



Newsletter of the Willamette Agate & Mineral Society Salem, Oregon

May 2010

NFMS Mid-Year Meeting

~submitted by Theresa Byrne

The Mid-Year Meeting was held on April 17th during the Kennewick Rock Show. About 50 people attended. The first thing we did was introduce ourselves and tell how we became rock collectors. There were quite a few humorous stories told during this portion of the meeting.

There was discussion regarding why no club has stepped forward to sponsor the 2010 and 2011 Federation Shows. Replies from several clubs included: members are getting too old to set up and take down tables and display cases; the cost of renting a building for a show is too high; and, splitting revenues with the Federation leaves little money to the sponsoring club. The Federation offered a couple of suggestions for clubs. One was to find groups that will do the set up and take down for free, or for a nominal charge. One club uses the Boy Scouts for this work, who earn a badge for their volunteer work. Another club hires students from the local high school. The Federation wants clubs to know that everything is on the table regarding putting on a show, including the share the Federation takes from revenues.

Since no club has stepped forward regarding the 2011 Federation Show, Chuck Sonner proposed that the Federation sponsor the show. He proposes it be held at the Lewis County Fairgrounds, between Centralia and Chehalis, Washington, on the last weekend in July. He hopes the show will generate enough interest in that area that a local rock club will be formed. He has already made inquiries regarding renting the facility, and is working on lining up groups that can run various parts of the show for a portion of the revenues.

The Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club (Kennewick) submitted an offer to put on the 2012 Federation Show.

Field trips: J2B2 Rock Sale

Photos submitted by *Theresa Byrne*



Ted and Vicki Johnson look through rock bin at J2B2 Rock Sale.

Gene Gangle and Ed Pyritz at J2B2 rock sale



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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

2010 Elected Officers

President: Chuck Hunt 503-304-3886
Vice President: Eddie Hopper 503-584-0331
Secretary: Kathy Bennett 503-363-4974
Treasurer: Phil Knutson 503-363-4231
Federation Director: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
Members at Large: Ed Pyritz 503-585-2903
Tom Beaty 503-361-8788
Leonard Cleary 503-585-4398
Don Esch 503-371-1472

Board Chair: Rob Leedy 503-371-6421

2010 Committee Chairs

Show Chair: Kristi Edwards 541-738-6811
Field Trips: Rob Leedy 503-371-6421
Joe Van Cura 541-753-2401
Bulletin Editor: Debbie Straw 971-218-6710
Education: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
Juniors: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
Nameplates: Ted Johnson 503-362-6186
Oregon Council: Vicki Johnson, 503-362-6186
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: Reyne Knutson 503-363-4231
Eric Becklund 503-787-3881
Refreshments: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
Coffee: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
Stamps: Aaron Currier 503-393-2055
Sunshine: Karen Porter 503-371-7752

The Rockhound Rumbings 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

This is my first newsletter. I'd like to thank Kristi for her help in getting me started, members who submitted articles and photos so promptly, and WAMS for giving me a warm welcome and lots of encouragement.

A confession – one reason I volunteered was that I'd have to learn the finer, or should I say basic, points of using Word and Publisher. Kristi, *how* do I adjust that border?

Kristi assures me I'll want to be the editor until I'm as old as the John Day Fossil Beds. I'm not sure about that, but do promise to do the newsletter for at least a year.

Articles, photos, and even haikus – please send your contributions for the newsletter by email or snail mail, or give me a call with your ideas.

Debbie Straw
dhstraw@gmail.com / 971-218-6710

Up Coming Shows

May 15 – 16 **Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society**

**Hermiston Conference Center
Hermiston, OR**

June 4 – 6 **Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club**

**Fruitland Grange
Puyallup, WA**

June 18 – 20 **Rock'n the Coast
47th Annual Gem & Mineral Show
Oregon Coast Agate Club
Newport, OR**

The Pres. Says,

Well, here we are after another great and successful rock and gem show. I haven't received any feedback as yet as to how the club or dealers did at the show, but overall I think it was a very good one. We received many complements regarding the cases and selection of material that the dealers provided.

With the unintended possibility of offending some people, I would like to tip my hat to some of our members that helped make the show run smoothly. Kristi Edwards did a super job as the overall leader of the group. Mark was a big help in that the call would go out and he'd get plugged in where ever needed.

