



Willamette Agate and Mineral Society

Club Newsletter; April 2024

Presidents Editorial

Mimi Mechele McKenne

Happy sunshine everyone,

As I write this, the weather has been warm and sunny, in the high 60's to mid-70's. Perfect weather to get out and find mother nature's treasures. While I was not able to attend the Rock Castle field trip, I heard we had 70+ members in attendance...that's amazing. I'm so happy everyone was able to attend and have a fun time. Big thank you to Joe, Lucy, Kiesha and Jason (the Cota's) for hosting us.

Two field trips coming up in April, Old Marker Ranch and China Hollow. Both Ken and Caitlyn will give updates at the general meeting...(and Richard will talk about the Succor creek trip in May).

The big show is coming up, this show has gone on for over 65+ years. People travel a good distance to come and see all the vendors, demonstrators, display cases and participate in our auctions and kids events. If you haven't signed up to volunteer, please take the opportunity at the meeting to do so, it's all hands-on deck to make this event run smooth. Also, it sounds like there are display cases available still, if someone is still deciding to do a display case. It does not have to be the theme of the show, it can be any collection you have or want to showcase. Eddie will have the forms to fill out at the meeting. Oh, did you order a WAMS t-shirt?? don't forget to bring your money to the April meeting to pay Aaron and pick them up intime to wear at the gem show.

Show and Tell...I lost track, lol, are we on N? I think so...that's a tough one, not too many N choices - maybe bring your favorite field trip treasure, or in honor of the gem show, bring a piece of pet wood.

For those of you with kiddos, don't forget we have a junior class that starts at 6:30 pm prior to the general meeting. Lots of fun stuff going on in that class.

Alright everyone, enjoy the weather and be safe - see you at the meeting.

Mimi

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

March 7th, 2024

Officers Present: Vice President Barbara H, Treasurer Dave M, Secretary Cassandra H. Board chair: Richard. Members at Large: Suzette, Woody, Scott.

Meeting Called to Order at 7:03 pm.

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

Welcome and introduction of guests.

2. Announcements

- Next General Membership Meeting is April 4th, 2024, 7:00 pm at Center 50+.
- Board Meeting – March 18th, 6:30 pm at Center 50+.
- Federation and advertising positions open. Federation position filled by Adam Petitt and Delegate position by Victoria Kelly. Federation meeting in Hermiston May 10-12.
- Special thanks to Dan Groah for polished rocks.
- Rice Museum Egg Hunt seeking volunteers for 3/30, contact Rice Museum.
- Umpqua Gem Show May 3-5, for a display case application contact Dave Maxwell.
- Sweet Home Show March 30-31.
- March Egg Stuffing event, it will be in Bldg. B at Polk Co Fairgrounds 3/23 from 9-1

3. Old Business

- Approval of February Meeting Minutes – motioned, seconded, approved.
- Treasurer’s Report- Account overview. Motioned, seconded, approved.
- Richard – Slabs are needed for silent auction during the show.
- Aaron – Club shirts, sign up on list during meeting. Shirts will be available at April meeting or at the show.

4. Show and Tell

Club members brought material that begins with the letter “M” and shared about their finds. Next month is letter “N”.

5. New Business

- Barbara: Voting in of new members. Motion approved.
- Field trips – 3 upcoming field trips, sign up sheets on back table or check FB.
- April Meeting Housekeeping
 - Refreshments – Dave S, Cassandra
 - Rocks for kids/juniors – Dan Groah
 - Scholarship rocks – Don Esch
 - Door Prize rocks – Ken Stubenrauch

6. Kids Rocks and Break

7. Program: Show Update – Ken Stubenrauch. Display Case Demo – Eddie Hopper

- Show dates – April 19-21. Confirmation of at least 100 kids from Dallas School Dist.

