

THE
PETRIFIED DIGEST



www.wenatcheerockclub.org

March, 2009

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

MEETINGS

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

OFFICERS

President	Robert Spurrier, 500 Malaga St., Wenatchee, WA 98801	(881-8096)
Vice President	Paul Hampton, 2725 Westview Dr, E. Wenatchee, WA 98802	(884-3578)
Secretary	Ellen Osier, 1525 Apollo Pl., Wenatchee WA 98801	(662-3227)
Treasurer	Christy Price, 2215 N.W. Alan Ave., E. 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	Charleen Prevett, 474 N. Kansas St., East Wenatchee, WA 98802	(860-5785)
Field Trips	John Stanfield, PO Box 132, Waterville, WA 98858	(745-8848)
Educational	Charles Mason, P O Box 97, Rock Island, WA 98850	(884-2114)
Hospitality	Everyone	
Refreshments	Various	
Sunshine	Sally Bolyard, 1630 Sunset Hwy N., East Wenatchee, WA 98802	(886-5898)
Chelan Co. Fair	Carol Smith, 1104 -3 rd St N.E, East Wenatchee WA 98801	(884-3349)
Jr Activities		
Equipment	Robert Spurrier, 500 Malaga St, Wenatchee WA 98801	(881-8096)
Newsletter	Maxine Anderson, 930 Monroe St., Wenatchee WA 98801 Mae Jinkens, 935 Vassar, Wenatchee, WA 98801	(662-7446) (662-8980)
Web Site	Jill Timm, 1400 Central Ave #107, Wenatchee, WA 98801	(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:

Hi everyone,

Hope everyone is having fun doing rock-related stuff. I've been going to the shop on Saturdays, but haven't seen too many members there. Now that spring is here, everyone needs to come out of winter hibernation and come visit the workshop.

We owe a big 'Thank You' to Howard and Janet Pelton for donating a 15" vibrating flat lap, a 6" trim saw and some miscellaneous tools for use at our workshop.



The Saddle Mountain field trip to Mattawa (not to be confused with Saddle Rock in Wenatchee) was Saturday, April 11. Remember that the Nason Creek rest area coffee and refreshments is coming up on April 13th - 17th. Thank you to everyone who signed up to help with this fundraiser, I hope we do well.

Coming up at our May meeting we are having a program of "Show and Tell." So, if you have a unique rock or special talent, or craft that you do with your rocks, please bring them to show off to everyone.

Bob Spurrier

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Spokane Gem, Jewelry & Mineral Show

Our annual trip to the Spokane Rock and Gem show was a success. Most of us met at Top Foods to caravan over. Members included Dennis and Ellen Osier, Bob Spurrier, Cheri McMillan, Marie Magnuson, Bobby Allen, Lois Jean Day, and Larry and Wanda Shaw. At the show we met up with Daryl and Carol Smith, as well as John Stanfield, his wife, and family. Liz Forrer was set up to show and sell her rock pictures.

Some of the rocks purchased were Chrysoprase, Mexican Fire Opal, Pietersite, Garnet, slabs of various rocks, plus grab bags.

The Wenatchee rock club was announced and thanked for coming to the show.

On the way home, most of us did the traditional stop for dinner at the Golden Corral in Moses Lake. All in all it was a fun day.

Wanda Shaw



At right:

Liz Forrer with her display at the Spokane Gem, Jewelry and Mineral Show.

ROGER, THE ROCKHOUND SEZ:

Spring has finally decided to stay with us while snow has fallen to the east and west of us, especially in the passes. The sun has finally come out of hibernation and rockhounds are ready to check out their favorite digging sites.

Don't forget to pick up a few rocks for tumbling. Keep the tumblers going as this is April already and there's only a few months left to polish the stones.

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A PRIZE FOR LIZ

Liz Forrer entered the Icicle Prize Film & Photo Festival held at the Performing Arts Center of Wenatchee in March, and tied for Second place in the color section. Her entry was a large, matted close-up photo of a Latite rock, showing shades of tan, brown and blue, and entitled "Bridge to Starry Night". She also received a cash award.

An article on this showing appeared in the Wenatchee World, Monday, March 30th, but the one described in the paper was not the one that took the prize!

