

ROCK ROLLER MEETING FEBRUARY 23, 2010- Tues. 6:00pm 9517 E. 4th AVE. SPOKANE, WA. 99206

BOARD MEETING ** Sat. Before Reg. Meet -- Feb. 20 - 10:am at Club 9517 E 4th AVE. SPOKANE, WA. 99206

January 16, 2010 Meeting of the Rock Rollers club

The Meeting was called to order by Jim Cotant, 2nd Vice President. The 2010 Officers were sworn in by Jim Cotant. President, Joe deField, Vice President, David Rapp, Treasurer Beverly Bockman, Secretary, Janet Ortiz.

Dave Rapp introduced the EWU speaker, Rick Orndorff, from the Dept. of Geology. The Program was about geology - a traveling course with instruction, field camp, where the students become the geologists, measuring and mapping the terrain. He explained where our donations go and the good they do.

We then had a break with coffee and cookies. The minutes were approved as they stand. No report of correspondence was given. Treasurer's report was given.

Dennis Hicks resigned as trustee. Therefore a volunteer is now needed for that position. Field Trips report by June Seidel is a work in progress and will be in the March bulletin. We will intersperse our field trips with other clubs near and far.

The next Showboard meeting will be held on February 27th at 10 AM. Grab Bags will be filled following the showboard meeting at approximately 11 :00. Volunteers are needed to assist the grab bag filling!

David Rapp gave the scholarship presentation. The 3-month drawing will be held at the February meeting, and the blue Topaz drawing will be at the May meeting.

Our new President Joe De Field discussed Roberts Rules of Order. What that entails is: a motion is made and seconded, then discussed. If change is needed or desired, the motion is amended as such. Then the motion is seconded and voted on. Good job, Joe!!!

Old Business: There was no old business to be discussed.

New Business: A motion was made to change the time of the meeting from 7pm to 6pm. This is in an effort to get people in a timely manner. The motion was seconded, discussed and then passed.

The executive board meeting will be held the Saturday before the general meeting at 10 AM. A motion was made to always have the program first and then a 15-minute break. Deadline for bulletin is February 3rd.

Our website is up and running. There is more work to be done on it, but it is accessible at this time.

A motion was made to accept the three people who were appointed by the executive board to clean the clubhouse. They will clean the clubhouse on a monthly basis. No shop fees will be charged to those cleaning the~clubhouse. The motion was seconded, discussed and passed.

It was requested that at each meeting, each club member will bring a stone. The bulletin will announce what the stones should be.

Our program director, Dave Rapp, brought a mystery stone. It was identified by our guest speaker as Serpentinite. The three smaller stones were identified as serpentine.

The door prize was won by Dana Piozet.

The meeting was adjourned. Janet Ortiz Secretary

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE -- Joe DeField~

MISSION IMPOSSIBLE?

For 50 years Rockrollers have worked on what seems, "Mission Impossible". The problem of putting on the yearly Gem Show. Rock Rollers of the past did like the movies and T.V. show. They planned, encouraged members, hunted out the weakness and circumvented them, maneuvered around problems and completed the mission with success. Your mission should you accept is to make "EARTH TREASURES" a success. You are to join the team, participate with your TIME and SKILL, be open to learn new skills. Then the team can beat the Impossible into a show success.

Unlike the movies and TV programs, this will not destruct in 30 seconds. Sorry! We do not have the music.

LAPIDARY SAFETY NOTE: Don't store any snow flake obsidian out side! Especially, if you are a licker [Don't lick any rock, as it could be poisonous!] from Joe DeField

PLEASE BRING YOUR FAVORITE Rock, Cab. or Specimen to the Feb. 23 Meeting--Joe DeField.~

**NOTE TIME OF REG. MEETING, Feb. 23 -- 6:pm ---

Board Meeting SAT. Feb. 20 10:am at Club House

Visitors Welcome

PROGRAM -- David Rapp, Chair.

