



Newsletter of the Willamette Agate & Mineral Society Salem, Oregon

November, 2004

Holiday Social for Members

- submitted by Sandy Wissinger

Date: Saturday, December 11th
Time: Open at 5:30, dinner around 6:00-6:30 pm
Cost: \$10.00 for members, and \$15.00 for non-member guests (this mirrors last year's)

Place: Lum Yuen Restaurant
3190 Portland Rd.
Salem, OR 97303
503-581-2912

Tentative menu will be as follows:

Fried Won Ton & BBQ Pork
Fried Shrimp
Pork Chow Mein Cantonese Style
Cashew Nut Chicken
Sweet & Sour Pork
Special Fried Rice

A sign up sheet will be at the November meeting. I will need a head count so that I know a rough estimate of how many grab bags I will need. If people would like to e-mail their reservation, they can send it to me at swissinger@oregontelecom.com. I will keep track of who has signed up and who has paid, and if they miss the meeting I will collect the money at the door.

Thanks a bunch, and let me know if you need more information.

Sandy Wissinger
swissinger@oregontelecom.com
503-588-5858

A gift exchange will be held this year. Please bring a wrapped gift of approximate \$5.00 value to the social, and be sure to mark your gift as 'his', 'hers', or 'either'.

WAMS on Display at the Capitol

- submitted by Dan Groah

On Thursday, December 16, at 3:00 p.m., WAMS will put in the next display in the Oregon State Capitol display case. Dan Groah, WAMS Oregon Council representative, will be at the Capitol building to help WAMS members put their Oregon materials in the Capitol case. Any worked rocks or minerals from Oregon are acceptable, such as polished specimens or slabs, jewelry with Oregon material, or tumbled rock. All displayed pieces are locked in the glass case and only the Oregon State Police can open it. We need to put our items in on a weekday during business hours, because that's when the Capitol building is open. If you wish to put in items, but cannot be there at that time, you can bring them to Dan Groah beforehand.

Dan needs to know what your display entry is by December 1st so we can make signage (courtesy of Aaron Currier). Please tell Dan what your rock or mineral is and in what Oregon county it was collected. Contact Dan at 503-873-6930.

Visit WAMS on the web: www.wamsi.org

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W.A.M.S. ROCKHOUND RUMBLINGS



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 6:30 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 dues are due by December 31 for the following year. Anyone joining WAMS between January and June pay the full amount. Anyone joining WAMS between July and December pay half the amount. Potential new members are encouraged to attend three meetings as a guest before completing and submitting an application.

Membership Dues:

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

Guests are welcome and are encouraged to attend WAMS meetings!

Website: www.wamsi.org

2004 Elected Officers

President:	Aaron Currier 503-393-2055
Vice President:	Kit Leshk 503-393-9102
Secretary:	Chuck Hunt 503-304-3886
Treasurer:	Linda Groah 503-873-6930
Federation Director:	Susan Robertson 503-363-9678
Members at Large:	Don Miller 503-585-5443
	Tom Robertson 503-363-9678
	Ray Plummer 503-361-7466
	Chris Wissinger 503-304-9400
Board Chair:	Jim Bennett 503-363-4974

2004 Committee Chairs

Show Chair:	Bob Harrison 503-364-2288
Field Trips:	Rob Leedy 503-371-6421
	Joe VanCura 541-753-2401
Bulletin Editor:	Janine Owens 503-315-5751
Education:	Volunteer needed
Juniors:	Jennifer Ferrell 503-581-6970
Nameplates:	Archie Jahnke 503-566-7507
Oregon Council:	Dan Groah 503-873-6930
Rules and Awards:	Ted Silver 503-585-2559
Programs:	Volunteer Needed
Property Control:	Theresa Byrne 503-364-7190
Public Relations:	Jodee Leshk 503-393-9102
Advertising:	Susan Appleby 503-391-4221
Publications:	Chris Wissinger 503-304-9400
Scrapbook/Historian:	Sandy Wissinger 503-304-9400
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 Rumbings 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 Rockhounds,

Wow! It's November already! By the time you receive this, the kids will all be on their post-Halloween sugar high, we will have turned the clocks back, and the elections will be over. Thanksgiving is near, and Santa isn't far behind.

It also means that we're nearing the end of 2004, and heading into a year that will be a busy one for our group, with the undertaking of *two* shows this year. With all of the planning that has already taken place, I think our Show Chairpersons, Bob Harrison and Janice Van Cura, are going to make these two of the finest shows in the Northwest this year. There are many areas to participate and volunteer your time, skills, and knowledge for both of these shows. Get involved, and join the fun!