Rob Leedy, again put together the traditional treasure hunt, and it looked to me like there were more than 250 kids plus adults out there for the "run and hunt".

Steve Lawrence was a great driving force in organizing the loading of the trailers and overall tough job because everything has to go in just right. (We are still looking for a member or two that may have been loaded by mistake!) Ted Johnson was a great help out there too. Thanks to Ivan Standley in hauling the trailers back to their semi-permanent location on the fair grounds.

Kathy Bennett who was continually on the go from day one helping in every aspect, from scheduling to helping with the treasure hunt, and working in the "kids area".

Eric Becklund, the innovator and coordinator of the kid's area did a fantastic job. That area was a real magnet for the kids.

Corey Pyritz did a super job directing traffic at the fluorescent area, working the popcorn stand, and all around door guard!

One of the most interesting things about the show is that so many people covered multiple positions whether it was taking money at the door, hiding eggs, helping line the cases or whatever. This total effort made the show what it was.

Joe and Janice Van Cura for covering Friday's kids day. Well organized and very smooth operation.

Reyne Knutson for taking care of and worrying over the unfilled cases for the show, running the popcorn wagon, and other issues.

Phil Knutson for keeping track of the monies for the show, he always seemed to have a "fist full of dollars".

Aaron Currier and Janice Van Cura for the layout in the fluorescent area and the continuous tapes explain all of the fascinating information.

Another tip of the hat to Larry Lovell and a successful Silent Auction table. They looked very busy all the time, including Ted Silver, Larry Fawcett et al.

The demonstrators' area had hoards of people in there all the time it seemed. Many people with great questions and interest.

If anyone wanted to see volunteerism in action all they had to do was to be in the building when it came time to tear down the displays, tables, lights, etc., load the vans, sweep and vacuum the floors. It took less than three hours to do the whole thing and in the end it didn't look like anyone had been there. There were things to do and they got done. A very big Congratulations to all that helped. The show would not have been successful if it was not for our volunteers... That is what our club is about!

I know that I have left many, many others out that contributed time and effort to making the show a success and I am sorry. You were all great in making the show the success that it was and for that I thank you!

Note: It has been brought to my attention that I failed to advise the membership last meeting that the books of WAMS was audited by Leonard Cleary and Phil Knutson and they found no discrepancies. Chuck Hunt

July Field Trip to Blue Forest

~submitted by Dan Groah

Blue Forest petrified wood trip to Kemmerer, Wyoming. This trip is set in July because the elevation is near 7,000 feet and a fall trip here is chancy, weather-wise.

July 10 Travel

July 11 Travel and meet at the Fontinelle camp ground on the Green River Wyoming

July 12 Travel to digging area (7 miles from camp) and dig

July 13 Dig Blue Forest

July 14 Dig Blue Forest

July 15 Travel to Delta, Utah.

July 16 Travel 50 miles and dig trilobites (fee area)

July 17 Travel and dig Dugway geodes and camp

July 18 Dig Dugway

July 19 Head for home on your own.

For those who can go on this trip to Wyoming, more specific information will come later. Contact Tom Robertson (503-363-9678) or Dan Groah (503-873-6930)

General Meeting Notes, April 1, 2010

Salem Senior Center

~Submitted by Kathy Bennett

The meeting was called to order by president, Chuck Hunt. He announced Ken Settlemier has volunteered to be the new librarian. Chuck asked the guests to stand and introduce themselves. We had a total of 18 guests for the meeting. Chuck also spoke about the importance of helping at the show and announced there would be sign up sheets available at the break, for an opportunity to help during the show. You can also sign up at the break for what you want to bring to the Thursday potluck during the show.

Show & Tell was the letter B.

Our program was by George Ostertag on how to photograph rocks and gems. Afterward Dan Groah, program director thanked George and other members who have given presentations at the meetings. Next month Rudy from the Rice Museum will give a presentation on Biggs picture jasper.

Linda Groah talked regarding sign up opportunities at the break and Kristi Edwards, show chair, gave us an update on the show. We really need everyone's help to make this show a success. We now have about 900 school children signed up to attend on Friday morning. Kristi is still working on the advertising. We need a volunteer to put up the signs. At the meeting they were talking with someone who may be volunteering to greet the school children as they arrive.

