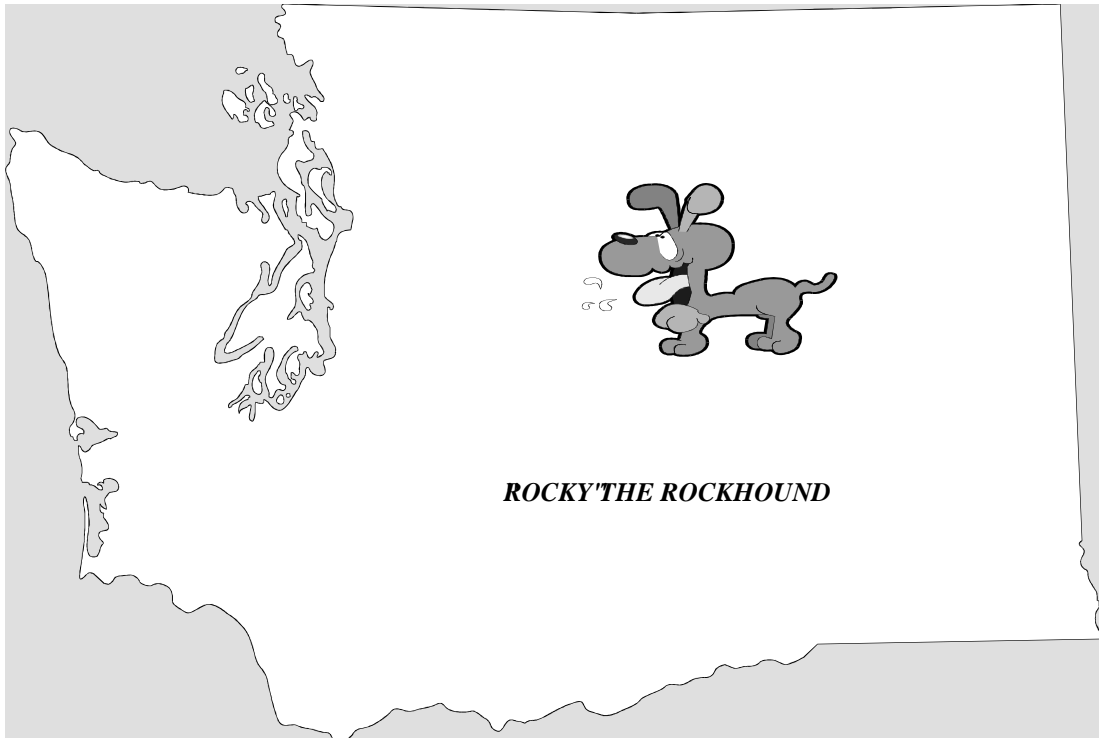

◆ **The Council Reporter** ◆

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November 2012



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

**WASHINGTON STATE MINERAL COUNCIL
2012 OFFICERS**

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 11/03/12

WSMC General Meeting Minutes

Date/Time of Meeting: 9:57 am Saturday, Nov. 3, 2013 – 11:33 am

Location of Meeting: Palace Café, Ellensburg, WA

Members Present: 14 total present representing 8 clubs

Kathy & Stu Earnst, Marysville

Vesta Bettinger & Neg Kittleson, North Seattle

Diane Myers, Shelton

Becky & Steve Gillespie, Spokane Rock Rollers

Steve Townsend, Ellensburg

Brad Johnson, Everett

Gordon & Millie Lyons, Arlington

Ed Lehman, Marysville

Howard S. Walter, J & Dale Geer, Yakima

1. Treasure's Report: read by Kathy Earnst

2. New Business:

WSMC Palace Café meeting cancellations due to forces of nature (snow, fire, volcano, etc.)

Discussion:

Meeting attendance has recently been low due to assumptions that the meeting would be cancelled because of the recent fires when in fact conditions were fair. A set protocol needs to be put into place so that representatives from both the east and west sides can check in prior to the meeting to see if there actually has been a cancellation. There was discussion of a phone tree or email list.

