

# The CMS Tumbler

August 2023



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

**Club Picnic:  
August 12, 2023  
11:30 am - Set-up  
12:00 noon – Eating**

Lake Wilderness Arboretum  
Lake Wilderness Park  
22520 SE 248th  
Maple Valley, WA

The Picnic takes the place of  
The August General Meeting.

Bring a favorite meal for pot  
luck. Bring plates, utensils,  
and cups.

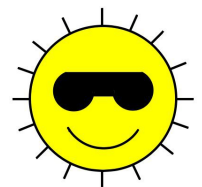
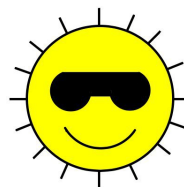
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## Connect with us!

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](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaGIJxaWFatV_JjgZRm9ESA)

This month remember to wish a Happy Birthday to



**Nancy Funk on August 1**  
**Kenny Alexander on August 3**  
**Larry Covell on August 7**  
**Nazeel Mathany on August 8**  
**Erica Dunham on August 9**  
**Les Church on August 10**  
**Travis King on August 11**  
**Ananda Cooley on August 12**  
**Erin Johnson on August 13**  
**Terri Gerard on August 13**  
**Erica Petty on August 16**  
**Megan Petty on August 16**  
**Cory Elliott on August 19**  
**Brooke Pertile on August 20**  
**Evan Blondell on August 22**  
**Nicole Pidgeon on August 26**  
**Kinsley Brott on August 27**  
**Ben Lee on August 27**  
**Ray Mautz on August 27**



and also remember to wish a Happy Anniversary to



**Nazeel & Mrs. Mathany on August 8**  
**Merriann & Isaac Fu on August 9**  
**Scott & Lauri Miles on August 12**  
**Jae & Mike Cites on August 18**  
**Larry & Sheila Clark on August 23**

**Robert & Nan Li Merriman on August 25 (13 years)**  
**Erica Dunham & Chris Norris on August 31**

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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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 Seattle, WA 98119

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](mailto: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
Treasurer Ananda Cooley	206-683-7787	cascademstreasurer@gmail.com
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Director 2 - Field Trips Roger Danneman	425-228-8781	roger.danneman@gmail.com
Director 3 - Programs Paul Ahnberg	941-704-2063	runhikebird@icloud.com
Director 4 - At Large Richard Russell	253-736-3693	richru1@yahoo.com
Past President Malcolm Wheeler Sr.	253-569-5185	facetguru@aol.com
Show Coordinator Christina Vitellaro	425-351-4737	bluefirtree@comcast.net
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Federation Representative Kat Koch	425-765-5408	president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Mineral Council Diana Horsfall	425-226-3154	dianahorsfall@comcast.net
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
Show Display Cases Refurbish Roger Danneman	425-228-8781	Roger.Danneman@gmail.com
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Show Treasurer Pete Williams	425-228-5063	petewill02@gmail.com
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Show Silent Auction (shared) Noelle Barnes	206-914-0514	noelleb@outlook.com
Pre-Show Raffle Case & Donation Requests Kat Koch	425-765-5408	president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Show Raffle Case Display Terri Gerard	206-437-0240	eyeballgraphics2002@yahoo.com
Raffle Prize Distribution Jennifer Russell	253-736-3693	richru1@yahoo.com
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 Jim Cerenzie	253-638-1478	jcerenzie@yahoo.com
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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/>




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## 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



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

### 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.



For quick access, you can scan the following codes.



