



Newsletter of the Willamette Agate & Mineral Society Salem, Oregon

June 2011

## Tailgate Sale at June Meeting

June's program will be a rock sale by members. This is a great chance to sell extra rock, supplies or equipment, or to add to your collection. Our tailgate program has proven to be very popular in the past, with several members selling items. So go through your favorite storage places - garage, shed, closet, under the bed, etc. - and find some items to bring to the sale. The more sellers (and buyers) the merrier! Let Dan Groah know if you need a table. Sellers should bring a tablecloth or other covering for the tables, so they won't get scratched. And don't forget, these sales are always BYOB (bring your own bucket).

## Field Trip Report

*by Joe VanCura*

For the May field trip we went to Bruce Ferguson's (otherwise known as J2B2 Rock & Equipment) place outside of Millersburg. The weather held up and we had 24 members show up. I think everyone was able to find a couple of treasures (at 50 cents a pound you could hardly go wrong).

In June, I will be leading field trips from the Prineville Show along with Gary Buss. The show is June 23 through June 26, with field trips on the 24th, 25th, and 26th. We will be going to Richardson's Ranch for Thundereggs on Friday, Bear Creek for petrified wood on Saturday, and Ochoco Tube Agate on Sunday.

There are also field trips from the Madras show, which runs from June 29th through July 3rd. They have field trips every day, usually to the Ashwood area.

## The Prez Sez:

Well, the show is over and we are still covering the areas that need tweaking, fortunately there aren't many. The past two months WAMS members have visited the following schools - Jefferson, Swegle, Schirle and St. Joseph elementary schools - to tell and show the students our interest in rock, minerals and fossils. At all of the schools we had many good questions, fortunately they didn't catch us off guard too often. Hats off to Kathy Bennett, Gene Gangle, Larry Lovell and Leonard Cleary, they all did a great job. And it was fun too. At one school we were even offered pizza! June and July looks like good months to get out and search for that "great" find or elusive rock. Wishing you safe and good "rockin". Chuck Hunt



## Nature Imitates Art

by Gene Gangle

Did I get that right? Usually it's the other way around.

The cabochon pictured above shows a scene reminiscent of Katsushika Hokusai's "The Great Wave Off Kanagawa", an iconic woodblock print that imparts a scene of impending disaster. You likely recognize the picture.

The author James Michener donated this print to the Honolulu Academy of Arts in 1955, where it presently resides. Hokusai (1760-1849) executed the print *circa* 1830-1834, when he was in his seventies. (Hokusai also did 46 views of Mt. Fuji. If "a handful of sand is an anthology of the universe", Mt. Fuji for a time was his universe.)

Much more recently, the day after our Oregon tsunami, I worked on a slab of Northwest material, a slab of Mt. Tahoma, a seam agate named after the Native American word for Mt. Rainier. The seam is usually an inch or less wide, so dealers sometimes cut parallel to the sides of the seam to yield a larger slab. The result is layers of varying coloration, swirls and zonings that can be quite thin. As I shaped and sanded my 52x38 cabuchon, a picture emerged that surprised and entranced me. I immediately thought of Hokusai's iconic wave print. A fortuitous narrow range of swirls produced the picture. If you look to the back of the cab, the picture is gone.

Sometimes, but rarely, nature imitates art. Even more rarely does nature become art. The very best art is like a Jungian archetype, an enduring image that transcends culture and time and place. Hokusai's wave is such an image. Thank you, Mr. Hokusai. Thank you, Mt. Tahoma. I thank the good fortune that guides our lapidary efforts.

## Long-Time Member Passes Away



Jessie Elson

One of our members, Jessie Elson, passed away May 21, 2011. Jessie was a lifetime member, having joined WAMS with her husband Ed in 1975. She was very active in the club, and always willing to volunteer, such as serving as Show Secretary, and making grab bags. She had quite a system worked out, and one year made 1700 bags! She was always promoting the club, and would bring a carload of people to the show each year. Other volunteer work included making hats for cancer patients. She was a lovely lady who liked to keep busy, and always had a ready smile. She will be missed.