New member, Debbie Straw, has volunteered to be the new editor. A VERY BIG THANK YOU to Debbie from the entire club.

Rob said he would like four people to volunteer to put a message on Craig's list regarding the show. Reyne made a plea for more people to put in display cases. She had 7 left. Eric requested those helping with the kid's corner, wear white shirts and bolo ties.

Vice president, Eddie Hopper, will have new member applications available at the break. Joe Van Cura showed rocks that will be available for the scholarship fund raffle at the break. The rocks were from the April 10th, field trip location.

Break

The business meeting was called to order at 8:05 by president, Chuck Hunt. There were 68 members in attendance and 18 guests.

Thanks to those who brought refreshments today and thanks to volunteers Lee Anne and Joyce for next month.

A VERY BIG THANK YOU TO KRISTI EDWARDS, for doing the newsletter for so many years. Debbie Straw is the new editor and her e-mail address is: dhstraw@gmail.com. Thanks again Debbie. Secretary's report was in the newsletter and accepted as written for the general meeting and board.

Phil gave the treasurers report, and it was accepted as given.

The Scholarship committee is having an Oral Auction at the show on Sunday at 2 PM. Please donate items and attend the auction on Sunday to support the scholarship fund.

Cancelled stamps can be left at the front table and either Aaron or Reyne will take them to send to the Federation for cancer research. Tom will take them to Kennewick in April to the Federation rep. We still need a volunteer as Federation Director.

There are several nametags on the front desk. Ted will take them to the show.

Aaron will make another T-Shirt order with the WAMS logo, if we have at least 12 orders. They can be about any color or style. Contact Aaron if you would like to place an order.

Karen Porter gave the sunshine report she sent a card to Bob and Joyce. Our thoughts go to both.

Joe spoke regarding the April 10th field trip to Millersburg, J2B2, pay location. He will give a discount to club members. Contact Joe Van Cura if you have any questions or would like directions.

Memorial Day weekend will be the Hampton Butte camping trip. The scholarship committee is thinking about having a breakfast for \$5 to benefit the scholarship fund. The Klamath Falls club will be there at the same time. Their club will have an auction. Money raised from that auction is to send their representative to the Federation gatherings.

Tom spoke regarding the trip to Wyoming coming in July. He will have a packet ready at the May meeting with more information.

Eddie read the new member applicants. Those voted in are Debbie Straw, Robert & Etheleen Flippo,

Ron & Zelma Edwards, Chris Sarbu, Jesse & Chuck Creswell, Deane Bass, Mary Ann Koch, John Garlick, Judy Allen, Jaysa Nesbitt, and David & Caroline Driver. Welcome new members.

Phil announced all tumblers are checked out at this time. Contact Phil if you would like to borrow one and he can check to see when they will be available.

We need a volunteer to plan the summer picnic.

Terra Rose, a local nursing home, has asked for someone to come give a talk and bring examples of rocks for a small group of their residents. Rob said he may be able to fill this need.

Larry brought in a saw that was donated to the club (and thank you Larry for working on it). It will be for sale at the show.

Susan was contacted by a gentleman that has a soapstone claim. Contact her if you are interested in soapstone.

Phil read the bills to pay and they were approved as read.

Thanks to Dan for bringing the door prizes. Steve will bring them next meeting.

Next month show & tell is the letter C.

Upcoming dates to remember are: The show April 14 through the 18th. April 17th there will be an Oregon Council meeting at the restaurant next to the show at 1 PM. April 26th will be a combination show and board meeting at 6:30 at the Senior Center. May 6th is the next general meeting.

The group was asked how many might be interested in going out for dinner after the show (at their own expense). There were about 20 who said they might be. We will contact the restaurant to see if they will be open.

Fliers were available. Please distribute any place you can think of.

\$90 was collected for the scholarship fund raffle, so 9 prizes were drawn. Free door prizes were also drawn.

The meeting was adjourned.

Board/Show Meeting Notes 4-26-2010

~Submitted by Kathy Bennett

Attending: Rob Leedy, Chuck Hunt, Tom Beaty, Reyne Knutson, Eric Becklund, Eddie Hopper, Mark Edwards, Larry Lovell, Phil Knutson, Kristi Edwards, Ed Pyritz, Leonard Cleary, Dan Groah, Linda Groah, Steve Lawrence & Kathy Bennett

The meeting was called to order by Rob Leedy at 6:30 PM at the Salem Senior Center.