Access CMS Club Instagram page



Access our CMS YouTube channel

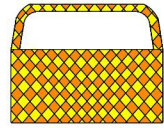



Access our CMSclub website for the latest on meetings and club events



Access CMS Facebook Groups

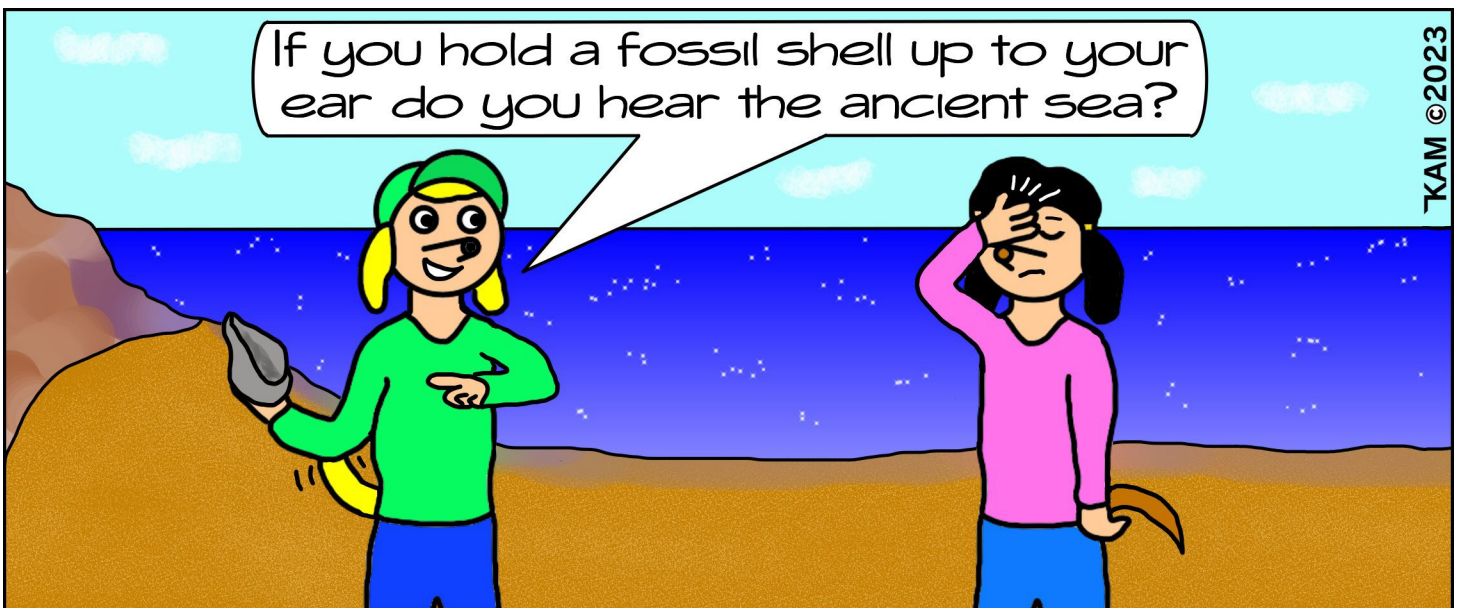
# August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	
<b>The Picnic takes the place of the General Meeting!</b>		1	2 <i>Tacoma Sale</i>	3 <i>Tacoma Sale</i> AFMS/NFMS Show	4 <i>Tacoma Sale</i> AFMS/NFMS Show	5 <i>Tacoma Sale</i> AFMS/NFMS Show	
<i>Tacoma Sale</i> AFMS/NFMS Show	6 Board Meeting 7:00 pm	7	8	9	10	11 <i>Puyallup Show</i>	12 Club Picnic 12 Noon
13 <i>Puyallup Show</i> <i>Maplewood Show</i>	14	15	16	17	18	19 <i>Shelton Sale</i>	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31			

CMS Show Committee Meeting:...Monday, August 7.....6:30 pm to 7:00 pm  
 CMS Board Meeting:.....Monday, August 7.....7:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
 CMS Club Picnic:.....2nd Saturday, August 12.....Set-up 11:30 am, Eating 12:00 noon to 3:30 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



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

**CMS Board Meeting Minutes July 10, 2023**

by Pete Williams, 2023 Secretary

*Attendees: Kat Koch; Linda Jorza; Pete Williams; Rich Russell; Mike Blanton; Ananda Cooley; Lee Oliver; Roger Danneman; Peggy Shashy*

Show Committee 6:35

For the show, we will have 1 quart prospecting bags on sale for \$10. We will also sell polished rocks in small bags for \$5 at the spinning wheel. Medium to large polished rocks are needed. If we don't get enough donated, we may need to buy some polished rocks. We will have one food truck at the show which will require a \$400 payment to the college.

At the general meeting Thursday, attendees will be asked to vote on the 3 designs for the 75th anniversary banner. It will be printed on both sides with the club logo on one side and the 75th anniversary design on the other. Table tents are being ordered to provide to the vendors that are being asked to sell something for either 75 cents, \$7.50, \$75, or \$750.

Our show next year is scheduled for June 28-30 at Kent Common.

Board Meeting 7:03

We now have 127 family memberships. There will be a work party at Diana's house on 7/29 at 9:30 to move club equipment and the tarp covering them as well as to stuff 300 bags with polished rocks.

The July program will be Paul doing a presentation on Mt. St. Helens. We will also select the 75th anniversary banner design from 3 submittals. The August meeting will be our annual picnic. We will donate \$75 to the arboretum for letting us use their facilities. A golf cart will be available to transport people from the parking lot.

Table lamps are still needed for the show and tell table. Kat is looking into having classes potentially on a Saturday for rock ID, capping, knapping, etc. Kat indicated she is contemplating stepping down as president next year.

Meeting adjourned at 7:27

**CMS General Meeting Minutes July 13, 2023**

by Pete Williams, 2023 Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:22

Minutes approved as written.

