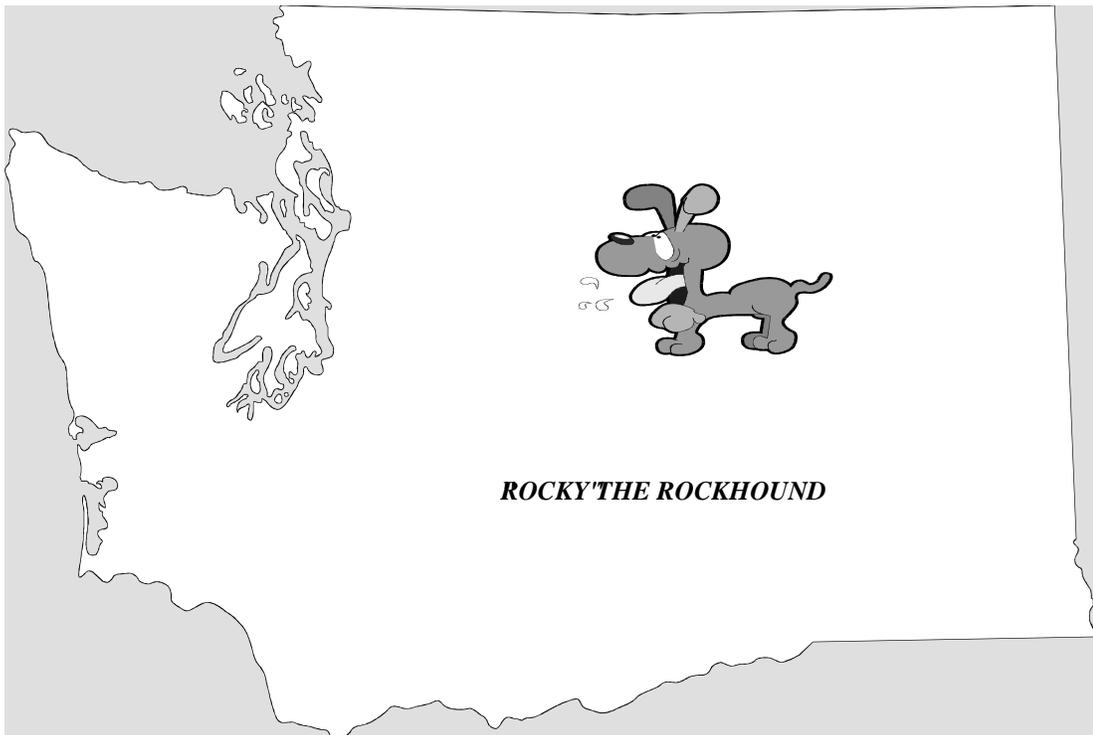

◆ **The Council Reporter** ◆

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

**WASHINGTON STATE MINERAL COUNCIL
2014 OFFICERS**

OFFICERS

President	Aaron Wigant	aaronwigant@rocketmail.com	(509) 263-3401
VP	Vest Bettinger	vestab.rocks@gmail.com	
2nd VP	Christopher Bechard		
Secretary	Millie Lyons	gordlyo82@gmail.com	
Treasurer	Kathy Earnst	earnstkk@comcast.net	(360)856-0588
Imm Past Pres:	Lisa Bishop Waters	lisa9905@msn.com	(206) 854-7174

TRUSTEES --- EAST SIDE

Steve Townsend	srtrocks@aol.com	(13-14-15)	(509)-933-2236
Dale Geer	P.O. Box 34, Moxie, WA 98936	(15-16-17)	(509) 248-6975
Dave Mastin	davemastin@yahoo.com	(13-14-15)	
Jim Landon		(14-15-16)	

TRUSTEES --- WEST SIDE

Gordon Lyons	gordlyo82@gmail.com	(13-14-15)	
Tony Schackmann	werockon@inlandnet.com	(13-14-15)	(360)372-2777
Stu Earnst	27871 Minkler Road Sedro Woolley, WA 98284	(15-16-17)	(360) 856-0588
Bob Pattie	4316 N. E. 10th, Renton, WA 98059	(15-16-17)	(425) 226-3154
Glenn Morita	gmorita@seanet.com	(14-15-16)	(425) 743-6249
Ed Lehman	wsmced@hotmail.com	(14-15-16)	(425) 334-6282

STAFF

Editor	Glenn Morita	4528 152nd Pl SW, Lynnwood, WA 98087	(425) 743-6249
Historian	Jackie Pattie	4316 N. E. 10th, Renton, WA 98059	(425) 226-3154
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.

