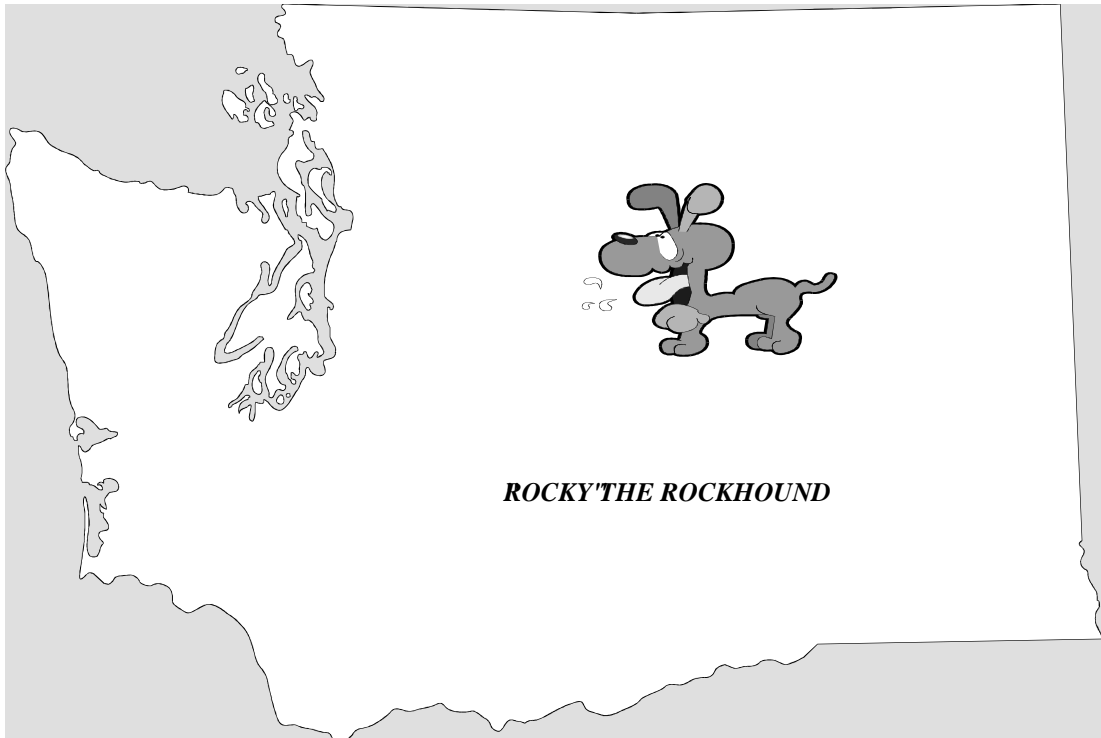

◆ **The Council Reporter** ◆

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Washington State Mineral Council**

**WASHINGTON STATE MINERAL COUNCIL
2015 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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WEB PAGE ADDRESS
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 gmorita@seanet.com

Westside Board Meeting Minutes 08/18/15

No meeting was held in August since only we did not have a quorum and only one officer.

We did however, discuss the presentation on the positive aspects of our hobby Bob Pattie is preparing to deliver to the state later in the year.

Glenn Morita

Davis Creek and the USFS

by James Keffer

Webmaster and Puget Sound Knappers Association member Jim Keffer has initiated a campaign to reverse the recent decision by the US Forest Service Modoc National Forest (Alturus District Office) that lowers the amount of obsidian that recreational collector may take from 500 pounds annually to only 100 pounds annually. This ridiculously low amount makes it almost impossible for the average rock hound or flintknapper to afford to visit Davis Creek. At the same time the USFS continues to allow 'commercial claims' on Davis Creek obsidian contrary to the Federal Mining Act of 1872 (as amended) with little or no limits.

A request has been made via the Federal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) for the following:

1. 1. An accounting of all monies received from the claims for rock in the Davis Creek area covered by the permits and claims for obsidian. Specifically money received since the inception of the USFS program that provided for claims in the Davis creek area, the annual amount of the funds generated and the disposition of these funds.
2. 2. Any and all justification for allowing claims, including but not limited to, Modoc Nat Forest/USFS Alturas District Regulations, USFS regional rules and regulations and USFS Federal regulations promulgated to overrule the Federal Mining Act.
3. 3. All papers, analysis, reports, decisions, rules and regulations pertaining to the lowering of the collection limit to 100 pounds.

I have received a reply from the USFS requesting either an in person meeting or conference call with the District Forest Ranger, Timothy Davis and the USFS Geologist, Dan Munger. PSK member and professional geologist Jim Miller has agreed

September 19, 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, 8/18, 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

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.

