

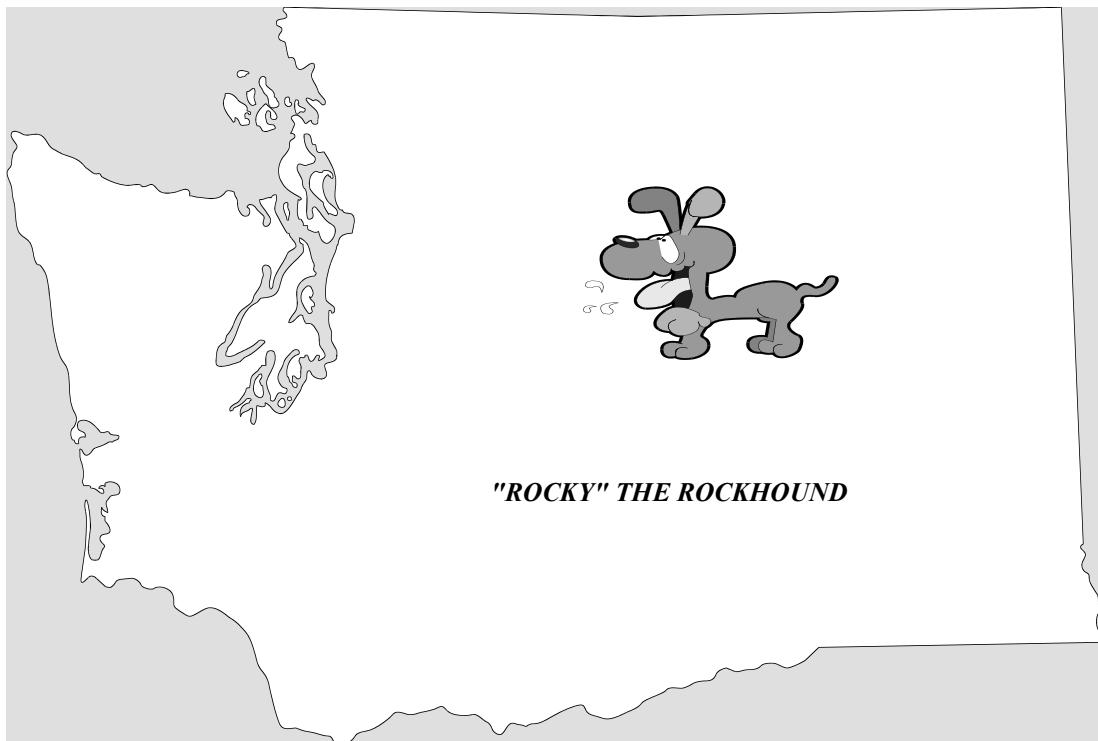


The Council Reporter



Volume 37, Issue 2

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

**WASHINGTON STATE MINERAL COUNCIL
2016 OFFICERS**

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Wagonmaster	open		

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

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The old URL www.mineralcouncil.org will continue to re-direct you to the new location.

Westside Board Meeting Minutes

02/21/17

Board meeting for the WSMC February 21, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 7:42 by Bob Pattie

The minutes from last meeting were approved at printed. Introduction of those in attendance was given.

No Treasurers report

Bob talked about the letter he wrote the Federation about their article on public lands clarifying that here in Washington there are more trust lands than public lands, this letter will be printed in the next news bulletin.

Ed reported on meetings he has attended with DNR:

It looks like Greenwater will still be accessible and we are pleased with this finding. Government Meadows and George Creek it looks like Ed's suggestions on the area were taken into account and the roads will be as requested. The Board was unable to attend the introduction of the new Commissioner for DNR, if anyone attended would they please let the board know.

There is going to be a meeting a on Grizzly Bear release in the Darrington area by the National Park and the National Wildlife agency. They want to release 200 Grizzly's to this area. This will change the land use of these areas, the board is encouraging our members attend regional meetings on the release of Grizzly's (Contact Ed Lehman for information on local meetings). This is a concern as the rock collecting in this area is affected along with other recreational activities, also what is this going to do with the eco system already in place (black bears are then in danger as they are food for grizzly's would they then have to add more black bears).

Wagon Master field trip report:

The field trip to Beaver Valley Quarry we had 30 to 35 in attendance, all went away happy with what they found.

The field trip to Walker Valley was also a great success, there were about 50 on this trip, there is a new big seam of agate, one member said he found a 300lb agate, he broke this agate and those the field received a piece of this agate.

