

THE PETRIFIED DIGEST



www.wenatcheerockclub.org

GINKGO MEETING PLACE AND TIME
FRIDAY February 20, 2015, 7 pm
Douglas County Fire District #2
377 Eastmont, East Wenatchee

Reminder:

**Time to pay your
2015 Membership Dues**

TUMBLING GRIT FOR CLUB MEMBERS

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.

Available at the monthly meetings

The Petrified Digest
Valerie Hampton, Editor
PO Box 303
Wenatchee WA 98807

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

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

MEETINGS

3rd FRIDAY of the Month, 7 pm
 Douglas County Fire District No 2
 377 Eastmont Avenue, East Wenatchee, WA

OFFICERS

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

COORDINATORS

Field Trips	
Shop & Equipment	Bob Witt 669-0819 & Bob Spurrier 881-8096
Program/Education	
Publicity	Valerie Hampton 884-3578
Social	
Chelan County Fair Booth	
Museum	
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.

Club Calendar

February		March		April	
20	Regular Meeting	20	Regular Meeting	17	Regular Meeting
Friday	7 pm - Fire Station	Friday	7 pm - Fire Station	Friday	7 pm - Fire Station
		27-28	Spokane Rock Show		

For now, please call Bob Spurrier 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.

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.

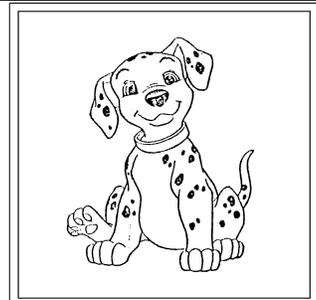
ROGER, THE ROCKHOUND SEZ:

“Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless.”

-Mother Teresa-

“Ethics is about what is right, not who is right.”

-Anonymous-



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Wow! What a winter we are having in Wenatchee. Can you believe this weather? I'm looking forward to what's to come.

Can you believe the gas prices!! Wow!!

This is the start of a new season for rock hunting. We may be able to get into the mountains early this year with the snow pack being thinner at the lower levels. We'll have to wait and see. Saddle Mountain may be opened up as well.

We need to find a person/persons to lead the field trips. Please don't be shy. We can discuss the trips you'd like to take. The Spokane rock show is coming at the end of March. That is always a good trip to take. We can still plan a trip to the Ellensburg Agate and Bead Shop if members want to.

We need to set up fund raisers if the members are interested in doing some; Nason Creek rest area and garage sale and so on.

I was wondering if we should try and work toward finding new members by putting out pamphlets and flyers around town.

This Club belongs to it's members and for what you as members want to do. Also, there need to be club members willing to run these activities. Please be willing to do so.

Please note: If you haven't paid yours dues you may not be able to receive the next month's newsletter.

Sincerely,

Bob Spurrier, President

PS Remember, from the movie Buckaroo Banzai: "No matter where you go, there you are."

FRED MEYER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

In case you didn't know, Ginkgo Mineral Society is eligible to receive rewards from Fred Meyer based on your regular shopping if you have a Rewards Card. These rewards are separate from those you earn for yourself and your family for gas or other benefits. Linking your account to the Community Rewards program does not take anything away from your own earnings, but it can help your club earn extra money for club activities. Below is an excerpt from a letter the club received, along with a description and link from the Fred Meyer web page. Please check it out and consider linking your account to benefit the club.

Dear Community Partner,

Thank you for your help in making Fred Meyer's Community Rewards program a success in 2014! In the first year of the program, we donated \$2.5 million to more than 6,000 non-profits throughout Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington.

The program worked so well so that we are excited to bring it back in 2015, with a budget of \$2.6 million for the year. There is no re-enrollment necessary from your organization or your current supporters.

With nearly 120,000 customers enrolled in Community Rewards and non-profit organizations continuing to sign up, we would like to ask for your help in keeping the program top-of-mind and encouraging your supporters to ensure that they are linked to the organization of their choice.

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Thanks again for all of your help and best of luck with Community Rewards in 2015! (see next page)

Are you a Fred Meyer customer?

You are now able to link your Rewards Card to your favorite nonprofit by following the link below. Whenever you use your Rewards Card when shopping at Freddy's, you will be helping that organization earn a donation from Fred Meyer. If you do not have a Rewards Card, you can sign up for one at the Customer Service Desk of any Fred Meyer store.

<https://www.fredmeyer.com/topic/community-rewards-4>

Treasurer's Report as of 01-26-15

Bonni Martin (past treasurer) is moving to Phoenix, AZ where her husband is now working. Thank you, Bonni for your years of service to our Ginkgo club. We'll miss you.

Now I have taken over as your treasurer. I am David Earhart, 2nd year member, retired from the lawn sprinkler business last month. I am happy to support our club as treasurer and enjoy the rock hounding field trips. However, I don't know a rock from a hole in the ground!

Reminder: Dues are due now for 2015 and I'll be at the Feb. 20th meeting to receive your membership applications. Or, mail your applications to Ginkgo Mineral Society, PO Box 303, Wenatchee, WA 98807.
David J. Earhart, Treasurer

Bench Tips by Brad Smith**TAPERED REAMERS**

A tool you don't see often these days is a tapered reamer. It's not a tool you'll use everyday, but they're particularly useful for making an irregular hole round or for enlarging a hole to an exact diameter. For example, the small set in the yellow pouch is for holes in the range of 0.3mm to 2.5mm. They are great for sizing a tube to fit a hinge pin. Other times when I'm drilling a hole for riveting and can't find the exact size drill, I simply drill the holes with a slightly smaller bit and enlarge them with a reamer until the wire just fits.

For larger hole sizes in sheet metal up to 14 ga, I really like the reamer with the black handle. It makes quick work of sizing holes from about 3mm to 12mm. You can find them in well-equipped hardware stores.

You may never use the large diameter reamers, but when sawing out some rings from 4mm thick sheet, I found they worked well for rounding and sizing the hole.

**TESTING FOR SILVER**

With the price of silver as high as it is, jewelry people need to keep their scrap metals sorted. Part of that process is identifying some of those unknown "silvery" pieces in the bottom of the toolbox.

Silver testing solutions can be used to distinguish high silver

content alloys like Fine (.999), Sterling (.925) and Coin (.900) from alloys that have the same appearance but no silver content, like German Silver or Nickel.

I purchased a half-ounce bottle of JSP Silver Testing Solution #GT41 for \$3. With a fresh solution you have an instant reaction after applying it to the metal being tested. Procedure is simple - as you apply a small drop, look for a color change. Note that the acid will leave a slight mark, so choose a spot that is out of the way or will be easy to polish.

If you suspect the object is silver plated, you should file a little notch somewhere inconspicuous to expose what metal is below the surface. Otherwise, all you test will be the surface plating.

Here's the reaction I get when testing various materials:

Fine silver	Red/Orange
Sterling silver	Brick Red
80% silver 20% copper	Dark red changing to gray
Brass	Yellow changing to blue
Nickel	Gray-green
Copper	Yellow changing to blue
Steel	Black
Stainless Steel	No color change

Caution - If you do any of this testing, know that you are handling a reasonably strong acid. The GT41 label says it includes nitric acid and potassium dichromate.

Wear safety glasses.

Do not get any testing solution on your skin.

Always have a solution of baking soda and water handy to neutralize acid.

Wash and clean up well when you're done.

<http://www.amazon.com/Prep-Pen-PrepPen-Adjustable-Sanding/dp/B000J18RT6/>

Get all 101 of Brad's bench tips in "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on Amazon, <http://amazon.com/dp/0988285800/>