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◆ **The Council Reporter** ◆

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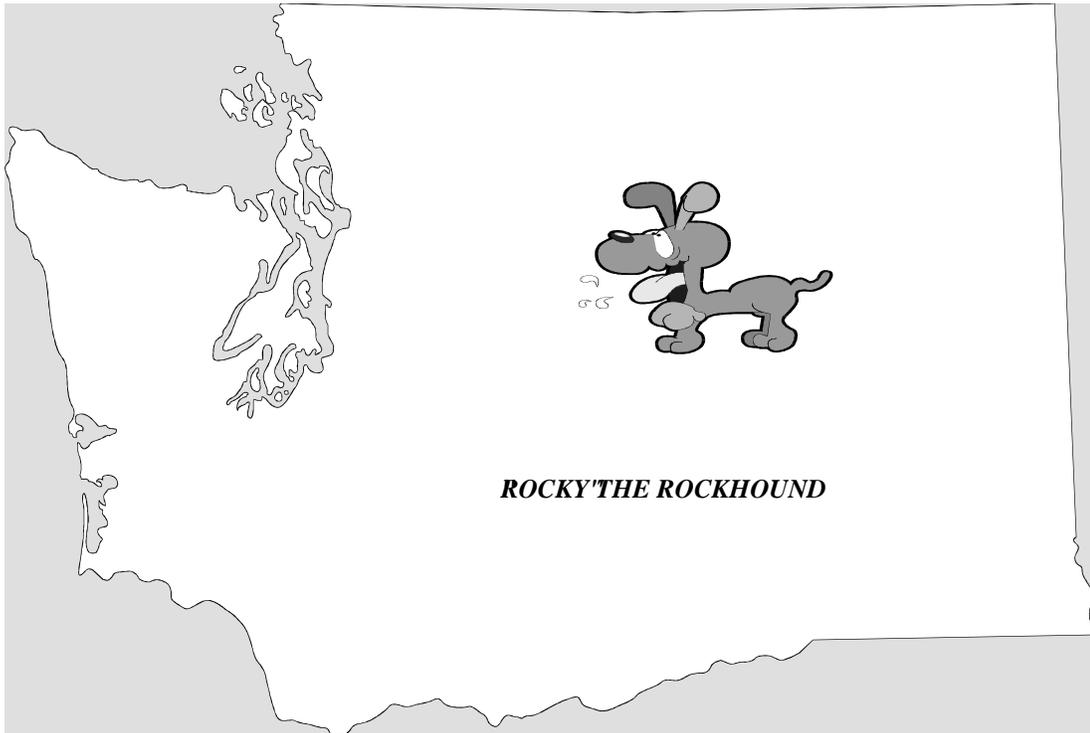
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**Official Publication of the  
Washington State Mineral Council**

**WASHINGTON STATE MINERAL COUNCIL  
2010 OFFICERS**

**OFFICERS**

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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 02/15/11

Meeting opened at 7:30 pm by President Brian Waters. There was no Treasurer's report as the Treasurer is still out of state.

## Committee Reports

### Wagonmaster

Ed Lehman has been busy gathering specimen samples for the new trips scheduled this year to display in the Mineral Council's Field Trip box at area rock shows. To date he has specimens from the Lolo Pass and Timberwolf Mtn sites.

Over 30 people are expected to attend the Cedar Ponds (Stubbs Hill) Jasper field trip, the first trip of the year, with a large number of first time "field trippers." The meeting spot will be at the Monroe Jack-in-the-Box at 9:00 am as usual, on Sat, Feb 19, 2011.

March 1st, 2011 at midnight, registration opens for reservations for the 30 slots for the China Hollow picture jasper field trip to be held May 21-22. See accompanying article for details.

### Old Business

Council Secretary, Christina Morrissey did receive communication from the President of the ALAA, Richard Pankey. The Council was interested in joining the ALAA as a means to expand efforts to monitor land use legislation and lobbying for rockhound interests. Initially there had been some question among board members if this was possible.