There was a reminder that on some of the field trips you will need a discover pass or you will get a \$90.00 ticket, it is best to have the pass before you go on these field trips.

The next field trip in on March 11th to Cedar Ponds, please contact Ed if you would like to attend and he will get you the pre-trip information.

March 18, 2017 Combined Board Meeting AGENDA

- Pres. Opening of Meeting
- Treasurer's Report
- ◊ Kathy Earnst
- Committee Reports
- ◊ Wagonmaster
- Old Business
- New Business
- Election of Officers
- Open Comments
- Adjourn

Meeting Calendar for 2017

West side board meetings:
1/17, 2/21, 4/18, 6/20, 8/15, 10/17

At 7:30PM at the
Maplewood Clubhouse
8802 196th St SW, Edmonds

General meetings :
3/18, 5/20, 9/23, 11/04

All general meetings will be held at:

Palace Café
4th & Main
Ellensburg
Meeting @ 9:30 AM

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

Dues are due

Download the PDF or Word version from the WSMC website in the Misc. Resources menu.

Please send the dues and form to Kathy Earnst

27871 Minkler Road
Sedro Woolley, WA 98284

The June field trip with the Spokane club has been canceled, Ed is working on finding another trip to replace it.

We are looking for volunteers for the WSMC Board, if you would like to serve on the board please let us know.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45

Submitted by:
Diana Horsfall, Secretary

The following is an article Bob Pattie wrote discussing what constitutes "Public" land in Washington state.

Public Lands

The January 2017 issue of the Northwest Newsletter Vol. 57 No. 1, had an article written by John Martin titled "Rockhound Soapbox- Rockhounding on Public Lands", which I thought was very good and timely as we get ready for a summer of collecting. I believe that for the State of Washington collectors I would like to provide some additional information help understand governmental terminology. The Code of Federal Regulations Part 8365 of Title 43 CFR, and Part 8360.5 under definitions states that "(d) Public lands means any lands and interests in lands owned by the United States and administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the Bureau of Land Management without regard to how the United States acquired ownership." Other definitions have expanded that public lands include lands managed by Bureau of Land Management, also the following are normally included; United States National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service under the Department of Interior, and United States Forest Service under the Department of Agriculture. In the State of Washington, we also have the United States Department of Defense owning some land.

Continuing the "public lands" definition we need to consider how the state land fits into this definition. All states have some lands under state management, such as; state parks, state wildlife management areas, and state forest. Each western state received "public lands" as trust lands designated for specific beneficiaries. These trust lands cannot any longer be considered public lands as allowing any benefits to the "public" would be in breach of loyalty to the specific beneficiaries. The trust lands are to provide revenue for public schools and official state construction of building. This definition is from Wikipedia under Public Lands and it is consistent with other listing of definitions. In Washington State, the State management of their lands is very different from the federal government, which means very little collecting on State lands in Washington. Our neighboring states treat rockhounding different, so a person should check with each state as to their requirements and restrictions.

The following data is primarily from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, the different agencies and various state office websites, and it has provided listings of areas and acreages.

This is included to review the relationship between federal lands and state land, also a relationship between states.

The total acreages for the state of Washington is; 42,693,760 and the federal acreages is 12,176,293 or 28.5%. That 12,176,293 is a sum of the following major federal agencies; BLM (Bureau of Land Management)- 429,083 acres, Forest Service – 9,323,705 acres, Fish and Wildlife – 150,024 acres, National Parks Service – 1,834,543 acres and Department of Defense – 438,938 acres.

Washington's total land area is 42.5 million acres. Half of this is forested. Nearly 36% of the forestland is privately owned, and 64% is managed by the government.

Washington's total land of 42.6 million acres, the Forest Service has 9.3 million acres or 22% of the land and BLM has less than 1%. Other states are listed below. Of the Forest Service land about half of the forest service land has been designated as Wilderness (Washington has 30 wilderness areas in our 6 National Forest plus 3 other National Forest's we share with Idaho or Oregon).

The relationship of acreage and federal lands with our neighboring states are list here: Idaho- total land—53.5 million acres, Forest Service 20.5 million or 38%, BLM 11.9 million or 22%; Oregon – total land 68.0 million acres, Forest Service 15.7 million or 23%, BLM 15.7 million or 23%; and Montana – 94.1 million acres, Forest Service 17 million or 18%, BLM 8.0 million or 8.5%

Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) manages over 3,000,000 acres of land and 2,600,000 acres and aquatic (shorelines, tidelands, land under Puget Sound, and area lakes) areas.

