

Hatrockhound Gazette 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 – June 2021 Issue

**June Meeting: Tuesday, June 8,
2021, 6:30 pm**

**Simple Wire Rings - Sandra Bryant will help
us each create a simple wire ring.**

**Please bring a pair of needle nose pliers if you
have them.**

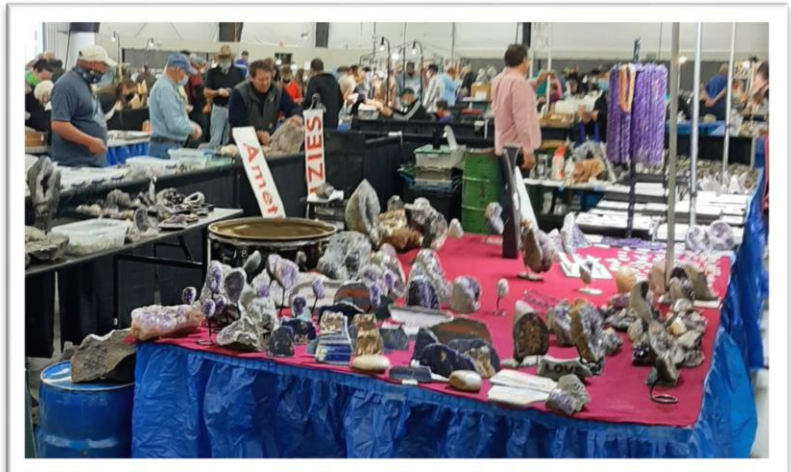


Natures Treasures Under Foot 2021

Our 2021 Show is now in the Books. Thanks to the folks who were able to help, it was a great success! We are not certain if it was because people just wanted out of the house, if it was the weather or the fact that it was not on Mother's Day weekend, or maybe a better job at getting the word out, or perhaps that people are beginning to recognize the EOTEC as a place to go, but our numbers surpassed any other year, the dealers were excited about the sales and everyone had a great time.

Thanks to Trista's efforts, we had a new food vender Colton McKenny from

Umatilla, the Polynesian Grill and Bombshell Cotton Candy, no less! They were all happy with the business they received. Doug held down the fort for the two days at the Silent Auction. Thanks to some great donations, we were able to pull in a good amount of money! Mel and Louise spent many hours manning the front desk, and the folks just kept coming. Karli, Laurie, Jamie and Laura kept the kids busy at the Kids' Corner. They pulled in a record amount of money for the weekend. Gordon and Jim and Rick Tobin, Lakeside member, were all on hand with set up, tear down and miscellaneous feats of volunteerism. Warren, Karli, Laurie, Chris, Jackie, Judi, Laura and dealer, Jim Witt all added to the venue with display cases showing some of their treasures. Mike Zinski, Rick Tobin, and Mickee Madden all shared their branch of the hobby with demonstrations. Mary, Jackie, Warren, Trista and Chris also leant a hand in multiple



areas. Trish was able to help with set up. And, of course, Mike laid all the ground work and worked to wrap up everything at the end. Thank you all, for a job well done! A special thanks goes to Bonnie Tobin, who was an all 'round fill in volunteer.



HATROCKHOUNDS Gem & Mineral Society (Executive Meeting – May 26, 2021)

Executive Members Attended - 4 Doug, Mike Mel, Judi

We spent the bulk of the time discussing the show. Mel reported that Louise had gone online and ordered four large rolls of double tickets for the Admission/Door prize drawing, so we should have plenty for years to come.

We again brought up the pros and cons for EOTEC compared to the Community Center. EOTEC has tables. (We could ask the dealers to furnish their own back tables.) People are beginning to recognize the area. Dealers can camp if they are self-contained. We have outside space for dealers. The room is essentially set up for us. The area is larger. Downtown there are less tables which have to be hauled. There is less parking and no camping.

Unless the cost at EOTEC goes up significantly, it appears to be the best choice. Mike presented us with a paper with a number of formulas for consideration in adjusting the fee for dealers. It may be necessary to help offset rising costs.

We discussed creation of a form that volunteers could use at the admission desk to help gather information on best sources of advertising. The form could include such things as word of mouth, signs, newspaper, a friend, facebook, etc; with the question being “how did you hear about our show?”

We are able to lock into the weekend of May 14-15 in 2022 to avoid Mother’s Day weekend. The following year will have to be assessed.

