

Hatrockhound Gazette October 2021

PO Box 1122, Hermiston, Oregon 97838



Meetings at 6:30 on the 2nd
Tuesday of each month
First Christian Church of
Hermiston:
775 West Highland
(go to back of church)

Officers:
President –Doug Gill
V. Pres. – Mike Filarski
Secretary – Trista Meek
Treasurer – Mel Lambert
Member at Large – Laura Tiffany

Newsletter/Website – Judi Allison,
1701 NW 11th St Hermiston, OR 97838 541-720-4950



Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society is Affiliated with:

The Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
And The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



AFMS Rockhounds “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.

HATROCKHOUND GAZETTE

October 2021 Issue

Get ready to try your skills at creating an entry for the "Rock Costume Contest". All you need is a rock or two-or three, a little imagination a few odds and ends and you will have a creation for all to see. A good story or poem to go along with your creation might also win a prize. We'll be seeing you on **October 12th** with your entries!!!!

(Treats by Doug)



Food for thought. . .

Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society

Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2021

Since Doug was gone, Mike opened the meeting at 6:43. All told, there were thirteen members present.

General Business With no communications to share, Judi gave the report of Mel's accounting of the Treasury. Mike said there was a good turnout at the picnic with approximately twenty-five people. After paying for the chicken and the gazebo, the club was still \$6.00 ahead from the auction. Thanks to those who took part and donated.

Mel mentioned he had heard from someone in the Burns area about liquidating some thundereggs. A discussion then ensued. Mike said it was probably from the Buchanan Ranch an area east from Bend to Burns. There is a crossroads where Buchanan is. Then one takes a right turn into the hills. The claim is private property, but clubs can usually arrange for a pay-to-dig field trip with the man who owns it, Bruce Williams. Apparently he is selling equipment and possibly eggs. Mike has some from the area and will bring some to the next meeting.

Judi discussed the purpose of American Land Access Association (ALAA). It is a lobbying entity that is working in cooperation with BLM and forestry to help show that rockhounds are responsible stewards of the land. Since non-profits, such as our individual clubs are not allowed to lobby, the ALAA helps work for the ability of rockhounds to use the public land for hobby purposes. Club membership is \$50 per year. The group was started in 1992 by a group of rockhounds who wanted to get the word out about the positive aspects of rockhounding and the fact they strive to care for the environment. PLAC –Public Lands Access Chairperson is a position in the Northwest Federation that provides visibility for the rockhounding community by attending BLM, Forest Service and other environmental meeting and reporting on such to the Federation. Mike mentioned that ALAA has a monthly newsletter with a lot of information that can be forwarded to the membership. Ultimately, the question was brought for asking if we should be members. Judi made a motion to renew our membership and make continued membership an automatic yearly renewal without the need to vote. Mel seconded the motion. With a show of hands the motion passed.

There was a question about when we pay the church. We usually do so around Christmas. It is a donation and has been in the amount of \$150 in past years.

Our October meeting will include the election for Treasurer and Vice President. Mel and Mike have both volunteered to continue in those positions. Nominations are gladly taken from the floor. Voting will take place in October, with the new term starting in January.

Judi spoke about the “Person (Member) at Large”. This is a member of the club who is not an officer who attends the executive meetings and represents the general membership. Anyone who wishes is also welcome to attend the Executive meetings.

Judi gave a report on the Annual NFMS Meeting held via ZOOM on Saturday, September 11th. Twenty-seven attended with representation from ten clubs in four different states. There are a lot of openings for Chair positions.

Some take very little work and are a good way to get involved and learn more about the Federation and its purpose. (As a member of a Federation Club, each of us is a part of the Federation.) Involvement in the Federation activities is also a way to make new connections and meet new people who might help lead you to an area of interest. One of the more crucial vacancies is Newsletter Editor. The Newsletter is printed at least six times per year and goes out to all the members of the Federation. (If you are not getting the Newsletter, please let Judi know, so you can be placed on the mailing list.) Additional vacancies are Historian, Stamp Chairman, Website Contest Chairman, Directory Chairman, All American Club Chairman, President and Secretary of the Endowment Committee, and Rules and Awards Chairman. There are descriptions of these positions in the NFMS Directory under the Operating Procedures. As you can see by these vacancies, there is a lot the Federation does, as this is only a part of the committees.

