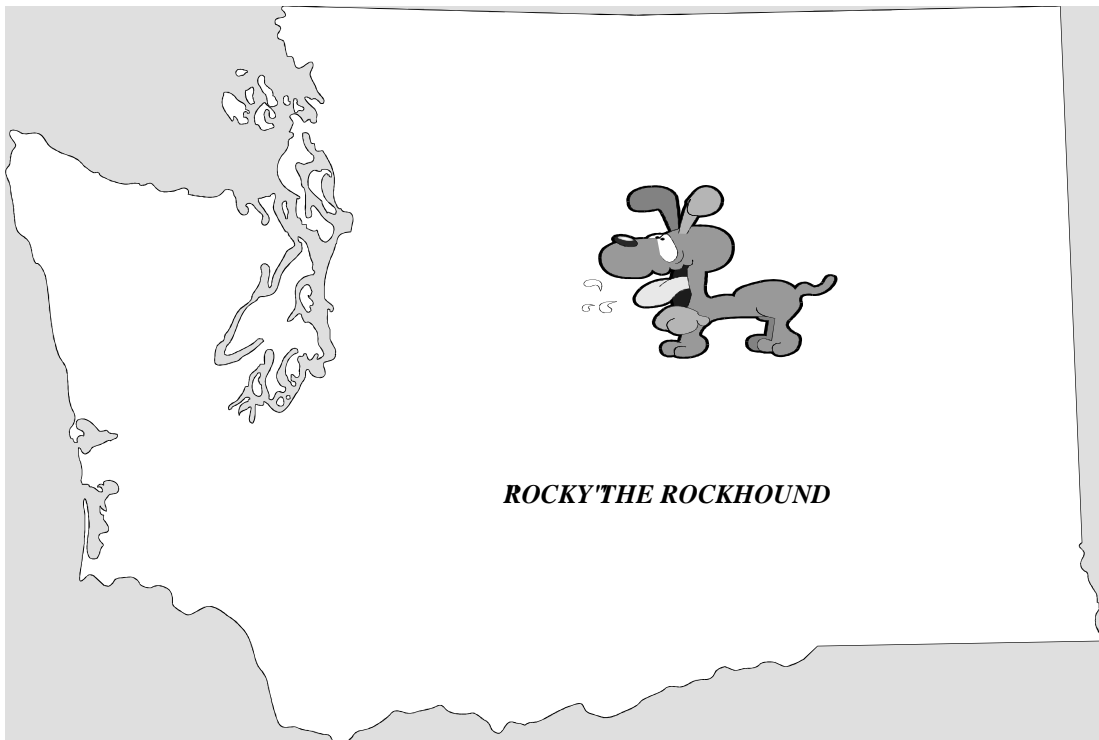

◆ **The Council Reporter** ◆

Volume 32, Issue 5

June 2012



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

**WASHINGTON STATE MINERAL COUNCIL
2012 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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Editor's e-mail address
gmorita@seanet.com

Westside Board Meeting Minutes 06/19/12

Brian opened the meeting at 7:38pm

Kathy gave the treasurer's report. Kathy also reported that the Mineral Council's insurance premium has been paid. The DNR has requested proof of insurance.

Wagonmaster:

Several trips are planned for the summer:

Pow-wow in Madras, OR at the end of June

Field trip for travertine leaving from the show in Darrington on 07/21

Garnets at Lake Wenatchee on 07/28

Quartz crystals at Timberwolf Mtn on 08/04

Smokey quartz crystals at Lolo Pass, MT on 08/11

Christina Morrissey reports that the road to Red Top is washed out. The ranger office in Cle Elum called her to say that the road was once again washed out only worse, and suggested someone take a ride out to check or to be sure to warn folks about the possibility of problems for those riding in low-clearance cars.

Bob Pattie has been attending the Snoqualmie corridor Recreation Plan meetings. He reported that he spent last Saturday traveling around the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie river area with one of the folks from the DNR. Bob also gave a presentation about our hobby to the folks that attend the meetings. The audience was mostly hikers, bikers, etc.

Follow the link below for more information on the plan and meetings.

http://www.dnr.wa.gov/recreationeducation/topics/recreationplanning/pages/amp_rec_snoqualmie_corridor_recre.aspx

We also discussed the need to describe the value and quantity of the material collected on a typical field trip to the DNR/Forest Service in terms that they understand. We also need to give them a reasonable estimate of the number of people participating each year. Maybe more importantly, how many field trips the average rockhound takes each year. There is the feeling in the DNR that collecting should be limited to a few areas rather than dispersed as is the situation today.