Mr. Pankey responded positively, indicating the American Lands Access Association would welcome the WSMC as a member and support of their goals and objectives. Membership dues for the Council would be \$50, as would dues for any society. An application was attached to his email.

Mr. Pankey's response and the Council's decision will be up for discussion and a vote at the next regional meeting to be held in Ellensburg, Saturday, March 26, 9:30am at the Palace Café, 4th & Main.

Ed Lehman mentioned that he will need more map books for the upcoming Rock Shows.

An inquiry was made regarding the status of the Port Angeles show and the inquiry for the Council's map book copyright. Bob Pattie who followed up on the issue, discovered that interest wasn't there on the part of the organizers.

*Legislative activity:* As of Feb 10th, House Bill 5669, the Governor-sponsored effort to consolidate the various government agencies involved in land and recreation into one "Department

## March 26, 2011 Combined Board Meeting AGENDA

Pres. Opening of Meeting  
 ◇ Brian Waters  
 Treasurer's Report  
 ◇ Kathy Earnst  
 Committee Reports  
 ◇ Wagonmaster  
 Old Business  
 New Business  
 Open Comments  
 Adjourn

## 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

of Conservation and Recreation," held one hearing on February 10th, 2011. The thrust of this hearing appeared to be that the head of this consolidated agency would be a political appointee approved by the State Senate rather than an elected head.

House Bill 5622 - Seeks to create legislation establishing a "Annual Discovery Pass" of \$30 to be visible in an vehicle parked or seen driving on state lands in recreational areas. This fee would be instituted on your car registration renewal fee as an "opt-out" option (*meaning if you forget to mark it, you are charged for it automatically*).

There was a question if this would also apply to the Walker Valley (Mt. Vernon) area where the Mineral Council has a leased area for rockhounds. The reply was that as long as rockhounds did not venture out of the "leased area," they would not have to have the pass. The proposed fine for failure to have the pass is \$99. From the estimated \$71 million that the pass is to generate, 7.5% of the funds is to go to the Fish & Wildlife Department, another 7.5% to the Park Lands Revolving Fund, and the remaining amount to the State Park Renewal & Steward-

(Continued on page 4)

*(Continued from page 3)*

ship Fund. This bill is coming out of the House Marine and Natural Resources Committee.

**New Business**

Bob Pattie has indicated that while Mark Mauren, Assistant Division Manager of the Recreation, Public Access, and WCC Programs, of the Washington State Department of Natural Resources is unable to speak at the regional meeting in Ellensburg, that someone from his office will be present. Rockhounds interested in this and other legislation concerning collecting may contact Mr. Mauren at the following:

Mark R. Mauren  
 Assistant Division Manager  
 Recreation, Public Access and WCC Programs  
 Asset Management and Recreation Division  
 Washington State Department of Natural Resources

The West Seattle club wanted to know how to submit their club membership numbers for council dues calculations. Only adult member numbers should be part of the calculations.

**Wanted: Rockhounds Interested in Maintaining Access to Public Lands Through Legislative and Other Actions**

The Mineral Council is interested in recruiting the assistance of a few people who like politics and who would have some time and interest to attend some of the meetings, and follow up on the legislation that is affecting rockhound interests. We could use your help in this! The Council is a volunteer effort, (on the west side, less than a ten man/woman team). Won't you step forward?

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm. Submitted by Christina Morrissey, Secretary, Mineral Council

**Hammer Safety**

by Bill Klose, EFMLS Safety Chairman

Hammers used by rock hounds come in every size, type and construction, and include rock hammers, bricklayer's or mason's hammers, blacksmith's or sledge hammers, machinist's peen hammers, jeweler's hammers, setting hammers, soft face hammers, lead or copper faced hammers, trimmer's and welder's hammers, as well as a variety of mallets, such as rawhide, rubber, and tinner's. I have even seen napping hammers (a 3 pound high carbon steel hammer with tapering faces used for forming stones during road construction or similar stone work) and railroad track mauls (used for driving railroad spikes). As it is hard to anticipate what a rockhound's "favorite weapon" will be, I thought I would present a list of general hammer safety practices followed by the proper use of some of the more common hammer types.