Many of Liz Forrer's photos may be seen at the Rocky Reach Dam Museum.

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Be aware of the following activities and try to participate:

1. Regular Meeting April 18 – Program by Jim Lawson, owner of a Thulite mine
2. Museum Case – See Paul & Valerie Hampton
3. May 17 Regular Meeting – Show & Tell your favorite rocks and uses for them
4. Yard Sale – June 6 & 7 – See Christy Price
5. Chelan County Fair - September– See Bob Spurrier
6. Field Trips: June – Crystal Mountain and Madras, OR rock show; July – Heather Creek garnets; August – Red Top agates; September - Saddle Mountain petrified wood

HOBBY HINT

Rainbow Obsidian – cut it at an angle of 3 to 15 degrees. The larger degree of angle will give wider bands of color. If obsidian seems to retain oil after it has been cut in oil and even cleaned in soapy water, then place it in a kettle of water, covering it completely, and boil 20 minutes. Stones that retain oil will not polish well, so this will help you attain the polish you want. When grinding or sanding obsidian, always work from the center out, otherwise the wheel and/or belt will pick up glass chips and scratch. (Fr. Quarry Quips)

Is This Hole Taken?

You are collecting with a group of rockhounds. You notice a hole which had been recently dug. In the hole are someone's tools. The owner of the tools is nowhere to be seen. What do you do?

- A. Pick up the tools to find the owner
- B. Leave the tools in the hole.
- C. Remove the tools and begin to collect in the hole.
- D. Become happy, you have some new tools.

I have seen many occasions where people, who thought they were being helpful, pick up the tools from the hole to find the owner. After removing the tools someone else comes along and begins to dig in the hole. I have seen people remove tools from a hole and begin to collect in the hole. I have seen people pick up tools from a hole and put them in their bucket.

What should you do? When you are collecting with a group or are in an area where there are other people and see tools left in a hole, leave them be! When someone digs a hole, that hole is *their* hole. If they pick up their tools and leave, they give up that hole. If they leave their tools in the hole, that hole is still their hole. They may have gone to eat lunch. They may have gone to the bathroom. No matter what, they have not abandoned that hole! Do not be helpful and take the tools to the people. You just gave away their hole. It may have been a very productive hole and instead of being happy to see the return of their tools, they are ticked off at you for causing the loss of their hole.

On the other hand, I have seen someone dig multiple holes and leave tools in each one. This is wrong. This is being hoggish. If you want to dig somewhere else, remove your tools! Offer the hole to someone else, or fill it in. You will gain no friends by claiming multiple digging sites.

In a similar case, if you see a specimen or pile of specimens lying about, this may or may not be specimens that have been culled out. Ask around. If the specimen or pile of specimens have a circle dug around them, these specimens belong to someone else. It is possible that the person's collecting bag or bucket may have been full. They may have gone to bring back a collecting bag or bucket. They may be shuttling the specimens back to their vehicle.

New rockhounds join us who do not know our rules. We have some people who don't think. And then, I hate to say it, there are some unscrupulous rockhounds. Have fun while you are collecting, but think about others while you do so.

(Author unknown, from Cotton Indian Gems 9/06 & others, via Rock Chips 3/09)

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LESSONS FROM THE GEESE

1. As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird following. By flying in a "V" formation, the whole flock gains 71% flying range over each bird flying alone. LESSON - People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going more quickly and more easily because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

2. Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the "lifting power" of the bird immediately in front. LESSON - If we have as much sense as the geese, we will stay in formation with those who are headed where we want to go.

3. When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into the formation, and another goose flies at the point position. LESSON - It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks, sharing leadership, interdependent with each other.

4. The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed. LESSON - We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging - not something less helpful.

5. When a goose gets sick or wounded or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow him down to help and protect him. They stay with him until he is either able to fly again or dies. Then they launch out on their own, to join another formation or rejoin their flock. LESSON - If we have as much sense as the geese, we'll stand by each other.

