



Newsletter of the Willamette Agate & Mineral Society Salem, Oregon

June 2006

## Romance blooms in the Club -

submitted by Mary Haslebacher



Don and Peggy Townsend

Photo submitted by George Goetzelman

Don and Peggy Townsend have been members of the Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, Inc. for decades. But, did you know they met each other during a club meeting? Don met Peggy in 1963 when she attended a meeting of the Junior Club with her daughter who had joined as a member. Don and his son, also a junior member had been attending meetings together after the passing of Don's wife. Don and Peggy were married in 1970 and have been active members in the Club ever since, always volunteering to do what they can. They have spent a lot of time traveling in their RV and collecting rocks. They helped with the education of many children and adults throughout the years. Don was Federation Director for many years.

Don said, "WAMS is a great club with much to be learned from it." Peggy had been the Sunshine chairperson for many years. She then took on the responsibility of collecting used stamps from club members to donate to the Northwest Federation for a project benefiting cancer research. This effort has always been a success due to Peggy's reminders to "don't forget to bring your stamps." Peggy has announced her retirement from collecting the stamps and Aaron Currier will take over. The Townsends were recipients of the "Lifetime Achievement Award" in 2002; an award recognizing the member(s) of WAMS for more than 20 years of continued dedication to the support and promotion of the club. Peggy and Don will be here to give advice and to help volunteer as long as they can.

THANKS, Don and Peggy for all your work over all the years.

(\* thanks to Aaron Currier for technical support)

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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](http://www.wamsi.org)

**2006 Elected Officers**

- President: Ray Plummer 503-361-7466
- Vice President: Janice Van Cura 541-753-2401
- Secretary: Mary Haslebacher 393-5228
- Treasurer: Janine Owens 503-881-4373
- Federation Director: Marvin Bartel 503-364-4170
- Members at Large: Walt Friday 503-363-9861  
Joe Start 503-873-2769  
Joe Van Cura 541-753-2401  
Chuck Hunt 503-304-3886  
Jennifer Ferrell 503-370-2560  
Kit Leshk 503-393-9102
- Board Chair:

**2006 Committee Chairs**

- Show Chair: Cathy Fisher 503-851-1837
- Field Trips: Steve Lawrence 503-585-8014
- Bulletin Editor: Kristi Edwards 541-738-6811
- Education: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
- Juniors: Jennifer Ferrell 503-370-2560
- Nameplates: Ted Johnson 503-362-6186
- Oregon Council: Dan Groah 503-873-6930
- Rules and Awards: Ted Silver 503-585-2559
- Programs: Aaron Currier 503-393-2055
- Property Control: Theresa Byrne 503-364-7190
- Public Relations: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
- Advertising: Susan Appleby 503-391-4221
- Publications: Chuck Hunt 503-304-3886
- Scrapbook/Historian: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
- Hostesses: Catherine Fisher 503-851-1837  
Linda Busey
- Refreshments: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
- Coffee: Nancy Plummer 503-361-7466
- Stamps: Aaron Currier 503-393-2055
- Sunshine: Gerry Silver 503-585-2559

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

Mark and I just got back from Hampton Butte and it was cold. It snowed on the way over to Hampton and Robert and Carol Fisher had to stop due to 3 inches of snow at Brothers.

Don Esch, Steve Lawrence, Ken Leith, Mick Edwards and Robert and Carol Fisher had been at Glass Butte on Friday and found some really nice obsidian. Rod Murphy joined us Saturday at Hampton Butte. Most of us found some nice rocks at Hampton, in between hail storms.

Be sure to check out the upcoming field trips and Dan Groah has lined up some nice trips at the upcoming Prineville Show. Let Steve know if you are planning on attending the Bear Creek trip

Please send me articles that you would like to see in the newsletter. You can call me or email me.

If anyone went to the sunstone claim please let me know so I can include that in the next newsletter.

See you at the meeting.

Kristi Edwards  
Bulletin Editor

kmedwards2@comcast.net

## Presidents Message:

Here it is, June, and we are half way through the year! I've been busy the last couple of weeks getting my computer back on line. I finally upgraded it for the first time in 6 years. Just about have it finished. Hopefully will get the last few wrinkles ironed out in the next day or two.

