

The CMS Tumbler

June
2024

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

Next Meeting:
June 13, 2024
7:00 p.m.

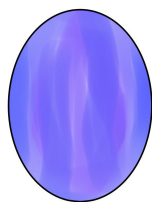
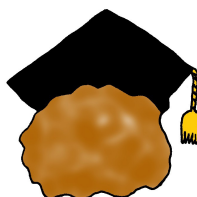
American Legion Hall
25406 97th PI S
Kent, WA

The Program is Carl
Carlson on Ellensburg Blue
Agates

The Show & Tell
Theme is a blue stone in
your collection

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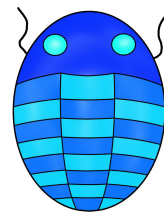
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Connect with us!

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
Michelle Patterson on June 2
Hannah Greaney on June 3
Weston Severns on June 3
Eli Dobner on June 4
Kathryn 'Caly' Jellum on June 4
Noelle Barnes on June 5
Jessica Nash on June 6
Leonard Bahr on June 7
Loren Merriman on June 17
Dominique Zervas on June 19
Becky Patterson on June 21
Kylee Brott on June 22
Ashley Rankin on June 27
Brenda Haworth on June 29
Rich Morgan on June 29
and also remember
to wish a
Happy Anniversary to
Christina & Russell Lopeman on June 22 (11 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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2024 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

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

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.

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

JERRYS ROCK AND GEM
 804 WEST VALLEY HWY. KENT, WA. 98032
jerrysrockandgem.com jerrysrockandgem@msn.com

Follow us on Facebook **253-852-0539**

Black Jack's Metal Detectors
 AND MINING EQUIPMENT!

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101 Park Ave N,
Renton, WA. 98057
Store # 425-430-0290
Direct # 253-961-3095



SoDo Rocks

Friday thru Sunday
10 am to 4 pm

2700 4th Ave S, Seattle, WA 98121

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.



Access CMS Club Instagram page



For quick access, you can scan the following codes.

Access our CMS YouTube channel



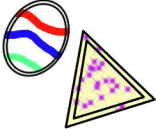
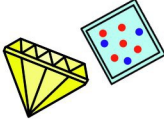
Access our CMSclub website for the latest on meetings and club events



Access CMS Facebook Groups



June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
 Cascade Mineralogical Society Show June 29 & 30 At the Kent Commons 						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 <i>Little Naches Trip</i>
9	10 Board Meeting 7:00 pm	11	12	13 General Meeting 7:00 pm	14	15 <i>Red Top Trip</i>
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 CMS Show					Show Setup	CMS Show

CMS Show Committee Meeting:....Monday, June 10.....6:30 pm to 7:00 pm
 CMS Board Meeting:.....Monday, June 10.....7:00 pm to 8:00 pm
 CMS General Meeting:.....2nd Thursday, June 13.....7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Lapidary Class Hours:.....Closed for winter
 Lapidary Shop Hours:.....Closed for winter

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

Photo by Pat Morgan

Quip by TKAM



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CMS Board Meeting Minutes May 6, 2024

by Pete Williams, 2024 Secretary

Attendees: Kat Koch; Linda Jorza; Pete Williams; Rich Russell; Mike Blanton; Paul Arhnberg; Diane Horsfall; Ananda Cooley; Peggy Shashy; Roger Danneman; Angie Bayer; Noelle Barnes; Lee Oliver; Michelle Maidman.

Show Committee 6:33

The show is sold out with 37 vendors. One may have to cancel, but could fill with another. We need more demonstrators or displays for the Green River Room. Board members will look into possibly a stone carver or gluing pebbles on to a design.

Michelle and Chris will work on club sales. Angie will perform an inventory of material for the raffle. Kat is looking to purchase high quality material for the raffle. She will go to Jerry's Rock and Gem to see what they have. Another possibility is purchasing an amethyst cathedral. For advertising, the leader board at Kent Commons will display our show for 8 weeks. The cost is \$45 per week, but Kent Commons will provide for free. Rich, ordered 50 outdoor signs for \$578. Brittany Berkhart, who leads the Seattle Mineral Mart has been hired to do some advertising. Kat is exploring storage spaces for the display cases in conjunction with another rock club.

There is a scam going around where an email comes from Kat or one of the Board members asking to purchase gift cards for the club. Please beware.

Board Meeting 7:25

We now have 124 families. We got several new members from the Gem Faire.

There was a discussion on what value the club received from being a member of the Northwest Federation (NFMS). We are paid up until the end of this year so will revisit potentially dropping out of NFMS later this year. The Mineral Council now has a full slate of officers and they do meet virtually. Roger has arranged for an electrician to review the cost to install a separate electrical box in the garage of a club member willing to let us set up a shop there. Lee will explore the cost of purchasing license plate holders for our club. These can be sold to members or at the show. Kat will look into advertising our show for 1 month with Eventbrite.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23

CMS General Meeting Minutes May 9, 2024

by Pete Williams, 2024 Secretary

Called 7:11

Our club Christmas party will be on Sunday 12/1. The summer picnic will be on 8/18.

