



Newsletter of the Willamette Agate & Mineral Society Salem, Oregon

October 2006

WAMS- Chapter 2

~submitted by Mary Haslebacher

WAMS helped in the John Day area, helping set up a geology camp. The Junior Club spent many summers over there in the late 50' and early 60's. Steve Manchester from the club was one of the junior members and he is now a very well know Paleontologist.

WAMS got all the Oregon clubs to donate money for an addition to OMSI to house all the rocks, exhibits, and materials, a Mr. Hancock had donated.

There was a Mr. & Mrs. Pearson who never missed a show. At 90, Mr. Pearson put in his first case. He has since passed away. I understand Mrs. Pearson, 107 years of age, lives in Corvallis.

The Show used to have a Chairperson, a Co-chairperson, plus a Show secretary. The Club treasurer still did the books. The Club used to use all the facilities of the Fairgrounds. The Club ran the kitchen for many years. It became too much work and not enough people so the Haslebacher family Ray, Mary, children and grandchildren ran it for 9 years until their family was too busy to help and the Fair took over the kitchen.

Governor Vic Atteyh and his wife came to the show during his time in office. The club had a big cake for them. They were there for over an hour. The Governor tried his hand at polishing a rock and didn't do too bad. I don't know of any other governor that has visited the Show.

The bylaws were redone in the 1990's to get more people involved in the offices of the Club. That was a long process, that had to be sent to the State to be recorded

REMEMBERING CLUB MEMBERS

~submitted by Mary Haslebacher

Jessie & Ed Ellison joined the club in 1975. Jessie, pushing 90, is still going strong, as a volunteer making caps for cancer patients. Jessie served as Show secretary, sending out mailers to schools, driving all over the Valley handing out flyers, never once asking for compensation. For many years she spent much time sewing up to 1700 grab bags for each Show. She still picks up friends during the Show and brings them to see it.

Les and Lucille Puffer joined the Club after Myrna Gardner, Lucille's sister got them interested in rocks. The four of them went on many trips collecting and working the rocks. They traveled many rough roads hoping the RV stayed together but having a great time. They spent about 14-15 years going to Quartzsite along with the Sams and Watkins. Les was Show chairperson for a couple of years. The Keizer Times came out and interviewed him and took his picture for the article. They can't help at the Shows anymore but they still come by to say Hi.

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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

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: Cathy Fisher 503-851-1837
Linda Busey
- Refreshments: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
- Coffee: Nancy Plummer 503-361-7466
- Stamps: Aaron Currier 503-393-2055
- Sunshine: Karen Porter 503-371-7752

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

I always find it hard to write a message after the putting the newsletter together.

But I really want to thank Mary Haslebacher and Susan Appleby for articles and Susan's support.

Mary's articles about the history are fun and I enjoy getting them. Susan gives me many good ideas about the letter.

If this is late this month, I am sorry. I have been very busy at work and the last thing I want to do is work on the computer at home.

There is a form in the newsletter for the dues for next year.

Hope everyone had a great summer. I am looking forward to cooler days ahead.

See you at the meeting

Kristi Edwards
Bulletin Editor

kmedwards2@comcast.net

Presidents Message:

Here it is October, and it looks like fall has fell and its time to get ready for the cold weather.

I don't have much in the way of news this month, and haven't been working on much either. Although, I did pick up a couple of interesting things at the Sams' rock sale. I just haven't started to do anything with them yet. (Laaaaazzzzzzzzzzz) !

A couple of things to think about before the meeting October 5:

1. Ideas for places to store the Trailer
2. Are you going to come to the Christmas Dinner?
3. It is getting close to time to pay dues for 2007
4. Nominations for 2007 officers/board members will open at the meeting....Would YOU be willing to serve?
5. We need about 5 or 6 people to help rearrange the trailer and install tie downs before moving it from Tom Robertson's place.

Do you have any Photos of WAMS activities for 2006? If you do, please copy them to a CD and give to Janice Van Cura so she can make up a slide show for the Christmas dinner.

The October meeting is "O" rocks (obsidian, opal, etc.) for show and tell, and the program will be Joe & Janice Van Cura on Thunder eggs.

See you at the meeting

Ray Plummer
President

Upcoming NW Shows

OCT 28-29	42 nd Annual Show Clackamas County Fairgrounds Canby, OR
Nov 3-5	Springfield Thunderegg Rock Club 49 th Annual Show Oakway Center Eugene, OR
Nov 10-12	Gem Faire Lane County Events Center Eugene, OR
Nov 17-19	Gem Faire Oregon Convention Center Portland, OR

Message from the VP

I can't believe that it is fall already. Where has the summer gone? I had so much planned that I just didn't get to do. But fall means that it is time to start paying our 2007 dues and elect new officers.

