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◆ **The Council Reporter** ◆

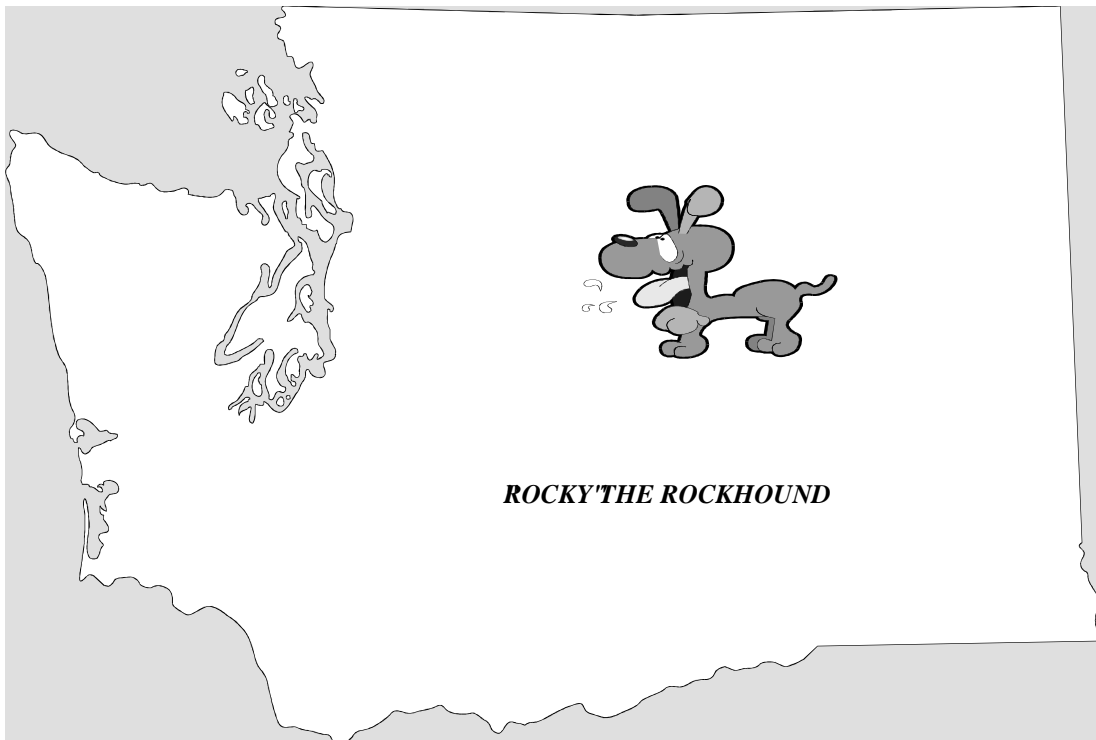
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**Official Publication of the  
Washington State Mineral Council**

**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.**

**MAILING ADDRESS**  
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# Combined Board Meeting Minutes

## 09/19/15

### Mineral Council Minutes September 19, 2005

President Perry Gulsvic opened the meeting at 9:30 am.

Introduction were the first start of the meeting.

Bob Pattie Cms

Jackie Pattie Cms

Diane Horsefall Cms

Lori Geefield

Vickie Foster

Diane Meyers Shelton Club

Steve Townsend Ellensburg Club

Ed Lehman Marysville Club

Arron Wigant Spokane Club

Stu and Kathy Earnest Marysville Club

Gordon and Millie Lyons Marysville Club

Christopher Bechald Ellensburg Club

Vesta Bettinger NSLMC

Annette Brown NSLMC

#### Treasurer Report:

Kathy Earnest discussed that with the rising costs of permits we may need to raise some of our costs.

#### Old Business:

Diane Myers reported the Shelton Club had great tail gating party.

Bob Pattie and Stu Earnst are working together on a booklet to approach the state on how much rockhounding adds to the state economy not only local people but visitors.

#### Wagonmaster:

Ed Lehman is leading a trip to Little Natchez's for lily pad Jasper and thunder eggs. Ed will also lead the trip on Oct.17 to Blanchard Hill. Check your newsletters for time and meeting places for these trips.

A motion was brought up to make next months meeting an hour earlier to allow for the field talk. The motion was passed.

Next month we need to elect new officers.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:45

Secretary :Millie Lyons

### October 20, 2015 Westside Board Meeting AGENDA

Opening of Meeting

Treasurer's Report

◊ Kathy Earnst

Committee Reports

◊ Wagonmaster -Ed Lehman

Old Business

New Business

Open Comments

### 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](http://www.mineralcouncil.org) will continue to re-direct you to the new location.

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Host</b>	<b>Site</b>	<b>Meeting place and time</b>	<b>Material</b>	<b>Tools</b>
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.**

<b>Host</b>	<b>Club</b>	<b>Contact info</b>
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

## TAKE CARE OF YOUR COLLECTION

by Ed Mattson

Being a mineral collector, I visit the dealers and shows in our area. I also go to tag sales, flea markets, consignment and antique stores, which occasionally can have mineral specimens for sale. What I find mostly are only one or two specimens that were bought as souvenirs, gifts, or an Object D'Art for its decorative value.