Meeting adjourned,

Submitted by Glenn Morita, Secretary Pro-Tem

September 22, 2012 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 2012

West side board meetings:

1/17, 2/21, 4/17, 6/19, 10/16

At 7:30PM at the

Maplewood Clubhouse

8802 196th St SW, Edmonds

General meetings :

3/31, 5/5, 9/22, 11/3

All general meetings will be held at:

Palace Café

4th & Main

Ellensburg

Meeting @ 9:30 AM

LIGHTNING FUSES SOIL INTO ROCK

By Dale Gnidovec,

Curator of the Orton Geological Museum

at Ohio State University

I love watching lightning, although it can be frightening when it hits the ground. If a lightning bolt strikes soil or sand, the intense heat creates glassy stringers called fulgurites, after fulgur, the Latin word for lightning. Fulgurites also form if lightning strikes solid rock, such as the tops of high mountains. The result is a glassy coating or crust called a rock fulgurite. Fulgurites form faster than any other rock on earth, in about one-thousandth of a second. I think of them as petrified lightning.

Most fulgurites are branched hollow tubes with thin walls. They are a few feet to a few tens of feet long and an inch or two wide. Their diameter generally decreases in depth and they may have occasional bulbous or knobby enlargements. The interiors are glassy, sometimes with a silvery luster, and look as though a glaze had been applied. Blister like bubbles may be present, some intact and some exploded, leaving small pits and

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(Continued from page 3)

craters. The inner cavity is usually round and elliptical, but it may have three, four or five corners. The exteriors are grainy, bumpy or even spiny and may have ridges paralleling the long dimension.

Color depends on the original material, but many are gray. Fulgurites may spiral, and if so, they always twist to the right. The quartz grains adhering to the exterior often have rims of cristobalite, a type of quartz. The change to cristobalite takes place at about 2,678 °F. Above 3,110 °F, cristobalite becomes liquid. Rapid cooling of that liquid creates the glassy material of the interior. Fulgurites are thought to form at temperatures of about 3,300 °F.

The glassy material has been given a mineral name, lechateliterite, after Henri LeChatelier (1850-1936), a French chemist. Most references disallow the name because, by definition, a mineral is supposed to be crystalline, which glass is not.

Fulgurites are fairly abundant in some areas, such as western Australia, the sand dunes of the Sahara Desert, and the eastern beaches of the United States. One area of the Kalahari Desert in southern Africa was estimated to contain 2,000 fulgurites.

Fulgurites have been known for a long time, but their origin was a bit of a mystery until 1790, when one was found near a tree that had been struck by lightning. It was discovered during excavation for the foundation for a tablet meant to warn people against taking refuge under a tree during a thunderstorm.

From Carny Hound 05/12, via Clackamette Gem 4/12; via Golden Spike, 8/10; BEMS Tumbler 8/10; Conglomerate, 2/09; via The Lithics, 1/09; et.al.



Fulgurite image courtesy of Wikipedia, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fulgurite>

Dinosaur Feathers in Amber?

Feathers believed to be from dinosaurs have been found beautifully preserved in Alberta amber. The primitive, hair-like feathers known as protofeathers likely belonged to theropod dinosaurs similar to tiny *Tyrannosaurus rexes* that roamed the swampy forests of Alberta 70 million years ago, said Alexander P. Wolfe, a University of Alberta earth sciences professor who co-authored the research published Thursday in *Science*.

"Protofeathers aren't known from any modern, existing groups of birds and therefore the most obvious interpretation is that

they belong to dinosaurs!" he said.

Theropods, which are thought to be closely related to modern birds, were already known to have feathers, based on features surrounding fossils found in China. But a lot of details were lost in the fossilization process.