And, remember that your articles and submissions are welcome and appreciated for the newsletter. You can mail submissions to me (my mailing address is on the back page of the newsletter), or email them to sunshynnn@comcast.net. You can also submit articles via the website at www.wamsi.org (click on the "Rockhound Rumbblings" link on the left side to find an email link that will be forwarded automatically to my personal email address).

Janine Owens, WAMS Bulletin Editor
Email: sunshynnn@comcast.net

President's Message

Greetings Fellow Rockhounds,

This is it... good or bad, it's my last president's message (again). One more general membership meeting and my official duties as your president are done. (I'm planning to relax at the Christmas party.) I guess this is a good opportunity to reflect on all the club's successes of the past year... from our best rock show in years, to the acceptance as host of the NFMS regional show next August, to the acquisition of numerous rock material and equipment donations for our club's use, to the growing junior education efforts, to a year of excellent programs including speakers from the community, to some exciting and lucrative field trips, to the development of a very useful and attractive website, to reaching the heights of one of the largest and fastest growing rock clubs in the country (we officially have over 200 members), we are traveling together in a very productive, educational, and fun journey.

With the enthusiasm toward our club from so many members, I have all the confidence that WAMS success will continue under new leadership. I'm looking forward to it. Thank you to all who have supported me, and more importantly thank you to all who have supported our club and this amazing hobby we call rockhounding.

Best regards,

Aaron Currier, President

Upcoming NW Shows

November 2004 5-7	Springfield Thunderegg Rock Club Eugene, OR
November 2004 12-14	Gem Faire Eugene, OR
November 2004 13-14	Skagit Rock & Gem Club Sedro-Woolley, WA
November 2004 13-14	Maplewood Rock & Gem Club Edmonds, WA
November 2004 19-21	Gem Faire Portland, OR

"S" Rocks for Show & Tell

Sapphire – Selenite – Silver – Smithsonite – Smoky Quartz – Sodalite – Spessartine – Sugilite – Sphere – Sagenite – Serpentine – Soapstone – Specularite – Sunstones - Stilbite

Membership Dues are Due

- submitted by Linda Groah

Membership dues for 2005 will be collected at the November meeting, and the Christmas dinner. You can also send your check to the mailing address: WAMS, PO Box 13041, Salem, OR, 97309-1041. We need to send in our final list before the end of December to the Federation for everyone to get their newspaper on time, so please get your dues in to us. Thank you.

Membership Dues:

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

AFMS News

Can be viewed at www.amfed.org

NFMS News

Can be viewed at www.amfed.org/nfms/



Cool Websites

- by Janine Owens

Check out this website for some good links on rockhounding at:

http://www.rmfmts.org/cool_places.htm

Need information on minerals? This site has it by name, class and groupings at:

http://www.galleries.com/minerals/by_name.htm

The Mineralogical Society of America offers links and mineralogy for kids at: <http://www.minsocam.org/>

Museum of Paleontology UC, Berkeley has a very informative site at: <http://www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/>

Our club website can be accessed at www.wamsi.org. Here you'll find the latest information on meeting information and field trips. The newsletter, Rockhound Rumbblings, is available for download and also available to read online.

Letter to the Editor

- submitted by Art Winters

Supporting our Local National Guard

Our board members support the effort for care packages. In view of preventing political backlash, the consensus is to donate individually money, school supplies, instant drink mix, and beef jerky. Here is an opportunity to volunteer for helping put together care packages and mailing. Donations will be accepted at the November meeting.

(Editor's note: For more information on how you can support this effort, please contact Art Winters at the November meeting, or call him at 503-364-5233)

Minutes from October 7 General Meeting

- submitted by Chuck Hunt

6:35 p.m. Welcome guests, announcements and listing of coming show dates.

Announcements:

Dan Groah advised that Walt Wright would be presenting a class on petrified wood identification. It will be open to the first 60 people that sign up. This is open to all of the members of the Pacific NW groups, so it is on a first come, first gets a seat! It will be on the Mon. and Tues. following the Federation Show. Participants will need a 10-power loupe; other materials will be available. You may contact Dan Groah to sign up or more information.

Show and Tell "R": Lots of rose, red, rocks, etc.

Program: A very interesting program on zeolites, presented by Rudy Tscherniak of the Rice Museum. Rudy advised that he will return at a later date with an additional program. Thanks, Rudy.

Break

8:05 p.m. Meeting called to order by President. Aaron Currier.

Secretary Reports (July and September): Members moved and motioned to accept the minutes of July and September and the July Board meeting. Approved as printed.

Treasurer's Report: Members moved and motioned to accept the minutes as read by Linda Groah. Approved. Members moved and motioned to pay the bills as read by Linda. Approved.

WAMS Show Report: Bob Harrison advised that there is a need of fabric for grab bags for the show.