The Washington State Mineral Council now has a full slate of officers. They are working on the lease to Walker Valley. The next club field trip is to First Creek on May 11 and May 18. Material to find are agate, jasper and crystals.

The June meeting will be a presentation on Ellensburg blue agates.

Program: Washington State fossils by Joan and Glenn from Jerry's Rock and Gem.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 followed by show and tell and the raffle.

From the Top of the Rock Pile by Kat Koch, President

Our Cascade Gem Show is sold out! Remember to contact Roger Danneman to volunteer to help at our show. It takes 50 to 60 member volunteers to run the show. We have a volunteer spot for you no matter what you like to do or don't like to do. The setup is June 28th, and the show is June 29th and 30th.

Daniel Stevens and his wife, Dianna, went to the NFMS Hermiston, Oregon Show to represent our club this year, as Mike and I could not go. A huge thank you to them for attending the NFMS meetings on behalf of our club. Dan brought back all the awards our club won.

Our club proudly won the following awards:

1st Place – Website – Gina Manso

1st Place – Large Bulletin – Keith Morgan

1st Place – Adult Article Advanced – Kat Koch - Is The Secret To Losing Weight To Move To The Canadian Tundra?

2nd Place - Adult Article: Field Trip – Roger Danneman

2nd Place – Drawn Feature – Keith Morgan

1st Place – Special Publication – Keith Morgan/Kat Koch – Cascade Gem Show Brochure

Thank you for everything you do, Gina, Keith, and Roger.

We continue to get new members every week. Welcome to our club! To our members who have yet to renew this year, please visit our website and renew your membership online. If you attend a meeting, you can pay your dues with a check, cash, or credit card.

If you are a new member, please come up and introduce yourself. I look forward to meeting you.

Our monthly meeting attendance continues to grow back to pre-pandemic levels. Since our membership continues to grow, I hope more members will attend our monthly meetings. The larger our meeting attendance is each month, the easier it will be to book quality speakers. As of this writing, we have 127 families and a total membership of 263 individuals.



Welcome
New Members

Mark your calendar now, Thursday - June 13th, as Carl Carlson will speak on Ellensburg Blue Agates. The Ellensburg Blue agate is regarded as the third-rarest gemstone in the world. It is the only blue agate regarded as a "precious gemstone." Ellensburg Blue agate is only found in the foothills of the Cascade Mountains northwest of Ellensburg.

This meeting should be very interesting.

June 13th – Ellensburg Blue Agates by Carl Carlson

Mr. Carlson is an expert on Ellensburg Blue. He has spoken to various groups on YouTube, including Nick Zentner of Central Washington University, about this awesome blue agate.

The Ellensburg Blue agate is regarded as the third-rarest gemstone in the world. It is the only blue agate regarded as a "precious gemstone." Ellensburg Blue agate is only found in the foothills of the Cascade Mountains northwest of Ellensburg.

Show 'n Tell: What blue agate, rock, mineral, or other blue item do you have in your collection?



June 28 to 30th – Our Cascade Gem Show

We will need 50 to 60 volunteers to put on our show.

All hands on deck!

Please get in touch with Roger Danneman to volunteer.



July 11th – Post-Show Report & “Guess that Rock” by Kim of Earthlight Gems

We will have a little fun while learning to identify rocks. You will win a prize if you are the first to guess right. The night's overall winner with the most correct guesses will win a grand prize.

Show 'n Tell: Bring a rock, mineral, or fossil you want to be identified. We will see if Kim or some of our members can identify it for you.



August 18th – Our Annual Sunday Potluck Picnic in the Arboretum.

Through the courtesy of our member Charles Benedict, we can reserve the Lake Wilderness Arboretum again this year for our annual picnic under the trees. The Arboretum provides picnic tables and plenty of free parking.

It is a potluck lunch. Setup begins at 11:30 am, with lunch at noon. The picnic is not only an excellent chance to enjoy a nice lunch under the trees but also to visit with one another.

Following lunch, we have a club auction. It is an excellent opportunity to pick up items such as rocks, fossils, minerals, opals, and jewelry at a fraction of their value. We would greatly appreciate any items you want to donate to the auction. Our club auctions are held two times a year, and they help cover our bills and keep our dues down.

Our Young Tumblers can bid on auction items and pay with the "Rock Bucks" they have saved. I encourage our Young Tumblers to save their Rock Bucks for our club auctions.

If it is a warm day, Lake Wilderness is within walking distance for swimming, and there are a couple of large play areas with playground equipment for the kids.



Member News

Dick Morgan was back in the hospital for some vision trouble and trouble standing. After a few days at Good Sam in Puyallup he was returned home.