There is a form included in the newsletter to pay your dues. Please pay these at either the October or November meeting or by mail. We need to have a list to the federation of our paid members before the January meeting. Last minute payments make it harder to complete this list accurately. If you are not on the list you may miss some of your federation newsletters.

The second item is that we will be electing officers at the November meeting. If you are interested in serving on the board as a member at large, or an officer please contact either Joe Van Cura or Joe Start. They are the

two current members at large that are coordinating the nomination committee. If you are called and asked to serve please consider saying yes. It is a great way to get to know more members and more about the club and rocks.

Thanks for everyone's cooperation in advance.

Janice Van Cura, VP

Field Trip

~submitted by Steve Lawrence

Bob Sams has discovered many more rocks. He is allowing our club on October 21st at 9am to purchase the rocks at half price. The driving directions were printed in the NW newsletter, but if you need directions call Steve.

WAMS CHRISTMAS DINNER

~submitted by Christine Beaty

This years Christmas Dinner will be on Saturday December 2 at 5:30 PM at West Salem ROTHS in the Oregon Room. Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings will be \$10.00 per person for members and \$15.00 per person for guests. The treasurer will collect money at the October and November meetings and at the door.

We must have a firm number of people attending a week in advance. It's going to be a fun evening. Hope to see you there.

Cool Web Sites

~submitted by Susan Appleby

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia that anyone can edit has information on collecting rocks and minerals plus many links, images and references to related subjects. Search gemstones, lapidary . . . @ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rockhounding>

Google.com/top is a directory feature (with the web organized by topic into categories. Enter <<rockhounding>> and choose top link. Topics can be listed by category, alphabetical. Earth sciences is broken down into - - geology, paleontology, associations (wamsi.org even appears here).

The Smithsonian - National Museum of Natural History has a great site for Geology, Gems and Minerals. Click on [Geo Gallery @ http://www.mnh.si.edu/explore/earth/index.html](http://www.mnh.si.edu/explore/earth/index.html)

More Bones Support Mini Human Case

Scientific America.Com

~submitted by Susan Appleby

The discovery of additional bones in an Indonesian cave supports a stunning claim made last year that a new species of a very small hominid existed at the same time as modern humans.

When Michael Morwood and Peter Brown of the University of New England in Armidale, New South Wales, and their team announced last October that they had found the partial skeleton of a meter-tall human in the cave of Liang Bua on the island of Flores, they raised a few eyebrows. Although the bones were tiny--particularly the skull, which had the brain volume of a chimpanzee--the teeth, jaw and cranium were described as similar to those of members of our own genus, *Homo*. The evidence, including stone tools, signs of fire and the bones of a dwarfed elephantlike beast, dated to about 18,000 years ago and prompted the scientists to assign the human remains to a new species, *Homo floresiensis*. Rebuttals ensued. Some proposed that the mini-human was a pygmy; others suggested that the skull came from a modern human who had suffered from microcephaly, a birth defect that results in a very small head.

Now Morwood, Brown and their colleagues say that various arm, leg, jaw, toe and finger bones as well as a scapula and vertebra were excavated in 2004, bringing the estimated number of individuals represented thus far at Liang Bua to nine and casting doubt on those alternative interpretations. Analysis of the second jaw shows that it is very similar to the first one. Both notably lack a chin, which is a unique characteristic of *Homo sapiens*, even those that suffer from microcephaly. And further study of the leg and arm bones confirm that *H. floresiensis* was about a meter tall and had long arms. Modern adult pygmies have legs and arms that are proportional to their short stature. "We can now reconstruct the body proportions with some certainty," the researchers write in the October 13 issue of *Nature*.

When the team published their first report on *H. floresiensis*, they proposed that it was a dwarfed descendant of *Homo erectus*, which may have arrived on the island hundreds of thousands of years earlier and evolved into a smaller being thanks to the lack of predators and limited resources. Flores already boasts species that have undergone this kind of evolution, such as giant rats and miniature elephant cousins that are now extinct. The new finds, however, have revealed similarities to the much older *Australopithecus afarensis*, which lived in Africa, underscoring the possibility that the tiny Flores people instead descended from an as yet unknown hominid more primitive than *H. erectus*. Thus, although *H. floresiensis* does appear to be a new species, the

authors admit that its genealogy remains a mystery. But only a small portion of the site has been excavated and the scientists hope that further digging will reveal more answers. --Tracy Staedter

Majority of Dinosaurs May Await Discovery

Scientific America.Com

~submitted by Susan Appleby

To paraphrase Shakespeare: there are more dinosaurs in earth and rock than dreamt of by modern paleontology. Revising an earlier estimate based on discoveries to date, anatomist Peter Dodson of the University of Pennsylvania and statistician Steve Wang of Swarthmore College predict that 71 percent of dinosaur genera--the organizational grouping into which individual species fall--still remain to be discovered. "It's a safe bet that a child born today could expect a very fruitful career in dinosaur paleontology," Dodson says.

