



Newsletter of the Willamette Agate & Mineral Society Salem, Oregon

February, 2005

Ethics

- submitted by Joe Van Cura

Ethic: noun; 1. the discipline dealing with what is good and bad and with moral duty and obligation. 2. a set of moral principles or values.

Most of us have at one time or another seen the Rockhounds' Code of Ethics. With the start of a new year and a new collecting season, I believe we should revisit this topic.

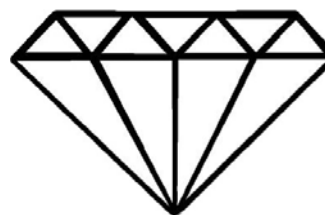
First, I would like to relate an incident from last summer. I was attending a rock show and wearing my WAMS t-shirt as usual when one of the dealers, upon seeing my shirt, made a derogatory remark about our club. I asked him why he felt that way. He proceeded to tell me about an encounter with one of our club members that left a sour taste in his mouth. I will not go into all the details or mention any names, but someone from our club took advantage of his generosity and collected an unreasonable amount (more than personal use) of material from his claim. He came very close to closing his claim to the public, not just our club. Fortunately, for the time being, he is willing to continue to permit collecting for personal use.

After this incident, I started thinking about all of the areas that are closed now because of past abuses, either directly or indirectly. Many of these areas, such as Holley Blue and Rogers Mountain, were closed before I became a rockhound. I will probably never have the chance to collect there. If we want to keep current collecting sites open, we must observe the Code of Ethics. Many of the sites we go to on field trips could be closed down if abused. This is especially true about some of the private claims we have been to such as Rocky Butte picture jasper, McDermitt thundereggs, Graveyard Point, and Ochoco Tube Agate. We want these people to continue to trust that we will not take advantage of them.

If you haven't seen the Code of Ethics, it is frequently published in the Northwest Federation Newsletter. Or visit our web site and follow the links. Our club has

adopted the AFMS Code of Ethics. So remember for the future of our hobby please be ethical, and "rockhound responsibly".

(Code of Ethics, adopted by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, printed on Page 4)



February Program - Rock Tumbling

The February program will be about rock tumbling. We have a lot of new members and we thought that it would be great to show everyone what rock tumbling is all about. We will demonstrate different types tumblers, both tumbling and polishing, and show what you need to start tumbling and polishing rocks and agates. Hope to get some more people interested. Don't forget, the club has rock tumblers and rock polishers for loan.

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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 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

2005 Elected Officers

- President: Kit Leshk 503-393-9102
- Vice President: Ray Plummer 503-361-7466
- Secretary: Chuck Hunt 503-304-3886
- Treasurer: Theresa Byrne 503-364-7190
- Federation Director: Dexter Leonard 541-745-7517
- Members at Large: Don Miller 503-585-5443
Dan Groah 503-873-6930
Tom Beaty 503-361-8788
Chris Wissinger 503-304-9400
- Board Chair: Aaron Currier 503-393-2055

2005 Committee Chairs

- Show Chair: Bob Harrison 503-364-2288
- Field Trips: **VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED**
- Bulletin Editor: Janine Owens 503-881-4373
- Education: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
- Juniors: Archie Jahnke 503-371-4579
- Nameplates: Sandy Wissinger 503-304-9400
- Oregon Council: Dan Groah 503-873-6930
- Rules and Awards: Ted Silver 503-585-2559
- Programs: **VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED**
- Property Control: Theresa Byrne 503-364-7190
- Public Relations: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
- 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: Jodee Leshk 503-393-9102
- Stamps: Peg Townsend 503-364-9829
- Sunshine: Jodee Leshk 503-393-9102

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 Rockhounds,

Happy February to all of you! Spring is right around the corner, you know? Hopefully, one of our members will step up to volunteer for the Field Trip Chairperson position, and help organize some group collecting opportunities for our club. As Kit reminded everyone at the January meeting, you don't have to lead all of the trips in order to be the Field Trip Chairperson; just organize them. We have many members who certainly would make themselves available to lead one or two of the trips to various sites.

