

The CMS Tumbler

January
2025

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

Next Meeting:
January 9, 2025
7:00 p.m.

American Legion Hall
25406 97th PI S
Kent, WA

The Program is on
Field Trips

The Show & Tell
Theme is something
you found

Table of Contents

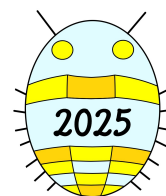
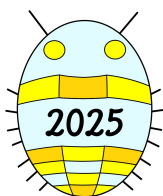
Calendar.....	5
Cartoon.....	5
Board Minutes.....	6
General Minutes.....	6
From the Top of the Rock Pile.....	6
Tanzanite.....	7
Young Richard's Almanac.....	7
Young Tumblers News.....	9

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
Xuyen Cerenzie on January 1
Theresa Hall on January 1
Anatasia Anderson on January 6
Roger Danneman on January 8
April Marter on January 8
Dave Cornell on January 11
Mike Cites on January 12
Sheila Clark on January 12
Daniella Pratt on January 12
John Haworth on January 13
Marion Richards on January 13
Sheri Church on January 16
Jeni Lake on January 16
Lane Hutton on January 18
Rex Kullmann on January 21
Alex Williams on January 21
Ann Jones on January 23
Alley Hutton on January 24
Ruby Lee Wasley on January 29

and also remember to wish a
Happy Anniversary to
Catherine & Brett Petty on January 18



Except where otherwise noted, material from The Tumbler may be reprinted for non-commercial purposes, provided that the author(s) and source are acknowledged.

For commercial use, the author(s) must be contacted for permission; if no contact information is given, contact them via the editor.

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.

Membership Mailing Address:
c/o Ananda Cooley
300 Lenora Street
PMB 6145
Seattle, WA 98121

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

2025 Elected Officers

President Kat Koch	425-765-5408	president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Vice President Noelle Barnes	206-914-0514	geonoelleb@outlook.com
Treasurer		
Secretary Pete Williams	425-228-5063	petewill02@gmail.com
Director 1 – At Large Lee Oliver	253-878-2151	loliver4252000@gmail.com
Director 2 - Field Trips Roger Danneman	425-228-8781	roger.danneman@gmail.com
Director 3 – At Large Programs Paul Ahnberg	941-704-2063	runhikebird@icloud.com
Director 4 - At Large Richard Russell	253-736-3693	richru1@yahoo.com
Director 5 - At Large Linda Jorza	206-478-1642	ljorza@gmail.com
Past President Malcolm Wheeler Sr.	253-569-5185	facetguru@aol.com
Show Coordinator		
Federation Representative Michael Blanton	425-271-8757	mblanton41@hotmail.com
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

2025 Show Committee Chairs

Cascade Coordinator Lee Oliver	253-878-2151	loliver4252000@gmail.com
Cascade Co #2 Michele Maidman	206-395-5270	maidmmm@yahoo.com
Cascade Co #3 Kat Koch	425-765-5408	president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Book Display Cases		
Show Display Cases Refurbish Roger Danneman	425-228-8781	Roger.Danneman@gmail.com
Mail Flyers		
Show Treasurer Pete Williams	425-228-5063	petewill02@gmail.com
Show Silent Auction Richard Russell	253-736-3693	richru1@yahoo.com
Pre-Show Raffle Case & Donation Requests Kat Koch	425-765-5408	president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Show Display Case Presenters		
Show Event Volunteer Recruiter		
Show Website Kat Koch	425-765-5408	vendorchair@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Show Vendor Chairman Kat Koch	425-765-5408	vendorchair@cascademineralogicalsociety.org

