

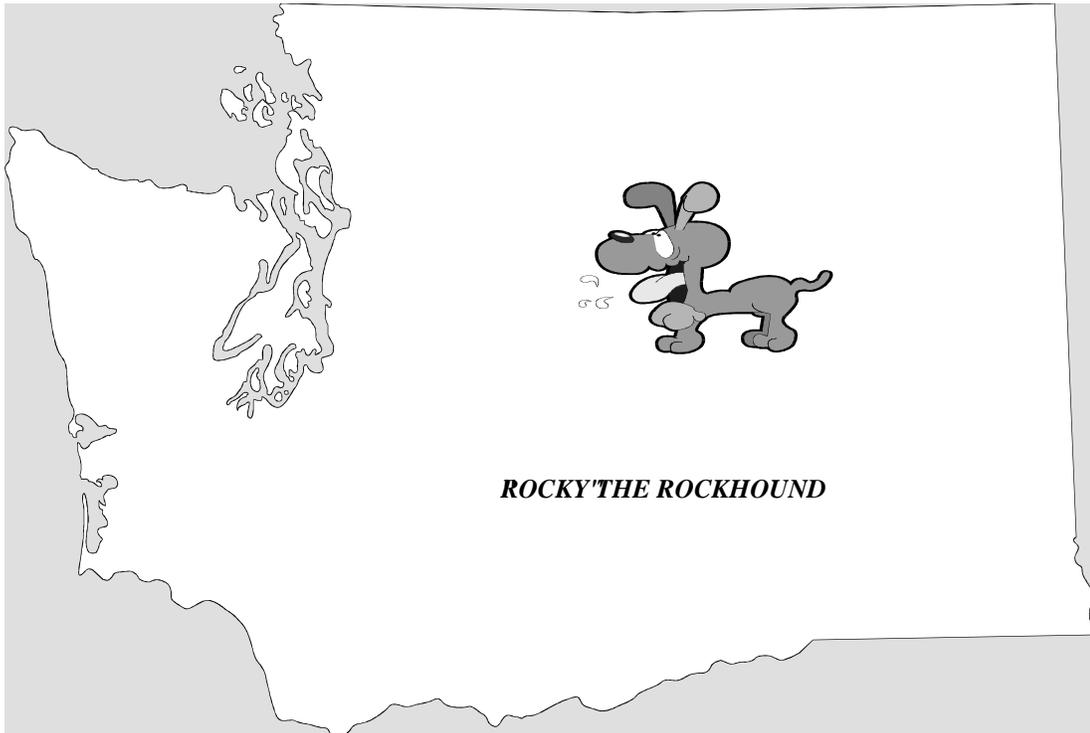


The Council Reporter



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Washington State Mineral Council**

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Wagonmaster	open		

The West Side Board meets the third Tuesday of each month between Quarterly meetings, unless a meeting is specially called. Usually no meeting in July and December dependent on Board action.

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Westside Board Meeting Minutes 01/18/11

The meeting was brought to order at 7:30 pm by Brian Waters, Current President. The first order of business was to have everyone in attendance introduce themselves, given that there were several new attendees.

Vesta Bettinger—representative for the N. Seattle Lapidary and Mineral Club

Guest attendees:

James and Beth Hutchinson, VP and Secretary of the Maplewood Rock & Gem Club

James Keffer, member of the Puget Sound Knappers and Oak Harbor Rock Club

Jim Miller, member of the Puget Sound Knappers, Prospectors and Miners Association, and Maplewood Rock & Gem Club.

Committee Reports: There was no **Treasurer's report** as the Treasurer was out-of-state. Before Kathy left she wanted to let the clubs know that there will be a delay in depositing the dues checks until she returns.

Wagonmaster: The WSMC List of 2011 Field Trips has been released to the Mineral Council's website. There have been a few reports of problems accessing the list due to caching problems. Please contact the Mineral Council webmaster or the Secretary if these problems persist. Changes to the list may occur at anytime, so please check back often for updates, particularly if you are a club newsletter editor.