Over the course of the last decade, the pace of dinosaur genera discovery nearly tripled as new fossil beds and researchers entered the field. "Since 1990, an average of 14.8 genera have been described annually, compared with 5.8 genera annually between 1970 and 1989 and 1.1 genera annually between 1824 and 1969," the researchers write in the paper presenting the finding, published online yesterday in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. Dodson and Wang plugged those numbers into a statistical method known as an abundance-based coverage estimator, which has been used to estimate successfully the diversity of other animals. Their calculation reveals that dinos should have 1,844 genera--up from 1,200 genera that Dodson estimated in 1990. Only 527 genera have been discovered through May this year.

This statistical method relies on numbers of rare genera--those with fewer than 10 species extant as culled from the literature by the researchers--to estimate the total relative abundance of all genera. The numbers also seem to show that diversity was not declining as dinosaurs approached their inevitable end, instead it remained relatively stable as eons passed. And extrapolating forward, the researchers predict that we are entering a golden age of dinosaur genera, with 75 percent to be found over the next century or so.

Of course, given that dinosaur discovery relies on dinosaurs having died in areas conducive to fossilization, this estimate may prove to be simply the minimum number of genera awaiting uncovering, the researchers note. And Dodson had to revise his previous estimate upwards by roughly 50 percent. "I would never suggest that this prediction, however statistically sound, is the final word on dinosaur

diversity," he says. "This is the best estimate we can make with the data available." --David Biello

WAMS GENERAL MEETING,

~submitted by Mary Haslebacher

SEPTEMBER 7, 2006, SALEM SENIOR CENTER
The General Meeting was called to order by President Ray Plummer at 6:35p.m Board members in attendance, President Ray Plummer, Vice-President Janice Van Cura, Treasurer Janine (Owens) Kidd, Secretary Mary Haslebacher, Show Chairperson Cathy Fisher, members at large Walt Friday, Marv Batel, Joe Van Cura, Jennifer Ferrell, and Chuck Hunt.

Ray had the nine visitors introduce themselves.

Announcements, badges will be at the sign in desk for new members to pick them up. The new van is at Robertson's and has 60 new cases in it. See information on 2 up coming rock sales.

Minutes from July 6 as printed in the newsletter, motion made to accepted as printed, motion passed This month's "Show & Tell had a few rocks that start with "N" from club members.

Rudy Appleby, Tom Robertson and Gene Gangle gave a Program on "Jasper" and where to go, how to identify, cut. Polish, ECT. Ray announced a half hour break.

After the break, Janine gave the Treasurers Report, motion made to accept, motion carried. Janine presented bills to be paid, motion made to pay all bills, motion carried. Janice Van Cura asked for volunteers to help with liners September 16th at Robertson.

Janice Van Cura read name of 3 people wanting to become members. Motion made to accept them as members, motion passed.

Karen Porter has volunteered to be our New Sunshine person. Please call her with news of any member that the club should send a card to Ph 503-371-7752

The Club will donate \$100.00 to the Jon & Lucille Sams Education Fund in the name of Les Kirkwood. Please think about volunteering to fill an office.

Next month Walt Nelson and Janine (Owens) Kidd will bring the refreshments. Tom Beaty will bring raffle prizes. Program will be by Van Cura's on Thundereggs. Show & Tell will be the rocks starting with "O".

Reports: Steve Lawrence, no field trips planned, but let him know where you would like to go, he can put something together.

Federation Report: NW Federation Show was very good, meeting a little long, read report in NW newsletter. Next Year will be in Butte, Montana Lapidary classes will be on Monday & Thursday nights, Call Ted Silver or Gene Gangle. Silversmith classes on Monday, call Charmaine Mortimore, on what you would like to learn. Tumblers are available for use, call Theresa Byrne.
Meeting adjourned 8:10 p.m.

WAMS BOARD MEETING

~submitted by Mary Haslebacher

August 6, 2006

Meeting was called to order By President Ray Plummer, 4:00pm at the August picnic at Robertson's.

Board members in attendance: Janet Van Cura, Joe Van Cura, Joe Start, Cathy Fisher, Chuck Hunt, Kristi Edwards, Mary Haslebacher.