The Treasury audit for 2009 has been completed by Leonard Cleary & Phil Knutson and no discrepancies were found.

The board gave the OK to rent the Senior Center for our holiday dinner. It will be a potluck with the club furnishing the main dish. There will be more to follow on that later in the year.

Kristi reported that the fairground's workers, were pleased with how the room was left. There were a couple of carts that the tables were not correct. We must be sure to stack the tables even, or the bottom one can break. Also, there were a couple of tables on the wrong cart. The number of table used was discussed as all tables that items were sold from, need to be counted in the table rental. It was suggested that we just add \$250 to the room rental instead of having to count tables every year. Kristi will talk with Tina to clarify all this. Next year's show dates will be April 13th to April 17th, 2011. The weekend has been reserved with Polk Co Fairgrounds.

The old trailer is leaking, so there is much discussion about this. Some suggestions were to buy a new trailer, move under cover, snow-coat the roof, put tarps on the roofs, etc. Some items were damaged and had to be fixed before the show this year, such as the raffle case. Thanks to Ted Johnson, Chris Beaty and Kathy for that. Ted Johnson and Steve Lawrence are discussing fixing the trailer in the meantime, so it might stop the leak. Ted, Steve and Mark cleaned out the trailers. Kristi will talk with Tina to see if it can be moved inside after the fair. They are not able to because of the size of the trailer. It would have to be moved by us, if it can go inside. Some of the uprights for the display cases need to be repaired. Mark Edwards will check into this. They are in the back of the trailer. Thanks to Ivan for moving the trailers.

It appears the show notes have been lost. Kristi and Kathy will start writing up some directions on various

show activities to start a new notebook. Eddie said he has a case, but it was empty.

Kristi & Mark put the new UV fronts on the fluorescent cases and will be putting them back in the trailer. Thanks to them for going to Portland to pick these up. Tom Robertson will store the glass.

Kristi is sending out the raffle prizes. Most have already been sent. Jim Shine did an excellent job at selling those raffle tickets. No one got past him!

There were 837 filled grab bags left in the trailer. Kathy has several empties made for next year, so we will be over our 1000 mark. Just need to fill a few before next show. Also there are left over teacher bags in the new trailer.

Kristi said someone thought there was too much of everything in the treasure hunt. Rob said the count was off on the candy, so there will be a little less of that for next year. The board and show committee discussed the amount of rock given, and felt it was not too much.

Many dealers made comments they were happy with the advertising for the show. It was nice having the feature articles. Kristi found several places to put in free advertising also. Rob also had people putting it on Craig's list. They will try again to get interest stories in the paper for next year.

All felt the security went well. Phil received the bill and it was less than last year. Kathy called and told them that we felt they did a great job.

Eric's Follies were a big hit with the kid's games. Kudos to him for building the new game board and working it all weekend. The grass/sand box/bingo was also a big hit. Thanks to Peggy for running that game almost all weekend. Thanks to all that donated their time in that area.

Corey did a fantastic job again on the Fluorescent show. Thanks to Dan and the gang for doing a great job covering up the awnings. It looked much better this year.

Many thanks to Larry and the gang on the Silent Auction. Great job again this year. The question came up about if ok to still store at the Esch's. Rob is going to contact Don and get back with Larry as he has some to get out of his pickup. Also it was discussed that we need a central location for all of the rock. The silent auction no longer wants the old bags as it takes too much time to open and sometimes they have holes, etc. They bought new bags and found it took much less time and effort. Need better communication regarding the schools children attending.

Need to verify if Aaron of the Van Cura's have the fluorescent rocks. Taylors are storing the lights. Also need to see who has the audio tape.

Kristi will work with Debbie to get the newsletter out. She is updating the mailing list now, deleting those who have not paid their dues.

We received a faceting machine, rock tumbler, trim saw, books and stones donated by someone at the show. Phil will send a letter to the person who donated the items. Kristi will bring it to the next meeting for Tom Beaty to check it out.

Need to have more volunteers next year. Several people worked all the days, all day long. A VERY BIG THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DID VOLUNTEER to make this show a success.