I hope many of you can join us in Newport this upcoming weekend (more information on the field trip on Page 6). This is a very family-friendly field trip, for those of you with children. Zachary will be in attendance; he is a survivor of the year we had 70+ mph gusts of wind on the beach that literally shredded our Disneyland rain ponchos! We also had a fantastic lightning and thunder show over the Pacific when we returned to our ocean-view rooms at the Waves Motel. February weather – you never know what to expect ☺

I'm communicating a new deadline for submissions to each issue of the newsletter. I need to receive ads, articles, and Committee updates by the 24th of each month. Feel free to contact me by phone or email if you need to submit information after the monthly deadline; I can perhaps adjust the layout to include your submission. Thanks for your help!

Submit your articles and photographs electronically to me at sunshynnn@comcast.net, or contact me at the meetings (or by phone at 503.881.4373) to make arrangements to have photos scanned and articles processed.

See you at the meeting,

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

Upcoming NW Shows

February 2005 5-6	Whidbey Island Gem Club & Pebble Pushers Oak Harbor, WA
February 2005 19-20	West Seattle Rock Club Seattle, WA
February 2005 26-27	Everett Rock & Gem Club Everett, WA
February 2005 26-27	Idaho Gem Club Boise, ID

President's Message

Dear Rockhound Members,

Well, I survived my first meeting of the year. I had fun and I was glad to see all of you there. The February meeting will be great and I hope we have just as good or even a better turn out.

I still need two committee positions filled – the Field Trip position and the Programs position. If you are interested, please let me know.

I am disappointed that we did not make our 100% membership dues payment by December 31. I'm even more disappointed that it is already February and we still have about 30 families (50 members) that have not yet paid their dues. Please let me or one of the Members at Large know why you let your WAMS membership lapse. We don't want to lose you so please get your dues in.

Our first field trip of 2005 is this weekend. We will be searching for beach agates near Newport. It's a fun time for all. Come for the day on Saturday or spend the night in Newport and have another day at the beach on Sunday.

See you Thursday at the meeting and again Saturday at the beach.

Kit Leshk, President

Volunteer Needed for WAMS Show School Program

- submitted by Kit Leshk

I am asking for a volunteer to take over the show school program beginning next year. I've done it for several years now and it's time for someone to take it over. This position includes updating the yearly school letter, contacting the Salem-Keizer School District and the Willamette Education Services District, updating the school mailing list, preparing, printing, folding, stuffing envelopes and distributing the school letters. It also includes greeting and talking to the school children as they get off the busses and getting all the children into the Fluorescent show. I am prepared to have someone shadow me at the show this year to learn what I do. If you are interested, please contact me.

Visit WAMS on the web: www.wamsi.org

AFMS News

Can be viewed at www.amfed.org

A large measure of the enjoyment of our hobby consists of collecting in the field. For that reason, the members are proud to endorse the following:

"Code of Ethics"

- ◆ I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.
- ◆ I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- ◆ I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- ◆ I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- ◆ I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.
- ◆ I will leave all gates as found.
- ◆ I will build fires only in designated or safe places and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- ◆ I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.
- ◆ I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
- ◆ I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.
- ◆ I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- ◆ I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- ◆ I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- ◆ I will cooperate with field-trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- ◆ I will report to my club or federation officers, Bureau of Land Management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- ◆ I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- ◆ I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use Good Outdoor Manners and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public Image of Rockhounds everywhere.

Revised July 7, 1999 at the AFMS Annual Meeting

NFMS News

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

AFMS 50th Anniversary NFMS Cabs

- I have possession of twenty-one cabochons that were contributed by NFMS members to the AFMS 50th Anniversary celebration held in 1997, at Jackson Mississippi.
- Past President Bill Luke, has been storing them, has now turned them over to me. They were last displayed at our Federation Show in Port Townsend, WA, although they have been displayed at various club shows by Bill.
- I am suggesting that the collection be the cornerstone for a larger NFMS Collection. The expanded collection would be of outstanding examples of all lapidary work being done within our Federation. The collection would include not only cabs, but carvings, spheres, intarsia, faceting, jewelry and any of the other lapidary areas.
- To insure that the collection is available for both the membership and general public viewing year around it is hoped that a museum such as the Rice Museum would house and display the collection under the name of the NFMS. In addition it would be understood that portions of the collection would be made available for use by our Federation at our Annual Shows.
- I would appreciate any comments or other ideas on this subject.