8. Raffle tickets and closing.

Meeting Adjourned @ 8:25 pm

2024 W.A.M.S. Board Members and Officer Positions

Mimi Surgeon Barbara Hopkins Dave Maxwell Cassandra Hutchinson
*** President** ***Vice President** ***Treasurer** ***Secretary**

Ken Seward: Scott Lambright: Suzette M.: Woody White

***Members at Large**

Larry Furguson Richard Ilg Camille Ainsworth Scott Lambright: Pam Stringer
***Federation Chair** ***Board Chair** ***Advertising** ***Education: Juniors**

Barbara Hopkins Eddie Hopper David Smith Vickie and Ted Johnson
***Field Trip Coordinator** ***Librarian: Programs** ***Newsletter Editor** ***Oregon Council**

Woody White Joe Van Cura Ken Stubenrauch: Andree Kraker Aaron Curier
Property Control **Scholarship Chair** **Show Chair Coordinators** **Stamps**

Andree Kraker Tanya Kirk David Smith Terry Christenson
Bonnie Stubenraugh
Web Master **Sunshine** **Publications** **Hostess**



APR 19 AT 9 AM – APR 21 AT 4 PM

Willamette Agate and Mineral Society "67th" annual River Of Gems Show

Polk County Fairgrounds

IT'S SHOWTIME



April is our busiest month of the year and we need your volunteerism in our 67th annual River of Gems Rock and mineral show on April 19-21. This is this largest event of the year and our club depends on the outcome of this show to fund and maintain our club funding and activities for the calendar year. We have been signing people up for the past 2-3 months. If you have not signed up already, please commit to doing so as there are several opportunities you can get involved.



Club Field Trip to The Rock Castle from March 16th



What a great club field trip to Joe Cota's Rock Castle in Lebanon on March 16th. Over 70 club members were in attendance and we purchased about 1400 lbs. of rocks, which was matched to the club in addition. We will have a lot of rock available for the show in April. The club got to enjoy rockhounding in sunny conditions, and we had a nice potluck down by the pond. If you are ever driving through Lebanon, do not forget to stop at the Rock Castle and score your treasures. Besides the 50 cents per lb. pile, they have a lot of prize material for sale; both, on the side of the shop, as well as inside.

Next months club field trip will be another day trip down to Old Marker ranch in Holley. Some of the best petrified wood dug in Oregon comes from this location where an inland sea carried logs in from all around the world; where they settled on the shoreline and then later became petrified and preserved in clay. This is one of our fun annual trips that is sure to please all who come out for the day.



More upcoming important events and Oregon shows



Gem & Mineral Show - 03/30/2024

Start Date: 03/30/2024
End Date: 03/31/2024
Hours: Sat 10:00 - 6:00 Sun 10:00 - 5:00
Venue: Sweet Home HS Gym
Address:
1641 Long Street
Sweet Home , OR
Types: Rock & Mineral Shows
[Is this your listing? Claim it now](#)



The Rogue Gem & Geology Club Show - 04/26/2024

Start Date: 04/26/2024
End Date: 04/28/2024
Hours: 10-5 Friday 9-5 Saturday 10-4 Sunday
Venue: Josephine County Fairground Pavilion
Address:
1451 Fairgrounds Road
Grants Pass , OR 97526




Body Mind Spirit Expo - 04/27/2024

Start Date: 04/27/2024
End Date: 04/28/2024
Hours: Sat 10:00-7:00 Sun 10:00-6:00
Venue: Westside Commons
Address:
873 NE 34th Ave
Hillsboro , OR
Website: <https://www.bmse.net/>
Types: Rock & Mineral Shows



Umpqua Club's Gem & Mineral Show - 05/04/2024

Start Date: 05/04/2024
End Date: 05/05/2024
Venue: Douglas County Fairgrounds
Address:
2110 Frear Ave
Roseburg , OR 97470
Website: <https://www.facebook.com/Umpquagem>
Types: Rock & Mineral Shows



SAT, APR 27 AT 8:30 AM

Beers Mt & Biggs Jasper

Created by Barbara Hopkins

Interested Going Invite Edit

How To Start Rockhounding With Your Kids

The easiest way to get started rockhounding is to find a local place where you can walk around and search for various rocks and minerals. You don't really need any equipment to get started, just natural curiosity!