All juniors are encouraged to have a show case at our upcoming show. There will be a sample case as an example brought to the September meeting. We will have our annual potluck picnic on August 12 at the Lake Wilderness arboretum. Set up will be at 11:30 with lunch at noon. Bring your favorite dish. The September meeting will be "Made it, found it, bought it" over the last year. Bring up to 3 items that fit into these categories. Awards will be provided. The October meeting will be bringing decorated rocks – painting, gluing things on, etc. Prizes will be awarded.

There will be a work party on July 29 at 9:30 AM at Diana's house. Around 8 people will be needed to move equipment and the tarp cover. Also, 300 bags will need to be filled with rocks for the show.

Program: Paul Arhnberg made a presentation on Mt. St. Helens – a study in change.

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 followed by show and tell and the raffle.

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

Our club is having growing pains! Please be patient and understanding if something gets overlooked or falls through the cracks. If you notice something we can do better, please let me know so I can rectify the situation.

One of these shortfalls came to light at our last meeting. We didn't have enough Show 'n Tell tables, and some members could not share their items at the meeting. In the future, if this should happen again, please see John or Dave Cornell, or myself, and we will ensure enough tables are set up and room for you.

Likewise, if you find we don't have enough chairs set up for the meeting, alert Ananda at the Treasurer's table, Brian at the entrance table, John or Dave Cornell at the Show 'n Tell tables, or myself. It is easy to put up more chairs. No one has to feel that the seating is crowded or that the chairs are too close.

Our gem show is fast approaching. We are approximately two months away from showtime!

Chris needs several more volunteers as much prep work still needs to be done. She still needs someone to check over the road directional signs to make sure they are in good shape. Then a few days before the show, place the signage at various nearby locations. On Friday, September 15th, and Sunday, September 17th, she needs someone to direct the vendor traffic to load in and out. There are a couple of other jobs she needs help in prepping for the show.

It takes a village to put on a show of our size! Please consider helping her. Her contact information can be found on page 2 of this issue.

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. We received notice that we need to find a new location for our lapidary shop in about two years as the home where the shop is now will be sold. Our monthly meeting room fees are increasing annually, so we hope to find a space to accommodate both.

So please help out – the show and club need you!

Also, while I am talking about needing volunteers.....

We need someone to run for the position of Vice President. I need someone to learn a lot of what I do as





president. To take over some of these tasks plus lead the meetings when I can't. The VP must also be prepared should they need to take over as president or until a new president can be elected.

I need more time to go and meet people and possibly a few elected officials to find us a meeting and indoor shop location that the club can afford.

I also want to get the Young Tumbler's program up and running. We now have a few Young Tumblers interested in the NFMS badge program and learning more about rocks, minerals, and fossils. We may be cultivating budding geologists that could, as adults, work for various environmental organizations, natural science museums, the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Park Service, regional and city planning agencies, archaeologists, science teachers, and other such jobs that need geological expertise. Our youngsters could also just become lifelong rockhounds. Who knows where their present interests could lead them? It is an essential endeavor for our club.

We continue to get new members online or in person at our monthly meetings. Our membership is presently at 130 families! 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 each of you.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our annual potluck picnic and club auction at the Lake Wilderness Arboretum. Look for further details elsewhere in this issue of the Tumbler.

*Welcome*  
New Members

## Looking For 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 Thursday.

See the president's message to see what other positions the club needs a volunteer to cover.

If you decide you can help out, text or call Kat Koch. [president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org](mailto:president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org) Or 425-765-5408.



## 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, CMS 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, that as of August 2023, has a membership of 130 families?

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!*



## Upcoming Meetings Information by Kat Koch

### General Meeting – Saturday, August 12th

Topic: Our annual club picnic at Lake Wilderness. Our picnic is always a pleasant 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 contribute anything, that's okay too. We would rather have you join us on this beautiful day among friends than not. It is always enjoyable to visit with one another.

We generally have around 25 to 35 members attend.

Bring your own plate and silverware.

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

The Arboretum has plenty of free parking.

Following lunch, we have a club auction. Our auctions are always 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 "Rock Bucks" at the auction they have saved, 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!

**General Meeting – Thursday, September 14th**

Topic: Pre-Gem Show Rally and then "I Made It," "I Found It," and "I Bought It."

This meeting is a fun new activity on our calendar. "I Made It," "I Found It," and "I Bought It." You may bring up to 3 items for each category. Items must have been made, found, or bought within the last year. Winners of each category receive a prize.

Members will vote for their favorites in each category, and then only 1 prize per adult and 1 prize per Young Tumbler for each category will be awarded.

Plan on bringing items, as this should be a fun evening as we get to mingle with each other and talk rocks!

