



Newsletter of the Willamette Agate & Mineral Society Salem, Oregon

February 2008

Willamette Agate and Mineral Society's Jon and Lucille Sams Memorial Scholarship Fund 2008 award

~submitted by Ted Johnson

Applications are Now Open.

Well folks, time to kick-off the clubs new program, Jon and Lucille Sams' Memorial Scholarship Fund

Included in this month's newsletter are the Application Instructions and the Application Form. Both of these will also be posted on the Clubs Website at www.wamsi.org. The instructions and application will appear in the March newsletter as well.

The deadline for submitting an application is the first Thursday in April, 04-03-08, at the General Meeting. Applications can be submitted anytime between now and the April deadline and be submitted to any one of the Scholarship Committee members. The Scholarship Committee intends to announce Award(s) at the May, 2008, General Meeting.

Applicants must be a student, grades 2 through 12 and be a WAMS member or be sponsored by a WAMS member. The funds requested must be for learning opportunities that are Geology related.

Any questions regarding the Scholarship Fund can be directed to a member of the Scholarship Committee.

Committee Members are:

Ted Johnson 503-362-6186

jhnsthd@aol.com

Joe Van Cura 541-753-2401
jvancura@peak.org

Chuck Hunt 503-304-3886
froghunt@msn.com

Rob Leedy 503-371-6421
therockhoundingfool@yahoo.com

Joe Start 503-873-6729

Coast Field Trip

~submitted by Joe Start

Joe Start will lead a field trip at Moloch Beach on February 16 and 17th. If you are interested he will meet you there at 12:00pm. Joe will have someone at Lost Creek that day if you are interested in that area. The tides that day are a minus .1 feet. There should be plenty of lodging that weekend. The wine and seafood festival is the following weekend. Joe will be at the February meeting if you need more information.

IN THIS ISSUE

WAMS Club Information	2
Editor's and President's Messages	3
Up Coming NW Shows	3
Sams Scholarship Fund	1
Field Trip Report	3
Meeting Minutes	4
Board Minutes	5-6
An American Mineralogist	6



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: \$15.00
- Couple: \$24.00
- Juniors: \$ 2.50

Guests are welcome and are encouraged to attend WAMS meetings!

Website: www.wamsi.org

2007 Elected Officers

- President: Geri Esch 503-371-1472
- Vice President: Mary Haselbacher 503-393-5228
- Secretary: Walt Friday 503-363-9861
- Treasurer: Lee Ann Settlemeier 503-394-4283
- Federation Director: Marvin Bartel 503-364-4170
- Members at Large: Rob Leedy 503-371-6421
 Thor Satter 503-949-0481
 Bob Manley 503-845-6482
 Larry Nasset 503-585-4390
 Dextor Leonard 541-745-7517
 Norm De Roux 503-371-4623

Board Chair: Janice Van Cura 541-753-2401

2006 Committee Chairs

- Show Chair: Cathy Fisher 503-851-1837
- Field Trips: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
- Bulletin Editor: Kristi Edwards 541-738-6811
- Education: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
- Juniors: Jennifer Ferrell 503-370-2560
- Nameplates: Ted Johnson 503-362-6186
- Oregon Council: Vicki Johnson, 503-362-6186
- Rules and Awards: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
- Programs: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
- 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
- Refreshments: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
- Coffee: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
- 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

I can't believe it is February. And the weather has been so great! I thought I was tired of the snow until Mark reminded me of the spring run offs. He is planning on buying new tires to get us into Paulina and hopefully be the first ones there. We have 2 extra seats. Does anyone want to come along and get stuck with us? But really those seats are reserved for Merle and Kathy.

In the newsletter this month is the application for the scholarship fund. Any questions about the application ask those that are listed on the committee.

The club is in need of a field trip coordinator. Steve Lawrence did a great job last year. Steve could give you tips on how to be a good field trip coordinator.

Volunteering is a great way to get to know others in the club. So help out anyway you can.

See you at the meeting.