2025 Committee Chairs

Club Historian Jim Cerenzie	253-638-1478	jcerenzie@yahoo.com
Donations Kat Koch	425-765-5408	president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Field Trip Roger Danneman	425-228-8781	Roger.Danneman@gmail.com
Health & Welfare Bev Williams	425-228-5063	britbev1957@outlook.com
Library Diana Horsfall	425-226-3154	dianahorsfall@comcast.net
Meeting Greeters Angie & Brian Bayer	253-569-0245	angiemc61@msn.com
Meeting Programs Kat Koch	425-765-5408	president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Membership Kat Koch	425-765-5408	president@cascademineralogicalsociety.org
Newsletter - Tumbler Editor Keith Alan Morgan	253-316-9935	greenrockdraggin@yahoo.com
Shop Instructors (Temp) Roger Danneman	425-228-8781	roger.danneman@gmail.com
Shop Reservations – <i>Winter Shop Closed</i>		
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 John Cornell	253-335-3617	outhouse2hole@gmail.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

2025 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!

Black Jack's Metal Detectors
 Mining Equipment, Low Pressure Dive, & Rock Shop!
www.BlackJacksMetalDetectors.com
 Your place for Metal Detecting & Mining Equipment

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



January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
Have a Happy New Year!			1	2	3	4
5	Board Meeting 7:00 pm	7	8	General Meeting 7:00 pm	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	2025

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

Mr. & Mrs. Rockhound

by KAM



CMS Board Meeting Minutes December 9, 2024

Cancelled.

CMS Christmas Party Minutes December 1, 2024

No report, or pictures, arrived before press time.

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

2024 is in our rearview mirror. It was a very successful year for our club.

We moved our Cascade Gem Show to June at Kent Commons. It has been an excellent decision for our club. We had the largest attendance since resuming our shows in 2018, with approximately 3,200 visitors!

The proceeds from our two club auctions in 2024 brought in around \$1,800. These funds help to cover our club's largest expense, the liability insurance policy. I expect the premium for 2025 will be near \$3,000.

Our booth at the Puyallup Gem Faire in November was also a success. We handed out nearly 200 club flyers. It is also so much fun to see the kids when they get a polished rock. We are going to have another booth at the March Gem Fair, March 14-16, 2025. Keep an eye out for the sign-up sheet. We will be handing out polished rocks, club brochures, and flyers for our June Cascade Gem Show.

I want to thank everyone who has helped make our club a success this past year, whether you volunteered for something, bought items at the club auctions, went on field trips, or attended our meetings.



Welcome
New Members

Our membership continues to grow every year. It looks like we are going to close out the year with 156 families or just under 300 individuals, which is encouraging. My goal for 2025 is to hit 200 families by the end of the year.

If you're a new member, we're thrilled to have you join our fantastic rock club! Your presence at our monthly meetings is highly valued, and we encourage you to take the opportunity to introduce yourself. I look forward to meeting you.

Since our membership continues to grow weekly, 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.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the January 9th meeting. Our Field Trip Leader, Roger, will show us what they found on field trips this past year and what he has planned for 2025.

One last note. When you are doing your estate planning, don't forget our club. We would welcome any type of gift: cash, stock, real estate property, or any other type of asset. We are still striving to have a large indoor shop and meeting area. All gem show proceeds and donations are held in a savings account for this purpose.

January 9th - Field Trip report of 2024 and what lies ahead for 2025.

Our Field Trip Guide, Roger Danneman, will review our 2024 field trips and what was found, then look ahead to what is planned for 2025.

Our field trips are great fun for friends and family. Come spring when the weather permits, and plan on rockhounding with us!

Show 'n Tell: Something you found on a field trip, your yard, beach, a hike, etc.



We are also going to hold our board election for 2025. We encourage all members to attend this meeting to make your voice heard by voting.

Election of the Following Board Positions:

The following are 2-year positions.