Show 'n Tell: They are your above entries.

Made  
Found  
Bought

**General Meeting – Thursday, October 12th**

Topic: Rock'in Good Halloween Costume Contest

Dress up a rock, mineral, or fossil for Halloween.

You can paint it, put a hat on it, or dress it up in a Halloween costume. It can even be a haunted scene.

Be creative, and let your imagination run wild!

We will give 1st and 2nd prizes to both adults and Young Tumblers.

Preceding our Halloween Rock Costume contest, we will have a recap of our show.

Show 'n Tell: They are your above entries.



For several years, I have been asking for a member to volunteer to be our club's Historian. Earlier this week, Jim Cerenzie volunteered to take on this job!

Thank you so much, Jim, for taking over this position. Our club has 75 years of history, and I have been very concerned we would lose all our historical records. I know that all our documents will now be in good hands.

Jim and his sons have been CMS members for a very long time. Jim also owns the YouTube channel on rockhounding called The VUG Meister. Jim and his son go rockhounding all over the Northwest and other places. Check out his channel, like, and subscribe. <smile>

Kari Crockett has also volunteered to work with Ananda to maintain the database and issue membership cards. Thank you, Kari!

Since I mentioned membership cards, we are switching to electronic membership cards. You will be able to keep them on your smartphone. If you wish to have an actual membership card, attend a meeting and pick up a card. If it is impossible to attend a meeting, contact Ananda or Kari, and they will mail you one.

There are two reasons why we are switching to electronic cards. First, the postage cost will soon be .66 cents per letter, and electronic cards will keep costs down. Electronic cards will save us around \$100 a year in postage plus the cost of having cards printed. Second, our membership is growing so large that keeping up with mailing out cards has become a big job. So as soon as the software good-to-go, all new members and renewals will receive their membership cards on their cellphones.

I will inform Jerry's Rock Shop and Blackjack's Metal Detecting that we now issue electronic membership cards. Remember that both businesses offer our members a 10% discount on most items they sell.

*That's All Folks!*





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**Field Trip Report for July 15 Greenwater** by Roger Danneman, CMS Field Trips Guide

On Saturday, July 15th we went into the Greenwater area for black agate, tan jasper, and opal. It was a nice day but got into the 80s, so kind of hot. Fortunately that area has shade. It was a big group with 17 vehicles, 29 people, and 3 dogs. The black agate site is deep in the woods off of FR7222. We dug there for about 4 hours. The Centralia pit that was dug out last year was still productive. Some large chunks came out of it. The Forest Service has started locking a gate higher up on FR 72 and the rock slide that has the green agate/jasper is now a 1 mile hike up the road. Loren M. said they told him inside the Enumclaw Ranger Station that they're going to start closing more roads up there. I don't know if an explanation was given. I tried to make sure everyone had some agate to take home, but if you didn't get any, let me know. I have extra.

Attendees: Jason & Weston S., Scott & Laurie M., Nik & Michelle B., Erica & Chris D., Colin & Jessie O., Adrian, Malka R. & Ashley, Loren M., Scott H., Mike L, Julie & Gina M., Kari C. & Dave, Lloyd & Sharleen S., Les & Shari C., Justin R., Chris W. +2, and of course me.

Saturday, August 12th is the CMS summer picnic at Lake Wilderness. It's pot luck plus an auction of club material. Good deals on nice rocks. That takes the place of our monthly field trip. Would love to see all of our members there.







### **M Is for Moolooite!** by Julia Allande, TRMS

Sometimes we encounter a name or a specimen that is so totally Out-Of-The Ordinary that we cannot help but investigate further and then share what we have learned with others!

**MOOLOOITE** -- who has ever heard of it? Not many, I guarantee! No, it is not a misspelling of Mookaite, which is a jasper found in Western Australia. Moolooite is a copper oxalate,  $\text{Cu}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)\cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$  from Mooloo Downs Station, Australia (of course!). The stuff is dull, waxy, translucent, turquoise-green or blue to green, of the orthorhombic system. Surprisingly,



it leaves a blue-green streak. It is found as "micro-concretionary" crusts and powders in cracks and solution cavities.

The NEATEST thing about it, I think, is that it may be a bio-mineral formed by the action of certain lichens growing on cupriferous (copper-iron) rocks. These lichens act upon the bird guano and the weathering rocks beneath them, creating the resulting Moolooite.