Jessie E. Elson was born June 22, 1917 in Ash Grove, Missouri. She passed away May 21, 2011 in McMinnville, Oregon. She is survived by two sons, James B. and Jon M. Elson and one daughter I. Jeanne Butler, 11 grandchildren, 9 great grandchildren and 8 great-great grandchildren. Jessie was preceded in death by her husband Joshua Edwin Elson, mother and father Ina and James Hinshaw, one brother and one sister.

A memorial service will be held 1:00 Saturday, May 28, 2011 at The Villas 27th and Hembree, McMinnville. Donations in memory of Jessie may be made to The Gideons International, PO Box 140800, Nashville TN 37214.

## General Meeting Notes, May 5, 2011

by Kathy Bennett

The meeting was called to order by President Chuck Hunt. He introduced himself as well as the officers and board members. We had 8 guests in attendance and he had each tell a little about their interest in rocks. Show and tell for this month was the letter L. He announced that he, Larry Lovell and Kathy Bennett had been at the Swegle School for a nature night for the school children and their parents on Tuesday. They had also given a rock presentation to about 100 fourth graders at Schirle School on Wednesday. This month's program was a slide show by Gene and Sandy Gangle and a talk by Dan Groah about petrified wood of Oregon.

Kristi Edwards announced she was resigning as show chair to give someone else an opportunity to head the show. She gave a very big thank you to all that had put in so much time to make the show a success. She did say she would do the advertising for next year's show. She announced we will lose \$100 of our deposit as one of the rugs was not returned to the building. She said we had a good turnout and it appeared all were having a great time. We had lots of kudos from the schools.

Chuck announced tickets would be on sale at the break for the scholarship drawing. Aaron announced that those who had ordered T-shirts would be available during the break.

**A big thank you to Gene Gangle who brought Crabtree Creek petrified wood for each person.**

The business meeting was called to order by President Chuck Hunt. We have 69 members attending.

- Chuck announced we need a volunteer for the show chair. See Chuck if you are interested.
- Chuck also thanked all who volunteered at the show, often staying longer to help out.
- The secretary's reports were accepted as printed in the newsletter.

- The monthly treasury report was given by Lee Anne Settlemier and accepted as read.
  - The show report (not the final) was presented by treasurer, Lee Anne Settlemier.
  - Susan Appleby received an e-mail asking if anyone was interested in a position at ATI-Wah Chang in Albany to work in a metallography lab. Check with Susan or Chuck for information if you are interested.
  - Theresa Byrne said to keep all those articles and pictures coming for the newsletter.
  - Christine Beaty gave the Sunshine report that Rick & Ginny Taylor had lost their father/father in law.
  - Joe Van Cura announced they are accepting scholarship applications to be awarded this year.
  - Joe also announced the oral auction was a success at the show for the Scholarship fund.
  - Joe announced there will be a trip to J2B2 on May 14<sup>th</sup>. They will meet there at 10 AM. There will be bins with a price at 50 cents a pound. There will also be slabs available.
  - Joe gave some details regarding the upcoming Federation field trip. He will put more details regarding the field trips at the Prineville show in the next newsletter. (Friday, Richardson's Ranch, Saturday, Bear Creek and Sunday the Ochoco area for tube agate. Monday will be Glass Butte).
  - Joe is also checking into new legislation regarding overnight field trips. There is a \$100 application fee that must be paid if the trip is on public lands. He will find out more about it.
  - Don Esch reported there is a new law that prohibits all suction drudging for gold in Idaho. He said it would be beneficial to contact your legislature voicing your concerns regarding the laws.
  - Janice Van Cura gave the Federation Report. She was not at the Kennewick meeting as it was the same weekend as our show. She reported it was mainly housekeeping adjustments to the bylaws and discussion over the use of public lands. July is the next Federation meeting and it will be in Chehalis WA. She said that with our club size, we could have a second delegate.
  - Continue to bring in your cancelled stamps with about 1 inch margin around the stamp.
  - Ted Johnson said we have some nameplates that are ready to be picked up.
  - Vicki Johnson gave the Oregon Council report. She is working with the Clackamette club trying to get an ok to visit the Rodgers Mountain area for the clubs.
  - Ken Settlemier, our librarian, announced there are some good books available for check out. He is also looking into purchasing more books for the library.
  - Lee Anne Settlemier, treasurer, read the bills to pay and the group voted to pay the bills.
  - Phil Knutson announced we had an application for new members, Dan & Richelle Borden and their daughter Erika. They were voted in as new members.
  - Dan Groah announced the program for our June meeting will be a swap and sale meeting. We will have tables available for those who wish to sell items. Bring a table cover to protect the tops of the tables. Let Dan know if you are interested so we can have tables available.
- The June and July meetings will take place as usual on the first Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM. There will not be an August meeting as that will be the picnic at Tom Robertson's on August 14<sup>th</sup>. The Senior Center will again be closed the first Thursday of the month, so the September meeting will be on Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at our regular time of 6:30.**