Action:

If there is to be a cancellation, it would be done the Thursday before Saturday's general meeting. The Eastside will contact the Westside board members thru email if there is a cancellation.

West side representatives can call Howard Walter or Dale Greer of Yakima Club for information. Both the East and West sides can call Steve Townsend of Ellensburg club at his Agate Shop before he closes at 5pm for information.

3. Wagonmasters Report: by Ed Lehman

Discussion #1:

The last field trip of 2012 is next weekend and will be led by the Marysville club for Stilpnomelane on November 11, 2012. The locality is just below Bellingham, WA and a few hard rock

January 15, 2013 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

Tentative Meeting Calendar for 2013

West side board meetings:

1/15, 2/19, 4/16, 6/18, 10/15

At 7:30PM at the

Maplewood Clubhouse

8802 196th St SW, Edmonds

General meetings :

3/30, 5/4, 9/21, 11/2

All general meetings will be held at:

Palace Café

4th & Main

Ellensburg

Meeting @ 9:30 AM

dig tools and diggers are needed otherwise you can just pick the material up off the ground.

Action: Meeting time is 9am and meeting place is I-5 exit 240, Gas Mart.

Discussion #2:

A date needs to be set for planning the 2013 Wagonmaster Field Trips.

Action:

At the March general meeting we will plan for the 2013 remaining field trips. The first three field trips shall be reported as follows:

Jan. 26 Cedar Ponds Marysville club

Feb. 16 Beaver Valley Marysville club

Mar. 23 Saddle Mountain Everett Club

4. Old Business:

Kathy & Stu Earnst will do a follow up with Bob Pattie who is a volunteer for the Natural Resources Recreation conservation

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(Continued from page 3)

Areas (NRCA) committee to see if there is anything we can do as rock hounds to support him.

5. Agenda Item: WSMC dues are due for all member clubs

6. Agenda Item: New nominations needed for 2013

Discussion:

On the Eastside new nominations for President are needed. If none then current Vice Pres., Brad Johnson of Everett will move up to the President position and a Vice President Nominee will still be needed.

A new trustee for the Eastside and Westside are needed as well.

Action:

Both sides need to decide on nominees and nominating committees will present at the March meeting & will be voted on then.

Announcements:

The DNR & Dept. of Fish and Wildlife planted 1000s of trees last weekend with volunteers in the aftermath of recent forest fires.

At Saddle Mountain "12 & 14 are open for us"

Minutes Prepared By:

Vesta Bettinger on 11/05/12

North Seattle Lapidary and Mineral Club.

Rutilated Quartz

by Dave Wester

First off, quartz is the most common mineral on Earth. It is found in nearly every geological environment and is a component of almost every rock type. I'll bet somewhere in your collection you have at least one piece of quartz. Did you know that it makes up about 12% of the earth's crust, occurring in a wide variety of igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary rocks? It is also the most varied in terms of variety and color. Quartz is a 7 on the Mohs scale of hardness but you already know that because we've spoken about that several times before. The name quartz comes from the Saxon word *querklufferz* which meant cross vein ore.

Rutilated quartz (sometimes referred to as Cupid's darts, Venus hair stone, and fleches d'amour) is quite simply quartz stone with rutile enclosures. Rutile is a mineral that is made up mostly of titanium dioxide, or TiO₂. As a mineral, rutile is very high on the refractive index and disperses more than almost any other mineral. This means that when rutile appears in other minerals, it almost always appears in long, thin shots of color. Rutilus is, in fact, the Latin word for red. The mineral gained this name because some specimens are a lovely deep

red color. Rutile, however, can also appear in brown and gray tones. Rutile often forms needle-like crystal inclusions inside quartz and this form of quartz is known as rutilated quartz and it looks like small bars of imbedded gold. Rutile is a 6 on the Mohs scale. Because of the difference in hardness between the two materials and because of the way rutile forms inside, this can be a difficult stone to attain a smooth surface without pits.