Don't bother to try to obtain any specimens, however; it is so scarce that the type material is held at the Government Chemical Laboratories in Perth, Australia.

from AFMS Newsletter, 5/23

## Apache Tears by Kat Koch

"The name 'Apache Tears' comes from a legend of the Apache tribe: about 75 Apaches and the US Cavalry fought on a mountain overlooking what is now Superior, Arizona, in the 1870s. Upon facing defeat, the outnumbered Apache warriors rode their horses off the mountain to their deaths rather than be killed. When the warriors died, so did the great fighting spirit of the Pinal Apaches. The wives and families of the warriors cried when they heard of the tragedy, and their tears turned into stone upon hitting the ground," a quote taken from Wikipedia - Apache Tears.

Apache Tears are a sub-group or type of obsidian called Marekanite. Obsidian and Apache Tears are the same black-colored stone made of volcanic glass. Ash-flow tuffs, lava domes, and siliceous lava flows produce "Apache Tears." The small obsidian stones are formed in perlite and are rough and less glassy. The small spheres form due to the varying cooling temperatures and the alkali and water content. Excessive water during the cooling of rhyolitic lava causes the obsidian to hydrate and convert to perlite. When perlite is not completely hydrated, the obsidian remains as pebbles of Marekanite or Apache Tears. The stones generally range from 1 to 2 inches and have a Mohs hardness of 5 to 5.5.

Apache Tears make fantastic polished stones. When tumbled correctly, they are beautiful, jet-black, and highly lustrous. The tear stones appear black and opaque, but there are transparent areas when held up to the light. However, you can have difficulty tumbling these natural glass stones because they can easily chip or bruise inside the tumbler.

Obsidianite or Marekanite are found on the Nevada/California border in the Fish Lake Valley of the Sierra Nevada mountains. You can also find the stones near Mule Creek, New Mexico, and the Topaz Valley, Utah. But the only stones that should be called Apache Tears are the ones found near Apache Leap in Superior, Arizona.

*Bibliography: Apache Tears - ALMA de LUCE, Wikipedia, Mindat, The Rock Tumbler, Rockseeker, Onxmaps*



## Young Richard's Almanac by Dick Morgan

Learn everything you can from your job and the people you work with as it can be a great help as you continue your efforts to understand life.

When I was a kid reading science fiction people in the future had pills for meals. Now this doesn't seem so far-fetched as I take so many pills just to maintain my health.

## Gem Silica by Hobart M. King, PhD, GIA Graduate Gemologist

Gem silica is a bluish green to greenish blue variety of chalcedony that receives its vivid color from the presence of copper. It is often known as "chrysocolla chalcedony" or "gem silica chrysocolla."

Gem silica is the most valuable variety of chalcedony, with quality cut gemstones selling for over \$100 per carat. The best specimens have a pleasing blue color with strong saturation, a uniform translucence, and a lack of inclusions.

Even though gem silica is one of the most beautiful blue gem-stones, most people have never heard of it. That is because it is a very rare gem. It is seldom seen in jewelry and is used mainly by a small number of high-end jewelry designers.

Only a few locations have produced noteworthy amounts of gem silica. Most of these locations have been productive for only a few years before being worked out.

Gem silica is always associated with copper deposits. It is a secondary mineral that forms as cavity linings and fracture fillings in the rocks above and adjacent to copper deposits. It is even known to occur as a mineral lining in geodes.



Its occurrence, habits, and deposit geometries are like any other type of chalcedony. Commonly associated minerals include quartz, chalcedony, chrysocolla, and malachite. Deposits are usually small in size and volume. It is a material produced by the gram rather than by the ton.

The Miami-Inspiration Mine in Arizona is the best recent source of high-quality gem silica. The Keystone Copper Mine in Arizona produced notable amounts of gem silica in the early 1900s. Gem silica has been produced occasionally and in limited amounts from locations in New Mexico, Mexico, Peru, Taiwan, and the Philippines.

The names "chrysocolla chalcedony" and "gem silica chrysocolla" are used because the green to blue color of gem silica is related to chrysocolla. Some references state that the color is caused by minute inclusions of chrysocolla within the silica. Others attribute the color to "the same copper salts that give chrysocolla its color."

The name "chrysocolla chalcedony" is appropriate if the person using the name knows that their material contains chrysocolla. The name "gem silica chrysocolla" is a misnomer because chrysocolla is not the primary constituent. "Gem silica" is the most appropriate name.

As a variety of chalcedony, gem silica has a Mohs hardness of 7 and is durable enough for use in almost any jewelry design. Yet, gem silica is rarely seen in jewelry. The gem is rare, costly, and the supply is limited.

You will probably never see it in mall jewelry stores. The supply is so limited and unpredictable that a large retail chain would be unable to acquire thousands of calibrated cabochons to launch a new product line, then count on more being available if the product line is successful.

If beautiful gem silica jewelry was featured in mall jewelry stores, it might sell slowly because of its high cost and because the average jewelry buyer has never heard of it.

