

THE
PETRIFIED DIGEST



www.wenatcheerockclub.org

April 2012

The Petrified Digest
 Published monthly by the Ginkgo Mineral Society, Inc.
 PO Box 303, Wenatchee, Washington 98807

MEETINGS

3rd Saturday of the month, 2:00 PM
 Douglas County Fire Station, 377 Eastmont Ave, East Wenatchee

OFFICERS

President Richard Prevett 860-5785
 Vice President Greg Peek 548-4779
 Secretary Carol Smith 884-3349
 Treasurer Bonni Martin 421-5242
 Past President, member Executive Board – Ron Gray 669-3106

COORDINATORS

Field Trips Kathy King
 Shop & Equipment Bob Witt 669-0819
 Program/Education Greg Peek 548-4779
 Hospitality Christy Price 669-1448
 Publicity Open
 Social Maxine Anderson 662-7446
 Chelan County Fair Booth Carol Smith 884-3349
 Rock, Gem & Jewelry Show Richard Prevett 860-5784
 Museum Lori Ludeman 745-8608
 Newsletter Valerie Hampton 884-3578
 Newsletter email address: ginkgonews@yahoo.com
 Web Site Jill Timm 663-2961
 jtimm@aol.com



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+ yrs) - Free
 Exchange bulletins are welcome and appreciated.

Our April 21st is at 4:30 pm. The fire department needs the room earlier in the day.

Club Calendar APRIL MEETING CANCELLED DUE TO SCHEDULE CONFLICTS

April	May	June
7	5 Grand Parade	2
14	12	9
21 Regular Meeting – time change: 4:30 pm Hosts Bob Spurrier & Diana Rhodes	19 Regular Meeting	16 Regular Meeting
28 Saddle Mtn. Field Trip	26 Red Top Field Trip	23
8 am old Top Foods lot bad weather cancels		30

ROCK SHOP HOURS: It's now warm enough to have the shop open Saturdays. Stop by in the morning beginning at 9 am on non-field trip days. Call Bob Witt with any questions, 669-0819.

MARCH MEETING RECAP

Last month's program by Brent Cunderla of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) featured a variety of geology-related topics. There was great discussion about Petrified Wood collecting and BLM's management of the Saddle Mountain area. They are updating their plan and rules for the region, and may designate some parts of their land primarily for petrified wood collecting. Brent noted that clubs can help to keep the area open for future collecting by filling in some of the larger holes when they are participating in outings to the site.

The other main topic was the geology of North Central Washington, specifically the Missoula Floods that shaped part of our valley along the Columbia River and much of the inland northwest. To give an example of its magnitude, the very large boulders found along the river are essentially the "pebbles" that were swept downstream during the floods. Although there has been study in this area for many years, the recognition of the extent of the event in North American history is a fairly recent development. There is now a national designation under the National Park Service, called the Ice Age Flood Trail, but there is no land set aside specifically for this. Beginning from the Missoula glacier area and following the "Pathways to the Pacific" to the west coast, all of the public waypoints are on existing state or federal land, many within parks or wildlife areas already managed for visitors. The private-entity Ice Age Floods Institute has a local chapter called the Wenatchee Valley Erratics. There are two upcoming events that club members may be interested in attending:

- 1) Saturday May 12, 2012 – Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center will be hosting a field trip entitled Glacial Geology of the Lake Chelan area led by Brent Cunderla, BLM Geologist – Wenatchee Field Office. Please call Pauline Sweeney at the WVMCC for more details (cost, times, etc.) at (509) 888-6241. Lunch will be at a local winery in the Chelan/Manson area.
- 2) Saturday May 19, 2012 – Ice Age Floods Institute – Wenatchee Valley Erratics Chapter will be hosting a field trip of the Geology of the Wenatchee area led by Dr. Ralph Dawes (Wenatchee Valley College) and Brent Cunderla (Bureau of Land Management). Please contact Karen Atkerson at (509) 663-5669 for more info and to register for the field trip.