Vice President – Noelle Barnes

Treasurer – *need a volunteer to run for this position*

Director #1 – Lee Oliver

Director #4 – Rich Russell

Election

We are looking for a Treasurer. It is an easy bookkeeping job: balancing the checkbook, paying our club bills, sending out membership cards, and ensuring our meeting is reserved and paid for in advance. We use a simple accounting software program that produces the monthly reports with a click of a button. The software also automatically downloads all our banking activity to the software. You must ensure the various deposits and expenses go into the correct account. Other than membership payments, there isn't much activity. Ananda has streamlined things and will be available to train you and answer your questions until you feel comfortable handling everything on your own. Kat is also always available.

The Treasurer must attend our online Board meetings on the Monday before our monthly meetings. Our Board and

Show meetings are held online: The Show meeting is at 6:30 pm, and we roll into the Board meeting around 7 to 7:15 pm.

If you are interested in running for any of the above board positions, please contact Pete Williams or Kat Koch. Their contact information is on page 2 of this newsletter.

Tanzanite by Kat Koch

Tanzanite is a blue and violet variety of zoisite caused by small amounts of vanadium. It belongs to the epidote mineral group and is only found in the Simanjiro District of the Manyara Region in Tanzania, in a very small mining area approximately 4.3 miles long and 1.2 miles wide near the Mererani Hills.

Tanzanite is known for its remarkably strong trichroism, which appears alternately blue, violet, and burgundy depending on crystal orientation. Tanzanite's color appears different when viewed under different lighting conditions. The blues appear more evident when subjected to fluorescent light, and the violet hues can readily be seen under incandescent illumination. In its rough state, Tanzanite is colored a reddish brown to clear, and it requires heat treatment to remove the brownish "veil" and bring out the blue-violet of the stone.

Tiffany & Co. named the gemstone Tanzanite after Tanzania, the country where it was discovered. Tiffany's marketing department did not think the scientific name "blue-violet zoisite" was sufficiently consumer-friendly when it introduced it to the market in 1968. In 2002, the American Gem Trade Association chose Tanzanite as a December birthstone, the first change to their birthstone list since 1912.

Tanzanite was formed around 585 million years ago during the mid-Ediacaran Period by massive plate tectonic activity and intense heat in the area that would later become Mount Kilimanjaro. The mineral is located in a relatively complex geological environment. Deposits are typically found in the "hinge" of isoclinal folds.

Note: Trichroism means the property of some crystals that allows them to appear in three different colors when viewed from three different directions.

Isoclinal folds are geological structures that are symmetrical folds where the limbs of the fold are parallel or nearly parallel to each other.

Bibliography: GIA, American Gem Society, Geology Science.



Tanzanite Rough



Isoclinal Folds

Young Richard's Almanac by Dick Morgan

The worst thing about being in a hospital is you don't know what's going on anywhere. Everything is seesaw, you get little bits and pieces of news so you don't know what exactly is going on.

Member News

After all of November and most of December without a serious hospital trip, Richard Morgan had to go to the emergency room on December 24. At press time it wasn't known exactly what the problem is. Hopefully the next issue will have better news.

You Might Be A Rockhound If —

- You prefer barite roses to real ones.
- Your dream holiday destination is Coober Pedy or Far North Queensland.
- Your garage is so full of rocks that the car won't fit in.
- You collect Interesting specimens, including the brown unknown ones, just in case they might turn out to be something special.
- You've ever sorted through a mullock heap.
- You've ever dumpster dived at a marble warehouse.
- You color co-ordinate your clothes and shoes to match your gemstone pendants.
- The sign on the side of the road says "Falling Rock" and you pull over to wait.
- You like to examine the rocks in your driveway.
- You treasure ancient, fossilized animal dung.
- You spend hours searching the ground while everyone else around you gets bored.

from Rockhound Ramblings, 10/17

The most necessary thing to have on a field trip is common sense. Don't leave on a trip without some.

A Case for Safety by Ellery Borow, AFMS Safety Chair

A case could be made for having safety supplies in the car / truck, boat, on the field trip, at the annual rock and mineral show, in one's lapidary or jewelry making shop, as well as the club's meetings. The case to be discussed here is not one offering reasons for having safety supplies on hands but instead what one may use as a box, bag or container for those supplies.