MAILING ADDRESS

Washington State Mineral Council
27871 Minkler Road
Sedro Woolley, WA 98284

WEB PAGE ADDRESS

<https://mineralcouncil.wordpress.com>

Editor's e-mail address
gmorita@seanet.com

Combined Board Meeting Minutes 03/21/15

The meeting was called to order by VP Perry Gulsvig at 9:35am. There were 19 people in attendance, representing 8 different clubs.

Millie Lyons gave the treasurer's report as Kathy could not attend the meeting.

Diane Myers announced that she would not be able to continue as Secretary.

Field trips:

Ed Lehman reported on the recent field trips.

Those wishing to go to the Clarkia, Idaho trip need to contact the Hell's Canyon Club. The club requires participants to join for insurance purposes. The membership fee is \$15. The trip dates are 07/10-13. Camping is available. There are PDFs of maps to sites, conditions, tools needed at the club website. Contact Dan Cease (509)-254-1720 or rockmangem@q.com for more information.

Old business:

Bob Pattie reported that none of the bills regarding rock hounding or land usage have made it out of committee. Keep sending in comments to the legislators to try to get the bills passed. Bob and Stu are planning to go to Olympia following this session of the legislature. They are going to explain to the legislators that we are looking to keep our access to public lands open for rock hounding for casual collecting and educational purposes.

The Snoqualmie Recreation Area is finally through the legislative committees. Bob's letter is part of the report.

The BLM is working on the San Juan National Monument, a 10,000 acre BLM preserve.

Ed Lehman discussed the on going situation at Walker Valley.

New business:

Dale Geer discussed the mammoth discovery in Wenas and the efforts to preserve the mammoths and educate the public about the discovery.

Bob said his club has a lot of rock and equipment that was acquired from an estate. Contact Bob at 425-226-3154

May 9, 2015 Combined Board Meeting AGENDA

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

Meeting Calendar for 2015

West side board meetings:
1/20, 2/17, 6/16, 08/18 (new meeting), 10/20

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

General meetings :
3/21, 5/09, 9/19, 10/31

All general meetings will be held at:

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

Elections:

Election of officer was held. The following were elected to serve in 2015:

President—Aaron Wigant
1st VP—Vesta Bettinger
2nd VP—Christopher Bechard
Secretary—Millie Lyons
Treasurer—Kathy Earnst

West side trustees—Gordon Lyons, Tony Schackmann, Stu Earnst, Bob Pattie, Glenn Morita, Ed Lehman

East side trustees—Steve Townsend, Dale Geer, Dave Mastin, Jim Landon

Meeting adjourned,
Respectfully submitted, Diane Myers, Secretary

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Trilobite Trouble

by Bob Farra

Could it be? Morocco is running out of trilobites? Say it ain't so! But, yes, as hard as it may seem to believe, the great flood of trilobites coming out of Morocco is finally starting to dry up. Most MGS members know that I have been traveling to Morocco for a number of years to visit some of their many famous mineral and fossil localities. I was there again last October, and learned from the people involved with the trade in trilobites that all is no longer rosy.

Anyone who is familiar with fossils will know that Morocco has been a source of an amazing variety of trilobites for many years. There are many localities in Morocco where trilobites are found, but the greatest variety and most bizarre forms come from the Devonian formations near Alnif, in the southeastern part of the country. The diversity of trilobites found there is amazing, and includes such genera as Reedops, Dicranurus, Ceratarges, Harpes, Paralejurus, and many others. Most of these trilobites come from a locality near Alnif known as Issoumour Mountain, or Jbel Issoumour (also spelled Jissoumour). Within Issoumour Mountain, most of the interesting trilobites are found in one layer of limestone near the top of the mountain. Collecting is very simple. Chunks of limestone are pried out and cracked open with a hammer. The digger then looks for a squiggly black line. That line represents the cross section of a trilobite. The rock usually breaks through the trilobites rather than around them as it does at some other localities.

The two halves of the rock are then taken to one of many preparers shops in Alnif, Rissani, or Erfoud. There, the two pieces are glued back together and the specimen is prepped out. The better preparers use small pneumatic hammers and microsand blasters to prep their pieces, while others use hammers and small chisels or nails.

Issoumour Mountain is not a small hill. It is a ridge that runs for many miles through the desert. There would seem to be enough rock there to supply trilobites practically forever. So why are they running out? Part of the answer has to do with how the material is mined. All of the work is done with simple hand tools. There are no extensive underground mines. As the diggers dig back into the trilobite layer, they can only go so far before there is a danger of cave-ins. At that point, they have to move to another spot. The problem is that most of the accessible spots have been dug to the point where it would be dangerous to dig any further. Diggers must now often go many miles to find an accessible spot.

