

THE  
PETRIFIED DIGEST



[www.wenatcheerockclub.org](http://www.wenatcheerockclub.org)

January, 2008

The Petrified Digest  
Published monthly by the Ginkgo Mineral Society  
P O Box 303, Wenatchee, Washington 98807

MEETINGS

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month, 2:00 PM  
Location – See Program Schedule, page 5

OFFICERS

President	Richard Prevett	474 N Kansas, East Wenatchee, WA 98802	(860-5785)
Vice Pres.	Robert Spurrier	500 Malaga St., Wenatchee, WA 98801	(881-8096)
Secretary	Carol Smith	1104 3 <sup>rd</sup> St NE, East Wenatchee, WA 98802	(884-3349)
Treasurer	Christy Price	124 N James Ave., East Wenatchee, WA 98802	(699-1448)

COMMITTEES

Program	Liz Forrer	1311 Westwood #2, Wenatchee, WA 98801	(662-1146)
Museum	Gayle Savage	1494 Eastmont #28, East Wenatchee, WA 98802	(884-7426)
Publicity	Maxine Anderson	930 Monroe St, Wenatchee, WA 98801	(662-7446)
Field Trips	Larry Shaw	429 Neptune Pl, East Wenatchee, WA 98802 Co-Chairman: Wanda Shaw, Same as above	(741-0306)
Educational	Charles Mason	PO Box 97, Rock Island, WA 98850	(884-2114)
Hospitality	Everyone		
Refreshments	Various		
Sunshine	Lois Shier	1111 Washington St, Wenatchee, WA 98801	(662-2571)
Chelan Co. Fair	Bert Miller – Maxine Anderson		
Jr. Activities			
Equipment	Robert Spurrier	500 Malaga St, Wenatchee, WA 98801	(881-8096)
Newsletter	Maxine Anderson	930 Monroe St, Wenatchee, WA 98801	(662-7446)
	Mae Jinkens	935 Vassar, Wenatchee, WA 98801	(662-8980)
	Roger Mangold	1701 Orchard St., Wenatchee, WA 98801	(662-3076)
Web Site	Jill Timm	1400 Central Avenue #107, Wenatchee WA 98801 jtimm@aol.com	(663-2961)

The Ginkgo Mineral Society was formed to promote the study of Mineralogy and Geology to the extent that it leads to a better understanding of Mineralogy; to encourage the collection of minerals and to promote interest in lapidary work.

DUES: Adults - \$20.00 Seniors - \$ 15.00 Family - \$30.00 Juniors - \$15.00

**Exchange bulletins are welcome and appreciated.**



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It was less than a year ago that Charleen and I joined the Ginkgo Mineral Society. Now I find myself the new president with some mighty big shoes to fill. I would like to thank each and every one of the previous board members for their time, dedication, and service to the club. I can only hope, at the end of my tenure, the club will be as healthy and vibrant as it is today.

We are also looking at a whole year's worth of field trips that need to be planned. Rozanne Lind is looking into a possible field trip to the Ginkgo Petrified Forest Museum for February. Larry Shaw is organizing a trip to the rock show in Spokane for March. If anyone has a favorite place or event we could possibly work into a field trip, please speak up. We want the club to be fun for everyone.

Richard Prevett

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## RESOLUTIONS

Another year is dawning on the best and worst of men,  
A time for resolutions, so I get out my pen.  
I think of all the wrong ways that I've done things 'til now;  
Maybe I'll do better if I make (and keep) this vow.

This year, when I'm rock hunting, I will try to use more care,  
To do my sorting in the field; I'll heed the word "beware".  
I'll not take home the duds and chips and stuff I used to take,  
I'll remember that the strongest shelf can someday bend and break

I'll notice now how far away I've roamed from transportation;  
I'll try to leave a rock or two for the coming generation.  
I'll cab it there, and if it busts, I'll bid it fond goodbye.  
I'll look at rocks a second time; perhaps I'll let some lie.

This year I'll take a tiny bag, leave home the gunny sack.  
If the rocks are really super, I'll be certain to come back.  
I may regret the ones I leave when day is done, alas!  
But my garden will look better if there's more room for grass.

It's not hard to be strong-minded when the snow is deep and cold.  
In one's imagination, one is always brave and bold.  
But I wonder when the Spring is come if I'll forget my vow,  
And fill my groaning rock shelves even worse than they are now!

(By Alice Redington, from Rock Rollers & others via Stone Age News, 1/92)

## **ROGER, THE ROCKHOUND SEZ:**

The Ginkgo Club is off to a good start in 2008. New officers took over their duties at the January meeting.

Programs are being developed and some interesting field trips are already being scheduled.

We are just waiting for Spring to come!

