

The CMS Tumbler



May 2023

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

Next Meeting:
May 11, 2023
7:00 p.m.

American Legion Hall
25406 97th PI S
Kent, WA

The Program is Metaphysical
Minerals

The Show & Tell Theme is a
lucky rock or jewelry

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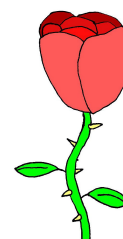
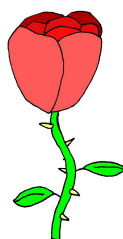
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Connect with us!

Website: <https://www.cascademineralsociety.org>
Club Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CasMinSoc/>
Facebook Groups: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1168207926650075>
Show Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cascadegemandmineralshow>
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/cascaderockclub/>
YouTube Channel (Please like and subscribe):
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaGIJxaWFAtV_JjgZRm9ESA

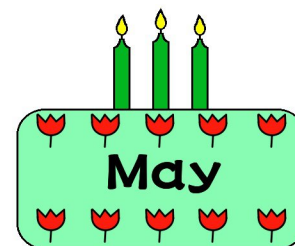
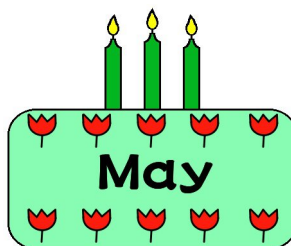
This month remember to wish a Happy Birthday to

Davaiya Brandt on May 2
Rachel Norgard on May 2
Megan Wasley on May 4
Kelly Berge on May 9
Alexis Fisher on May 11
Alex Danneman on May 12
Jennifer Russell on May 16
Lauri Miles on May 23
Russell Loperman on May 24
Artem Tokmakov on May 26
Andrey Tokmakov on May 26
Catherine Petty on May 27
John Thomas Buck on May 29



and also remember to wish a Happy Anniversary to
Lloyd & Charleen Shoemaker on May 4 (38 years)

Fred & Nancy Funk on May 8
Peggy Shashy & Paul Ahnberg on May 24 (20 years)
Mr. & Mrs. Rockhound on page 5 (35 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.

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

2023 Elected Officers

President Kat Koch	425-765-5408	president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Vice President Linda Jorza	206-478-1642	ljorza@gmail.com
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Director 3 - Programs Paul Ahnberg	941-704-2063	runhikebird@icloud.com
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Mineral Council Ananda Cooley	206-683-7787	cascademstreasurer@gmail.com

2023 Show Committee Chairs

Cascade Coordinator Christina Vitellaro	425-351-4737	bluefirtree@comcast.net
Cascade Co #2 Peggy Shashy	904-655-3241	14thebirds@bellsouth.net
Cascade Co #3	Vacant	
Book Display Cases Peggy Shashy	904-655-3241	14thebirds@bellsouth.net
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Show Silent Auction (shared) Richard Russell	253-736-3693	richru1@yahoo.com
Show Silent Auction (shared) Noelle Barnes	206-914-0514	noelleb@outlook.com
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Show Raffle Case Display Terri Gerard	206-437-0240	eyeballgraphics2002@yahoo.com
Raffle Prize Distribution		
Show Demonstrators Richard Russell	253-736-3693	richru1@yahoo.com
Show Load In/Out		
Show Display Case Presenters Peggy Shashy	904-655-3241	14thebirds@bellsouth.net
Show Road Signs		
Show Event Volunteer Recruiter		
Show Refreshments Angie & Brian Bayer	253-569-0245	Text to her number (no email)
Spinning Wheel Angie & Brian Bayer	253-569-0245	Text to her number (no email)
Show Website Kat Koch	425-765-5408	vendorchair@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Show Vendor Chairman Kat Koch	425-765-5408	vendorchair@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Show Food Trucks Paul Arhnberg	941-704-2063	runhikebird@icloud.com

2023 Committee Chairs

Club Historian	Vacant need volunteer	
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Health & Welfare Bev Williams	425-228-5063	britbev1957@outlook.com
Library Diana Horsfall	425-226-3154	dianahorsfall@comcast.net
Meeting Greeters Angie & Brian Bayer	253-569-0245	Text to her number (no email)
Meeting Programs Paul Arhnberg	941-704-2063	runhikebird@icloud.com
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Shop Reservations Diana Horsfall	425-226-3154	dianahorsfall@comcast.net
Public Relations Kat Koch	425-765-5408	president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Refreshment Angie & Brian Bayer	253-569-0245	Text to her number (no email)
Raffle Master Roger Pullen	206-387-3214	Phone calls only. No email or texting.
Show & Tell Michael Blanton	425-271-8757	mblanton41@hotmail.com
Webmaster Gina Manso	425-281-3502	ginamanso51@gmail.com
Facebook Group Roger Danneman	425-228-8781	Roger.Danneman@gmail.com
Facebook Club Page Gina Manso	425-281-3502	ginamanso51@gmail.com
Instagram Gina Manso	425-281-3502	ginamanso51@gmail.com
All Other Social Media Kat Koch	425-765-5408	president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
West Seattle Timebank Volunteers Linda Jorza	206-478-1642	ljorza@gmail.com
Videographer – YouTube Channel	Vacant need volunteer	

2023 CMS Dues are \$30 per year per family

Pay online, by mail, or at our meetings.

New mailing address: Cascade Mineralogical Society, c/o Ananda Cooley, 300 Lenora St. - PMB 6145, Seattle, WA 98121

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.