Kristi Edwards
Bulletin Editor

kmedwards2@comcast.net

Presidents Message

I am sorry that I missed the field trip to the coast. The rock was high up on the beach, so I would have stayed dry for once. I always try to get that one agate before the wave gets it only to find myself knee deep in water. If you missed out on the January trip, we are planning another one for February.

Start thinking on what you can do to help out at the Show in April. Ask Cathy Fisher, the show chairman, if you aren't sure exactly what goes on behind the scenes.

Later in February I will be going to Mexico to help build a house for a family. I am excited about doing something that I have never done before.

See you at the February meeting.

Geri

Great Field Trip to Start the New Year

~submitted by Joe Van Cura

Rob Leedy picked a great weekend for a field trip to the coast. The weather was a little on the nasty side Saturday morning, but improved as the day wore on. It has been many years since I have seen so much rock and gravel at Lost Creek. The gravel extended all the way up to the bluff making it possible to collect agates well after low tide. Since low tide was at 8:30 in the morning, I arrived at about 7:45, just as it was light enough to see the agates. Believe it or not, I was not the first one there. George and Rhonda Ostertag were there ahead of me. Soon Rob and Cara Leedy and other members showed up. The sun did not come out Saturday, but the intermittent rain kept the rock wet and made it easy to find the Newport blues. I don't remember ever finding so many "blues". I heard that Rob, Cara, and Susan and Rudy Appleby went back after lunch and stayed till it got too dark to find much.

Sunday was a completely different day, no wind or rain and plenty of sunshine. It was so nice that most of us shed our coats. Rudy was seen wearing shorts and wading for agates. Norm and Nadine De Roux were there Sunday filling their bucket. Eleanor Wershow and her mother showed up on Sunday as well as my mom and step dad.

What a difference the sun makes. The agates literally glowed when the sun hit them just right and made them very easy to spot. As the sun climbed higher more agates appeared were moments earlier there seemed to be none. Everybody found lots of

UP Coming Shows

February 2-16

Annual Mineral and Fossil
Show
Tucson, Arizona

FMS News

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

AFMS News

Can be viewed at www.amfed.org

agates, jaspers, fossils, and even some petrified wood. I hope the rest of this years field trips are even half this productive and fun. I hear that there is another trip planned to the coast in February. If you have the chance to go you really should, the gravel is very productive this year. Hopefully it will still be showing.

WAMS GENERAL MEETING JANUARY 3, 2008

~SUBMITTED BY WALTER FRIDAY, SECRETARY

Meeting was called to order by Geri Esch, President at 6:33 p.m.

Board and officers in attendance: Geri Esch, President; Mary Haslebacker, Vice President; Walter Friday, Secretary; Marvin Bartell, NW Federation Delegate; Janice Van Cura, Chair of the Board; Members at-large: Rob Leedy, Dexter Leonard, Thor Satter, Bob Matley, and Norm De Roux

Welcome guests: Five guests introduced themselves.

Awards: Awards not presented at the December meeting were presented: Aaron Wiltsey, Nefarious-Novice; Mary Haslebacker, Lifetime Achievement; Tom Robertson, Fieldtrip Award; and Tom Robertson, Inspirational.

Announcements: Dues are due for 2008. If new nametags are needed, contact Ted Johnson. The January Board meeting is scheduled for January 14, 2008, 6:30 p.m. due to Martin Luther King's Birthday on the third Monday of the month and the Senior Center is closed. February meeting Show & Tell is the letter 'E.'

Show and tell: Geri Esch hosted. The letter was "D." Specimens included: dolphin dung, Herkimer diamond, thunder eggs, Calapooia plumb agate and dedertitc agate.

Program: Oregon Beaches for Agates, Dan Groah, Tom Robertson, Rob Leedy, Joe Van Cura and Joe Start. Dan Groah covered beach safety: logs, sneaker waves, paths to the beach and being trapped by tides. *Oregon Dune Trail Book* was referenced. Locations mentioned: Taft, Fishing Rock, Lost Creek, Moloch Beach and Nye Beach. Tom Robertson showed material that may be found: Carnelian, Newport Blue, Jaspers, Saginite agates, Strawberry and Water agates. Joe Start showed and told about fossil finds at Nye Beach. Touched on regulations and courtesies. Rob Leedy outlined the January field Trip is scheduled for January 12-13, 2008 at Newport, very early. Joe Van Cura and Bob Matley reported on current conditions.

