

WILLAMETTE AGATE AND MINERAL SOCIETY

JULY 2023 NEWSLETTER

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: **WAMSLNET**



President's Address: By: Mimi Mechele McKenney



Hello fellow rockhounds,

Summer is here and we are finally able to get out and explore for more treasures. Have you gone on any field trips lately? My son and I were able to get to the Prineville Pow Wow and go on a field trip for limb casts. Only found two little pieces when I dug, but found great surface stuff...we had fun and made new friends.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the June breakout session. We discussed old Marker Ranch, who's been there before (formerly Holleywood Ranch), and what to expect. If you went to the field trip that following weekend, please bring in your finds share them at Show-n-Tell. July's program will be Aaron Currier, he will talk to us about what you can find on certain beaches in Oregon. Then in August, no regular Thursday meeting, we will have our annual club picnic. Come to the July meeting to sign up and get the information of where and when. This month's Show-n-Tell is "G" (or your finds from your field trips). Need some ideas of what might be in the G category, go to Wikipedia, it has an alphabetical mineral list you can view. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_minerals#G)Have a safe and fun 4th of July and I'll see you on the 6th at 7pm 😊

Your Pres - Mimi

Willamette Agate and Mineral Society (WAMS) – General Membership Meeting
Meeting Minutes

April 6th, 2023

Officers Present: Treasurer Dave Maxwell, Secretary Cassandra Hutchinson. Members at Large:
Suzette, Woody, Tom.

1. Meeting Called to Order at 7:00 pm

2. Introductions of Officers, Chair Positions, New Members and Guests

Welcome new members and guests!

3. Announcements

- General Meeting July 6th – Juniors at 6:30pm, General Meeting 7:00pm at Center 50+
- Board Meeting is June 20th at 6:30, Center 50+
- Upcoming Field Trip – Old Marker Ranch 6/3, NW Rockhound Retreat – Labor Day Week
 - Field trips during the Prineville Gem Show
- Upcoming gem shows – Prineville 6/15-6/18, Reedsport 6/16, Madras 6/22-6/25

4. Old Business

- Approval of May Meeting Minutes-motioned, second, approved.
- Treasurer’s Report- motioned, second, approved.
- Juniors -

5. Show and Tell

Club members brought material that begins with the letter “F” and shared about their finds.
Next meeting will be the letter “G”.

6. Program – breakout groups to talk about Old Marker Ranch and petrified wood.

7. Kids Rocks and Break

8. New Business

- Voting in of new members. Motion approved.
 - Reminder – Members can present their name badge to get into Rice Museum (Hillsboro) for free plus discount in gift shop.
- Aaron C – Upcoming meeting auction for fluorescent specimens (photo party upcoming) and summer shirt orders.
- Dan G – Peterson Rock Garden has re-opened
- May Meeting Housekeeping
 - Refreshments – Felicia, Mimi
 - Rocks for kids – Philip
 - Scholarship rocks – The Driver’s
 - Door Prize rocks – Bob Wheeler

Meeting Adjourned 8:28pm

WAMS Officers and Chair Positions

Officers: President: Mimi Surgeon

Vice President: Barbara Hopkins

Treasurer: Dave Maxwell

Secretary: Cassandra Hutchinson

Members At Large: Tom Beaty, Ken Seward, Suzette Mykyles

Woody White, Cody Torres David Kersenbrock

Federation Director: Larry Ferguson

Board Chairman: Richard Ilg

Advertising: Camille Ainsworth

Education: Scott Lambright, Pam Stringer

Field Trip Coordinator: Barbara Hopkins Historian:

Hostess: Bonnie Stubenrauch, Terry Christenson

Juniors: Scott Lambright: Pam Stringer

Librarian: Eddie Hopper

Nametags: Woody White

Newsletter Editor: David Smith

Oregon Council: Ted and Vickie Johnson

Programs: Eddie Hopper

Property Control: Woody White

Public Relations: VACANT, could be You!

