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# The Council Reporter



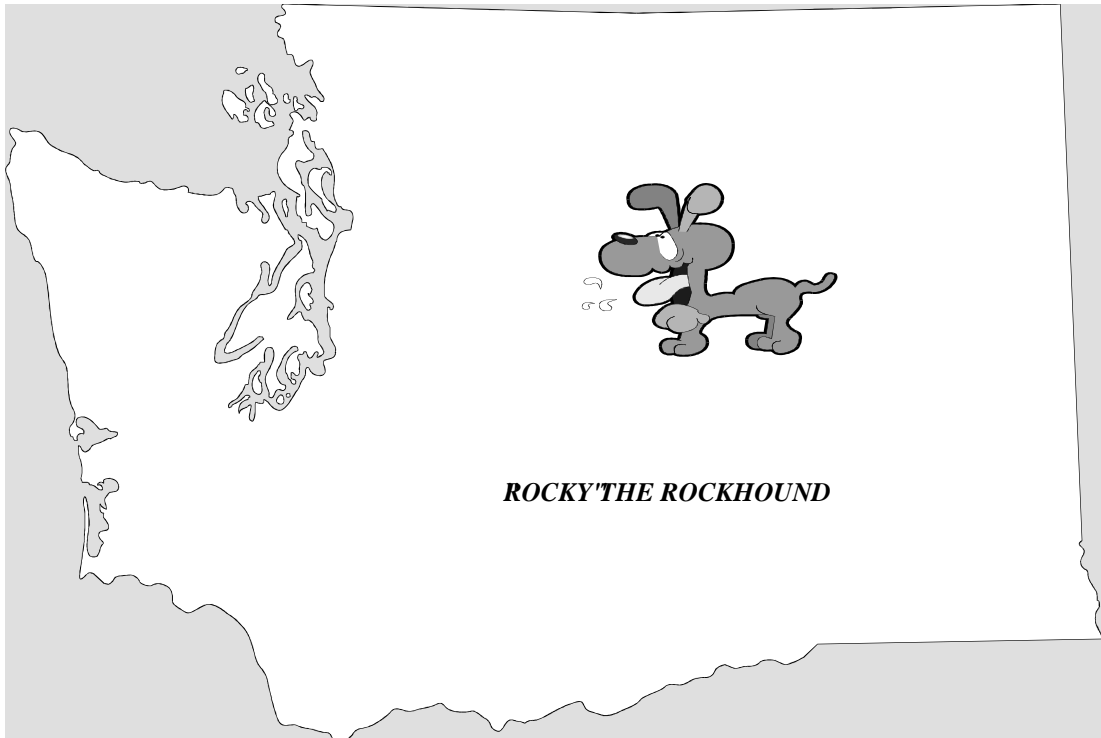
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**Official Publication of the  
Washington State Mineral Council**

**WASHINGTON STATE MINERAL COUNCIL  
2011 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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# Combined Board Meeting Minutes 09/24/11

Meeting was called to order at 9:30 am by President Andy Johnson.

## Committee Reports

**Minutes** of the August Westside meeting were approved.

**Treasurers' report** as submitted to Andy was read and approved.

## Old Business

**WSMC Display:** The WSMC display case showcasing the Saddle Mountain location and its petrified wood, was designed and set up by Andy Johnson at the 2011 NFMS Federation show at Chehalis July 2011, it received considerable positive feedback by attendees. The display was also exhibited in the Lakeview Club show in Kennewick, the Walla Walla Club show, and will be displayed in the Hells Canyon Club show in Idaho in mid-October. The Spokane Rock Rollers have requested its inclusion in their May 2012 show. Andy Johnson also stated it's availability as a traveling exhibit.

**ALAA** - Andy was wearing a neon-yellow ALAA T-shirt similar to the one he wore at his meeting with 'Doc Hastings' regarding issues of access to Juniper Forest. The idea behind the T-shirt and its color is to emphasize the concept that to be heard one needed to be seen. Doc Hastings is evidently on the U.S. House Natural Resource Committee which has recently wiped out funding this year for additional Wilderness Areas (?).