Young Richard's Almanac by Dick Morgan

In this day and age our thanks should go to those who protect our freedoms (military and veterans), who protect our homes and property (police and firemen), and those who protect our lives (medical personnel).

You can't believe how well you get treated even when you create a mess, as the nurse cleans up the area she even smiles at you as she leaves the room. Thank you to all these people that make life in America great.

One rockhound's leaverite is another rockhound's gem.

May Field Trip Report by Roger Danneman Field Trip Guide

On Saturday May 11th we had a field trip to the DNR property known as First Creek. It was a clear day with temperatures in the mid to upper 70s. Kind of getting a bit hot for me, but a nice westerly breeze made it tolerable. We ended up with a small group for one reason or another. Maybe the previous night's Aurora Borealis contributed to that. A spectacular late-night light show that I missed. Anyway, we hiked to the 2-mile ravine and went up on the east side first. The pit where we've taken out so many waterline agate nodules and crystal plates is all caved in now and not yielding much. I moved over to the large rockslide and collected some seam agate. The rockslide is very difficult to walk in due to steepness and loose rock. After a couple of hours I went up on the western side of the ravine to some pits near the top. I did get a few nice chunks but the yellow jackets and bees were getting more aggressive there. It was about 4:00 when I decided to head down. I didn't see any wood ticks on me throughout the day, but on Sunday morning I found a wood tick on my shorts where I had left them in the garage. He was patiently waiting for the former occupant to reoccupy those shorts. After a ceremonial flush I bade him farewell and good riddance.

Michelle M., Jarrod D., Loren M., Phillip T., and Barbara M. (new member) joined me on this trip. We pretty much stayed spread out so I didn't see what others collected.

On Sunday May 19th Loren Merriman lead another trip into First Creek. It was a cooler day with temperatures in the upper 50s to low 60s. Seemingly perfect for the hike and digging, but at some point a storm cell moved in and dumped hail and up to 2.5 inches of rain. Just a small localized system. Joining Loren on this trip were Hannah G., Heather M., James R., Michael, Josh D and sons.

In June we have 2 outings scheduled. The first one on June 8th to Little Naches for thundereggs, Lily Pad jasper, and leaf fossils. The second one on June 15th to Redtop for agate, jasper, and crystal.

Pictures seen here are from the May 11th trip.





Relief Rock Carvings of Life-Sized Extinct Camels by Kat Koch

In 2016 and 2017, a Franco-Saudi research team embarked on an expedition to a desolate rock outcropping on private property, known as 'the camel site.' Here, they made a remarkable discovery: a collection of approximately a dozen camel sculptures, a rarity in the world of rock art. These unique carvings were found along an old desert crossing route in the northern province of Al-Jouf, Saudi Arabia, nestled into three rocky sandstone spurs. Despite some damage from erosion and vandalism, the carvings still displayed an artistic skill that was unparalleled in other rock art forms found in the Saudi desert. This unique find could shed light on the mysteries of ancient life on the Arabian peninsula.

Many of the carvings are perched high on the outcrops, a testament to the skill and determination of their creators, who would have required ropes or scaffolding. One carving, in particular, stands out — a camel facing what appears to be a mule, horse, or donkey, a rare depiction in the region's rock art. These three-dimensional carvings, with their sheer size and level of naturalism, are a testament to the incredible skill of their creators. The carvings depict camels reaching 5.9–6.6 feet at shoulder height, seemingly an extinct species. It is estimated that it took the carvers 10-15 days to carve each camel, a testament to their dedication. The carvings often seem to meld with the natural grain of the rock and have been carved into crevices to preserve them in the desert environment. When the researchers first found these carvings, they estimated their age to be 2,000 years old. More recent geological dating has put the age of these camel carvings at 8,000 years old. This time estimate is before the construction of Stonehenge (5,000 years old) or the Pyramids of Giza (4,500 years old).

In late 2017, archaeologists used Google Maps to search the remote Saudi desert. They found hundreds of stone "gates" built from rock, which may also date back as far as 7,000 years. In Saudi Arabia's northern Nefud desert, they also discovered evidence of 46 dry lake beds. Experts say these findings substantiate the plausibility that this region swung between a wetter climate and desertification periods.

The discovery of these carvings has the potential to significantly enhance our understanding of the Saudi prehistoric population and their cultural traits. However, one significant challenge remains the lack of information on the creators of these carvings and the tools they used. The closest prehistoric population that could be linked to these carvings is the Nabateans, a nomadic Arab tribe renowned for founding the city of Petra in modern-day Jordan, a city carved out of sandstone desert cliffs.

This potential connection, which could reveal a fascinating historical link, opens up a world of possibilities for further research and exploration.

The Al-Jouf carvings may be the most significant recent discovery of Saudi Arabia's important pre-Islamic history.
Bibliography: Live Science, Yahoo News, Archaeology News, Phys.Org.