The deal with the Polk Co. Fairgrounds on making the cases has come to a stand still, so the Board has voted to have the members finish the project. A friend of Ray's, Mark Winn (nonmember) has graciously given of his time and equipment to finish sawing the Oak fronts. A motion was made and seconded that we give Mark \$200.00 for all his time and use of equipment. The motion was passed. On Tuesday, August 8, Ray and whoever can come will be putting the cases together at Tom Robertson's. They will be put into the new trailer. For all those > that couldn't come to the picnic, you missed getting to see the new trailer. Steve Lawrence has been arranging field trips for our Club. Two private mine owners (nonmembers) opened their claims to our club. After much discussion, the Board felt that to secure maybe more of the same treatment for us and others clubs that a motion was made that the Board provide a Gift Certificate of \$20 to each of owners, Gene Muller and Dale Huett. The motion was seconded and passed.

Cathy Fisher is our Show Chairperson and she has asked if she could get volunteers now to help with different items needed for the show. Also contact her if you helped last year and would do the same job again. Her e-mail address is rockhuntinggem@comcast.net.

After next year we will need to sign a new contract with Polk County. Due to the fact that we have outgrown the facility, and they will be raising our rent considerable, the Board has appointed Chuck Hunt and Joe Start to pursue other places that would have the facilities that we need to make the Show a success.

Meeting adjourned 4:35pm.

WAMS BOARD MEETING,

~submitter BY Mary Haslebacher

SEPTEMBER 18, 2006, SALEM SENIOR CENTER
6:40pm Meeting called to order by Board Chairman, Kit Leshk.

Those in attendance, Janice Van Cura, Vice-President, Janine (Owens) Kidd, Treasurer, Ray Plummer, President, Jennifer Ferrell, Joe Start, Joe Van Cura, Cathy Fisher, Mary Haslebacher, Secretary.

Ray Plummer stated the WAMS Christmas Party, will be Saturday, December 2, at Roth's in West Salem.

The committee is Christine Beaty and Emily Start. Motion was made to charge members \$10.00. Non members will pay \$15.00, allowing \$100.00 for entertainment and \$200.00 for favors/decorations. Motion seconded and passed.

Under discussion was the paying of dues at Christmas Party. They are to be paid at the meeting (Oct or Nov). Payment for Christmas Party and Dues need to be separate checks.

Janice Van Cura reported on Case Liner work party. There are 35 complete liners, and 15 more that need slight changes made. There will be another work party. See Janice.

The new trailer needs to be moved before the rains start from Tom Robertson's. The Board members will find out available spots for storing by October meeting. Janine will then call insurance Company and find out price of insurance.

A work crew is needed to make some tie downs in the trailer, so cases will not move during moving. This needs to be done as soon as possible, latest the middle of October. Please let Ray Plummer or Joe Van Cura know if you can volunteer some time. Also needed are people to make boxes to hold the glass fronts. This is really needed before moving of the trailer.

WAMS ELECTION: If you have been a member for over a year please think about volunteering for an office. The slate of future officers will be voted on at the November meeting

Our contract with Polk County Fairgrounds will need to be renewed this year. A couple of the Board members are reviewing different facilities

The audit of the 2005 books was done by Jennifer Ferrell and Joe Van Cura and found to be in order.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm

NFMS News

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

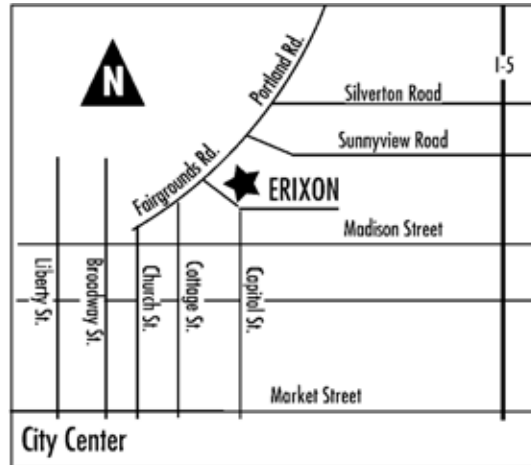
AFMS News

Can be viewed at www.amfed.org

What's Rocking?

WAMS General Meeting
Thursday
October 5 – 6:30 p.m.
Salem Senior Center
1055 Erixon St. N.E., Salem
Guests Welcome!

October Program
Van Cura's will present Thundereggs
September Show and Tell
Bring rocks/minerals/gems beginning with the letter
'O for Show & Tell



Map to Salem Senior Center – 1055 Erixon



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