

HATROCKHOUND GAZETTE

March 2017

Tuesday, March 14, 2017, 6:30 pm

Map It.

Mike will give a presentation about all the different kinds of maps and their usefulness in locating acceptable collecting areas.

If you have a topographical map of Oregon, please bring it.

Treats provided by the Garcia Family and Randy Free.

See you then!!! (Green Month-green show and tell)

Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society

Meeting Minutes

February 14, 2017

General Business: Twenty-six folks were in attendance for our "Valentine's Day" meeting. President, Janet welcomed all with a hardy "It's great to see you all". Guests included Lori and Cathy from Irrigon. Shelly Kinnick and Naomi Rogers joined our group. Welcome all. The snow and winter seem to be finally subsiding. Janet stated that people had gotten used to her phone calls, but that she had been rearranging her house and the phone numbers got lost. She reminded everyone that they could remember the date as the meeting is always on the second Tuesday at 6:30 except for the August picnic which we usually have on a Sunday. She reminded folks that dues are payable for 2017, if you haven't already paid.

Janet then talked in general about field trip readiness. People need to be prepared to be gone for the day. They need proper clothing and shoes. Bring a lunch and plenty of water, digging tools and a first aid kit. If field trips are to areas where a high profile vehicle is needed, don't think you can't go if you don't have one. Rockhounds always help other rockhounds get to the good digging areas. We'll get you there. We have arranged for four field trips during the summer, so be sure to mark your calendars and plan to go. (See below.)

Treasurer's Report Margaret stated we have plenty in our account, but it will start disappearing as we pay for things for our show. We also had a bill for approximately \$475 for our Club Insurance she will pay.

Field Trips: Mark Your Calendars!!!

June 3-China Hollow Mine out of Wasco, Oregon. Jasper varieties; opalized jasper. Fee dig, \$1.00 a pound, but he is very generous in his weighing. We will most likely meet at Space Age near the Freeway around 6:45 am. Details will be set closer to the date.

June 24- Out of Addy, Washington Serpentine and possible other varieties. One could do this trip in a day, but it is approximately 4 ½ hours to Addy. The best plan would be to camp in an area North of Spokane. (Two possible camp (RV) places are Alderwood RV Express or Wild Rose RV Park) This trip will be led by Scot Jackson, a member of the Panorama Club. He is a good friend of Janet's and has made a number of spheres, some of which some of our members possess.

July 29-Richardson Ranch near Madras, Oregon. Thundereggs and a wide variety of rocks for sale from all over the world. We will again most likely leave around 6:45 am, as it is a couple of hours to the site. We will be going to the beds to dig. Members are also welcome to shop at the shop. It is a fee dig area, with the charge of \$1.00 a pound.

August 19-Middle Fork of the John Day River. Petrified woods, quartz, jasper, crystals. Mike will lead us to an area (or a couple) where we can find some goodies. Again an early start as it is a couple of hours to the area.

Presentation: Janet presented Mike with a Turkish Agate sphere made by Scot Jackson as an appreciation for all the hauling of obsidian he helped with on a trip to Glass Buttes.

Show: Mike reported that we have two dealers confirmed and paid at this time. That is about par. Since the show will fall on Mother's Day weekend, we were trying to come up with something special for Mothers on Mother's Day. Randy suggested that we have a separate hourly drawing just for Mothers. The members all agreed that was a great idea, and all informally adopted the plan.

Door Prizes Our three rock door prizes went to one of our guests, Cathy with a polychrome Jasper, Mike with a small cut thunderegg and Elmer with a couple of polished Bruneau Jasper pieces. Gordon generously brought in four "unrock" door prizes of Valentine candy. The four happy folks who walked away with them included Maurice, Naomi, Shelly and Carolyn.

Show and Tell:

Tonya had a couple of rocks. One was what she thought was a limb cast that her brother gave her.

Lisa shared Jane's items that were purple in nature. There were two crystal geodes and an amethyst slab that were all purchased from the gentleman from the show who is from Uruguay.

Elmer's display included a Nevada sage agate and a septarian nodule from Utah.

Randy showed off some Saddle Mountain bog wood from his last trip and some jasper.

Lori and Cathy (guests) brought a number of items they wished to learn about.

Among them was a piece of slag glass along with items their brother found-a probable concretion, some possible Oregon jade and a few other rocks.

Jackie had bought some pieces from Scot Jackson. Among her treasures were three large spheres; one of unknown fossil origin, a lily pad from Little Naches and a stick agate.

Judi shared a purple item resembling an amethyst crystal which was actually a piece of soap. She also showed off the Onyx Silver Lace sphere she acquired from Scot Jackson.

Gordon shared his "unique find". A bootie shaking bear.

Program: What's That Rock? Since Laura was unable to give her presentation, Judi put together an alternate program. Eleven rocks were displayed with their name and descriptions on separate sheets of paper. Members needed to match the rock to its name. Randy had all eleven correct. Thanks for playing, members. The idea was to learn a bit more.

Executive meeting: (No February Meeting) 6:30 at Judi's (Remember, all are welcome)

March Meeting, Tuesday the 14th

Program: "Map Reading" with Mike

WEBSITE: jall23.wix.com/hatrockhounds

Secretary, Judi Allison



Brad's Shop Tips for February
ADJUSTABLE CHUCK FOR DREMELS

(From Butte Tailings February, 2017)

Many of us have a Dremel motor tool to use at home or when out to a class or workshop. The one thing that makes this tool much more productive is the addition of one inexpensive option, an adjustable chuck. The basic motor tool as sold typically comes with a collet chuck. This means you have to use a wrench to change every tool bit, you have to switch collets to use different shaft sizes (3/32 or 1/8 inch bits), and you can't use ordinary drills at all - only the special ones that have a 3/32 shaft. A simple and inexpensive (\$12) adjustable chuck solves all of this. It's available in most large local hardware stores or model making outlets. Tightening the chuck is done easily by hand to any size shaft. No key is required.





