

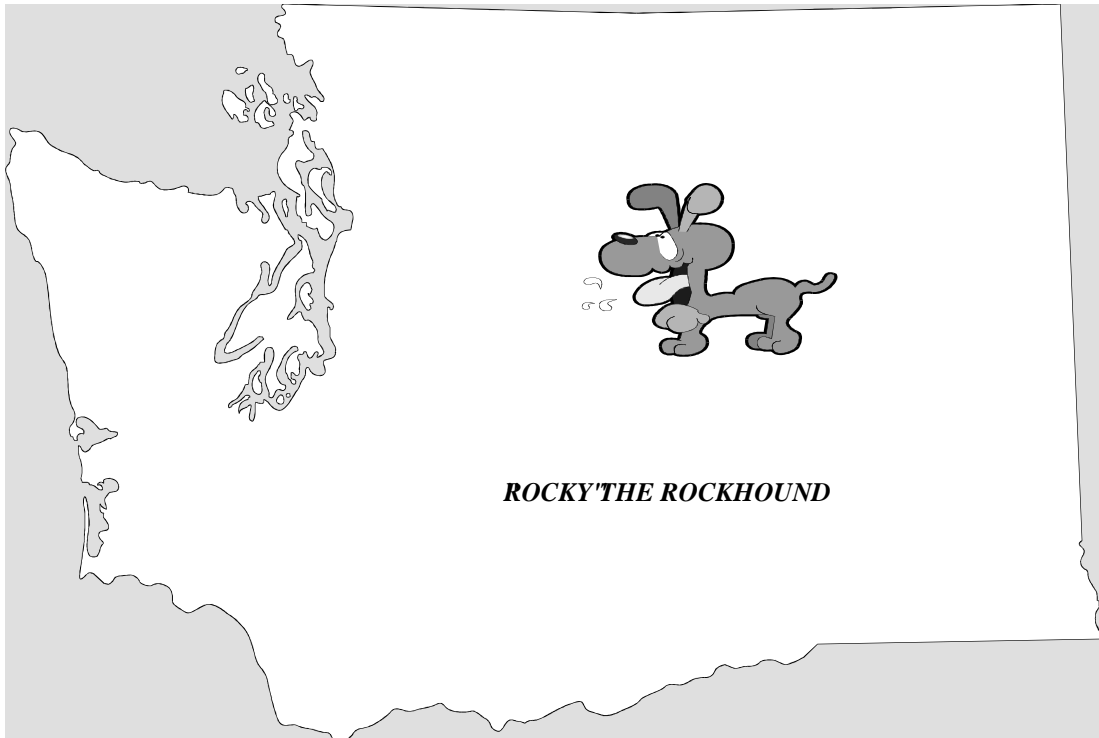


The Council Reporter



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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 11/05/11

Meeting called to order at 9:30 am, Andy Johnson, President presiding.

Andy welcomed Stu and Kathy Earnst back from their recent trip to Europe.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer reported that all accounts were in hand. The Council's CD was rolled over without any change in status. This CD is being held in lieu of a bond for the Walker Valley lease with the Department of Natural Resources.

Old Business:

Public Meetings with the BLM regarding Land Management Action Plan: Council representatives Dale Greer and Howard Walter from the Yakima Rock & Mineral Club attended the BLM meeting in Yakima in August on behalf of the Mineral Council and Washington rockhounds. After listening to the intentions of the BLM under their new plan of action, they asked how the BLM intended to enforce any new restrictions. Acknowledging that the BLM had insufficient personnel and funds to do so, they stated that the WA State Department of Fish & Wildlife would be handling the enforcement function given their much larger pool of enforcement personnel.

Stu & Kathy Earnst, members of the Marysville Rock & Gem Club also attended similar BLM public meetings, in Omak and Wenatchee. They requested collecting access for rockhounds to the roads to windmills constructed in BLM sections on Saddle Mtn not currently approved for rockhounding. BLM officials indicated approval as long as rockhounds stayed away from the towers for an equivalent area equal to the height of the windmill tower plus the 3rd wire plus 100 feet. (?) Stu & Kathy also requested that the BLM build a brick & mortar restroom at the summit in the rockhounding area to replace the two previous toilets that were torn down.