Federation Report: Susan Robertson advised nothing to report at this time.

Federation Show Report: Janice Van Cura was absent. Chris Wissinger advised that for the Federation Show next August, we will need a lot of Oregon material, especially since there are other states involved in the NW Federation and it would be great to show off all the material we have right here in Oregon.

Oregon Council Report: Dan Groah advised that the Clackamette Gem and Mineral club has a case in the Capitol at this time.

Field Trip Report: Joe Van Cura was absent. Rob Leedy had nothing to report at this time. We still need a volunteer to take over for Joe and Rob.

Publicity Report: Susan Appleby advised no new information.

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["October 7 Minutes continued from Page 4]

Website Report: Susan Appleby reports that the website is ongoing. There is information about the Walt Wright wood identification classes next summer, as well as show fliers.

Newsletter Report: Janine Owens received a National Award from the AFMS for one of the ten most outstanding newsletters in the country! The award was presented by Aaron Currier and Kit Leshk with much applause!

Rules and Awards: Adjudication by Ted Silver. Nancy Plummer, and Rudy and Susan Appleby entered finished lapidary projects for evaluation by the team of Ted Silver, Gene Gangle, and Ray Plummer. Next adjudication will be April.

Senior Center Classes: Lapidary, silversmithing and jewelry. There is presently space in the Tuesday evening lapidary class for students. The lapidary room is open on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings (call Ted Silver for more info). Jewelry and silversmithing classes are on Monday evenings. For the month of October in jewelry the classes are chain making, and classes for November will be wire wrapping. For information call Jodee Leshk.

Library: Chris Wissinger advised that the library cart still in need of a wheel repair.

Stamps: Peg Townsend absent.

Sunshine: Jennifer Ferrell absent.

OLD BUSINESS:

The vote to change a section of the bylaws will be at the November meeting, as well as the election of officers for 2005.

NEW BUSINESS:

New Members: Steve Lawrence and Earle Hurner were installed.

Thank you to Lucille Sams for the donation of books and magazines to the club's library.

Art Winters spoke about the possibility of WAMS supporting the Oregon National Guard by sending boxes and parcels. The discussion will be carried over to the Board meeting of Monday, October 18, at 6:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. The meeting is open to all members of WAMS. Those who would like to get a head start may contact Art Winters.

Refreshments: Thanks to all those members that brought refreshments for the October meeting. For the

November meeting the refreshments will be provided by Joyce Winters, Theresa Byrnes, and Linda Groah.

Program Report for November:

1. We shall try something "new". There will be an auction of club material. This will be a silent auction, with an explanation of the type of material.
2. We shall also have elections of officers for 2005.
3. Additionally, we will vote on a change to the bylaws regarding the rules and award committee. So be there for all the fun and excitement!

Show and Tell for November. Rocks, gems, minerals, and fossils beginning with the letter "S".

Minutes from the October 18 Executive Board Meeting

- submitted by Chuck Hunt

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Bennett at 6:28 p.m. Board members in attendance were Jim Bennett, Aaron Currier, Ray Plummer, Kit Leshk, Susan Robertson, Don Miller, Linda Groah, and Chuck Hunt. Absent members were Chris Wissinger, Bob Harrison, Janine Owens and Tom Robertson. Guests Dan Groah and Art Winters.

Old Business: Ongoing show business. Linda Groah advised that all dealers, except one, have paid their fees for the 2005 show. She also advised that 30 members have paid their dues for 2005.

Don Miller advised that the 40 new cases are almost complete for the 2005 show. Temporarily, the new cases will be stored at Mary and Ray Haslebacher's and Jim and Kathy Bennett's. Don advised that the case lighting will be standard 150 watts (two 75 watt bulbs, soft and cool lights).

The nominated officers for WAMS 2005:

President: Kit Leshk
Vice President: Ray Plummer
Treasurer: Theresa Byrne
Secretary: Chuck Hunt

Members at Large: Don Miller
Chris Wissinger
Dan Groah
Tom Beaty
Rob Leedy

Federation Director: Dexter Leonard
Chris Wissinger

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["October 18 Minutes" continued from Page 5]

Donated Equipment:

There are photos of the equipment donated by the 4H center on the club site www.wamsi.org as well as on www.akirale.com/rockequip/. The equipment will have a suggested price or value as appraised. Tom Robertson donated some motors for some of the pieces of equipment. The equipment is being stored at Ray Plummer's. The crew that went out and picked up the equipment and cleaned it up deserves a hearty well done. They are Bob Harrison, Ted Silver, Don Miller, Ray Plummer and Wayne Chesley.

Members motioned and seconded that the equipment donated by the 4H Center be listed at 75% of its value for the silent auction at the November meeting. Approved.

