



Newsletter of the Willamette Agate & Mineral Society Salem, Oregon

August 2009

WAM Website Recognized with Two Awards

**1st Place Northwest Federation
3rd Place American Federation**

~Submitted by Susan Appleby

As webmaster for the WAMS website, it was a great honor to be recognized for work and effort put into the website over the last five years. The WAMS website won two awards this year at the AFMS Annual Show in Billings, MT. 1st place in the NW Federation competition and 3rd place in the American Federation. It was the first website competition and I'm sure the number of website entered next year will increase

As posted on the NWF website homepage: Congratulations to Willamette Agate and Mineral Society, Inc., the first place winner of the 2009 Webmaster Contest. Great Website promoting the Northwest Rock hounds hobby. There was also an article in the recent AFMS newsletter (http://www.amfed.org/news/n2009_09.htm). What great visibility for our club and mission. WAMS website went online in 2003. There was discussion about creating a website in early 2000, but it didn't happen until Ray Plummer took it to the board and discussed the benefits. Janine Kidd got the domain name www.wamsi.org registered as a domain name and moved the beginning of our website forward. I've been the club's webmaster, and have maintained and updated the site since that time.

"The WAMS website is a great communication tool for our members. It contains our history, what the club is currently doing - and is a great way to get information out to our membership quickly. Anyone wishing to contribute information, photos, links or other information please send to me at susanw@ccomcast.net for publication.



Susan accepting her awards during the club picnic

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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, 2615 Portland Road 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

2009 Elected Officers

- President: Rob Leedy 503-371-6421
 Vice President: Jim Bennett 503-363-4974
 Secretary: Lee Ann Settlemier 503-394-4283
 Treasurer: Kathy Bennett 503-363-4974
 Federation Director: Marvin Bartel 503-364-4170
 Members at Large: Bob Manley 503-845-6482
 Larry Nasset 503-585-4390
 Ray Haslebacher 503-393-5228
 Norm De Roux 503-371-4623
 Phil Knutson 503-363-4231
 Ed Pyritz 503-585-2903
 Joe Start 503-873-6729

Board Chair: Geri Esch 503-371-1472

2009 Committee Chairs

- Show Chair: **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**
 Field Trips: Richard Dowty 503-633-9800
 Bulletin Editor: Kristi Edwards 541-738-6811
 Education: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
 Juniors: Jennifer Ferrell 503-551-1554
 Cindy Waters 206-371-1810
 Ted Johnson 503-362-6186
 Nameplates: Vicki Johnson, 503-362-6186
 Oregon Council:
 Rules and Awards: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
 Programs: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
 Property Control: Phil Knutson 503-363-4231
 Public Relations: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
 Advertising: Susan Appleby 503-391-4221
 Publications: Bob Manley 503-845-6482
 Scrapbook/Historian: Steve Lawrence 503-585-8014
 Host/Hostess: Joe and Emily Start
 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

Fall is here and the nights are cooler. Hope everyone had a great summer.

Congratulations to Susan and Emily for their Northwest and American Federation awards. I appreciate their contributions to the newsletter and the web site. GOOD JOB!!!!!!

The elections are coming up and the board is looking for volunteers to fill the positions. This is a great way to get to know other club members.

Also I really would like November to be my last newsletter. So hopefully someone would like to take this over. If you are interested let me know and I will gladly help you.

See you at the meeting.

Kristi Edwards
Bulletin Editor

kmedwards2@comcast.net

Presidents Message

Alright all of you rock nuts.... If you have not noticed, we are now officially into fall. The weather has been very, very nice for that last rock collecting trip of the year. Before you know it, you're all going to be saying "It's to cold, to go out in the shop to play with my rocks"! That's one of the cool things about belonging to WAMS! We have a very cool relationship with the Salem Senior Center where the benefits of being a WAMS member is having a warm and modern lapidary room, which we can enjoy with our fellow rock nuts. Hope you all take the time to come down and use this amazing facility and enjoy playing with your rocks. We still have a lot of open positions to fill within the club ranks. I hope you enjoy being a member of WAMS and step forward to help the club fulfill its needs. Like I have said, we all need to step up and make this your club, as well as mine.

