

The Petrified Digest

P.O.Box 303

Wenatchee, WA 98807

Published monthly by:
Ginkgo Mineral Society, Inc.



Due to the forecast heat advisory for Saturday, the picnic has been canceled!



Graphic used with permission

Wenatchee Valley on an early August morning.

Average high temp - 88

Average precipitation - .19 inches

Rocky Reach Dam opened in 1961

Ginkgo Club Picnic: due to the forecast heat advisory for Saturday, the picnic is canceled.

Look What's Coming on page 3

Email ideas, trip notes, or photos to:
ginkgonews@yahoo.com

or to wonderstar@nwi.net

Web page: www.wenatcheerockclub.org

Face Book page: Ginkgo Mineral Society

From Atop the Rock Pile

Hello Rockhounds

We are filling the activity schedule for August and September. Please take time to look over all of our events and see what interests you. We would love to see you out in nature searching for treasures with us. Please check back from time to time to make sure you receive each of our updates to the outings because there will be addendums to our event posts. Anyone with questions is welcome to contact me. See you all at our annual picnic potluck! **(The picnic has been canceled! - ed)**

President,
Steven Douglass



From the Scribe

“The meeting was called to order by Steven. There were 3 visitors. The program for this meeting was Show and Tell with several club members showing their items from painted rocks to rocks found at Wild Turkey mine in Idaho. all in all, there were a lot of nice finds and some Jewelry made by members. Refreshments were purchased by the club and a couple other members bought in some more goodies. Door prize was won by Hiram Beach, Raffle 1 was won by Pat Russel, Raffle 2 was won by ? Raffle 3 was won by Hiram Beach, Raffle 4 was won by Cheri Mcmillan, raffle 5 was won by ?

no min for las month turned in.

Treasurers repot was read for David by Pam filling in for him.

Committee leader reports. We Talked about people helping in as shop Forman's. The shop rock saws have been upgraded to mineral spirits. Dan will be up at the shop on Saturday 7/31. Dan with Chelan county fair report club purchased several pictures for was mounting. We also decided that the club would not have a booth at the Waterville Fair. Steven club talked about our Facebook needing upgrades, Share button, and several other things to talked about at a later date. Dan reported that the clubs web site is updated.

The club Picnic is going to be August 14 at Tedford park at 3:30pm. The club is buying the Chicken, some water and a few other types of drinks. Bring your own chairs, plates, and what every you need to eat with.” **(The picnic has been canceled!)**

Secretary
Bob Spurrier

From the Vault

CD			\$10,022.45
Savings Account with interest			\$1,797.81
Checking Account	7/01/21	Beginning Balance	\$1,018.45
		3 Deposits	382.00
		(memberships, shop fees, grit)	
		Newsletter printing	<u>(269.99)</u>
	7/31/21	Ending Balance	\$1,130.46
		5 checks	
		(newsletter, grit, postage, rent, photo prints)	

Treasurer
David Earhart

Look What's Coming

Saturday, August 14 is the annual Club potluck picnic **anceled!** Located at Tedford Park at the corner of S.E. 1st and Jarvis in East Wenatchee. Gather about 3:30 for good food, good conversations, and good fun. The Club will provide the chicken. Bring a side dish and/or desert to share. Also bring your own plates, utensils, and drinks. There will be tables and benches but you may want to bring your own camp type chair for comfortable seating. More information is on the Ginkgo Facebook page and the Ginkgo website. See you there!

Saturday, August 28 is a field trip for Heather Lake Trail garnets and Lake Wenatchee actinolite and soapstone. Meet at the Gateway Cinema parking lot at the very northwest corner. Departing at 8:30 am so be early. Bring: backpack, food, water, small container for garnets, hammer, gloves, chisel, safety glasses, small mesh screen or gold pan, and shoes you don't mind getting wet. Soapstone can be cut with a hand saw if you want some of that stone. A forest service pass is required. More information is available on the Ginkgo Facebook page and the Ginkgo website.

Friday, September 17 Regular Club meeting at the Presbyterian Church at 7 pm.

Thursday to Sunday, September 9 to 12 Chelan County Fair. Our Club area needs hosts/hostesses, exhibitors, and display case collections.