1. Always select the proper type, size, and weight of hammer

for the job.

2. Always wear eye protection.
3. Always strike a hammer blow squarely, avoiding glancing blows and over and under strikes. The hammer's striking face should be parallel with the surface being struck.
4. When striking a chisel, punch, or wedge, the striking face of the hammer should be 3/8" larger than the struck face of the tool. Both the striking hammer's face and the struck face of the tool should be free of oil.
5. Do not strike another hammer with a hammer.
6. Do not strike a harder surface with a hard surface hammer.
7. Never use a hammer with dents, cracks, chips, mushrooming, or excessive wear. Replace the hammer, redressing is not recommended.
8. Replace worn or damaged handles. A qualified individual should replace hammer handles. Most hardware stores will replace hammer handles for a nominal fee. They can also provide a rubber sleeve for sledge hammers, which will prevent handle damage just above the head.

Bricklayer's or mason's hammers are designed for setting or splitting bricks, masonry tile, and concrete blocks. Never use them to strike metal or drive tools such as chisels. The blade of a bricklayer's hammer should be kept sharp by redressing at a 40 degree angle with a bench grinder. Keep the metal cool while grinding by quenching often in water to protect the metals tempering.

Hand drilling hammers are used with chisels, star drills, punches, and hardened nails. Never use common nail (claw) hammers for striking metal, such as chisels, as they are designed for driving unhardened nails and their shape, depth of face, and balance make them unsuitable for this use.

Machinist's peen hammers (ball, cross, or straight) are designed for striking chisels and punches and riveting, straightening and shaping metal.

Blacksmith's or sledge hammers are designed for striking wood, metal, concrete, or stone, depending on size, weight, and shape. When using a hammer, grip the handle near the end where it is designed for gripping and it will give you the best control and impact with the least effort. Watch your hands, shins, and feet. It may be advisable to wear gloves, long sleeve shirts, and high lacing safety shoes to protect from flying debris and sharp shards if the situation warrants it. When storing hammers for a period of time, lightly lubricate metal parts, but wipe any oil or grease from rubber mallets or rubber handle grips to prevent damage to the rubber.

*(Continued on page 6)*

## 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](http://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 <b>Registr. Opens 7/15/11 \$25 deposit*</b>	
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	<a href="mailto:kmenger@peoplepc.com">kmenger@peoplepc.com</a>
POW Wow Club	All Rockhounds Club	Cliff Matteson (253) 475-8433	<a href="mailto:cliff.conniematteson@gmail.com">cliff.conniematteson@gmail.com</a>
Pvgm	Puyallup Rock Club	Tony Johnson (253) 863-9238	
Spkn	Rock Rollers of Spokane	Mike Shaw (509) 244-8542	<a href="mailto:mikeshawmoose@yahoo.com">mikeshawmoose@yahoo.com</a>
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](mailto:wsmced@hotmail.com) (425)334-6282 or [mineralcouncil.org](http://mineralcouncil.org)

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So get out there and hammer up a storm, safely.

From The Tumbler, 02/11, via The Quarry, 5/10; via Cabber Gabber, 5/09; via Rock Collector, 5/09; from EFMLS News, 3/00

## Rock Shopping Across the U.S.

By Chuck Mosher

During the last half of 2010, Betty and I decided to see the beautiful fall colors across the U.S. and visit the last seven states we hadn't been to. One of our "bucket list" items was to travel to all 50 states. Over six weeks in October and November, we drove our caddy over 9,000 miles and covered 29 states. Not only was this a great way to see the U.S. but, as an inveterate rockhound, this gave me a chance to visit several fantastic rock shops, many of which advertise in Rock and Gem magazine.

Those of you married to non-rockhounds have to realize that I had to be careful in arranging for my visits to rock shops and not go too far off our planned route. I also found it advisable for my health and well being to include lots of non-rock shopping and touring. For you purists, realize that stopping at rock shops was much quicker and more practical on this long trip than spending days in the field.