Mike mentioned that he will request lost title form so we can secure temporary licenses for the trailer as we move it each year.

We will consider getting some more signs; perhaps some that more readily withstand the wind and rain. Judi will check on obtaining some new plastic skirting for around the tables, as the skirting we have been using is showing a great deal of wear.

The show did Great!!! Come to the meeting and hear the numbers. We had around 850 attendees for the two days. That is about a third more than we had at our last show!

Written by Judi Allison

STRANGE MINERAL TALES

A long time ago if you wanted a candle you went to a beekeeper. . . his wax and your wick made a candle. In modern times, candles are mass produced from paraffin which is a commercially refined byproduct of petroleum. What is not widely known is that wax can be mined! There are very few places where wax has

been mined on a commercial basis because of the quantities available. A location in Austria is the only place where wax was being mined in this century. A discovery of the same material was made at Soldier Summit, Utah. The wax is closely related to petroleum and is called Ozokerite. It is apparently a high-quality form of natural paraffin, developed from the residue of crude oil percolating through fissures in rocks. Compared to beeswax and manmade paraffin, its melting point is much higher (between 155° and 190° F). This is clearly an advantage when candles or wax is utilized in hot climates.

Ozokerite was sometimes found in large veins that were almost 100% pure. The majority, however, is found in a brecciated form bound up with sandstone and shale. Once mined, it must be crushed, then dumped into tanks of boiling water where the pure wax is skimmed and poured into molds. The 'wax belt' of ozokerite covers an area of about 12 miles in Utah. From 1 mile west of Media, on the Denver & Rio Grande RR, along the western and southern grade of the Wasatch Mountains up to Soldier Summit, and across 2 miles, to north east of Colton. Large piles of tailings from the mining operation of the American Ozokerite Company are strewn along the side of U.S. Hwy 50 near Soldier Summit. Ref: D.R. Phillips, ROCK WRITINGS 04/96; via PGGG Petrograph 04/96

What are the properties of Ozokerite?

Ozokerite has a higher melting temperature than typical synthetic petroleum wax, a desirable property in the manufacture of carbon paper, leather polishes, cosmetics, electrical insulators, and candles. **This article was most recently revised and updated by Amy Tikkanen, Corrections Manager. Britannica** Del-Air Monthly Rockhounder Review • Volume 62 • May 2021 • Number 05

JUNE'S BIRTHSTONES Courtesy gia.edu

Alexandrite is the rare variety of the mineral chrysoberyl that changes color in different lighting. Most prized are those alexandrite birthstones that show a vivid green to bluish green in daylight or fluorescent light, and an intense red to purplish red in incandescent light. Major alexandrite deposits were first discovered in 1830 in Russia's Ural

Mountains. The gem was named after the young Alexander II (1818–1881), heir apparent to the throne. Alexandrite caught the country's attention because its red and green colors mirrored the national military colors of imperial Russia.

Pearls are organic gems that grow inside the tissue of a living saltwater or freshwater mollusk (either an oyster or a mussel). Natural pearls form when the mollusk secretes a substance called nacre around an irritant such as a piece of sand or a parasite that has invaded its shell. Cultured pearls are a product of human intervention. This enchanting June birthstone originates from oceans, lakes and rivers around the world. It is a timeless wardrobe staple, beloved by women of all ages. The origin of pearls fascinated our forebears. Ancients from the Middle East believed that pearls were teardrops fallen from heaven. The Chinese fancied that the June birthstone came from the brain of a dragon. Christopher Columbus and his contemporaries thought that mollusks formed pearls from dew drops.

Moonstone is the best-known gem of the feldspar group of minerals. It is renowned for its adularescence, the light that appears to billow across a gemstone, giving it a special glow. The finest moonstones show a blue sheen against a colorless background. This June birthstone has been associated with both the Roman and Greek lunar deities. Hindu mythology claims that it is made of solidified moonbeams. Moonstone is often associated with love, passion and fertility; it is believed to bring great luck. Great designers of the Art Nouveau era (1890s–1910s), such as René Lalique and Louis Comfort Tiffany, featured moonstone in their fine jewelry. The moonstone birthstone came to the forefront again during the 1960s "flower child" movement and with New Age designers of the 1990s. Del-Air Monthly Rockhounder Review • Volume 62 • Jun 2021 • Number 06