

The Petrified Digest

P.O.Box 303

Wenatchee, WA 98807

Published monthly by:
Ginkgo Mineral Society, Inc.



Brown Jasper



In Washington, Brown Jasper is most commonly found in many of the creeks throughout the state. It is the most common of all jaspers in the state.

March 2022

Next Meeting: March 18, 7pm
Presbyterian Church
200 S. Kentucky East Wenatchee

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

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

What's Coming

The March program will be a “free for all” program about Columbia Basin Agates. Anyone who has collected these please bring them to our meeting for viewing at a front table. There will be an open discussion about collecting these treasures. Rock & Gem magazine had a three-page article about these agates within the last year so people are becoming aware of the history of these rocks and where to find them.

Program/Education Chair
Carol Smith

From Atop the Rock Pile

Happy St. Patty's Day to all you faithful rockhounds,

Steven Douglass has left us for southern shores so I am stepping up as president to reorganize a few of our officers and coordinator positions. I will announce them in the April newsletter. Our by laws do not require a membership vote on these particular issues. I believe we will all benefit with some changes and new members. See you all at our March meeting and I will close with “Old Farmers Advice”: A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.

Carol Smith
President



From the Scribe

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Steven Douglass at 7:10 pm.
Visiting members: Rick Lechner (Wyoming), and Tracie Powney (Winthrop).

Program:

Ron Payne shared information about jewelry settings and a list of where to find them. He showed various settings and information about them, as well as a displays of his cabs. Carol Smith will make his list of names of where to procure settings available for members. Ron mentioned that care needs to be taken when ordering supplies, as supplies ordered from some countries are of questionable quality. He encouraged members to try the cabbing tools available at the shop.

Bob Grant presented information on finding materials on Saddle Mountain. He often goes with his grandchildren on dirt bikes and is able to pick up materials without digging for them. He has used several creative ways to get materials out to his vehicle. He gave interesting information about the formation of Saddle Mountain, including floods, lava flows, mud that protects wood from being burned, and river/lake action. Some petrified wood in that area is naturally shiny. Bob also mentioned that there are other materials besides rock (such as stag horns) to be found in the area. If you want an adventure to Saddle Mountain, contact Bob and join him. A four wheel drive vehicle will be sufficient.

Door Prize/Raffle Tickets:

The door prize winner was Pat Russell, and the raffle winner was Steven Douglass

Treasurer's Report:

David Earhart presented the Treasurer's Report (see in Newsletter). Please make sure you have paid dues for 2022. David reported that the Cashmere Gold Show will be April 9-10.

Refreshments:

Carol Smith passed around a refreshments sign-up sheet.

Committee Leader Reports:

Fund Raiser: David Earhart reported that the club will serve refreshments at the Nason Creek rest

stop for four days the last weekend of April. Set up will be at 6 pm the first day. This service opportunity usually generates \$400-\$600 for the club.

Shop: Pam Landers suggested a hidden key for the shop so that members can have easier access. Steven Douglass said that a coded deadbolt could be installed for about \$80. Pam said the Genie wheels at the shop need to be changed.

Events Coordinator: Helen Hall has set up a group on WhatsApp to help disseminate information about field trips. Information will still be available online and printed in the Newsletter for those who do not use the app. Marcia Summers will set up a phone tree for those who do not use cell phones.

Helen mentioned that field trip etiquette needs to be followed so that people know the whereabouts of those on the trip and no one is left behind. If you are leaving, please notify multiple people. Also, if there is a “caravan” of cars on field trips, be cognizant of who is ahead and behind you to keep track of each other and insure everyone’s safety. Helen is hoping to plan one trip per week. Not every trip will be scouted ahead of time. Steven Douglass said that one trip per week is very ambitious.

Auction:

Carol Smith mentioned that if you come across interesting rocks (either purchased or while out hounding), remember that we need rocks for the upcoming auction.

Executive Board:

President Steven Douglass announced that this will be his last meeting. He is moving to North Carolina for several reasons, and will be back near family. Carol Smith thanked him for his service to the club, and he was given a standing ovation. His leadership will be missed. The new Executive Board will be announced at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Carol Turner

Scribe

From the Vault

| | | |
|------------------|---|-----------------|
| CD | As of 2/28/2022 | \$10,045.07 |
| Savings Account | 2/01/22 | \$1,798.27 |
| Checking Account | 2/01/22 Beginning Balance | \$2,205.57 |
| | 2 Deposits Memberships, shop fees, grit | \$581.11 |
| | Checks: Office supplies, newsletter, stamps | <u>\$582.88</u> |
| | 2/28/22 Ending Balance | \$2,203.80 |

David Earhart

Treasurer

David's Notes

David reported that the Prospectors Club will have a show in mid-April, with 150 vendors. GMS has a table, and members need to think about items to donate for the show.

Just short of 50 families have paid 2022 dues. Here is the list of folks who have paid. If you don't see your name on this list, contact David.

| | | | |
|--------------|----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Allen, B | Griffith-Schnelle, J | Lechner, R | Rose, J |
| Anderson, S | Hall, H | McGregor, D | Russell, P |
| Ballinger, M | Earhart, D | McKay, S | Shaw, L |
| Beach, C | Everhart, D | McMillen, C | Silva, L |
| Bodrero, R | Feiten, W | Montgomery, R | Sly, K |
| Bramlette, D | Findley, M | Pederson, C | Smith, C |
| Burke, J | Hammond, T | Price, C | Spurrier, B |
| Clausen, C | Hansen, D | Oglebay, S | Summers, M |
| Clark, N | Hanson, D | Payne, R | Trepanier, P |
| Danielson, C | Jackson, B | Pinger, K | Turner, C |
| Deycous, D | Kissler, A | Reynolds, B | Watkins, C |
| Grant, R | Lander, P | Rhoades, D | Witt, B |

Off the Beaten Path

Greeting All,

I am continuing to work on our WhatsApp group messaging system. This system will allow me to message everyone regarding group trips and events. It will also allow other members to message each other. I only have approximately 25 members signed up. There are members on the list that I only have a home phone number for. I need everyone's cell number to be able to add you to the system. Your information is safe and is not sold or distributed to solicitors. If you have not already done so, can you please download from the App store for free to your cell phones. Next, add me as a contact: Helen Hall 1-509-679-9755. Then, text me so I can add you into the group.