In the set up, there was a problem with room up at the front where the Esch's were located. Their area was very tight. Ramrock said there was not enough room between them and the silent auction. These will be addressed next year. Also we will put masking tape on the floor to start with before we set up the supports for the display cases, so they do not have to be moved. The aisles need to be 10 feet to comply with the Fire Marshall Rules.

There were no problems with any of the dealers. Kathy will contact them all to see if they want to return next year. Many thanks for the great items they donated for the raffle case.

Many thanks to those that donated rock to the silent auction.

Congratulations to Reyne for the cases. Many commented they were the best they had seen. There was a discussion as to whether names should be put in all cases. Some did not want their names listed. The kitchen crew said to contact them next year for donations for the treasure hunt and they will donate something like a hot dog for the different age groups.

Chuck asked Kristi if she would chair the show again next year because of the great job she did this year.

Phil had a lengthy list of bills to pay, mostly show bills. It was moved to pay the bills.

Eric wanted an ok to order items for next year for the kids games. One of the suppliers may be changing, so he wanted to order now for next year. He also got the ok to order more from Dan Groah for next year when he goes to Quartsite for the sand/grass/bingo game.

Phil made a motion to front \$250 to the editor for newsletter costs. This was approved.

Rob closed the board meeting and Kristi closed the show meeting.

SPOTLIGHT ON MEMBERS

Name: Debbie Straw

Editor's Note: TB asked me to answer the questions this month. Look forward to a different member profile each issue.

Family: Mike at home; Guthrie at Pacific U in Forest Grove; Marika at Lawrence U in Appleton, WI

Cats: Milo (orange, plays with water); Nosey (very odd meow); Cleo (who I'd let you adopt except that family would protest)

Grew up: outside of Hartford, CT

Occupation/employer: Library teacher at Judson Middle School in Salem

Hobbies/leisuretime: Gardening aka moving clay and fighting Norwegian Maple roots; polymer clay.

Other clubs: Chemeketans

My best vacation: Any in the PNW

Favorite childhood memory: Hanging out by the brook in the woods behind my house

My most embarrassing moment: There was that time in a Safeway...

My favorite toy: GPS for geocaching

I've never been able to: Talk myself into traveling abroad

My claim to fame: I helped start a mobile children's museum in Wallowa County.

An unusual thing about me: Jobs included caretaker on a llama ranch, USFS firefighter, and forestry coop worker. I've eaten llama lasagna.

Something people might be surprised to know about me: I ended up with WAMS after I went to the Center 50 lapidary shop to ask about polishing equipment and supplies for my polymer clay projects.

I'm afraid of: Not figuring out a way to live at home all my life

Favorite restaurants: Anything ethnic

Favorite desert: Dark chocolate

What started me collecting rocks: WAMS scholarship drawing tickets

Age I started collecting rocks: When I was old enough to walk on a beach and pick up rocks.

Years in WAMS: Brand new member

What I like best about WAMS: Enthusiasm for sharing amazing knowledge about rocks.

Favorite rock/gemstone/fossil: Picture jasper

Favorite place to collect: Not sure yet, but the copy of *Gem Trails of Oregon* will help.

Favorite WAMS field trip: Is in the future

My best rock find: Petosky Stone found on Peninsula Point, Michigan

Foreign country I would like to rockhound in: see "I've never been able to..." above

What I would like to ask the next profilee: How did you find out about WAMS and why did you join?

Suggestions for WAMS: Design a simple presentation with activities for kids, and offer it to schools and kids' organizations.

NFMS News

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

AFMS News

Can be viewed at www.amfed.org

PHOTOS:

TREASURE HUNT

NADERA HOPPER - DEMONSTRATOR

TERRY KRAMER - DEMONSTRATOR

THE SELLERS – DEMONSTRATORS

Photos Susan Appleby

River of Gems Photos



What's Rocking?

WAMS General Meeting
Thursday
May 6 - 6:30 pm
Salem Senior Center
2615 Portland Rd NE Salem, OR
Guests Welcome!

May Program
Presentation Rudy from Rice Museum
Biggs Jasper
May Show and Tell
Bring rocks/minerals/gems beginning with the letters
C



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1464 35th NW
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