Washington may have some restrictions for collecting, but we still have many sites that are available for collecting. Many of these sites are on Forest Service land, other sites are on private lands and/or other governmental managed lands. It is important to know the land ownership of our collecting sites and support their requirement so that we can continue pursue our hobby of non-commercial rockhounding.

Good hunting for that special specimen for your collection.

Bob Pattie
Cascade Mineralogical Society
Washington State Mineral Council

WHAT THE SHAPE OF A CRYSTAL TELLS! by Audrey Vogelpohl

Crystals come in amazing shapes based upon their chemical structure. The shape of a crystal is one of the ways in helping identify a mineral. There are six basic crystal forms.

CUBE - shaped like a square cube. Ex: pyrite and galena

TETRAGONAL - shaped like a stretched out cubic crystal Ex: zircon and rutile

MONOCLIMIC - shaped like tetragonal but tilted in one angle Ex: gypsum and muscovite

TRICLINIC - looks like monoclinic crystals that have been stepped on Ex: axinite and turquoise

HEXAGONAL - looks like a six sided prism which viewed from the top looks like a hexagon Ex: quartz and calcite

ORTHORHOMBIC - the crystal looks like two pyramids stuck together, but at a bit of an angle Ex: barytes and natrolite

Via West Seattle Petroglyphs, 02/17

Gem Show Fakery

by Jack Curtin

I recently attended a gem show, and was somewhat appalled at the number of blatantly fake minerals for sale there.

Dyed stones, heat-treated minerals, reconstituted amber and turquoise being sold as the real thing - and in some cases, cheap minerals being sold as more expensive look-alikes.

Dying or altering of minerals is not necessarily wrong - up until the moment the dealer tries to scam the customer into believing that it's a natural stone, not a man-made object.

In most cases, when I asked, the dealers assured me that these fakes were, of course, completely natural and unaltered. Some of them may have thought they were telling the truth, I don't know. But as a mineral collector, it is becoming more and more important to know exactly what you are buying, and how to identify the scams.

I thought I'd give a brief overview of some of the most common fakes I saw.

True citrine is almost never orange-tinted. It is lemon-yellow, or even a bit greenish. And I have never seen it in geode form. If it's in a geode or crystal vug, it's probably amethyst. Real citrine crystals tend to be longer and slenderer than fake ones, which are usually short and stubby. And fake citrine is usually very colored at the tip, fading to white at the base.

Another clue is price. True citrine is a valuable and rare gemstone, and it's very unlikely you're going to find it tossed around in the bargain bin at a rock show.

Tiger's eye is usually brown/gold in color. Sometimes you will find reddish pieces [in Tiger Iron, for example] but if it's natural, it'll likely only be a small reddish streak or patch in an otherwise normal-colored piece. Fully red specimens have been heat treated to create the color.

There's a variety of blue-gray tiger's eye, called hawk's eye, but it is rarer than the gold color. Beware when buying blue, because it is often dyed rather than natural. If it's a particularly bright blue rather than gray-blue, it's probably fake.

Bright green tiger's eye is dyed. Don't ever believe green tiger's eye.

Most of the agate jewelry and slabs you will see have been dyed - brilliant greens, yellows, blues or pinks. True agate is generally more muted in color. If the quartz crystals in the center of an agate slab are colored, it's probably dyed. And dyed agate bands usually appear more blurred than the naturally-colored pieces. If there's a whole bunch of complete different colors all being sold in the same case, they're probably all fakes.

Aurora Borealis Coating: This is a synthetic coating, the same stuff that gives rhinestones their glitter. It's used to make mineral specimens more sparkly and colorful. When asked, the dealer selling A.B.-coated aquamarines insisted that they were "totally untreated!". It was only when confronted with the little note of "AB" on the label, that she finally fessed up.

Turquoise is another popular fake. Much of what you'll see sold as turquoise is plastic, howlite coated in blue dye, or lumps of plaster. Sometimes it'll be real turquoise dust from scrap material, glued together into a lump.

Always ask where the turquoise came from, and if the dealer can't give a convincing answer, don't buy it. It should not be patchy white, although it may often have black lines running through it. It should also be opaque, not translucent.

"Peacock ore" is another name for the mineral Bornite, but most of what you'll see at rock shows is actually chalcopyrite which has been chemically treated to bring out the rainbow-colored effect.

Fake amber is, fortunately, not too hard to identify once you know what to look for. Commonly what you'll see is reconstituted amber, where scraps have been melted down and re-formed. This treatment is made obvious by circular, dish-shaped fractures within the material. Real amber rarely has any interior fractures, and certainly is not filled with them.