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 association's purpose 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 local rock and gems shows and planned field trips. It's a great resource if you want to plan on an 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 information for the 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/>



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

Our meetings are now on YouTube. The meeting will be available, at the latest, on Sunday night following the meeting. Don't forget to "Like" and "Subscribe"! [YouTube Link](#)



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

Every member of the club should be receiving a copy of the Northwest Newsletter. If you are not receiving a copy contact Ananda Cooley in person or by telephone at 206-683-7787 or by computer at cascademstreasurer@gmail.com

NFMS Needs Your Canceled Postage Stamps

Every year the NFMS collects postage stamps from its member clubs. They have a stamp company that buys them, and in turn, these funds are donated to cancer research. Every year NFMS donates around \$5,000.

On letters that you receive, tear the corner with the stamp off. Try to leave about 1/4" of the envelope around the stamp. Be careful not to damage the stamp. Place the stamps in a plastic baggie and bring them to the meeting. Our member, Mike Blanton, collects the stamps and turns them over to the NFMS at the regional rock and gem show. You can give them to Mike as often as you want throughout the year.

Collecting the stamps is another way we rockhounds give back to our community.



Don't Forget To Show Your Membership Card At These Retailers

The following businesses are loyal supporters of our rock club.

Show your membership card at the following stores and get a 10% discount on most purchases.

Jerry's Rock Shop – 804 W Valley Hwy, Kent, WA 98032

Minerals, rough or polished rocks, lapidary machines, lapidary supplies, polishing grit, fossils, rock hounding tools, beautiful display specimens, jewelry, and much more. *Please be aware there are a few items they can't offer the 10% discount on.*

Jerry is a great supporter of our club. They make it possible to have nice door prizes at our meetings.

Blackjack Metal Detectors and Mining Equipment – 101 Park Ave N, Renton, WA 98057

They sell beautiful mineral specimens, fossils, books, metal detecting and gold panning equipment and supplies. Chris Holden is a CMS member!


New for Members Only – New Texting Service

We are busy and often forget that CMS has an upcoming meeting or event. Therefore, we have a texting service to remind members of CMS meetings and events.

Everyone is automatically entered into this service. You can opt out anytime by responding with STOP.

Scan Me

For quick access, you can scan the following codes.




Access CMS Club Instagram page



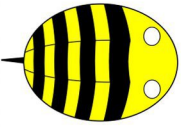
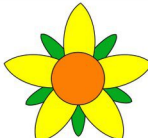

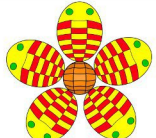
Access our CMS YouTube channel



Access our CMSclub website for the latest on meetings and club events



Access CMS Facebook Groups

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Board Meeting 7:00 pm	9	10	11 General Meeting 7:00 pm	12	13 First Creek Field Trip
14	15 Dinosaur Day	16 Nickel Day	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Everett Show
28 Everett Show	29	30	31			

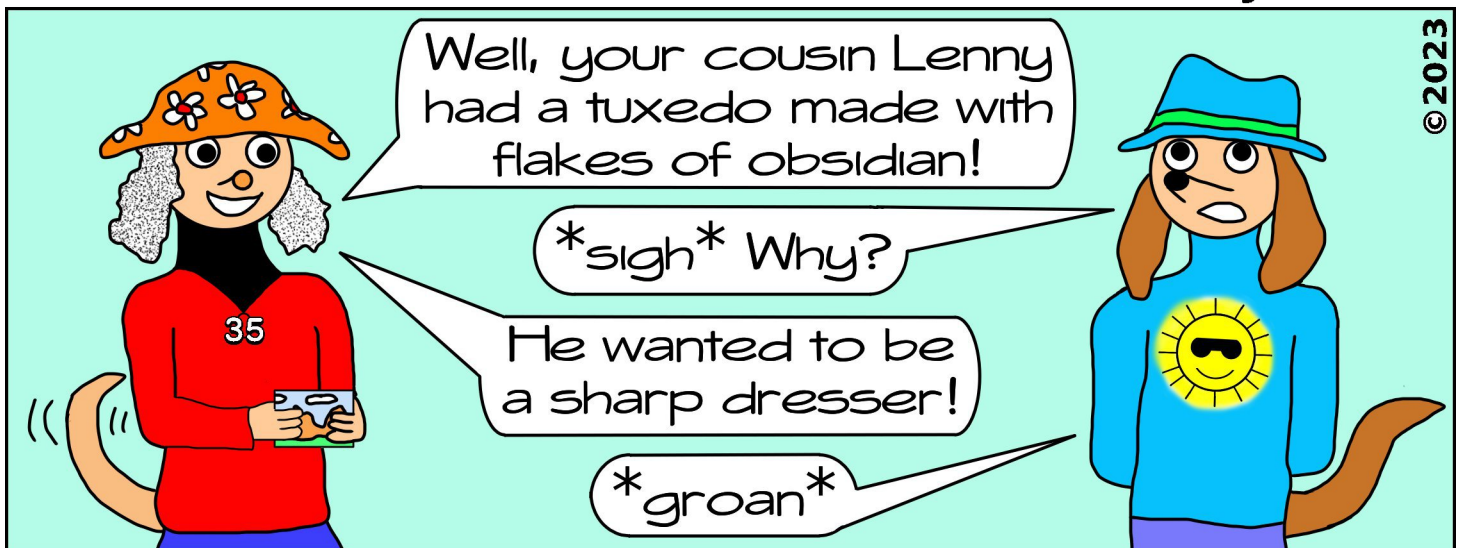
CMS Show Committee Meeting:....Monday, May 8.....6:30 pm to 7:00 pm
 CMS Board Meeting:.....Monday, May 8.....7:00 pm to 8:00 pm
 CMS General Meeting:.....2nd Thursday, May 11.....7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

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)

More Field Trip info can be found on Page 15
 More Show info can be found on Page 16

Mr. & Mrs. Rockhound

by KAM



CMS Club Committee & Board Meeting Minutes April 10, 2023

by Pete Williams, 2023 Secretary

Attendees: Kat Koch; Linda Jorza; Pete Williams; Rich Russell; Mike Blanton; Ananda Cooley; Diana Horsfall; Chris Vitellaro; Lee Oliver

Show Committee meeting started at 6:35

The Board reviewed the timeline for the show and where to share volunteer opportunities with the club. The club Facebook page needs to be updated to the current show. Roger created a video with pictures on Youtube with the new flyer. Advertising on Eventbrite should begin now. The Board agreed that those who sign up on Eventbrite will receive one raffle ticket at the show.