Rutilated quartz is found in Australia, Brazil, Kazakhstan, Madagascar, Norway, Pakistan and the United States.

From a mythical perspective, rutilated quartz is believed to bring forth each person's strengths, originality, aids sleep, relate to others. Rutile itself is said to intensify the metaphysical properties of its host crystal and to enhance one's understanding of difficult situations. It is also said to enhance creativity and to relieve depression and loneliness. Rutilated quartz is also believed to slow down the aging process and is said to be a strong healer. Guess I'll give it a try and see if it helps with my hair line.

From CMS eTumbler, 11/12, via Rocky Trails, 11/11

November Birthstone: Topaz/Citrine

Topaz is the November Birthstone and the Sagittarius Zodiac stone. Blue topaz has been considered a valid alternate birthstone for December, and is given on the 4th anniversary. Golden topaz is given on the 23rd anniversary. Topaz is associated with the values of strength, wisdom, and courage. Topaz is a common gemstone that has been used for centuries in jewelry. Its golden brown to yellow color is classic but is confused with the less valuable citrine, which is sometimes wrongly sold under the name topaz. The blue topaz that is often confused with aquamarine is rarely natural and is produced by irradiating and then heating clear crystals.



Topaz is the hardest silicate mineral and one of the hardest minerals in nature. Topaz crystals can reach incredible size of several hundred pounds. Topaz can make very attractive mineral specimens due to their high luster, nice colors and well formed and multifaceted crystals. Topaz may

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be colorless, yellow, orange, red, blue and green.

Citrine is the traditional birthstone for November, and is an alternate Zodiac stone for Scorpio. Citrine jewelry is given as the gemstone gift for the 13th and 17th anniversaries. Citrine is



associated with the values of hope, cheerfulness, youth, health, and fidelity. Citrine is any quartz crystal or cluster that is yellow or orange in color. Although often cut as a gemstone, citrine is actually somewhat rare in nature. Most citrines on the market have been heat treated. Specimens of low grade, inexpensive amethyst or smoky

quartz are often cooked at high temperatures to produce the more profitable orange yellow citrine. Citrines whose colors have been produced by artificial means tend to have much more of an orange or reddish cast than those found in nature, which are usually a pale yellow. Much of the natural citrine may have started out as amethyst but heat from nearby magmatic bodies may have caused the change to citrine.

Interestingly, a popular gemstone on the market is a mixture of half amethyst and half citrine and is given the name ametrine. The manufacturer takes an amethyst stone and heats it, which converts it to citrine. He then bombards a portion of the stone with beta radiation which converts citrine back to amethyst. By using a metal mask (possibly in the shape of a heart) to block a portion of the beta radiation, an unusual citrine and amethyst gem is produced.

Unfortunately for citrine it is often confused with the more expensive orange-yellow topaz and is at times sold as topaz by unscrupulous dealers. This practice has soured many potential citrine fanciers who see citrine as a fake topaz and not as a legitimate gemstone. The finest citrine gemstones have a pure yellow color that cannot be duplicated by golden topaz, which will always have hues of orange or brown to darken the gem.

From Hard Rock New 11/12, via Firemountaingems.com

MINERAL CLEANING (PART 1)

By John Betts

<http://www.johnbetts-fineminerals.com/>

(Originally Published in Four Installments by the New York Mineralogical Club, also Reprinted On-line on Bob's Rock Shop)

This article is first in a series on how to clean mineral specimens. Many specimens collected in the field do not look like the ones that dealers are selling. Most collectors become discouraged or frustrated. These articles will give a few simple techniques clean the pieces you collect.