Old Business: At the last regional meeting in November, it was suggested that the Mineral Council look into the possibility of joining the ALAA as a possible resolution to its problem of having enough willing people to commit long term to keeping on top of land use issues in the state on behalf of rockhounds. It was pointed out that the Association of Lands Access Association (ALAA), an organization formed in 1992 by the American Federation "to promote and carry the voice of all amateur collectors to elected officials, government regulators, and public lands managers" was in essence doing precisely this job only on a nationwide basis.

The secretary has contacted the Fritz Mack, president of the Northwest Federation, who recommended that the Council contact the ALAA direct. She is currently following up with both the president and membership chairman of the ALAA to determine if membership by the Council is feasible and if so, how much it would cost. Bob Pattie suggested speaking as well with John Spunagle, a past Financial Advisor of the American Federation of Mineral Societies (AFMS). Further information will be provided at the next Westside meeting in February.

February 2/15, 2011 Westside Board Meeting AGENDA

Opening of Meeting

◇ Brian Waters

Treasurer's Report

◇ Kathy Earnst

Committee Reports

◇ Wagonmaster -Ed Lehman

Old Business

New Business

Open Comments

Tentative Meeting Calendar for 2011

West side board meetings:

1/18, 2/15, 4/19, 6/21, 10/18

At 7:30PM at the

Maplewood Clubhouse

8802 196th St SW, Edmonds

General meetings (tentative):

3/26, 5/7, 9/24, 11/5

All general meetings will be held at:

Palace Café

4th & Main

Ellensburg

Meeting @ 9:30 AM

Discussion: There was discussion among the representatives and guests at this point regarding the history of the request for the above membership. It was explained that an organization like the Council, based as it is, solely on the efforts of volunteers, makes productive and reliable coverage of land-use issues very difficult if not impossible. Ideally, we would need a committee of at least four committed people who would be willing to devote at least three to four years of their time to monitor computer communications, reports, go to legislative and local meetings, and send out communications as needed. A nationwide organization such as the ALAA would be extremely helpful in offering legal advice and mentorship where and when needed, at the least.

Guests from the Knappers organization came to tonight's Council meeting to discuss strategy regarding current efforts by the Department of Fish & Wildlife to increase the penalties for the illegal removal of rocks, minerals, petrified wood and fossils on Fish & Wildlife land, and to put it under their enforcement which it hasn't been in the past. The Fish and Wildlife have the enforcement duties but the law didn't prescribe

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any penalties. The efforts that they were trying to get past were regulations to enforce the law. Proposed penalties would be from minor misdemeanor to a class A felony which could allow enforcement officials to confiscate a person's car and property in their home. As a further complication, it appears that Department of Fish and Wildlife and/or Governor Gregoire is proposing to combine forces with the Department of Natural Resources, in the name of economic efficiencies.

A few key people in the Knappers Organization (a smaller hobby group (100) in terms of total numbers than rockhounds), been able to motivate their members into becoming a formidable grass-roots-response-group. Their folks sent out spools of emails, snail-mails, and phone calls to their local legislators in December with the result that the hearing for the proposed amendment was delayed until further notice.

Mr. Hutchinson feels that there is merit in having a local committee to cover local land issues, and to determine whether or not current and proposed legislation should be changed, left alone or whatever.

Bob Pattie indicated that it was important to identify the actors involved. There is the Department of Fish & Wildlife, Trust lands, Department of Natural Resources and so on. It is his feeling that the Department of Fish and Wildlife is primarily interested in the concerns of their department and of none other. With the current proposal to join with the DNR, it would appear that they wish to expand their area of influence (enforcement) to all state lands.

What makes working with the various state entities so difficult is that many employees of these departments seem to consider ownership of public properties as being theirs alone; that is, belonging to their respective departments and NOT to the "public," or rather the residents and taxpayers of that state; counterintuitive from the public's point of view.