Jack Edwards
NFMS President
edwardsj@wwics.com



Cool Websites

- by Janine Owens

The Mineral Information Institute - A great site with information about the use of minerals in our every-day world (great for kids, too): www.mii.org

Link to tide tables at the OSU Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport: <http://hmsc.oregonstate.edu/weather/tides/tides.html>

Our club website can be accessed at www.wamsi.org. Here you'll find the latest information on meeting information and field trips.

Adjudication in April

- submitted by Ted Silver

Everyone is encouraged to bring lapidary items to the April meeting for adjudication. It's not a big deal. No careers are going to be destroyed or enhanced either way. It's just a friendly tool for us to gauge how well and how far our lapidary skills have advanced. You don't have to be an old-timer or an expert. All skill levels are welcome and encouraged to participate. It's how we help each other develop better habits and workmanship.

Items will be scored as follows:

Workmanship = 70

Quality of material = 20

Labeling and identification = 10

Workmanship (lapidary treatment) refers to shaping, surface finishing (degree of polish, absence or presence of scratches).

Quality of Material refers to color, color pattern, freedom from flaws, and freedom from undesirable inclusions.

Labels should be neat, typed or printed, must show name of material and locality of origin. Indicate at least the state, if U.S., county if Oregon, country if foreign. Labels will be judged on correct spelling, accuracy of origin and overall neatness.

This adjudication method and standards should not be confused with judging standards for competition cases at shows. That is a completely different matrix and is based on an entire case, not individual pieces. That information is available from the NFMS or you are welcome to look at mine. As of this writing I am awaiting what I hope is the final piece of information (Approved List of Lapidary Names) for judging cases.

Federation Show Report

- submitted by Janice Van Cura

Plans for the Federation Show are moving ahead. The registration form and display case applications will be printed in the March NFMS newsletter. After that, we hope that we have lots of people signing up to come and display at the show. Ray Plummer has agreed to assist Chris Wissinger in coordinating the displays. There will be information at the February meeting to sign up for part of the Treasure Trail or a competitive or non-competitive display. If you want to try a display first before the Federation Show, I suggest that you sign up to do a display at the April WAMS show. Displaying is a fun way to show off your favorite

rocks. What rockhound doesn't like to brag about their latest find or lapidary work? There is still a lot to be done, but more on that after our club show.

Newspaper Recycling Benefits Senior Center

- submitted by Ted Silver

Newspapers! Please bring your newspapers to the Salem Senior Center for recycling. You can deposit them in the big blue bin in the parking lot or in one of the gray receptacles by the front and back doors. 100% of money collected is used by Friends of The Salem Senior Center to support the many programs offered at the Center. Thanks!

Minutes from January 6 General Meeting

- submitted by Chuck Hunt

The meeting was opened by President Kit Leshk at 6:33 p.m. There was an introduction of new officers and guests. There were a total of 80 members and guests. Kit advised that we need to fill some positions such as Field Trip Chairperson, Junior Chairperson, and Program Chairperson.

Show and Tell was the letter "T" and there were many of them including a lot of (fossilized) teeth!

Program: The program was by Aaron Currier with a talk about a trip to the coast in February for our annual field trip to find agates. He covered many of the areas that we will be looking for the sometimes elusive agates, including Beverly Beach, Ona Beach, Lincoln Beach, Lost Creek, etc. and concentrating on the mid-Oregon Coast. He brought lots of material gathered in the past to give those who have not had the opportunity to go a look at what we will be searching for. Areas covered were agates, fossils, petrified wood, and safety regarding logs and sneaker waves. He also demonstrated some equipment you might need for a successful trip. The field trip is scheduled for February 5 - 6 to Newport.