**Buchanan, OR Thunderegg Trip** - Aside from some initial organizational snafus, and a last minute change in the price (\$0.75 from \$0.50/lb) of the material, collecting at the dig site was tremendous. Over 70 people showed up, there was plenty of material to be found, both already dug and to dig. Patience was required, and rewarded. Cutting of the eggs has shown just how fabulous the material really is. Many thanks to Tim Fisher for initiating the arrangements and to Rod Robins, landowner, for opening his property to us all and allowing this to happen!!

**Brian Waters Petition regarding the RCW** - Andy has 20 signatures. There was a typo on the form brought to Brian's attention. There is a meeting in Olympia in October with the Department of Fish & Wildlife (October 17th?), if anyone is interested and able to attend.

**Potential New Public Land Access?** - Andy reported that the Bonneville Power Administration is planning new transmission lines/ installing a new transmitter. It could be potentially important for rockhounds that access to the roads under these transmission lines be open to the public (i.e. rockhounds)?

**Red Top Roads** - All roads to the Red Top collecting area north of Cle Elum have been repaired as of August 2011.

## New Business

**Colville and Okanogan-Wenatchee Forest Plan Revision** - The USFS has just completed a Proposed Action for the Colville and Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forests. The U.S. Forest Service has been conducting analysis and doing work to prepare for this proposed action for several years. This is an important step in the process of revis-

## October 18, 2011 Westside Board Meeting AGENDA

Opening of Meeting  
 ◇ Brian Waters  
 Treasurer's Report  
 ◇ Kathy Earnst  
 Committee Reports  
 ◇ Wagonmaster -Ed Lehman  
 Old Business  
 New Business  
 Open Comments

## 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 :  
 3/26, 5/7, 9/24, 11/5

All general meetings will be held at:

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

ing management direction for our national forests.

The Proposed Action is not a decision. It represents their current thinking based on what they have learned so far. Note that they are not conducting a vote. It is very helpful to prepare specific comments on how to improve the Proposed Action, or point out important things that you think they missed.

During the comment period, they have held public meetings to assist people with understanding the proposed actions and submitting comments. An advance notice of the time and location for these meetings was advertised in local newspapers, via letter or email, and on the Plan Revision Website:

The Notice of Intent (NOI) published in the Federal Register on June 30, 2011 initiates a 60-day public review and comment period. In response to requests, the Colville and Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forests are extending the comment period for the Forest Plan Revision Proposed Action for an additional 30 days. The original 60-day comment period was June 30 through August 29, 2011. With the extension, comments are now due no later than September 28, 2011.

During this period, comments may be submitted using one of the following methods:

Send comments to:

(Continued on page 4)



**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, ADA, 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).

<b>Date</b>	<b>Host</b>	<b>Site</b>	<b>Meet</b>	<b>Material</b>	<b>Tools</b>
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	WSMC	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	<b>Trip is Full, adults only</b>
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	MtBk	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	Pvgn	Greenwater	9:00 @ Enumclaw Rngr Station	Agate, jasper	Dig & light hard rock
8/27	Ed L.	Jade Claim	<b>Canceled</b>		
9/10-11	Pow	Red Top	8:00 @ W Frk Teanaway Camp	Geodes, Agate, jade	Dig & light hard rock
9/17	Pvgn	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

(\* Deposit must be received no later than 30 days before trip date to reserve spot; deposit partially refundable: \$15; \$10 to go to cost of portapotty. Adults only. No Pets Please)

**ALWAYS CALL TO CONFIRM TRIPS—SEE BELOW**

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Host</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>E-mail</b>
CMS, WSMC	Cascade Mineralogical Society	Brian Waters (206) 290-2312	bwaterss2011@gmail.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@comcast.net">kmenger@comcast.net</a>
POW Wow Club	All Rockhounds Club	Cliff Matteson (253)475-8433	<a href="mailto:cliff.conniematteson@gmail.com">cliff.conniematteson@gmail.com</a>
Pvgn	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	bwaterss2011@gmail.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)