After stopping at the first couple of shops, Betty realized that the places we were stopping at were not just historical sites, but good-naturedly put up with my rock collecting obsession. During the trip, I learned that finding good rock shops can be difficult nowadays because a lot of the smaller shops tend to go out of business and you can end up wasting time looking for them. Even when you do find a shop, it's best to take some time talking to the owners/clerks since they often don't show you "the good stuff" until they get to know you and, sometimes, their stories and experiences are the best part of the visit

The good rock shops I visited include the following, most of which are online:

*The Rock Shed in Keystone, South Dakota.* A variety of rough and polished specimens. Ask to see their machinery in the downstairs and look at the loads of rough they have in their yard. I enjoyed talking to the guys that work in the shop and they were very helpful in finding just what I wanted.

*The Gem Shop in Cedarburg, Wisconsin.* If you like agates, this is a must visit location, but bring your pocketbook because the great specimens they have can be expensive. They have a great variety of agates, jaspers, and cabs. The shop is a cute house in a small town. They have lots of top quality specimens and tons of slabs and miscellaneous rough in boxes in the basement and on tables out in the yard. They have a Morrisonite mine in Southern Oregon and indicate that not much of that material is still available.

*Gary's Gem Garden in Cherry Hill, New Jersey,* just outside of Philadelphia. What a great shop for mineral specimens. I enjoyed working with Gary Weinstein, the owner, who showed me just what I wanted in the shop and brought me more specimens from the back room. You can get very reasonably priced items. Luckily, he had some German agates that I especially treasure.

*Wright's Rock Shop in Hot Springs, Arkansas.* I thought this would be a real winner but found their mineral specimens to be smaller than I

wanted and I had a hard time with the owner locating the items I wanted to look at. Just when I was ready to walk out without purchasing anything, I looked out the back door and saw tables with tons of beautiful Arkansas quartz crystal clusters. Even though the samples in their store were pricey, the items on the tables were only \$5 a pound. I had them mail about 20 pounds home.

*Crystal Springs Mining Co. and Gallery in Hot Springs, Arkansas.* This was the hit of my trip and was similar to visiting the Smithsonian Museum. The displays in the store were once-in-a-lifetime specimens, some on sculptured pedestals. Betty and I were invited to see the items upstairs and, in addition to hiding the checkbook, Betty had to keep me from drooling over the beautiful items. I did come away with some nice items and great dreams.

*Antares Fossils and Minerals in Evanston, Wyoming.* What a great shop! I first thought it was just a small house with a jumble of odd mineral specimens but, after walking around and talking to Tony and Ronnie, I realized this was a great place for new and hard to find items. Their bread and butter is fossil fish from the Green River shales nearby but they have traded these for other really interesting items from around the world. I obtained several fluorescent mineral specimens, but my prize from this shop is a matched pair of agatized cut and polished large pieces of St. Petersburg coral.

This was a dream trip for me. I hope you will also share your rockhound experiences with us in The Petrified Digest.

From Petrified Digest, 02/11

## 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

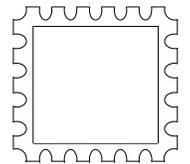
## Local Area Shows for 2011

DATE & TIME	CLUB	SHOW	LOCATION
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 19th 10am—5pm 20th 10am—5pm	North Seattle Lapidary and Mineral Club	57th Annual Rock and Gem show	Lake City Community Center 12531 28th Ave NE Seattle, WA
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 8th 10am - 8pm 9th 10am - 6pm 10th 10am - 5pm	BC Gem Show		Ag-Rec Building Central Fraser Valley Fairgrounds, 32470 Haida Drive, Abbotsford, B. C.
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	West Seattle Rock Club	45th Annual 2011 Rock Show	Alki Masonic Temple 4736 40th Ave. SW. (W Seattle), WA
May 2011 21st 10am - 6pm	Seattle Mineral Market		Lake City Community Center 12531 28th Ave NE Seattle, WA

Combined Board Meeting  
March 26, 2011  
9:30 AM

Palace Café  
4th & Main  
Ellensburg

COUNCIL REPORTER, Monthly publication of The  
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