Publications: David Smith

Scholarships Chairman: Joe Van Cura

Scholarship: Kathleen Forbes, Steve Wilson

Show Chair: Ken Stubenrauch: Andree Kraker

Stamps: Aaron Curier

Sunshine: Bonnie Stubenrauch

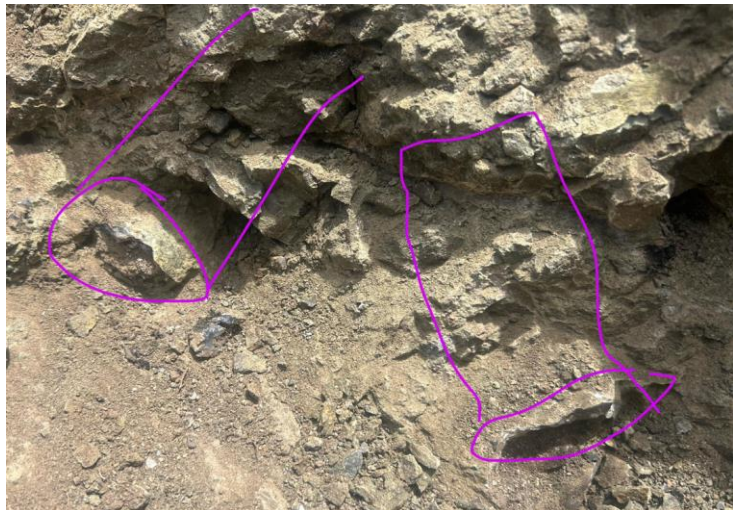
Web Master: Andree Kraker

JUNE FIELD TRIP TO OLD MARKER RANCH

Our club field trip to Old Marker Ranch on June 3rd turned out very successful as the club members who came; left with nice material. There was also a group there from the Sweet Home Club. Many thanks to Joe Van Cura for leading the expedition. We were assisted by the property owners who opened some pits that yielded some great material. This site was once covered by an inland sea, where wood floated in and sed from all over the world. Local arborists have identified between 65-70 different species of trees. It's a gold mine for petrified wood collectors. Even after decades of digging here; beautiful specimens are still found.



PRINEVILLE SHOW POW WOW AND DAILY FIELD TRIPS INCLUDING BEAR CREEK; McDONALD RANCH, FRIENDS RANCH, AND PAULINA



Some of our club members scored on some great material on the day trips from the Prineville Pow Wow. There were trips to Bear Creek: McDonald Ranch, Friends Ranch, and the Paulina Limb cast site. Exploring the great outdoors and discovering hidden gems of geological wonders is a thrilling adventure that rock hounds embark upon. From ancient petrified wood to intriguing thunder eggs and captivating pink limb casts, these three field trips offer enthusiasts a chance to witness the fascinating world beneath their feet. Once lush and vibrant trees, these remnants have undergone a fascinating transformation, turning into solid stone over millions of years. As visitors explore the creek beds, they encounter an array of beautifully preserved wood pieces, adorned with vibrant colors and intricate patterns. From majestic redwoods to ancient pines, each petrified specimen tells a story of the earth's past, capturing the imagination of all who encounter them. In the heart of the countryside lies Friends Ranch, an ideal destination for those seeking the thrill of uncovering thunder eggs. Thunder eggs are unique geological formations, formed by volcanic activity. These extraordinary rocks have a rough exterior, but once sliced open, they reveal a captivating

surprise—a treasure trove of colorful crystals and minerals. Armed with hammers and chisels, rock hounds eagerly explore the ranch, searching for the perfect thunder egg to crack open and reveal its hidden beauty. The anticipation and excitement of discovering what lies inside these unassuming rocks make Friends Ranch an unforgettable experience for rock hounding enthusiasts.