Christmas Party: At Lum Yuen's.

At the moment it has been suggested that individuals support Art Winter's project of sending material to the Oregon National Guard fighting in Iraq so they may distribute them to the children of Iraq. Items needed are pencils, erasers, notebooks, etc.

Oregon Council:

Dan Groah advised that WAMS will putting in a case at the Capitol on December 16th at 3:00 p.m. Need any good worked Oregon material.

Adjudication:

It has been mentioned that we need:

1. Guidelines printed as to the parameters or requirements for those wishing to participate.
2. Need labels.
3. Need to write up requirements by Federation standards.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

News from the Crater Rock Museum

- submitted by Dexter Leonard via Doug Foster

The Crater Rock Museum, located in Central Point, Oregon, has recently launched a program to acquire a more complete collection of petrified wood from the Rogue Valley - both for educational purposes and for potential public display at the museum. As most Oregon rockhounds know, the Crater Rock Museum is a non-profit, educational institution run by volunteers from the Roxy Ann Gem and Mineral Society - the group known to most as the "Medford Rock Club."

Club members are being asked to look over their petrified wood collections to locate unusual specimens from the Valley, and similar requests are going out to private landowners in the Rogue Valley. Of special interest are specimens that had their woody tissue replaced by silica in enough detail so that a paleobotanist may be able to identify the original plant species. A more complete collection of Rogue Valley petrified wood will show what the forests of the Valley looked like millions of years ago.

Petrified wood specimens from Jackson County now on display at the museum include: willow, sycamore, acacia, tan oak, laurel, liquid amber, juniper, Pterocarya (a variety of hickory), Palmoxylon (a now extinct palm species) and Trochodendron (an early angiosperm). Almost all of the petrified wood specimens now on display were found east of Medford in the Roxy Ann Formation and so date to the Oligocene (25-35 million years ago). Frank Callahan, President of the Medford Rock Club and a professional botanist, said that the Palmoxylon found in Jackson County is like the Sable Palmetto that grows in Florida today; and that the climate in southern Oregon during the Oligocene Epoch was much like Florida today. Unlike Florida, though, southern Oregon 30 million years ago had volcanoes so that temperate climate trees could grow in the mountains at the same time that palms grew in the lowlands.

Recently, a benefactor bequeathed to the museum a unique and valuable mineral collection gathered from all parts of the world, in addition to funds to expand the museum to house this collection. Historically, the museum has emphasized not only minerals and fossils (including petrified wood), but also thundereggs, agates, Indian artifacts and lapidary arts.

The current petrified wood project will strengthen the museum's position as the preeminent petrified wood museum in the Northwest.

The Crater Rock Museum is located at 2002 Scenic Avenue in Central Point, and is open Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and on those days, may be contacted by dialing (541) 664-5148. The museum website can be viewed at <http://www.craterrock.com>.

Elections for 2005 WAMS Officers will be held at the General Meeting on Thursday, November 4. The membership will also be voting on changes to the by-laws.

WAMS in Pictures



Recent fieldtrip to McDermitt – Photo by Theresa Byrne



More McDermitt treasures – Photo by Theresa Byrne



Don Miller hard at work – Photo by Ray Plummer



Kit Leshk at the cab machine – Photo by Ray Plummer



Susan and Rudy Appleby join the fun – Photo by Ray Plummer



Ted Silver instructs Nancy Plummer in the lapidary room – Photo by Ray Plummer

What's Rocking?

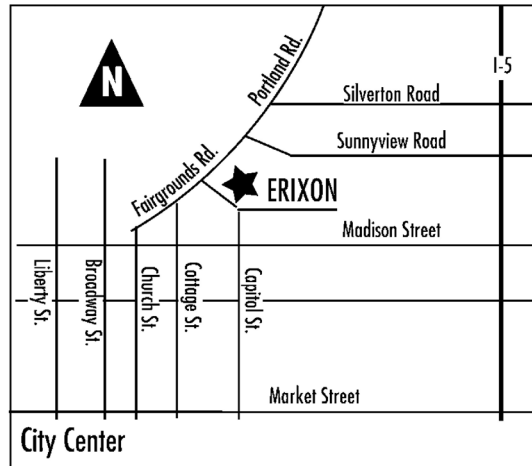
WAMS General Meeting

Thursday
November 4 – 6:30 p.m.
Salem Senior Center
1055 Erixon St. N.E., Salem
Guests Welcome!

November Program
Silent Auction of Club Material

October Show and Tell

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



Map to Salem Senior Center – 1055 Erixon



Official Publication of the
Willamette Agate and Mineral Society
Janine Owens, *Bulletin Editor*
2133 National Court S.E.
Salem, OR 97306