The guest speaker for the October program will be Tom Quintal. He will be speaking on the State and Federal Legislature on upcoming laws that are being considered about the rock hounding and gold seeking rock nuts. Should be a very informative speaker; hope to see you all there!

Your crazy rock nut hound, Rob Leedy

UP Coming Shows

October 2-4	Clallam County Gem and Mineral Society Earth's Treasures Sequim, WA
October 17-18	Hells Canyon Gem Club Hidden Treasures Lewiston, ID
October 16-18	Springfield Thunder egg Rock Club 52 nd Annual Show Springfield, OR
October 24-25	Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club Nature's Beauty in Stone Canby, OR
November 6-8	Gem Faire Eugene, OR

Gem Shop Calendars

~submitted by Dan Groah

For the past several years, Gene Mueller of the Gem Shop in Cedarburg, Wisconsin, has been publishing colorful pictorial calendars of agates and jaspers. Gene is also a wholesale and retail dealer who is involved with the mining of various North American stones. Some of his favorites are the beautiful banded agates of northern Mexico and the orbicular jaspers of western North America. His calendars often feature these and other agates from his collection and the collections of others.

It is because Gene invites other collectors to submit photos for possible calendar selection, I am writing this article. Of all the collectors, besides Gene himself, to have stones from their collections in the yearly calendars, several have been WAMS members. Past calendars have featured months with Tom Robertson's Morrisonite Jasper and Gene Gangle's Hart Mountain Jasper. Both are orbicular jaspers.

The 2010 calendar has two WAMS members in it. April has thunder egg photos. One of the thunder eggs belongs to Dan Groah. That thunder egg is

currently in the Capitol Building display case until November. The September photo is Bruneau Jasper orbicular jasper). While the collector credit goes to Tom Robertson, the specimen rests on the fireplace mantle of Bob Strayer.

The monthly color plates of these calendars yearly beautify dens, kitchens and rock shops of collectors everywhere. Their distribution is international. Previous copies of years past are collectors' items and can be as sought after as the stones they feature. Gene Mueller's passion for colorful silicified stones has enhanced his own collection but has also provided beautiful stones for the rest of us and this yearly calendar, which is available at Robertson's Rock Works.

Jewelry Crafter's Workshop

~submitted by Ted Silver

Join us on Wednesday afternoon and evenings from noon to nine while we enjoy and explore the many aspects of jewelry making, lost wax casting; construction; PMC; polymer clay and whatever we or you can think of. Broom straw casting and rock salt casting are some of the possibilities. Not a formal class but a workshop where we can share concepts and techniques using the space and equipment provided in the Center 50+ craft room. Cost is \$5.00 for whatever time you use. Bring any tools and material you have for what you want to do. If you have any questions please call Ted Silver (503 - 585 2559 message phone) or stop by the craft room Wednesday afternoon's.

All You Rock Hounds

~submitted by Rob Leedy

We dearly need your help on October 3rd at Don and Geri Esch's house at 10:00 AM. If you were at the club picnic and saw our club rock pile, we need to dearly clean up our mess. We need all the rock hounds we can get as we need to sort and reorganize all of our rock pile. It has become a bad eyesore and mess. I would not enjoy having a mess like this at my place. We have a lot of plastic buckets, that have deteriorated beyond use and they need to find their way to the dump. I will bring up more information and even get on my knees to beg all of you to turn out for this clean up party. Please mark your calendars and come enjoy the work of sorting rocks and junk.

CALLING ALL BOARD MEMBERS

~submitted by Rob Leedy

Here EEEEE Here EEEEE You have all been summoned to attend an emergency board meeting @ 6:30 PM Oct. 5th at Salem Senior Center. The main topic will be about WAMS Rock Show if time allows, we will discuss any other concerns that you may have.

WAMS General Meeting

August 6, 2009, 6:30 PM New Salem Senior Center

~submitted by Lee Anne Settlemier

Jim Bennett, Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 6:35.

Officers and Board Members in Attendance: Vice-President Jim Bennett, Treasurer Kathy Bennett, Secretary Lee Anne Settlemier, and Members at Large: Joe Start, Larry Nasset, Ed Pyritz, and Bob Manley.