By the time you read this, Memorial Day will have come and gone. I hope those of you who went on one of the various field trips had a good time. We are planning on going up to Quartzville on Saturday to spend the day with the North West Mineral Prospectors Club that we belong to.

Charmaine Mortimer, who teaches the silversmithing classes on Monday nights at the Senior Center will be giving the program at the June meeting on silversmithing. Plan to be at the meeting, the program should be a good one.

The Show and tell for June is the letter 'L' so bring out all your 'L' rocks. Limonite, Lava, Lemon Chrysoprase (sp?), Laboradite, or whatever.

Also, we have some field trips coming up in June that are listed here in the newsletter.

The annual picnic in August will be held the first Sunday and will be a potluck. Stay tuned for further info. Tom and Susan Robertson will be hosting the picnic at their home.

As Porky Pig says at the end of the cartoons, " Th-th-th-that's all Folks ! "

See you at the meeting

Ray Plummer  
President

## Upcoming NW Shows

June 9-11	<b>Bead Renaissance Show</b> Monarch Hotel Portland, OR
June 16-18	<b>Oregon Coast Agate Club</b> Oregon Guard National Armory Newport, OR
June 22-25	<b>Prineville Rockhound</b> Pow Wow Crook County Fairgrounds Prineville, OR
June 28-July 2	<b>All Rockhound</b> Pow Wow Club Jefferson County Fairgrounds Madras, OR

## Field Trips

-submitted by Steve Lawrence

June 9-11 Bear Creek  
Led by Joe Van Cura

July 6-8 Succor Creek  
Led by Tom Robertson

If there is a place you are interested in going please contact Steve Lawrence.

## **Bear Creek Field Trip**

-submitted by Joe Van Cura

For June's field trip we will be going to Bear Creek on June 10th and 11th to collect petrified wood. Bear Creek is located about 38 miles south of Prineville. Janice and I will be driving over Friday afternoon and setting up camp in the junipers where you turn off Bear Creek Road. This is primitive camping. There are several campgrounds below Prineville Reservoir for anyone who wants to camp in a real campground. I don't know what the cost per night is at the campground. I plan on leaving camp around 9:00 Saturday morning to drive to the first collecting site. This should allow time for those camping along the river to join us. After lunch I plan to drive to the second site for the afternoon dig. On Sunday, I thought everyone could go back to which ever site they prefer. I will be on vacation the first week in June and therefore will miss the June meeting, so please let Steve know if you plan on attending.

The site is relatively easy to get to, but the road is a little rough. Four wheel drive is not necessary, but good ground clearance is. Directions to where I will be camping: Take Hwy 27 (Main Street) south from Prineville 33 miles to Bear Creek Road. Turn left on Bear Creek Road, travel 5.2 miles and turn left again on a primitive road. Go about .1 to where I will be camped. I will put up some orange flagging to mark the turnoff.

## **Succor Creek Field Trip**

-submitted by Joe Van Cura

In July we will be headed to Succor Creek. I don't know where we will be camped at this time, but in the past we have camped at the Succor Creek campground. Check with Tom Robertson. We are meeting with some people from a Club in Michigan for this trip. This is a great chance to visit and get to know rockhounds from other parts of the US. The folks from the Michigan club will be staying in Homedale Idaho.

They will be driving over to Homedale from Madras on July 3rd. I will be driving over on July 4th and taking them, and anyone else who wants to go along, to the thunderegg deposits on Wednesday the 5th. Tom Robertson will be leading us to Graveyard Point for plume agate on one day and to several picture jasper sites on the other. For this fieldtrip only we have been given permission to go on some private claims. This is the only time during the year that we will be able to collect in these areas. So if you are interested, this is a trip you need to come on. I don't know at this time

which will be on Thursday and which one will be on Friday. The folks from Michigan will be leaving on Saturday, but I can take people back up to the thundereggs on Saturday if they are unable to make it over for Wednesday. They are bringing material from Michigan; Petoskey (coral) heads, septaria from the beach, some fossil shells with honey calcite and a little Michigan copper to trade. So bring something for them if you want any Michigan material. In addition, the field trip coordinator and bulletin editor of the Cayuga, MN rock and mineral club is hoping she can get out for the Succor Creek part also.

This is a great place to collect and one of the most beautiful places in Oregon, so I hope a lot of you can make it. Please tell Steve if you plan on going, so we can have an idea how many will be there.

