

# The Petrified Digest

P.O.Box 303

Wenatchee, WA 98807

Published monthly by:  
Ginkgo Mineral Society, Inc.



Graphic used with permission

*Wenatchee Valley on an early December morning.*

*Average high temp - 36*

*Average precipitation - 1.53 inches (7 inches snow)*

*December Club Christmas Party starts at 6 pm.*

**Next Meeting:** December 17  
Presbyterian Church  
200 S. Kentucky East Wenatchee

**Look what's coming  
on page 2**

Email ideas, trip notes, or photos to:

[ginkgonews@yahoo.com](mailto:ginkgonews@yahoo.com)

or to [wonderstar@nwi.net](mailto:wonderstar@nwi.net)

Web page: [www.wenatcheerockclub.org](http://www.wenatcheerockclub.org)

Face Book page: Ginkgo Mineral Society

## From Atop the Rock Pile

Happy Holidays Rockhounds!

Thank you for all that attended our last meeting. Last month we failed to mention our Christmas party, both in the newsletter and at the meeting so we will be emphasizing that in this newsletter. Please pay special attention to that subject matter while reading ahead. Remember...it starts 1 hour earlier than usual. There will also be a gift exchange for those of you that want to participate...

We are looking forward to seeing you there.

Steven Douglass

President



## December Christmas Party

The annual Ginkgo Club Christmas Party is December 17 at the Presbyterian Church on South Kentucky, East Wenatchee. This will be an early start time of 6 pm. Don't be late for dinner! The Club will provide the ham with members asked to bring their favorite side dish for variety. There will be a gift exchange of gifts under \$10.00. And for added spice there will be a "steal-a-gift" but only one steal per gift. Come early for the camaraderie. Santa hats are encouraged!



## From the Scribe

The meeting was called to order by President Steven Douglass at 7:15. (Lots of Visiting!)

The program for the evening was show and tell. Pam Lander brought a selection of polished seam agates that looked good enough to eat! Kirk & Tabatha brought a box of items they collected on their 2 ½ months of traveling south last winter which included jaspers, agates, and petrified wood. Ron Payne brought samples of Plume Jasper from Jasper Point, OR and told a great story of collecting them. R John Montgomery brought finds from Westport, WA including concretions and beach rocks. Pat Russell brought a piece of rhyolite that had a lacy green stripe and a sphere shape that made it look like a beach scene. Steve Douglass brought a large plate of pyrite pieces that came from the Spruce Claim on Snoqualmie Pass which is private. He also told of taking Christy and Hiram Beach to Dry Gulch to find fossils. They spent most of the day; gathered a lot but neglected to tell Steve that after sliding down the hill he wore a large hole in his jeans! Chuck Watkins brought 2 wonderful specimens he found on Red Top. One was a 6" by 10" (my guess) bowl shaped piece of geode with amethyst crystals and the other a big piece of solid geode. He also brought a large aerial map of the Red Top area which may show up on the shop wall. Marcia Summers brought a piece of Labradorite which she purchased in Whitefish, MT, a jar of recently polished material, and samples of rocks found in the Yellow Stone River.

The minutes were not read.

David Earhart gave the Treasurer's Report and added that our insurance premium is due soon and our annual website fees are due. We have lots of grit in stock and to sign up our club to earn money from Fred Meyer Community Rewards program. (Ask Marcia if you need help signing up.) Pam asked if people would save their grit container lids as they are not in stock at the U.S.Chef's store ( a supply chain problem!).

Pam Lander has secured a spot in the Sportsman's Warehouse for our Christmas wrapping

fundraiser starting December 18 and ending December 24, 1-5 pm. Please call her if you can help. 509.884.5135. (Ed. This is a major fundraiser for the Club.)

A box of turquoise pieces was auctioned for \$100, purchased by Diana Rhoades.

New Business: David Earhart mentioned that our Club usually buys a booth at the North Central WA Prospectors Gold Show to be held in April at the Chelan County Fairgrounds. Members may sell items they have made and man our booth if possible.

Elections of officers was held and the outcome was: President Steven Douglass; Vice President Carol Smith; Treasurer David Earhart; Secretary Carol Turner. Congratulations!

Good of the order: Carol Smith had a table of painted rocks/pendants for sale with inspirational sayings or just pretty to look at.

Suzanne Pederson brought an assortment of hand-knitted scarves and a hat she made. Members were welcome to take any for gifts or give to the needy.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Marcia Summers, for Bob Spurrier.

## From the Vault

CD	11/30	\$10,033.82
	4 <sup>th</sup> qtr interest to be paid 12/4	12.00
Savings Account with interest	11/30/21	\$1,798.11
Checking Account	11/01/21 Beginning Balance	\$1647.76
	2 Deposits	\$265.57
	No Checks written	<u>0.00</u>
	10/31/21 Ending Balance	\$1,913.33

Note: December Payables

Christmas Party (hams)	\$40.00?
December newsletter (printing, postage)	\$200.00
1 yr P.O.Box	\$134.00
2022 Liability Insurance	\$522.00

Treasurer

David Earhart

Notes: We now have plenty of grit and polish at the shop.

You can pay for your 2022 Ginkgo Membership now. Send money!

