

December 2015



# The Petrified Digest

## President's Message

Hello Ginkgo Club Members,

It's almost Christmas, and what a great time of year! From Thanksgiving to New Year's the time flies by, with holiday parties, decorating and shopping for Christmas, wrapping presents and sending Christmas cards to old family and friends – we barely get a chance to catch our breath! As the snow starts to fall and homes twinkle with festive lights we all need to take a moment and enjoy the spirit of the holidays!

This Friday, December 18 at 7PM, the Ginkgo Mineral Society celebrates Christmas with our annual pot luck and Chinese Gift Exchange. The club will supply ham, we ask that each of you bring your favorite covered dish or dessert to share. To participate in the Chinese Gift Exchange please bring an unwrapped gift, we'll set the spending limit at \$20. You can bring whatever gift you want, useful rock hounding tools are always highly coveted, hand-made items are always admired, but funny nonsensical gifts add to the fun of this exchange.

With 2016 right around the corner now is a good time to remind everyone to pay their 2016 dues. You can pay at the meeting with cash or check, or mail your payment, see the Treasurer's report for our mailing address.

I'd like to thank everyone for a great year, for participating in our events and attending our meetings. I'd also like to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Bob Spurrier, Club President





# 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
	jttimm@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, December 2015

Hope your Thanksgiving was enjoyable and there was plenty of food to go around.

The November meeting was our annual Holiday Bazaar where members brought their handy work to sell to one another. Wonderful things were on display from cabochons to stained glass to sewing handy work to just plain rocks. Thanks to all of you who participated. The raffle brought in plenty of dollars and our youngest member, Gunner, won the door prize and he selected a nice polished rock to go with his fine collection that he brought in to show.

Also, our newest member, Will Fieten, brought in buckets of interesting rocks that he had picked up in Oregon. Welcome aboard, Will. Two other families also paid their 2016 dues. Now the rest of us need to step up and bring in our 2016 membership dues or mail to Ginkgo, PO Box 303, Wenatchee, WA 98807.

Savings		
Beginning Balance		\$9,078.96
Deposit	Dues & Raffle	\$103.00
	November Interest	\$2.59
Ending Balance		\$9,183.55

Checking		
Beginning Balance		\$688.24
Withdrawal	Check for Christ-	\$26.23
Ending Balance		\$662.01

Next meeting, potluck, Friday, December 18, 7PM.  
Club to furnish ham!

Merry Christmas!

See you there,

David J. Earhart, Treasurer



## Brad's Bench Tips for December, by Brad Smith

### FOREDOM STAND

A quick and easy way to suspend a flexshaft over your jewelry bench is to use some steel pipe components from your local hardware store. It attaches with a couple screws and only costs about \$10.

I use 1/2 inch galvanized pipe and fittings. To build a stand that attaches to the top of your bench, all you'll need is a flange and a thirty inch length of the pipe. If you prefer a stand that attaches to the side of your bench, you'll need a little longer pipe, three foot, a flange, and a 90 degree "street elle".

Finally, make a hook that goes into the top of the pipe to hang the motor from. You can use heavy coat hanger wire or 1/8 steel rod from the hardware store.



### BROKEN DRILLS

Have you ever broken a drill bit off in a hole? Sometimes you can grab it with pliers, but other times the steel piece is below the surface in the hole. If this happens, a quick fix is to dissolve the steel in a solution of alum or fresh pickle. The solution will not affect your silver or gold piece.

Alum is typically available from a food store. It's used to preserve some foods. Use about a tablespoon per cup of warm water. Submerge your piece so that the partially drilled hole is facing up to let the bubbles float free and not block the hole.

"Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry" are available on Amazon



## From the Community

Hey Ginkgo Club Members, we received this delightful email from a volunteer mentor to a group of kids at an after school care program in El Paso County, Colorado! It seems that these budding rock hounds discovered our website and wanted to reach out to the Ginkgo Mineral Society with their comments:

Hi,

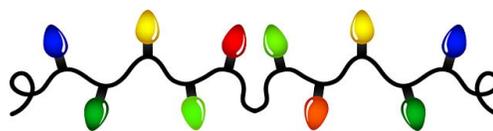
My name is Courtney and I'm a mentor and tutor for a small group of kids in my local area. My class and I wanted to give you a shout and send you some virtual "high-fives" on your page, <http://wenatcheerockclub.org/links.htm>. We've been collecting rocks/minerals resources and bookmarked your page, thanks. :) )

Since we decided to bookmark your page, the kids thought it'd be a brilliant idea to send you a page they found, <http://www.birthdayexpress.com/m/birthstone-gems>. They figured it'd be an educational page to add with your other resources. Do you mind adding it? They'd feel so accomplished knowing your other web visitors could learn from it too.

We'd love to hear any feedback you have...maybe even a "high-five" back. :P

Thank you for your time,  
Courtney Phillips

Maybe the club would like to send a response back to these young rock hounds?



## Thinking Ahead

The Ginkgo Mineral Society recently acquired the very large display case in the Creative Arts building at the Chelan County Fair. It's a huge display case and we'd like to use this as an opportunity to create a great display to showcase rock hounding and lapidary work in Chelan County. Start thinking now about what we can do with the case for the 2016 Chelan County Fair.



## Upcoming Rock & Trade Shows:

### Whidbey Island Gem Club 51st Annual Sweetheart of Gems Show

February 13, 2016, 9AM-5PM & February 14 9AM-4PM

Oak Harbor Senior Center, 51 SE Jerome Street, Oak Harbor, WA

### Oregon Agate and Mineral Society, OAMS Gem and Mineral Show

February 12-13-14, 2016, 9:30AM-5:30PM

OMSI, 1945 SE Water Avenue, Portland, OR 97214

### Idaho Gem Club, Annual Show

February 27, 2016, 10AM-6PM, February 28, 10AM-5PM

Expo Idaho, 5610 Glenwood, Boise, ID 83714

### Rock and Rollers Club of Spokane Annual Show

March 25, 26 & 27

Spokane County Fair & Expo Center, N. 604 Havana at Broadway, Spokane, WA



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PO Box 303

Wenatchee WA 98807