BUSINESS MEETING

Approve Minutes: Geri Esch noted that the Members-at-large were not listed. The November 1, 2007 minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: No report.

Approval of Payment of Bills: \$63.35 newsletter printing, \$72.16 newsletter Postage and \$843.00 Northwest Federation dues. A motion was made, seconded and passed to pay the bills.

REPORTS:

Show: Cathy Fisher, Show Chair, reported that preparations are moving along.

Scholarship: Ted Johnson announced the scholarships are now open and the first scholarships for juniors will be granted in May. Scholarships fund is funded by raffle ticket sales.

Juniors: Jennifer Ferrell. No report as Jennifer was with the junior members.

Field Trip: Chair Vacant. Rob Leedy reminded of the beach trip on the 13th and 14th of January. Other possible trips being considered include Hampton Butte, Ochoco Mountains, Glass Butte and the Stinking Water area.

Federation: Marvin Bartell said there was nothing to report. The next meeting is in June.

News Letter: Kristi Edwards asked that articles be submitted soon.

Oregon Council: Vicki Johnson announced that is a new Capitol rock case.

Program: Vacant. The president asked for a volunteer to fill this position. The next program will be Herb Bastuscheck "painting" with sand in the Japanese art of Bonseki.

Library: Chuck Hunt, noted library is open. Chuck announced he was looking for a new librarian.

History/Scrapbook: Steve Lawrence was introduced as the new historian.

Stamps: Aaron Currier, Chair, was not in attendance. Geri Esch informed that cancelled stamps are donated to the Northwest Federation where they are collected and sold for collectors and the proceeds are donated for cancer research.

Sunshine: Karen Porter said there were no members known to be ailing. If anyone is aware of a need let her know and she would send a card.

Lapidary Classes: Ted Silver, no report. Geri Esch advised that a new class is opening on Monday nights. Cost is \$30.00 for seven three-hour classes and the classes run from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Property Control: Theresa Byrne, no report.

Silversmithing Class: The instructor position is vacant. Currently looking for a shop leader. Now operating as an open shop.

Refreshments: January volunteers were thanked. February volunteers: Fisher, Nadine and Josie

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS

New Members: Mary Haslebacker introduced the new member candidates: Clarence and Laura L. Cole, Sandra Cuperus, Virginia and Ed Meyers, Daniel Bontempo and Gordon Dennis. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept these candidates as members.

Meeting adjourned about 8:30 p.m.

Raffle and door prizes were drawn and awarded.

WAMS BOARD MEETING JANUARY 14, 2008

~BY WALTER FRIDAY, SECRETARY

Janice Van Cura, Chair of Board at 6:35 p.m., called the meeting to order.

BOARD AND OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Geri Esch, President; Mary Haslebacker, Vice President; Walter Friday, Secretary; Kathy Fisher, Show Chair; Marvin Bartell, NW Federation Delegate; Janice Van Cura, Chair of the Board; and Members-at-large Rob Leedy, Dexter Leonard, Thor Satter, Bob Manley, and Norm De Roux. Chuck Hunt was a guest.

AGENDA: Janice Van Cura, Board Chair announced the following agenda: trailer, rock show, lapidary supervisors, silversmithing supervisor, bylaws and committees.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the December 10, 2007 Meeting were approved as published.

BYLAWS: Janice Van Cura announced that it is the tradition that the bylaw review is the responsibility of the Past President. She planned to start this process in mid June. The last time they were reviewed was in 1997. Joe Start has agreed to serve on the committee. One suggestion was since we have grown it might be appropriate that more of the "business" we done by the Board.

SILVERSMITHING CHAIR: We need a new supervisor. Charmaine Mortimore is no longer able to continue. Larry Lovell has agreed to act as supervisor to open the shop.

