

The CMS Tumbler

February
2021



Next Meeting:
February 11, 2021
7:00 p.m.

Online, more
information will appear
on the club website.

Table of Contents

Calendar.....	3
Cartoons.....	3, 10 & 11
From the Top of the Rock Pile.....	5
Land Usage Articles.....	5 & 6
Sandfalls.....	6
Young Richard's Almanac.....	6
Trilobites.....	7
Trilobite Beetles.....	8
Young Tumblers News.....	9
Field Trips.....	11

Connect with us!

Website: cascademineralsociety.org
Club Facebook: facebook.com/CasMinSoc/
Show Facebook: facebook.com/cascadegemandmineralshow
Instagram: instagram.com/cascadegemandmineralshow/

This month remember
to wish a

Happy Birthday to

Maynard Byers on February 2

Daniel Fraser on February 7

Sharim Johnson on February 7

Jack Petty on February 9

Linda Jorza on February 12

Scott Harris on February 14

James Grace on February 17

Peter Williams on February 18

Scott Miles on February 23

John Biggs on February 27

and also remember

to wish a

Happy Anniversary to

Angie & Brian Bayer on February 8 (9 years)

Garry & Kathy Hartzell on February 13 (50 years)

Cheryl & Dale Ehrenheim on February 14 (23 years)



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Tips, suggestions, recipes and experiments printed in this newsletter are the experiences and/or opinions of the individuals submitting them. We are not responsible for their authenticity, safety, or reliability. Caution and safety should always be practiced when trying out any new idea.

The monthly newsletter of the Cascade Mineralogical Society, Inc., Kent, Washington

CMS Club Address
25838 W LK Wilderness Dr. SE.
Maple Valley, WA. 98038

Keith Alan Morgan, Editor
3802 W Tapps Dr. E
Lake Tapps, WA 98391

Postal, or Email, Exchange
Bulletins are welcome.
Email preferred.
greenrockdraggin@yahoo.com

2021 Elected Officers

<i>Title</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>E-mail</i>
President	Kat Koch	425-765-5408	president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Vice President	Merriann Fu	253-236-5593	merriannf@gmail.com
Treasurer	Charles Benedict	425-306-0465	charlesbenedict@comcast.net
Secretary	Pete Williams	425-228-5063	petewill02@gmail.com
Director	Roger Pullen	206-387-3214	None
Director	Roger Danneman	425-228-8781	roger.danneman@q.com
Director	Richard Russell	253-736-3693	richru1@yahoo.com
Past President	Bob Pattie	425-226-3154	bobpattie@comcast.net
Show Chairman	Kat Koch	425-765-5408	president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Federation Representative	Michael Blanton	425-271-8757	mblanton41@hotmail.com
Federation Representative	Kat Koch	425-765-5408	president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Mineral Council	Bob Pattie	425-226-3154	bobpattie@comcast.net
Mineral Council	Jacquie Pattie	425-226-3154	dianahorsfall@comcast.net

2021 Show Committee Chairs

Cascade Show	Kat Koch	425-765-5408	president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Cascade Show	Co-Chair		
Cascade Show	Treasurer Pete Williams	425-228-5063	petewill02@gmail.com
Cascade Show	Silent Auction Michael Blanton	425-271-8757	mblanton41@hotmail.com
Cascade Show	Raffle Donations Michael Blanton	425-271-8757	mblanton41@hotmail.com
Cascade Show	Demonstrators Richard Russell	253-736-3693	richru1@yahoo.com

2021 Committee Chairs

Club Historian			
Donations	Kat Koch	425-765-5408	president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Field Trip	Roger Danneman	425-228-8781	roger.danneman@gmail.com
Health & Welfare	Bev Williams	425-228-5063	britbev1957@outlook.com
Library	Bob Pattie	425-226-3154	bobpattie@comcast.net
Meeting Programs	Miriann Fu	253-236-5593	merriannf@gmail.com
Membership	Mark Hohn	253-332-3736	showchair@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Newsletter - Tumbler Editor	Keith Alan Morgan	253-439-9471	greenrockdraggin@yahoo.com
Open Shop	Instructors Bob Pattie	425-226-3154	bobpattie@comcast.net
Public Relations	Kat Koch	425-765-5408	president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Refreshment	Angie Bayer	253-631-3840	angiemc61@msn.net
Raffle/Display	Roger Pullen	206-387-3214	None
Shop Operations	Bob Pattie	425-226-3154	bobpattie@comcast.net
Show & Tell	Michael Blanton	425-271-8757	mblanton41@hotmail.com
Social Media	Kat Koch	425-765-5408	president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Webmaster	Mark Hohn	253-332-3736	showchair@cascademineralogicalsociety.org

2021 CMS Dues are \$15 per year per family

Pay online, by mail, or at our meetings.

Mailing Address: Charles Benedict, 25838 W Lk Wilderness Dr SE, Maple Valley WA 98038

You can pay your dues via credit card!! We now accept all cards through our website or at the meeting.

You can renew your membership or enroll as a new member and pay your dues all in one shot online. You will find it under the "Membership" tab on our website. <http://www.cascademineralogicalsociety.org>




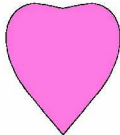



The object of the Society shall be to stimulate interest in the study of the earth sciences, lapidary arts and related subjects.