There are only 4 booths left to sell. We have 28 vendors so far. This is less than last year, but this year's vendors are taking more booths. One booth is reserved for club sales and will be next to the spinning wheel. The 75th anniversary banner design contest was sent out. The Board agreed to offer a cool rock or mineral specimen as an award for the winning design.

Board Meeting started at 7:27

There are now 106 family memberships. New liability insurance has been bought and paid for that covers all club activities except automobiles. The search for a permanent club location should include Kent, Renton, and Covington. Churches should be checked for rooms to rent for club meetings.

The April meeting will be on fluorescent rocks with a video shown first. The May program is not finalized, but will be a speaker on metaphysical rocks. The club still needs more lamps for show and tell. There is still some interest in starting a Meet-Up group for rockhounds on Saturday mornings.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52

CMS General Meeting Minutes April 13, 2023

by Pete Williams, 2023 Secretary

Chris Vitellaro, Show Coordinator, made a report outlining our goals of higher attendance and selling more club products to increase revenue. An email was sent out for the 75th anniversary banner design contest. A rock or mineral prize will be awarded to the best design selected by the Board. She also handed out flyers to all attendees requesting participation on one or more of 4 teams prior to the show. The teams are: Local Advertising Team – Find local businesses who will hang-up or share show flyers; Online Advertising Team – Find online businesses who can share show flyers; Donations Team – Reach out to businesses for show prize donations; Rock Tumbling Team – Help tumble rocks for show prizes and club sales. To sign up or ask questions text or email Chris at 425-351-477; azureberrypie@gmail.com.

Chris Holden from BlackJack Metal Detectors and Mining Equipment mentioned a metal detector hunt on May 20 with 50 gold nuggets and many other prizes available.

The program for the May meeting will be on metaphysical rocks. The next field trip is to Saddle Mountain. The next Mineral Council meeting will be in Elensburg.

Program: Video on the different types of UV lights, followed by members displays of fluorescent rocks.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:11 followed by show and tell and the raffle.

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

Let's see what is new in the last two months.

I spent 10 wonderful days in Florida in April, visiting friends I had not seen in 27 years. The weather was great. I saw loads of alligators but no manatees. It was still too cold for manatees to be that far north.

While in Florida, I saw an SES and SAT Falcon launch from Cape Canaveral. This was awesome, as I am a huge space exploration nut. During the 1960s, my husband worked for Rocketdyne in developing the J-2 engine. Then in the early 1970s, my husband was in the Air Force and was working on developing the solid fuel propellant to get us to the moon. Following in her father's footsteps, in the late 1990s and early 2000s, my daughter was a Boeing buyer and bought the parts to build or maintain the space shuttles and build the space station. She has several mission plaques and badges.

It was a massive success from all the feedback I received on the field trip to Bigg's Junction, Oregon, and Saddle Mountain, Mattawa, Washington! I thank Roger for all his work putting together this weekend. I also received several comments on how friendly and helpful to each other our club members are. Feedback like that makes me so proud of our club and its members. Thank you.

Chris, Show Coordinator, is working hard on putting together our show. Chris needs several volunteers as a lot of prep work needs to be done. Elsewhere in this newsletter is her call for help. It takes a village to put on a show of our size!

Please consider helping her.

Your volunteering has a lot of value as all the profits from our show go towards obtaining an indoor shop and a new meeting room. **Please volunteer!**

Our show is sold out, plus we have a waiting list. We have 32 vendors booked with a few new dealers. I am very excited that three new specialized vendors will deal in amber, Larimar, metal detecting, and gold.

We continue to get new members weekly by registering online or in person at our monthly meetings. We welcome



each of you to our great rock and gem club. When you attend our monthly meeting, please introduce yourself to me, as I look forward to meeting everyone.

I also appreciate all the members that renewed their membership!
I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the May meeting.

Welcome
New Members

General Meeting – Thursday, May 11th

Topic: Metaphysical Minerals with Paula Constantino

It has been some time since we have had a meeting on this topic. The club is aware that many of our members are interested in the metaphysical properties of minerals and the seven chakras.

Paula is a recent club member and volunteered to speak on this topic.

Show 'n Tell: Bring what you consider your lucky rock, mineral, or piece of jewelry to the meeting.



General Meeting – Thursday, June 8th

Topic: Rock Bingo!

Our annual Rock Bingo night. Bring the kids, guests, friends, or family.

For every person that wants to play bingo, bring 3 wrapped items per person. It can be anything related to our hobby. You can wrap your items in newspaper, paper bag, wrapping paper, etc. They must be wrapped.

It is \$1 per player for up to 6 cards per person; kids 10 and under are free. We guarantee everyone will go home a winner.

Show 'n Tell: None tonight.

It's A Rock'in Good Time



General Meeting – Thursday, July 13th

Topic: Mount St. Helens, Paul Ahnberg will be giving the presentation.

Paul has been taking a months-long class on Mount St. Helens. It has included not only in-class studies but also a few trips to see Mount St. Helens. Paul says, "One thing I quickly recognized is that there is a lot more to the Mount St Helens story beyond the geology and eruption aspects." So mark your calendar now, as this should be a fascinating lecture.