Another part of the problem is economics. The fossil business in Morocco is hurting. Much of their trade has long been with Europe, and, as most people are aware, the economy in Europe is in pretty bad shape. There is less economic incentive to walk the long distances to accessible fossil digging spots. Many of the diggers have left the business and gone to work mining industrial minerals such as barite. They don't exactly get rich mining industrial minerals. Industrial barite, for example, sells for about 22 cents per pound, of which the mine owner gets a cut. But, they can apparently still make more this way than they can digging

fossils.

So are there really no more Moroccan trilobites? Not quite; there are still some specimens coming out. Many of the preppers have old stocks of unprepped material that they are still working on. Many dealers also still have extensive stocks. And, some digging is still going on. But, when I was there last October I did not see the vast numbers of trilobites that I had seen on previous trips. (I did, however, see lots of other fossils, such as dinosaur and shark teeth.) Of course, there are still a lot of fake trilobites around, as there have long been. This will always be a problem it seems.

Thus, if you happen to own authentic Moroccan trilobites, consider yourself lucky. If you think trilobites offered for sale by reputable dealers are on the expensive side, now you know one reason why. Maybe now that they might not be so abundant as to leave us all a little jaded, we can come to appreciate Moroccan trilobites for the beautiful and bizarre creatures that they really are.

via CMS Tumbler, 03/15, from RFMS Newsletter, 4/13; from The Rostrum, 3/13

ACCESS FOR MINERAL COLLECTING IN WASHINGTON STATE

A number of rules apply to the hobby of rockhounding. Federal lands have a variety of regulations depending on the management agency. Most State lands also have restrictions on collecting mineral specimens. In addition to rules about collecting, there are also those that apply to merely accessing the land. The following information is from the state's web site at <http://www.discoverpass.wa.gov>

The Discover Pass, created by the Washington State Legislature and the Governor in 2011, offers access to millions of acres of state recreation lands in Washington. They include state parks, campgrounds, picnic areas, water access points, trails, and wildlife areas. Note: Federal recreational lands passes and the Northwest Forest Pass are not valid for access to state recreation lands.

Two types of Discover Pass are available: The annual pass — \$30. Good for one year from the date of purchase, and the day-use pass — \$10. Good for the date marked on the pass.

The annual Discover Pass is transferable between two vehicles by writing both plate numbers on the pass. It can only be used on one vehicle at a time, and must be visible in the front windshield of a motor vehicle licensed for street use. There are also specific instructions for motorcycles. The penalty for not having a Discover Pass is \$99. If you just want to drive through state recreation lands managed by Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and you do not leave your vehicle, you do not need a pass.

You do not need the pass to access state recreation lands by boat or by non-motorized means (foot, horse, bicycle, etc.). Motor vehicles used to transport recreation equipment, such as

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vehicles pulling horse or boat trailers, must display the pass. However, the trailers being towed that are carrying the equipment do not need a Discover Pass. Boaters will still need to pay for such services as moorage and waste-pumping.

There are a few other exemptions and exceptions. You may not need the Discover Pass if you are camping or staying in a Washington state park cabin, house or other facility. Your reservation stub or fee receipt serves as your permit for the duration of your stay, but if you visit other state parks in the area you will need an annual or one-day pass.

If you have a Vehicle Access Pass issued with a hunting/fishing license you have motor vehicle access to lands managed by WDFW. (You will still need a Discover Pass to access lands managed by DNR and State Parks.) If you have a State Parks pass (for disabled veterans, people with disabilities, and qualified limited-income senior citizens) you will still need a Discover Pass to access lands managed by WDFW or DNR. If you have a Washington state disability permit and placard or license plate, you are exempt from needing the Discover Pass on State Parks lands. However, you will need the Discover Pass to access lands managed by WDFW and DNR. If you have an annual Natural Investment Permit to launch your boat from a State Parks boat launch, you will not need a Discover Pass in a state park. You will need the Discover Pass for boat launches managed by DNR and WDFW, and you will need the Discover Pass if you are launching in a state park using a daily launch permit. You don't need the pass for an off-road vehicle (ORV) with the required ORV tabs, or to drive or park on ocean beaches - unless it's in a state parks developed parking area. Other ways to skip the pass include volunteering for an approved project or visiting a state park on a free day such as Washington State Parks Birthday (March), Earth Day (April), National Trails Day and WDFW Free Fishing Weekend (June), or National Get Outdoors Day (June) A Discover Pass is still required on these days to access lands managed by DNR and WDFW.