The most likely place to find gem silica in jewelry is in a high-end jewelry store that sells unique one-of-a-kind items. Customers who shop there are the most likely buyers of such rare, expensive, and interesting items. Gem silica is a material for designers and artists rather than mass market manufacturers.

A significant percentage of the gem silica sold as cut stones today is purchased by gem collectors, investors, and speculators. They are a major market for rare, costly, and unusual gems of all kinds.

Most valuable gem materials have their impostors, and gem silica is not an exception. Chalcedony is a porous material and easily absorbs liquids. The color of gem silica can be temporarily enhanced by placing it in water. Absorbed water enriches the gem's color.

Clear and milky chalcedony is easily dyed. Chalcedony colored by this method should not be sold as "gem silica," as that would be a misnomer, but some merchants have done it. Buy gem silica from a dealer who you believe is trustworthy and knowledgeable.

via The Council Reporter, 7/23; from Rock-A-Teer, 2/23

## How To Shape And Polish Opals Without Machinery

Opal is a hydrated silica with varying amounts of moisture. Its hardness varies from 5.5 to 6.5. This method of cutting and polishing opal practically eliminates fracturing from heat. There are four basic steps in shaping and polishing:

1. Sanding off the matrix on both sides to locate the best fire.
2. Rough shaping the stone.
3. Sanding and pre-polishing, which result in the final shaping and size.
4. Final polishing the gemstone.

Supplies Needed:

1. A carborundum stone, double grit, sold by most hardware stores
2. Wet or dry sand paper, 400- and 600-grit
3. A piece of inner tube, 6" square.
4. Two pieces of corduroy or velvet material, 6" square
5. Polishing agent, Tripoli or tin oxide
6. Aluminum pie pan
7. Dop stick and household glue or cement.

Instructions:

Place carborundum stone on the inner tube in the pan, coarse side up. Pour water on the stone until some stands on top. Always work opal on a very wet stone. With a circular motion, grind on both sides to reveal the best fires. Mark size of desired stone on the back of the opal and grind down to size. When size has been obtained, wash opal, carborundum stone, inner tube, and pan. Do this between each process.

Now the opal is ready to be dopped. Use a cold dop of household cement. Coat the end of the dop stick. Also coat the back of the opal. Let it set a minute, and then press together. Stand in modeling clay or other support to dry, about eight hours. When the opal is set on the dop stick, use the coarse side of the carborundum to shape the opal. Wash all equipment. Then this time, using the fine side of the stone, sand out all the scratches, wash, and proceed. Go through this process first using the 400-, then the 600-sanding paper. The opal should have a pre-polish on it.

For the final polish, use the same process with the tin oxide. A little "Linde A" may be added to the tin oxide if you wish.

To remove the stone when finished, soak overnight in water and the stone will come loose. Good luck, and may you have a beautiful stone.

Malachite, Turquoise, Chrysocolla, as well as many other stones under 6.5 hardness may be polished with this method.

via The Hard Rock News, 7/23; via Golden Spike News, 6/23; from The Rockpile 12/02

## Rockhound Crafts — Let's Bring More of Them Back! by Jennifer Haley, AFMS Historian

Part of my job description as historian is to keep an eye out for ideas from our past that might be beneficial for our societies and club members today. One area I have admired about the history of AFMS affiliated rockhounds is the creativity in the lapidary arts and crafts.

The first society I belonged to kept binders full of all the various craft tutorials with photos found in the old lapidary magazines. They did this so their club members could look through the binders to find new things they'd like to make. I loved looking at these. Whenever I am at a society show, I like going through the stacks of these old magazines to see what I might be missing in my personal collection of lapidary craft ideas.

I have noticed for quite some time now that it seems like there are not as many people having fun working on the many crafts of our past. These crafts can still be wonderful and inspiring today. I have often wondered why this is. I would love to see the enthusiasm come back for the crafts aspect of our hobby.

One of the ways to draw in new members is to show off what you can teach people to make. Bring back those wonderful crafts and display them in exhibits at your shows. Think about creating a program for your society's library of the various lapidary arts and crafts. You can enter a program like this in your Regional Federation New Programs contest, where it may advance to the AFMS New Programs contest.

If all we have are the memories of what we personally have made, and we don't try to pass our skills to new members and the incoming new generations of rockhounds, our hobby will forget some of those treasured skills.

Probably many of your societies have collections of the older craft tutorials from the heyday when the lapidary arts and crafts ideas were bustling. Find them and archive them before the old pages fade away. I recommend making the effort to scan them.