Show 'n Tell: Bring a sample of volcanic rock from your collection.



General Meeting – Saturday, August 12th

Topic: Our annual club picnic at Lake Wilderness. Our picnic is always a friendly event on the lawn among the trees.

For lunch, it is a potluck picnic. So bring a dish to share. If you don't cook, pick up something from the market. If you are unable to bring anything, that's okay too. We would rather have you join us for lunch than not.

We generally have around 25 to 35 members attend.

Bring your plate and silverware.

Setup is 11:30 am, and lunch is at noon. We usually wrap things up by 3:30 pm.

The Arboretum has plenty of free parking.

Following, we have a club auction. The auction is a great chance to pick up items at a fraction of their retail cost. You are welcome to donate items to the auction. All proceeds go to the club treasury to cover expenses.

Our Young Tumblers can also spend their saved "Rock Bucks" at the auction just like cash for items they want.

Afterward, Lake Wilderness is nearby for swimming, plus various play areas for the younger kids.

Our annual picnics are always a great family event!



Looking For Club Volunteers

Videographer: Needed at our general meetings: A volunteer to videotape our meetings. Up to you if you want to edit the video or not. We have free editing software to post the video to our YouTube club channel. We meet on Thursday, and the video needs to be uploaded by the following



Sunday.

Historian: Save copies of the Tumbler, pictures from club events and club officers, and other memorabilia from the club. Put everything, including the Tumbler issues, in a scrapbook. I would also like issues of the Tumbler, going back as far as we can, saved on a CD. Various members have older content they can provide you. The club will reimburse you for any expenses to preserve our history.

If you decide you can help out, text or call Kat Koch. president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org or 425-765-5408.

We Need Pre-Show Volunteers NOW!

Did you know that all the profit from our annual Gem and Mineral Show goes towards our savings fund for a club lapidary shop? With a dedicated shop, members could have access to club lapidary equipment and a variety of classes for all ages on a regular basis.

To increase profits from this year's show, we have outlined a few areas where we need to focus:

1. Increasing attendance:

1. Coordinate advertising in more locations locally and online.
2. We have added additional kids' activities and food trucks.
3. We have added new unique vendors like metaphysical, metal detecting and gold, Larimar, and amber.

2. Increasing club sales:

1. Sell small bags of polished rocks.
2. Sell sifting bags with fossils, polished rocks, crystals, etc. We will have a sifting area where purchased bags can be sifted.
3. Increase raffle and silent auction sales with more high-value items.
4. Sell items with our club logo, like cloth bags or mugs.

We need your help to make this happen!

Please consider volunteering on one of our pre-show teams. You can dedicate as little or as much time as you can. Here are the available teams:

Local Advertisement Team: Find places where we can hang flyers for the show. This could be a library, grocery store, or some other business. Help drop off flyers when it's time.

Online Advertisement Team: Find sites online where we can share flyers for the show. Sites could be a Facebook group, community forum, educational email group, local news, etc. Help share promotional material as we get closer to the show.

Donations Team: Find businesses that might donate something related to gems/minerals/crystals/lapidary equipment etc. We have a donation request letter to use.

Rock Tumbling Team: Do you own a rock polisher? If you are willing to polish rocks (2 in size or smaller) that you have or that the club provides, reach out and let us know. We will also happily take any previously polished rocks you want to donate.

If you can volunteer or have any questions, don't hesitate to get in touch with Chris at: azureberrypie@gmail.com or 425-351-4737



CMS is Celebrating 75 Years in 2023!

Happy Birthday CMS

75 years is such a milestone for our club.

In the summer of 1948, three Boeing employees started laying the groundwork for CMS.

By the time they obtained their IRS tax number, there were 14 members.

When our club broke away from Boeing in 2010, the Board didn't know for a few years if the club would survive.

Wouldn't they be surprised and proud to know their idea for a rock and gem club now has a membership of 108 families or 235 + individuals at the end of April 2023?

We have thrived and grown with a lot of work from the Board and our membership.

I want to thank all the volunteers that help run the club.

We would not be such a successful club without you!!

Thank you to every one of you for making CMS a success!



Oolithus means "stone egg" and refers to fossilized eggs.

Mystery Under Maple Valley Highway 169 by Kat Koch

Anyone who has driven the Maple Valley Highway in 2021 should have caught the construction work that was going on between Highway 169 and the Cedar River. It was the Critical Flood Reduction Project.

King County was installing 15-foot wide box culverts to replace the existing 18-inch culverts to minimize the risk of highway and nearby residences flooding. In addition, the new culverts improved the fish passage by allowing unobstructed access to the upstream habitat. The work was completed around October 2022.

While replacing these culverts over the weekend of October 9th and 10th, 2021, all work was halted north of Cedar Grove Road, as a long section of wooden planks was uncovered. They needed to find out if it was a road or part of a bridge, so the Washington State Department of Transportation's archaeologist, Jason Cooper, was called in to solve the mystery. He immediately came to the site to inspect the wooden planks. He also noted no other artifacts nearby, like cans, bottles, or any indication of a camping site.

The find sparked many people's imagination that it could be the remains of an old bridge or a "corduroy road," which in the past was the official name for a series of logs that were laid down over muddy or swampy areas to allow foot, horse, and even wagon passage.

Mr. Cooper looking into King County's map vault, did some quick research to see what might have been there before Maple Valley Highway 169 was paved. "I found a road survey map from 1929, which doesn't show the wood plank, but within the plan, it gave 8,100 linear feet of wooden plank boards," he said. "That's my smoking gun." He determined that it was from the original road built by King County in the 1920s from Renton to Maple Valley and eventually toward Mount Rainier. It became Primary State Highway #5 in 1937 when the state took the road over.