Break.

There was a short executive board meeting to approve new member applications to be presented to the membership. The next Executive Board meeting will be Monday, January 24th at the Salem Senior Center.

General Meeting Resumed.

The meeting was called to order by President Kit Leshk.

[“January 6 Minutes” continued on Page 6]

[“January 6 Minutes” continued from Page 5]

Minutes: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as printed. Membership voted and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Theresa Byrne read the Treasurer's report. A motion was made and seconded to approve the report. Membership voted and approved. A motion was made and seconded to pay the bills, as read by the Treasurer. Membership voted and approved.

WAMS Show Report: Chairperson Bob Harrison was absent.

Federation Show Report: Janice Van Cura advised the need for more participation from WAMS members for the Oregon “Treasure Trails” show cases. If you don't have enough to fill a case you can be paired with another person to make a complete case. The Federation Committee needs to know next month (February). Contact Chris Wissinger or Janice Van Cura. The next Federation Show Committee meeting is January 13th at 7 p.m. The question came up as to who do we order a Federation Rule Book from?

Field Trip: Next one is February 5th – 6th to the Oregon coast for agate and fossil collecting at Newport.

Federation Report: Susan Robertson advised there was nothing to report.

Oregon Council Report: Dan Groah absent.

Newsletter Report: Janine Owens advised she still needs articles or pictures for the Rockhound Rumbings and some original articles. You can win an award for some articles.

Adjudication Report: Ted Silver advised that the next adjudication will be at the April meeting. In the next newsletter, Ted will have a format for critiquing the specimens turned in.

Library Report: Chris Wissinger absent.

Stamps: Peg Townsend says keep in bringing in those stamps so she can turn them into the Federation.

Sunshine Report: It was reported that Rob Leedy and Janet Lundeen were not well.

Senior Center Classes: Lapidary, silversmithing and jewelry making are still in full swing. For lapidary, check with Ted Silver or Gene Gangle. For jewelry making or silversmithing, contact Jodee Leshk or Charmaine Mortimore.

Christmas Dinner: The dinner was a great success and 80 people were in attendance. Everyone received a gift to take home (some more than one!)

Dues are due by the February meeting or you will be dropped from the active membership list!

New Business

We still need three more chairpersons to fill vacancies: Programs, Juniors, and Field Trips. Archie Jahnke volunteered to work with the youth in the club as the junior director.

Installation of new members: Members moved and seconded a motion to approve the list of new members. Membership voted and approved the new members. They are Mark Heath, Joel Hurtado, Larry Blumenstein, Jolynn Espinosa, Archie, Jenna and Shara Jahnke and Harold Moors. WAMS now has a membership of 232!

Additional Treasurer Report: A motion was made and seconded to pay additional bills presented by the Treasurer. Membership voted and approved.

Refreshments for the February meeting: Archie Jahnke, Jolynn Espinosa, Joann Kobel and Susan Robertson volunteered to bring refreshments.

Show and Tell for February will be the letter “U”.

Meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

February Field Trip Information

- submitted by Janine Owens

The annual field trip to Newport on the Oregon coast to collect agates and fossils will be the weekend of February 5-6. An announcement will be made at the February meeting for a timeframe to meet on the beach (usually at the Lost Creek State Park beach area) on Saturday. Members will have a dinner at the Sizzler in Newport Saturday evening (time will be announced at the February meeting).

The tides for that weekend are as follows:

Saturday – High 8:05 a.m., Low 3:40 p.m.
Sunday – High 9:09 a.m., Low 4:32 p.m.

Harry and Joan at the Waves Motel have typically provided club members with a discounted rate for nice, ocean-view rooms. Identify yourself as being with WAMS for the annual field trip when you contact them. The phone number is 800.252.6993, and their website is www.wavesofnewport.com.

Hope to see you there!