This Society is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies; the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies; and the Washington State Mineral Council.

Every member of the club should be receiving a copy of the Northwest Newsletter. If you are not receiving a copy contact Mike Blanton in person or by telephone at (425) 271 -8757 or by computer at mblanton41@hotmail.com

To get information to the Tumbler via the Internet send it to greenrockdraggin@yahoo.com Please put Tumbler and subject in the Subject Line. The deadline is the 20th of each month.

February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Virtual General Meeting 7:00 pm	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

CMS Show Committee Meeting:...Canceled

CMS Board Meeting:.....Canceled

CMS General Meeting:.....2nd Thursday, February 11 (Online).....7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Lapidary Class Hours:.....By appointment, call to set a time & day for your lesson (425) 226-3154

Lapidary Shop Hours:.....Most Tuesdays..... 2:00 pm to 5:00 p, call ahead (425) 226-3154

Lapidary Shop Hours:.....3rd Saturday..... by appointment only (call a few days ahead to set time)

Mr. & Mrs. Rockhound

by KAM



The Tumbler has received One-Time Rights to publish this cartoon

CMS Board Meeting Minutes January 11, 2021

Canceled.

CMS General Meeting Minutes January 14, 2021

Canceled.

Our Club is a Member of these Federations and Associations

AFMS: The AFMS governs our Northwest Federation. <http://amfed.org/index.html>

The bulletins are published quarterly. You can find the news bulletins at <http://amfed.org/news/default.htm>



NFMS: The Northwest Federation is our home federation. To keep up on the goings on in our own backyard. <http://northwestfederation.org/>

The link for the news bulletins is <http://northwestfederation.org/Newsletters.asp>



ALAA: The American Lands Access Association, Inc. represents the rockhounding interests of 325 gem & mineral clubs/societies in 47 States and the District of Columbia.

The purpose of the association is to promote and ensure the rights of amateur fossil and mineral collecting, recreational prospecting and mining. The use of public and private lands for educational and recreational purposes. They also carry the voice of all amateur collectors and hobbyists to our elected officials, government regulators and public land managers. <http://amlands.org>



The front page also has a lot of current news, rockhounding restrictions or lack of, etc. <http://amlands.org>

ALAA also publishes a quarterly newsletter. To keep up on the news and lobby efforts on our behalf check out <http://amlands.org/>

Washington State Mineral Council: The Washington State Mineral Council is dedicated to the location and conservation of rock and mineral sites of interest to the rockhounds of Washington state. <https://mineralcouncil.wordpress.com/>

You can find a database of local rock and gems shows and field trips. It's a great resource if you want to plan on outing.

Also check out "Misc. News" for all the latest updates on collecting sites around Washington. <https://mineralcouncil.wordpress.com/news-updates/>



When the weather is good they have regular monthly field trips. So take advantage of these great outdoor rockhounding adventures! The field trip details are under "Field Trips" on the left side of the site. Check out the link for additional details for time and place to meet and the field trip leader.

You can find all this information and a whole lot more about what is happening in our state at <https://mineralcouncil.wordpress.com/>

Lower Dues for 2021

2021 club membership dues is \$15 for a family or individual!

The Board has approved a temporary reduction in our dues for 2021 only to \$15 per family or individual. Even though we are not presently holding meetings, our club still has to cover our annual dues to NFMS, AFMS, ALAA, WA State Mineral Council and the cost of liability insurance for 2021. I am sure by spring we will be back to holding our meetings again. When this does happen we will once again have the cost of the monthly rental for the meeting room.

From our website you can use a credit card to renew your membership. You can also mail a check to CMS, c/o Charles Benedict, 25838 W. Lake Wilderness Dr. SE, Maple Valley WA 98038.

February 2021 Meetings

The General Meeting for February will be an online meeting on February 11th at 7 pm.

Check the website for topic and more information.

The link for the meeting will be in your email around the first week of February. If everyone likes an online meeting, and it goes well, we will hold our monthly meetings online until we can all get together in person.

The Board membership meetings for February has been canceled.

Everyone stay home and be safe. If you have to go out be sure to wear a mask.

Hopefully we will see each other by spring.

DNA testing of the remains of the extinct dire wolf has shown that they are not closely related to the grey wolf as previously thought, but show a closer relationship to jackals.

From the Top of the Rock Pile... by Kat Koch, 2021 CMS President

Let's all hope 2021 is a better year.

The Board has agreed to try and have an online general meeting. I don't know yet the topic or speaker we may have as the meeting is presently in the planning stage. I am working on putting together a meeting for February 11, Thursday at 7 pm. Check the website for more information and your emails for the link to join us. Make sure emails from the club are not going to your junk email.

If all goes well, we will have monthly online meetings until we are able to return in person meetings.

Last year we welcomed 15 new members and their families. I am looking forward to meeting each of you either online or in person. I also want to thank our Field Trip Guide Roger Danneman for all his hard work in planning these monthly field trips. It takes a lot of planning on his part, as he always goes out before hand and checks the location before we go. He makes sure the roads and hiking paths are accessible and everything is clear and okay for our rockhounding trips. Thank you Roger you are doing an amazing job!