The entire road wasn't made of wood, like the planks found over the weekend, but instead was a combination of packed dirt, gravel, and then this particular section along the Cedar River. "It was built as a solution to this particular wet, soggy spot," Cooper said. The highway wasn't paved until 1953.

Everyone chuckled over this because King County is still dealing with that wet, soggy spot nearly 100 years later. Cooper was asked if he was disappointed that it wasn't something spectacular. He replied, "You always want the Ark of the Covenant," Cooper joked. "When you're dealt a plank road, you do what you can."

Cooper's wife asked him if the road was "Roman." Now that would have been the discovery of the century.

Bibliography: King County - Natural Resources & Parks - Water & Land Resources Division, My Northwest – KIRO News Radio



An aerial view of floodwater on SR 169 and the Cedar River in January 2009.



Water by Kat Koch

Thousands have lived without love, not one without water! ~ W. H. Auden

"The water you kids were playing in, he said, had probably been to Africa and the North Pole. Genghis Khan, Saint Peter, or even Jesus may have drunk it. Cleopatra might have bathed in it. Crazy Horse might have watered his pony with it. Sometimes water is liquid. Sometimes it was rock hard- ice. Sometimes it was soft- snow. Sometimes it was visible but weightless- clouds. And sometimes it was completely invisible- vapor- floating up into the sky like the souls of dead people. There was nothing like water in the world. It made the desert bloom but also turned the rich bottomland into a swamp. Without it, we'd die, but it could also kill us, and that was why we loved it, even craved it, but also feared it. Never take water for granted. Always cherish it. Always beware of it." ~ Jeannette Walls, Half Broke Horses

Scientists have wondered for decades where the water on our planet comes from.

Scientists "following the trail of H₂O through the universe" to a star 1,300 light-years away may finally have found the answer. Recent research has uncovered the potentially "missing link" for how water got to Earth. The findings also

suggest that H₂O in our solar system is billions of years older than our sun. "We can think of the path of water through the universe as a trail. We know what the endpoints look like, which are the water on planets and in comets. Still, we wanted to trace that trail back to the origins of water," said the study's lead author John Tobin, an astronomer at the National Science Foundation's National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO).

The study suggests that H₂O in our solar system is billions of years older than the sun. Experts made the discovery after detecting gaseous water in the planet-forming disc around the distant star V883 Orionis (depicted here). Then, following a trail: They detected chemical signatures of heavy water (Deuterium) – which is around 10% denser than ordinary water – in the star's rotating disc of gas and dust. The water carries a chemical signature that experts say explains the journey of water from star-forming gas clouds to planets like ours.

Bibliography: Daily Mail – Science, Irish Examiner Newspaper, National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO)



Oldest Dinosaur Egg by Kat Koch

"The dinosaurs became extinct because they didn't have a space program..."

The extinction of the dinosaurs is one of the greatest mysteries in natural history. For centuries, scientists have been trying to unravel why these impressive creatures suddenly disappeared from the face of the Earth. It has been suggested that a natural event such as an asteroid impact caused their demise, but new research suggests that it may have had something to do with their lack of a space program. ~ Larry Niven

I chuckled when I read the above quote.

In central India, sometime between 1817 and 1843, Charles Fraser discovered a spherical agate rock. In 1883, it was identified as a crystal using the current scientific knowledge at that time and became a part of the Natural History Museum in London. It was circular, about 6" across, and pinkish. The museum thought it wasn't a significant find when displaying it. However, the agate was discovered before the word dinosaur was even defined.

It was around 80 years, 1923, when the scientific community confirmed Dinosaur eggshells existed when an entire nest of fossilized eggs was found in Mongolia. This discovery, too, was when the word dinosaur was first defined.

In 1976 an entire clutch of Massospondylus dinosaur eggs was unearthed in South Africa. The clutch is estimated to be roughly 190 million years old, making them a good contender for the oldest dinosaur eggs found in the world.

In 2018 a mineral collection curator from the London Museum traveled to France to visit a mineral show. A dealer showed the curator a specimen of an agatized dinosaur egg. Bells went off, and when the curator returned home, the museum set out on a mission to have their "agate" identified. It turned out to be about 190 million years old Massospondylus egg too.

Massospondylus lived about 190 million years ago during the Early Jurassic period. Massospondylus was around 13 feet long and weighed approximately 2,200 pounds with a height of 20 feet. It had a small head, a long neck, and a slender body. The physical build was typical of early sauropodomorphs. The forearms were half the length of the hind legs and both had five digits. Their "hands" were short and wide, with a large sickle-shaped thumb claw used for feeding and defense against predators. The thumb was the longest finger, and the fourth and fifth digits were tiny, giving their "hands" a lopsided look. Massospondylus was a tree-top browser and grazer that moved very slowly at times. Yet it is believed that Massospondylus was one of the fastest dinosaurs to have ever existed. By the end of the Jurassic period, 165 million years ago, the Massospondylus had become extinct.

Bibliography: Canadian Broadcasting Company – Kids News, Yahoo News, Wikipedia, The Natural History Museum – London, Quote Collectors Club, DinoPit, US National Park Service



Citrine

Citrine usually starts out as smoky quartz or amethyst. When those crystals are intensely heated, they can become citrine. So, magma near some quartz crystals can transform brownish gray quartz or purple amethyst into yellow or orange citrine. Of course, people can also do this with specialized ovens.

from Maplewood Rock and Gem Club, 2/23

Field Trip Report for Biggs Junction, OR, April 15th, 2023. by Roger Danneman Field Trip Guide

On Sat. April 15th we had a field trip to a private operation near Biggs Junction, Oregon for Biggs Jasper and Agate. Jay Carlson of Sherman County Rocks in Rufus, OR, manages the operation and is doing field trips for rock clubs only. We had calm beautiful weather, in contrast to the usually windy conditions experienced in that area due to it's proximity to the Columbia River. This was the largest group I've had in the last 5 years of doing trips. We had 30 people and 17 vehicles collecting at 2 sites. The large group being evidence of the reputation Biggs Jasper has on the rock hounding community and the rarity of being able to collect it.