A great many businesses offer safety kits for various needs. To mention just a few establishments where safety kits may commonly be found: we have pharmacies, department stores, some grocery stores, hardware stores, farm supply stores, marine supply centers, office supply stores, and garden centers – to name a few. The offerings vary widely. Noted have been safety kits so small that they have a loop on them so as to attach them to a key ring, to large elaborate kits suitable for just about any accident that may occur. The middle of the range kits are often packaged in small, rather flimsy, cardboard boxes. Following the old adage that one gets only what they pay for, the keychain kits likely have just a few adhesive bandages, while the large kits likely contain a wide assortment of supplies.

After a club or individual decides upon one's needs for safety and either purchases a ready-made kit or assembles a personalized kit of supplies from the offering of a medical supply store, the decision then becomes one of how to store or carry those supplies and have them available when necessary.

We have seen safety supplies stored in paper bags, heavy steel ammo boxes, old cardboard boxes, nap-sacks, tool boxes, and a couple fantastic hand-crafted wooden boxes. One can safely say that people's opinions vary considerably as to how to store and carry their supplies.

To have a case, a physical case, for storing one's supplies there are some important criteria as follows:

- Have the safety supplies container easy to open with no complicated twist and turn clasps. By the same measure, the case should not pop open with the slightest bump and drop all its contents onto the ground.
 - The container should be daylight and air tight, as well as water proof. A small container of desiccant (moisture absorbing material) may also be desirable for use / storage in damp conditions.
 - Having handles or a shoulder length carrying strap can make transport easier.
 - Having a case with distinct color (white, bright red, fluorescent green, striped or whatever) and have it be clearly labeled are all important considerations.
 - Try not to have a supplies case that is tall and opens at the top, as one often seems to first need the items on the bottom of the case. It may take far too much time to paw through the top supplies to get to the ones on the bottom – especially in an emergency, just sayin...
 - Ideally, when the supplies case is opened, all the supplies should be visible and organized so as to easily and quickly locate what one needs. This includes the medical aid guidebook which should be available in every kit.
 - The kit should not be too heavy. It should be easy to carry. If the kit is too heavy, people may complain about having to carry it a long way to the dig.
 - Plastic safety supply containers are perfectly fine but should be air, light and water tight. They should also be sturdy enough to withstand the rigors and hazards of the collecting site.
 - Having a safety kit with movable divider inserts is handy in keeping contents organized.
- In addition to the safety supplies container, some other practical safety items to consider may be:
- Have a flashlight with the kit and an extra set of fresh batteries.
 - In the kit have a magnifying glass and tweezers.
 - Any liquid or paste containers in the kit may need to be additionally kept in re-sealable plastic bags to contain spillage and the resulting contamination of the other supplies in the kit. Sealable plastic sandwich bags are a convenient size for this purpose.
 - If the dig site is large, please consider having each person on the dig have a safety whistle to signal for help.
 - Have as many members as possible receive prior training / familiarity with the use of the contents of the kit and proper aid techniques.
 - Please consider having a suitable, and cased, safety kit at all club activities, including club picnics where too much sun and hot sauce could become concerns. Pardon, is there such a thing as too much hot sauce?
 - Your safety matters. No matter where you are, no matter what you are doing, please be safe.

from AFMS Newsletter, 12/24

Pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis

This is the longest word in the dictionary. It is an ailment caused by inhaling very fine silicate or quartz dust. Rockhounds, take warning and precautions when you are dry sanding; always wear a face mask.

The word may be long, but the cure is longer. And you'd have a hard time telling your doctor what you have. via CMS Tumbler, 2/16; via The Clackamette Gem, 4/15; via News and Views, 3/15; via The Post Rock, 12/07; via Roamin' Rams, 12/01; from Roadrunner News

You might be a rockhound if the sign on the side of the road says "Falling Rock" and you pull over to wait.