LAPIDARY SUPERVISORS: Ted Silver will be asked to attend the next meeting. Supervisor, Gene Gangle, will continue to serve for a while, until he moves to the coast.

TRAILER: Kathy Fisher reported that Tom Robertson and others are making stairs for the trailer. Kathy said she would try to get Ray Plummer to chair a group to build the case holders for the trailer.

ROCK SHOW: Mary Haslebacker said all of the **dealers have paid** their fees. Kathy Fisher said she plans to have an **organizational meeting** of all the people who want to be involved. Philip & Reyne Knutson are organizing the **demonstrators and cases**. This is the job Susan Appleby did for years.

Last year we went over budget on advertising. This year we need a **coordinator of advertising**. It was suggested we use Craig's List to spread the word. The show flyer is done and can be printed off the web site.

Security was discussed. Joe Start has offered to provide security and save money. There was concern about the liability we may assume if we provide our own security.

This year **demonstrators who sell** will be charged a table fee. The exact amount was set prior, and is listed in prior minutes. We were unable to remember the exact amount.

We need to send out the letters to the **schools inviting** them on Friday. Ann Gasser has been doing this and it needs to be done soon.

There was discussion about the **effectiveness of sign-up sheets**. One suggestion was we appoint a volunteer coordinator for the show.

Kathy Fisher asked if she could charge a **printer cartridge** to WAMS. She acknowledged it was not exclusively used on WAMS business. The Board unanimously agreed that WAMS would pay for a new cartridge.

The **silent auction** was discussed. The quality of the rock last year was deemed to not be up to our past standards. One explanation was we had picked over the pile over the years and depleted it. We have new rock now. It was suggested that those on field trips bring back 10% of their rock for the club. Rules for the silent action were discussed. The issue is fairness. After discussion the **auction rules** are: All rock must be bid, rock cannot be held back or set aside, silent action volunteers can't bid on rock during their shifts at the silent action.

Rob Leedy asked about the **letter verifying the gift of the Springfield rock**. The donor has not received the letter and he needs it for taxes. Janice Van Cura agreed to send the letter. She noted that in her job she deals with IRS and their new rules. For gifts over \$5,000 an appraisal is required. Due to these rules we will not be able to include a value in the letter.

Florescent show is returning. Not as a presentation, but a walk through with alternating natural and black light.

Rob Leedy asked about the amount of **candy** needed for the children's program. The board authorized Rob to spend \$25 for candy.

FEBRUARY PROGRAM: Walt Friday asked about the next program featuring the Japanese rock art and whether we should project this program. Board agreed that Walt should bring the camera and projector to the February program.

BOARD ISSUES: Geri Esch said she had received complaints about the January field trip to the coast and suggested scheduling another to the coast. She said she also had complaints about the Show-and-Tell being too long and too much time on the word game. Also she was concerned that we were losing

participation in the Show-and-Tell. Cathy Fisher brought up if we should be looking for a grant to building our own lapidary center.

Rob Leedy reminded that the Board represents the membership and we should wear nametags and bring issues to the Board. The Board is the voice of the club. It was agreed that officers should be provided with a second tag indicating their office to be worn near their usual WAMS nametag. Janice Van Cura agreed to call Ted Johnson and asked him to make the new tags.

There was a suggestion that we establish a Masters Class in the lapidary shop.

Silversmithing should include wire-wrapping instruction.

Upon a question, the WAMS Post Office Box is 13041. One can find the number in the newsletter.

Chuck Hunt announced that Bob Manley is taking over the Library for him.

Janice Van Cura reminded the officers to wear their nametags to the next meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:10 p.m.

James Dwight Dana: An American Mineralogist

by Andrew A. Sicree

The young mineral collector

The foremost American geologist and mineralogist of the 1800's was James Dwight Dana (1813-1895). Known to mineral collectors primarily for his *System of Mineralogy*, first published in 1837, Dana was also the author of the influential *Manual of Geology*, and other works including a report on the geology of the U.S. Exploring Expedition (1849), and monographs on corals, crustaceans and volcanology.