Dues for 2021 is only \$15 per family or individual. The Board approved this reduction in dues for 2021 only. Even though we are not presently holding meetings, our club still has to cover our annual dues to NFMS, AFMS, ALAA, WA State Mineral Council, website hosting and the cost of liability insurance for 2021. I am sure by spring or summer we will be back to holding our meetings again. When this does happen we will once again have the cost of the monthly rental for the meeting room.

So please go to our website and renew your membership now
<https://www.cascademineralsociety.org/membership-signup/#join>

Anyone that joined our club from September 11, 2020 thru December 31, 2020 (last year) your membership is good for all of 2021.

I personally thought we were going to make it through 2020 and 2021 without the virus touching our family. I am sad to say my family has not dodged the virus. On December 28th a close family member was taken to ER and on January 3rd they passed away. All my kids came in from around the US and we met in Southern California to say our goodbyes. It was a sad occasion but so nice having all the family together in one place. We made a promise with one another to get together more often and not wait for funerals.

Now another two very close friends have caught the virus. One is going to be okay and the other is in very serious condition. This is a very mean virus.

Stay home, always wear a mask if you have to go out, and be sure to sanitize your hands constantly. I hope everyone stays safe and healthy as we all want to see each other this year.



Welcome
New Members

Join/Renew
Today

The following is an article from the ALAA website regarding California's BLM office in Sacramento release of a management plan for California Desert Conservation Area Plan. If you are planning on collecting in the California area or have an interest in this area, I would suggest you go to the website below to get more information on the plan.

Greetings Recreational Rockhounds

The outcome of this may have an effect on Recreational Rockhounding in the area of the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP). If the changes affect access to collecting areas that are now open, a comment needs to be submitted to keep the access roads open to vehicular travel. If proposed Renewable Energy sites block the access to collecting areas a comment needs to be made to permit access around the Renewable Energy Facility. If these changes affect Recreational Rockhounding and we do not speak up we could loose more collecting areas. The Rockhounding fate is up to all Rockhounds. Speak up and be heard!

ALAA Watchdogs

Source: <https://www.blm.gov/press-release/bureau-land-management-announces-draft-environmental-impact-statement-desert-plan>

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – The Bureau of Land Management has released a draft environmental impact statement and plan amendment for the three plans that underlie the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP). The public comment period will end on April 15, 2021.

The BLM is proposing targeted amendments to the California Desert Conservation Area Plan, the Bakersfield Resource Management Plan, and the Bishop Resource Management Plan. These amendments are intended to promote economic growth, support broadband infrastructure development, increase public access, and allow for greater management flexibility in order to meet our nation's energy needs.

The following is a little background on who is expected to be nominee for Secretary of the Interior and is expected to be passed by Congress.

This information is from an article that was written by GovTrack Insider staff writer Jesse Rifkin. This was on the GovTrack.us on Dec. 28, 2020.

Deb Haaland is Joe Biden's nominee for Secretary of the Interior; how has she voted on Interior issues in Congress?

A member of the Laguna Pueblo tribe, Rep. Deb Haaland (D-NM1) has been nominated as the first-ever Native American Cabinet secretary. The first-term congresswoman, previously chair of the New Mexico Democratic Party, currently serves as Vice Chair of the House Natural Resources Committee, including as Chair of the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands. The \$12.6 billion department she is poised to run, subject to Senate confirmation, controls about one-fifth of all U.S. land. It also houses such bureaus as the National Parks Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

A month into her congressional tenure, the very first bill Rep. Haaland ever introduced was the ANTIQUITIES Act, which stands for “America’s Natural Treasures of Immeasurable Quality Unite, Inspire, and Together Improve the Economies of States.” The bill would clarify that Congress must officially declare any national monuments. It would also re-expand Bears Ears to 1.9 million acres and designate about 250,000 acres in Rep. Haaland’s home state of New Mexico as federally protected.

From 1933 to 1942, during the Great Depression, the federal government ran the program Civilian Conservation Corps, employing hundreds of thousands of people to plant more than three billion trees and construct trails in more than 800 parks. The Climate Stewardship Act would resurrect this program under the new name Stewardship Corps. The 84-page bill also contains provisions restoring 2+ million acres of coastal wetlands and investing in renewable energy. The Reconciliation in Place Names Act would create a new 16-member Advisory Committee on Reconciliation in Place Names to advise the board. This committee would consist of four Native American tribe members, four people with expertise in civil rights or race relations, four people with expertise in anthropology or cultural studies, one person representing a tribal organization, with the last three intended to represent the general public at large.

Are Sandfalls in Saudi Arabia Real? by Kat Koch

I don't know if many of you have seen on TV, on social media websites and in a newspaper a pictures of the sandfalls in Saudi Arabia. I was really curious and decided to research these pictures and videos. Are they real or fake? Many people on social media were claiming they were fake. That they are videos of the Niagara Falls superimposed over a video of the Arabian desert.

Saudi has terrible rain spells and after these rains the desert becomes flooded. The country has very few permanent rivers, but the county does have “wadis”, or dry riverbeds, which flood after a heavy rain. During a storm the sand can be seen naturally cascading down the hard cliff edge mixed with water.