OUR RESTLESS, ROCKY EARTH

If the landscape outside your window looks serene and complete, that is an illusion. It was probably under an ocean or glacier once, and will be again. Its contours are being reshaped continually. Its rocks may be symbols of strength and stability, but like the earth whose crust they form, rocks and soil never stop changing. Mud and clay become shale and shale changes into slate. Plants become first

peat, then lignite and then coal. Soft sandstone becomes hard, tough quartzite. Granite changes to a banded rock called gneiss. Sea creatures become limestone, which in turn becomes marble. Air, water, heat, cold, pressure, chemicals, bacteria and gravity then break down the rocks into separate minerals through erosion and re-disposition. Having destroyed, the same forces then build, by recombining the minerals into new rocks in a perpetual cycle of renewal.
(Fr. Flint Rock & Gem Club & others via Quarry Quips 5/96)

WHAT ARE PASTE DIAMONDS?

Paste diamonds are basically glass stones that have been chemically modified. The term was introduced in 1662 when the process was discovered. The raw materials include fused silica, soda ash, lead oxide, lime and trace quantities of other chemicals including boron, phosphorous, barium, zinc and titanium. Paste is usually bright because of its lead content, but it is soft and does not resist wear, as a real diamond does. It is also tarnished by sulfur in the air. Rhinestones are glass gems whose brilliance or color is improved by placing metal foil on the bottom facets.
(Submitted by Leslie Neff from L.A. Times, and the Agatizer via Rock Rollers, 9/96)

WHY THE BEVEL?

To be perfectly set in a mounting, a cabochon requires two things: a perfectly flat bottom and a very small bevel to take away the sharpness of the bottom edge, which allows it to slip in easily and keeps it from chipping off.
(Fr. Gems & Minerals and others via Rock Chips, 10/96)

HOBBY HINT

Metal Cleaner: if you want an excellent cleaner for gold, sterling or other metals, try LIPSTICK - any shade. Use a soft cloth to apply and another to remove and buff. The results are unbelievable; they are glowing. This also works great on copper and brass.
(Fr. SCFMS Newsletter and others via Stoney Statements, 9/96)

PAST MEETINGS:

March 21st - The program for this meeting was given by Bob Spurrier and Maurice Smith on Basic Jewelry Setting. Gayle Savage was on the program, but unable to attend due to a fall. A front table held catalogs, all kinds of tools, different mountings, templates and torches. Explanations were excellent.

A question was asked about the workshop, and the subject switched.

At the regular meeting, a field trip to Saddle Mountain was announced. Meet at 7:30 am at Top Foods for car pool.

Sheets were passed around to sign up for the Nason Creek Rest Stop April 13-17, Chelan County Fair in September (theme "Boots, Chaps & Hats), Ginkgo Yard Sale June 6-7 and for the museum case.

The door prize was won by Liz Forrer – a garnet bead necklace and the raffle drawing went to Maurice Smith – an agate necklace.

Refreshments of carrot cake, cookies, mixed nuts and a punch bowl drink were served by Cheri McMillan and Bob Spurrier.

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PROGRAM SCHEDULE & EVENTS:

- April 18th Regular Club Meeting, 2:00 p.m., Douglas Co. Fire Station, 377 Eastmont Ave., East Wenatchee. Program – Jim Lawson, Thulite
- May 17th Regular Club Meeting, 2:00 p.m., Douglas Co. Fire Station
 Show & Tell – bring rocks and rock creations
- June 6 & 7 Yard Sale – save and mark items while spring cleaning...
- June 13 Field Trip to Crystal Mountain

Workshop Supervisor Schedule

Open 9 am – 4 pm Call 881-8096 if attending

- April 18 – Club Meeting
- April 26 - Carol
- May 02 - Cheri
- May 09 - Bob
- May 16 – Club Meeting
- May 23 - Richard
- May 30 - Christy



SPRING FEVER

From my high, skyscraper window,
I can see a patch of sky,
And the spirit rises in me
As the white clouds scamper by.

Spring is here – I've got the fever,
I am tired of jangling phones
There is hematite in my blood stream
And there's calcite in my bones.

Spring is here---And nature beckons,
Yet here I sit, from morn till night---
When I'd rather be out digging
Spodumene, or pectolite.

It's a downright waste of money,
When your tools all oxidize ---
Furthermore, I'm getting restless,
And I need the exercise.

I don't care just where I prospect,
Be it dump, or quarry wall---
All I want is time to wander,
And to dig---until next fall!
(By C.C.W. Via Rocks and Minerals)

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