Jay took us first to a site he calls Beers Mtn. and secondly to a site called China Hollow. A few things I picked up from Jay's explanation of the material is that it's a mudstone formation formed millennia ago by thick mudpools under and over basalt lava flows. There were gas bubbles burping through the thick goo causing the intricate patterns to form as it was going through a hardening process. Bands of limonite (a type of iron) form the intricate patterns. It's highly metamorphed and over time some agate and jasper formed in seams and pockets in the stone. The material takes a great polish. Mostly in brown tones, there are some hints of bluish and greenish coloration. The sites were easy to pick. A few people chiseled out chunks from the hard rock, but mostly it's walking around and collecting loose material. The hardest part is deciding what to take home. The Beers Mtn material was \$5/lb and the China Hollow material was \$2/lb. We started out at 8:45 AM and finished by 3:00. One of the rules Jay had was that we had to go in as a group and leave as a group since we were going in through closed gates and crossing another land owner's property. Although a few people left as we were transitioning from Beers Mtn to China Hollow.

Jay had some beautiful pieces for sale in his shop down by the highway and I'm looking forward to cutting and polishing the material I collected.

Afterwards a few of us went to the land owner's rock shop in Wasco where he had more Biggs Jasper. That would be a place anyone not on the trip could get some of the material, although not as great a selection as at the site.

You can thank Scott Miles for instigating this trip as he sent me an article from Rock and Gem.

Members who joined me were:

Scott & Laurie M., Kamera M. and dog Gracie, Ananda C., Christina & Russel & Rose L., Nik & Michelle B., Paul A. & Peggy S., John & Dave C. & Terri G., Rich & Jennifer R., Angie & Brian M. & dog Beans, Shannon & Paul S., J.T. & Cara B., Joye E & spouse, Aaron D., Kari C. & David, Scott M. & spouse.



Field Trip Report for Saddle Mtn April 16th, 2023 by Roger Danneman Field Trip Guide

On Sun. April 16th we had our annual trip to Saddle Mtn. It's estimated that the petrified wood there is at least 14-15 million years old. A very bumpy trip, the road up to the collecting sites just doesn't get any better from one year to the next. We met at 9:45 in Mattawa and at 10:00 slowly made our way up into the hills. The weather started out great, but after a couple of hours the cold wind set in with a few raindrops. Still, with so many pits up there, it's easy to collect a bucket worth of nice tumbling material and a few cutters in 2-3 hours time. If you want logs or log portions, then you have to do more work and dig for them. However, the tumbler material is nicely agatized and rivals some of the nicest agates in the state.

We had 9 people in 8 vehicles for this trip.

Joining me were Scott H., Colin O., Arlie W. & guest Tonya, Ananda C., Steve F. (new member - welcome Steve), Loren M., and Bill B.

The next CMS field trip is on May 13th at First Creek near Cle Elum. Info will be sent out 1 week ahead of that by e-mail to my Field Trips Distribution List.



Ancient Carved Amethyst

Ancient Egyptians carved amethysts into animals; we don't know why. Some speculate that the animals were religious icons believed to impart powers to people around them. It also seems likely that back then (just like today) a lot of people simply liked carved purple animals.

Editor's Note: 35 Years of Mr. & Mrs. Rockhound? by Keith Alan Morgan

Hard to believe. The first two Mr. & Mrs. Rockhound comics appeared in the May 1988 issue of the Tumbler, which I guest edited while regular editor, Norman Steel, was on vacation in Australia. Doesn't seem that long ago.

When Norm returned he asked that if I had any more cartoons to submit them to him for future issues. If someone had told me that I would one day have 289 Mr. & Mrs. Rockhound cartoons I would have laughed since there couldn't be that many jokes about rockhounding, right?

My first thought for a title was The Rockhounds, but I figured that was too simple and had probably been used before. They were first drawn in a computer art program called MacPaint, which is why older cartoons have that jagged, pixel look. Later on I used another program called SuperPaint which had an art layer and a text layer, which was easier for changing words of dialogue. (I also used SuperPaint for creating Tumbler pages for a few years.) When we started creating an email version of the Tumbler I decided they needed to be in color and started using PhotoShop to add color. These days I use a free art program called MediBang Paint to create cartoons.

What a long, strange strip it's been.

The Sky Is Falling by Dean Regas

Tons of falling space rocks sounds scary, but how many people are struck and killed by meteorites each year? In the last 100 years? The answer to both questions is zero. In fact, there is only one case of a human being hit by a meteorite in the 20th and 21st centuries – and she lived! The unlucky victim was Ann Hodges of Sylacauga, Alabama. In 1954, she was lying on the couch taking a nap when a softball-sized rock broke through the roof, punched through the ceiling, bounced off her radio, and hit her on her left side, leaving her with minor injuries and a large bruise. The meteorite went to the Smithsonian Museum.

from The Quarry, 4/23

Have You Checked Out The New AFMS Juniors Website? by Lora Hall, AFMS Junior Programs Chair

When the new AFMS Junior's website launched in January 2022, part of that was a new way for clubs to sign up for Future Rockhounds of America (FRA) using an online form. The point of the online form wasn't to cut down on paperwork; it was designed to be a way of gathering information into a spreadsheet and searchable database.