Walker Valley combo lock change: The DNR has requested that the Mineral Council change the combination on the lock to the gate to the Walker Valley rockhound lease and not publish the number on the website. The council voted to approve this change. Notification of the new combination number will be made to club members through their council representative at club meetings. If any club member needs to know the combination, please contact your club representative or contact any council board member.

Mineral Council Eastside Show Display: Andy Johnson passed around a photo of the Council show display engineered

January 17, 2012 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

Preliminary 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 :
 3/24, 5/5, 9/22, 11/3

All general meetings will be held at:

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

by himself at the NFMS show in July 2011. This photo was featured inside a card printed with the logo of the Idaho Hells Canyon Rock club. The Lewiston club as well as the Clarkston, ID club have indicated their interest in joining the Mineral Council.

Ed Lehman stated that the traditional Eastside display case materials were all newly organized, ready and available for pickup at his house in Lake Stevens. He had completely forgotten to bring them to this meeting for easy access to Andy.

US Forest Service Wilderness Extension Plan – Colville, Okanogan & Wenatchee Forests: Christina Morrissey had maps of these three areas printed up at 100% size (36" x 48") so that representatives could better determine which rockhounding sites are currently at risk of becoming inaccessible in the near future. Copies of the descriptions of the approx. 23 planned areas were also made and handed out to those present to take back to their clubs for further discussion. Rockhound sites need to be identified in light of the newly proposed Wilderness Designations so that the US Forest Service can be noti-

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

fied that these are sites of recreational interest and concern to taxpayers and voters in this state and country.

Please contact Brian Waters, head of the council's Special Committee on Land Access with your comments and questions regarding this matter (206) 290-2312
Brianwaters2011@gmail.com .

(To get to the information on the net as quick as possible, type in: US Forest Wilderness Revision Okanogan – Wenatchee, then click on the link to: *ALERT: Colville and Okanogan-Wenatchee Forest Plan Revision* as put out by the Snowmobile Alliance. This will then connect you to the maps and the appropriate information links. You cannot get to the same maps from the actual Forest Service web site; only the snow mobilers have it.)

New Business:

WSMC Museum: Council members have come to the realization that outside of the few university geology departments and the Rice Museum in Hillsboro, OR, that there are few real centers where the interested public can go in the state of Washington to see local rocks and minerals on permanent display. Furthermore, as our rockhound population continues to age and die, there are few if any donation options for those who would like to see their collections kept together and maintained for the educational benefit of the public. In light of this, Andy Johnson proposed the creation of a WSMC museum to house rock & mineral specimens of Washington and elsewhere to educate and illuminate the public; to house donated collections from amateur rockhounds and mineralogists and lapidary artists from the state of Washington to do the same.

Recognizing the associated costs involved in such a projected (land, buildings, personnel, etc), fundraising is an issue; an ongoing project for us all.

Ellensburg Fee Pass: Brad Johnson, council rep from the Everett Club proposed as regards restricted access to Ellensburg Blue collecting areas, a fee pass of some sorts to allow access into the farmers' fields in the Ellensburg area. No action was taken.

Diatom Pits – Beverly: Richard Peet, Shelton & Grays Harbor; has been in contact with the Site Supervisor at the Diatom Pit in Beverly. A collection of raw material has been generously dumped on the right side of the road to the pits for the benefit of rockhounds and to eliminate the risk of them driving in the path of company trucks on company property. Richard also informs us that a new pit is to be opened within the next month. Please contact your council representative before venturing to this location! These folks are very hospitable but do like the courtesy of prior notification of your visit! Let's keep them friendly!

Council Field Trips: Insurance Information: When a member club hosts a field trip on behalf of the Mineral Council, only if the location is on private land, the field trip director/coordinator must contact the Council's insurance agent with the landowner's information so that an insurance certificate can be provided to owner prior to the trip date. If the trip is on public land, state or federal, then there is no insurance concern. To date, the Council has only one trip on private land: "Miller River Picture Jasper," in Skykomish.