The heavy rains are becoming more prevalent and they believe it's from climate change.

The tag line from the Youtube video reads: “INCREDIBLE SANDFALL in Saudi. You may have seen a waterfall before, but have you ever seen a sandfall? In this amazing video, the sand cascades down hard slopes in a desert south of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. This phenomenon can be seen during a rain storm.”

If you have not seen the video and are reading the “Tumbler” online, here is an active link to see the sandfalls in action. <https://youtu.be/EKfOWtTDNT0>

These sandfalls do occur worldwide on land and undersea. Some of the places they can be found are on the sandy coast of Mauritius, being whipped up by strong sea currents. They can also be seen under water in the seas of San Lucas Canyon, which is a submarine canyon off Cabo San Lucas, Baja California.

Bibliography: Youtube, Snopes, Nine News – Australia, Quora, Wikipedia, World Wildlife Fund

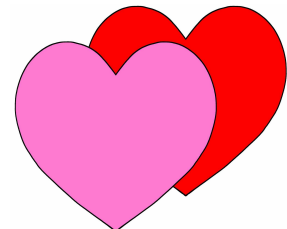
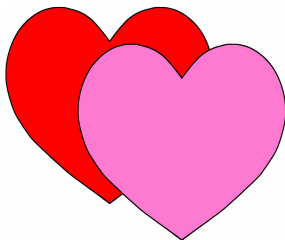


Young Richard’s Almanac by Dick Morgan

As we approach another Valentine’s Day it’s time to remember everyone needs another to feel complete and fulfill your role in life.

Going through life with your love makes the hardships easier to bear, and the rewards celebrated by two are much more fulfilling.

As you go through life it’s good to have someone’s hand to hold.



Trilobites: The Ancient Cockroaches Of The Sea by Kat Koch

Scientists have identified over 20,000 species of trilobites that are estimate to have existed for nearly 300 million years before they became extinct. Their name trilobites literally means “Three Lobes,” which refers to their body parts.

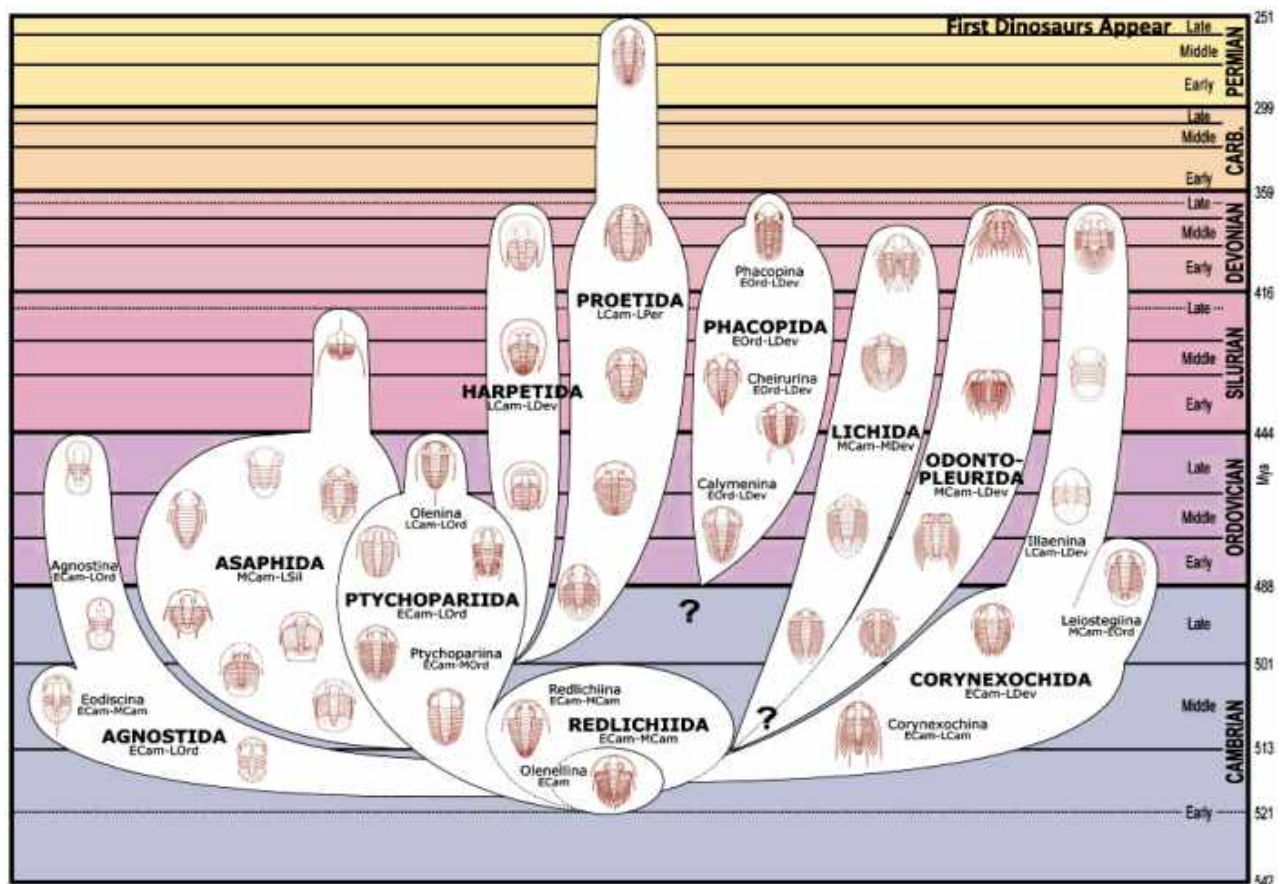
Trilobites are an extinct clade (a group of organisms believed to have evolved from a common ancestor) of Arthropods. Classified within Arthropods are one extinct subphylum (sometimes called a “super class”), the Trilobita (trilobites), and four living subphyla: Chelicerata (spiders, mites, horseshoe crabs, and sea spiders, along with the extinct sea scorpions), Myriapoda (millipedes, centipedes classes), Hexapoda (springtails, silverfish, beetles, flies, true bugs, etc.), and Crustacea (brine shrimp, barnacles, crayfish, etc.).