I've been researching trips and scouting out areas to go rockhounding. I have a couple of others who have been scouting as well. Trips will be offered weekday and others on weekends. Some sites I will take you to what we will be collecting and other sites we will all search and collect. They will be known sites that others have posted about. If you know of any great locations, I would love it if you would share so we can go as a group. Text me at 509-679-9755 or through the WhatsApp, or email me at hmh0131969@gmail.com. I respond fairly quickly.

We had a very successful trip up to the Okanogan area this past weekend. We had a large turnout and everyone left with full buckets from both sites. Our next trip is this weekend the 19th and 20th. We will be making another trip to the N. Pasco site on Saturday meeting at the Hobby Lobby at 8:30 for an 8:45 departure. Some of us will be staying the night and going to the W. Richland site on Sunday. You can meet us at the site. The GPS coordinates and street are posted on our Facebook page. Non-Facebook users can contact me directly.

March 24th we are planning a trip to Quincy Lakes.

Friday, the 18th at 7 pm is our monthly meeting. Information will be provided regarding Columbia Basin Agates by Carol. A new calendar of events is coming this week.

Happy Hounding,

Helen

What's Cookin' Part 2 By Dan Hanson

Last month I talked about baking rocks in the oven to change their color. This month I'm going to talk about baking rocks in an oven to make them harder.

Many of you went on the field trip last summer to gather Noble Serpentine. I didn't make the trip but thanks to the generosity of Pam Lander and Gregg Stanford, I ended up with a nice collection of specimens that looked suitable for slabbing. Unfortunately when I went to cut some slabs at the shop, many of the slabs fractured and crumbled. While visiting Susan Olgebay, she showed me some stabilized

rocks that had been soaked in a concoction of acetone and epoxy. About the same time Gregg and I were headed south to our winter houses and the Happy Trails Lapidary Club. After some research online, we convinced the club there to purchase a vacuum pump and some Cactus Juice resin. Here is the process we developed for the Noble Serpentine and other soft stones.

Thoroughly clean slabs or rocks in acetone. Place stones in a container and cover with Cactus Juice. Use the vacuum pump to remove the air inside the rocks. Amazingly it takes several hours to get all the air out of the rocks. Take the container of rocks and Cactus Juice out of the vacuum and set aside for twice as many hours to let atmospheric pressure push the resin back into the rocks. After the rocks have absorbed the resin, they need to be baked. Take the rocks out of the container and place on toaster oven rack. Bake at 250 degrees for 3-4 hours. Do this OUTSIDE so the smoke doesn't set off the fire alarms!

We've been able to slice all the pieces of Noble Serpentine we brought with us and many other soft rocks this winter using this process. The piece at the right is some of that rock set in a pendant setting generously given to me by Susan Olgebay. The pendant does look much better in person.



Travels with David and Marcia

On their recent trip to the south and warmer climates, David and Marcia stopped to visit Dan and Dena Hanson in Surprise, Arizona. We visited the Rare Earth rock shop in Cave Creek to admire (not purchase) some amazing rock carvings, jewelry, and specimens. We didn't have wallets big enough but we enjoyed looking at the spectacular rocks. We also had a chance to do one of our other favorite snowbird activities one evening. We had ice cream outside! Handels makes their ice cream daily and serves samplers with 2 scoops of 4 flavors of your choice for about \$7. Marcia and Dena also spent some time at a large quilt store while David waited patiently and Dan had a Dr. appt. Thanks for visiting us. We'll be back in Wenatchee in April.



Marcia also posted this picture on Facebook of her trek through a slot canyon as they continued their ventures in the warm southwest.



Gold Treasure

The 21st Annual Gold Treasure and More Show is April 9th & 10th. Ginkgo will have a table at the show. Contact David Earhart for more information.

Recent Field Trips

Helen Hall has been a super field trip coordinator leading trips in the last month. Here are few pictures that have been posted to the Ginkgo Facebook page.



Officers

| | | |
|----------------|------------------|--------------|
| President | Carol Smith | 509.884.3349 |
| Vice President | Open | |
| Secretary | Carol Turner | 509.424.2161 |
| Treasurer | David J. Earhart | 509.860.0988 |

Coordinators

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Field Trips/Activities | Helen Hall | 509.679.9755 |
| 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 | Carol Smith | 509.884.3349 |
| 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 or <https://mineralcouncil.wordpress.com>

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|---|----------------------------|--|---|
| April 2022 22 nd 10-4 23 rd 10-5 24 th 10-4 | Yakima Rock & Mineral Club | 59 th Parade of Gems Adults – \$6 Students – \$2 12 & under – Free | Central Wa State Fair Grounds Modern Living Building 1301 South Fair Avenue Yakima, WA 98901 |
| April 2022 23 rd 10-5 24 th 10-5 | West Seattle Rock Club | 54 th Annual Rock Show | Alki Masonic Temple 4736 40 th Ave S.W. Seattle, WA |