Saturday, September 18 is a field trip to search for Columbia Basin agates near Pasco. Meet at the Hobby Lobby parking lot for an 8:30 departure. The drive is a little over 2 hours. Bring: food, water, jacket, cap or hat, gloves, hammer, small pick or 3-prong garden tool, bucket, screw driver, garden weed sprayer, and footwear that will support your ankles. No pass or fees are required. More information is available on the Ginkgo Facebook page.

A note from Christy Price:

Please avoid using the Club shop on holidays but any other days are fine. Look for a schedule soon for days and times when the shop will be open.

David's Notes

Thanks to all for attending the July meeting at the church. The raffle was a great fundraiser and members bought tickets to the tune of \$75. That is more than double of the usual amount.

Fred Meyer Rewards Eleven of our members have signed up at Fred Meyer to have them give money to the Ginkgo non-profit. Each quarter Fred Meyer pays out “community rewards” of which we receive about \$100 per year. It costs members nothing to be signed up. Ask Marcia what it takes to sign up at Fred Meyer. 509.860.7556 (This is free money for the Club and costs you nothing - ed)

Marcia and David, along with Pam L. and Steven D. showed up on a nice, sunny day to check out the open pit Wild Turkey Mine looking for yellow-green Noble Serpentine. There was plenty of float laying around but not quality rock. However, Steven was using his hammer and chisel to pry rocks out of the wall. He and Pam left with several 5-gallon buckets. David was less picky and settled for a ½ bucket of float. Marcia walked around and found several selections for her half-gallon bucket.

It was a long drive to the Wild Turkey. Forty to fifty individuals were there that day – not all from our Club though. Our new member, Gregg S. from Spokane was there early with Kristi J. And the next day Ron P. was there and posted lots of pictures of his finds on the Ginkgo Facebook page. (There were several other members there but I don't have names – ed.)

Marcia and I went on to Montana to visit my son who lives near Glacier Park. One day we drove to Logan Pass at the top of “Going to the Sun” road. Another day, Marcia and my daughter-in-law hiked 2.5 miles into Avalanche Lake. (NOT me) People, people everywhere!

Market place

Have something other club members might like and you want to sell?

Send picture(s) and description(s) to Dan Hanson – wonderstar@nwi.net

Chelan County Fair

It's coming! September 9 – 12. *Pride in our Past – Faith in our future.* We need tumbled stones to give to kids who visit our booth. We need hosts for the four days. We need entries for the exhibitors' case. And we need collections for the display cases. The Club pays for the admission tickets for our hosts.

Wednesday, Sept 8 we will be accepting exhibitor submissions to be judged. There are 60 plus categories to be judged and awarded ribbons and prizes. Please consider entering any projects you have done in the past **two** years. Also the 8th is when we set up the display cases. Please let me know if you have a collection or display.

Thursday, Sept 9 the Fair opens to the public from 9 am to 9 pm.

Friday & Saturday, the Fair is open from 9 am to 10 pm. We'll need hosts from 9 to 1, from 1 to 5, and from 5 to close to answer questions, hand out rocks, and in general, visit with folks.

Sunday, Sept 12 the Fair is open from 9 am to 5 pm. We need hosts from 9 to 1 and from 1 to 5. After 5 pm you can collect your exhibited pieces and ribbons and remove your display case items.

Please contact me if you can help with any of these tasks. It is our chance to showcase our hobby and the beauty of rocks and the earth. Dan 253.318.6616

Sardonyx – Birthstone for August – Traditional List

Sardonyx is a combination of varieties of chalcedony. The light yellow red to reddish brown color is dependent on the amount of iron oxide present while the white banding is onyx. The gem can be cut in various shapes to make necklaces, bracelets, earrings, and rings. In ancient days it was discovered in Persia, now known as Turkey. Ancient Romans and Greeks made pendants and rings to wear into battle believing the stones brought them courage and protection. Sardonyx has a hardness of 6.5 to 7 on the Mohs scale.



Major sources: Germany, Madagascar, Brazil, Slovakia, Uruguay and the United States.

Peridot and Spinel – Birthstones for August – Modern List

Modern jewelers have adopted green peridot and red spinel as birthstones for August to give prospective buyers a choice of color. Both are hard stones with spinel at 8 and peridot at 7.5 on the Mohs scale so they make durable jewelry.

Peridot is the more popular of the two, perhaps because it comes in a wider range of green colors. Peridot is one of the oldest known gemstones dating back to about 2000 B.C. And it was mined near the Red Sea for almost 3500 years before the source was fairly well depleted. Peridot has been discovered in meteorites and recently on Mars and on the moon.

