

August 2015



# The Petrified Digest

## President's Message

Hi Ginkgo Club Members,

Just a few reminders: The Chelan County fair is quickly approaching! Set up day is Wednesday, Sept. 9, from 9AM to 8PM. All exhibits must be in place by and the display case must be finished by 9PM. If you are planning to enter rocks, jewelry or any lapidary craft to be judged you must bring your exhibit to the fairgrounds on Wednesday, Sept. 9, no entries will be accepted after Wednesday. Entry forms and tags will be available at the Fair Office. Lapidary, rock collecting and jewelry exhibits will be in the Creative Arts Building. No exhibit may be withdrawn before 5PM on Sunday, Sept. 13.

July Field Trip : Everyone that went to First Creek had a good time and I heard they found some nice rocks! We had a good number of people show for this field trip and I hope this kind of interest continues.

Remember there is no meeting on Friday, August 21. Instead the Annual Ginkgo Club Picnic will be held on Saturday, August 22, at Christy Price's house. If you have never been to the rock shop this would be a great time to take a look at the tools we have to offer for club member use. Bring your favorite covered dish to share, your own lawn chair and any rocks for Show and Tell!

We do not have any field trips planned for August or before the September meeting. If you do go out let us know how you did on your rock hounding trip!

I hope everyone is having a great summer and finding lots of nice rocks. Looking forward to seeing all of you on Sunday!

Ginkgo Club President, Bob Spurrier



## Meetings

3rd Friday of the Month, 7PM  
Douglas County Fire District No. 2  
377 Eastmont Avenue  
East Wenatchee, WA 98802

### OFFICERS

President	Bob Spurrier	881-8096
Vice President	Roy Porterfield	679-2606
Secretary	Cheri McMillan	860-0009
Treasurer	David J. Earhart	884-4667

### COORDINATORS

Shop & Equipment	Bob Witt	669-0819
	Bob Spurrier	881-8096
Newsletter/Publicity	Penny Gould	571-225-9117
Web Site	Jill Timm	663-2961
	jtimm@aol.com	

**Volunteers are needed!** Coordinators needed for the following positions:  
Field Trips, Program/Education, Social, Chelan County Fair Booth, Museum.

### **DUES:**

Individual	\$20.00
Senior	\$15.00
Family	\$30.00
Lifetime (20+ yrs)	Free

### **TUMBLING GRIT FOR CLUB MEMBERS**

Available at the monthly meetings

Graded 30 Grit	\$4 lb.
Un-Graded 60/90 Grit,	\$3 lb.
Graded 220 Grit,	\$4 lb.
Graded 600 Grit	\$5 lb.
Tripoli Polish.	\$3 lb.

## Ginkgo Treasurer's Report

### August 2015

July Field Trip : You couldn't have picked a better day to do rock hounding! The only day this summer in the mid-70's with a cloud layer and it was great! Nearly ten of us walked in two miles at First Creek to the dig area where we all spent the day picking up agates, crystals and geodes. I packed out 18 pounds of interesting finds and I believe Kirk Holman made Tabatha pack out all she found! Ha Ha! Boy, was she having a good time! The next day Penny & Derrick Gould went to Crystal Mountain. I believe they packed out over 40 pounds! Their walk in and out was a lot more work than we had at First Creek.



July checking account beginning balance was \$208.73. Two deposits totaling \$111.00 and 2 checks written for \$94.00 leaves us with \$225.73 for an ending balance. After adding \$1.46 in interest, our savings account balance is \$9,215.07.

With a successful week at the Nason Creek Rest Stop we should add a couple of \$\$ more!

Finally, the August club meeting will be a picnic on Saturday, Aug. 22nd at 4:00pm at the Rock Shop at Christy Price's home at 4325 Squilchuck Rd. The club provides the fried chicken from Fred Meyer, water, table service, coffee and cups, so bring a side dish or dessert that goes with chicken. Bring lawn chairs or a blanket. Don't forget, we need hosts for our display at the Chelan Co. Fair, Sept. 10-13. Call Kirk Holman to volunteer. 670-0817.

