



Newsletter of the Willamette Agate & Mineral Society Salem, Oregon

September/October, 2004

Was McDermitt Fun, Or What?

- by Theresa Byrne

I'd never been on the McDermitt trip before, so was anxious to go. I've always heard it has some of the best petrified wood in the state. Eight other members went on the McDermitt trip: Art and Joyce Winters, Joe and Janice VanCura, Don Esch, Mick Edwards, Tom Robertson, and Kit Leshk.

We spent most of Saturday at a petrified wood site. It was a beautiful day, with temperatures in the 90's. While the majority dug for rock, a couple of us opted to surface collect instead. Even that produced good results. I found a large piece of wood right in the middle of the road, and a nice looking curved limb about 11 inches long. I think everyone was happy with their finds at that location. Our next stop was Gary Green, which has jasper in various shades of green and blue, and is often banded. The jasper is very prevalent there, and we all found enough in a short period of time. The last stop of the day was Disaster Peak, a picture jasper site.

We went to five thunderegg locations on Sunday. The roads into that area are pretty rough - definitely not for passenger cars. Most of the sites were fairly prolific, and we all came away with plenty of eggs. Don also came across one of the area rattlesnakes - its rattle could even be heard by club members farther up the hill. Sunday's weather was much cooler, with clouds most of the day. When it started to sprinkle around 3PM, we decided not to risk getting stuck and headed back to town. Although we all go on these trips for the rocks, you can't describe this trip without also commenting on the scenery. It's spectacular. There's something about being in the middle of nowhere and being able to see for miles, with nothing but rolling hills and mountains in the distance.

Suggestions for people taking this trip in the future: bring a camera, stop to admire the beautiful horses on the Indian reservation outside McDermitt, have plenty of coffee for the Burns-McDermitt drive (or plan on

slapping yourself silly trying to stay awake), and stop at the Brothers rest stop on the way back - its heated! That sure felt good on the way home.



Mick Edwards and Don Esch take a break

(Editor's Note: More pictures of the McDermitt field trip are available on Page 9)

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 is 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,

First of all, my sincere apologies for being unable to produce a newsletter prior to the September meeting. Life has been challenging for Zachary and I lately, including a household move, one or two dead computers, and problems with my internet service provider at the new place. But, we are overcoming these bumps in the road! ☺

This issue is a catch-up issue to get the minutes from the general and board meetings printed, and alert everyone to the October meeting. I thank those members that have forwarded articles and information. All submissions are welcome and very much appreciated.

Thanks for submitting those articles! Information can be submitted 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). Or send articles, photos, etc. directly to sunshynnn@comcast.net.

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

President's Message

Greetings fellow rockhounds,

I hope you are all enjoying the sunny weather and finding time to collect, cut, polish, cab, silversmith, facet, or whatever else you like to do. Most of all, I hope you are finding time to learn. For me, it's my favorite part of this hobby. I find that the more I try and teach other people, the more I learn myself... and once in awhile I learn that I'm even wrong... and that can be a good thing.

One of the other major rock-related activities is show-planning... and there's a lot of that going on... from Bob H's planning on the River of Gems to Janice V's planning on the Federation Show. We are going to have new cases for our show (thanks Don M.), there are work parties happening already, and our storage trailers are being fixed without having to replace them (thanks Chris W. and Tom R). Regarding the NFMS Show, we have exciting announcements to make including guest speakers, display features, accommodations, and a special two-day class on petrified wood identification. Stay tuned for those announcements. Thanks to everyone who is already on task to help make the best NFMS show in years. Congratulations also to Janine O's regional and national awards for her work on the newsletter. The website is always fun to visit... it's nice to see what others are doing on field trips and having the newsletter online is a major plus... nice work Susan. Our picnic was a great success as well... thanks to Sandy W. for her excellent organization. I also want to thank Ray P. and his committee of four (Ted S., Don M., Bob W., and Wayne C.) on their efforts to pick up, clean, and appraise the lapidary equipment donated by the folks at the 4-H Center -- and thanks to the folks at the 4-H Center!