The other common scam is fake insects within the amber - if you see a piece that has a single, perfectly laid out dragonfly in dead center, assume it's fake - unless it's in a museum somewhere.

Remember, the bugs in amber were stuck in tree sap, and you can see that they were trying to escape - they'll have broken wings, be twisted at odd angles, and generally LOOK like bugs trying to get out of tree sap. Also, there's usually a bunch of debris in any piece of amber. If there's one large bug and no smaller ones, bits of leaves, broken off wings, or dirt, be suspicious.

Interesting, huh? I'm going to check on some of my minerals" to see if they are indeed the real thing.

Via CMS Tumbler, 02/17, from Gem & Mineral Journal, 1/16

2017 WSMC SPONSORED FIELD TRIPS (Draft)

The WA St. Mineral Council plans guided fieldtrips to collecting sites. Open to member clubs, and the general public. Most trips are free. Included are the Pow Wow trips (must join to go on trips). Host clubs and contact persons will be set up as I gather info. For updated info, go to mineralcouncil.wordpress.com or contact Ed Lehman at wsmced@hotmail.com or h ph# (425) 334-6282 Cell# (425) 760-2786. Pow Wow Dues are \$7.50 each or &15 a family. They supply 3 free breakfast's on trips (what a deal).

DATE	HOST	SITE	MEETING PLACE & TIME	MATERIAL	TOOLS
1/28/17	MSVL	Beaver Valley Quarry	Beaver Valley. Info Booth 9:30am	Chert, Zeolites & Calcite	Hard rock tools
2/18/17	DARR	Walker Valley	Big Lake Store 9:00am	Geodes & Agates	Hard rock tools
3/11/17	MSVL	Cedar Ponds	Jack n Box E. end of Monroe 9:00	Jasper	Dig & Hard Rock
4/15/17	DARR	Racehorse Creek	IGA @ Nugent's Corner 9:00am	Fossils & Morell mushrooms	Dig & Hard Rock
4/22-23	POW	Saddle Mt Mattawa W	Mattawa Lepricon Market 9:00am	Petrified Wood	Dig & Hard Rock
5/13/17	ELB	Saddle Mt Mattawa W	Mattawa Lepricon Market 9:00am	Petrified Wood maybe Opal	Dig & Hard Rock
6/15-18/	Prineville, Ore.	Pow Wow Collecting at Richardson's and McDonalds Ranches ? Meet @ Fairground			
6/22-25/	POW	Madras Ore Jefferson Co. Fair Ground	Trips @ 8:00am		
7/15/17	DARR	Sweetwater	Darrington Rock Show 11:00 @ Show	Travertine	Dig & Hard Rock
8/5/17	MSVL	Lk. Wenatchee	Old Lk Wen Ranger Station 9:00am	Garnets, Talc & Actinolite	Dig & 1/4" screen
8/26-27	CASC	Greenwater	Enumclaw Ranger St. 9:00am	Agate, Jasper, Opal & Wood	Dig & lite hard rock tools
9/9-10/17	POW	Red Top—Teanaway	Teanaway @ mid.fk Camp 8:00am	Geodes, Agate, Jasper & Jade	Dig & Hard Rock tools
9/16-17/	CASC	Little Naches	Enumclaw Ranger Station 9:00am	T-Eggs, WA Lily pad & Fossil	Dig & lite hard rock tools
10/21/17	MSVL	Money Ck Skykomish	Money Ck Campground 9:00	Picture Jasper maybe Ore	Dig tools
11/18/17	MSVL	Blanchard Hill	I-5 Exit 240 Gas Mart 9:00am	WA Dalmatian stone & Chert	Hard rock tools

ALWAYS contact host for updated info a week before trip !!!

HOST CLUB

CONTACT INFO

MSVL = Marysville Rock Club Ed Lehman wsmced@hotmail.com h# (425) 334-6282 c# (425) 760-2786

DARR = Darrington Rock Club " " " " " " :

SPOK = Spokane Rock Rollers Mike Shaw mikeshawmoose@yahoo.com (509) 251-1574 or (509) 244-8542

CASC = Cascade Rock Club Tony Johnson (253) 863-9238

POW = All Rockhounds Pow Wow Larry Vess vessel3755@gmail.com or (253)473-3908

ELB = Ellensburg Rock Club Steve Tomns Ph # (509) 607-1446

Keep updated on <http://www.mineralcouncil.wordpress.com> Land management changes, and roads close regularly. There is a area on web page with tool category in pictures and names of tools.