Bob Pattie mentioned that in the past he has worked with a Mr. Mark Mauren, Assistant Div. Mgr, Recreation, Public Access & WCC Programs, DNR (360-902-1047) (mark.mauren@dnr.wa.gov) regarding collecting on Trust Lands. Mr. Mauren has been most cooperative and quite amenable to giving permits for collecting to rock clubs on a yearly basis. Bob suggested that perhaps having Mr. Mauren speak at the March Regional meeting would be a good idea.

James Keffer indicated that he had already spoken to a number of local legislators regarding the current proposed amendment. He thinks that he can get some movement on this issue given the fury and flurry of input they have received thanks to his efforts and those of others. He went on further to say that as a means of keeping the concerns of the Knappers in front of the legislators minds, his organization often contacts them letting them know when the next meetings are, and also sends them

letters with arrowheads enclosed as a concrete example of what "worthless rock" can mean to some of the legislators' constituents.

Strategy: To be effective in Olympia, a lobbying group needs to understand and structure their efforts to change the intent of the current and proposed laws affecting collection of materials on state lands. Some of the questions that the group will need to explore, and many more as they become more familiar with the various offices:

- What lands and materials do these state agencies manage;
- How and why do these state agencies manage the above; and
- Who precisely owns the land that they manage.

Messrs Keffer and Miller spoke about starting with changing the law by excluding the materials we want to collect (rocks, minerals, petrified wood and invertebrate fossils). Initially we propose collecting limits using the petrified woods limits given that there is already a federal precedent in this case.

Mr. Miller indicated that we also don't want the Dept. of F&W to tell us how to dig. Is the Council okay with the Federal provision of the use of non-powered equipment-only in collecting? The answer was YES.

There was further discussion regarding the timetable of the proposed Fish & Wildlife amendment. Initial indications were that it was postponed indefinitely. However, Mr. Keffer indicated that he would be checking to see if it would be on the legislative docket at the end of February. If so, his major concern regarding WSMC involvement and action was speed. This was the primary reason why the Council wasn't informed officially in December by members of the Knappers Organization because there was no time. Legislators needed to be contacted immediately.

Messrs Keffer, Miller, and Hutchinson said that they would endeavor to create a Google Groups location which would simplify and speed up contact among interested folks. They will be in contact and we will publish the information in the newsletter and on the website as soon as we receive it.

New Business: Ed Lehman was contacted by a member of the Port Angeles Club, which is holding its first annual rock show on March 26-27th in conjunction with the city. They were requesting permission to purchase the copyright of the Map Book for a certain number of copies. Bob Pattie is to see to the details and get in contact with the appropriate people.

Glenn Morita reported that Bart Cannon who puts on the Mineral Mart (4th Annual) May 21st at the Lake City Community Center will have an information table with space available for the Mineral Council map book and information on how to get

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FIELD TRIPS FOR 2011

Locations and times subject to change

The WSMC sponsors field trips through the Wagonmasters. These trips offer the rockhound the opportunity to collect a wide variety of materials from agate and jasper to crystals and fossils. Experienced guides familiar with the sites are on hand to help the novice collector find good quality material. Check with the local clubs in your area for further information.

AREAS CURRENTLY CLOSED TO COLLECTING: LUCAS CREEK, ADNA, DIATOM PITS (FRENCHMAN HILLS)

Walk-in only: Green Mountain (Kalama) and First Creek.