I've been working to try and find interesting programs for your entertainment. For those of you who missed it, last month I gave my talk on my Montana trip -- I think we can agree I did a pretty good job of finding what I set out to find. This month we'll have a guest speaker from the Rice Museum. Rudy Tscherniak is a world-recognized authority on zeolites. If you don't know what a zeolite is, you are in for a treat. We also have a bit of business to cover and we need your attendance for the benefit of our club.

Regards,

Aaron Currier, President

Upcoming NW Shows

October 2004 9-10	Marysville Rock & Gem Club Marysville, WA
October 2004 9-10	Northwest Opal Association Tukwila, WA
October 2004 16-17	Hells Canyon Gem Club Lewiston, ID
October 2004 23-24	Bellevue Rock Club Bellevue, WA
October 2004 30-31	Clackamette Gem & Mineral Canby, OR
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

AFMS News

Can be viewed at www.amfed.org

NFMS News

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



Cool Websites

- by Janine Owens

Here's a link to a great Lapidary Journal article on evaluating, purchasing, and reconditioning an old slab saw. Check out <http://www.lapidaryjournal.com/feature/slabsaw.cfm> for the full story.

The Recreational Gold Mining and Prospecting website can be found at: www.dnai.com/~wfw

<http://www.uky.edu/ArtsSciences/Geology/webdogs/amber/welcome.html> is a site with everything you'd like to know about amber

The website 'Surfing the Net with Kids' has this page that contains kid-friendly, rated links for kids on rockhounding and collecting: <http://www.surfnetkids.com/rocks.htm>

The mineral gallery at theImage.com has hundreds of pictures of minerals and gemstones, properties, and specifications here: <http://www.theimage.com/mineral/index.htm>

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.

Dues are due ...

- by Kit Leshk

Can you believe it? We are already in the last quarter 2004 which means payment of WAMS dues is fast approaching. With a membership over 200 we are trying something different this year for collecting dues. Enclosed in this newsletter is a MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2005 sheet. Please fill it out and return it at the October or November meetings or the December dinner or mail it to the WAMS post office box (of course please include the appropriate fee). Help us update our files and achieve our goal of 100% membership dues payment by December by returning the form and fee as soon as possible.

Minutes from September 9 General Meeting

- submitted by Kathy Bennett

6:40 Welcome & introduction of guests by Aaron Currier.

Announcements regarding lapidary & silversmithing classes.

Show & Tell – letter Q. Next month will be R.

7:00 Program by Aaron – in search of dinosaurs. It was a very well-presented slide program of his 10-day trip.

8:22 meeting called to order by president Aaron Currier.

Newsletter is late as Janine has computer problems.

Secretary Report will be in the newsletter.

Treasurer Report was read by Linda Groh and approved.

The bills to pay were also approved including money for cases.

WAMS show report- all is going well. Just had a work party & the dealer situation has been resolved. Possible theme for the show "Petrified Wood" so be saving pieces to give to the school children.

Federation Show report given by Janice. Several people attended the Boise Federation show. Had some good comments regarding our club. "What are we doing right?" Our club is doing so well they want to know. "Oregon Treasure Trails" is the theme. Fliers are already out. They hope to have 200 display cases. Aaron is lining up some special Fossil displays for the show.

Federation Report-Susan Robertson- they are rewriting many of the proposals (many mistakes) so will vote on it later. Probably not till next year.

Newsletter- Janine was not there but did get more kudos. Keep sending articles.

Oregon Council report-Dan reported he will not be able to attend the October 2 meeting. If anyone is able to attend please see Dan.

Field trip to McDermitt this weekend. Joe has maps. Any ideas for the October field trip- contact Joe or Rob.

Publicity-nothing to report.

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Thanks to the volunteers at the fair.

Website looks good, Susan.

Rules & Awards- Ted – adjudication in October. Bring your work to be seen.

Classes for lapidary and silversmithing starting on Monday. Any questions for lapidary call Ted; silversmithing –Jodee.

Library-Chris not here. Any ideas for books to purchase advise Chris.

Stamps-Peg not here today. Bring your cancelled stamps for Cancer research.