P.S. If you want to go to the thunderegg location you will need four wheel drive and high ground clearance. There will be some people that can share vehicles for this part of the trip.

## **Prineville Rockhound Pow Wow Field Trips**

-submitted by Dan Groah

The Friday, June 23rd field trip is to the Glass Buttes for obsidian. The Saturday

June 24th field trip is to Richardson's Recreational Ranch north of Madras. Several sites will have been freshly cleaned and ready for rockhounds. There is a "Surprise" location at Richardson's that isn't ordinarily open to the public but will be open to us on that day. Apparently, there is a couple choices that Gary Buss and Jonnie Richardson are considering for this surprise location on the ranch. I don't know what they are. Sunday, June 25th will be a trip to an Ochoco thunderegg location that Bill Quant has just rediscovered that Shirley Quant had dug during the 1950' but had since "Lost." The eggs are said to have carneilian cores.

## **EMERGENCYBOARD MEETING, MONDAY MAY 1, 2006**

-submitted by Mary Haslebacher

SALEM SENIOR CENTER

Meeting called to order by Board Chairperson, Kit Leshk

Attending meeting, Kit Leshk, Ray Plummer, Janice VanCura, Chuck Hunt, Joe Start, Walt Friday, Marvin Bartel, Joe VanCura, Rob Leedy, Kristi Edwards, and Mary Haslebacher. A quorum was present.

The meeting was called in regards to the storage of our new cases which are being built now.

Ray Plummer told the Board we need a decision as soon as possible on what we are going to do. Ray turned over the floor to Joe Start. Joe gave us different options that would be available, from cargo units, trailers, and awnings. After much discussion the cargo units were ruled out because you have to have special equipment to move them. The Fairgrounds needs access to be able to move the storage units if needed. Also the Fairgrounds will not let us put up an awning. More discussion followed on the different trailers. Janice VanCura also had done her homework and presented the Board with the cost of u-haul trucks for sale. The Board after much discussion about insurance, licensing, and up-keep ruled this option out.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend to the General meeting to pursue the purchase a 10,000 GW, double axle, trailer if funds are available. \$ 6,838.00 Joe Start will get this bid in written form. Since Janine Owens, treasurer was not in attendance we will need to find out what our budget is for the trailer. The motion was passed.

The Board discussed the parking of cars and RV's at the Fairgrounds. A map and instructions will be added to the Dealers packet. This will also apply to members.

Ray Plummer and Janice VanCura are actively pursuing getting a new Show Chairperson as Rob Leedy will not be doing it another year.

Walt Friday showed a little of his presentation to be given at General meeting.

Meeting adjourned 8:42 p.m.

## **WAMS GENERAL MEETING MAY 4, 2006, 6:35 PM**

-submitted by Mary Haslebacher

Meeting called to order by President Ray Plummer. After welcoming all in attendance, the guest for the evening introduced themselves.

Ted Johnson asked if there was a need for badges, to let him know.

Gerry Silvers, Kathy Winters and Kathy Bennett are retiring from being Hostess's to working with Jennifer Ferrell with the Junior Club. Many, many thanks for their service the last 3 years to these ladies.

Ray asked for volunteers to become the Hostess committee. Catherine Fisher and Linda Busy have volunteered to fill the spot.

Minutes from Board Meeting, April 17, and General Meeting, April 6 were published in newsletter. Being no correction, motion made and seconded to approve minutes as published. Motion passed.

Next was the Show and tell of rocks with letter "K". Walt Friday showed the CD he made of our 2006 show.

Break

Called back into secession 8:05.

Janine gave Treasures Report of monthly activity. Motion made and seconded to accept, motion passed. She gave a Show report on the income.

Janine presented bills to be paid, moved and seconded to pay bills. Motion passed

New liaison needed to be the go between from Club to Fairgrounds. Ray is no longer able to do it. Mike Dana and Norman DeRous have volunteered to be the new liaison.

The information on the purchase of a new trailer was presented with the back ground information as to how the Board gave a recommendation for the purchase of the new trailer. The Board in an emergency session gave this motion, "to pursue the purchase of a 10,000GW trailer if funds were available". After consulting with the Treasurer as to how much we had, much discussion on the trailer, it was moved and seconded that the WAMs purchase the 10,000GW, double axle trailer with license, \$7,053. Motion carried. Joe Start will get a contract from the trailer manufacture, giving \$2,500.00 down with rest at completion of building of trailer.