Rarely, I have found an estate sale where the deceased person was a collector or a lapidary enthusiast. Our club has been given materials and collections from various past and deceased members. Others were ones who had to move and did not have room to store their collection. Past club boards have been using this material for selling at our monthly auctions and other venues. I knew many of the members from which this material came.

What saddens me is the state these collections are in. While the original collector fully intended and started a very good labeling and record keeping system, with the demands of everyday life, time, and health, many collections will ultimately degrade into a mass of confusion.

Some of the material I have sorted through in the club stock came from an early member who passed on some years ago. I had visited him a few times when he was alive and saw his collection. Even then it was in a disorganized state. While he had started to properly have code numbers on each specimen and had a corresponding card file, he was unable to keep up with it.

When the remnants of his collection had come to me, via auction & sales, I found utter chaos. There were specimens without numbers, numbered specimens without cards, missing specimens or cards. I filled three tall kitchen can trash bags full of crumbling paper, mildewed cardboard trays, and an assortment of grubby plastic containers that I had sorted from the minerals.

I knew that he, as well as other collectors, prized each piece he bought or collected. Each had its own story to him. I knew that many pieces came from local sites now closed. I knew I was tossing out items with possibly some monetary or historical value. I tried to identify as much as I could, but ultimately, about 1/3 of what was there went into the "use as pretty rocks" buckets. Many hobbyist collections I see are potentially doomed to this fate.

You are asking, or should be asking, now, how can I avoid this happening to my collection? First, be very selective of what you take home if you self collect. Just because you work hard to get a 5 gallon bucket of material does not mean you have to keep it all. Ask yourself; is this the best that this site can offer? Do I really need this much? Can I trade or sell the excess? Be picky. Don't break your back hauling junk home. The other

way is simple. At least once a month, devote some time to keep it in order. No "I can do that tomorrow" or "I'll do it next week" excuses. Mount every thing firmly on a base of some type. It could be anything. Styrofoam, wood, stiff cardboard or clear plastic blocks so long as you keep a uniform look.

Have a short, simple label ON EACH ITEM with a corresponding hardcopy list. You can do a list on the computer, but computers crash. If you self collect and have multiples, mount a few and store the rest in a sturdy container with a label in or on it. Your next question should be "What can I use in preserving my collection?" NO cheap folding, paperboard boxes you get from a dealer. NO shoeboxes or other cheap boxes.

NO zip lock type bags or other plastic or paper bags. Both will degrade chemically and become mildew food or mouse nesting material quickly. NO plastic display cases scavenged from the dumpster behind Kohl's or Wal-Mart. NO, NO, NO deli or other food containers of any kind! Besides that fact that they will degrade also, it is poor way to show your collection. If you have any pride in your collection, show it properly. This all goes double if you store your collection in a basement or garage. And why are you storing your collection in such a dark, damp, moldy, bug & rodent infested and inaccessible place anyway? With the Internet, one can find all sorts of good looking and sturdy boxes, drawers, glass front display unit kits and so on. There are many more makers and dealers of container systems just for our hobby now than in decades past.

Yes, I know you are going to worry about the time and cost, so let me ask you this. Do you want your collection, which you have spent much money, time, effort on, and have fond memories of, to be passed on as a worthwhile and educational collection to a young collector? Or do you want it to become just some fancy rocks in a rock garden or buried in a concrete patio or wind up like the collection leftovers I deal with?

(via WRC Petroglyphs, 09/15, via The Tumbler, 11/11; via The Quarry, 10/11; via Breccia; via The RockRoller, 10/08; from The Vug, 3/07)

## New Endangered Species The Rockhound

The habitat of the rockhound is diminishing at an astounding rate. More and more of its free roaming areas are being gobbled up each and every day by the changing environment. Soon the range of the Rockhound and its offspring the Pebble Pup will become so diminished that extinction will be imminent.

So what can we do? First read the proposed legislation, determine the effect of the legislation in your collecting areas. Inform all of your club members of the urgency of the legislation. Formulate a response with recommendations that are attainable. Write letters to your elected officials and present your case and points. If we do not make our voices heard we will lose the battle of the Rockhound and we will become extinct. We can make our voices heard in Washington by supporting

and joining the American Lands Access Association (ALAA) as clubs or as individuals. [http:// www.amfed.org/ALAA.htm](http://www.amfed.org/ALAA.htm)