"HOW TO PUT TOGETHER A DISPLAY CASE" FOR THE GEM SHOW

BY - Jim Cotant - Joe DeField - David Rapp

REFRESHMENTS -- June Seidel 599-6694

CHIPS & DIPS

Mike Shaw -- Mildred Scheel -- Bonnie Agee -- Dana Piozet -- David Rapp - Larry Romero

HOSPITALITY -- Cindy Doppler-- ph 216-5473 If you know a member is ill or etc. contact Cindy.

MEMBERSHIP -- Marian Knack -- ph 926-6444

NEW MEMBER

Karen Warner, 1356 N. Highway 41, Trl. #83, Post Falls, Id. 83854 ph 1-208-660-8245

SCHOLARSHIP -- David Rapp -- Drawing for Feb. is Pair of Amethyst ear rings, donated by Munchies Rock Shop. ALSO - Onyx Clock -- donated by David Rapp

Don't forget the May drawing for the Blue Topaz!

LAPIDARY CLASS -- Jim Cotant -- ph 534-1746 Mon-Tues. 6 PM

FACETING CLASS -- Joe DeField ph 328-2920 1st and 3rd Tues & each Mon. 6 PM

NOTE -- I will be working on the March Bulletin during the week of our show. Please get news to me by Mar. 5th • Ed. / er

SHOW BUSINESS -Leon & Jim -Show Board meeting Sat. - Feb. 27th 10:00am at Club House ** After the meeting we will fill grab bags. Need members to come at 11 :45 am to help.

NOTE - NEED TRUCKS AT THE CLUB HOUSE ON TUES. MAR. 9 AT 8:00 AM. NEED THE 3 TRAILERS AND ANY HELP. Jim Cotant

NORTHWEST GEM SHOWS

Mar 6,7 Owyhee Gem & Min. Soc., O'Conner Field House, Caldwell,Id.
Mar 12,13,14 Tualatin Valley Gem Club, Wa. Co. .. Fair Complex, Hillsboro, Or.
Mar 12,13,14, Rock Rollers Club -- Spokane Co. Fair & Expo Ctr., Spokane, Wa.
Mar 13,14 Magic Valley Gem Club, Twin Falls Co. Fairgrounds, Filer, Id.
[Consult your Northwest Newsletter for more information] [Page 1 and 5,6,7]

2010 NFMS Mid-Year Meeting, Kennewick, Wa., April 17, 2010

Tri-Federation Field Trip -- Blue Forest, Wyoming -- Memorial Day Weekend, May 29-31 2010

Northwest Rockhound Retreat at Hancock Field Station -- Fossil, Oregon, Sept. 6-12, 2010
Complete information in Northwest Newsletter, January 2010

The updated for 2010 Uniform Rules are now available for downloading via the AFMS website www.amfed.org/rules.htm or purchase from your regional federation supplies chair. Give your order to Leon who is the Federation Director.

You can either obtain the 2010 updated pages or the complete book. Also available are the lists of approved Lapidary, Fossil and Mineral Names.
All changes are now in effect and will be used for judging beginning with the first regional federation convention this year

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Lewiston Field trip August 22^M and 23rd 2009

Ah! The alarm beeped! What time was it any way? It was 5am. No way do I get up at 5am. I never get up that early unless.-- Oh yes. It was August 22nd and I had a field trip planned. I was wagon master on a trip to Lewiston, ID. for Rock Rollers, so I rolled out of bed and got ready to hit the road. First things first though, I had to have my coffee! (Never leave home without it)

With coffee in my cup, I really had to head for the valley where I met my sister Janet. After we left my car safe at my grandson's house Janet and I headed for the parking lot in front of the Denny's restaurant in Spokane Valley, where we met Shirley Gossette, her sister Brenda and Brenda's son Owen. After some discussion about the best route, we were on the road again. Some how we got separated from Shirley's group, but knowing that they could find the way themselves, Janet and I continued toward Lewiston.