The Council's current insurance agent is: Bob Craven, Craven Insurance, Inc. 12106 20th St. Ne., Lake Stevens, WA 98258; (425) 334-7200; email: bcraven@craveninsurance.com. The insurance company is American States Insurance Co. In the issue of liability, the Council's insurance would be the primary insurer; the club's insurance would be the secondary insurer.

Buchanan Thunderegg Deposit, OR: We have received news that this location will be closed until May, 2012. We are currently trying to determine how the owner wishes to handle future rockhound visits/requests. Stay tuned.

N. Seattle Show not listed on Council Website Show listings

– **Vesta Bettinger:** The N. Seattle Lapidary & Mineral Club council rep reminded the board that the club show listings on the website and newsletter have not had their show listed for quite some time. Board members were quick to reassure her that they regretted the mistake, appreciated it being brought to their attention and that it would be quickly taken care of!

Audit Committee: President Andy Johnson appointed an audit committee consisting of Stu Earnst, Ed Lehman, and Christina Morrissey.

Elections: The 2012 slate of nominees for officers and trustees was accepted as proposed and approved. They are as follows:

President

Brian Waters, Cascade Mineralogical Society

Vice President

Mike Shaw, Spokane Rock Rollers

2nd VP

Brad Johnson, Everett Rock & Gem Club

Treasurer

Kathy Earnst, Marysville Rock & Gem Club

Trustees – E Side

Howard Walter, Yakima Rock & Gem Club

Dale Geer, Yakima Rock & Gem Club

Trustees – W Side

Stu Earnst, Marysville Rock & Gem Club

Bob Pattie, Cascade Mineralogical Society

A copy of the petition for the repeal of the RCW covering collection of rocks & minerals on state lands is needed by Mike Shaw and Dale Geer. Brian Waters is to send these on to them.

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Local Area Shows for 2011/2012

DATE & TIME	CLUB	SHOW	LOCATION
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 17th 10am—5pm 18th 10am—5pm	North Seattle Lapidary And Mineral Club	57th Annual show	Lake City Community Center 12531 28th Ave. NE, Seattle
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
March 2012 31st 10am - 6pm April 1st 10am - 5pm	SE Idaho Gem and Mineral Club	55th Annual show	Bannock County Fairgrounds 10588 Ifft Rd Pocatello, ID
April 2012 20th 9am—6pm 21st 10am—6pm 22nd 10am—4:30pm	Willamette Agate and Mineral Society	57th Annual show	Polk County Fairgrounds 520 S Hwy 99 (Pacific Hy) - 10 miles west of Salem Rickreall, Oregon
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
April 2012 28th 10am - 6pm 29th 10am - 4pm	Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society	Annual Gem and Mineral Show	Hermiston Conference Center 415 S Hwy 395 Hermiston, OR. 97838
May 2012 18th 10am - 5pm 19th 10am - 5pm 20th 10am - 4pm	Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club	2012 NFMS Annual Gem Show Rock'N the Country No Leaverites Here!	Benton Fairgrounds 1500 South Oak St. Kennewick, WA
June 2012 2nd 10am—6pm 3rd 10am—5pm	Everett Rock and Gem Club	59th Annual show	Everett Soccer Arena 2201 California St Everett, WA

TENTATIVE 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 Vily Quarry	10:30@	Pt Ludlow C of Comm (93 Beaver Valley Rd)	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	Petr. 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 3/16/12; \$25 Deposit
6/13-16	Tri-Fed	Idaho	TBD		Contact Fed. Representative
6/23	Spkn	Emerald Crk, ID	8:00 @	Emerald Crk 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	Lk 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 Pkng Lot	Smoky Quartz Crystals Shovel & pick (lots of digging)
8/18-19	NW Op	Greenwater	9:00 @	Enumclaw Rngr Station	Agate, Jasper Dig & light hard rock
9/8-9	Pow-Wow	Red Top	8:00 @	W Frk Teanaway Camp	Geodes, Agate, jade Dig & light hard rock
9/15	NW Op	Little Nachese	9:00 @	TBD	Thunder eggs, Rhyolite Dig & light hard rock
10/6	Spkn	Chewelah Area	9:00 @	Chewelah Safeway	Magnesite, Var. Minerals Container, and rock hammer
10/27	Msvl	Miller Rvr	9:00 @	Hwy 2, Money Crk 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	washatonian2@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) 244-8542	mikeshawmoose@yahoo.com
WSea	West Seattle Rock & Gem Club	Brian Waters (206) 290-2312	bwaterss2011@gmail.com
Yak	Yakima Rock & Min Club	Jery 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