Sunshine report-Jennifer not here. Don hurt his finger (self inflicted) OUCH. Let Aaron know if anyone should be contacted.

Old business- Need to vote on the by laws but need a quorum.

Trailer has the new door all done now.

New Business- Membership applications approved by the executive board at break. We have 8 new members. Motion to accept them was approved by the membership. Kit did not have enough new member packets but will get them to the new members. We have about 209 members now so may need a new Member at Large. Kit will go through and verify the exact number.

Thanks to those that brought goodies this month. Volunteers for next month will be Ray, Loel & Aaron (a new box of Cheez-its)

Jodee volunteered to bring raffle items and door prize items for next month.

Next month's program will be Rudy from the Rice Museum on zeolites.

The meeting was adjourned.

2 Raffle tickets and several door prize tickets were drawn.

Minutes from July 19 Executive Board Meeting

- submitted by Chuck Hunt

The meeting was called to order by board President Jim Bennett at 6:35 p.m. Board members in

attendance, Jim Bennett, Aaron Currier, Kit Leshk, Ray Plummer, Don Miller, Bob Harrison, Linda Groah, Chris Wissinger, Tom and Susan Robertson and Chuck Hunt. Absent Janine Owens. Guest Dan Groah.

Bob Harrison advised that the trailer door has been replaced. Tom Robertson advised that the small trailer needs to be jacked up and repair the leak with calk and that it should last a few more years.

Display cases were discussed. It is a work in progress.

Reference dealers, there was a discussion about filling the one vacancy that we have at the moment. The vacancy will be filled by who had been on the list the longest.

MMS to invite an opal vendor to fill the vacancy. Approved.

Bob Harrison advised that it is time to set up some work parties to work on grab bags, Easter eggs, etc.

Kit Leshk advised that there will be a need for a re-vote on the amendment reference the ByLaws.

MMS to pay club members mileage (standard rate) who are going to the Boise show on club business. Approved.

MMS to approve new member Joann Kobel. Approved.

Sandy Wissinger will become WAMS scrapbooking/historian as appointed by President Aaron Currier.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Minutes from the July 8 General Meeting

- submitted by Chuck Hunt

The meeting was called to order by Vice Pres. Kit Leshk at 6:40 p.m. There were 44 members and guests.

Show and Tell: The letter was "P" and there were plenty of Ps including pyrite, petrified wood, poop (coprolites), purple, pink, etc. Don Esch had the most Ps.

Program: A slide presentation from the NW Federation on Petrified Wood.

The General Meeting was called to order at 7:43 p.m.

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There was a discussion about another site for rockhound information at Donsrocks.com out of Prineville.

Secretary minutes: MMS to accept as printed. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer absent and no report.

Show Report: Bob Harrison advised that he still needs to get items ready for the show and sorting rocks, polishing eggs, etc. The theme for the 2005 WAMS Show will be Petrified Wood.

Federation Show Report: Janice VanCura absent.

Field Trip Report: Joe VanCura absent. A note about the Hampton Butte trip. It was reported that about 12 members showed up and were very successful. Up and coming trips as printed in the Rockhound Ramblings: July 10-11 Ashwood to Friend's; Aug. 14 To Saddle Mtn. with the Wagon Master being Chris Wissinger leading the way; Sept. 11-12 McDermitt for thundereggs and wood (possible change of date since it coincides with the McDermitt Rock and Gem Show).

Federation Report: Susan Robertson explained the issues coming up at the meeting in Boise. The present membership voted no on all proposals.

Oregon Council Report: Dan Groah absent.

Publicity Report: Susan Appleby advised she had nothing to report.

Newsletter Report: Janine thanks Susan Appleby for the great help and that the newsletter, Rockhound Rumblings, was selected as one of the top "10" by AFMS!

Adjudication Report: Ted Silver absent, the next adjudication will be in Oct.

Library Report: Chris Wissinger advised that our library cart lost a wheel and that he would replace it soon.

Stamps: Peg Townsend absent.

Sunshine Committee: A get well card was sent to John Jackman in McMinnville (stroke). That was a week or so before Chuck and Barb Hunt picked up his donations of slides and books to our library.