If you're planning to be anywhere near state land during your field trip, it is wise to know exactly where you are going, the managing agency of any public land, and what permits you need. Some folks prefer to just purchase the Discover Pass rather than try to remember all the rules.

Via Petrified Digest, 03/15

In honor of St Paddy's Day I give you the following:

Paddy goes to the vet with his goldfish. "I think it's got epilepsy" he tells the vet.
 Vet takes a look and says "It seems calm enough to me".
 Paddy says, "I haven't taken it out of the bowl yet".

An old Irish farmer's dog goes missing and he's inconsolable. His wife says "Why don't you put an advert in the paper?"
 He does, but two weeks later the dog is still missing.
 "What did you put in the paper?" his wife asks.
 "Here boy!" he replies.

An answer I can understand.....
 An American tourist asks an Irishman: "Why do Scuba divers always fall backwards off their boats?"
 To which the Irishman replies:
 "If they fell forwards, they'd still be in the bloody boat."

Slaney phoned the maternity ward at the hospital.
 'Quick!' he said.
 Send an ambulance, my wife is goin' to have a baby!
 'Tell me, is this her first baby?' the intern asked.
 'No, this is her husband, Kevin, speakin'.

What more can you say??

Via Stone Age News, 04/15

The Washington State Mineral Council web site has MOVED.

Please update your web browsers to the new URL
<https://mineralcouncil.wordpress.com/>

The move allows the website to use Wordpress without having to upgrade our web hosting account.

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

Dues are due

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

Kathy Earnst will be in town all spring so send in dues as soon as possible.

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.

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.

WSMC FIELDTRIPS 2015 (Will be updated—see mineralcouncil.org)

The Washington State Mineral Council plans guided fieldtrips to collecting sites. Open to member clubs, and the general public. Most trips are free. Included will be Pow Wow trips (must join to go on trips). Host clubs and contact persons will be set up as I gather info. For now, go to mineralcouncil.org for updates, or contact Ed Lehman @ wsmced@hotmail.com , or home (425) 334-6282 cell (425) 760-2786.

Date	Host	Site	Meeting place and time	Material	Tools
01/10	Msvl	Beaver Valley	10:30 @ info Center BeaverValley Rd	Chert & Zeolites	Hard rock tools
01/31	Msvl	Walker Valley	9 @ Big Lake Store	Geodes, Agate nodules	Hard rock tools
02/21	Msvl	Cedar Ponds	9:00 @ 2nd Monroe Jack n Box	Jasper	Dig & Lt hard rock tools
03/07	Msvl	Cherry Creek	9:00 @ Duvall Safeway	Jasper	Dig, Lt hard rock, wading
04/18-19	POW	Saddle Mt Mattawa, WA	8:00 @ Mattawa boat launch	Petrified wood	Dues required \$7.50/each \$15/family
004/25	Msvl	Racehorse Creek	9:00 @ IGA @ Nugents Corner	Fossils	Dig & Lt hard rock tools
05/23	Elb	Saddle Mt	9:00 @ Mattawa Leprechaun Market	Petrified wood	Dig, Lt hard rock
06/15	Spk	Emerald Creek	9:00 @ Emerald Creek Star Garnet Area, Idaho	Star garnet	Tweezers
06/21-24	Spk	McDermitt, NV	Call	Picture jasper, petrified wood, agate, thunder eggs	Lt hard rock
06/25-28	POW	Madras, OR	8:00 @ Fairgrounds see dues above	Petrified wood, agate, jasper, T-Eggs -\$1 #	
07/10-13	HC	Clarkia, Idaho	One day travel each way from Western Washington	Large garnets, quartz crystals	Dig & Lt hard rock tools
07/18	Dar	Darrington	11am @ show, Darrington Grange	Travertine	Lt hard rock tools
08/15-16	NWOS	Greenwater	9:00 @ Enumclaw Ranger Station	Agate, Jasper	Dig, Lt hard rock
09/12-13	POW	Red Top	8:00 @ camp (W fork M fork jct) Dues, see above	Agate, geodes, jade, jasper	
09/26	NWOS	Little Naches	9:00 @ Enumclaw Ranger Station	Thunder-Eggs	Dig, Lt hard rock
10/17	Msvl	Money Creek	9:00 @ Money Creek Camp	Ore, picture Jasper	Lt hard rock, light
11/14	MtBkr	Blanchard Mt	9:00 @ I-5 240 exit gas Station	Stilpnomelane & Chert	Hard rock tool