You might be a rockhound if the table on your patio is filled with rocks, just to hold down the table cloth.

from The Geode, 8/24

Young Tumblers News

Birthstones by Keith Alan Morgan

A mix of traditional and current birthstones. Stones can be found horizontal, vertical and diagonal. Have fun!

X Y N O D R A S A R B Q M J E L M I R S
 E R Q X N V M L K P Q T S Y H T E M A J
 L I U O O F Y Z N E U P T B P D W P M B
 V H Y V M Q T X S A B R E C U K P Y X R
 T L B Q A Z H W M R V F G R O H I Z V E
 O V U U I W F E B L Y W A V I V D E C N
 U E R J D J A N X J T B B R Y D A U G I
 R G I Y B L D O M L A U E P C B O Y M R
 M J O M C C G T P T N U J U L G V T A A
 A F E L A P I S L A Z U L I Z M A R C M
 L P H P E S B D Q P A B L U U D Z T Q A
 I V T A E K U O Z R N O V L A P O C T U
 N O C B V C X O S L I G A B M E T Z U Q
 E M E R A L D L V E T I R D N A X E L A
 Q L I M W N Y B U O E V N M T T D Q L P
 C E F B O A R E P J U N B O V Z K N A I
 Z H S C P J O I L E N I P S K J A I Z L
 G A R N E T B A K D W F E M I S A P V U
 N I M H X S L V S W Q O Z D G U U S O U
 Z I W D B C I T R I N E S I O U Q R U T

Alexandrite
 Amethyst
 Aquamarine
 Bloodstone
 Citrine
 Diamond
 Emerald

Garnet
 Lapis Lazuli
 Opal
 Pearl
 Peridot
 Ruby
 Sapphire

Sardonyx
 Spinel
 Tanzanite
 Topaz
 Turquoise
 Tourmaline
 Zircon

Young Tumblers News

Rock Painting

Have you ever painted a rock? It's a fun way to transform a plain rock into something fun or interesting. You could give your rocks to a neighbor, a friend, or someone in your family. Or you might keep your artwork to give yourself a smile every time you see it.

With art, the design is up to you. It can be silly to make someone smile, realistic to look like an animal or flower, or just pretty patterns and colors.

Supplies you will need to paint your rocks, you will need some supplies. Here's a list.

- Clean, dry rocks
- Acrylic paints
- Skinny paintbrush for thin lines and details
- Thicker paintbrush to color larger areas
- Clean disposable cup for cleaning the brushes
- Paper towels to dry the brushes
- Waterproof table covering
- Paint clothes that you can stain without anyone caring
- Mom or Dad for help

Painting the rock

1. Choose a small rock. Wash it and let it dry completely. You probably want to do this the day before you paint.
2. Put on your paint clothes and cover the table where you will work. Acrylic paints stain clothes, carpet, and many other things.
3. Get out your paint brushes, paints, cup with an inch of water, and paper towels.
4. Paint the rock all over with one color for a background, and wash the paint out of the brush in the water. Dry the brush with a paper towel.
5. While the rock is drying, plan what you want to paint. You might want to draw a simple picture on paper.
6. After the paint dries, you can begin painting your picture on the rock. Let each color dry before adding the next color. Wash the paintbrush as soon as you finish with a color. If the paint dries on the brush, you might not be able to use the brush again.
7. Some artists end with using a skinny brush to make fine details, like outlines around eyes or other things in the picture.
8. Let it dry, and enjoy!

from Maplewood Rock and Gem Club, 12/22

Tumbler Editor's Note

Do be sure to use plain rocks for this and not a rock or mineral that could be cut and polished, or a display piece that shows off something that paint could obscure.



Have fun coloring the cartoon!