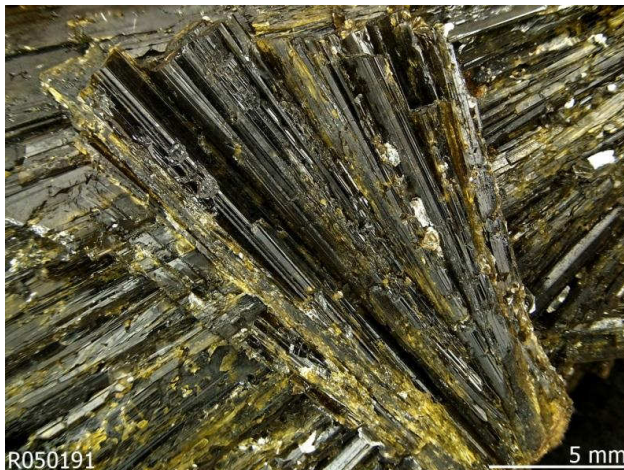
This is happening more and more as time goes on. As an example, take Davis Creek in California and the problems we're having right now with the public lands here in Washington. The war of rights to the public land seems to be a never-ending battle. Let us remind them once again; that the lands are public lands - we, the public, own them - they are just the caretakers.

Let your voices be heard  
If you don't they win!

From Stone Age News 09/15, via Quarry Quips 08

### Green Minerals from the Mid-Atlantic Region: Epidote

Timothy Foard



Epidote from Peru (<http://ruff.info/Epidote/R050191>)

Epidote, sometimes called pistacite, is silicate of calcium aluminum, and iron ( $\text{Ca}_2\text{Al}_2(\text{Fe}^{3+}, \text{Al}(\text{Si}_3\text{O}_{12})(\text{OH}))$ ), the ratio of iron and aluminum varies widely. Although epidote can take in a very dark green color (other colors are very rare), it is typically yellowish or pistachio-green, which is one of the identifying characteristics of this mineral. In fact, the name pistacite, refers to its color. It is a relatively hard mineral, hardness 6-7, with a vitreous luster. Its crystals, monoclinic in habit, are often elongate, with a pseudo-hexagonal cross section. It has perfect cleavage, uneven fracture, a gray or colorless streak, and a specific gravity of 3.25-3.5.

Epidote is a member of the epidote group of minerals, called sorosilicates, and includes such minerals as tanzanite and clinozoisite (both minerals lack iron). Sorosilicates are those silicates which form a with a silicon:oxygen ratio of 2:7 and appear as double tetrahedral groups. The epidote group has both the basic  $\text{SiO}_4$  and the double tetrahedral groups.

Epidote is common and occurs in many regional metamorphic

rocks, including gneiss, schists, and as a product of contact metamorphism of limestones. Other environments where it occurs are granite pegmatites and in cavities in in basalt, where it is often associated with zeolites and calcite. It forms a solid solution with clinozoisite and it is often difficult to distinguish one from the other when both are present in the same rocks.

Some of the best crystals in the United States have been found in Alaska, Colorado, California, and Idaho. Locally, small crystals have been collected from quarries in Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania.



Despite its relative abundance, gem quality epidote is rare. When it is used in jewelry, it is usually set in protected designs as in pendants, pins, or earrings because of its tendency to chip due to its perfect cleavage. Daily wear is not recommended.

#### Epidote pendant

(<http://www.uniquejewelryandgems.com/thumbs/CO5.jpg>)

#### Sources

The Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Rocks and Minerals, by Charles W. Chesterman. Published by Alfred A. Knopi, Inc., New York 1978, 607 pp.

#### Epidote Gemstone Information

<http://www.gemselect.com/gem-info/epidote/epidoteinfo.php>

#### Epidote

<http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Epidote>

Dana's Textbook of Mineralogy, with an Extended Treatise on Crystallography and Physical Mineralogy, by Edward Salisbury Dana. Fourth Edition, 1932. John Wiley and Sons, 851 pp.

#### Epidote. Mindat.org.

<http://www.mindat.org/min-1389.html>

Fleischer's Glossary of Mineral Species 2008. Malcolm E. Back and Joseph A. Mandarino. The Mineralogical Record, Inc., Tuscon, 345 pp.

From Rock Talk, 09/15

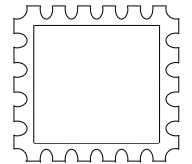
### Local Area Shows for 2015 and 2016

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 10h 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
February 2016 27th 10am—6pm 28th 10am—5pm	Idaho Gem Club	Annual show \$4.00, under 12 free w/adult	Expo Idaho 5610 Glenwood Boise ID 83714
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
March 2016 19th 9am - 6pm 20th 10am - 5pm	Hellgate Mineral Society	Gems Of Montana 22 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show \$2, under 14 free w/adult	Hilton Garden Inn 2730 North Reserve St. Missoula MT
March 2016 25th 10am – 6pm 26th 10am – 6pm 27th 10am – 4pm	Rock Rollers Club of Spokane	57th Annual Gem, Jewelry and Mineral Show	Spokane County Fair & Expo Center N.604 Havana Spokane WA

Westside Board Meeting  
October 20, 2015  
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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