Club News: The Wenatchee Valley Museum & Cultural Center display now features works by Marie Magnuson, and is entitled "More than a Rockhound." Club patches are available to purchase at the meetings. Bonni Martin was appointed committee leader for washing and preparing rocks for the club auction. Carol Smith volunteered to help. Candi Floyd was appointed committee leader for the proposal to adopt a building at the Cashmere museum; volunteers are needed. Richard Prevett announced the date for a trip to Wyoming to collect blue petrified wood. Interested folks will meet June 17 in Kemmerer; WY. The raffle was won by Melisha Maxey and the door prize by Becky Righley. Refreshments were by Richard & Charleen Prevett and Pat Russell

ROGER, THE ROCKHOUND SEZ:

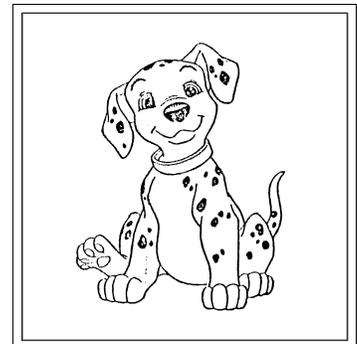
A few sage words for the good of the order:

"Wise sayings often fall on barren ground, but a kind word is never thrown away."

-Sir Arthur Helps-

"Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves."

-James Matthew Barrie-



HOW FAR IS A "FIELD TRIP"?

A special treat this month – field trip suggestions from longtime member Bill Williams. Many thanks to Bill for his generous submission. -Editor-

When a person says "field trip" to a rockhound, they get a mad gleam in the eye and the first thing they want to do is jump in the old four-wheeler and head for some far-distant mountaintop where man has never left a footprint. If it is 500 to 1500 miles away it is a real field trip to brag about at the next club meeting. Just remember, there are rocks everywhere. God was not stingy. When you look at a map you can see we live close to one of the greatest rock farms in the USA, with mountains, rivers, cut banks, roadside ditches, even BLM lands, and lots of campgrounds...which brings up "old age passports." If you qualify, go to a US Forest Service office and get a Golden Age Passport. I think it is for 50-plus and solid gold if you are an older "outside" person. Then use it – saves you money.

Even with mining claims, private land, and forbidden government land, there are many local areas where gemstones and unique rocks can be collected legally. However, there are rockhounds who dig bomb craters, leave gates open and do not understand the word "consideration." Of course, no one in the Ginkgo Mineral Society fits that description!

When guiding local field trips we prefer small groups – eight to ten maximum are usually the most successful. You can talk about what you want to find and where to go to find it. If you want fossils, take WA 17 about 2 miles north of Plain to the corner. The clay bank on the south has leaves, limbs, and other fossils in the ditch and up the clay hillside. Leave a few for others.

What used to be Squaw Ponds Road (now Indian Maiden Lane) has large actinolite crystals in the creek. Alpine Lake hiking trail up the back side of Dirty Face Mountain has two old survey digs for gold. Lots of quartz, no gold. First Creek has garnets and agates. A small campground, White River Falls campground, on the falls road, is a good base. There are agates just up the White River a short hike. It's a good place for a camp out and pancake breakfast for 10-12 rockhounds. There are tables there too. Rock Mountain trail south of Lake Wenatchee has green garnets, and a nice campground on the lakeshore with parking for small motorhomes, vans, or SUVs. The Teanaway River, both north fork and west fork are good places to look for gold jasper and black jade. There are three beautiful campgrounds in that area. Lion Rock Park is a good place to find fluorescent rock with a black light. It has good parking and two access roads. This would make a good weekend field trip.