Check out the trip info, and tool listing at mineralcouncil.org.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Host</i>	<i>Site</i>	<i>Meet</i>	<i>Material</i>	<i>Tools</i>
2/19	Msvl	Cedar Ponds	9:00 @ Monroe, WA Jack 'n Box	Red & Yellow Jasper	Dig & light hard rock
3/26	Ellb	Saddle Mtn	9:00 @ Mattawa, WA-Harvest Foods	Petr. wood & common opal	Light & dig tools
4/09	MtBk	Racehorse Crk	9:00 @ Nugent's Corner, E of Bellingham	Fossils; Morel mushrooms	Dig, light, & split tools
4/16-17	Pow	Saddle Mtn	8:00 @ Boat launch: S. Mattawa	Petr. Wood	Light hard rock & dig tools
5/21-22	CMS	Wasco, OR	8:00 @ Goldendale, WA China Hollow	Picture Jasper Registr. Opens	3/1/11 \$25 deposit*
5/27-30	Tri-Fed	Central Oregon	TBD Prineville, Hampton Butte	Petr. wood, agate, limbcasts	Contact Federation Representative
6/11	Spkn	Emerald Crk, ID	8:00 @ Emerald Creek Parking Area	Star Garnets	Old clothes, Ziploc bag/\$fee dig
6/29-7/3	Pow	Madras, OR	8:00 @ Jefferson Fair Grounds	Agate, jasper, wood, T-Eggs	Dig & light tool
7/16	WSea	Lk Wenatchee	9:00 @ Coles Corner Gas Sta.	Garnet, actinolite, talc	Screen, wood saw, dig tools
7/23-24	Spkn	Lolo Pass, ID	8:00 @ Lolo Pass Visitor Ctr, Hwy 12	Smoky Quartz Crystals	Shovel & pick (lots of digging)
8/6	Yak	Timberwolf Mtn	9:00 @ Ace Hardware, Naches, WA	Quartz Crystals w/inclusions	Shovel, pick, rock hammer
8/20-21	Pvgm	Greenwater	9:00 @ Enumclaw Rngr Station	Agate, jasper	Dig & light hard rock
8/27?	Ed L.	Jade Claim	TBD Darrington area	Jade - fee dig \$100/person	Strenuous hike xxx miles
9/10-11	Pow	Red Top	8:00 @ W Frk Teanaway Camp	Geodes, Agate, jade	Dig & light hard rock
9/17	Pvgm	Little Naches	9:00 @ Enumclaw Rngr Station	Thunder eggs	Dig & light hard rock
9/24-25	Msvl	Wasco, OR	8:00 @ Goldendale, WA China Hollow	Pic Jasper Registr. Opens 7/15/11 \$25 deposit*	
10/1	Spkn	Red Marble Quarry	9:00 @ Chewelah Safeway	Magnesite, Barite Minerals	Container, and rock hammer
10/29	Msvl	Miller Rvr	9:00 @ Hwy 2 Skykomish, WA	Picture Jasper	Rock Hammer & Container
11/5	MtBk	Blanchard Hill	9:00 @ I-5 exit 240 gas mart	Stilpnomelane in Quartz	Hard rock tools

ALWAYS CALL TO CONFIRM TRIPS—SEE BELOW

<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>Host</i>	<i>Contact</i>	<i>E-mail</i>
CMS	Cascade Mineralogical Society	Brian Waters (206) 290-2312	bwaterss2000@yahoo.com
Ed L		Ed Lehman (425) 334-6282	wsmced@hotmail.com
Ellb	Ellensburg Rock Club	Dave Master (509) 925-3827	
Msvl	Marysville Rock Club	Christina Morrissey (425) 398-1300	cmvw@frontier.com
Msvl-Wasco trip		Stu & Kathy Earnst (360) 856-0588	earnstkk@comcast.net
MtBk	Mt Baker Rock Club	Kris Menger (360) 366-0576	kmenger@peoplepc.com
POW Wow Club	All Rockhounds Club	Cliff Matteson (253) 475-8433	cliff.conniematteson@gmail.com
Pvgm	Puyallup Rock Club	Tony Johnson (253) 863-9238	
Spkn	Rock Rollers of Spokane	Mike Shaw (509) 244-8542	mikeshawmoose@yahoo.com
WSea	West Seattle Rock Club	Brian Waters (206) 290-2312	bwaterss2000@yahoo.com
Yak	Yakima Rock & Mineral Club	Jerry Wichstrom (509) 653-2787	

Trips are open to all. Most 2 day trips include Sat. potluck, horse shoes, tail-gating & swap. Sun. free breakfast. A small fee is required for Pow Wow and Madras trips. For more information contact Ed Lehman at wsmced@hotmail.com (425)334-6282 or mineralcouncil.org

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copies; not copies to sell.