Growing up in Utica, New York, where his father owned a hardware store, the young Dana was artistic, musically talented (playing the piano and guitar), and competent with hand tools. His family was religious and Dana lived his entire adult life as both a scientist and a devout Christian. Like many youngsters, Dana got his start in science by collecting insects, plants, and rocks.

Benjamin Silliman's influence

Dana studied at Yale where Benjamin Silliman, founder and editor of the *American Journal of Science*, (after whom sillimanite is named) was one of his professors.

After graduating from Yale, Dana served as an instructor for the U.S. Navy. Sailing in the Mediterranean, he observed an eruption of Mt.

Vesuvius and a letter describing the episode was published in the *American Journal of Science*.

Returning to Yale in 1834, Dana undertook systematic studies of minerals. Utilizing his childhood mineral collection and Professor Silliman's more extensive cabinet of minerals, Dana studied and organized minerals into groups based on their chemistry and crystallography. His resulting work, the famous *System of Mineralogy*, was published in four editions during his lifetime, and in many additional editions after his death. His method of chemical classification of minerals remains as the basis for the study of mineralogy to this day.

Exploring the Pacific

In 1838, Dana became the mineralogist and geologist of the U.S. Exploring Expedition. This oceanographic expedition consisted of six U.S. Navy ships and included a team of civilian scientists. Sailing into the Pacific Ocean, Dana explored the mountains in Andes, Mt. Shasta in the Cascades of northern California, Hawaiian volcanoes such Kilauea, and the reefs and atolls of numerous South Pacific islands.

Returning home after four years, he spent much the next decade writing scientific reports of the expedition's findings. It was during this period that Dana married Silliman's daughter Henrietta (undoubtedly his tales of high-seas adventures helped to endear him to the young Henrietta).

As a professor of geology and mineralogy at Yale, Dana succeeded Silliman and taught students for more than forty years. During his career he published more than 200 papers and books. He retired in 1892, only a few years before his death.

The System of Mineralogy

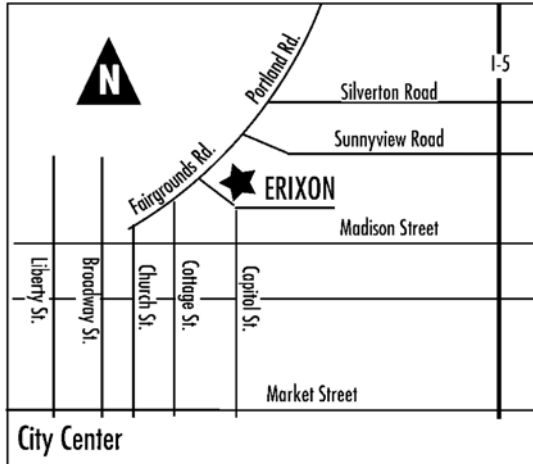
Dana's *System of Mineralogy* has had an amazing history. 170 years after its first edition, the *System of Mineralogy* continues to thrive. Repeatedly revised and updated by editors including W. E. Ford (13th and 14th editions, 1912-1929) and Cornelius S. Hurlbut (15th through 21st editions, 1941-1999), it has most recently been revised by Cornelius Klein and is currently available in the 22nd edition under the title of *Manual of Mineral Science*.

Another famous Dana is James Dwight Dana's son, Edward Salisbury Dana (1849-1935). A mineralogist and crystallographer like his father, E. S. Dana also made significant contributions to the mineral sciences. He published his *Textbook of Mineralogy* in 1877 and the sixth edition of his father's *System of Mineralogy* in 1892.

What's Rocking?

WAMS General Meeting
Thursday
February 7 - 6:30 pm
Salem Senior Center
1055 Erixon St. N.E., Salem
Guests Welcome!

February Program
Japanese Rock Art
February Show and Tell
Bring rocks/minerals/gems beginning with the letters
E and F



Map to Salem Senior Center – 1055 Erixon



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