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.

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

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

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.

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

to assist me in his capacity as a geologist, rock hound and flintknapper. Several others have also stepped up to help.

from an email received 6/29/15

From CMS Tumbler, 07/15

Update on Davis Creek Obsidian

The following is an update via e-mail I received from James Keffer: (editor)

Everyone,

I finally heard back from Timothy Davis, District Ranger Modoc National Forest, which oversees the Davis Creek obsidian area.

To summarize: he will not back off from the 100 lbs limit for recreational rock collectors. In my opinion his justification This level provides us better information on the use at the collection sites than a higher amount.'Is absurd, especially since the vast majority of obsidian (between 80% and 90%) taken from the area is by commercial license.

We need to start a letter and email campaign to bring pressure to bear on this decision. At the very least everyone needs to send an email or better yet an letter to the USFS.

I will be creating some 'boilerplate' letters to provide some help to those who wish to participate and would like some help. We need to petition, via letter and/or email, the following:

*Timothy Davis Forest Ranger
p: 530-233-8812
c: 530-708-1364
tedavis@fs.fed.us
225 West 8th Street
Alturas, CA 96101*

*Jayne Biggerstaff - Policy Administrator
p: 530-233-5811 x8740
jbiggerstaff@fs.fed.us
225 West 8th Street
Alturas, CA 96101*

*US Forest Service
Chief - Thomas L. Tidwell
ttidwell@fs.fed.us
(202) 205-8439*

*Mary Wagner Associate Chief
mwagner@fs.fed.us
(202) 205-1779*

USDA Forest Service Region 5 Hdqtrs (over the Modoc Dis-

trict)

*RANDY MOORE Regional Forester 707-562-9000
Barnie Gyant Deputy Regional Forester for Natural Resources
707-562-9000
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/contactus/r5/about-region/contactus>*

*Mailing address:
Pacific Southwest Region
1323 Club Drive
Vallejo, CA 94592
Phone: 707.562.8737*

Federal Legislators - you can find out who they are and how to contact them by simply entering your zip code at this web-site:<http://www.house.gov/representatives/find/>

Local newspapers, radio stations and TV networks. I intend to contact the local scouting organizations for their help as well

We need to start contacting all of these people and flood them with emails, letters and/or phone calls.

The more work we do the better chance we have.

Sincerely,

*James C. Keffer aka 'Reefer'
Proud Member of the Puget Sound Knappers Association
Chief - PSK Clan of the Ooga Booga Tribe
Webmaster - Puget Sound Knappers.com
Publisher - SPALLS, the Official Newsletter of the PSK*

August Birthstones

Peridot & Sardonyx

Two birthstones are available for August birthdays: Peridot and Sardonyx. Peridot is said to host magical powers and healing properties to protect against nightmares and to bring the wearer power, influence, and a wonderful year.

As peridot is a gemstone that forms deep inside the Earth and brought to the surface by volcanoes, in Hawaii, peridot symbolizes the tears of Pele, the goddess of fire and volcanoes.

Today, most of the peridot supply comes from Arizona; other sources are China, Myanmar, and Pakistan.



This gemstone comes in several color variations ranging from yellowish green to brown, but most consumers are attracted to the bright lime greens and olive greens.

Peridot, in smaller sizes, often is used in beaded necklaces and bracelets.

Sardonyx is a form of onyx and is recognized by its layers of reddish brown and white banding.

It was popular with the ancient Greeks and Romans who carried into battle talismans of sardonyx engraved with images of heroes such as Mars or Hercules, believing that this would bring courage and victory.



Because of its attractive banding, sardonyx has long been used to fashion cameos (carved raised figures) and intaglios (the reverse of cameos).

This gemstone is found throughout the world.

The most attractive specimens are found in India, but material also is mined in Czechoslovakia, Brazil, Uruguay, Germany, and in the United States.

from KGMS Hard Rock News, 07-8/15

See next article for more information on sardonyx.

What is sardonyx?

You may have noticed in the previous article that sardonyx is one of the August birthstones. Sardonyx is, according to the Free Dictionary; an onyx composed of layers of sard and chalcedony of another color, usually white: used as a gem and to make cameos.

So then you say, "What is sard?"



Sard is, according to the Free Dictionary; A clear or translucent, deep orange-red to brownish-red variety of chalcedony.

According to Wikipedia, Onyx is formed of bands of chalcedony in alternating colors. It is cryptocrystalline, consisting of fine intergrowths of the silica minerals quartz and moganite.

Its bands are parallel to one another, as opposed to the more chaotic banding that often occurs in agates.