What is the Difference Between Agates and Jasper? by Kat Koch

Agates: Agates are the banded variety of chalcedony, which comes in a wide variety of colors. They are primarily formed within volcanic and metamorphic rocks and can be highly polished.

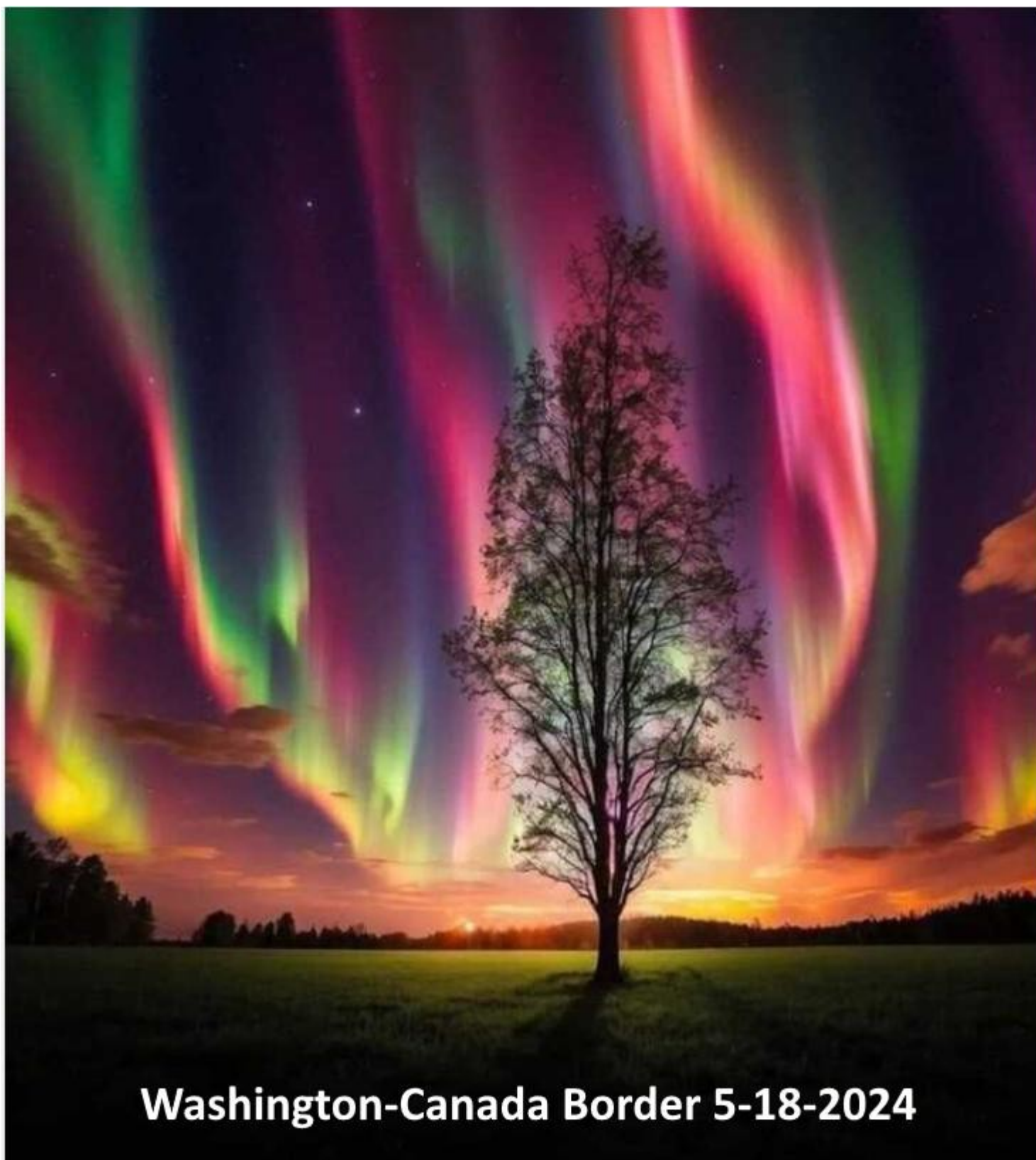
Agates, with their unique beauty, have a rich history of use. They were commonly used ornamentally in Ancient Greece (800 BCE to 146 BCE), in a variety of jewelry, and as the seal stones of Greek warriors. The use of pierced and polished agate in bead necklaces dates back to 3000 BCE to 2001 BCE in the Indus Valley, India, showcasing the enduring appeal of these stones.

Jaspers: A Jasper is a unique variety of silica, characterized by its opaque and impure nature. It typically appears in colors such as red, yellow, brown, or green, with blue being a rare occurrence. The common red color is due to iron inclusions. Jasper breaks with a smooth surface, making it ideal for ornamentation or use as a gemstone. Its versatility is further enhanced by its ability to be highly polished, making it suitable for items such as vases, seals, and snuff boxes.