There are some great resources out there like Rock Chasing that can [help you find places for gem mining near you](#) that are also great for kids. They have a bunch of great resources to get you up to speed on rockhounding and where to go.

Once you get there you can explore and collect any rocks and minerals you find that are interesting to take home. Once you get back you can then spend some time identifying them online to really understand what you found.

There are several great locations to start at that are very easy. It's almost certain that one of the following are nearby:

Creekbeds and Riverbanks

Exploring creekbeds and riverbanks can lead to exciting rockhounding adventures. The flowing water often exposes different layers of rocks, making it easier to find interesting specimens. Kids can search for colorful river rocks, quartz crystals, and even semi-precious gems like garnets.

Encourage them to look for smooth, rounded rocks, which indicate they have been tumbled and shaped by the water over time.

Quarries and Road Cuts

Quarries and road cuts are man-made sites that expose layers of rocks and minerals. While it's important to exercise caution and respect any restricted areas, some quarries and road cuts allow rockhounding.

These sites can be fantastic places to find a variety of rocks, including granite, limestone, or even fossils. It's a great opportunity to learn about different types of rocks and witness the geological forces that shape our planet.

Geological and Mineral Museums

Take a trip to your local geological or mineral museum to serve as an introduction to rock collecting for kids. Therein they will discover a fascinating world of rocks and minerals. Museums often have interactive exhibits, displays of stunning specimens, and educational programs that engage young minds.

While you may not be able to collect rocks at the museum, it provides a wealth of information and inspiration for future rockhounding adventures.

Local Rock and Mineral Shows

Check if there are any local rock and mineral shows or gem and mineral expos in your area. Rock collecting for kids can include these types events, as they bring together vendors, collectors, and enthusiasts who showcase and sell a wide range of rocks, minerals, and gems.

Attending these shows can be an exciting experience for kids, as they can see and learn about a vast array of specimens, and perhaps even add a unique rock or mineral to their collection.

Rock Collecting For Kids – Conclusion

There are myriad ways in which rock collecting for kids can be an enjoyable experience of hands on discovery, learning, outdoor exploration, and ultimately, a way to build future stewards of our environment and wild places.



We are down to a few weeks until to our biggest event of the year. Please help us spread the word about the 67th annual rock and gem show hosted by our club. Last year's show brought a record attendance and significant results in helping us accomplish our goals as a club for 2023. Without volunteers, we could not make these things happen.

You can contribute to the success of our event by signing up for various roles. To volunteer, simply reach out to me, and I will add your name to the sign-up sheet. Alternatively, sign-up sheets will be available at our next meeting.

Here are the different areas and days for volunteering:

1. **Setup Days (April 17-18):** Help us set up on Wednesday and Thursday.
2. **Event Days (April 19-21):** Volunteer opportunities each day, including front door entrance, membership, raffle table, kids' area (wheel, grab bags, bingo, Crystal Mine, critters), popcorn, magazines, display cases, silent auction, or be a general floater.
3. **Treasure Hunt (April 20):** Assist with setting up boundaries, hiding eggs, overseeing the treasure hunt, and participating in the cleanup between 10 AM and 2 PM.
4. **Show Tear Down (April 21):** Help us clean up and tear down after 5 PM. Most shifts are two hours long, but feel free to stack your shifts based on your availability. The show runs from Friday, April 19, to Sunday, April 21, with hours from 9 AM to 5 PM.