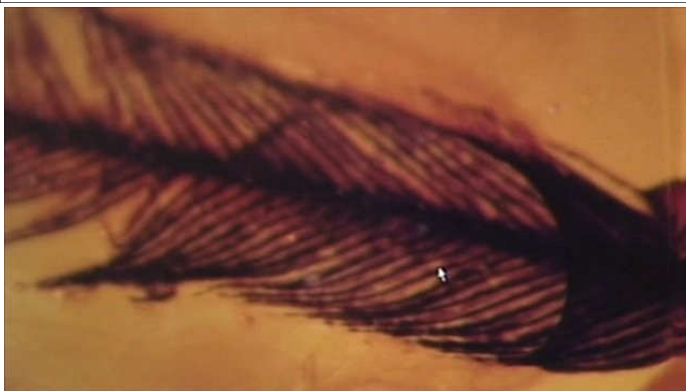
"The feathers get altered, they get substituted by minerals and you can't see any of the detail!" Wolfe said. The protofeathers may look very hair-like, but the researchers confirmed they were feathers by looking at them under a microscope. Hair, found on mammals, has microscopic scales. Feathers, found in birds and dinosaurs, have features called nodes and internodes instead.

"With amber, it's different. We actually have the actual object.... we actually have this protofeather for the first time in the flesh. The feathers are preserved down to the pigments that show what color they are and microscopic details of their structure. Based on the fact that the protofeathers were just single filaments or clumps of filaments, just two centimeters long, the researchers concluded these had nothing to do with flight", Wolfe said.

Instead, he believes they were used to keep the dinosaurs warm. The protofeathers were among a wide range of feathers found in Alberta amber specimens by Ryan McKellar, a researcher who recently completed his PhD under Wolfe's supervision. McKellar's research was initially interested in insects, but stumbled upon some very bird-like feathers in the process of sorting through amber from Royal Tyrell Museum and the University of Alberta's collection.

He decided to keep an eye out for other feathers. After sorting through around 4,000 chunks of amber, each less than two centimeters in diameter, he had collected a wide range, from the protofeathers to more complex feathers from the same time period that were most certainly from birds. Some were downy, "like the kind you have in your pillow," Wolfe said. Others look like modern flight feathers. Some also had special features found in diving birds such as grebes.

(Continued on page 6)



Dinosaur Feather in Canadian Amber

Local Area Shows for 2012

DATE & TIME	CLUB	SHOW	LOCATION
July 2012 12th 10am –6pm 13th 10am –6pm 14th 10am –6pm 15th 10am –6pm	Rock Rustlers	Annual show	Marina Park Columbia River Gorge Marina Dr. Cascade Locks, OR
July 2012 20th 10am—5pm 21st 10am—5pm 22nd 10am—4pm	Lower Umpqua Gem and Lapidary	Annual show	Reedsport Community Bldg. 451 Winchester Ave Reedsport, OR
July 2012 21st 10am—6pm 22nd 10am—5pm	Darrington Rock and Gem Club	Annual show	Grange Hall 1265 Railroad Ave. Darrington, WA
July 2012 21st 10am—6pm 22nd 10am—4pm	Northwest Rock Chucks	5th annual show	Northwest Montana Fairgrounds 265 N. Meridian Rd Kalispell, MT
August 2012 11th 9am—5pm 12th 10am—5pm	Maplewood Rock And Gem Club	6th Annual Rock and Mineral Sale	Maplewood clubhouse 8802 196th St SW Edmonds, WA
September 2012 8th 9am—6pm 9th 10am—5pm	Clallam County Gem And Mineral Association	Annual show	Vern Burton Community Center 308 E. 8th St. Port Angeles, WA
September 2012 8th 10am—6pm 9th 10am—4pm	Umpqua Gem Club	42nd annual show	Douglas County Fairgrounds 2110 Frear St. Roseburg, OR
September 2012 8th 10am—5pm 9th 10am—5pm	Marcus Whitman Gem And Mineral Society	Annual show	Walla Walla County Fairgrounds Community Center 9th St. and Orchard Walla Walla, WA
September 2012 15th 10am—6pm 16th 10am—4pm	Southern Washington Mineralogical Society	47th annual show	Castle Rock Fairgrounds A St. and Cowlitz River Castle Rock, WA
September 2012 22nd 9am—6pm 23rd 10am—5pm	Hellgate Mineral Society	18th annual show	Ruby's Reserve Street Inn 4825 N. Reserve St. Missoula, MT
October 2012 6th 9am—6pm 7th 9am—5pm	Clallam County Gem and Mineral Society	Annual show	Vern Burton Community Center 308 E. 8th St. Port Angeles, WA
October 2012 12th 10am—6pm 13th 10am - 6pm 14th 10am—5pm	Portland Regional Gem & Mineral Association	Annual show	Washington County Fairplex 873 NE 34th Ave Hillsboro, OR
October 2012 13th 10am - 5pm 14th 10am—5pm	Marysville Rock and Gem Club	38th annual show	Totem Middle School Cafeteria 7th St. and State Ave Marysville, WA
October 2012 27th 10am - 5pm 28th 10am—5pm	Bellevue Rock and Gem Show		Vasa Park 3560 West Lake Sammamish Blvd. SE Bellevue, Washington 98008
November 2012 9th 10am—5pm 10th 10am—5pm 11th 10am—4pm	South Sound Gem, Opal & Mineral Show The Northwest Opal Assoc and Cascade Mineralogical Society	8th annual show	Puyallup Fairgrounds Expo Hall Meridian St. S. and 9th Ave. SW Puyallup, WA