We know that there are many clubs out there who have junior and youth programs that have never signed up for Future Rockhounds of America, which means they are not in our new database, and we want to change that. So, if you are in a club that has a youth program and you're not signed up for Future rockhounds of America we encourage you to go to the website, follow the link, and sign your club up.

Future Rockhounds of America link is: www.juniors.amfed.org/fra

There's no need to worry that you might already be signed up because the database makes it very easy to find duplications and simply keeps the most current information. The AFMS Juniors Committee feels this will be a game changer in communicating with all the clubs out there running junior programs so that we can share information in real time. We have always felt that one size does not fit all when it comes to a juniors programs. Not every club wants to use the badge program and that's fine. But what we're finding is sharing information is critical. If one club has a juniors program that works for them, then more than likely that same juniors program will work for another club.

We recently sent out a series of 166 emails based on email addresses we had dating back to 2004 asking if they still had a juniors program. If you received one of these emails and you haven't responded, we strongly encourage you to do so even if you no longer have a juniors program. It might also be a great opportunity for you to say, "No we suspended our juniors program but would really like help restarting it". As of today, we have 63 active juniors programs with over 500 kids across the federation that we know of, and we are sure there are more out there. If your club doesn't have a juniors program and you're interested in starting one, I am only a phone call away or you can visit the new website that is chock full of ideas on how to get started. You can even find PowerPoint presentations that will walk you through the process of starting a juniors program or using the badge program.

One question I'm often asked is why should our club care about a juniors program? And not surprisingly these are some of the same clubs whose membership is dropping, and they are in danger of folding. As you may know, Boy Scouts of America rebranded itself a few years ago into Scouts USA and at the same time included girls across the board in all levels of programming. I was involved in Scouts at the time, and I can tell you that one of the reasons they did this was to accommodate busy families. Boy Scouts recognized that it didn't work for Jack to be going off to boy scout meetings once a week and Jill to be going off to girl scouts, and they needed something that the whole family could do together. Families simply do not have time for girl scouts, boy scouts, soccer, piano lessons, 4-H, and everything else that's available for kids today. A rock club's junior program can do the same thing. It can turn your club into something the whole family can participate in, including Grandma and Grandpa. Think about it — most clubs are very diverse. You have people who like fossils, people who like minerals, those who like going on field trips, or those who like participating in lapidary classes. Your club most likely already has something everyone in a busy family is interested in.

So, my message is, if your club doesn't have a youth program consider starting one, and the new website is a great place to start. If your club had a juniors program and you had to put it on hold and you need help restarting it, reach out and we will be glad to walk you through a restart.

Website link is: www.juniors.amfed.org

from AFMS Newsletter, 2/23

Young Tumblers News

Just a reminder that all Young Tumblers under 15 can easily earn "Rock Bucks."

Earn \$2 "Rock Bucks" for attending a meeting.

Earn an additional \$3 "Rock Bucks" if you bring something for Show 'n Tell and tell us about your item.

The "Rock Bucks" can be spent like real money at our meetings or club auctions.

You can save your "Rock Bucks" during the year and spend them just like cash on auction items you would like, or you can buy raffle tickets at our monthly meeting.

Join us at our meetings and build your rock-buying piggy bank!

Want To Earn Some Extra Rock Bucks?

For the Young Tumblers that still need to do this activity.

Please complete the form below and bring it to a meeting to receive \$5 Rock Bucks!

Your Name _____ Your Age _____ Your Birthday _____

What do you like to collect? _____

How many do you have? Rocks _____ Minerals _____ Fossils _____ Arrowheads _____

Where do you keep your collection? _____

What is your favorite item in your collection? _____

Why is it your favorite? _____

Your favorite item in your collection, did you Find It Buy It Was a Gift Door Prize Win

Do you like Rocks Minerals Fossils or Everything

Does anyone else in your family like rocks? No Yes Who? _____

Have you been on a field trip with the club? Yes No

Besides club field trips, do you go rock hunting with family or friends? Yes No

Would you be interested if the rock club had a program where you could earn various rockhounding badges (similar to the Scout badges)? Yes No

At the next meeting you attend, please bring your favorite item and this completed form to Show 'n Tell and receive an additional \$5 Rock Bucks for a total of \$10 Rock Bucks!

The Difference Between Rocks and Minerals

A mineral is a solid formation that occurs naturally in the earth while a rock is a solid combination of more than one mineral formation which is also occurring naturally.

A mineral has a unique chemical composition and is necessarily defined by its crystalline structure and shape. On the other hand, since a rock can be composed of several minerals it is classified according to the process of its formation. A rock can also contain organic remains and mineraloids apart from regular mineral formations. There are some rocks that may include just one mineral formation though.

Common Characteristics

Although there may be many differences between rocks and minerals, there are only a few similarities between them. Rocks as well as minerals are found in the Earth's crust. Another similarity between the two is that rocks as well as minerals both have commercial value. Rocks are important for the minerals they contain while minerals are used widely in all areas of the manufacturing industry. Finally, both rocks and minerals serve as raw materials in the industrial process for manufacturing products used for everyday purposes.

from The Sierra Pelonagran, 1/22

Approximately 100 tons of space debris rains down on Earth every day, but most of the material is the size of a grain of sand.



Field Trips

May 13th 2023 Field Trip to **First Creek** (agate, crystals, geodes)

This is a 2-mile hike on good road bed with moderate ups and downs. Dig sites on steep terrain. Some of us use jogging carts to haul tools and buckets. Also surface collecting in rock slides

Rockhounds Are Sharp by Domer L. Howard

Men have been cracking heads and rocks since the first primordial man found that the flint rock was harder than his fist and, with brutish craft, fitted a sharp-edged flake of it to a shaft.