After stopping in Moscow for breakfast, we got going again. The day was beautiful and the road was nice. The Lewiston Hill is still steep, and the pulp mill still stinks, but the rivers are beautiful. Hell's Gate State Park is one of the better campgrounds that I have stayed in. There are three loops with RV sites, Cabins and tent sites. We met Mike Shaw, Kathleen Govett, Tom and Debbie K1ug, and Shirley's group there.

Mike and Kathleen were in A loop, with the RV sites, Shirley, Brenda and Owen were in B loop.

Janet, myself, Tom and Debbie were in C loop. We were scattered around some but not too badly.

Now for the real work started, setting up camp, ugh! Camping is so much fun! We set up the tent pumped up the mattress (never camp without an air mattress) and realized that we had the small tent and the queen sized air; mattress, Oh my! After moving the tent close enough to the car so that the cord for the electric pump would reach, and letting most of the air out of the mattress, to get it through the door of the tent we set camp. We had lots of help because every one else was ready to leave camp and start our hunt for stones, the real reason that we were there.

We got into our respective vehicles and started up the Clearwater River where there are supposed to be sapphires, where Arrow Bridge crosses the Clearwater, but the sapphires eluded us, so we went up river to Orifino, ID where there are supposed to be rose red and brown red garnets and sapphires on Rhodes Creek, but we couldn't find Rhodes Creek and the Ranger Station was closed so, we didn't find any of those either. We did find some agates and some other stones that interested us at a campground just down river from Arrow Bridge.

We then went up the Clearwater to Dworshak Dam. None of us had seen it before and figured that it was worth a look see. Boy was it worth the drive! The view was gorgeous and it was huge! After playing around at the dam for a while we headed back to Lewiston and the camp. Supper sounded real good and some of it hadn't been cooked yet. We met at Janet's and My camp for supper, which consisted of potato salad, macaroni salad, pulled pork on buns, baked beans, corn on the cob, jell-o salad and pie. There could have been more, but those are the dishes that made the most impression on me. Hal Ha! All of the food was very good.

After some good fellowship we all headed to our beds. Some of the air came out of the mattress, but I slept well regardless.

The next morning after breakfast, we headed for Central Ferry on the Snake River. I thought that we needed to go back to Colfax to reach Central Ferry so Janet and I headed back up the Lewiston Hill. As we drove toward the highway to the hill I could see some very black smoke on the upper part of the hill. We commented some on what it could be. I said that the only thing that I knew of that burned that black was rubber. I wondered if someone had set fire to some tires, maybe some kids fooling around.

We kept watching the area, but by the time we were at the bottom of the hill we couldn't see the smoke anymore and forgot about it. About half of the way up the hill traffic started to slow down and now we could see the smoke again. About three quarters of the way from the bottom, traffic was at a stand still, and we could see that there was a vehicle burning in the outside lane. It was someone's RV.

The owner (a woman) was very upset and worried that people weren't staying back far enough from the fire. She said that she had just filled the propane tank in Lewiston. She was afraid that the tank was going to blow up. There was a break in the center divider of the highway right in front of Janet's car, so she turned around and pulled -off of the road. We watched the Firefighters work to stop the fire before it reached the propane tank, which they did, but the hillside caught fire from the heat. It was a little windy that day and after taking several pictures, we decided that the bottom of the hill looked really good to us, so we left. We never heard how the fire started, but can you imagine losing your RV like that. I can't

We then proceeded down the Snake River to Pomeroy, which was the way we should have gone in the first place, but wow, what an adventure we had!

Central Ferry was great. There is a nice campground there. Maybe we should make that trip again next year. After eating lunch, we headed to the water. The stones were laying on the bed of the river, all colors of them. Some Serpentine, agates and others. Where they were in the water we could see the color that they would be after they were polished. Within an hour I had all that I wanted to carry. After more visiting with each other we all decided to head for Spokane and home.