## Local Area Shows for 2011/2012

DATE & TIME	CLUB	SHOW	LOCATION
October 2011 8th 10am - 5pm 9th 10am - 5pm	Marysville Rock & Gem club	36th Annual Rocktoberfest	Totem Junior High School 7th and State St, Marysville
October 2011 15th 5pm - 11pm 16th 8am - 11pm 17th 8am - noon	PNW Friends of Mineralogy	Annual Mineralogy Sym- posium and Mineral show Minerals of Mexico	Kelso Red Lion Hotel 510 Kelso Dr Kelso, WA
October 2011 15th 10am - 6pm 16th 10am - 5pm	Hells Canyon Gem Club	45th Annual Show "Rock R Us"	Nez Perce Co., Fair Grounds 1229 Burrell Ave. Lewiston, ID 83501
October 2011 22nd 9am - 6pm 23rd 10am - 5pm	Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club	47th Annual Gem & Mineral Show	Clackamas County Fairgrounds Pavilion 694 NE. 4th Ave Canby, OR 97013
October 2011 22nd 10am - 5pm 23rd 10am - 5pm	Bellevue Rock Club	Octoberfest of Gems	Vasa Park 3560 West Lake Sammamish Blvd. SE Bellevue, Washington
November 2011 12th 9am - 5pm 13th 10am - 4pm	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Annual Fall Show	Maplewood Clubhouse 8802 196th St SW Edmonds, WA
November 2011 11th 10am - 5pm 12th 10am - 5pm 13th 10am - 4pm	NW Opal Association & Cascade Mineralogical Soci- ety	7th Annual South Sound Gem, Opal & Mineral show	Expo Hall Puyallup Fairgrounds Meridian St S & 9th Ave SW Puyallup
November 2011 19th 10am - 5pm 20th 10am - 5pm	Kitsap Mineral and Gem Society	Fall Festival of Gems	Kitsap County Fairgrounds President's Hal 1200 NW Fairgrounds Rd., Bremerton, WA
February 2012 11th 9am—5pm 12th 9am—4pm	Whidbey Island Gem Club	47th Annual Sweetheart of Gems Show	Oak Harbor Senior Center 51 SE. Jerome Street Oak Harbor, WA
February 2012 25th 10am - 6pm 26th 10am - 5pm	Idaho Gem & Mineral Club	Annual Gem And Mineral Show	Expo Idaho Fairgrounds 5610 Glenwood & Chinden Boise, Idaho
March 2012 3rd 9am - 6pm 4th 9am - 5pm	Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society	58th Annual Rock & Gem Show	O'Conner Field House Canyon Co. Fairgrounds 2200 Blaine Caldwell, Idaho
March 2012 10th 9am—6pm 11th 10am—5pm	Magic Valley Gem Club	61st Annual Show	Twin Falls Co., Fairgrounds 215 Fair Ave., Filer, ID
March 2012 31st 10am - 6pm April 1st 10am - 5pm	Sweet Home Rock & Mineral Society	64th Annual Rock & Mineral Show	Sweet Home High School Activity Gym handicap parking 1641 Long St. Sweet Home, OR
March 2012 31st 10am - 6pm April 1st 10am - 5pm	Mt. Baker Rock & Gem Club	51st Rock and Gem Show	Bloedel-Donovan Park 2214 Electric Ave. Bellingham WA
April 2012 21st 10am—5pm 22nd 10am—5pm	West Seattle Rock Club	45nd Annual Rock Show	Alki Masonic Temple 4736 40th Ave. SW. (W Seattle), WA
APRIL 2012 28th 10am - 5pm 29th 10am - 5pm	Grays Harbor Gem & Geology Society	44th Annual Earth's Treasures	Grays Harbor County fairgrounds 43 Elma/McCleary Rd. Elma, WA

*(Continued from page 4)*

owner arrived with his backhoe and helped us with the hard work. Several other collectors decided pit 5 was the action place and headed our way. We had a good time talking with people from Marysville, Portland, Prineville, Hood River, and Boise. We took lots of pictures, added another 20 pounds to our collection, weighed out, paid, and went on our way.

