

THE
PETRIFIED DIGEST



www.wenatcheerockclub.org

June 2010

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

MEETINGS

3rd Saturday of the month, 2:00 PM
 Douglas County Fire Station, 377 Eastmont Ave, East Wenatchee

OFFICERS

President	Larry Shaw	884-0882
Vice President	Liz Forrer	662-1146
Secretary	Carol Smith	884-3349
Treasurer	Pam Alexander	886-5375
Past President, member Executive Board – Bob Spurrier 881-8096		

COORDINATORS

Field Trips	Ron Gray 669-3106 / Larry Shaw 884-0882
Shop & Equipment	Bob Witt 669-0819 / Ron Gray 669-3106
Program/Education	Liz Forrer 662-1146
Publicity	Charleen Prevett 670-2325
Social	Maxine Anderson 662-7446
Chelan County Fair Booth	Bob Spurrier 881-8096
Museum	Lori Ludeman 745-8608
Nason Creek Fundraisers	Dennis & Ellen Osier 662-3227
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					
June		July		August	
19	Regular Meeting	19	Regular Meeting	21	Club Picnic – Lincoln Rock
Club Barter/Swap or Sell – bring rocks or related items					
26	Club Field Trip to Crystal Mountain	24	Club Field Trip to Red Top		
September		October		November	
18	Regular Meeting	16	Regular Meeting	20	Regular Meeting

ROCK SHOP HOURS: 10 am – 3 pm Saturdays, except meeting and field trip days.
Safety glasses required - dust mask recommended - paper towels requested
 Bob Witt reports that things are going well at the shop. He opens it at 10 am, and if no one is there at 1 pm he closes up – but give him a call at 669-0819 if you need to arrange later hours.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello All!

Wanda and I have had a wonderful trip but it's also good to be home. We spent a month of rock hunting and visiting National Parks - with the emphasis on Rock Hunting! We joined up with John Stanfield at the Petrified Blue Forest in Wyoming and with Bobby Allan and Richard and Charlene Prevett at Texas Springs, Nevada for a couple weeks of rock hunting. We were able to dodge the rain and wind storms (but not the large puddles, thanks to Bobby) long enough to bring home some nice specimens of blue petrified, pink limb casts, paisley agate, and football geodes.

Carol Smith discussed the June Barter/Swap or Sell during last month's meeting. This will be a great opportunity to find some wonderful deals. I'm sure we're all struggling with the tough choices of which prized items to bring to barter. Our business meeting will go first and be REALLY short. Remember, you can bring any rock related item(s) as long as it all fits on the table in front of you (pictures are also good). If you have questions, call any officer.

Ron asked me to pass along that the June field trip will be on the 26th to Crystal Mountain and the July trip will be on the 24th to Red Top.

Saturday's meeting should be interesting!

Larry Shaw, President

MAY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The meeting was called a little late due to the meeting room being used by another group. The two "big cheeses" of the executive board, Larry and Liz, were absent, so...while the cat's away, the mice munched on a laid back agenda, AND cheese served by the refreshment folks!

The program included a video, Gemstones of America. Carol Smith also presented a newspaper article on the sunstones of Oregon, and gave the members small packets of sunstones that were generously donated by Richard and Charlene Previtt.



Refreshments were by the Hamptons. The raffle was won by Diana Rhodes, and the door prize by Pam Alexander.

Ron Gray and Ed Poechmann gave the particulars for the club field trip to Ruby Hill. With input from club members present, it was decided to have the June field trip to Crystal Mountain and July to Red Top. Ron asked for more input and suggestions for the remaining trips of the year.

Other news included information on a rock sale in Snohomish, a list of items to take for successful rock hunting, and the rules for the June meeting activity, when members may barter, sell, or trade rocks within the membership. The club will also have its own table with items for sale. There was also an invitation from Larry and Wanda Shaw for those who wish to join them June 4-6th in Nevada.

Carol Smith presented a new digging tool to the membership to bid on, with the proceeds going to the club. Opening bid was \$5 and after 4-5 bids it went to Ed Poechmann for \$12.

ROGER, THE ROCKHOUND SEZ:

Ah, June – Blooms, Brides, Dads and Grads...and Rocks! Lots of opportunities this month go collecting, see a show, or get together with friends to trade rocks and tall tales.

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Words of Wisdom: *The real art of conversation is not only to say the right thing at the right time, but also to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.*
 -Anonymous-



UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND THE REGION

Pacific Northwest Rock and Gem Shows
 From the NFMS Website
<http://www.amfed.org/nfms/index.html>

June 24-26 Thur. 9-5, Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-4
Prineville Rockhound Pow Wow Assoc. SHOW AND POW WOW Crook Co.
 Fairgrounds, 1280 S. Main, Prineville, Oregon

June 30 - July 4, Wed.-Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4
All Rockhound Pow Wow Club of America SHOW AND POW WOW
 Jefferson Co. Fairgrounds, Madras, Oregon

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FROM OUR ARCHIVES

MINERALINES by Mae Williams
 (Petrified Digest, June 1976)

MOONSTONE and PEARL- Birthstones for June (Synthetic Stone for June – Alexandrite)

Moonstone is a natural mined stone found in pebbles, washed out of clay. The most desirable are translucent, almost colorless with a “Bluish Moon.” Their legendary significance is as a symbol for prosperity and happiness.