Green jasper was used to make bow drills in Mehrgarh (Pakistan today) between 4000 BCE to 5000 BCE. Jasper is known to have been a favorite gem in the ancient world; its name can be traced back in Arabic, Persian, Hebrew, Assyrian, Greek and Latin. On Minoan Crete, jasper was carved to produce seals circa 1800 BCE.

Bibliography: Wikipedia, Dictionary.com.





Auroras

Auroras are caused when energized particles from the sun interact with the Earth's magnetic field and oxygen and nitrogen atoms in the atmosphere. Reds occur highest in the atmosphere. Greens are the most common colors seen, but then the human eye is very good at seeing the various forms of green. Blues and purples are less commonly seen. Other colors can occur as well.

Aurora seen in the northern hemisphere are sometimes referred to as the "Northern Lights" or aurora borealis, while aurora seen in the southern hemisphere are the "Southern Lights" or aurora australis.

Expansion of 2 California Monuments Threat to the Hauser Geode Beds by Jennifer Haley, ALAA President 2024

As this year unfolds, it is proving the point we've been stressing for quite some time, which is Rockhounds across the country need to become more involved in protecting their collecting areas. Also, we all need to do our part to help the clubs in other parts of the country where their collecting areas are being threatened.

Campaigns for the recently proposed Kw'ts'án, Chuckwalla and Sáttítla national monuments in California and Bahsahwahbee in Nevada are increasing.

As of May 2, 2024, the current administration through Presidential Proclamation announced the expansion of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument in California, and the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument in California.

With what we know today, an advisory committee under chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code, will be established on behalf of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. The advisory committee shall be a representation of interested stakeholders, including State agencies and local governments; Tribal Nations and Indigenous peoples with cultural, traditional, or ancestral ties to the area; recreational users; conservation organizations; wildlife, hunting, and fishing organizations; the scientific community; business owners; and the general public in the region. If you have collecting areas in the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument expansion, you as Recreational Rockhounds will be able to have your voice heard.

However, with our current understanding in the expansion of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument, Recreational Rockhounding will not be allowed, period.

In addition, the campaign for the proposed Chuckwalla monument will threaten our access to the Wiley Wells' geode beds, which include the famous Hauser Geode Beds. The Wiley Wells area has long been a favorite collecting area for Recreational Rockhounding since the 1930's.

For those of you who have clubs in these territories where monuments are being planned and expanded, and just as importantly if you are an individual who rockhounds in these areas, we all need your help, so we can help you. You are the boots on the ground because you know the collecting areas, your routes and what's collected there.

As we found with the Mojave Trails National Monument, it has been important to get your comments in at the beginning of the planning, because sometimes the BLM will not allow comments from the public who were not involved in the planning from the beginning. Please remember, our experience with the Mojave monument planning. The BLM stated they received by far, more comments from Rockhounds than any other organization. That is a huge success statement for Recreational Rockhounding to let in, and one to congratulate yourselves on. It took effort, and you did the work to create that. This tells you what Rockhounds can do when they put in the effort.

As we continue to experience the creation of more national monuments, and our collecting areas being closed, one of the continual problematic common denominators, is there aren't enough Rockhounds working with Public Lands managers to make them aware of our existence and recreational history on these lands. We have to keep introducing ourselves each step of process, with the documentation ALAA has been stressing for many years. No one is going to do this work for us, only you as Rockhounds can. That old saying, "out of sight, out of mind," is exactly what a part of this problem has been. If you do not participate, Recreational Rockhounding will not be recognized as a historical aspect of the land use, and no one will know about us. We will be forgotten.

Please attend the public meetings or virtual meetings the government provides. If you cannot attend the meetings, written comments are equally important.

Please don't give up because there are more of these monuments and changes in public land use threatening our collecting areas. Get involved, stay involved.

In regards to the Wiley Wells Geode Beds, it would be a huge shame if we lost this collecting area. In the year 2000, ALAA together with the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies created and signed a MOU with the BLM on behalf of continued rockhounding in this area. This MOU is a Memorandum of Understanding, which constitutes an agreement between the United States Department of the Interior, BLM, CFMS and ALAA. It is an agreement to protect the area for continued collecting. It is an agreement among rockhounds we all will comply with the BLM's regulations (CFR Title 43 8365.1-5(b)(2)). Rockhounds and BLM were very happy with this agreement, and updated this MOU in 2016.

At this time, it is important for Rockhounds to contact their congressmen to let them know we've had a MOU with BLM for the geode beds located in Wiley Wells for the past 25 years. And, that we have been complying with the (CFR Title 43 8365.1-5(b)(2)) for personal collecting. And, we want that area to be kept open to us in compliance with the CFR Title 43 if the bill passes for the monument.