Let's create a new heyday for lapidary arts and crafts. It will be easy to do, and we'll have a lot of fun too.

from AFMS Newsletter, 5/23

## Staying safe

Whenever you rockhound, you should prepare for possible injuries. Here are some things you might need to protect yourself:

First aid kit

Sun screen and hat or if it's not sunny, warm clothes and a rain jacket

Water resistant boots or hiking shoes for walking over uneven rocks and in creeks

Hard hat if you will be searching in caves or where rocks might fall on you

Gloves

Goggles, for breaking rocks, because a tiny chip can fly into your eye

### Digging and breaking

Hammer and chisel for breaking a rock out of a crack or crevice

Rock pick to pry apart rocks or to chip off pieces

Pry bar to roll big rocks

Shovel

Bucket to hold tools and rocks

### Getting there

Plan where you will go and download a map if the area might not have cell phone service.

Make sure that rock collecting is allowed in the place you want to go.

Compass and map to find the collection site.

### Identifying and examining

A rag and spray bottle of water can help clean a rock so you can examine it

Magnifying glass

Miscellaneous small tools: knife, trowel, and colander

Magnet to learn if a rock has iron

Rock identification book

Notebook and pen or pencil for writing notes

from Maplewood Rock and Gem Club, 1/23

## Smiles

Lord, give me the coffee to change the things that I can change, and the wine to accept the things that I can't.

If you boil a funny bone, it becomes a laughing stock. That's humorous.

I told my suitcases that there would be no vacation this year. Now I'm dealing with emotional baggage.

I never use turn signals. It's nobody else's business where I'm going.

from Breccia, 6/23

# 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!



## A Cartoon To Color by KAM





## 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>).

### **August 19 & 20**

**Greenwater** – Meet before 9 am Enumclaw Ranger Station  
*Tony Johnson (253) 863-9238*

### **Iron And Its Ores** by Andrew Hoekstra

Iron is the most common element in the earth but most of it is found in the earth's core. Iron is the fourth most common element in the earth's crust, and is the most common metal. But very little natural metallic iron exists at the earth's surface, and most of that which can be found is in meteorites.

Before people learned how to smelt iron from ore, they used meteorites: meteoritic iron was used in Egypt as early as 3500 BC, and the indigenous people of Greenland used iron from the Cape York Meteorite, one of the largest iron meteorites known. The Hittites seem to be the first people to understand and practice large scale smelting of iron from ore, sometime after 1500 BC.

Only in the most massive "supergiant" stars is iron produced (by atomic fusion of silicon). All the iron on the earth, and all the elements "heavier" than iron, including the iron inside of each of our bodies, are believed to have originated inside supergiant stars, especially those that exploded as supernova.

Goethite (FeO[OH], iron hydroxide) – goethite is the most stable and common iron mineral and an important ore. Rust is mostly goethite. Many other iron minerals alter to goethite over time, and goethite often forms pseudomorphs. Goethite is rarely found as crystals (other than pseudomorphs). It has a yellow streak and weathers (oxidizes) to a yellow color. Ochre is a name given to colorful earthy goethite used as pigment. Goethite is exceedingly common, occurring as brown or gray botryoidal crusts or earthy masses. Limonite is not a mineral but a blend of goethite and other iron oxides and hydroxides. Limonite forms the gossan (iron hat/cap) at the surface over sulfide and gold-quartz veins, and limonite is the "bog ore" of swamps. Limonite lacks the internal fibrous structure of goethite.

Hematite (Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, iron oxide) – the most important ore of iron, hematite is abundant and widespread. It occurs as crystals but is more common in botryoidal or massive form. Hematite can be red, brown, black or metallic grey and is distinguished by its red streak. Powdered red hematite is known as Red Ochre. Massive deposits of hematite originated more than 2 billion years ago in the sea when oxygen - produced by microbes (then the only life) - became sufficient to bond with and precipitate the dissolved iron in seawater. The iron-rich sediments that formed are banded iron deposits found around the world (once iron was precipitated from the sea, the ever increasing oxygen saturated the ocean and accumulated in the earth's atmosphere, making evolution of multi-cellular life possible). An unusual iridescent "rainbow hematite" is found at only one locality, in Minas Gerais, Brazil.

Magnetite (Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, iron oxide) – differing in molecular structure and crystal form from hematite, magnetite is more strongly attracted by a magnet than any other mineral. Some magnetite, known as lodestone, is itself magnetic and attracts iron (if the net charge of unpaired thus unstable atoms is aligned within the crystal structure). People have used lodestones for centuries, but today's magnets are artificial (ferrites). Particles of magnetite in rocks are useful for studying paleomagnetism, which can reveal the age and movements of rocks and continents. Magnetite is useful today primarily as an ore of iron. It has a black streak, and its opaque black crystals are octahedral or dodecahedral. Particles of magnetite cause the iridescence of "rainbow obsidian."