EDITOR'S ERROR -- Field Drip should be Trip - pg 5, Jan. --Typo error - Macron slb Macaroni.

I use the spell check on the computer but if an error word is a correct spelled word it will not show and I have to catch the error. I hate to admit this but I'm not perfect. Sorry for any errors. ed/er

TIDBITS -- If you are looking for information or other help with tumbling rock material, check out the following web link <http://www.erocktumbling.com> Select "tumbling instructions" for helpful information. [from Rock Licker Jan. 2010]

: **DON'T FORGET VINEGAR** -- Next time you go camping, be sure to take along the vinegar. When the cook tent or camper smells of frying fish, or a screw head refuses to turn, or you wake up with a raspy throat, or a bug bite drives you half crazy, just reach for the vinegar bottle. Vinegar has long been a seasoner, preservative, cleaner, purifier, and healing agent. There are more than 40 non-culinary uses for vinegar but it is often overlooked or replaced with over advertised products that cost more and are less effective.

[from et-al;... Calgary Lapidary Journal --- Via The Rock-It Dec 09-Jan 10]

Hint—Cleaning up your safety goggles: If your soft plastic safety goggles are scratched or foggy, try a little toothpaste with only a little elbow grease. It really works.

BLACK AND LIGHT OPAL -- Black opals are the most prized of all opals. They range in price from under \$50 each to over \$1 million for rare collectors gems. Black opals are highly sought after because of their beauty-particularly red stones, which command the highest prices. Black opal is, in fact, not black but beautifully colored on a very dark [or black] background. The brighter and sharper the colors, the more valuable the stone. Occasionally, bright black opals will also display rare patterns. These are regarded as collectors' gems. Nearly all the world's black opal comes from one location - Lightning Ridge in New South Wales, Australia.

Light opal comprises the majority of precious opal and comes from many areas, although currently most light opals found in Coober Pedy and Mintabis in South Australia. Light opal can display all the colors of the spectrum on a light or pale background. The terms red fire, orange fire and green fire refer to the dominant color in the stone, and multi-fire suggests a stone which has most colors without any particular color being prominent. Light crystal opal describes those stones which have a degree of transparency together with a sharpness of diffracted colors.

Factors Determining the Value of Opal

The following criteria, along with the laws of supply and demand, are important when determining the value of an opal:

Brilliance -- The degree of brightness is of paramount importance. An opal cannot be valuable without this attribute. A gem which glows but is average in all other respects will still command a high price, whereas a dull stone with a very good pattern will only bring an average price.

Pattern - Good patterns of diffracted colors, when combined with brilliance, have an enormous impact on the value of the stone. Pinfire and small patterns are less desirable than broad patterns or large flashes. Distinct patterns such as rolling flash, straw pattern, Chinese writing, ribbon, and harlequin are very rare and considered collectors' items.

Body Color -- With black opal, the degree of darkness in the body color must be taken into consideration. The "blacker" the body color, the more valuable the gem.

Transparency - Light opal is more desirable when it has a degree of transparency. If lively, brilliant colors are present in crystal opals, they are more highly prized

[Reference: The Black Ridge Opal Mine [Australia] "Shop Notes"

*""*News of San Diego Lapidary Soc. 11/93, via Smoke Signals, Bulletin of the Black Hawk Gem & Mineral Club, Rock Island, 11.,2/96]*

TIPS FOR MOSS AGATE -- In working with dark colored moss agate, like the black Montana variety, small pits may sometimes appear on the finished, polished surface. The light colored polishing powders like tin oxide and cerium oxide often pack into these pits and removal is difficult. The white spots detract from the stone's appearance. A small drop of India Ink touched on the white pit and rubbed over the stone with a cloth works wonders.
[fro HyGrader et al 2/89 -- Via The Petrified Digest 9/09]