Fossilized remains have all been found on every single continent. The fossils range in size from less than a millimeter from end to end, to as large as 28 inches. Some had defensive spines, while others had smooth, rounded shells. Some trilobites have disproportionately large eyes while many deep-sea species were blind.

Trilobites are denizens of the open oceans' very diverse lifestyles; some were seabed predators, or scavengers, or filter feeders, and some swam and dined on plankton. Rock deposits from ancient tidal flats reveal that trilobites took to the land during the Cambrian explosion some 540 million years ago, a time when the number of animal species increased drastically. Scientist speculate that despite the absence of supporting fossil evidence, their similarity to living arthropods has led to the belief that trilobites multiplied sexually and produced eggs. Some species may have kept eggs or larvae in a brood pouch.

The first trilobites seem to have first appeared around 540 million years ago during the Early Cambrian period. The Cambrian also saw trilobites become the most common and diverse animals on the planet. Scientists have identified over 20,000 species of trilobites. However, trilobites began to decline when the period ended some 500 million years ago. Though the invertebrates stuck around for another 240 million years, they'd never again be so successful.

These ancient mariners dotted our ocean floors—surviving, thriving, and fossilizing beneath the waves.



Trilobite Beetles by Kat Koch

Trilobite Beetles appeared about 47 million years ago – about 200 million years after the last Trilobite. They are unrelated to the Trilobite of long ago but were named “Trilobite” because their similar armored bodies and helmet like heads. The Trilobite Beetle belongs to the family Lycidae, commonly known as net-winged beetles. They live totally on land and hate water and are found living happily in the lowland forests across Southeast Asia and India.

The Trilobite Beetles were first discovered around 1816 when a gentleman named Mark Wong was searching the jungle of Singapore for ants. He was flipping over logs when he found this very strange slow moving beetle.

This beetle has mystified scientists for over 200 years. Until 1923 they had never discovered what they thought was a male Trilobite Beetle. Until then, when they actually caught two beetles entwined, they had no idea what the male beetles looked like or how they reproduced. The females range in size from 1.6 inches to 3 inches and males are approximately .33 inches. As you can see the males and females are entirely different looking and vastly different in size. They confirmed the male beetle not only by its association with the female when discovered but also by DNA.

Until recently, world's leading experts on these beetles were not 100% sure what they fed on and there was some conflict as to what their diet consisted of. The most popular and widely accepted theory now is that these beetles feed on microorganisms living within the juices of rotten logs, as outlined in the 1996 findings of researcher Alvin T. C. Wong (no relation to the Mark Wong above) from the Department of Zoology at the National University of Singapore.

Bibliography: Mental Floss, Science Direct, Wikipedia, Nature, American Museum of Natural History, National Geographic, Scientific American, Australian Geographic, Geotime, Natural History Curiosities, Invertebrate Dude



Trilobite Beetle Female

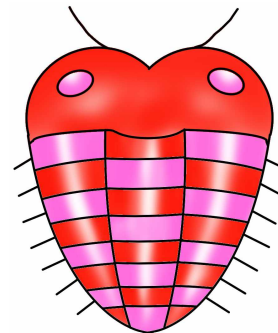


Trilobite Beetle Male

The Rockhound's Lament by Ed Huett

Sing a song of field trips and
Bags full of rocks,
Get blisters on your heels
And holes in your socks,
Then when the trip is over
Everyone will sing,
“Walked forty miles, got poison oak,
And never found a thing!”

via Rockhound Rambling, 11-12/20; from Rockhound Rambling



Modern Dichroic Glass

Multiple ultra-thin layers of different metals (such as gold or silver); oxides of such metals as titanium, chromium, aluminum, zirconium, or magnesium; or silica are vaporized by an electron beam in a vacuum chamber. The vapor then condenses on the surface of the glass in the form of a crystal structure. A protective layer of quartz crystal is sometimes added. Other variants of such physical vapor deposition (PVD) coatings are also possible. The finished glass can have as many as 30 to 50 layers of these materials, yet the thickness of the total coating is approximately 30 to 35 millionths of an inch (about 760 to 890 nm). The coating that is created is very similar to a gemstone and, by careful control of thickness, different colors may be obtained.