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## **WE HAVE A WEB SITE!**

Check it out: **[www.wenatcheerockclub.com](http://www.wenatcheerockclub.com)**

The web site has dates of the meetings, a reference page with articles about rocks and previous newsletters. We are working on including a photo gallery. Web mistress Jill Timm says, "Help! Please send me your photos of recent activities and rocks mentioned on the web site. Also send links to other web sites that would be of interest to our group."

Once the kinks are worked out, the newsletter can be sent by email in a pdf file, if you choose--this will save postage and you will get it faster! It will also be posted on the web site for viewing.

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, send Jill an email at [jtimm@aol.com](mailto:jtimm@aol.com), put "Ginkgo" in the subject line, and write your name in the message. You don't need to write anything else.

## **FEBRUARY PROGRAM:** What In The World Can I Do With All the Rocks I Collect?

Do you have lots of rocks laying around, not sure what to do with all of them? The February program will be devoted to learning of new possibilities of what to do with your rocks. Marie Manguson has been collecting rocks for most of her 94 years--so that means lots of rocks and lots of ideas! She will share some of the beautiful things she has created with her rocks and how we all can learn to do it.

This is a wonderful program for children as well as adults, as kids too have great imaginations, which Marie's examples can inspire. Also, please bring some of the things you have created: there will be a table where you can display your stone/rock creations for everyone to appreciate and get ideas from.

The rock club meeting will start with the program, followed by refreshments and the business meeting. Guests and friends are welcome to come and leave after the program if they prefer not to stay for the business meeting.

## **FEBRUARY MEETING DATE**

**NOTICE:** The February meeting will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday (23<sup>rd</sup>) of the month instead of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, as the meeting room was not available on the regular date.

## **CLUB DUES**

Club dues were due on January 1st and became delinquent January 31<sup>st</sup>. If you still wish to renew your membership and receive the newsletter, please send to Ginkgo, PO Box 303, Wenatchee, WA 98807

Adult - \$ 20.00    Senior - \$15.00    Family - \$ 30.00    Junior - \$10.00



## Gems & Mineralines - By Mae Williams

### GARNETS – JANUARY BIRTHSTONE

One generally associates the term garnet with the dark-red transparent gem, but in reality, it includes a large group that varies in composition, while the color range runs from yellow, brown, red, purple to green. However, they all have the same crystalline characteristics.

The word garnet is derived from Latin and means "seed-like". Ancient writers including Rasmus, Pliny and Marco Polo, have made numerous references to garnets. There is well-founded belief that the ruby of the Bible was in reality a carbuncle (a rounded shell cut stone), usually an almandine garnet.

The most popular garnet is the pyrope, a fine deep red stone, known as Cape Ruby or Arizona Ruby. Bohemia was the center of the garnet industry for hundreds of years, and pyrope garnet was a favorite stone with all classes. One of the largest pyropes was a gem of 486 carats own by a King Saxony. Legend has it that should the owner of a garnet suffer a wound, the influence of the gem would cause quick healing.

The most unusual garnet is the demantoid, a yellowish-green to emerald color stone with a dispersion second only to a diamond. The stones are small and so far as is known, the only source of this gem material has come from the Ural Mountains of the U.S.S.R.

Less commonly used as gems are the Spessartite, Grossularite, Andradite, Essonite and Uvarovite. There are many sub varieties of garnets. It is always found in distinct crystals, usually 12 or 24 sided or a combination of these two forms. Depending on the variety, hardness is 6 to 7.5. Garnets are commonly isolated and scattered through the rocks which makes them easy to recognize.

Almandine - Iron aluminum silicate

Pyrope - Magnesium aluminum silicate

Spessartite - Manganese aluminum silicate

Grossularite - Calcium aluminum Sil

Uvarovite - Calcium chromium Sil

Andradite - Calcium iron Sil

(Demantoid is a variety of Andradite)

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### WONDERS OF A CRYSTAL

A crystal is one of the strangest objects in the universe. It is not alive, yet it grows. A crystal attracts the same kind of materials of which it is composed, arranges them with great accuracy in geometrical forms, cements the parts together, and holds them. Place a crystal in a liquid or vapor composed of the same ingredients as the crystal and the process of accumulation immediately begins. If a crystal was broken into two parts and placed in a bath of liquefied crystal, the broken surface will be repaired and each part will grow into another crystal, providing the other conditions favorable for crystal growth are present.

(Fr Rock Scoop 2/01 & others via Rock Rollers, 12/07)

## MONTH AFTER CHRISTMAS

'Twas the month after Christmas, and all through the house,  
Nothing would fit me, not even a blouse  
The cookies I'd nibbled, the eggnog I'd taste,  
At the holiday parties had gone to my waist.  
When I got on the scales, there arose such a number!  
When I walked to the store (less a walk than a lumber).

I'd remember the marvelous meals I'd prepared,  
The gravies and sauces and beef nicely rared.  
The wine and the rum balls, the bread and the cheese,  
And the way I'd never said "No thank you, please."