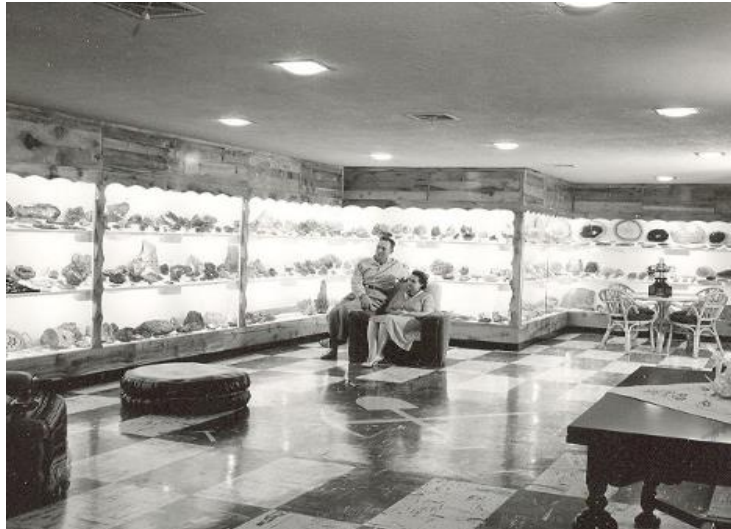
Thank you for being an integral part of the Willamette Agate Mineral Society. We look forward to your enthusiastic participation in making the WAMS River of Gems Show 2024 a memorable success. Best Regards:

Caitlyn Pratt: wams.riverofgems@gmail.com





<https://ricenorthwestmuseum.org/about/>



MUSEUM HOURS

Winter (Dec-Mar)

Mon-Tues: Closed

Weds-Sun: 10am-4pm

Summer (Apr-Nov)

Mon-Tues: Closed

Weds-Sun: 10am-5pm

Rice Northwest Museum of R...

26385 NW Groveland Dr, Hillsboro,
OR 97124

4.8 ★★★★★ 1,257 reviews

[View larger map](#)

 Rice Northwest Museum
of Rocks & Minerals

The Rice Museum of Rocks and Minerals houses a world-class collection recognized as the finest in the Pacific Northwest and one of the best in the nation. **Located just west of Portland, Oregon**, in Hillsboro, the Museum showcases not only fine rocks and minerals, but also fossils, meteorites, lapidary art, and gemstones from both the Pacific Northwest and all around the world.

The Museum is listed in the National Register of Historic Places for its unique architectural style, natural stonework, and the extraordinary native Oregon woodwork found throughout the building.

If you wear your W.A.M.S. nametag it gets you in for free.

Questions about visiting or reservations? Please email

info@ricenorthwestmuseum.org



Willamette Agate and Mineral Society, Inc.

PO Box 13041
Salem Oregon 97309-1041

Membership Application

New Renewal

Individual Membership Name _____

Couple Membership Name _____

Name _____

Junior Member(s) Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Mailing Address _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Phone (home) _____ (work) _____ (Cellular) _____

Email 1* _____

*If you have more than one email for your membership/family, please indicate which one to mail the newsletter too.

Email 2 _____

- I (we) would like to receive the WAMS monthly newsletter by email (color) or by USPS mail.
- I (we) would like to receive the Federation newsletter by email or by USPS mail.
- I (we) would like to receive an email for WAMS announcements, event updates and field trip information.
- I (we) are interested in being a WAMS officer/or chairperson.
- I (we) are interesting in helping with the annual rock and gem show.
- I (we) are interested in volunteering for work parties and/or event committees.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Membership Dues:

Individual	\$15.00
Couple	\$24.00
Junior(s)	\$2.50

Please return this form by mailing it to the address above or bringing it to the monthly meeting and giving it to the treasurer with your dues. Thank you. Renewals are due by the first meeting of the current year. Members that are considered delinquent will not be able to participate in any WAMS functions or continue to receive the monthly newsletters. Members joining after July 1st will only pay half price.

To be filled in by WAMS treasurer

WAMS - Received By: _____ Date _____

Payment method: Cash (or) Check Ck# _____ Amount: _____



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