Below is a link to the BLM's regulations (CFR Title 43 8365.1-5(b)(2)). It explains in general that members of the public can collect reasonable amounts of nonrenewable resources on public lands. Rockhounding on Public Lands | Bureau of Land Management ([blm.gov](https://www.blm.gov))

We are all in this together. Put your hearts to your pen and in your voice. It is an honor to help serve you as the American Lands Access President this year. But what I have known for many years, this is not a one person job, it takes everyone working together.

from AFMS Newsletter, 6/24

B.C Ends Jade Mining In Northwest, All Mines To Close In 5 Years.

British Columbia isn't allowing any new jade mines to open in the northwest, and has set a five-year wind-down period for existing operations.

A statement from the Ministry of Energy and Mines says officials have been working closely with First Nations to address concerns about the effects of jade mining on sensitive alpine environments in the area near Dease Lake, about 1,750 kilometres northwest of Vancouver.

An order under the Environment and Land Use Act was necessary to protect the area from further harm and disturbance, it said.

Mining activities on new tenures must stop immediately, while existing tenure holders may continue operating for five years with "enhanced regulatory requirements," allowing them "adequate time to wind down."

"The ministry has been working closely with local First Nations, with input from industry, to address concerns regarding the environmental impacts to sensitive alpine environments from jade mining in the Turnagain region of northwestern B.C.," the statement reads. "The order is needed to protect these areas from further harm and disturbance."

In addition to environmental harms, the ministry said jade mining has posed significant challenges when it comes to permit-ting, compliance and enforcement in northwestern B.C., where many sites are only accessible by helicopter.

The province said the order is limited to jade mining in that region, and it does not affect other kinds of mining or jade tenures elsewhere in B.C.

Jade is the provincial stone, and in 2016, under the then-B.C. Liberal government, energy and mines minister Bill Bennett declared May 28 as Jade Day, to promote awareness of its "economic benefits."

However, there has been significant contention over jade mining in the past several years. In 2020, the province, under the B.C. NDP government, implemented a temporary ban on jade placer mining in the northern half of B.C.

CBC News reached out to the Tahltan Central government, which has publicly objected to jade mining on its territories, but no one was immediately available to comment.

In a 2021 statement, the nation demanded an end to a reality TV show Jade Fever, which followed a jade mining operation on Tahltan territory. It also criticized the province's ban on placer mining, saying it didn't go far enough.

About two months later, in July 2021, the province updated its ban on jade mining to include a ban on hard rock jade mining.

Companies say they were not consulted

In response to the province's bans, two companies, Cassiar Jade Contracting Inc. and Glenpark Enterprises Ltd. filed a lawsuit against the B.C. government in March 2024 seeking financial compensation for the monetary damages caused by the bans. In April, the province filed a response in court, stating the companies "could never have had a reasonable expectation of unconditional rights in relation to their mining claims." The law-suit remains before the courts as of publication.

Glenpark president Kristin Rosequist said she thought the government was going to announce a reform of the province's jade mining industry in the northwest — not a total shutdown. "I hope that the people can recognize that the government is being so heavy-handed," she told CBC News. "In lieu of enforcing their own regulations, they find it more suitable to shut down an entire industry."

Tony Ritter, the president of Cassiar Jade, said mining companies were not appropriately consulted before the latest announcement, and that the government has only just reached out to set up a working group to discuss the incoming regulations. "I have a lot of questions that are unanswered," he said.

Ritter said companies like his are being punished despite an excellent environmental record, due to other companies' disregard of the regulations.

via The Council Reporter, 5/24; from the Weather Network, 05/13/24

Flintknapping An Introduction by Ken Villars

Flintknapping is a form of lithic reduction used by people since ancient times to make tools, including weapons. A sharp flake could be used much like a modern break away blade razor knife (discard when dull). Even primitive children would likely be able to display the rudimentary knapping skill of making a sharp flake. At a minimum, these flakes would have been used to cut food, cordage, leather wood and anything else necessary.

Most people are aware of arrowheads, spear heads, and stone knives made by the ancients. You may have even found a whole or broken one yourself, or know someone who has.

You might not realize that knapping has been used in more modern times, from the pre-industrial to the beginning of the industrial, and even in some applications up to present.

Threshing sledges are essentially a wooden sled with horizontally placed blades sticking out of the bottom, that used knapped flint blades to help separate the heads of grain from the stalks and chaff (Deuteronomy 25:4). Stone blades were used in this application right up past the point where steel was readily available, until steel became inexpensive. In a place where flint was plentiful, broken, lost or worn sledge blades could be easily replaced by a farmer who had learned to knap them himself.

The word "knap" is believed to be of possibly Germanic origin, and refers to breaking off pieces of something.

In early industrial times, "flintknappers" was the word used to refer to the workers who made gun flints for flintlock rifles. It was an essential military industry, and grew from a specific ancient lithic technology having to do with repeatedly taking similar shaped thin long flakes (called "blades" by archaeologists) from specifically prepared platforms on a donor rock (called "the core"). The gun flint knappers would break the blades into shorter sections to make the gun flints.