Many thanks go to Tim Fisher, his wife Tonya and the Mt. Hood Rock Club members who helped make this very successful two day event run smoothly. They tirelessly shuttled people up and down the hill (not everyone had a 4-wheel drive, high clearance vehicle), gave advice, weighed our findings, collected payments for the rancher, and arranged for perfect weather (clear skies, mid-70s). There are tentative plans underway for a 2nd Thunderegg Field Trip next year; Tim will provide details to our Field Trip coordinator Dean Norman. We had a wonderful, productive time and highly recommend you make the trip to Buchanan in 2012!

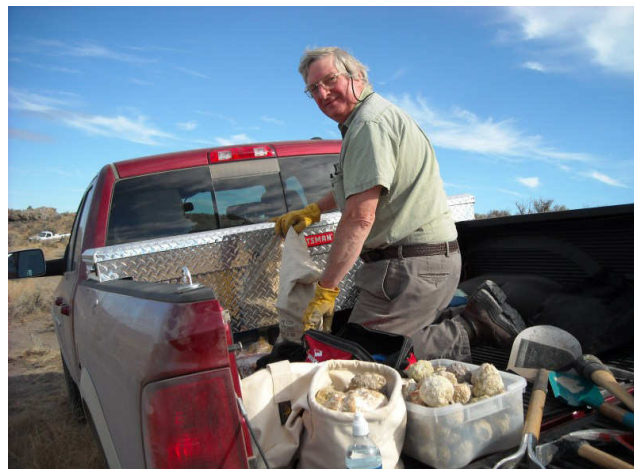
P.S. Checkout Tim's web site on Pacific Northwest Rockhounding in-formation at <http://orerockon.com/> from Hard Rock News 10/11



Pit 5



A sample of thundereggs



Maurice loading the truck

**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.**

**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.



David Wixon of Longview, Wash., pleaded guilty Friday to digging up this oreodont skull at the John Day

A Longview man was banned Friday from entering National Park Service land for one year after digging up the fossilized skull of a hog-like mammal that roamed eastern Oregon 20 million years before humans.

David L. Wixon, 48, also must pay \$4,500 in restitution for the misdemeanor crime of depredation of government property, said Assistant U.S. Attorney Neil J. Evans.

An off-duty interpretive ranger at the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument spotted Wixon hacking away with a rock hammer at the site on May 6, 2007, and confronted him, according to court records.

Wixon told the ranger he was collecting fossils to give a talk to Boy Scouts, Evans said. But she was skeptical, snapped a photo and took down his license plate.

Federal law enforcement officers investigated. They searched Wixon's home and confronted him about his unauthorized dig. Their suspect eventually returned the skull of an oreodont, a stout hooved creature that vanished from the Earth about 4 million years ago.

The skull was valued at less than \$1,000, said Evans, but the loss to humankind was immeasurable.

"The damage to research and the study of this particular skull and the fossil beds -- they've been damaged well beyond the market value of some skull," he said.

The theft was scarcely a piece of petrified wood or leaf imprint, said James F. Hammett, the superintendent of the fossil beds. "Every skull of this type contains vital information regarding the history of the earth," Hammett wrote in a letter to U.S. Magistrate Judge Paul Papak.

"When the skulls like the one Mr. Wixon stole are removed from the monument," he wrote, "the scientific information -- those clues to the ancient past -- are stolen too."

-- Bryan Denson

Related topics: david wixon, john day fossil beds, oreodont

This article was forwarded by Andy Johnson

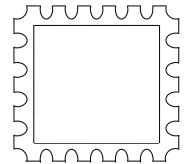
Editor's note: This is exactly the type of irresponsible behavior that gives everyone in our hobby a black eye. Everyone knows that collecting of any kind is prohibited in the National Parks and Monuments.



Westside Board Meeting  
October 18, 2011  
7:30 PM

**Maplewood Clubhouse**  
**8802 196th St SW**  
**Edmonds**

COUNCIL REPORTER, Monthly publication of The  
Washington State Mineral Council



WASHINGTON STATE MINERAL COUNCIL  
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