Ed Lehman then went on to speak about his efforts to sponsor a couple of "mini-rock- shows" in Darrington this coming summer. Interest in rocks and minerals has risen considerably in the area, as has the need overall in a venue for amateur vendors of rock and mineral materials. Accordingly, Ed is prepared to reserve the Darrington Grange for those interested in having tables from which to sell their materials, lapidary work, rough rock, etc., as well as having skilled demonstrations and educational displays for Darrington residents and visitors. If you are interested in participating in such an event, please contact Ed Lehman at (425) 334-6282 or wsmced@hotmail.com.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 PM.
Submitted by Christina Morrissey, Secretary
January 21, 2011

The Story Of Victoria Stone by Yvonne Mack- WGMS Club Member

Victoria Stone is also known as "Imori Stone", named after it's Japanese creator, Dr. Imori. It is not an artificial or fake stone. What Dr. Imori was able to accomplish was to actually blend several different minerals using a special process known only to him to come up with an Imori Stone, commonly called Victoria Stone.

This beautiful reconstructed gem is mineralogically similar to Nephrite Jade. It has a harness of six, specific gravity of 3.02 and a refractive index of 1.62. It was laboratory produced from natural raw materials such as quartz, feldspar, magnesite, calcite, fluorspar, etc. for a total of seven different minerals-fused together under high pressure and a high temperature and again mineralized to make this gem by adding special crystallizers and habit regulators.

This is not an imitation or synthetic but is a reconstructed natural stone. The boule of Victoria stone was slowly cooled down for 35 to 40 days to make it crystallize into the pretty fan shapes.

Victoria Stone is mineralogically similar to nephrite but the arrangement of the actinolite crystals is different. Instead of the crystals interlocking and tying together as they do with jade, they have crystallized in fan shapes to provide the beauty of the stone. As a result of this difference, the rough stone is more likely to crack or splinter if overheated. Victoria Stone could be bought by the boule or in slices when it was produced in 15 different colors from 1960 to the 1980's - green, sky blue, reddish purple, yellow green, blue green, sky indigo, chocolate, yellow, deep indigo, white, quiet green, quiet yellow, quiet blue, grey and black.

To cut Victoria Stone, cut it first lengthwise, then let it set for 24 hours; then you can go ahead and slice it using normal cut-

ting procedures, using plenty of water to keep it cool so it won't shatter.

First sand on sharp 220 grit sanding cloth, then sharp 320 cloth, with a final sanding on a worn 320 cloth. A quick and easy polish can then be obtained finishing on a dry leather buff with tin oxide.

The transparent Victoria Stone that is used for faceting is composed of di or trisilicates of earth elements and alkali metals. The hardness is 5.5 to 6, specific gravity of 3.02 and a refractive index of 1.12. It was quickly cooled down in one day so that it wouldn't crystallize into patterns.

The faceted Victoria Stone came in 8 colors, including sapphire blue, emerald green, amethyst purple, ruby red, topaz, aquamarine, garnet and peridot green.

Dr. Imori died without confiding in anyone how the process worked and no one has been able to duplicate it. There is only a limited and non-replenishable supply of Victoria Stone in existence, when this material is used up to make jewelry and cabochons, it will become scarcer and about impossible to find.