## Market place



Custom Ellensburg Blue jewelry Contact Carol Smith 509.884.3349 for these and other fine items





Richardson High Speed Dry Sander ½ hp 120 vac motor. \$445.00 Uses a 7-inch silicone carbide paper disk available from Richardsons at 541.475.2680



Richardson Buffer – ½ hp 120 vac motor. 12-inch leather buffing disc. \$345.00

Contact Don Deycous at 509.754.2946 if you are interested in these items.

## Blue Zircon – Birthstone for December – Modern List

Zircon is a natural gemstone. Cubic zircon is a cheap, synthetic diamond substitute that resembles colorless zircon. Zircons come in many colors but blue is the most highly prized. They are first mentioned in the ancient tale of the Kalpa Tree. Described by Hindu poets as the ultimate gift to the gods, it was a bright, glowing tree with leaves covered in zircon. Jewish legends say zircon was the name of the angel sent to watch over Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. Cambodia is the world's largest producer of blue zircon. Zircon is also mined in Australia, India, Brazil, and the United States.



## Tanzanite & Blue Topaz – Birthstone for December – Modern List

Both of these gemstones come out of the ground mostly colorless and require heat treatments and/or radiation to achieve a blue color. They are relatively inexpensive alternatives to more expensive Zircon. Tanzanite comes from Tanzania. Topaz is mined in Brazil, the United States, Madagascar, Myanmar, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Mexico and many other counties around the earth.

## Turquoise – Birthstone for December – Traditional List

Since ancient times, turquoise has been known for its distinct color. It is one of the few minerals whose name is also a color. Due to its relative softness, artisans around the world found it to be a good medium for carving into shapes for jewelry, ceremonial masks, and talismans. King Tut's burial mask and tomb were inlaid with turquoise. American Indians have long been known for their excellent work with turquoise and silver. Most turquoise is between 4 and 5 on the Mohs scale although some found in the southwest part of the United States measures 6 or above on the scale. Turquoise is found in many parts of the world but the United States and Mexico are now the largest producers with the state of Arizona leading by value and quality.



## News of Note

From Carol Smith: A special Thank You to Suzanne Pederson for the hand knitted scarves she donated to any Club member who could use them or gift them to someone needy. She did a wonderful job with colors and texture.

Please be thinking of signing up for our annual Christmas wrap fundraiser. Call Pam Lander to schedule the FUN event with other Santa Members. It's only a 4-hour shift with lots of Christmas paper, tape, bows, and camaraderie. Pam's phone number is 509.884.5135

**Pacific Northwest Gem & Art Gallery** published a list of sites in the northwest where you can find great rocks. There are lots of sites many of you already know but here is their list with some you might not know.

### Where to find cool rocks in Washington

[Geology Adventures](#) - Amber, Quartz Scepters, Pyrite, Amethyst, Fluorite & Garnet gathering field trips

[geologyadventures.com](#)

[Rockin Tomahawk Ranch](#) - Take a chance surface hunting this ranch in Ellensburg Washington for the ever elusive Ellensburg Blue agate.

Facebook: Rock'n'tomahawk Ranch

[Stonerose Interpretive Center and Eocene Fossil Site](#) - Find your own Eocene plant fossils in northern central Washington.

[stonerosefossil.org](#)

### Where to find cool rocks in Oregon

[Dust Devil Sunstone Mine](#) - Fee digging and belt picking for the famous Oregon Sunstone

[dustdevilmining.com](#)

[Spectrum Sunstone Mine](#) - Fee digging and belt picking for the famous Oregon Sunstone

[highdesertgemsandminerals.com](#)

[Wheeler High School Fossil Beds](#) - Bridge Creek Leaf Fossils - John Day Fossil Beds

[nps.gov](#)

### Where to find cool rocks in Idaho

[Emerald Creek](#) - Screen for Idaho Star Garnets

[visitidaho.org](#)

[Spencer Opal Mine](#) - Precious Opal tailings dig in Spencer, Idaho. AMAZING Opal

[spenceropalmines.com](#)

### Where to find cool rocks in Montana

[Gem Mountain](#) - Pan for your own Montana Sapphires

Facebook: Gem Mountain

[Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine](#) - Another great location to pan sapphire gravel, they also have virtual mining!

[sapphiremine.com](#)

[Baisch's Dinosaur Digs](#) - Take home dinosaur fossils, petrified wood, colorful rocks and precious memories from a day in the Eastern Montana badlands. Play paleontologist while you hunt for and excavate triceratops, edmontosaurus, and the elusive T-rex.

[dailydinosaurdigs.com](#)

## 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	Dan Hanson	253.318.6616
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 more information:

[mineralcouncil@zoho.com](mailto:mineralcouncil@zoho.com) or <https://mineralcouncil.wordpress.com>

February 2022 12 <sup>th</sup> 9am-5pm 13 <sup>th</sup> 9am-4pm	Whidbey Island Gem Club	Annual Gem Show	The Center in Oak Harbor 51 Jerome St
March 2022 11 <sup>th</sup> 8:30am-6pm 12 <sup>th</sup> 9am-5pm	Panorama Gem & Mineral Club	Annual Show	Stevens County Fairgrounds Ag & Trade Center 317 West Astor Colville, WA