Host	Club	Contact info
Dar	Darrington Rock Club	Ed Lehman—wsmced@hotmail.com (425) 334-6282 or (425) 760-2786
Msvl	Marysville R & G Club	Ed Lehman— wsmced@hotmail.com (425) 334-6282 or (425) 760-2786
POW	All Rockhounds Pow Wow Club of America	Larry Vess –vessel3@comcast.net (253) 473-3908
Elb	Ellensburg Rock Club	Steve Townsend—srtrocks@aol.com (509) 933-2236
Spk	Spokane Rock Rollers	Mike Shaw— mikeshawmoose@yahoo.com— (509) 244-8542
NWOS	Northwest Opal Society	Tony Johnson— (253) 863-9238
HC	Hells Canyon Gem Club	Dan Cease—rockmangem@q.com (509) 254-1720

This is just a project in works. Participants please respond with corrections and updates.

Thanks, Ed

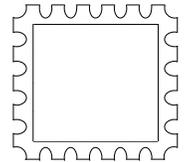
Local Area Shows for 2015

April 2015 11th 10am - 6pm 12th 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 2015 11th 10am - 6pm 12th 10am - 4pm	Yakima Rock & Mineral Club	Annual Parade of Gems Adults \$3.50, Students \$2.00, <12 free w/adult	Central Washington State Fair Ground Modern Living Building 1301 South Fair Avenue Yakima ,WA 98901
April 2015 17th 9am - 6pm 18th 10am - 6pm 19th 10am - 4:30pm	Willamette Agate & Mineral Society	Annual River of Gems Show	Polk County Fairgrounds 520 S. Pacific Hwy Rickreall, OR
April 2015 18th 10am - 5pm 19th 10am - 4pm	Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club	Annual Rock & Mineral Show	Benton Franklin County Fairgrounds 1500 S. Oak Kennewick, WA
April 201 18th 10am - 6pm 19th 10am - 5pm	Idaho Falls Gem & Mineral Society	51st Annual Show	Idaho Falls Recreation Center B Street Idaho Falls, ID
April 2015 24th 10am - 5pm 25th 10am - 5pm 26th 10am - 4pm	Mt. Hood Rock Club	58th Annual Rock and Gem Show	Kliever Memorial NG Armory On 10000 NE 33 rd Dr. Portland, OR (just west of the PDX airport in between NE Marine Dr. & NE Columbia Blvd.)
April 2015 25th 10am - 5pm 26th 10am - 5pm	West Seattle Rock Club	49th Annual Rock Show	Alki Masonic Temple 4736 40th Ave. SW. Seattle, WA
April 2015 25th 10am - 5pm 26th 10am - 4pm	Grays Harbor Geology and Gem Society	47th Annual Earth Treasures Rock Show	Grays Harbor Fair Grounds 43 Elma-McCleary Road Elma, WA
May 2015 2nd 10am—6pm 3rd 10am—6pm	Everett Rock and Gem Club	62nd Annual show	Everett Community College Student Fitness Center, 2206 Tower St Everett, WA
May 2015 2nd 9am—5pm 3rd 10am—4pm	Umpqua Gem & Mineral Club	45th Annual Show	Douglas County Fairgrounds I-5 Exit 123 Roseburg, OR
May 2015 2nd 10am—5pm 3rd 10am—4pm	Billings Gem and Mineral Show	Annual Show	Al Bedoo Shrine Auditorium 1125 Broadwater Avenue Billings MT
May 2015 9th 10am - 6pm 10th 10am - 4pm	Bozeman Gem & Mineral Club	Annual Rock Show \$3 adults, 12 & under free w/adult	Gallatin County Fair Grounds 901 N. Black, Bldg. #1 Bozeman, MT
May 2015 16th 10am - 6pm 17th 10am - 4pm	Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society	Treasures from the Universe	Ravalli County Fairground First Interstate Center 100 Old Corvallis Road Hamilton, MT
May 2015 16th 10am - 6pm 17th 10am - 5pm		9th Annual Mineral Mart	Lake City Community Center 12531 28th Ave NE Seattle, Washington
June 2015 5th 10pm—5pm 6th 10am—5pm 7th 10am—5pm	Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club	Annual show	Swiss Park 9205 198th Ave. E. Puyallup, WA

Combined Board Meeting
May 9, 2015
9:30 AM

Palace Café
4th & Main
Ellensburg

COUNCIL REPORTER, Monthly publication of The
Washington State Mineral Council



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27871 Minkler Road
Sedro Woolley, WA. 98284