Evidence of man's continued interest in rocks is plentiful. For instance, Sir Walter Scott, in St. Rowan's Well said, "And some rin uphill and some down dale, knapping the chunky stanes to pieces wi' hammers like sae many road runners run daft. They say it is to see how the warld was made."

From another old English book, long out of print, we find, "Stones are curious things; if a man is paid for breaking them, he is wretched; but if he can bring his mind to do it gratis, he is at the summit of content! With these men life is a felicitous dream: they are not subject to low spirits like other men; they smile away their human day; when they see fit to die, they don't seem to mind so very much. Can they make anything easy by giving it one of their hard names? Is the grave to them a cretaceous, or a argillaceous or ferruginous bed? - I beg pardon, stratum! No, it is because their hobby has been breaking stones while egoists have been breaking human hearts."

Going back to the first primordial man, the tool doubtless served alike to break skulls and coconuts, or hack the limbs of trees and of men. Thus this man distinguished himself from all lower creatures and, with a stone, founded the beginning of the arts by which man not only defends and maintains himself but holds rule over the world in which he lives. In a limited way animals were using tools before the advent of man; for example, the bull was goring with his horns, the beaver was carpentering with his teeth, apes were throwing rocks at intruders, orangutans defended themselves by pelting possible enemies with thorny fruit, and the chimpanzee cracked nuts with a small rock held in his hand. But the implements devised by man were adapted by art in ways that no beast had notion of.

Primitive man got both his exercise and his meat at the same time. In the process, he was sharpening his wits as he studied not only the habits of his quarry but his entire environment. Thus he noted that rocks were not all alike; that some were hard, others relatively soft; some were brittle and others were tough. The use of tools and weapons expanded his environment and his mind grew with his expanded fields of operations.

Similarly today, rockhounds are unwittingly improving the functioning of their minds through the hobby. The one who studies minerals becomes a keen observer; field trips sharpen the sense of sight, hearing, taste, and smell. Keen, alert senses are the mark of a good thinker; dull senses the complement of dull thinkers.

Rockhounds are sharp, man, sharp!

via Breccia, 4/23; from Breccia, 1/60

Young Richard's Almanac by Dick Morgan

As May is upon us and another spring opens for rockhounding, but as the population keeps growing the areas for rockhounding keep getting less and less. So take advantage of the open spaces while you can.

New Blue Spring, Yellowstone National Park, WY

Artistic patterns at New Blue Spring in the winter in Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming, USA
Super heated water, microorganisms, and calcium carbonate combine to make this beautiful abstract art.
Nature's palette is beautiful.



An Editor's Profile by Barbara Goss

An editor is a person, most often female, whom the club member tells everyone except the editor that he couldn't do without. Where the club and friends are concerned, the editor either acts as a go-between or stay-between.

An editor knows how to translate the rambling items into statements which are crisp and straight-forward, and yet, the editor must leave plenty of loopholes and side exits so that the contributor is pretty proud of himself when he reads what he thinks he sent.

If the member doesn't know something, he asks his editor and if the editor doesn't know, the editor is dumb. The member is not dumb for not knowing. After all, why does a club have an editor?

No member is a hero to the editor. When an editor realizes that the members wouldn't be known at all without the editor, this worker has to console herself that she wouldn't be editor without the club.

If editors weren't interested in the club, half the clubs in the country would be washed up. If editors published their members confidential items, the other half would be locked up.

The editor who takes her work seriously and shows an interest in the club bulletin and really makes a career of the job as editor is the editor who twenty-five years later, is still an editor. An office boy starts at the bottom and works up. An editor starts as an editor and works, works, works, and works.

from Breccia, 2/61

Realgar

It is an arsenic sulfide mineral with the chemical formula of As_4S_4 . It is very soft with a Mohs hardness of 1.5 to 2. It is a sectile mineral occurring in monoclinic crystals but is also found in granular, compact, or powder form.

Realgar is often found in association with its related mineral, orpiment (As_2S_3). It is orange to red in color and gives an orange-colored streak.

In the past realgar was used by firework manufactures to create the color white in fireworks. It is still used in combination with potassium chlorate to make contact explosive for some torpedoes. Its toxic nature led to its use as a weed, insect, and rodent killer. Also, it was used in leather manufacturing to remove hair from animal pelts. Today it is rarely used for any of these purposes due to the development of more effective and less toxic substitutes.

Its crystals can look like red gemstones which gives it the names "ruby sulfur" and "ruby arsenic".

from The Panorama Prospector, 11/22

The four precious gemstones are diamond, emerald, ruby, and sapphire.

Shows

May 6 & 7: Saturday 9 am – 5 pm; Sunday 10 am – 4 pm
Umpqua Gem & Mineral Club, *Carnival of Rocks Annual Show*
Douglas County Fairgrounds
2110 Frear Ave, I-5 Exit 123
Roseburg, Oregon

May 13 & 14: Saturday 10 am – 5 pm; Sunday 10 am – 4 pm
Hatrockhounds Gem & Mineral Society
Eastern Oregon Trade & Event Center
1705 East Airport Road
Hermiston Oregon

May 19 – 21: Friday & Saturday 10 am – 5 pm; Sunday 10 am - 3 pm
Mt Hood Rock Club, *Rock & Gem Show*
Kliever Memorial Armory
10000 NE 33rd Dr.
Portland, Oregon

May 27 & 28: Saturday 10 am - 6 pm; Sunday 10 am - 5 pm
Everett Rock and Gem Club, *68th Annual Show*
Evergreen State Fairgrounds
18359 Cascade View Drive
Monroe, WA

May 27 & 28: Saturday 9 am – 6 pm; Sunday 10 am – 4 pm
Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club, *59th Annual Show*
Clackamas County Fairgrounds
694 NE 4th Ave
Canby, Oregon