WAMS Picnic: Aug. 8th at the Robertson's

Old Business: In July, the trailer door will be replaced.

Chris Wissinger advised that he would need some help in unloading the trailer before the door installation.

Vote for ByLaws change: The vote was 27 yes, 3 no. There did not appear to be the required members present, so we shall have a re-vote in Sept.

Oregon State Fair: George Goetzelman advised he need some people to sign up for our table at the state fair for Sept. 2.

More New Business: There would be a board meeting July 19th but none in Aug.

Membership information: We have 15 new families added since we last published our membership list. 195 total, including adults, Juniors, Life, and Honorary members.

Refreshments: Thanks to Janine, Charmaine, Susan and Jodee for refreshments for the July meeting. Sept. refreshments will be provided by Chuck, Susan Appleby and Jodee.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

From the Senior Center

- submitted by Ted Silver

Welcome and thank you to those who joined 'Friends of the Salem Senior Center'. Your annual contribution of \$10.00 (tax deductible) will help us continue the diverse programs at the Center and make them available to the community. For those who missed the opportunity to join during the mail campaign, you still can. Just contact me or Gerry. Another way you can help is to bring in your newspapers! We recycle them and the money earned goes directly to 'Friends' for maintaining programs. Thanks for your support.

Digging Sunstones at the Dust Devil Mines

- submitted by Susan Appleby

Dust Devil Mine held it's 5th Annual Artist Dig-in July 9th through the 17th. Rudy and I had the opportunity to attend and couldn't pass it up. The dig-in is a great time to visit, share ideas and enjoy digging for sunstones. The hospitality shown was five star. Breakfast, lunch and dinner were provided with plenty of water, Gatorade and ice always available. You also got to keep the first 300 carats of sunstone you collected at no cost. All of the folks at the mine were friendly and very helpful to point out areas that might produce some good finds.

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[Digging Sunstones continued from Page 6]

Rudy and I took off Thursday morning heading south on I-5. We decided to try the highway through Oakridge and over the Willamette Pass. On through Crescent, LaPine, Fort Rock, Christmas Valley, passed Jasper Mountain and drove along Abert Rim to reach the road to the mine. The gravel roads into the area were well maintained. The mine is located in Rabbit Basin, with Hart Mountain and Rabbit Hills in the distance. Saw some antelope one morning, but they stayed quite a ways from the camp. We also saw many "dust devils" around the area with a few also coming into camp.

This was our first experience digging sunstone - and with any rockhounding it is always a gamble as to what you will find. People have many different methods of collecting sunstones. We spent most of our time digging out from the wall and then screening the material to make sure nothing is missed. Angular features distinguish sunstones from the more rounded shapes of the basalt gravel. Others would sit on a pile of material that had been recently excavated and slowly sift through the sand and gravel using small garden tools. Many sunstones were found by breaking open the basalt matrix either by hammering rocks against each other or with a hammer and chisel. I saw many people finding pockets of hidden crystals inside. Another method is to just wander around looking. One fellow after digging all day, found a large beautiful red sunstone just sitting on the top of a pile of rocks.



Susan Appleby seeking sunstones

A few members from WAMS were there - Chris, Don Miller and Mary, Rob and Cara and Wes and Gretchen. I've found the time to work on several sunstones that we found since we got back and they are a lot of fun to work. With a hardness of 6.5 - 7.2 they grind and polish quite easily. Sunstones come in different colors, clear, yellow, green, red and pink and some have schiller. Some stones contain from two to four of these colors and in some you see different colors when viewed from different directions (dichroic and trichroic).

We left Dust Devil Mines - no longer novices at digging sunstones and ready for the next trip down. We enjoyed ourselves and met a lot of new rockhounding friends who came from all over the country to attend.

WAMS Picnic Revisited

- submitted by Susan Appleby

Thanks to Tom and Susan Robertson for hosting the Annual WAMS Picnic held on Sunday, August 8th. The picnic was well attended - though nobody got an exact count. It was a hot, sunny day, but the trees and canopies provided plenty of shade. The club provided fried chicken and sodas and everyone brought along a side dish or dessert - lots of good food. It was a great time to socialize and catch up with other members on summer field trips and life in general.