A Ge-Ode

By Jessica Shurtz, Junior Member,
Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Looking around, down at the ground,
Dreary eyes silently sighting,
A spherical something has been found:
Perhaps it will be delighting...

Hands grasping the heavy object,
Brushing off sediment, mud and crud,
Principally thinking, is it to collect?
Amending instead, it is a dud.

Rewind, however, and speculate:
What do you know of the geode?
One might find it easy to underrated,
Look inside and see what it abode.

Perchance see crystals aligning inside...
Quartz? Amethyst? Calcite? Pyrite?
Inside the hollow nodule, all these might hide,
Ready to be split open, shining bright.

Most likely surrounded by some banded agate,
With a manner of formation most mysterious,
That has not been uncovered yet.
For both sedimentary and volcanic exist; thus,

Gas bubbles inside an oozing molten sludge,
A previous hollow initially inherent,
Forgotten flora and fauna that forgot to budge,
And instead rotted away leaving the hollow dent.

Or a cavity created from too much pressure,
These theories exist, and more.
Yes, ancient geodes that as yet endure,
Belle and beguile with their inner core.

Split them open, ready polish the rim,
And discover a disappointment,
Finding no crystals are within.
But - the rock hound is ever recurrent.

From: *Chips and Chatter*, August 2004 via the
RockCollector, February 2005



2005 Northwest Federation Show



The Willamette Agate and Mineral Society would like to invite everyone to the 2005 Northwest Federation Show.

DATE: August 5 - 7, 2005

LOCATION: Albany, Oregon (20 miles south of Salem)
Linn County Fair and Expo Center - Right off I-5
Free parking at the Fairgrounds

Competitive and Non-Competitive Display Cases
Silent Auction
Demonstrators, plus much more

Lectures by:

Rudy Tscherniak, Rice Museum – Zeolites
Janice & Joe Van Cura, WAMS – Thundereggs
Jeff Murray – Missoula Floods and How they Impacted the Face of Oregon
Walter Wright – Introduction to Petrified Wood Identification

Fossil Lectures by:

Dr. William Orr, University of Oregon – The Mineralogy of Fossils
Dr. Jeffery Myers, Western Oregon University – Paleoclimatology of Oregon as determined by studies in Paleobotany
Andrew Bland, NARG – Fossil Collection, Preparation and Preservation
Dr. Dave Taylor – Jurassic Ammonites of Oregon
Guy DiTorrice, Educator – Fossil Collecting on the Oregon Coast, and Metasequoia - Proposal for Oregon's Official State Fossil

Seminars:

After the Show on Monday and Tuesday, **Walt Wright** will be presenting a seminar on *Petrified Wood Identification* at the Holiday Inn Express. Limited space available so sign-up early. Cost is \$40. For more information contact Dan Groah at 503-873-6930 or email dang@ncn.com.

For more information, email info@wamsi.org, or visit http://wamsi.org/pages/wr_nwfs.html

What's Rocking?

WAMS General Meeting

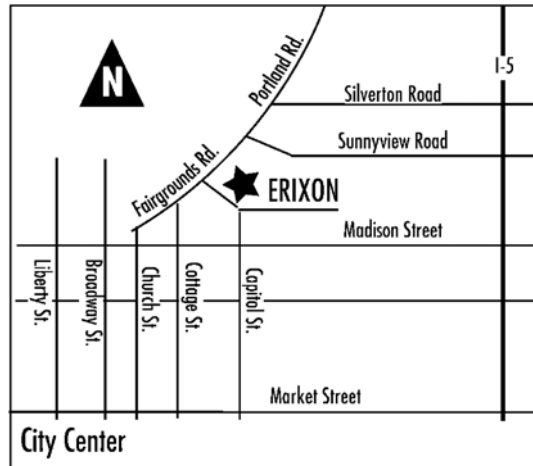
Thursday
February 3 – 6:30 p.m.
Salem Senior Center
1055 Erixon St. N.E., Salem
Guests Welcome!

February Program

Tumbling Basics – Presenter(s) to be announced

February Show and Tell

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



Map to Salem Senior Center – 1055 Erixon



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