

April Show and Tell

Bring rocks/minerals/gems beginning with the letter
'D' for Show & Tell

Upcoming WAMS Activities & Field Trips

April – WAMS Show is the 18th-20th; possible field trip on the 26th and/or 27th

May – Ashwood on Memorial Day Weekend 24th-26th

June – Sunstones, date to be determined; Prineville show and field trips on 28th-29th

July – Ochocos for thundereggs, tube agate and fossils 11th-13th; Madras Pow Wow and field trips on 2nd-6th

August – Goldpanning and pyrite at Quartzville Creek on 16th-17th

September – Tom Robertson will lead trip to Eastern Oregon, probably Owyhee area

October – Trask Mountain or Whitcom Creek

November – Visit member collections?

December – Christmas Party on 13th



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