Gem Name: Moonstone
 Crystal System: Monoclinic
 Species Name: Orthoclase
 Refractive Index: 1.53 – 1.54
 Mineral Group: Feldspar
 Specific Gravity: 2.55
 Composition: K AL SI O
 Hardness: 6.5

The best contour for Moonstone is a cabochon (convex) surface for the best moon.

Pearl is the only birthstone from the sea. The best pearls are round or pear-shaped. They are soft, affected by acids and also perspiration. A calcareous concretion formed within the shell of some mollusks around a foreign particle. (In cultured pearls growth is artificially stimulated.)

Hardness: 2.5 - 3.5
 Color: White, pink, yellow, purple, green, blue, brown, and black.
 Luster: Pearly

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S TRAVELS

Wanda Shaw,
 Bobby Allen,
 Richard & Charlene
 Prettv at Texas
 Springs searching
 for Pink Limb Casts
 -June 2010



A sampling of the finds from Larry and Wanda Shaw's June rock trip: Blue Forest in the back, Pink Limb Casts in the Middle, and Paisley Agate in front.

THE RUBY HILL ADVENTURE

By Ed Poechmann, as told to Paul Hampton

Ed called in a great trip report about the May 22 outing at Ruby Hill and surrounding areas. According to Ed, there were 27 rock hounds from the two clubs, 16 from the Ginkgo Mineral Society and 11 from the Chief Joseph Rock Club. It was a beautiful day, not too hot or windy - a perfect day for hunting rocks.

The group got to the mine and began collecting some very good pieces of Azurite and Malachite. Some ventured a short way into the mine to collect, while a few went quite a way into the mine. It seemed that the deeper one went, the better the pieces they found. Some came out with fairly large pieces, according to Ed. They went on from there to an old mine site; however, there was a tree across the road. No one had a chain saw, and backing out several miles didn't thrill too many people. Fortunately, Perry had a small folding pruning saw and Ed had an ax with him. Together they got enough of the tree cut out, and with a group effort got the remainder of the tree moved, to where all could get by and continue forward.



They finally got to the old mine site, where there is a lot of old mine and mill equipment still standing in place. There is a lot of history to the area, and Ed said it is quite an interesting place to visit. Equipment made in Canada, New York, and other far away places made its way up the mountain to the mine during its active years. After a short visit to the old workings, they continued up to Happy Hill by caravan to get some Aventurine.

On the way out, Perry led them to a road cut where there is a ledge of Serpentine. It is

beautiful material with yellows, reds and greens in the rock. Ed mentioned a driver went by and saw the group out picking up rocks. They turned around and came back to find out what everyone was doing. Evidently, Perry talked with the driver, and when the group was leaving Ed noticed that the driver was out picking up rocks! A new rock hound may just have been born.

It sounded like a wonderful trip: a beautiful day, great rocks and a bunch of like-minded rock hounds. There were also the adventures of Christy wanting 'that one piece' way down there in the mine and Ed working for an hour to break it out for her. Once the piece was knocked down it had to be broken up into 6 smaller pieces, one which he packed out for himself and the other piece for Christy. Ed had to get a rope, and the two of them pulled it out of the mine! These pieces had a vein of ore several inches thick within the rock. Very nice looking material, according to those who saw it. Then there was the Serpentine boulder that took 6 people to lift into the back of Carol and Darrell's truck... We will expect to see both on the sharing table at the next meeting.



Reporter's Note: A big 'thank you' goes to Ed for leading the group. Ron ended up having to work and couldn't be there, and this junior cub reporter and son ended up dealing with a lot of rock - but unfortunately it was in the form of gravel that needed to be moved by Monday (like 8 yards worth). Not nearly as much fun as the Ruby Hill trip!

PROTECT TURQUOISE

Turquoise discolors easily. It should always be protected from soap, grease, and any other strong solutions that discolor them. This stone is also soft and fractures easily. It should be protected while worn. It is a good idea to design mountings that shield the stone (from impacts).

(Fr. Petrified Digest, July 1976)

Members: Plan to bring a few items to the June meeting to Barter with other Club members. You may Barter, Trade or Sell rocks or rock-related items. There will be a Club sale table as well.

**CLASSIFIED ADS**

OPEN TO MEMBERS OF THE GINKGO
MINERAL SOCIETY

FOR SALE: Custom made 27" vibratory flat lap. It has been used once to test the machine. It comes with one 3/4" reversible pan. \$1250.00 For more information, contact Bobby Allen at 509-782-3742

FOR SALE: Prismatic faceting machine with disks, index set, and other accessories, \$900 or best offer. Contact Carol Smith, 884-3349

WANTED: Lost wax tools, equipment and supplies. Call Sam, 663-5429

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