From CMS eTumbler, 01/11, via Quarry Quips, 7/08; via McPherson Rock Club Bulletin; from Handout Material with Purchase

GPS Co-ordinates Needed

The WSMC needs the GPS co-ordinates of any and all of the collecting sites in the state. In an effort to make the map booklets as accurate as possible the Mineral Council is asking for everyone to record GPS readings while on field trips. Fill out the form on Page 4 and return to the editor.

The data can also be used to help in our fight to keep our collecting areas open.

Attention: All Newsletter Subscribers

If you, or someone you know should be receiving this newsletter electronically and are not, please contact Bob Pattie or myself (Glenn Morita).

We are trying to keep our mailing list current and want to make sure that everyone who wants an electronic version of the newsletter gets one.

Dues are due

Local Area Shows for 2011

DATE & TIME	CLUB	SHOW	LOCATION
February 2011 12th 9am - 5pm 13th 9am - 4pm	Whidbey Island Gem Club And Pebble Pushers	46th Annual Sweetheart of Gems show	Oak Harbor Senior Center 51 SE. Jerome Street Oak Harbor, WA
February 2011 26th 10am - 6pm 27th 10am - 5pm	Everett Rock and Gem Club	58th Annual Gem and Jewelry Show	Washington National Guard Armory 2730 Oakes Ave. Everett, WA 98201
February 2011 26th 10am - 7pm 27th 10am - 5pm	Idaho Gem and Mineral Club	Annual Gem and Mineral show	Expo Idaho Fairgrounds 5610 Glenwood & Chinden Boise, Idaho
March 2011 5th 10am—6pm 6th 10am—5pm	East KingCo Rock and Gem Club	2011 Rock and Gem show	Pickering Barn 1730 10th Ave NW Issaquah, WA
March 2011 11th 9am - 5pm 12th 10am - 5pm 13th 10am - 5pm	Tualatin Valley Gem Club	Oregon Territory Treasures	Klamath County Fairgrounds 3531 S. 6th St. Klamath Fall, OR.
March 2011 12th 9am - 5pm 13th 10am - 4pm	Rock and Arrowhead Club	Annual Show "Petrified Wood"	Klamath County Fairgrounds 3531 S. 6th St. Klamath Fall, OR. 97603
March 2011 12th 9am - 6pm 13th 9am - 5pm	Magic Valley Gem Club	Magic Valley Gem Show	Twin Falls County Fairgrounds East of Filer, Idaho on US Hwy 30
March 2011 26th 10am - 6pm 27th 10am - 4pm	Sweet Home Rock and Mineral Society	62nd Annual Rock & Gem Show	Sweet Home High School Activity Gym 1641 Long St. Sweet Home, OR
April 2011 8th 10am - 6pm 9th 10am - 6pm 10th 10am - 5pm	Rock Rollers of Spokane	Earth Treasures	Spokane Fair & Expo Center Broadway & Havana Spokane, WA
April 2011 9th 10am - 6pm 10th 10am - 5pm	Mt. Baker Rock and Gem Club	"GOLDEN" Family Affair 50th Anniversary Show	Bloedel-Donovan Park Community Center 2214 Electric Ave. Bellingham, WA
April 2011 15th 9am - 6pm 16th 10am - 6pm 17th 10am - 4:30pm	Willamette Agate and Mineral Society	56th Annual	Polk County Fairgrounds 520 S Hwy 99 (Pacific Hy) - 10 miles west of Salem Rickreall, Oregon
April 2011 16th 10am - 5pm 17th 10am - 5pm	Yakima Rock and Mineral Club	50th Annual Rock Show	National Guard Armory 2501 Airport Lane Yakima, WA
April 2011 30th 10am - 5pm May 1st 10am - 5pm	West Seattle Rock Club	45th Annual 2011 Rock Show	Alki Masonic Temple 4736 40th Ave. SW. (W Seattle), WA

Westside Board Meeting
February 15, 2011
7:30 PM

Maplewood Clubhouse
8802 196th St SW
Edmonds

COUNCIL REPORTER, Monthly publication of The
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