Dendrite Butte: A Glimpse into the World of Pink Limb Casts

Nestled among the majestic cliffs and rugged canyons, Dendrite Butte presents an incredible opportunity to witness the allure of pink limb casts. These fascinating formations are the result of minerals infiltrating the hollow spaces left by decomposed organic material, such as branches or roots. Over time, these spaces become filled with mineral-rich solutions, crystallizing into delicate pink casts, preserving the intricate details of the organic matter. As rock hounds explore the terrain, they discover an array of stunning pink limb casts, offering a glimpse into a bygone era and showcasing the delicate beauty hidden within the rugged landscape. Rock hounding field trips provide a thrilling escape into the world of geology and natural history. Whether it's the petrified wood at Bear Creek, the thunder eggs at Friends Ranch, or the pink limb casts at Dendrite Butte, each location offers a unique experience for enthusiasts. These excursions allow rock hounds to connect with the earth's past, unearthing nature's treasures and gaining a deeper appreciation for the wonders that lie beneath our feet. So grab your tools, don your hiking boots, and set out on an unforgettable adventure through time, uncovering the hidden marvels of the geological world at next year's Prineville pow wow!

SPECIAL THANKS TO CAITLYN LOUISE PRATT FOR SUBMITTING HER GREAT EXPERIENCE.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HWXHH_jWsY

I have attached a link that talks about the formation and history of the scab lands in Eastern Washington. Paste it to your browser as it is a fascinating story that took decades to research and understand. I also shared it on our Facebook page. During the last ice age, 18,000 to 13,000 years ago, the landscape of Eastern Washington was repeatedly scoured by massive floods. They carved canyons, cut waterfalls, and sculpted a terrain of braided waterways today known as the Channeled Scablands. A great photo on the next page shows the force these floods came through with and ripped the landscape. Downstream from glacial Lake Missoula, the Columbia River was dammed by another ice lobe, forming glacial Lake Columbia. When Lake Missoula's outburst floods

poured into Lake Columbia, the water spilled over to the south onto the eastern Washington plateau, eroding the landscape and creating the Channeled Scablands.



Club information: Announcements

Do not forget to sign up at our next club meeting for the August 6th annual picnic, hosted at the home of Tom and Susan Robertson. They have once again volunteered to host the event. Bring cash as Tom will have his shop open and have awesome material on sale. We ask that each family or person sign up to bring a dish to help with the food.

Were you all aware we have another show coming up on August 18-20. The annual outdoor/indoor show will be held at the Polk County Fairgrounds by the building behind where we had our display cases in April. This was an awesome show last year and we plan to make it even better this. Life is good when you are shopping for rocks in an outdoor atmosphere. There will be more to come at the July club meeting with volunteer opportunities . Ken Stubenrauch is our show leader. His dedication and leadership was instrumental in making this a standout event.

July Show and Tell: Bring rocks related to the letter "G" ; Also bring rocks from the June field trips !!!





WAMS contact information:

Webpage:

www.wamsi.net

Facebook:

Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, Inc.

Instagram:

Willamette_agate_and_mineral

Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/RiverofGems>

Newsletter email:

rockclubnewsletter@gmail.com

River of Gems email:

Wams.riverofgems@gmail.com

Willamette Agate and Mineral Society (**W.A.M.S.**) is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (**AFMS**), the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (**NFMS**), the Oregon Council of Rock and Mineral Clubs, the American Lands Access Association (**ALAA**), and the Special Congress Representing Involved Bulletin Editors (**S.C.R.I.B.E.**).

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Salem 50+ Senior Center, 2615 Portland Road NE, in Salem, Oregon. Executive Board meetings are held with upcoming meetings announced at the general meeting, and all members are invited to attend. **W.A.M.S.** was organized to stimulate interest in the study and collection of agates, minerals, gems, and fossils, and support lapidary work, education, scientific study of natural earth sciences, and charitable purposes within the meaning of Section #501(C)(3) IRS

W.A.M.S.

P.O. Box 13041

Salem 97309