The Directory contains a list of the individual clubs and its members, the Bylaws and Operating Procedures and a list of Video presentations that can be checked out for use as a presentation at a meeting. As a member of the Rules and Awards Committee, one can learn about competitive displaying and the help it can give in honing your craft by displaying. The endowment fund committee oversees the investment. The fund was created and built up to a point so that the interest in surplus of a certain amount can be used to help offset additional costs in the budget and be used for the benefit of the Federation. As an example, there are a number of old slide programs in the NFMS Library that are of little use in today’s world. The hope is to use some of the money to convert these programs into useful DVDs in order to preserve otherwise lost information.

A resolution was passed at the meeting that allows for virtual meetings to be conducted when necessary and for the convenience of doing business when committee members are too geographically distant.

The Federation continues to be without a host for the 2022 Annual Meeting and Convention. The Billings Montana Club has volunteered to host the 2023 combined NFMS/AFMS Show which will most likely be the early part of May. Judi encouraged members to seriously consider taking in this show, as she is quite certain it will be an excellent venue.

Our October meeting will be the yearly Rock Costume Contest. Dress up your rock!

Show and Tell:

Todd told of the process he uses to create one of his inlaid lamps. He puts in up to 30 hours. The one he brought probably has a value of around \$150. He often donates them for auctions and such.

Hope bought a plume agate and dinosaur poop at the picnic auction and Mike slabbed them for her.

Mike showed off a piece of obsidian. Hope had picked it out of his collection from Glass Buttes and he showed her how to polish it.

Judi displayed a small gem “Christmas” tree she created as a donation. She also asked about a horn shaped item that was determined to be wood.

Door Prizes: Recipients were Mel, Hope, Trista and Don.

The meeting ended at 7:38 pm followed by treats and voting on the ugly rock.

Program: The decided winner of the Ugly Rock was Warren. Mike presented him with a slab mounted mug which declared “One Ugly Rock”.

Executive meeting: Monday, September 27, 7:00 at Judi’s. Everyone is welcome

OCTOBER MEETING Tuesday, October 14, 6:45 pm: ROCK COSTUME CONTEST

WEBSITE: jall23.wixsite.com/hatrockhounds

Trista Meek, Secretary

(Transcribed by Judi Allison)

HATROCKHOUNDS Gem & Mineral Society

Executive Meeting –September 27, 2021

Present: Doug Bill, Mike Filarski, Mel Lambert, Judi Allison

Judi presented a tentative budget for the next couple of years and suggested we vote on it at the general meeting. She will tweak it and add a copy in the newsletter for members to see before voting. Our general meeting on October 12th will also include election of our Vice President and Treasurer for the next two years. Both Mike and Mel have consented to continue, but nominations are gladly taken from the floor.

We spoke a bit about the Show. Mike will be checking to solidify our dates. We will be raising the dealers' fees some to accommodate the rising costs of renting a facility. We are also entertaining the idea of doing another Federation Show, most probably in 2024.

With discussion of a Federation Show and Convention, the subject of the Annual meeting arose. Judi stated that some clubs pay for their Directors to go to the Annual meetings. Since the Director represents and votes for the Club, we discussed the idea of covering this cost. Some of the shows and meetings are as far away as Billings, Montana or Ogden, Utah which are about 750 and 550 miles respectively. The IRS rate for mileage (which we agreed we should use) is \$.56 per mile. So if we paid for a round trip to Billings, for example the price would be \$840. We felt that was too much, so we decided to reimburse for one way at the state rate. So the cost for going to Billings would be \$420. Billings is an extreme example, but we wanted to come up with a reasonable amount. For example, if the meeting was in the Portland area the reimbursement would be approximately \$105. On the budget, you will see \$450 as a line item for the Director expense. That is simply projecting the possibility of the most costly payment.