LIST OF WSMC FIELD TRIPS FOR 2012 - (May be altered during the year. Please check back often.)

The WSMC sponsors field trips through various rock clubs in the state. These trips offer the general public as well as the experienced 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 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).** No motorized vehicles allowed: Green Mountain (Kalama) and First Creek.

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

Updated: November 14, 2011

Date	Host	Site	Meet @	Material	Tools
1/28	Msvl	Bvr Valley Quarry	10:30 @	Pt Ludlow C of Comm	Chert, Zeolites, Geodes Hard rock tools
2/18	Msvl	Cedar Ponds	9:00 @	Monroe, WA Jack 'n Box	Red & Yellow Jasper Dig & light hard rock
3/11	Evt/LkSd	Sadl Mtn/Dtm Pts	9:00 @	Mattawa, WA-Harvest Foods	Pet. Wood & Diat. opal Light & dig tools
4/14	MtBk	Racehorse Crk	9:00 @	Nugent's Corner, E of Bellnham	Fossils; Morel mshrms Dig, light, & split tools
4/21-22	Pow-Wow	Saddle Mtn	8:00 @	Boat launch: S. Mattawa	Petr. Wood Light hard rock & dig tools
5/19-20	Msvl	Wasco, OR	8:00 @	Biggs Junction, OR; Shell Gas	China Hollow Pic Jasp(\$) Regstr. Opens 3/16/ - 5/1 \$25 Deposit
6/13-16	Tri-Fed	Idaho		Canceled	Contact Fed. Representative
6/23	Spkn	Emerald Creek, ID	8:00 @	Emerald Creek Parking Area	Star Garnets (\$ Fee dig) Old clothes, Ziploc bag/\$fee dig
6/27-7/1	Pow-Wow	Madras, OR	8:00 @	Jefferson Fair Grounds	Agate, jasper, wood, T-eggs(\$) Dig & light tools
7/21	Msvl/Dar	Darrington	10:00 @	Rock Show behind IGA Store	Travertine & Spelunking Hard rock dig, dress for water
7/28	WSea	Lake Wenatchee	9:00 @	Coles Corner Gas Sta.	Garnets, actinolite, talc Screen, wood saw, dig tools
8/4	Yak	Timberwolf Mtn	9:00 @	Ace Hardware, Naches, WA	Quartz Crystals Shovel, pick, rock hammer
8/11	Spkn	Lolo Pass, ID	8:00 @	Lolo Hot Springs Parking Lot	Smoky Quartz Crystals Shovel & pick (lots of digging)
8/18-19	NW Op	Greenwater	9:00 @	Enumclaw Ranger Station	Agate, Jasper Dig & light hard rock
9/8-9	Pow-Wow	Red Top	8:00 @	W Fork Teanaway Camp	Geodes, Agate, jade Dig & light hard rock
9/15	NW Op	Little Nachese	9:00 @	TBD (Kaner Flats?)	Thunder eggs, Rhyolite Dig & light hard rock
9/29-30	Msvl	Wasco, OR		Canceled	
10/6	Spkn	Chewelah Area	9:00 @	Chewelah Safeway	Magnesite, Var. Minerals Container, and rock hammer
10/27	Msvl	Happy Thought Crk	9:00 @	Hwy 2, Money Creek Campgrnd	Picture Jasper Rock Hammer & Container
11/10	MtBk	Blanchard Hill	9:00 @	I-5 exit 240, Gas Mart	Stilpnomelane in Quartz Hard rock tools

(* Deposit must be received no later than 30 days before trip date to reserve spot; deposit fully refundable.) Participants must be age 16 or older; no children or pets, please; maximum of 40 participants so get your reservations in early!)