The total light that hits the dichroic layer equals the wavelengths reflected plus the wavelengths passing through the dichroic layer.

A plate of dichroic glass can be fused with other glass in multiple firings. Due to variations in the firing process, individual results can never be exactly predicted, so each piece of fused dichroic glass is unique. Over 45 colors of dichroic coatings are available to be placed on any glass substrate.

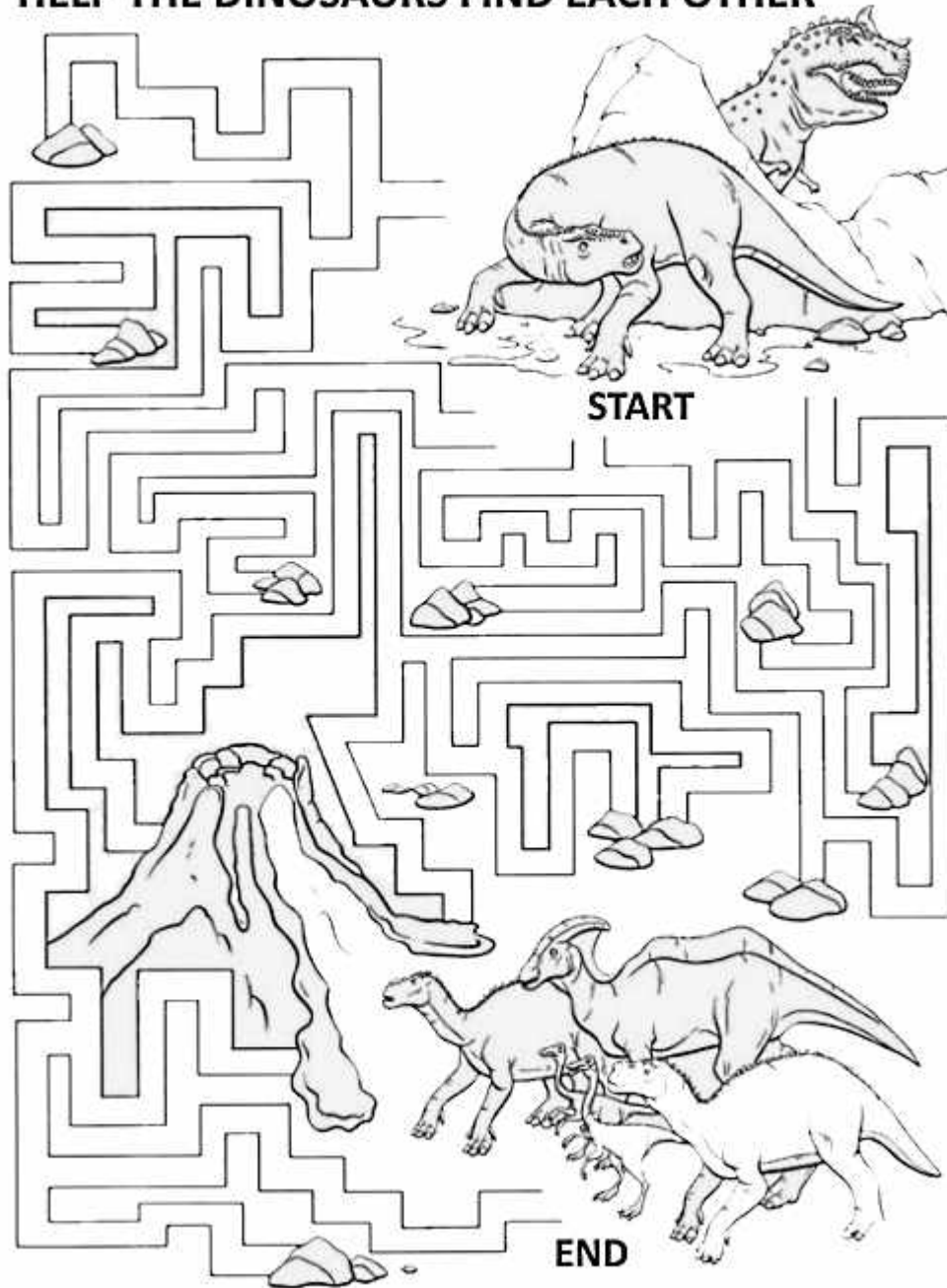
Artists can create images by removing the dichroic coating from parts of the glass, creating everything from abstract patterns to letters, animals, or faces.

The corporate headquarters of Amazon.com in Seattle incorporates dichroic glass into the exterior of its high-rise building, reflecting light into various colors that depend on the time of the day.

from West Seattle Petroglyphs, 8/20

YOUNG TUMBLER NEWS

HELP THE DINOSAURS FIND EACH OTHER



Quartz Quiz – True or False?

