

July 2015



# The Petrified Digest

## President's Message

Hi Ginkgo club members, this is your friendly neighborhood Club president with another President's message. We are getting closer to hosting the Nason Creek rest area – August 10-14, and the Chelan County Fair, Sept. 10- 13. We're looking for volunteers to manage the booth at each of these events. Nason Creek is one of our biggest fund raisers so any time you could spare would be greatly appreciated. We need volunteers to man the booth at the Chelan County Fair, please sign up asap.

Two people made the trip to Crystal Mountain, Christy and Justin. They found some interesting finds. The weather is cooling off a bit and I hope to see more club members get into the mountains for hunting rocks.

Thank you,

Bob Spurrier, Ginkgo Mineral Society President.



*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.*

## Ginkgo Treasurer's Report July 2015



Several new members paid their dues last month. Among them were Derrick & Penny Gould. Penny volunteered to do our monthly newsletter, for which we are very grateful. If you have news and information that would be appropriate for our newsletter you can send it to Penny at [ginkgonews@yahoo.com](mailto:ginkgonews@yahoo.com).

Club finances are holding their own. Thanks to those of you who use the shop facility because those shop fees help offset the cost of rental and electricity at Christy's place.

Thanks to Carol Smith for updating our current membership phone list. We have around 80 members. A few of you still need to pay your dues for 2015. Bring your funds to the meeting or mail to "Ginkgo Mineral Society" at P.O. Box 303, Wenatchee, WA 98807. Please plan to attend our monthly meetings on the third Friday of each month. See you at the meeting, Friday, July 17<sup>th</sup> at 7PM. Come for "show and tell" with your latest find or finds!

David J. Earhart

### Club Calendar:

Friday, July 17, 7PM

Regular Meeting

August 10 -14

Nason Creek Rest Area

Saturday, August 22, 4PM

Annual Club Picnic  
Potluck at Christy Price's home:  
4325 Squilchuck Rd, Wenatchee

Wednesday, Sept. 10

Entry Day for all Exhibits  
Chelan County Fairgrounds





## **Bench Tips**, By Brad Smith

### **SOLDERING PRONGS**

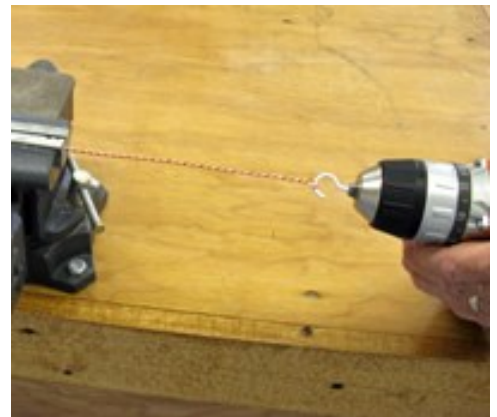
I often use prongs to hold an irregular cab or other object on rings and pendants. But prongs can be a little tricky to solder. You have to find some way to hold them all upright while soldering, and the simple butt joint that looks strong sometimes breaks when you start to bend the prong over the stone. There's nothing worse than having a prong breakoff when you're setting the stone.

I solved both problems with one little trick. It holds the prongs in position while soldering and it gives you a stronger joint at the same time.

Locate and center punch the position for each prong. Then drill holes a little smaller than your prong wire. Sand a small taper on the ends of your prong wires and stand them up in the holes. The wires support themselves, soldering is easy, and the joint is stronger because of the increased soldering area.

### **TWISTING WIRE**

Twisting wire can be done with an old hand drill but goes much faster with a power tool. My preference is to use a screw gun, although a Foredom should do well. Just make a little hook out of coat hanger wire (or use a screw-in cup hook) and chuck it up in your screw gun. Grip the free ends of the wire in a vice and slip the looped end onto your hook. Keep a little tension on the wires as you twist. Note that a power drill is too fast a tool for this unless you have one with variable speed.



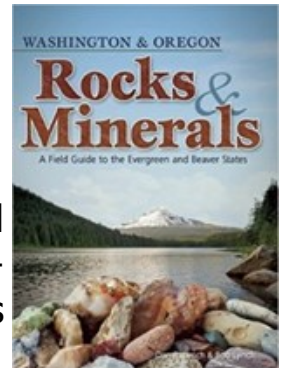
Get all 101 of Brad's bench tips in "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).



## Roger the Rockhound Recommends:

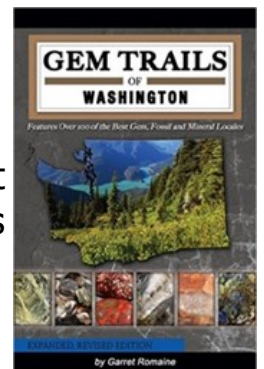
Washington & Oregon Rocks & Minerals,  
A Field Guide to the Evergreen and Beaver States  
by Dan R. Lynch. \$14.95

This pocket sized handbook is a great guide for both the novice and experienced rockhound. This handy guide provides details and descriptions to help identify minerals and gems. The book also provides general details regarding where to find minerals and gems.



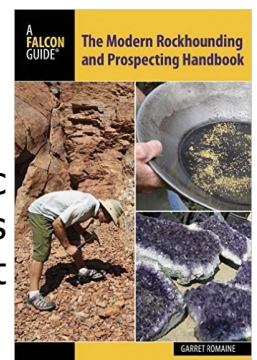
Gem Trails of Washington  
by Garret Romaine. \$18.95

This is a comprehensive guide covering site locations throughout Washington State. The book covers 100 trails and provides directions on how to get there, what to look for and where to prospect.



The Modern Rockhounding and Prospecting Handbook  
by Garret Romaine. \$21.95

This is a good guide for any rockhound covering everything from basic geology, gear, preparation, prospecting and identification. This guide is full of useful tips about where to go and what to do when you get there.



All of these books can be ordered from Amazon, Hastings and Barnes and Nobles.



# 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
	jtimmm@aol.com	

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



<b><u>DUES:</u></b>	
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.

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.

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.

## **MEMBER MARKETPLACE**

For Sale:

14" oil drop saw in good condition w/diamond blade and a new, still in the box, MK-303 Professional Continuous Rim Diamond Blade. \$450.

Also available: finished Ellensburg Blue jewelry, prices depend on ct. weight & color, \$50 - \$645. One rough 146 cts. Excellent stone @ 15 ct. is worth \$2,200, will sell for \$1,500. Call Carol at 509-884-3349

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