Lapidary Work Safety Involves Equipment, Clothing, and Organization by David Rich, MWF 2nd Vice President and Chair, MWF Safety & Field Trips Committee

Lapidary work, involving the cutting, grinding, and polishing of stones, requires meticulous attention to safety to prevent accidents and health hazards. Whether you are a hobbyist or a professional, adhering to safety protocols is crucial.

1. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) N-95 Masks:

Always wear an N-95 mask when working with lapidary machines to protect yourself from inhaling fine stone dust and oil mists. These particles can be harmful to your respiratory health over time.

Safety Glasses: Protect your eyes from flying debris and fragments by wearing safety glasses at all times. This is especially important when using grinders, saws, and polishers.

2. Appropriate Clothing

Avoid wearing loose clothing, jewelry, or accessories that could get caught in machinery. Opt for fitted clothing and secure long hair to prevent entanglement in moving parts.

3. Equipment Handling Lapidary Grinders and Polishers:

Ensure that all machines are properly maintained and in good working order. Check that guards are in place and functioning correctly. Always use the appropriate wheel or disc for the material you are working on, to avoid accidents.

Trim Saws: Before using a saw, inspect the blade for any damage or wear and replace it if necessary. Use a steady, controlled motion when feeding the stone into the blade, and never force the material through.

4. Workspace Environment

Keep your work area clean and organized to reduce the risk of accidents. Ensure that all tools and materials are stored properly when not in use. Maintain proper ventilation to minimize the buildup of dust, fumes, and oil mists. Consider using an exhaust system or working near a window to improve air circulation.

By following these safety guidelines, you can minimize risks and ensure a more enjoyable lapidary work environment.

via The Quarry, 11/24; from MWF Newsletter, 11/24

Rockhounding Road Cuts

Roadcuts, or exposed rock faces along roads, can be incredible spots for rockhounding! These cuts often reveal rock layers that are otherwise hidden, making them great for discovering fossils, minerals, and unique rock specimens. Always prioritize safety, wear protective gear, and check for regulations before collecting. Roadcuts are a valuable resource for passionate rockhounds!

What is a Roadcut?

Roadcuts are simply places where a lot of stone has been cleared in order to build a road. They are usually created by blasting exposed stone so that equipment and workers can keep building a road without diverting. Anywhere you see a lot of exposed stone on the side of the road, especially when it's cliff walls, is likely to have been a road cut. Nature rarely creates a perfect canyon that can also fit a modern asphalt road. The blasted rock tends to reveal any goodies that have been concealed in the destroyed bedrock. This makes them a hotspot for mineral collectors since they should have a good sampling of whatever is in the area.

The Legality of Hunting Roadcuts

Make sure that you know local laws about hunting roadcuts. Things are different from state to state, county to county, and even city to city at times.

via The Hard Rock News, 12/24; via Yakima Rock Club Newsletter, 11/24; from Rock Seeker, 11/1/24

Traveling With Rocks and Minerals

Traveling with a rock collection requires careful planning to keep your specimens safe. To prevent breakage, wrap each piece in padding, and consider using sturdy, segmented containers for organization. For air travel, pack rocks in checked luggage if they are heavy and verify airline regulations for unique or rare stones. Proper packing ensures your collection stays intact on your journey.

via The Hard Rock News, 12/24; via Yakima Rock Club Newsletter, 11/24; from Rock Seeker, 11/1/24

Iris (Rainbow) Agate

Iris agate exhibits a rainbow of colors when a thin slice is polished and it has a bright light behind it. You may have iris agate and not know it because it isn't sliced thin enough or polished (it can be checked before polishing by wetting both sides with water or oil and looking through it). Most iris agates only have a thin band of iris, but some rare iris agates have a spectacular wide band of color.

Many people are confused by the difference between turtleback agate and iris agate. This could be because some iris also exhibits the turtleback structure. Some turtleback agate is quite beautiful, but if it does not contain the right internal structure to be iris agate it is nothing more than turtleback.

via CMS Tumbler, 8/15; from Hard Rock News, 7-8/15

Ye Olde Englische Rocke

The English language is replete with obsolete words and terms. Here are some that once applied to rocks and minerals:

Bonksman: The man who works at the mouth of a coal mine.