- 1) Quartz is the most common single mineral in the world. True / False
- 2) The crystal structure of quartz is only arranged only in a clockwise manner. True / False
- 3) The faces of a quartz crystal are arranged at a 60-degree angle. True / False
- 4) Phantoms, inclusions, dumbbells and scepters describe various forms of quartz. True / False
- 5) Quartz can have fluorescent properties and shows red or orange colors under UV light. True / False
- 6) You wouldn't find quartz in a Fairburn or Nolte agate. True / False
- 7) Ferruginous is a type of red quartz. True / False
- 8) Quartz is an affordable mineral to collect. True / False

from The Agateer, 4/19

Answers on next page.

The Paleontologist Boys by Jennifer Haley, AFMS Historian

It is rare for a group of kids, ages ten to seventeen, to startle scientists with important facts, especially in the form of new and rare fossil animals no one else has found.

Three of the most influential people in those boys' young lives were Mr. and Mrs. Bell who were the owners of Bell Sand and Gravel pits located in Irvington, CA., and a man named Wesley Gordon.

Wesley visited the Bell's quarry and picked up a few fragments of a mammoth fossil from the surface. Four years later, Wesley organized a group of boys, later to be known as "The Paleontologist Boys," and began bringing them to the quarry to collect fossils.

Wesley taught the boys how to locate and remove fossils from the quarry walls and from the gravel in the pit, along with teaching them how to clean and prepare the fossils themselves. The Bells were very fond of the boys and would pick up fossils that had been rescued from the gravel washer during the course of the everyday work at the quarry.

Life Magazine featured the boys' story, illustrated with eleven photos showing their important scientific finds. During the 40s, the Associated Press teletyped photos and stories about the kids throughout the United States. One would have to admire the wisdom in the boys' character at such a young age. They believed what they found belonged to the public domain of science. Scientists were known to encourage the boys by visiting with them at their dig locations.

In addition to the Irvington deposits, the boys discovered a Pliocene fossil -bed in the Livermore Hills, east of Hayward, CA. These sandy-clay strata contained literally thousands of rodent remains. Horse, camel and dog teeth were also found there as well as turtle. The most important remains from that deposit were the jaws, teeth and toe-bones of a tiny antelope, the Merycodus. Seventeen jaws were recovered from one three-hundred pound chunk of clay. The boys collected fossils from 1944 into the 1950's, and preserved them for scientific study.

from AFMS Newsletter, 11/20

Garnet Fun Facts

Warriors in Asia believed that donning garnets could inflict more pain on their enemies.

Garnets are featured in several religious stories; it's said that Noah used a garnet to illuminate the Ark and that it appears on the High Priest Aaron's breastplate, and Christians associate its color with the blood of Jesus and his sacrifice.

Garnets aren't just for decoration; the stone can be used as an abrasive in sandblasting to cut materials

from The Golden Spike News, 1/21

Answers to Quartz Quiz

- 1) True;
- 2) False – can be both clockwise and counter clockwise;
- 3) True;
- 4) True;
- 5) False – Quartz glows green;
- 6) False; 7)
- True – quartz is found in Fairburn, Nolte and other agates;
- 8) True!



The Tumbler has received One-Time Rights to publish this cartoon

Field Trips

The club or clubs sponsoring the field trips are shown in italics. When known I have listed a phone number and contact person for each sponsoring club below the listed trips. If you are not a member of the sponsoring club, you should phone and ask permission to go on their field trip.

Information from the Washington State Mineral Council webpage (<https://mineralcouncil.wordpress.com>).

February 15 *Marysville Rock Club - Walker Valley* – Meet at the Big Lake Store before 9 am - Geodes & Agates - Bring hard rock tools
Ed Lehman wsmced@hotmail.com h# (425) 334-6282 c# (425) 760-2786

CMS Field Trips 2021 by Roger Danneman

Here are the dates and locales for our 2021 CMS Field Trips.

Details are on the CMS Web Page under Field Trips tab (<https://www.cascademineralogicalsociety.org/>) and will also be published in the Tumbler and Facebook Group Page as each trip gets closer (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1168207926650075/>).

Please send me your e-mail address if you are new to the club or haven't been receiving notifications and would like to -> Roger.Danneman@gmail.com

March 20th - Field Trip to Baker Lake / Swift Creek for agate/jasper/nephrite jade

April 24th - Field Trip To Saddle Mountain for petrified wood

May 15th - Field Trip to First Creek for agate/jasper/geodes

June 26th - Field Trip to Little Naches for thunder eggs/lily pad jasper/leaf fossils

July 17th - Field Trip To Greenwater for agate/jasper/common opal

August TBD (8th?) - Picnic at Lake Wilderness?