Pyrite (FeS<sub>2</sub>, iron sulfide) – this "fool's gold" may be the most familiar iron mineral, and it is the most abundant sulfide mineral. Its bright yellow color and metallic sheen, its distinctive cubic, octahedral, and pryrohedral crystals, and their availability, make pyrite popular with all mineral collectors. Pyrite is economically important as a source for sulfuric acid, and of course its iron content is used too. The spectacular pyrite "sun" or "dollar" specimens seen for sale come from Illinois, and they are NOT fossils. Fossils replaced with pyrite (or marcasite) are fairly common, including many from Ohio and Indiana.

Marcasite (FeS<sub>2</sub>, iron sulfide) – marcasite is a polymorph of pyrite, with the same chemical composition but a different molecular arrangement and crystal habit. It is more fragile and unstable than pyrite (oxidizing to melanterite unless given a protective coating). The Victorian faceted gems called marcasite are actually pyrite. Marcasite (from the Arabic markaschatsa, or "fire stone") and pyrite were used as fire-starters, sparking when struck against quartz. Marcasite is less common than pyrite but has the same industrial uses, primarily as a source for sulfuric acid. Another iron sulfide, Pyrrhotite, is somewhat magnetic, usually massive, usually tarnished, and often found with pyrite.

Siderite (FeCO<sub>3</sub>, iron carbonate) – forming light brown crystals that can be transparent or translucent, siderite does not necessarily look much like an iron or metallic mineral. But it is 48% iron and can be used as an ore. Siderite is isomorphic with calcite, but is heavier, darker and does not effervesce in hydrochloric acid. Most siderite crystals are saddle-shaped "warped" rhombohedra.

There are many more iron-containing minerals. Arsenopyrite, Bornite, Chromite, Pentlandite, Stannite, Bravoite, And Wurtzite, are ore minerals where iron is present together with other metals. Many common silicate minerals contain iron. The abundant minerals discussed above have in common that they are relatively insoluble. Soluble iron compounds, chlorides and sulfates important to industry and in biology, are uncommon as minerals in nature, being unstable.

from Delvings, 2/21

## Internet Addresses

Can I keep this? A guide to collecting on public lands:

<https://www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/files/docs/2021-10/Can%20I%20Keep%20This%202021%20-%20508%20Final%20Version.pdf>

Recreational Mineral Collecting by the US Forest Service:

[https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r6/recreation/regulations/?cid=fsbdev3\\_022266](https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r6/recreation/regulations/?cid=fsbdev3_022266)  
from Maplewood Rock and Gem Club, 1/23

*Earth without art is just "Eh."*

Earth as Art Image Collections

<https://eros.usgs.gov/media-gallery/earth-as-art>  
from USGS Landsat Twitter feed, 7/12/23

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The oldest emeralds are around 2.97 billion years old.  
from Maplewood Rock and Gem Club, 5/23

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## Shows & Sales

**August 2 – 6:** Wednesday – Sunday 9 am – 5 pm

**H & I Lapidary, Estate Sale**

4203 99<sup>th</sup> St. E  
Tacoma WA

**August 3 – 6:** Thursday – Saturday 10 am - 5 pm; Sunday 10 am - 4 pm  
**Billings Gem and Mineral Club AMFS and NWFS Gem and Mineral Show**

Billings Hotel & Convention Center  
1223 Mullowney Lane  
Billings Montana

**August 4 - 6:** Friday & Saturday 10 am – 5 pm; Sunday 10 am - 4 pm  
**Far West Lapidary & Gem Society, 57th Annual Gem and Mineral Show**

The Mill Casino, The Salmon Room  
3201 Tremont St, Hwy 101  
North Bend, Oregon

**August 11 – 13:** Friday - Sunday 10 am – 5 pm

**Puyallup Gem & Mineral Club, The 2023 Gem Show in The Trees**

Tacoma Sportsmen's Club  
16409 Canyon Road East  
Puyallup, WA.

**August 12 & 13:** Friday & Saturday 10 am – 5 pm

**Maplewood Rock and Gem Club, Annual Summer Rock and Mineral Sale**

Maplewood Clubhouse  
8802 196th St SW  
Edmonds, WA

**August 18 – 20:** Friday & Saturday 9 am – 5 pm; Sunday 10 am – 4 pm  
**Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, End of Summer Rock and Gem Show**

Polk County Fairgrounds  
520 S. Pacific Hwy  
Rickreall, Oregon

**August 19:** Saturday 9 am – 5 pm

**Shelton Rock and Mineral Society, 13th Annual Tailgate Rock Sale and Swap Meet**

MCRA  
2100 E Johns Prairie Rd  
Shelton, WA