Sardonyx is a variant in which the colored bands are sard (shades of red) rather than black. Black onyx is perhaps the most famous variety, but is not as common as onyx with colored bands. Artificial treatments have been used since ancient times to produce both the black color in "black onyx" and the reds and yellows in sardonyx. Most "black onyx" on the market is artificially colored.

from KGMS Hard Rock News, 07-8/15

PYRITE

Pyrite is fool's gold, and it is very common. Most metallic ore deposits are pyretic, and some non-metal ores also contain the mineral. Pyrite is merely a combination of iron and sulfur. In a few cases, it is a poor ore for iron production.

Many mineral collections have beautiful crystalline specimens. Pyrite is brass-yellow and occasionally displays a bluish or purplish iridescence on crystal faces. Crush a small piece and the result is black. It is heavy and unusually hard for a metallic sulfide of which there are many. Crystals are commonly striated cubes or pyramids (octahedrons) and some have pentagon faces.

Chalcopyrite is similar, containing 35% copper. It does not often display crystals and never cubes. It is more golden, softer and crushes to a greenish-black color. Chalcopyrite almost always is associated with pyrite where the contrast in character can readily be seen. Both are sulfides meaning they are metals combined with sulfur.

From Carny Hound, 08/08

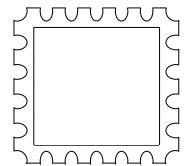
Local Area Shows for 2015 and 2016

September 2015 12th 10am - 5pm 13th 10am - 5pm	Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society	Annual Gem and Mineral show \$2 adults, 12 & under free w/ Adult	Walla Walla County Fairgrounds Community Center Building 363 Orchard St., Walla Walla WA
September 2015 12th 9am - 6pm 13th 10am - 4pm	Clallam County Gem and Mineral Association	Annual show	Vern Burton Community Center 308 East 4th Street Port Angeles WA
September 2015 19th 10am - 5pm 20th 10am - 4pm	Southern Washington Mineralogical Society	50th Annual show	Castle Rock Fairgrounds A Street 120 Fair Lane Castle Rock, WA
October 2015 9th 10am - 6pm 10th 10am - 6pm 11th 10am—5pm	Portland Regional Rock and Gem Show	35th Annual	Washington County Fair Complex 873 NE 34th AVE Hillsboro, OR
October 2015 10th 10am - 5pm 11th 10am—5pm	Marysville Rock and Gem club	41st Rocktoberfest	Totem Middle School Cafeteria 7th Street and State Avenue Marysville WA
October 2015 17th 9am - 5pm 18th 10am - 4pm	Hatrockhounds Gem & Mineral Society	Natures Treasures Under Foot \$3	Hermiston Conference Center 415 S. Hwy. 395 Hermiston, OR
October 2015 17th 10am - 6pm 18th 10am - 5pm	Hell's Canyon Gem Club	49th Annual Show Gemstones, Carvings, & Jewelry From Around The World	Nez Perce County Fair Building 1229 Burrell Avenue Lewiston ID
October 2015 24th 9am - 6pm 25th 10am - 5pm	Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club	50th Annual Show	Clackamas County Fairgrounds 694 NE 4th Ave Canby, OR
October 2015 24th 10am - 6pm 25th 10am - 5pm	Bellevue Rock and Gem club	Annual show	Vasa Park 3560 W Lake Sammamish Pkwy SE Bellevue, Washington 98008
November 2015 7th 9am - 5pm 8th 10am - 5pm	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Annual Fall Show	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse 8802 196th ST SW Edmonds WA
December 2015 5th 9am - 6pm 6th 10am - 5pm	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Annual Winter Bazaar	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse 8802 196th ST SW Edmonds WA
February 2016 13th 9am—5pm 14th 9am—4pm	Whidbey Island Gem Club	51st Annual Sweetheart of Gems Show	Oak Harbor Senior Center 51 SE. Jerome Street Oak Harbor, WA
February 2016 12th 9:30am – 5:30pm 13th 9:30am – 5:30pm 14th 9:30am – 5:30 pm	Oregon Agate and Mineral Society	OAMS Gem and Mineral Show	OMSI 1945 SE Water Avenue Portland OR 97214
March 2016 5th 10am - 6pm 6th 10am - 5pm	East KingCo Club	Annual Rock and Gem Show	Pickering Barn 1730 10th Ave NW Issaquah, WA
March 2016 12th 9am - 5pm 13th 9am - 5pm	Magic Valley Gem Club	65th Annual Show	Twin Falls County Fairgrounds 215 Fair Ave. east of Filer on US Hwy. 30

Combined Board Meeting
September 19, 2015
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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