Major sources of peridot: Myanmar, Pakistan, Arizona, China, and Vietnam

Spinel can range in color from pink to orange to blue to black with deep red being the most desirable. A vibrant red spinel gem may sometimes be mistaken for a ruby.

Major sources of spinel: Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Australia, Africa, Vietnam, and Russia



Do you know

Rocks can float. Of course you do, since we have all seen pumice. But what about a trillion pieces of pumice floating on the South Pacific ocean near Australia?

A couple sailing between islands near Tonga and Fiji found themselves in a floating slick of rocks from marble size to as big as a basketball. The rocks bumped against their sailboat and clogged their rudder at times. The couple said the “pumice raft” was miles wide and very eerie. Scientists estimate the slick to be the size of 20,00 football fields.

Pumice forms when volcanoes under the ocean erupt and the lava filled with little air bubbles cool quickly in the water. The trapped air bubbles make the lava buoyant so it floats to the surface.

Scientists hope the raft will float over the Great Barrier Reef near Australia where the rocks could host marine organisms that might help “recolonize” the threatened environment of the Reef.

(After finding this article, I was reading a science fiction story that included this very phenomenon as part of the storyline!)



Michael Hoult holds volcanic rock collected from the large pumice raft in the South Pacific Sea. Credit: Michael Hoult

News of Note

Recently our own Tom Prang led a group of students through a lesson at the Cashmere Museum. The students looked at various displays in the museum and had some hands-on activities designed by Tom. Thank you to Cheri Mammenga-McMillan for Sharing the original Cashmere Museum Facebook post to our Ginkgo page.



Tom also did a presentation for the folks at the Epledalen Retirement and Assisted Living home in Cashmere. Unfortunately we don't have a picture of him in action at the home. Thanks, Tom for being such a great asset to our communities.

We really did have a July meeting. It was great to see smiling faces and share stories from the past year. Next “regular” meeting will be at the church September 17.



Officers

President	Steven Douglass	509.885.2213
Vice President	Carol Smith	509.884.3349
Secretary	Bob Spurrier	509.881.8096
Treasurer	David J. Earhart	509.860.0988

Coordinators

Field Trips	Open	
Shop & Equipment	Carl Pederson	509.884.6940
Program/Education	Carol Smith	509.884.3349
Social	Marge Porterfield	509.679.3440
Chelan Fair	Dan Hanson	253.318.6616
Museum	Richard Congdon	509.886.2410
Newsletter	Dan Hanson	253.318.6616
Website	Val&Paul Hampton	509.884.3578
Rock Auction	Bob Spurrier	509.881.8096
Christmas Wrap	Pam Lander	509.884.5135
Nason Creek	David J. Earhart	509.860.0988

Grit for club members



Graded 30	\$4.00 lb
Ungraded 60/90	\$4.00 lb
Graded 220	\$4.00 lb
Graded 600	\$4.00 lb
Polish	\$7.00 lb



The **Ginkgo Mineral Society** was formed to promote the education of mineralogy and geology; to encourage the collecting of rocks and minerals; to provide field excursions to mineral collecting areas; and to promote interest in lapidary work.

Dues: Individual—\$20.00 Senior—\$15.00 Family—\$30.00 Lifetime (20+ years) - Free

Please mail your dues to Ginkgo P.O.Box 303, Wenatchee, WA 98807

Club information cards are available to handout to folks who show interest in our hobby. See David Earhart for cards to carry with you.

Shop Talk

The Ginkgo Club workshop is located at Christy Price’s home: 4325 Squilchuck Rd., Wenatchee. Christy asks that we don't use the shop on holidays but any other time is fine. Check the Ginkgo Mineral Society Facebook page to see if someone may be opening the shop. Club officers and the shop foreman have a key to open the shop.

Washington State Mineral Council For info contact Ed Lehman at

wsmced@gmail.com h#425.334.6282 c#425.760.2786

August 2021 27 th 10am-5pm 28 th 10 am-5pm	Southern WA Mineralogical Society	55 th Annual Show	Silver Lake Grange Castle Rock, WA
September 2021 10 th 10am-5pm 11 th 10am-5pm	Marcus Whitman Gem & Mineral Society	51 st Annual Gem & Mineral Show	Walla Walla County Fairgrounds