Don and Mary enjoy a game of Rocky Bingo

A few games of Rocky Bingo was played with most everyone participating for the rock prizes (thanks Rudy for retuning the Rocky Bingo program and printing more out). Several members also brought rocks along for trade/sale. I decided this would be a good opportunity to try to get rid of some of our rocks that are collecting in buckets and shelves in our garage. Although I brought all but a couple back home again, it was fun going through the rocks we had collected over the past eight years.

When you start collecting (and even now for me) you tend to pick up rocks that you maybe should have left behind - new rocks become your favorites and the

[Picnic continued on Page 8]

[Picnic continued from Page 7]

older material is moved to the side. Plus those rocks and fossils at the silent auctions you wouldn't give up on, the slabs for 25¢ that you know would make wonderful cabs and of course all those gems you see at rock shows that have to come home with you. Another fun thing about going through the rocks is finding those nice ones that you had forgotten all about - like a handful of Holly Blue Agate or the pieces of the soccer-sized geode I found at Thistle Creek on one of my first field trips.

Thanks to Sandy Wissinger for organizing the picnic. She did a great job! You too, Chris.



Ask Rocky

Question: I bought some rocks in Colorado that the dealer called "dinosaur gizzards". He assured me that dinosaurs had used these rocks to digest their

food. As I understood him, dinosaurs swallowed rocks, which then tumbled around in their stomachs while digesting food, and then came out somewhat polished. The rocks have a matte finish, which support his story, but on closer inspection, they also have some white specks (tripoli?) in some of the cracks. Was I snookered? If his story is true, how do they know that's how the rocks got polished?

Answer: No, you didn't get snookered. Dinosaurs had a crop like a chicken. They swallowed rocks to grind up food, and eventually passed them. These polished rocks are called gastroliths. The white in the cracks is called collegie, or alkali. It is not uncommon for gastroliths to have a coating of collegie, especially if found near a river.

Rocks can be identified as gastroliths because they are a round smooth rock that seems out of place, they are found in areas dinosaurs are know to have lived, and you won't find many of them. Some gastroliths have even been found sticking out of copralite (dino dung), which is the best proof of all they came from dinosaurs.

Note: Rocky welcomes your questions relating to lapidary, silversmithing, gems, minerals, fossils, collecting, etc. Please forward your questions to Theresa Byrne @ tabyrne@juno.com or call 503.364.7190.

2005 Federation Show Report

- submitted by Janice Van Cura

Boise is over and WE are next!!! The committee had a meeting on August 17th and we are well underway. All of the dealers have been invited and we have

commitments from almost all of them. Thanks to a great committee of Linda Groah, Mary Haslebacher and Tom Robertson we will have all of the dealer space filled with really great dealers.

As a special treat we will be presenting a two day Petrified Wood identification workshop by the noted expert Walt Wright on Monday and Tuesday after the show. Dan Groah has been very instrumental in securing this speaker and will coordinate the workshop. The workshop will be \$40 plus an amount for dinner Monday night. Space is limited to 65 people. Walt will also present a free lecture during the show.

Aaron Currier has confirmed a varied and interesting group of speakers for the Show. Rudy Tscherniak from the Rice Museum, Bob Watkins, on Obsidian, Janice & Joe Van Cura on Thundereggs, Jeff Murray on the Missoula Floods will be presenting. In addition Aaron has worked to provide what is probably the largest gathering of fossil displays, demonstrations and lectures ever at a Federation show. These will be provided in conjunction with the North American Research Group and Dr. Orr of the Condon Museum at the University of Oregon. We will have the Pleistocene mammal bones from the Woodburn dig site on display and lectures by Dr. William Orr, Dr. Jeffery Myers, Dr Ellen Moore and Andrew Bland.

Chris Wissinger is the display chairman and he has been busy inviting members of other clubs to come display. We are also planning a group of displays to highlight the material that can be found in Oregon. Chris will be asking for the club members help in putting these displays together.

