

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 June morning.

Average high temp – 81

Average precipitation – .66 inches

City of Wenatchee Population 2019 (est) 34360

Ginkgo Club Meeting:

Auction and meeting

June 19 6:30pm

See details on next page!

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

Special Announcement

Our first live meeting in over 15 months will be June 19 at 6:30 pm. Short business meeting followed by both a silent and a live auction. Come anytime after **6 pm** to preview the auction items. This will be outside at Dan and Dena Hanson's yard with plenty of room to social distance. Bring your own chair and a drink. Cookies will be provided by the club. No restrooms are available so plan accordingly.

The address is:

2421 Lester Rd Wenatchee.

From Atop the Rock Pile

Hello Everyone,

June is here and it's nice to see some relaxing of the rules here in our beautiful state of Washington.

Hope you have all been having adventures of your own for the last year and that you will be willing to share your stories of them when we start meeting again.

We would like to welcome our new members – you know who you are. We are excited to have you part of our family. We will make sure you all receive a formal introduction when our club meets next.

And I would like to give a big shout out and thank you to all who help us keep our club alive by sharing your knowledge, donating rocks, volunteering your labor to help us achieve our goals. It's all part of being in our Ginkgo Mineral Society family. We appreciate you.

President,
Steven Douglass



From the Scribe No Meeting – No Minutes

From the Vault

CD with first quarter interest		\$10,011.10
Savings Account	Beginning Balance 5/1/21	\$1797.59
	May Interest	<u>0.08</u>
	Ending Balance 5/31/21	\$1,797.67
Checking Account	Beginning Balance 5/1/21	\$919.49
	3 Deposits: shop fees, memberships	217.40
	6 Checks: Newsletter, postage, banking*	<u>(663.79)</u>
	Ending Balance 5/31/21	\$473.10
	*\$150 each to Cashmere and Wenatchee Museums	

Dues may be paid now. Send to Ginkgo P.O.Box 303 Wenatchee, WA 98007

Or drop off at David's house: 1255 1st S.E. East Wenatchee

This is a list of members who have paid dues for 2021. If you have a question contact David.

If your name is NOT listed your dues are past due for this year.

Allen	Frederick	Mosher
Aumell	Garver	Pederson
Beach	Gill	Prang
Bodrero	Glenn	Pinnix
Bollinger	Hanson	Price
Burke	Holman	Reynolds, B
Condon	Jackson	Reynolds, L
Danielson	Kissler	Rhoads
Douglass	Lander	Russell, L
Downey	Latimer	Russell, Pat
Earhart	Lechner	Shaw
Summers	Marconi	Sherwood
Everhart	McGregor	Sly, K
Elf	Morash	Smith
Engley	Spurrier	Stanford
Feiten	McMillan	Watkins
	Montgomery	Witt

Do you know

Ellensburg Blue agate is the third most rare agate to be found in the world. It comes from a layer of basalt lava north of Ellensburg, the Teanaway basalt, which is 47 million years old. The agates might be found from Red Top to Rock 'N' Tomahawk Ranch down in the valley. You can try your luck digging on Red Top or pay \$5 to walk the fields of the ranch looking for the elusive stones. Quality Ellensburg Blues can bring \$200 to 250 per carat with faceted Blues going for even higher prices.

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

<p><i>Ellensburg Blue</i> <i>by Carol Smith</i> <i>509.884.3349</i></p> <p>This stone is 55 carats @ \$50 a ct. = \$2,750 @\$15 a ct. = \$825 Make an offer</p>		<table border="1"> <tr> <th>White</th> <th>Rose</th> <th>Purple</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <th>Peach</th> <th>Grey</th> <th>Black</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	White	Rose	Purple				Peach	Grey	Black			
White	Rose	Purple												
														
Peach	Grey	Black												
														

Pearl - Birthstone for June – Traditional List

Pearls are the only gems found within living creatures, both salt and

freshwater mollusks. A pearl is composed of **calcium carbonate** (mainly **aragonite** or a mixture of aragonite and **calcite**) in minute crystalline form, which has deposited in concentric layers. Gem-quality pearl color is the result of a body color and an overtone color or orient present as a lustrous sheen. The orient is the color seen as reflected by a diffuse light source and give the pearl iridescence. The rest of the color is due to the body color. Pearls are between 2.5 and 4.5 on the Mohs scale of hardness.