Show and Tell: Was the letter T. Thistle Creek, Teredo Wood, Tempskya, Thunder eggs, Trilobite, Turquoise, and travertine, were some of the rocks displayed.

Oregon Council A Resolution to disband the Oregon Council had been presented to the Oregon council. It was voted at the Annual Meeting in Madras, Oregon, on July 4, 2009 to continue the Oregon Council. Vicki will not be able to attend the September meeting, so Joe and Emily Start will represent WAMS.

Junior Program Mary Hasslebacher donated \$225 from the sale of Betty Sterns' rocks and mineral to the juniors.

Treasurer's Report was presented by Kathy Bennett and approved.

Scholarship Committee: \$43 was raised by the raffle for the scholarship fund.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the June 4, 2009 general meeting and the June 15, 2009, board meeting were approved as published in the Rock hound Rumbblings.

Program: Garret Romaine, the author of Gem Trails of Oregon and Gem Trails of Washington was our speaker. The sources he used for research included the Roadside Geology of Oregon and Roadside Geology of Washington, Billy Bob Thompkins (tripod.com), A Family Field Collecting Guide for Northwest Oregon and Southwest Washington (three volumes) by Jon Gladwell, Google Earth, Earth Treasures by Allan Eckert, the State of Oregon Department of Geology and Minerals at www.oregon.gov/DOGAMI, the mindat.org website, and other material listed in his book's bibliographies.

His personal favorite Oregon locations include Roads End at Lincoln City, Rabbit Hills (for sunstones), the Harney Lake agate site, Richardson Rock Ranch, the Lucky Strike Mine, Homestead in the Hells Canyon, Gold Hill for quartz crystals, Quartzville Boulder Creek, Delintment Lake, Cedar Butte on the way to Tillamook. Locally, his favorite sites which are not in the Oregon book include Mill Creek, Cox Butte (which is currently gated), Gold Creek (a spot by Fall River), local fossils in the Eugene area, Rickreal creek, and the Wren quarry (currently closed).

In Washington, his favorite spots are Hanson Creek for quartz crystals, Republic, Washington fossils (\$3 fee), Saddle Mountain for good wood, Lake Wenatchee, Liberty for wire gold, and Sock Creek.

He said if you want to search for a geographic name, use <http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnispublic>.

Board Meeting: The next board meeting is August 17, 2009 at 6:30 PM at the Senior Center.

Next General Meeting: The Show and Tell letter for the October 1 meeting is "U". Margo, Emily and Susan volunteered to bring refreshments for the meeting.

WAMS Board Meeting

Sunday, September 13

~submitted by Lee Anne Settlemier

There were not enough board members present at the August for a quorum, so the meeting was adjourned.

Members Present at the September 13 board meeting were Geri Esch, Rob Leedy, Jim Bennett, Cathy Bennett, Lee Anne Settlemier, Kristi Edwards, Larry Nasset, Phil Knutson, Ed Pyritz, and Joe Start. The meeting room at the Senior Center was discussed. The Center has not agreed to our having the same room at all times. We can probably switch side with the table tennis players since they have the video equipment on their side. The sound is set up for the section we have been using, but we believe that it is doable to have the sound on the other side. On Saturday, October 3, there will be a work party at the Esch's to go through the club rock so that the rock the club does not want for the silent auction can be moved off of their property. There will be members available to evaluate the rock, but others are needed to help move the rock. If club members who are helping to move the rock wish to take home some of the rock we won't be using for the silent auction, they may do so. The rest of the non silent auction rock will be moved to Joe and Emily Starts place. The plastic buckets that are not usable will be taken to recycling if they can be recycled, otherwise we will pay to dump the buckets.

The Jasper brochure has been reprinted thanks to Aaron Currier.

A 12" rock saw has been donated to the club. It has been verified that it is in workable condition. It was voted to accept the donation.

Getting members to volunteer to be officers for the coming year was discussed. Without club officers, the club will not happen.



Emily Start with her 3rd place award

FMS 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 1 - 6:30 pm
Salem Senior Center
2615 Portland Rd NE Salem, OR
Guests Welcome!

October Program

Tom Quintal
Topic is State and Legislative Laws
October Show and Tell
Bring rocks/minerals/gems beginning with the letters
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