Names for new member were presented, Linda and Bradley Busey, Rick and Ginny Taylor, Todd Adams, and Carolyn Tingley. Motion made and seconded to accept then as members. Motion carried. Welcome!

Steve Lawrence presented the field trips and asked to notify him with any ideas for future trips.

Marv Bartel, Federation Director, gave info on upcoming Federation shows and if anyone wanted to display a case this year, they need to contact club as soon as possible.

Dan Groah said the display in Capital will be changed on June 6.

Ted Silvers said there are shop classes available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

June refreshments will be provided by Rachael Satter, Terry Meyers and Mary Haslebacher

May 15, 2006 Senior Center is the Board meeting. Under discussion will be the color to paint the trailer.

Next months rock will be the letter "L" and the program will be silver smithing by Charmaine Morimer

Meeting adjourned 8:50 PM

## **WAMS BOARD MEETING,**

-submitted by Mary Haslebacher  
MAY 15, 2006  
Salem Senior Center  
6:32 p.m.

Meeting was called to order by Board Chairperson Kit Leshk. In attendance were Chuck Hunt, Walt Friday, Marvin Bartel, Cathy Fisher, Janice Van Cura, Ray Plummer, Joe VanCura and Mary Haslebacher

Since Joe Start could not attend, Ray Plummer gave a report on trailer. It has been ordered. The color will be silver. \$2,500.00 was given as down payment with the remaining balance due at completion. The WAMS Logo will be painted on later. The trailer will be at Tom Robertson's while the cases are being done. The storage issue will be taken up at a later meeting.

Mike Dana is our new go between WAMS and Fairgrounds.

After much discussion on the construction of the new cases, a motion was made "to ask the Fairgrounds if they could take the remaining hinges and hardware off the old cases and then release all the rest of materials to WAMS. Seconded. Motion Carried

Ray Plummer said he had a friend that would cut all the cases for the cost of \$100.00 enough to replace his blades. A motion was made to precede with Ray Plummer's, friend to cut the plywood for the \$100.00. Seconded. Motion passes.

One of our members Dale Long is with the Polk Co. Sheriff office. He had mentioned his group would possible be interested in doing security for show. This will be discussed at a fall Board meeting.

After much discussion, complaints from some dealers, the Fairgrounds. a Motion was made to include in our Contract to Show Dealers and members, there will be no selling of any food items such as gum, candy, coffee, ect. at the Show. Seconded. Motion passed. Mary will add to the Show Contract.

There will be no Board meetings June or July unless there is emergency business.

Meeting Adjourned 7:45 p.m.

## **Pictures from Last Meeting**

-submitted by George Goetzelman



Janine busy paying bills, Mary taking minutes and Ray leading the meeting



Break Time and Food!!!!

### **AFMS News**

Can be viewed at [www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)

### **NFMS News**

Can be viewed at [www.amfed.org/nfms/](http://www.amfed.org/nfms/)

# What's Rocking?

## WAMS General Meeting

Thursday

June 1 – 6:30 p.m.

Salem Senior Center

1055 Erixon St. N.E., Salem

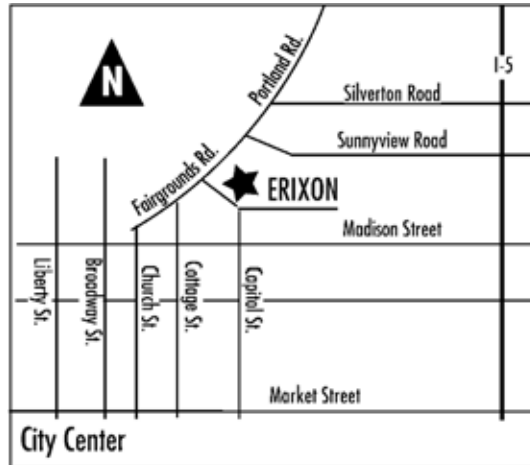
**Guests Welcome!**

## June Program

Silver Smithing presented by Charmaine Motimore

### June Show and Tell

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



Map to Salem Senior Center – 1055 Erixon



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