Comet-wine: Grapes growing during a year in which a comet appeared were thought to be better in flavor than those of other years, thus wine made during those years is thought to be superior in quality. Why? It was thought that comets could influence the weather, yielding a warmer growing season and better grapes.

Eagle-stone: Generally, an eagle-stone was a piece of iron ore. Eagles were believed to carry these stones up to their nests because the stones would prevent their eggs from rotting. Alternatively, an eagle-stone was a fossil that rattled when shaken because of a small loose fragment inside it. The eagle-stone was necessary for the eagle to raise healthy young. Eagle-stones also found use by pregnant women who wore them as a charm to prevent miscarriages.

Old-man: If underground miners broke into older, forgotten mine workings, they'd say that "the old-man has been here" or that they "got into an old-man."

Puttingstone: It was the custom among great houses in Scotland to keep a huge stone by their gates. Thrown from the shoulder, the stone was used for trials of strength. It was perhaps an ancestor to the shot put.

Sand-knocker: Sandstone was ground into grit, and the sand-knocker made it and sold it door-to-door for use in sanding down floors.

Sea-dog: Sailors viewed the sea-dog, a meteor seen on the horizon shortly before or after sunset, as a sign or portent of bad weather to come.

Slocking-stone: To promote a mining scheme, investors might be shown a slocking-stone, which was a very rich specimen of ore from the mine, as an inducement to buy.

Surface-coal: Another term for cow "chips" or cattle dung, which was widely used for burning.

Thunderstone: The thunderstone was a rock supposedly created by thunder. The belief in thunderstones might have its origin in the fulgerite, which is a fused rock created when lightning strikes sand or soil. Fulgerites may have a forked or branching structure; thus they were thought to be thunderbolts, or thunderstones.

Verter-water: Rainwater that collected in small hollows in rocks and tombstones was thought to work as a cure for warts.

Warming-stone: Warming-stones were pebbles used by bakers to indicate that their ovens were hot enough for baking. When the stone turned white, the oven was ready.

Reference: Kacirk, J., 2000, The Word Museum, Touchstone, Simon & Shuster, New York, NY.

via CMS Tumbler, 2/16; via The Rockhouser, 5/15; via The Glacial Drifter, 4/15; from RockyReader, 7/11

No Shows This Month

The Search by Scott Mayeaux, ARK-LA-TEX Gem & Mineral Society
(Honorable Mention - AFMS Adult Poetry)

Rocks and Gems are our game,
Color and texture give me the name.
Sometimes we search high,
But most times we search low.
The treasures are found
beneath rock and dirt, even snow.

They decorated our desks at work and at home.

Might be easier to find them if I were a gnome!

via AFMS Newsletter, 10/24; from Rock Rattler Special Edition, 12/08

Warning

Do NOT use OxiClean® in your tumbler! OxiClean® creates a large amount of gas which, when mixed with a liquid such as water, will explode in an enclosed container.

Need to protect carvings or minerals in transit or storage? Use disposable diapers. They are soft, come with their own fastening tapes and can be used over and over again.

via Lowcountry Diggings, 11/24; via Gem Cutters News, 11/11; from Pick 'N Pack, 12/09

CONTENT DISCLAIMER: This publication is provided "as is" without warranty of any kind, either express or implied, including, but not limited to, fitness for a particular purpose; the technical data was derived from other sources, and the author has no way of knowing their accuracy.

This publication could contain technical inaccuracies or typographical errors. Changes are periodically added to the information herein; these changes will be incorporated in future revisions of this publication. The author, editor, or the Cascade Mineralogical Society shall not be liable for any incident or consequential damages, lost profits or data, or any indirect damages caused by using this publication's information.