Thanks to Chuck Hunt and Kathy Bennett for bringing refreshments for today's meeting. Next month volunteers are Lee Anne Settlemier, Janice Van Cura and Jackie Lord.

Thanks to Steve for bringing the door prizes. Chuck Hunt will bring for next time.

Show and Tell for next month will be the letter M. Next month's meeting will be June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The next board meeting will be May 16<sup>th</sup>.

We collected \$79 for the Scholarship Auction.

The meeting was closed at 8:45 PM by President, Chuck Hunt.

## SAVE this date.

Don't forget our annual picnic on August 14<sup>th</sup>. More information will be provided in the July newsletter.

### Board Meeting Notes, May 16, 2011

*by Kathy Bennett*

Attending Members: Chuck Hunt, Tom Beaty, Bob Deenin, Phil Knutson, Janice Van Cura, Lee Anne Settlemier & Kathy Bennett

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM by President Chuck Hunt.

Treasurer, Lee Anne Settlemier supplied the treasury show report. It was discussed by the board.

President Chuck Hunt is looking for a new show chair. If you are interested in accepting this opportunity, contact Chuck.

The dealer contract was discussed. We will go over the letter at another date, to see what changes should be made to it. The question was raised whether the same dealers should all be invited, or should we consider what items they have and the quality of the items for sale to determine if we want to possibly change dealers to get a better variety. No decisions were made at this time.

We voted to pay the bills.

The new rules for overnight field trips on public lands were discussed. Janice indicated Joe is still checking into this. Chuck mentioned the article in the Federation newsletter. There will be more about this at a later date when Joe has had an opportunity to find out more information regarding this subject.

Phil Knutson suggested the club should purchase a lap top computer for the club to help with club presentations. He will check into prices and bring some options to the board.

Janice Van Cura announced that the rocks and the lights for the fluorescent show are at their house now. Aaron Currier also has some of the rocks.

The traveling blue cases were a subject of discussion. In the past they have been used to transport rocks to the various schools for education purposes. They have not been used in a while. Chuck indicated they are in need of some work. We asked the Senior Center woodworkers if they would help us by making some new cases if we furnish the materials. The cases are not easy to transport, store or to show the rocks. We will ask someone to design how the cases should be and will contact the wood workers to make the new travel cases for a donation. Phil Knutson will do some work on the other cases that are a slimmer design and easy to transport and store.

The subject of a Federation show was brought up. Chuck was contacted earlier in the year by the Clackamette Club to see if we would like to jointly put on the show. Chuck will explore the possibility of having another Federation show and will present it to the general membership at the meeting for possibly the 2013 or 2014 year. If we do, it will be a commitment by the entire club.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM by President Chuck Hunt.

# Wall Cabinets for Sale

by Kristi Edwards

We have 2 wall mounted cabinets for sale. Measurements are: height 39 inches, width 49 inches, and 6 inches deep. This has glass doors and glass shelves. \$25 each or both for \$40. Call 541-738-6811 after 5PM, or email [kmedwards2@comcast.net](mailto:kmedwards2@comcast.net) for further information or photos. I will bring pictures at the meeting.

# Sunstone Collecting

Following is an email Kristi Edwards received from Lee King, owner of several sunstone collecting claims in southern Oregon:

Hi, Yes I still have my claims. I do require a list of the people that will be there and how long they will be on the claims. The trade off is that I get to use them as doing part of my assessment work and they get to keep all they find. We are looking into a waiver against injury for people going on the claims with permission just to protect ourselves. Let me know when you are going. As usual please clean up when you leave.