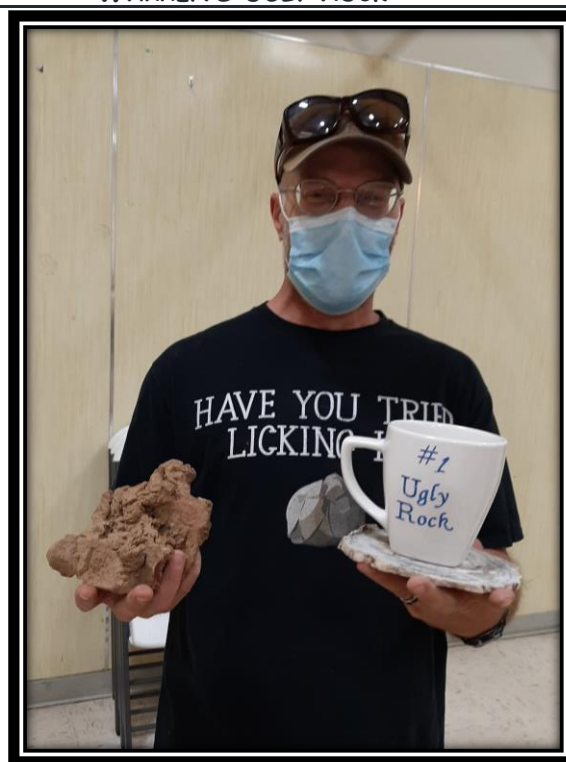
Federation dues are payable at the first of the year, so our dues will be accepted any time now until the end of the year in order for you to be included in the NFMS Directory. These dues will be for 2022. Please get them in so we can keep your name on the membership list and you can receive the Gazette and the NFMS Newsletter. Dues are \$12 per person, \$20 for a couple and \$25 for a family. If you are paying for just an adult and a Junior, the cost for the Junior is \$3. (A Junior must have an adult listed with them.)

Our October 12th meeting program will be the rock costume contest. Create your goodies. There will be prizes for the top two and the best story. So also become a storyteller. We will see you then. Minutes by Judi Allison

TODD'S LAMP



WARREN'S UGLY ROCK



BE PREPARED FOR NOVEMBER'S "I DID IT" CONTEST WIN A PLAQUE FOR YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENT.

IT'S FUN AND IT'S EASY.

- **CHOSE SOMETHING YOU FOUND, SOMETHING YOU BOUGHT AND/OR SOMETHING YOU MADE IN THE LAST YEAR. (NOVEMBER 2020 UNTIL NOW)**
- **ENTER ONE, TWO OR ALL THREE CATEGORIES.**
- **BRING YOUR ITEMS TO THE MEETING AND SHARE WHAT YOU HAVE.**
- **MEMBERS WILL VOTE ON THE BEST ITEM IN EACH OF THE CATEGORIES.**



OPAL _ OCTOBER'S BIRTHSTONE



*Dues are Payable at any time
from now until the New Year.
\$12 Single, 20 Couple, 25
Family, \$3 Junior (with adult)*

Photo courtesy americangemsociety.org

The name “opal” originates from the Greek word *opallios*, which meant “to see a change in color.” The Roman scholar Pliny used the word *opalus* when he wrote about this gemstone’s kaleidoscopic “play” of rainbow colors that could simulate shades of any stone. Opal’s characteristic “play-of-color” was explained in the 1960s, when scientists discovered that it’s composed of microscopic silica spheres that diffract light to display various colors of the rainbow. These flashy gemstones are called “precious opals.” Those without play-of-color are “common opals.”

Dozens of opal varieties exist, but only a few, such as fire opal and boulder opal, are universally recognized. Opals are often referred to by their background “body color” of black or white. Opal’s classic country of origin is Australia. Seasonal rains soaked the parched Outback, carrying silica deposits underground into cracks between layers of rock. When the water evaporated, these deposits formed opal. Sometimes, silica seeped into spaces around wood, seashells and skeletons, resulting in opalized fossils.

Since opal was discovered in Australia around 1850, the country has produced 95 percent of the world’s supply. Opal is also mined in Mexico, Brazil, Honduras, Ethiopia, the Czech Republic, and parts of the U.S., including Nevada and Idaho. The water content of opal gems can range from three to 21 percent—usually between six and 10 in gem-quality material. This, combined with hardness of only 5.5 to 6 on the Mohs scale, makes opal a delicate gemstone that can crack or “craze” under extreme temperature, dehydration, or direct light.