August 21st - Field Trip to Salmon Creek for carnelian agate/jasper

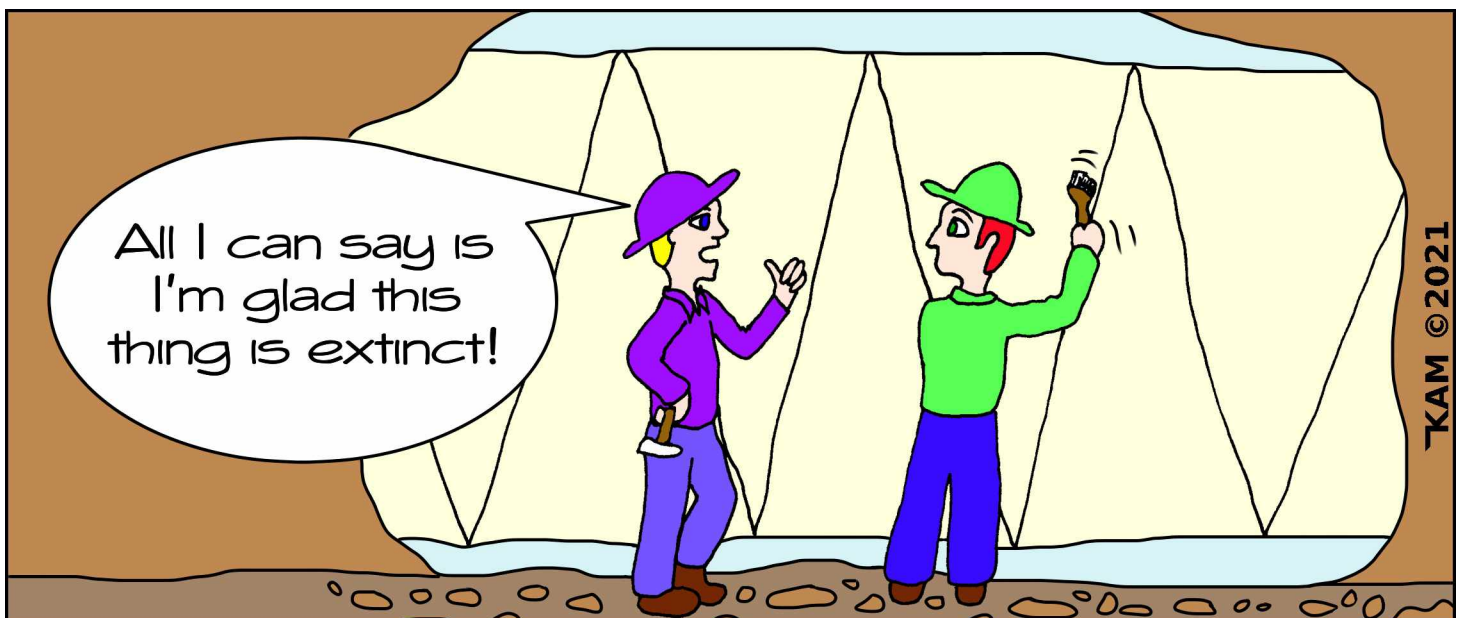
September 11th - Field Trip to Red Top for agate/jasper/geodes

September 18-19th? - CMS Rock & Gem Show?

October 16th - Field Trip to Red Top for agate/jasper/geodes

November 6th - Field Trip to First Creek for agate/jasper/geodes

Field Trip Guide is Roger Danneman Contact info: roger.danneman@gmail.com; 425-228-8781 hm or 425-757-3506 cell.



Rockhounding Code of Ethics

I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.

I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.

I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.

I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.

I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.

I will leave all gates as found.

I will build fires only in designated or safe places and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.

I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.

I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.

I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.

I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.

I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.

I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.

I will cooperate with field-trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.

I will report to my club or federation officers, Bureau of Land Management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.

I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.

I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use Good Outdoor Manners and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public Image of Rockhounds everywhere.

from the AFMS website

For a lubricant in slab and trim saws, radiator antifreeze can be used as a cooling agent. It has no odor, and will not rust your saw or evaporate. In addition, it lubricates well and being very soluble in water, is easier to clean from the rocks and your hands.

via Breccia, 8/20; from San Fernando Valley Mineral and Gem Society, 1975

When cleaning oil from your slab saw, put a shopping bag inside another one and put them into a five gallon can. Drain the oil into the sacks. After a day or two, the oil will filter through the bags and will be clean and ready to re-use.

via Breccia, 8/20; from ALAA newsletter

Add a couple of tablespoons of liquid detergent to your cutting oil, — if your saw has a plastic lid, this will be the first time you have been able to see through the top after cutting your slab.

via Breccia, 8/20; from Chips and Facets

After slabbing or trimming, all oil should be removed from material by soaking in a strong solution of dish-washing detergent. Laundry detergents should never be used, since they all contain bleaches that will effect the color of many gemstones. Dish-washing detergents do not contain bleaches which can cause film and dullness, but rather they are made to break down oils, fats, and greases.

via Breccia, 8/20; from The Tumble Rumble

When working with soft stones such as marble, onyx or Howlite, soak it in water a day or two before cutting it in oil. The oil will not soak in and this will result in a much better finish when the polishing is done. When cutting for "sheen" on obsidian, cut at an angle of about 50 degrees to the stripe of flow lines to insure a good sheen in the finished product.

via Breccia, 8/20; from Strata Gems

Because jade does not have the abrasive quality of some material, it does not wear away the metal bond on diamond saw blades. Consequently the blades glaze when you cut jade, and it becomes necessary to clean and dress the saw blade by cutting through a building brick or a piece of discarded 200 grit wheel.

via Breccia, 8/20; from Rockhound's Rag

When your wheel has worn down quite a bit, increase the R.P.M. of the machine. In doing this you will compensate for wheel wear, there by maintaining grinding efficiency.

via Breccia, 8/20; from The Agatizer