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Finally, Andy Johnson organized a brief Attendance-Apreciation Prize Drawing. Ed Lehman won a grouping of Bickleton agate and a small Desert-rose specimen and Stu Earnst was presented with a limited edition print by Andrew (Dick) Johnson. Thank you Andy!

Meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.
Respectfully submitted: Christina Morrissey
Secretary

Attendance:

Mike Shaw	Spokane Rock Rollers
Steve Gillespie	Spokane Rock Rollers
Becky Gillespie	Spokane Rock Rollers
Krisanne Gray	Spokane Rock Rollers
Dale Geer	Yakima Rock & Gem Club
Howard A. Walter	Yakima Rock & Gem Club
Brad Johnson	Everett Rock & Gem
Kathy Earnst	Marysville Rock & Gem
Stu Earnst	Marysville Rock & Gem
Vesta Bettinger	NSLMC (N. Seattle)
Gregg Wilson	NSLMC (N. Seattle)
Andy M. Johnson	Lakeside Rock & Gem Club
Ed Lehman	Marysville Rock & Gem
Richard A. Peet	Grays Harbor & Shelton Rock & Gem Clubs (2)
Christina Morrissey	Marysville Rock & Gem

Star Garnet

Tips condensed from talk given by Bob Johnson at a Lapidary Division meeting, 5/16/03

Garnet is harder than agate. To find the star, consider that every crystal face can be the base of a star garnet cab. To get the star, cut the garnet in half parallel to a crystal face and make the center of the garnet the top of the cab.

To examine star garnet rough, use a drop of high-viscosity STP oil treatment on the garnet and a flashlight. For cabs, start with 220 diamond. Don't use 100 grit; it is too aggressive.

The best shape for a star garnet cab is a half sphere. If the cab is too fat, the star won't reach to the edge. If the cab is too

steep, the legs of the star will go around the edges. Use 8,000 diamond to polish your star garnet cab.

When tumbling star garnet, skip the 60-90 grit stage entirely. Start with 220 silica-carbide grit for 10 hours. Clean. Reload and repeat for a second 10 hours. Then proceed as usual.

There is no point in faceting a star garnet because the material is usually too dark and, additionally, won't yield a star.

At shows, you may find than many star garnet cabs have a high-domed top and a curved back. The curved back doesn't improved the star; it merely increases the weight of the stone so that the dealer will receive more \$\$\$ per carat.

via West Seattle Petroglyphs, 3/07; via Rocky Trails 10/06; via Rock Rollers, 7/05; from Pegmatite, 6-7-8/03

Test for Topaz

Quartz and Topaz are not easy to separate be eye, and are sometimes impossible when the Quartz is true topaz color.

There is a big difference in price in the two and anyone describing quartz and topaz, however innocently, may well be in trouble. Topaz is quite a different mineral, which is harder than quartz. Because of this, a drop of water will not spread on topaz, but will on quartz. Clean the stone as effectively with a cloth to remove all traces of grease. It must be dry before the test. Then place a small drop on it with a thin glass or metal rod. On stones with hardness of less than 7 on the MOHS scale, the water is dispersed. On harder stones it will remain as a globule. The harder the stone, the more rounded will be the globule of water.

via West Seattle Petroglyphs, 8/11; via Boulder Busters, 5/11; via the Fort Lewis Rock Club News 1/01; from Crystal Cluster, 10/98

Both articles from CMS eTumbler, 11/11

Dues are due

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.

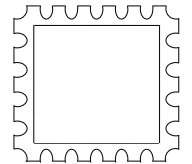
GPS Co-ordinates Needed

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.

Westside Board Meeting
January 17, 2012
7:30 PM

Maplewood Clubhouse
8802 196th St SW
Edmonds

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