Wearing opal jewelry is well worth the extra care, though. This October birthstone has remained a popular choice for centuries.

Courtesy americangemsociety.org

Marking History on Stone By: Jennifer Haley, AFMS Historian

Mt. Antero is a 14,245-foot-high mountain, known around the world since the 1880’s as the highest mineral locality in North America. The mountain is known for its aquamarine, smoky quartz, rock crystal, fluorite and feldspar to name a few of its precious beauties. The largest sphere of rock crystal in existence in 1893 was put on display at the Chicago World’s Fair, along with a marvel of invention of the time, the Ferris wheel. The crystal came from Mount Antero. In 1938 the Colorado Mineral Society maintained a summer field camp at Mount Antero. During 1948 the president of the Colorado Mineral Society, Richard Pearl, formed a committee to study a proposal for commemorating the famous collecting area. With the permission of the U.S. Forest Service, nine members of the Colorado Mineral Society in 1949 climbed to the topmost peak of Mount Antero over a weekend to mount a bronze plaque set on granite. A proclamation was read stating the significance of the mountain to mineral collectors. The first to reach the summit was a 14-year-old in the society’s group. The plaque, weighing thirty-five pounds, states:

MT. ANTERO MINERAL PARK

**“WORLD FAMOUS LOCALITY FOR SUPERB CRYSTALS
OF AQUAMARINE, PHENAKITE, BERTRANDITE”
COLORADO MINERAL SOCIETY 1949.**

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**(Please look this over and bring any questions or comments to the meeting.
We will vote on its acceptance at the meeting.)**

Proposed Budget

The following is presented as a proposal to give transparency to our spending and to allow the Treasurer to pay regularly incurred costs without a special vote. There will be a proposal to adopt this budget at the October meeting. Members will have an opportunity for input and to vote on its creation.

Hatrockhound Budget

Projected Expense	\$ Amount	Explanation
<i>Post Office Box 1122</i>	\$125	<i>To be paid by January 31!!!</i>
<i>Trailer license</i>	\$75	<i>Biannually</i>
<i>Insurance (Show)</i>	\$300	<i>Yearly</i>
<i>Show Advertising</i>	\$1000	<i>Estimated total – paper, signs, etc.</i>
<i>Show Expenses, Miscellaneous</i>	\$400	<i>Mother’s Day prizes, new skirting, plastic cloths, tape, etc.</i>
<i>Show Food – Pot Luck, Set Up, Continental Breakfasts</i>	\$300	<i>(Possible donations by Walmart, Fiesta Foods, Safeway)</i>
<i>Picnic – main dish, paper goods, water</i>	\$100	<i>Club furnishes main dish, utensils, water: balance potluck</i>
<i>Monthly Meeting expenses–paper goods, supplies, etc.</i>	\$200	<i>Possible expenses for group activity supplies</i>
<i>Plaques, Awards and Prizes</i>	\$150	<i>Rockhound of the Year, I Did It, Rock Costume, Ugly Rock</i>
<i>Newsletter Expenses</i>	\$100	<i>Stamps, Ink, Paper</i>
<i>Christmas Dinner</i>	\$150	<i>Main Dish, Paper goods, Decorations, Favors: potluck</i>
<i>Church Donation</i>	\$200	<i>Donation for use of the church</i>
<i>NFMS Dues</i>	\$175	<i>For 2022-23 \$2.50 per adult member, \$1.00 per Junior</i>
<i>Director Mileage Annual Meeting</i>	\$450	<i>One Way IRS Rate \$.56 per mile (maximum amount)</i>
<i>ALAA Membership</i>	\$50	<i>Recurring Yearly Dues</i>
<i>Oregon Mineral Council Dues</i>	\$25	<i>\$.25 per member</i>
Total	\$3800	
Projected Income		
<i>Dues</i>	\$450	
<i>Show</i>	\$2950	
<i>Misc: Donations, Auctions, Etc.</i>	\$400	
Total	\$3800	

(Prepared September 27, 2021 to continue through 2023)