Oxalic Acid

Anything that has the word "acid" sounds ominous. But oxalic acid is easy to find, use and the safest for the home. In fact it is found in many vegetables including spinach. It is used to dissolve the iron oxide (brown) stain on all minerals. Specimens collected at Phoenixville, Ellenville, Case Quarry, NH smoky quartz and many others clean up beautifully with oxalic acid. Zeolites do not respond as well, so you should test beforehand on small specimens to see how they react.

To make this as simple as possible I will give a step by step guide to its use. Do not take any shortcuts or make substitutions. Purchase a one pound box of Oxalic Acid (OA) powder at your local hardware store in the paint department or at a paint store. It is used as wood bleach and will be labeled as such. The most common brand is Rainbow.

Fill a plastic one gallon container 3/4 full with hot tap water. Pour in the OA crystals and stir for five minutes. Be careful not to inhale any powder when adding the crystals. Once the OA is dissolved top off the container to a full gallon. Label the container and put out of reach of children or pets.

When you are ready to use it place your specimens in a plastic container and add enough OA solution to cover. Set aside for several days.

After the iron color has disappeared then you can remove

the specimens (with gloves on) and wash under running water for three hours. Then soak in clean water for a day changing The water as often as possible.

Heat speeds up the reaction, as does agitation. If you have a hot plate and can set up outdoors or in an area with good ventilation then repeat step 4 but heat the solution to bath water hot (110 °F.). Never Boil! You will find that an hour in hot solution will usually do the trick. Best of all is an ultrasonic cleaner with a built-in heater. Sometimes only 30 minutes is necessary But you should not put the OA directly into the stainless steel basin.

Make a double boiler type of arrangement by partially filling the ultrasonic cleaner basin with water. Then place your specimens and OA solution in a plastic container or heavy duty plastic bag that is suspended in the water.

You can reuse the solution over and over. As it dissolves more And more iron it will get darker often taking on a green color. After it gets really dark I would discard it and mix a new batch. Safety is important OA solution is highly toxic. It can be ab-

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LIST OF WSMC FIELD TRIPS FOR 2012

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
11/10	MtBk	Blanchard Hill	9:00 @ I-5 exit 240, Gas Mart	Stilpnomelane in Quartz	Hard rock tools
01/26/13	Marysville	Cedar Ponds			
02/16/13	Marysville	Beaver Valley			
03/23/13	Everett	Saddle Mountain			

(* 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!)

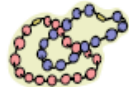
ALWAYS CALL TO CONFIRM TRIP DATES AND DETAILS!— SEE BELOW

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

**SKAGIT ROCK & GEM CLUB
PRESENTS
“Treasures of the Earth”
A GEM, MINERAL, FOSSIL, &
JEWELRY SHOW**

November 10 & 11, 2012
Saturday 9-5 Sunday 10-5
FREE ADMISSION
Hourly Door Prizes



Dealers
Demonstrations
Food
Children's Activities

Sedro Woolley Community Center
720 State Street

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sorbed through the skin and builds up in your organs cumulatively.

Same goes for the fumes, which is why you never boil the solution and always have proper ventilation when using the heated solution. Be careful no to spill the solution on porcelain and keep away from food preparation surfaces.

In spite of the fuss, this is the best all around method of cleaning minerals. I keep a large five gallon bucket with tight fitting lid filled and ready, I drop specimens in as I collect them. It always works and the large volume does not exhaust quickly. Mastering this technique will provide an important tool in your mineral cleaning and preparation arsenal.