Always have proper cloths and gear for conditions. Be prepared with safety, first aid, food and drink.

A week before trips I (Ed Lehman) will have a pdf file with map and info for that trip I can send you on request. I will do the same for trip host.

Try to be at the meeting site 30 minutes before trip time for details and instructions with a full tank of gas.

There will be a display of rough and finished material for that trip. Some of the meeting sites are at eating places, join us for breakfast. WSMC Wagonmasters map booklets will be for sale there, & at many rock shows. Use code of ethics, keep our lands open to rockhounding.

If necessary, remind our public guardians they are our employees, and it's our lands. Ed

Local Area Shows for 2017

March 2017 4th 10am - 6pm 5th 10am - 5pm	Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society	63rd Annual Rock and Gem Show	O'Conner Field House 2200 Blaine Caldwell, ID
March 2017 4th 10am - 6pm 5th 10am - 5pm	East KingCo Club	Annual Rock and Gem Show	Pickering Barn 1730 10th Ave NW Issaquah, WA
March 2017 10th 9am - 5pm 11th 9am - 5pm 12th 10am - 5pm	Tualatin Valley Gem Club	59th Annual Show Admission \$1.00 children 12 & under free with adult	Washington County FairPlex 873 NE 34th Ave. Hillsboro, OR.
March 2017 11th 10am - 5pm 12th 10am - 4pm	Magic Valley Gem Club	66th Annual Show	Twin Falls County Fairgrounds 215 Fair Ave. east of Filer on US Hwy. 30
March 2017 11th 10am - 6pm 12th 10am - 4pm	Northwest Montana Rock Chucks	10th Annual Rock and Mineral Show \$1, kids free	Flathead County Fairgrounds Grandstand Bldg. 265 N. Meridian Rd Kalispell, MT
March 2017 17th 8:30am—6pm 18th 9am—5pm	Panorama Gem and Mineral Club	Annual Show	Colville Fairground Colville Ag and Trade Center 317 West Astor, Colville WA
March 2017 18th 10am - 5pm 19th 10am - 5pm	North Seattle Lapidary & Mineral Club	63rd Annual Rock and Gem Show	Lake City Community Center 12531 28th Ave. NE, Seattle
March 2017 18th 9am - 6pm 19th 10am - 5pm	Hellgate Mineral Society	Gems Stones of Montana 23rd Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show \$2, under 14 free w/adult	Hilton Garden Inn 2730 North Reserve St. Missoula MT
March 2017 24th 10am – 6pm 25th 10am – 6pm 26th 10am – 4pm	Rock Rollers Club of Spokane	58th Annual Gem, Jewelry and Mineral Show	Spokane County Fair & Expo Center N.604 Havana Spokane WA
March 2017 25th 10am - 6pm 26th 10am - 5pm	Mt. Baker Rock & Gem Club	55th Annual Rock and Gem Show	Bloedel-Donovan Park 2214 Electric Ave. Bellingham WA
April 2017 1st 10am - 6pm 2nd 10am - 5pm	Sweet Home Rock & Mineral Society	69th Annual Rock & Mineral Show	Sweet Home HS Activity Gym 1641 Long St. Sweet Home, OR
April 2017 7th 9am—6pm 8th 10am—6pm 9th 10am—4pm	Golden Spike Gem and Mineral Society	66 th Gemstone Junction	Golden Spike Event Center Weber County Fairgrounds 1000 N 1200 W Ogden, UT
April 2017 8th 10am - 6pm 9th 10am - 5pm	SE Idaho Gems & Mineral Society (SEIGMS)	Annual Rock and Gem Show \$2, 12 & under free/adult	Bannock County Fairgrounds 10588 Fairground Dr. Pocatello ID 83201
April 2017 8th 9am - 5pm 9th 10am - 5pm	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	April Sale	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse 8802 196th ST SW Edmonds WA
April 2017 14th 9am - 5pm 15th 9am - 5pm 16th 10am - 4pm	Willamette Agate & Mineral Society	62nd Annual Rock and Gem show	Polk County Fairgrounds 520 S. Pacific Hwy Rickreall, OR
April 2017 22nd 10am - 6pm 23rd 10am - 4pm	Yakima Rock & Mineral Club	Rockin Your World	Central Washington State Fair Ground Modern Living Building 1301 South Fair Avenue Yakima ,WA 98901

Combined Board Meeting
March 18, 2017
9:30 AM

Palace Café
4th & Main
Ellensburg

COUNCIL REPORTER, Monthly publication of The
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