There are people still using knapping to shape pieces of flint for stone walls and houses to this day; and you have probably heard about modern surgical experiments using obsidian flakes, which are extraordinarily sharp.

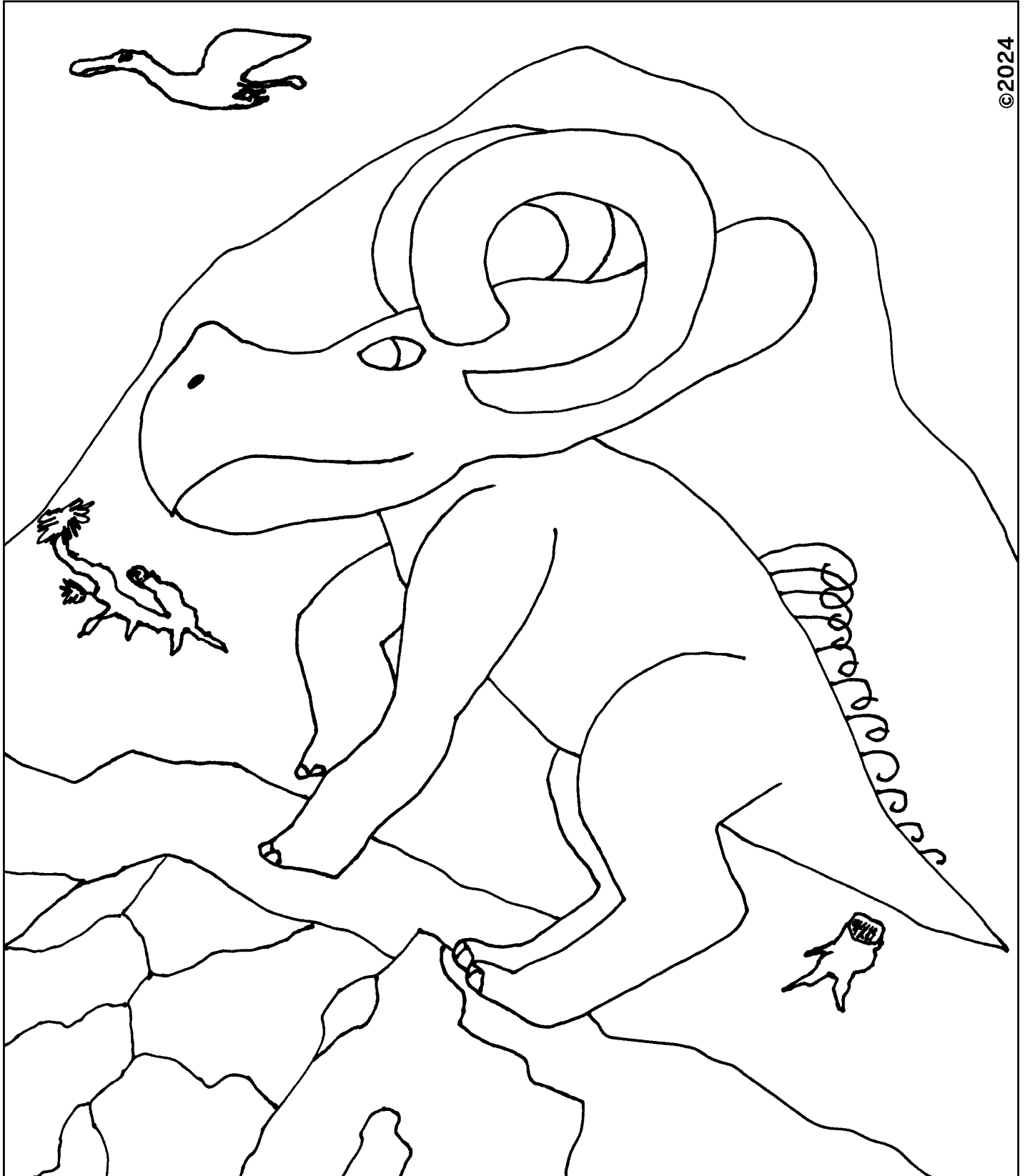
from Victor Valley Bulletin, 6/24

Young Tumblers News

Color the page and bring it to the next meeting for Rock Bucks. Have fun!

Undiscovered Dinosaurs

by KAM



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Amunceratops

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.