Advertising is our next big push. We need to get the word out about how great our show is going to be. If you are going to a show please check with Susan Robertson our advertising chair to see if we need you to take some fliers. Also if you have any ideas on how to get the word out to other rockhounds or the public please let her or myself know. We want a lot of people to come and enjoy our show.

There are still several areas that we need to work on. We will need help with demonstrators, banquet planning, table favors, programs and several other areas before the show. If you would like to help, please contact myself or a member of the committee. Planning the show can and will be a lot of fun for the club and I hope that we all can enjoy the process. Other subcommittee chairs are: Facilities - Joe Van Cura, Secretary - Janine Owens, Registration - Kay Story, Silent Auction - Jodi Leshk, Fliers & show packet - Susan Appleby, Members at large - Ray Plummer, Ted Silver, Jerry Lundeen, Don Miller, Rob Leedy, & Bob Watkins.

Field Trip Activity

- submitted by Joe Van Cura

Our field trip in July was to Darrel Friend's ranch in Ashwood. I arrived at Darrel's around 4:00 Friday afternoon to find Bill Jacobi, Kay Story and Mark and Christy Wood already there. We set up camp on a gravel bar beside Trout Creek and found some agates, jasper, and petrified wood on the gravel bar. Darrel stopped by and informed us that he had to attend a funeral on Saturday, but that we could collect anywhere on the ranch and that he would weigh us out at the end of the day. Charmaine Mortimore joined us in the morning. Our first stop was what Darrel calls the "old green" agate. We didn't get into the really fine green moss agate, but did manage to find some nice green and some red moss agate. Just before leaving we hit a vug with green angel wing agate, so ended up staying a while longer. Having a small group and the run of the ranch was nice because we could set our own time table and stay at any spot as long as we wanted. Next we headed to Darrel's "candy apple" agate. This was very hard agate, and hard work without large equipment, so we only stayed long enough to collect some samples. After lunch we went to Darrel's thunderegg bed. On Sunday morning Alex McDonald stopped by camp and told us we could go up and collect his petrified wood, thundereggs, and agate and then weigh out back at his house before we left. We had so much fun looking at all the wood available that we never made it to the egg or agate beds, but are thinking about going back next year.

In August we had another small group as Chris, Dan Groah, Ted and Gerri Silver and I headed over to Saddle Mountain, Washington for petrified wood. On Friday afternoon, Dan, Chris and I found ourselves digging in 106 degree heat. I do not recommend this. On Saturday we only dug until about 1:00 and then visited the Ginko Petrified Forest and a rock shop in Vantage. On Sunday Chris led us to a couple of thunderegg beds in Natches Washington. We only stayed long enough for each of us to get a sampling of the eggs, since we were on our way home.

WAMS in Pictures



Tom, Joe and Don near McDermitt



Mick Edwards surveys the digging scene



Dust Devil Mine activity



The ladies await the right number for a B-I-N-G-O

Lost and Found - Two Riker Cases found near Stayton with specimens. Call 503-897-3280 and identify if you lost them.

What's Rocking?

WAMS General Meeting

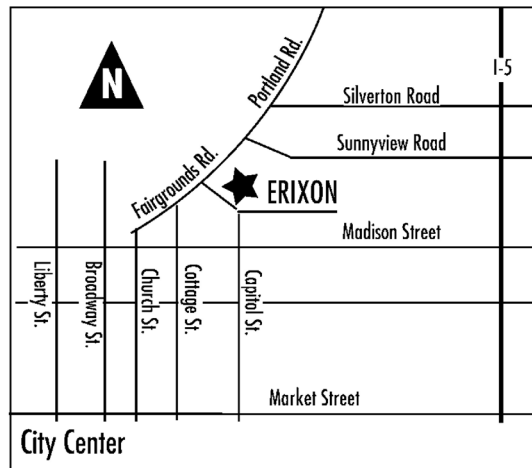
Thursday
October 7 – 6:30 p.m.
Salem Senior Center
1055 Erixon St. N.E., Salem
Guests Welcome!

October Program

Zeolites – Rudy Tscherniak from Rice NW Museum
of Rocks & Minerals

October Show and Tell

Bring rocks/minerals/gems beginning with the letter
'R' 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