ALWAYS CALL TO CONFIRM TRIP DATES AND DETAILS!!— SEE BELOW

Abbreviation	Host	Contact	E-mail
Evt	Everett Rock & Gem Club	Brad Johnson (206) 403-3073	cavemanrocks@yahoo.com
LkSd	Lakeside Gem & Min Club	Andy Johnson (509) 546-1950	cbagates@hotmail.com
Msvl	Marysville Rock Club	Ed Lehman (425) 334-6282	wsmced@hotmail.com
Msvl-Wasco trip		Stu & Kathy Earnst (360) 856-0588 27871 Minkler Rd, Sedro Woolley, WA 98284	earnstkk@comcast.net
MtBk	Mt Baker Rock Club	Kris Menger (360) 927-0994	kmenger@comcast.net
Nw Op	NW Opal Association Tony Johnson	(253) 863-9238	ynotbandit@earthlink.net
Pow-Wow	All Rockhounds Club	Cliff Matteson (253) 475-8433	cliff.conniematteson@gmail.com
Spkn	Rock Rollers of Spokane	Mike Shaw (509) 251-1574	mikeshawmoose@yahoo.com
WSea	West Seattle Rock & Gem Club	Brian Waters (206) 290-2312	bwaterss2011@gmail.com
Yak	Yakima Rock & Min Club	Jerry Wichstrom (509) 653-2787	jewtmew@aol.com

Trips are open to all. Most 2 day trips include Sat potluck, Sun free breakfast, tailgating, swap, and horse shoes. Small fee required for Pow Wow and Madras trips. FOR MORE INFORMATION contact Ed Lehman at wsmced@hotmail.com or (425) 334-6282. Or see mineralcouncil.org

(Continued from page 4)

Wolfe, an expert in amber chemistry, said such birds likely shared the same ecosystem as the dinosaurs: A steamy, 'very buggy' coastal forest similar to Florida's everglades, dominated by cypress and cedar-like trees. The remains of the forest were compressed into coal deposits in Alberta where the amber samples were found. Wolfe said now that the new research, including photographs, has been published, he hopes researchers in other parts of the world where feather dinosaur fossils have been found will start keeping an eye out for dinosaur feathers in amber. He also hopes to do a biochemical analysis on the proteins in the feathers.

from *Petrified Digest* 06/12 via *Quarry Quips* via *MOROCKS Newsletter* 6/2012

WDFW's land acquisition proposals available online

OLYMPIA – Current proposals by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to acquire land for fish and wildlife habitat and public recreation are now on view on the department's website.

Jennifer Quan, WDFW lands division manager, said the new webpage is designed to give the public an opportunity to learn about land-acquisition proposals before the department seeks funding sources in spring and summer.

Details of 21 proposed land acquisitions, identified by the department as priorities for future funding, are available at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/lands/acquisitions/>. Previous acquisitions and those already under way are not included on the website

From Andrew Johnson

DAMAGE REPORT

This damage report is to let you know that members of the clubs associated with the Washington State Mineral Council have observed behavior that could or has caused damage at the following described site. This information is provided as a public citizens concern with our environment and the proper use of our public and private lands.

Site Location: _____

Date: _____ Time: _____ Vehicle License Number: _____

Make and color of vehicle: _____

Number of persons involved: _____

Names of individuals (if known) _____

Describe what you observed: _____

Would you be willing to testify if necessary? Yes ___ No ___

Your name _____

Your phone number: _____

Below are contacts for public lands management agencies. If you're not sure of which one to contact ask your club officers or contact the Washington State Mineral Council

Colville National Forest: Colville National Forest 765 South Main Street Colville, WA 99114

Gifford Pinchot National Forest: 10600 N.E. 51st Circle Vancouver, WA 98682

Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest: 2930 Wetmore Ave., Suite 3A Everett, WA, 98201

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest: 215 Melody Lane Wenatchee, WA 98801

Olympic National Forest: 1835 Black Lk Blvd SW Olympia, WA 98512

Bureau of Land Management Oregon/Washington: 1103 N Fancher Road Spokane, WA 99212

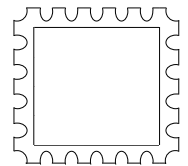
Washington State DNR: PO Box 47000 1111 Washington Street SE Olympia, WA 98504-7000

Washington DFW: 600 Capitol Way N. Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Combined Board Meeting
September, 2012
9:30 AM

Palace Café
4th & Main
Ellensburg

COUNCIL REPORTER, Monthly publication of The
Washington State Mineral Council



WASHINGTON STATE MINERAL COUNCIL
27871 Minkler Road
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