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

- June 8** *Cascade Mineralogical Society - Little Naches - thundereggs, jasper, leaf fossils*
 Difficulty Rating 3. First site to thundereggs is a 1/2 mile hike with some elevation gain. This is a dig site. Second site for Lily Pad jasper is next to the road. Third site is a mudstone formation next to the road where leaf fossils can be found.
Roger Danneman Roger.Danneman@gmail.com
- June 15** *Cascade Mineralogical Society - Red Top - agate, jasper, crystal, geodes* - Loren leading
 Difficulty Rating 4. Lower dig site is a short hike up up a steep slope. Upper dig site is a 1/2 mile hike with some elevation gain.
Roger Danneman Roger.Danneman@gmail.com
- June 15** *Marysville Rock Club - Saddle Mountain - Meet before 9 am at the Matawa Grovery - Petrified wood* -
 Bring a shovel, rock hammer, and small pick
Ed Lehman wsmced@hotmail.com h# (425) 334-6282 c# (425) 760-2786
Nique Wicks nwhopyfrog41@gmail.com (509) 670-0630
- June 29-30** *Cascade Mineralogical Society - CMS Gem Show.*
 Our Gem Show raises money for the club to acquire some shop space where we can do lapidary activities.

Not a Fake Diamond Ring

So 30 years ago, when one London-based woman found a huge, gorgeous and fake diamond ring at a car boot sale (almost the equivalent of an American flea market), she knew she just had to have it. After negotiating a \$15 price, the deal was pretty much a steal and the ring became the woman's most coveted staple, even during the most "mundane activities." But decades later, after a jeweler alluded to the fact that the ring might not be so fake after all, the woman had the ring appraised -- And it turns out that the costume gem was in fact a very not-fake 26.27-carat diamond. The ring is now in the possession of Sotheby's London, where it will be auctioned on June 7. Jessica Wyndham, a representative for Sotheby's London, explained that the ring was most likely cut in the 19th century, explaining why it was able to go unnoticed for so long: "With an old style of cutting, an antique cushion shape, the light doesn't reflect back as much as it would from a modern stone cutting. Cutters worked more with the natural shape of the crystal, to conserve as much weight of the crystal rather than make it as brilliant as possible." The ring is estimated to go for up to \$455,000. And as for the lucky woman who found the gem so many years ago? She's chosen to remain anonymous.

from Cedar Valley Gems, 4/24

"I adore wearing gems, but not because they are mine. You can't possess radiance, you can only admire it." ~ Elizabeth Taylor

from Maplewood Rock and Gem Club, 3/24

Thoughts from a Scrambling Rockhound by Judi Allison

You take on a project.
 You talk the club into it.
 They say they'll support you
 And they surely do it.

They help set up the place
 Get it ready for show.
 Add their wares to a case.
 Precious items, they know.

They don't complain
 About working all day.
 Friends and a potluck
 Will be their pay.

They come each day
 To work and to play.
 Who says there's more fun
 Underneath the sun
 Than to pass time on the clock
 With talk of a rock.

Your friend at the helm
 Agreed to do this.
 So not to overwhelm
 And call it quits,
 You take up the slack.
 You have his back.

You probably knew
 It was a lot to chew.
 But the fun you have
 And the time you take
 Is worth the work.

When in the end
 The people come
 And enjoy it all.
 Folks report
 They had a ball!

from AFMS Newsletter, 6/24

The Rock I Threw Away

by Charles G. Schweitzer

He picked up the stone I had cast aside,
And I smiled with a tolerant smile;
There was nothing I saw in that piece of rock
For cutting, not really worth while.

He was new at the game, and perhaps did not know
What rocks could be polished right well;
But I, an old timer, had hunted a lot,
And the values of rock I could tell.

In spite of my kidding he treasured the stone,
And said that he thought it was good;
And I, patronizing, said sometime he would learn
Of agate and jasper and wood.

He showed with considerable pride;
It was sometime later I saw his display,
The stones looked quite well, but one far excelled
The others that lay by its side.

"And where, may I ask, did you get this fine rock?
'tis the best that you have in the tray."
"Oh, that," and he hardly concealed a sly smile,
"Was the stone that you once threw away."
via The Hard Rock News, 5/24; from Skagit Gems, 2/24

Shows

June 13 – 16: Thursday - Saturday 9 am – 5 pm; Sunday 9 am - 4 pm
Prineville Rockhound Pow Wow, Annual Jewelry, Gem, and Mineral Show
Crook County Fairgrounds
120 S. Main St.
Prineville, Oregon

June 14 – 16: Friday 10 am – 5 pm; Saturday 9 am – 5 pm; Sunday 10 am - 4 pm
Lower Umpqua Gem & Lapidary Society, Annual Rock and Gem Show
Reedsport Community Building
451 Winchester Avenue
Reedsport Oregon

June 28 – 30: Friday & Saturday 10 am – 5 pm; Sunday 10 am—3 pm
Mt Hood Rock Club, Rock and Gem Show
Kliever Memorial Armory
10000 NE 33rd Dr.
Portland, Oregon

June 29 & 30: Saturday & Sunday 10 am – 5 pm
Cascade Mineralogical Society, Annual Show
Kent Commons
525 4th Ave N
Kent, WA

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