Major sources: Pearls occur naturally worldwide but most are now cultivated

Alexandrite - Birthstone for June – Modern List

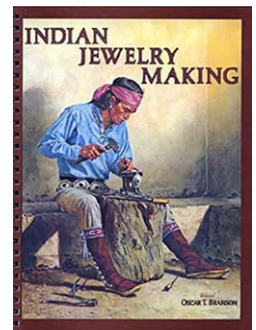
Alexandrite is one of the rarest of all colored gemstones available today. The original source for alexandrite was the Ural region of Russia; those mines have long been depleted. It was said to have been discovered the day Tsar Alexander II came of age. Alexandrite changes color under different lighting conditions. It is most often emerald green in daylight and raspberry red in incandescent lighting. The color change phenomenon is called the “alexandrite effect” and is the result of its strong absorption of light in the blue and yellow portions of the color spectrum. Alexandrite has a hardness of 8.5 on the Mohs scale.



Major current sources: Brazil, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, India, and Madagascar

Auction News

The auction items are available for preview after 6 pm on Saturday, June 19. There are at least 6 large specimens for the live auction with more possible as we get closer to the 19th. There are 29 plastic boxes of smaller items with some rough and some polished material in each. Also if you are interested in making Indian style jewelry, there is an autographed copy of Indian Jewelry Making by Oscar T. Branson. Online this book sells for \$150. Opening bid for this excellent, signed copy is \$50.



News of Note

Rockhounding for Idaho star garnets. Dena and I joined Gregg Stanford (some of you might remember him from Saddle Mountain and one of our newest member) and 2 other friends for a field trip to St. Maries to mine for the elusive star garnet. The weather was cool but did not rain. The Forest Service closed down the star garnet area on Emerald Creek last year and has opened it up to a reservation system this year. For \$15 each individuals can fill buckets with pay material to screen and then sluice to look for the 12-sided gems. Each individual can take home 5 pounds of garnets but the ranger said no one has ever come close in the 3-hours allotted for each reservation. There were about 20 adults and kids when we were there for the Monday morning time slot and the most any one group found was 8 ounces! Dena and I found almost 5 ounces of mostly pieces and parts but a few whole gems. We won't know if there are any “stars” until we have a chance to grind and polish the bigger pieces.



Pay pile collected by Forest Service from surrounding creeks



Filling a bucket to take to screening area



Screening out sand and dirt and big rocks



After screening out the sand and dirt, the pay material is sluiced to look for the purple gems

Looking at what's coming in the next 4 months

June 19th Live meeting and auction Dan & Dena's yard, Bring a chair, a drink, and MONEY! ;-)

July 17th 1st regular meeting of 2021 at 7 pm at Presbyterian Church 200 S. Kentucky, E. Wenatchee
This is a Friday evening. Bring a story of a rockhounding adventure to share with the group.

August 14th Annual Picnic at Telford Park at 3:30 pm
Club will provide chicken and drinks, bring a chair, more info next month.

September 17th Regular meeting at 7 pm at Presbyterian Church 200 S. Kentucky, E. Wenatchee
This is a Friday evening. Hopefully the October meeting will be back at the fire station.

Washington State Mineral Counsel calendar

7/17 Darrington Rock Show and field trip

7/23 Washington Agate & Mineral Show at Tenino, WA

8/6-8 Far West Lapidary and Gem Society Show at The Mill Casino in North Bend, OR

8/13-15 Mt Hood Rock Club annual Rock & Gem Show at Portland, OR

8/20-22 Willamette Agate & Mineral Society Rock & Gem Show at Rickreall, OR

8/21&22 Greenwater Field Trip at Enumclaw Ranger Station

Call Ed Lehman at 425.334.6282 or 425.760.2786 for information about any of these activities.

Many, many thanks!

Thank you to Richard and Charlene Previtt for donating beautiful polished rocks to give away to school kids at the Chelan County Fair.

Thank you to Ed Mosher for his donation of some spectacular polished slabs and geodes for the auction. These are sure to catch your eye and open your wallet.

Thank you to new member Gregg Stanford for his donation of two large pieces of petrified wood. One of the pieces even has part of a limb attached.

All donations to the club for any event or activity are appreciated.

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. Take the Squilchuck road toward Mission Ridge and turn left on Cranmer Road then an immediate left to the driveway. 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.**