How to prepare your 4x4 for rock collecting

– Rockhounding Preparedness Series Posted on March 31, 2015 by rocky (I thought this was a good article, even if one is not going rock hunting. It is relevant to cars too. Judi)

Rock collecting may be a popular, family oriented activity, but how often do you think of the safety of your family first when you go off the beaten track to hunt for that one, perfect example of a billion-year-old rock? How often have you heard of people being stranded without food and water for days, just because

the driver did not check his vehicle before leaving home? Don't let this happen to you and yours!

Simply follow the few easy-to-follow tips listed here to reduce the possibility of vehicle breakdowns when you could be hundreds of miles away from the nearest repair shop.

Check radiator hoses.

This might appear to be self-evident, but according to the AAA, engine overheating is the leading cause of vehicle breakdowns in America. Radiator hoses must be firm to the touch, and free of oil, and even oil residue. Oil degrades the rubber of radiator hoses, which makes it imperative that oil contaminated hoses be replaced before your next trip.

Check all V-, and other drive belts.

You may think your belts are OK, but the most damage occurs when the pieces of a broken drive belt work themselves in under the other drive belts. This can cause all your belts to jump their pulleys, and because of their high rotational speed, the flying pieces can destroy the radiator, the battery, the radiator fan, and critically important wiring. When in doubt, don't procrastinate, replace all the belts, and observe the proper tensions on all.

Check the charge rate.

The proper rate of charge on 12 V vehicles is 14.2 –14.6 Volt. Anything above or below this value is indicative of a faulty alternator, or maybe worse, damage to wiring in places where you cannot repair it in the wilderness, so fix it now, while you can.

Check battery condition.

Don't just look at the outside, and maybe clean off acid accumulations. A battery needs to be able to deliver specific currents at certain times, such as during starting. Have an authorized battery dealer perform a draw test, to determine the ability of the battery to deliver sufficient starting current. Also, compare the specific gravity of the electrolyte in each cell against the specs for your battery. Differences of one or two percent are normal, but differences or deviations that approach 5% are not, and you should replace the battery.

Check the suspension.

Check the suspension and steering systems for excessive free play between related components such as ball joints, tie rod ends, steering dampers, draglinks and control arms. You may think that since the tie rod ends have been a little loose for the last two years, they are OK because they have not pulled from their sockets yet, but off-road driving places extreme loads on a vehicle, and the last thing you want to happen is to lose your steering while going down a steep, rocky hillside. Think of your family, and replace all worn components before you leave home. Better safe than sorry. Performing basic vehicle maintenance procedures before heading into the wilderness is not a hassle: it is a vital precaution against being marooned hundreds of miles from the nearest repair facilities. It is also great way to prevent potentially fatal accidents caused by parts that failed because they should have been replaced months ago, but was not. Think of the safety of your family, if not your own, get your vehicle into great shape, and enjoy the rock hunting, which is what you go into the wilderness for, right? Only make sure that by taking care of your vehicle, you can safely make it out again!

This article thanks to: WhereToFindRocks.com (From Butte Tailings February 2017)

Hatrockhounds 2017 Calendar

January 10 - Native American Talking Sticks. Gain some knowledge from a member presentation. Treats – Ginthers

February 14 - Basics of Tumbling. Learn how one goes about putting a nice shine on rocks, the time involved and the process. Treats- Sue Jones and Stan Sloan

March 14 - Map Reading. Gain an understanding of the different types of maps, how to read them and use them effectively. Treats Garcia and Randy Free

April 11 - Gem Trees. Take part in the process of creating a gem tree. Treats – Naomi Rogers and Shelly Kinnick

May 9 - Cabbing Demonstration. Learn some basics about creating a nice cabochon. Treats – Doug Gill and Mike Filarski

May 11-12 –Annual Show Setup. Conference Center.

May 12 - Potluck for members and Show Dealers

May 13-14 , Annual Gem and Mineral Show. Conference Center

June 3 – Field Trip to China Hollow Jasper Mine

June 13 - Junior Presentation Find out what the kids know by taking part in their presentation. Treats – Randy and Margaret Free

June 24 – Field Trip Near Addy, Washington

July 11 - Agates of the Columbia. Learn more about the agates that can be found around our area. Treats – April and Alexander Lopez and Judi Allison

July 29 – Field Trip to Richardson Rock Ranch

August 13 - Picnic and Silent Auction – Come relax at West Park near McNary Dam. Enjoy a potluck lunch with the main dish supplied by the club. After lunch, try your hand at winning a bid for your favorite rock. (Note: this is a Sunday. There is no regular Tuesday meeting in August.)

August 19 – Field Trip to Middle Fork of the John Day River

September 12 - Ugly Rock Contest - Dig out that specimen you once thought was pretty, but decided was possibly a leaverite and bring it along. It may be a winner!! Treats – Laura Tiffany and Tonya Abbott

October 10 - Annual Rock Costume Contest - Your creative juices may come up with a winner such as "pop rocks", "two faced guy" or "punk rock". There are three prizes: 1st place, 2nd place and most creative story, so come join the fun. Treats – Matt and Jane Ginther and Janet Judd

November 14 - "I Did It" Contest - You may enter this contest three times, as there are three categories: "I Made It", "I Found It" and "I Bought It". Items must be within the last year. Winners of each category receive a plaque. Treats – Gene and Shannon Lancaster and Naomi Rogers and Shelly Kennick

December 12 - Annual Christmas Party - Come enjoy good company, good food and fun times. We generally play "rock BINGO" and have a rock related gift exchange. The Club furnishes a main dish, drinks and all the utensils.