Have a good one.

Lee King email:mailand@embarqmail.com

## Upcoming Rock Shows: (consult NFMS Newsletter or internet for additional details)

June 3-5	Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club	Fruitland Grange, 11102 86 <sup>th</sup> Ave E,	Puyallup WA
June 18-19	Oregon Coast Agate Club	Yaquina View Elem. School	Newport OR
June 23-26	Prineville Rockhound Pow Wow	Crook Co. Fairgrounds	Prineville OR
June 29-July 3	All Rockhoud Pow Wow of America	Jefferson Co. Fairgrounds	Madras OR
July 1-4	Sisters Roundup of Gems	Sisters Elementary School	Sisters OR
July 7-10	Cascade Locks Rock & Gem Show	at the "locks"	Cascade Locks OR

# Reminders

**Board Meeting:** Monday, June 13, 6:30 PM. Salem Center 50+. Members welcome.

**WAMS Newsletter:** Submit articles, photos, etc., at least two weeks before the next general meeting. Newsletter photos are in color on the WAMS website, [www.wamsi.org](http://www.wamsi.org)

[www.wamsi.org](http://www.wamsi.org): Contains lots of photos, current and past issues of Rockhound Rumbblings, Cool Websites, Rock Specs (including Tips and Tricks), and more.

**NFMS Newsletter:** The Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies newsletter (10 issues/year) includes a calendar of upcoming Gem and Mineral Shows. It is mailed to all club members, and can also be viewed at [www.amfed.org/nfms](http://www.amfed.org/nfms) If you are not receiving it, let Phil Knutson know.

**AFMS Newsletter:** The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies newsletter can be viewed at [www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org) (click on AFMS Newsletters), or by individual subscription at \$4.50 per year (9 issues).

**Stamps:** Save cancelled stamps, especially commemorative stamps. Leave about 3/4" around the stamp, and turn in at meetings. They are sold, with proceeds donated to cancer research.

**Tumblers:** WAMS has tumblers available for members to borrow. Contact Mark Edwards, Property Control.

**Sunshine:** Let Chris Beaty know if anyone in the club is sick.

**Library:** Books are available to be checked out or returned at the general meeting.



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

**2011 Elected Officers**

- President: Chuck Hunt 503-304-3886
- Vice President: Phil Knutson 503-363-4231
- Secretary: Kathy Bennett 503-363-4974
- Treasurer: Lee Anne Settlemier
- Federation Director: Janice Van Cura
- Members at Large: Jim Shine 503-371-9369  
 Tom Beaty 503-361-8788  
 Bob Deenan 503-787-1802  
 Leonard Cleary 503-585-4398
- Board Chair: Rob Leedy 503-371-6421

**2011 Committee Chairs**

- Show Chair: Kristi Edwards 541-738-6811
- Field Trips: Rob Leedy 503-371-6421  
 Joe Van Cura 541-753-2401
- Bulletin Editor: Theresa Byrne
- Education: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
- Juniors: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
- Display Coordinator: Ed Pyritz
- Nameplates: Ted Johnson 503-362-6186
- Oregon Council: Vicki Johnson 503-362-6186
- Programs Dan Groah
- Property Control: Mark Edwards 541-738-6811
- Public Relations: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
- Advertising: Susan Appleby 503-391-4221
- Publications Ken Settlemier 503-394-4283
- Scrapbook/  
 Historian: Steve Lawrence 503-585-8014
- Host/Hostess: Reyne Knutson 503-363-4231  
 Eric Becklund 503-787-3881
- Stamps: Aaron Currier 503-393-2055
- Sunshine: Chris Beaty 503-361-8788

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 from this newsletter is granted, provided proper credit is given to WAMS Rockhound Rumbings and the author. 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 97309-1041

## ***WAMS General Meeting***

Thursday, June 2, 2011 - 6:30 pm  
Salem Senior Center  
2615 Portland Rd NE Salem, OR

GUESTS WELCOME!

## ***What's Rocking?***

*The June program will be a rock sale by the members.*

*JUNE SHOW & TELL:*

*BRING ROCKS BEGINNING WITH "M".*



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