What is a "field trip," and how far do you want to go? And how much time do you have to play with rocks? Our home is in Blewett Pass, and very pretty and hard red river rocks have been found just across US 97 from us in Peshastin Creek. Is that a field trip? How about soapstone, a creek bed full. Several places are accessible from Blewett Pass. Following is a list of some of the materials available for collecting within about 50 miles of Wenatchee, most of them with easy access:

Actinolite – green crystals	Ellensburg blue (agate)
Porphyry – Chinese writing rock (Blewett)	Thunder eggs
Clear, smoky, and white quartz	River rock, especially multicolored red
Red, green and brown garnets	Marble
Green, gold and black soapstone	Black and green jade
Latite – picture rock	Petrified wood
Agate	Opalite
Fossils – leaf & limb	

Upcoming Shows AMFS

Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies

<http://www.amfed.org/nfms/shows.htm>

April 21-22 Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4

Yakima Rock & Mineral Club

51st Annual Parade of GemsYakima National Guard Armory
2501 Airport Ln, Yakima, WA

April 20-22 Fri 9-6, Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4:30

Willamette Agate & Mineral Society

57th Annual ShowPolk County Fairgrounds
520 S Hwy 99, Rickreall, OR

April 28-29 Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4

Hatrockhounds Gem & Mineral Society

Annual Gem & Mineral Show**Nature's Treasures Under Foot**Hermiston Conference Ctr
415 S Hwy 395, Hermiston, OR

April 28-29 Sat/Sun 10-5

Grays Harbor Gem & Geology Society

44th Annual Earth's TreasuresGrays Harbor Cty Fairgrounds
43 Elma/McCleary Rd, Elma, WA

April 21-22 Sat/Sun 10-5

West Seattle Rock Club

45th Annual Rock ShowAlki Masonic Temple
4736 40th Ave SW
West Seattle, WA

May 4-6, Fri/Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4

Rock Rollers of Spokane

53rd Annual Rock, Gem, Jewelry & Mineral ShowSpokane Fair & Expo Center
N 604 Havana & Broadway, Spokane, WA

May 18-20, Fri/Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4

Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club

2012 NFMS Annual Gem Show**Rock'N the Country - No Leaverites Here!**Benton Fairgrounds, 1500 S Oak St,
Kennewick, WA

June 2-3, Sat 6, Sun 10-5

Everett Rock & Mineral Club

59th Annual Gem & Jewelry ShowEverett Soccer Arena
2201 California St, Everett, WA**SADDLE MOUNTAIN FIELD TRIP**

A club field trip to Saddle Mountain is scheduled for Saturday, April 28. Interested members and guests should meet at 8 am at the old Top Foods parking lot at the foot of Grant Road in East Wenatchee. Bad weather will cancel the trip.

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TEST FOR TOPAZ: Quartz and Topaz are not easy to separate by eye, and are sometimes impossible when the Quartz is true topaz color. There is a big difference in price in the two and anyone describing quartz and topaz, however innocently, may well be in trouble. Topaz is quite a different mineral, which is harder than quartz. Because of this, a drop of water will not spread on topaz, but will on quartz. Clean the stone as effectively as you can with a cloth to remove all traces of grease. It must be dry before the test. Then place a small drop on it with a thin glass or metal rod. On stones with hardness of less than 7 on the Mohs scale, the water is dispersed. On harder stones it will remain as a globule. The harder the stone, the more rounded will be the globule of water. From The Council Reporter, WA State Mineral Council, via Carny Hound, 08/11, Petroglyphs 08/11, via Boulder Busters 5/11, via The Fort Lewis Rock Club News 1/01

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Notice

The Club Yard Sale that was planned for May has been postponed until further notice

**Please Note:
April meeting**

time
Douglas C

CANCELLED

due to multiple schedule conflicts

pm
Wenatchee

CLASSIFIED ADS

Open to members of Ginkgo Mineral Society

FOR SALE:

Frantom 10 inch Lapidary trim/slab saw Cabochon unit with 2 grinding wheels and a buffing plate. The saw has a gravity feed; just add weight and start cutting. The grinding stones have some life left but need to be dressed. The water system is not included but connections are there for the wheels. I built a cover for the saw and it will be included if you want it. It doesn't look too nice but it is functional. Since we have owned the saw, we have only used high grade mineral oil as a lubricant. It is a very nice running saw. We are asking \$225 or OBO for the unit. For more information contact **Paul Hampton** at 884-3578

Send your article ideas, trip notes or photos to ginkgonews@yahoo.com



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