As I dressed myself in my husband's old shirt,  
And prepared once again to do battle with dirt,  
I said to myself, as I only can,  
"you can't spend a winter disguised as a man!"  
So-away with the last of the sour cream dip,  
Get rid of the fruit cake, every cracker and chip.  
Every last bit of food that I like must be banished,  
'Till all the additional ounces have vanished.

I won't have a cookie - not even a lick  
I'll want only to chew on a long celery stick.  
I won't have hot biscuits, or corn bread, or pie,  
I'll munch on a carrot and quietly cry.  
I'm hungry, I'm lonesome, and life is a bore,  
But isn't that what January is for?  
Unable to giggle, no longer a riot,  
Happy New Year to all and to all a good diet!

(Source Internet) fr. Gates Rockhound Bulletin 1/02 via Quarry Quips 1/02)

## SAFETY HINT:

Licking rocks can be dangerous, and even FATAL! Always use water from a squirt gun or bottle to wet stones. At least one death has been attributed to a fungus contracted from licking a rock specimen. Materials containing Arsenic, Mercury, Selenium, some of the Boron and even Phosphate minerals can be deadly.

(Fr. Rocky Review via the Rock Rattler, 10/96)

## THE TEN ROCKAMANDMENTS

- 1 – Thou shalt not touch thy neighbor's minerals unless he places them in your hand.
- 2 – Thou shalt not test the strength of crystals by pushing, biting or squeezing.
- 3 – Thou shalt not drop thy neighbor's fossil, for many do not bounce properly.
- 4 – Thou shalt not place thy neighbor's specimen in thine own pocket.
- 5 – Thou shalt not test thy neighbor's agates for hardness by rubbing them together.
- 6 – Thou shalt not argue the name of that mineral too violently, sometimes thou could be wrong.
- 7 – Thou shalt not climb above thy neighbor when on a field trip lest thou are willing to spend remainder of day digging him out.
- 8 – Thou shalt protect thine own eyes, hands and feet so thou can enjoy many, many more field trips.
- 9 – Thou shalt not encroach upon thy neighbor's diggings lest his hammer be dropped on thy toe.
- 10 – Thou shalt not complain about or denounce thy club officers under penalty of being elected one thyself.

(Fr. BURRO EXPRESS via Scribe)

## PAST MEETINGS:

January 19<sup>th</sup> – The new President Richard Prevett opened the meeting with twenty-two members in attendance.

Jill Timm introduced Ginkgo's new Website and said she could use pictures and rock articles. Much discussion followed on ideas and techniques. Members on-line were urged to sign up for e-mail to receive the newsletter. Valerie Hampton volunteered to help the editor up-date the newsletter from typewritten and snail mail to the computer age.

A new book on Washington rocks was shown by Christy Price available on order or may be in book stores. It was suggested that the Club order the book for the library.

More volunteers have been assigned to open and supervise the Saturday workshop, so that turns would rotate every eight weeks.

Motion was made, seconded and passed that pre-approval be made prior to purchase of materials for the workshop.

Cheri McMillan won the raffle – Carnelian earrings. The door prize was drawn for Charleen Prevett – Hematite necklace.

It was suggested that the Spokane Gem Show, Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup> be scheduled for the first field trip of the year, possibly traveling in a caravan.

Delicious refreshments were served by Richard and Charleen Prevett.

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## PROGRAM SCHEDULE & EVENTS:

February 23<sup>rd</sup> – Regular Club Meeting, 2:00 PM, Program: "What in the world can I do with all the rocks I collect?? (Remember this meeting is on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month instead of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday – see P. 2) Meet Douglas County Fire Station, 377 Eastmont Ave.

March 15<sup>th</sup> - Spokane Gem Show, featuring "Jade From Near & Far"

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## A CHUCKLE:

A group of tiny tots were overheard discussing their arrival in this big world. The versions differed somewhat. Billy claimed that his folks had bought him in a department store, Tommy said the stork brought him, Diane said the Doctor had brought her. Then a very tiny miss piped up, but rather modestly, "My folks were too poor to buy me, I was homemade."

(Fr NFMS Newsletter via Dust & Grit)

## WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

2/2	Wanda	9-2
2/9	Bonni	9-2
2/16	Cheri	9-2
2/23	Rich	9-1
3/1	Gayle	10-1
3/8	Maxine	9-1
3/15	Christy	9-2
3/22	Carol	9-2
3/29	Bob	9-2

## THE ROCKHOUND

Who's the stranger mother dear?  
Look, he knows us, ain't he queer?

Hush, my child, don't talk too wild,  
He's your father, dearest child.

He's my father? No such thing;  
Father died away last spring.

Father didn't die, you dub;  
Father joined the rockhound club

But now the snow has come and so  
There's no place else left for him to  
roam.

That is why he came back home.

Kiss him, he won't bite you, child,  
All those rockhounds look that wild.  
(By Chuck Hull, News & Views via Scribe, 1997)

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