From West Seattle Petroglyphs 10/12 via Agatizer 09/09

Dues are due

Download the PDF or Word version from the WSMC website in the Misc. Resources menu

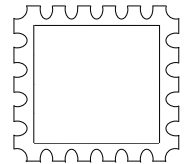
Local Area Shows for 2012/2013

November 2012 9th 10am—5pm 10th 10am—5pm 11th 10am—4pm	So Sound Gem, Opal & Mineral Show The Northwest Opal Assoc & Cascade Mineralogical Society	8th annual show	Puyallup Fairgrounds Expo Hall Meridian St. S. and 9th Ave. SW Puyallup, WA
November 2012 10th 9am—5pm 11th 10am—5pm	Skagit Rock & Gem Club	Treasures of the Earth	Sedro Woolley Community Center 720 State St Sedro Woolley, WA
November 2012 10th 9am—5pm 11th 10am—4pm	Maplewood Rock And Gem Club	61st Annual Fall show	Maplewood clubhouse 8802 196th St SW Edmonds, WA
November 2012 17th 10am—5pm 18th 10am - 5pm	Kitsap Mineral and Gem Society	Fall Festival of Gems	President's Hall Kitsap County Fairgrounds 1200 NW Fairgrounds Rd. Bremerton, WA 98311
February 2013 10th 9am—5pm 11th 9am—4pm	Whidbey Island Gem Club	48th Annual Sweetheart of Gems Show	Oak Harbor Senior Center 51 SE. Jerome Street Oak Harbor, WA
February 2013 15th 5pm—8pm 16th 10am—4pm 17th 10am—4pm	North Lincoln Agate Society	Rock Out at the Beach	Lincoln City Cultural Center 540 NE Hwy. 101 Lincoln City, OR
February 2013 24th 10am - 6pm 25th 10am - 5pm	Idaho Gem & Mineral Club	Annual Gem And Mineral Show	Expo Idaho Fairgrounds 5610 Glenwood & Chinden Boise, Idaho
March 2013 2nd 10am - 6pm 3rd 10am - 5pm	East KingCo Club	Annual Rock and Gem Show	Pickering Barn 1730 10th Ave NW Issaquah, WA
March 2013 8th 10am - 6pm 9th 10am - 6pm 10th 10am - 6pm	Tualatin Valley Gem Club	Annual Show	Washington County FairPlex 873 NE 34th Ave. Hillsboro, OR.
March 2013 9th 9am - 5pm 10th 10am - 4pm	Rock & Arrowhead Club	27th Annual Show "Crystals" \$1.00 Donation Children Free	Klamath County Fairgrounds 3531 S. 6th St. Klamath Fall, OR. 97603
March 2013 9th 9am - 5pm 10th 9am - 5pm	Magic Valley Gem Club	62nd Annual Show	Twin Falls Co., Fairgrounds 215 Fair Ave., Filer, ID
March 2013 16th 10am—5pm 17th 10am—5pm	North Seattle Lapidary And Mineral Club	59th Annual show	Lake City Community Center 12531 28th Ave. NE, Seattle
March 2013 30th 10am - 6pm 31st 10am - 5pm	Sweet Home Rock & Mineral Society	65th Annual Rock & Min- eral Show	Sweet Home High School Activity Gym handicap parking 1641 Long St. Sweet Home, OR
April 2013 19th 9am—6pm 20th 10am—6pm 21st 10am—4:30pm	Willamette Agate and Mineral Society	58th Annual show	Polk County Fairgrounds 520 S Hwy 99 (Pacific Hy) - 10 miles west of Sa- lem Rickreall, Oregon
April 2013 20th 10am - 6pm 21st 10am - 4pm	Yakima Rock & Mineral Club	52nd Annual Parade of Gems Adults \$3.50, Stu- dents \$2.00 Under12 free w/adult	Washington National Guard Armory 2501 Airport Lane Yakima, WA
April 2013 27th 10am—5pm 28th 10am—5pm	West Seattle Rock Club	46nd Annual Rock Show	Alki Masonic Temple 4736 40th Ave. SW. (W Seattle), WA

Westside Board Meeting
January 15, 2013
7:30 PM

Maplewood Clubhouse
8802 196th St SW
Edmonds

COUNCIL REPORTER, Monthly publication of The
Washington State Mineral Council



WASHINGTON STATE MINERAL COUNCIL
27871 Minkler Road
Sedro Woolley, WA. 98284