David Earhart, Treasurer

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

## Bench Tips, By Brad Smith

### SMOOTHING EARWIRES

Any time you make your own earwires, the hardest part for me is to sand and polish the end that's inserted into the ear. Any sharp edge there is no fun. I've tried using sanding sticks, cup burs, and silicone polishing wheels. I've tried buffing on a Zam wheel, and I've tried spinning the wire in the Freedom to polish the tip. While all of these techniques do the job, none are very easy, and none are as fast as I'd like.



Then it occurred to me - I could melt the wire smooth. One quick touch in the flame of the propane/oxygen Little Torch does the trick - not enough to form a bead on the wire but just enough to round off the tip. I find it's worth practicing the maneuver a couple times on some scrap wire before trying it on completed earrings.

### BALL BURS

I use ball burs quite a bit for carving and for cleaning up bits of solder that need to be removed. The ball shape seems to be more controllable than other cutting burs. They're less apt to grab and walk over your piece.



As to sizes I've found that 8 mm is a very useful size for carving while a half mm or smaller at high speed works great for signing your name on the back of your work.

Get all 101 of Brad's bench tips in "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

The rock shop is available for all Ginkgo Mineral Society members. Members pay a small fee to use the shop.

Please call Bob Spurrier at 881-8096 if you are planning to visit the rock shop to make sure someone will be there to open it. The shop is located at Christy Price's home: 4325 Squilchuck Rd, Wenatchee and is usually open on Saturdays, 11AM to 2PM.

Directions: from the intersection of Mission & Crawford Streets at Lincoln Park in Wenatchee, it is 4 miles up Squilchuck Road. Turn left on Cranmer Road and take an immediate left onto Christy's long driveway.



This great How-To Guide comes from Christy Price's Aunt, LaVon Siperek. LaVon is a master cabber and is a member of the Puyallup Valley Gem and Mineral Club.

## MAKING A CAB

1. Pick out an agate slab.
2. Use template – scribe 30x40 shape on most scenic or colorful part of slab. Mark on back with aluminum or brass stylus.
3. Etch straight lines 1/8" outside of 30x40 scribe. Place an "X" on the back side of the cab.
4. Use trim saw. Follow straight lines on outside of 30x40 cab.
5. Wash and rinse with soap and water.
6. Put face down on block – X is facing you – grind to the line. Do NOT go over the line.
7. 1/3 up from bottom o cab – draw horizontal line all around on bevel of cab.
8. WASH CAB! Heat cab, dop stick to middle of cab's back "(X)" – keep perpendicular – let cool before continuing.
9. Touch top edge of cab to grinding wheel. Grind down to line, do not touch the line, all around the bevel. Go around top edge of cab, never stop in one place – make circular motion around edge of table top, from line to center of cab, rotate cab as you go- this will form the dome.
10. When table top is gone – move to the next wheel. Do edge of cab then dome. Repeat through 6<sup>th</sup> wheel. Always grind bevel first at each new wheel. Dry cab, look for scratches or cloudy areas before moving on to next wheel. If you find some, you might have to go back one wheel to get rid of scratches. After 6<sup>th</sup> wheel take to large polisher-use optical cerium oxide.
11. When finished polishing, put in freezer 5-10 minutes. Cab will pop off stick.



Received an email from someone looking for help. Anyone interested?

Hi. I have a couple of agates that I would like cut and polished. Do you have a list of people who do that type of work?

509-679-4010

Vicki DeRooy

vaderooy@juno.com



Chipping a geode out of basalt at Crystal Mountain (Table Mountain).

Patience is the key!



Some of the loot from First Creek and Crystal Mountain! Any day rock hounding is better than a day at work!



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Ginkgo Mineral Society  
The Petrified Digest  
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